

# Agricultural Redevelopment Coordinator (ARC) Pilot Project Goulburn Murray Irrigation District, Victoria



## Background

The Goulburn Murray Irrigation District (GMID) in recent years has been subjected to significant and rapid land use change. Recent work on the future viability of the Goulburn-Murray Irrigation District (GMID) in the context of reduced water availability, has identified the need for a coordinated approach for irrigation agricultural development support for the region. This pilot aims to provide enhanced support and strategic integration of advice for potential investors in agri-business redevelopments and how they can fit strategically with the transformation of the region. This pilot project delivers on actions in Water for Victoria by enabling irrigation districts to adapt and, by reducing barriers to change, support irrigation communities. This pilot will be reviewed and assessed for effectiveness after nine months to establish clarity around improvements.

## What is the ARC Pilot Project?

The Agricultural Redevelopment Coordinator (ARC) Pilot Project is a collaborative project between the Goulburn Broken and North Central Catchment Management Authorities, five Local Government municipalities, Agriculture Victoria and Goulburn Murray Water.

The ARC Pilot Project aims to enhance the agricultural land use development information provided to developers in the GMID through providing a single point of entry through an ARC Coordinator. The pilot will work with up to ten private properties in the GMID, across a range of agri-business industries, who are in the feasibility stage of their redevelopments.

## How will the ARC Project work?

We will build and develop partnerships to efficiently and effectively secure information to underpin agricultural land use development decisions by:

- Implement and evaluate a pilot project
- Identifying information needs of developers to improve alignment to their needs and enhance regional development
- Developing a framework with Local Government and Regional Development Victoria (RDV) to guide future information access requirements
- Developing partnerships to optimize development opportunities
- Provision of a facilitation role for developers.

## PROJECT GOAL:

Implement a pilot project to empower stakeholders in the Goulburn Murray Region of Victoria with respect to agricultural land use development information support

## PROJECT VALUES

Our values that will lead our behavior will include:

- ✓ Confidentiality
- ✓ Responsibility
- ✓ Integrity
- ✓ Trust
- ✓ Respect
- ✓ Honesty

For further information contact the ARC Coordinator:

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## Project Objectives

- To secure agency and industry partnerships to enhance the redevelopment opportunities for the region's agricultural land
- To maximise the opportunities for future community resilience outcomes
- To streamline the irrigation development process in the GMID.

## Project Outcomes

- Successful trialing (efficiency and effectiveness) of a new approach to managing agricultural redevelopment in the GMID
- Facilitated developer interactions with government agencies in a timely and sequenced manner
- Secured, strong partnerships with agency staff to ensure the timely and accurate provision of the information needs of the developer
- Developed and secured partnerships between regional development stakeholders to create a common sense of purpose and an understanding of participants business
- Integrate the developments and findings of the GMID Resilience Master Plan with this project
- An established case for ongoing support to the new approach (or adapted version).

## What would success look like?

- Ten development information requests secured from referral sources (e.g. Local Government and other agencies) are coordinated and delivered.
- Valued GMID partnerships between agencies, industry and Local Government secured.
- Transformed stakeholder agency culture with respect to information and advice management/provision for agricultural land use investors. The new culture would include ongoing reviews of matters that help or hinder the information gathering processes.
- Demonstrated active coordinated engagement on GMID agricultural land use/management issues and industry forums.
- A secured interagency partnership framework to guide information requests for future GMID agricultural land development.
- An adaptive review process developed as part of the pilot project.
- A set of recommendations developed following pilot implementation.