



Great Barrier
Reef Foundation



Project Catalyst Expression of Interest

Innovation Practice Trial Form



ABOUT THIS FORM: By completing this form you will be placed on the "Expression of Interest" register and will be considered for conducting a Project Catalyst Innovation trial for Catchment Solutions. The details of your trial proposal will be reviewed by the Catchment Solutions Trial Review Panel. Further information and detail may be requested to assist with the review and assessment process. If you require assistance completing this form please contact Catchment Solutions on (07) 4968 4216 or email info@catchmentsolutions.com.au

PLEASE NOTE: Where additional supporting documents are required, please supply as separate attachments in PDF format. You should complete all sections of this form. Once complete please email this form to info@catchmentsolutions.com.au

Only trials that can be established by September 2019 will be eligible for consideration.

Closing dates for submissions to be accepted is 5:00pm EST Friday 7th June 2019.

Funding for this round runs to March 2021



Project Outline

This project aims to assist the Sugar Cane Industry in achieving large scale water quality run-off improvements across cane producing farm land which will positively impact the long-term sustainability of the Great Barrier Reef. Only those practices that deliver an environmental and economic benefit are promoted widely to the industry. The project is making a valuable contribution to identifying and validating the innovative practices that will assist the Queensland cane industry to adopt practices consistent with the goals and targets of Great Barrier Reef (GBR) Long Term Sustainability Plan including the 2025 water quality targets.

Project Catalyst is structured so that the participating growers have input to the list of practices evaluated. This approach has led to a culture of innovation and collaboration flourishing amongst the participating growers that has created a more positive approach to the changes facing the industry. Its primary purpose is to reduce the environmental footprint that Australia's sugarcane production has on reef catchment water quality and the Great Barrier Reef, by accelerating the adoption of farming practices in the sugar industry. Project Catalyst focuses on the identification and validation of cutting-edge sugarcane farming practices in line with "triple bottom line" sustainability principles. These being Social, Environmental and Financial. A key focus for sustainability considerations is water quality improvement via the development and extension of new and innovative farming practices.

The project will identify, implement and validate pathways to rapid adoption through trial work of new farm management practices which are more effective and efficient in regard to the use of external inputs and natural resources, minimising the impact on natural assets while maximising farm production and profitability.

The methodology retains a core focus on innovation of farming practices, testing and validating these practices against both environmental and economic measures by using established on-ground agronomic support, (on-ground service providers), that can develop and measure with scientific rigour the effectiveness and results of each trial and report them in such a way they can be communicated to the industry and broader community.

By providing agronomic and extension services to design and support trial validation work, (soil testing, nutrient management plans and farm management recommendations) the project will address sediment, nitrogen and pesticide loss associated with cane farming.

All trials are expected to have a water quality outcome benefit either directly through a reduction in application volumes or change in application method for inputs or indirectly through improved soil health and structure, for example, requiring less water application.

All trials will be implemented in a very high, high or medium priority area as identified in the Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP) for the target pollutants. Only the Mackay Whitsundays, Burdekin and Wet Tropics catchment regions are being considered for this program. Growers and On-Ground Service Providers will collaborate to design the proposed trial and then complete this Expression of Interest for consideration.

As a Project Catalyst participant, the grower must be willing to:

- Develop a nutrient management plan (if one is not in place), with an On-Ground Service Provider and consent for the Plan to be sent to Catchment Solutions for data aggregation and reporting purposes.
- Keep accurate records and make available data relating to the trial, and consent for this data to be made available to Catchment Solutions for reporting purposes.
- Participate in field days and shed meetings so that growers and other participants in Project Catalyst can visit the trial site.
- Work with the On-Ground Service Provider and Catchment Solutions to develop communications material relating to the trial.
- Give permission to Catchment Solutions for images and video footage to be used for project promotion purposes.

Assessment Criteria

ELIGIBILITY
Applicant is operating in Australia and has an Australian Business Number (ABN)
Applicant trial is located within the required catchment regions.
Applicant holds, or is willing to hold, the required insurances.
Applicant has demonstrated ability to design, implement and deliver innovation field trials in the Sugar Cane industry.
Applicant assess and generate Nutrient Management Plans.
Applicant can collect, secure and upload Paddock 2 Reef Reporting Data.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	WEIGHTING
The proposed trial is considered to be innovative or previously scientifically untested for the industry or possibly a catchment region. (Mandatory)	20%
The Applicant's project includes measurable outcomes. Demonstrated systems must be in place to record measurable outcomes, and must be reported in accordance with Project Catalyst trial reporting requirements and the Paddock to Reef Program as a minimum data collection requirement. (Mandatory)	30%
The proposed trial will allow for progress towards WQIP targets to be measured through meaningful indicators that demonstrate a pathway to improved water quality. (Mandatory)	30%
The farm management practice being trialled has the potential for broader adoption expansion across the industry. Consideration given for the commercial viability of the practice change versus smaller demonstration activities. (Mandatory)	10%
Proposed trial draws on or involves collaboration with technical expertise and more broadly will collaborate/integrate with other projects. (Desirable)	5%
The application leverages other funding or co-investment opportunities and in particular acknowledges in-kind contributions. (Desirable)	5%

NOTE: The submission of an eligible application for funding does not guarantee that funding will be provided. Applications need to demonstrate a high level of merit against the criteria and be competitive against other applications.

●●●● Grower Details

Grower Name		
Address		
Contact Details	Phone	Email
Entity Name		
Farm No./Name		
Mill Area		
Trial Subdistrict or Production Zone		
Total Farm Area Under Cane ha		
Has the grower previously undertaken a Project Catalyst Trial?	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO If yes, please list the trial conducted and when	

●●●● On-ground Service Provider Information

Company Name		
ABN		
Business Address		
Contact Details	Phone	Email
Business Structure (Sole Trader/ Partnership/Company)		
Names, title (position), qualifications and experience of key technical company personnel		

●●●● On-ground Service Provider OH&S Information

<p>Does the business have a documented WHS Policy?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p> <p>If yes, please provide evidence</p>
<p>Does the business have a documented Health and Safety Management System?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p> <p>If yes, please provide evidence</p>
<p>Does the business have an established process for incident reporting and investigation?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p> <p>If yes, please provide evidence</p>

●●●● On-ground Service Provider Insurance Information

<p>Work Cover</p>	<p>Insurer</p>	
	<p>Policy Number</p>	
	<p>Amount</p>	
	<p>Expiry Date</p>	
<p>Public and Products Liability</p>	<p>Insurer</p>	
	<p>Policy Number</p>	
	<p>Amount</p>	
	<p>Expiry Date</p>	
<p>Professional Liability</p>	<p>Insurer</p>	
	<p>Policy Number</p>	
	<p>Amount</p>	
	<p>Expiry Date</p>	

●●●● On-ground Service Provider Reporting Information

<p>Can you assess and generate Nutrient Management Plans?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p> <p>If yes, please provide evidence</p>
<p>Can you obtain, secure and upload Paddock 2 Reef (P2R) reporting data?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p> <p>If yes, please provide evidence</p>
<p>Have you previously managed sugar cane trials and delivered technical trial advice?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p> <p>If yes, please provide evidence</p>

●●●● Trial Information

<p>Name of Trial</p>	
<p>Description</p>	
<p>Aim</p>	

●●●● Trial Information

Type of Trial: (Rationale for why this might work)	
Summary of benefits including potential water quality benefit	
Expected Outcome of Trial	
Name and Contact Details of Service Provider	
Where did this idea come from?	

●●●● Project Plan

Project Stages	Date (month & year to be undertaken)	Activities (breakdown of each activity for each stage)
Stage 1		
Stage 2		
Stage 3		
Stage 4		
Stage 5		

●●●● Project Trial Site Details

Trial Crop	
Variety Ratoon/Plant	
Trial Block No/Name	
Trial Block Size Ha	
Soil Type/s	

●●●● Project Budget

Please note that no payments will be made directly to growers for trial or administration costs.

Payments will only be made to the contracted On-Ground Service Provider (OGSP) managing the trial.

A Maximum of \$20,000 per trial per year or part thereof is available for each trial to support On-Ground Service Provider activity.

Capital expenditure (including land or marine vehicles, plant, facilities), major construction / capital works and retrospective costs may not be included within the project budget. Incidental expenditure on small capital items may be considered.

This list is not exhaustive. Other activities or specific expenditure may be ineligible because Catchment Solutions determines it does not directly support the achievement of the planned outcomes of the project or they are contrary to the spirit and intention of the funding.

Project Stages	Date (month & year to be undertaken)	Activities (breakdown of each activity for each stage)	Grant Cash Contribution	Applicant Cash Contribution	In Kind \$ Value
Stage 1					
Stage 2					
Stage 3					
Stage 4					
Stage 5					

●●●● Trial Design

Please detail how the trial will be implemented including grower interaction, inputs, monitoring, outcomes and reporting. It is important to include how the trial will validate and measure Water Quality benefits, Production benefits and Economic Benefits. Please include details of the data that will be collected to show water quality, production and economic benefits.

●●●● Authorisation

Name of Grower		Date	
Name of Service Provider		Date	