



Carbon Farming Outreach Program - Integrated Approaches to Building On- farm Emissions Knowledge Gap Analysis Feedback for Applicants

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (the department) has provided the following general feedback for applicants of the *Carbon Farming Outreach Program - Integrated Approaches to Building On-farm Emissions Knowledge Gap Analysis* grant opportunity.

Assessment of applications was in accordance with the procedure detailed in the grant opportunity guidelines (the guidelines) and outlined in the selection process below.

Overview

The application submission period opened on 20 November 2024 and closed on 17 December 2024.

Research and Development Corporations (RDCs) were invited via a closed non-competitive process to apply to deliver services under the Carbon Farming Outreach Program. The Carbon Farming Outreach Program is designed to support Australian farmers and land managers to reduce emissions and sequester carbon to contribute to Australia's climate change commitments and remain internationally competitive.

The Integrated Approaches to Building On-farm Emissions Knowledge: Gap Analysis (this grant opportunity), is the first stage in supporting RDCs to develop commodity specific information for inclusion in the Carbon Farming Outreach Program Knowledge Bank.

Under this grant opportunity, RDCs are required to undertake a comprehensive Gap Analysis to determine:

- current gaps in publicly available and accessible commodity specific information relating to emissions reduction, emissions intensity and carbon sequestration
- the most appropriate and functional commodity specific information formats and delivery channels, including potential structure of the proposed knowledge bank
- opportunities for horizontal collaboration with other RDCs and commodity groups and vertical collaboration with the broader supply chain to develop information that leverages existing Carbon Farming Outreach Program (CFOP) training.

Selection Process

The Community Grants Hub (the Hub) undertook the initial screening for organisation eligibility and compliance against the requirements outlined in the guidelines. This information was provided to the department's grant opportunity delegate for final decisions on whether an application met the eligibility and compliance criteria.

The department assessed and considered eligible and compliant applications through a Closed non-competitive grant process.

The selection advisory panel (panel) established by the department, comprised of subject matter experts who assessed applications and provided advice to inform the funding recommendations to the Financial Delegate.

The panel's consideration of assessed applications was, based on:

- How well the responses met the assessment criteria
- The provision and appropriateness of the requested attachments
- Whether the project demonstrated value with relevant money
- Identified risks and the proposed mitigation strategies for the department and the Commonwealth.

Selection Results

There was a strong interest in the grant opportunity. The preferred applicants demonstrated their ability to meet the grant requirements outlined in the guidelines based on the strength of their responses to the assessment criteria.

The Hub notified applicants of the outcome in writing, where their applications did not meet the requirements outlined in the guidelines.

This feedback is provided to assist grant applicants to understand what comprised a strong application.

Criterion 1 - Activity details and delivery

Outline the activity/activities you will undertake and how they will be delivered.

When addressing the criterion, strong applications

- Clearly addressed all sub-criteria
- Outlined a structured approach describing how the gap analysis would be undertaken
- Clearly stated how the proposed activities would address grant outcomes as outlined in section 2.1 of the Grant Guidelines
- Described how the proposed activity/activities offered value for money
- Detailed proposed consultation processes with relevant stakeholders, noting opportunities to leverage existing relationships
- Provided evidence and examples to substantiate claims made.

Criterion 2: Capability and experience to deliver the grant activity

Demonstrate your organisation's ability to successfully deliver the grant activity.

When addressing the criterion, strong applications:

- Clearly addressed all sub-criteria
- Outlined existing governance and business management systems

- Described how existing governance and business management systems would support the proposed activities, including working with other RDCs
- Identified a range of project specific potential delivery risks and appropriate mitigation strategies
- Provided evidence and examples as appropriate to substantiate claims made.

Individual feedback

Individual feedback will not be provided for this grant opportunity.