

Expression of Interest EOI 2018-19

Part 1- General Details

		EOI ID	1819-EOI-0146
EOI Title: (max 80 char)	Thresholds for resilience in regional communities		
Type of Research	Applied		
Proposed Start Date:	01/07/2018	Proposed Cease Date:	30/06/2020
<i>Please refer to CRDC's Strategic R&D Plan 2013-2018 for the following.</i>			
CRDC Program	4. People		
CRDC Theme	4.1 Workforce capacity		
CRDC Strategy	4.1.1 Investigating effective strategies for attracting, developing and retaining people in the cotton industry.		
<i>Please identify the relevant Measure of Success as outlined in the CRDC Strategic R&D Plan.</i>			
CRDC Measure of Success:	A skilled educated and progressive workforce		
Science and Research Priorities	Environmental Change (3) options for responding and adapting to the impacts of environmental change on biological systems, urban and rural communities and industry.	100 %	
Rural R&D Priorities	Soil, water and managing natural resources, to manage soil health, improve water use efficiency and certainty of supply, sustainably develop new production areas and improve resilience to climate events and impacts;		
R&D Manager:	Ian Taylor	EOI Date:	18 August 2017

Part 2 –Expression of Interest Requirements

<p>Issue: CRDC has previously undertaken a resilience assessment of the Australian cotton industry which identified the key drivers of change and shocks which have the potential to push the Australian cotton industry towards identified tipping points, or critical thresholds, which if crossed lead to significant changes in system dynamics. Critical thresholds identified included water, networks and social licence, as examples. The Australian cotton industry is located regionally, relying on the skills and organisational capacity of the service sector, predominantly in regional towns. The resilience of regional communities, and the cotton industry is being tested by the changes to water policy. Alongside this anticipated changes in energy generation; technology adoption and internet connectivity could reconceive regional communities future. Therefore, this project aims to assess the resilience of regional communities to better understand how to best adapt to change and provide particular guidance to where the cotton industry could contribute to improving the resilience of regional communities upon which cotton farmers and the industry relies</p>
<p>Outcomes: Strategies will be identified to improve the resilience or adaptability of regional communities upon which cotton farmers and the cotton industry relies.</p>
<p>Project description: This project will undertake a resilience assessment of regional cotton communities to better understand how to best adapt to change by identifying critical threats and opportunities. The key assets, inputs, outputs and dynamics will be identified, with particular emphasis on identifying the major thresholds or tipping points that are potential risks the industry may need to contribute to managing in the future (specified resilience). The attributes of general resilience (capacity to cope with unknown and unpredicted changes) will also be assessed. Strategies will be identified to improve the resilience or adaptability of regional communities upon which the cotton industry relies.</p>

Project Investment: Budget indicated is maximum available. Where the FRP only seeks to address some of the outcomes, the budget will need to reflect this. Overseas travel is not to be included in FRP budgets unless it directly relates to a project output and is an explicit milestone. Otherwise overseas travel must be made as a separate travel application.				
Year	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	
Indicative budget (up to)	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 0	

Part 3 –Selection Criteria

The following selection criteria will be used by the CRDC to assess the full research proposals (FRPs) received for each Expression of Interest.

145. A sound understanding of the nature and importance of the outcome to the Australian cotton industry:

The research applicant must address the Issue, Outcome and Project Description in terms of the CRDC Strategic Plan and demonstrate understanding of the impact on the Australian cotton industry.

146. Soundness and clarity of the proposed R&D methods to address project deliverable outcomes:

The research applicant must describe how the research methodology employed will enable the project outcomes to be delivered

147. Demonstrated capacity of the nominated researcher/s to provide project coordination, management, monitoring and evaluation for the timely delivery of high quality outputs:

The research applicant must describe the research team’s project management skills and experience and may include a recent example of a completed project. They must detail the monitoring and evaluation strategy which should include any steering committees to co-ordinate collaborative research, links with CottonInfo, CGAs, Cotton Australia, etc and any additional reporting outside the 6 monthly Progress Reports.

148. Demonstrated track record, technical knowledge and experience of all key personnel in the research area:

The research applicant must describe the project research team’s technical skill and experience relevant to the project and methodologies proposed.

149. A demonstrated capacity to effectively communicate project outcomes to diverse stakeholders within the Australian cotton industry:

The research applicant must describe the communication skills and existing communication channels that the research team use to communicate project outcomes to the Australian cotton industry. The new applicants to the cotton industry should provide an example of industry communication from a recent project.

150. Demonstrated ability of the project team to form productive networks and links to build on national and international research already undertaken in related areas:

The research applicant must describe existing networks that the research team use for collaboration with other researchers and an ability to develop new networks as research knowledge increases.

151. The cost effectiveness of this project including cash and in-kind commitments from the applicants and leverage through domestic or international linkages that are useful if not essential to progress the project:

The research applicant should demonstrate market value and market fairness for the proposed budget and comment on the leverage achieved through collaboration and in-kind support.

152. Project demonstrates collaboration between organisations or research groups:

The research applicant must describe the existing or proposed collaboration with other researchers, research groups or committees and the Australian cotton industry.