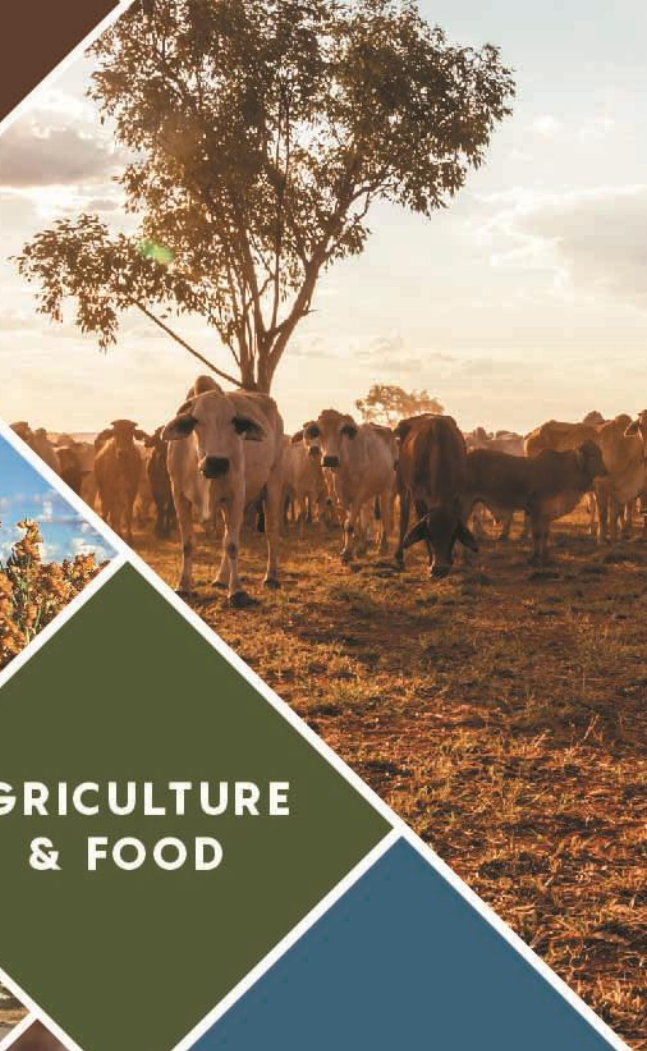
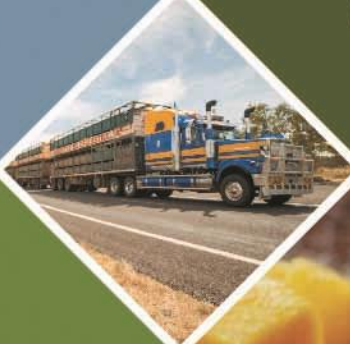


**NORTHERN HEALTH  
SERVICE DELIVERY**



**TRADITIONAL  
OWNER-LED  
DEVELOPMENT**

**AGRICULTURE  
& FOOD**



**Expression of interest  
General submission  
guidelines**

February 2022

**CRCNA**  
DEVELOPING NORTHERN AUSTRALIA





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**Australian Government**  
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The CRCNA acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Land and Water on which we and our research participants work and live and honour their continual connection to Country. We pay our respects to the Elders past, present and emerging.

## Disclaimer

This document is intended to be used for general information purposes only.

Expression of interest guidelines for specific funding call rounds are published on the CRCNA website:  
<https://crcna.com.au/research/expressions-of-interest>.

Any questions about funding calls or project funding should be directed to [projects@crcna.com.au](mailto:projects@crcna.com.au).



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## Our research focus areas for Northern Australia

With our initial \$75m, 10-year funding from the Commonwealth, the CRCNA invests in industry-led research collaborations which support the development of new technologies, products and services to resolve challenges and exploit opportunities within three initial focus areas:

### **Agriculture and Food (including aquaculture)** research which seeks to:

- De-risk investment in new, emerging and established industries by identifying barriers and providing solutions.
- Support the development and growth of established industries by identifying value-add opportunities, new markets, improving supply chains, enhancing productivity, developing workforce skills, capacity, and capabilities, and improving decision-making processes and policy frameworks to enable solutions to be implemented.
- Advance new industries through developing and testing new production and agronomy systems, crop varieties, animal species and animal breeding techniques and building research and workforce capabilities to support and maintain this work.

### **Northern Australian health services delivery** research which seeks to:

- Improve health-seeking behaviours of Northern Australians by improving access to information, health care professionals, diagnostic tools, and treatment options.
- Improve the early detection of diseases through the development of new technologies which assist with the flow of information, support timely decision-making and treatment options, improve access and connectivity to existing technologies, enhance workforce skills and capability to use new or existing technologies.
- Improve access to mental health treatment and diagnostic tools and technologies and enhance workforce skills and capabilities in delivering treatment and diagnosis.

### **Traditional Owner-led business development** research which seeks to:

- Strengthen Traditional Owner-led agriculture or health service enterprise by working with communities to identify challenges and offer solutions.
- Provide capacity building opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples which provide pathways for establishing skilled workforce in the fields of research, agriculture, food, and health service delivery.



## Research programs

Our seven research programs are captured within six pillars.





## How to apply

All CRCNA EOI submissions are to be made via an online form, attached to the specific funding call.

Information about current EOI funding calls can be accessed via the CRCNA website [www.crcna.com.au](http://www.crcna.com.au).

From time-to-time the CRCNA does invite suitable project proponents to submit an out-of-session EOI for consideration. This EOI is bound by the same guidelines and eligibility criteria as our open funding calls.

## Eligibility

For any project submission to be considered eligible, it must:

- have at least one partner representing industry (or the end-user of the research where appropriate).
- include significant co-contribution of cash and in-kind (at a minimum 1:1). EOIs with a higher cash co-contribution will be viewed more favourably.
- fit within one (or more) of the three investment themes:
  - Agriculture and food (including aquaculture)
  - Northern Australia health service delivery
  - Traditional Owner-led business development (in agriculture, food or health industries).
- ensure the research impact falls within the Northern Australian region (as shown in Appendix 2) \*.

**\*Note:** this does not preclude research conducted outside of Northern Australia, so long as the research has impact within the Northern Australia region.



## Common terms

**Lead participant organisation** is the organisation responsible for leading the research project and fulfilling CRCNA reporting requirements for the duration of the project.

**Project participant or participant organisation (as named in EOI form)** are those organisations who:

- make a co-contribution to the project, either cash and/or in-kind.
- utilise project funds to conduct research.

Organisations who are not making a co-contribution nor conducting research activities are considered Stakeholders.

### Co-contributions

- EOIs must (at a minimum) match the amount of funding sought from the CRCNA through cash and/or in-kind co-contributions.
- Those EOIs with a high cash co-contribution will be considered more favourably during the EOI assessment process.
- It is at the Participant's discretion to determine who will provide the co-contribution, and if there are multiple sources, what proportion each contributes.
- Funding sourced from other Commonwealth grants cannot be used to meet the 1:1 contribution.

**Participant cash co-contributions** are cash monies paid to the CRCNA by a Participant to undertake the agreed research activities.

**Participant in-kind co-contributions** consist of non-monetary resources utilised for research purposes. These include personnel (referred to as 'staff in-kind') and pro-rata use of facilities, equipment and services (referred to as 'non-staff-in-kind') provided by a Participant to the CRCNA from its own resources to deliver research activities associated with the project.

**Please note** if successful, cash and in-kind co-contributions **must** be reportable. This is non-negotiable.

**Expression of Interest project financials** must be completed as part of the EOI application.

This document requires Applicants to identify cash and in-kind contributions to be made by Participants named in the EOI and to outline the requested funding from the CRCNA

- Amounts quoted in the financials must be GST exclusive.
- Project cash and in-kind contributions must be a minimum 1:1 ratio with the requested CRCNA funding.



## **Pathway to impact**

EOIs should demonstrate how the proposed research will benefit communities in Northern Australia.

The **Pathway to impact** section of the EOI form is where Applicants can outline the proposed pathway to impact and describe how the research will meet each of the CRCNA's five strategic objectives (as outlined in Appendix 1).

The **pathway to impact** is a description of how the project outputs will be adopted to deliver outcomes and achieve an industry impact.

It is important that you consider the pathway to impact from the outset of your project as it is a key part of the CRCNA's decision making process when assessing Expressions of interest (EOIs) and forms the basis of some of our impact tracking.

A project's impact could be considered:

- The effects of the outcomes on industries and society including economic, health, social, cultural, environmental.
- The values that can be attached to the outcomes and impacts.
- Can refer to project beneficiaries i.e., those will derive some benefit from the implementation of the project, either directly or indirectly.

**Please note**, successful EOIs will have the opportunity to provide more detail on pathway to impact in the Research Plan (the next stage before contracting).

## **Participant Contribution Deed**

Applicants are not required to sign a **Participant Contribution Deed** as part of the EOI process.

Only participants of successful EOIs contributing cash only or cash and in-kind contributions and are not responsible or contributing to the research activities are required to sign **Participant contribution deeds**.

## **Research Agreement**

Only participants of successful EOIs are required to enter into a Research Agreement with the CRCNA.

The CRCNA works with successful EOI Applicants to develop a more detailed Project Outline, which is included in the final Research Agreement.

Research Agreements need to be fully executed before research activities are to commence. Any research activities undertaken prior to the Research Agreement being signed will not be funded by the CRCNA.





## Membership requirements

Applicants do not need to be CRCNA Members to submit an EOI.

However, anyone can nominate to become a CRCNA Member at any time via the [CRCNA website](#).

A CRCNA Membership costs \$100 (ex GST) per annum.

## Funding considerations and uses

### Industry-led research collaborations

EOIs must demonstrate **why** industry needs the research and clearly outline **how** the industry will support and adopt the research (pathway to impact). At **least one** of the EOI participants must represent the **industry** in which the research is being undertaken.

Industry partners are not required to lead the EOI nor submit the EOI.

**Government Statutory Authorities** and **Government Entities** at state, federal and local levels are welcome to submit EOIs but must have at least one partner representing industry (or the end-user where appropriate).

Significant government investment in health institutions and organisations will not preclude them from eligibility in CRCNA funding calls. However, government investment in the proposed EOI must be declared in the **Expenditure statement** of the **Project financials** section of the EOI form.

## Funding uses

CRCNA funding **can** be used to support the costs of:

- research
- salaries
- student placements
- strategies which build the R&D capacity within SMEs
- deployment of research outputs and encouragement of take up by industry.

CRCNA funding **cannot** be used for EOIs that:

- do not have a research component or a clearly articulated research question
- do not have at least one industry partner
- whose outputs are highly localised without potential broader application across Northern



Australia

- are to build capital works or for the purchase or construction of facilities such as buildings or laboratories
- are for renovations or extension of buildings and existing facilities
- are for any activities for which you have previously been funded or are currently being funded by the Australian Government or a State or Territory governments.
- Institutional overheads.

## EOI Approval process

EOIs will be assessed through a competitive, merit-based process.

The CRCNA will prepare, in collaboration with appointed advisory committee members (where required), recommendations for final consideration by the CRCNA Board.

Successful EOIs will be invited to submit a Project Outline and Project Expenditure with more specific detail on the proposed research project.

The CRCNA will also contact unsuccessful EOI applicants.

## Merit criteria

Applications must:

- measurably demonstrate how their EOI will impact on one or more of the CRCNA's Strategic Objectives (refer to Appendix 1)
- fit within the CRCNA's focus areas and tackle the most strategic barriers facing the identified focus areas
- demonstrate why the EOI should be CRCNA funded and not be funded by other related programs (e.g. State and Territory agencies, RD&E Corporations, etc.)
- include significant co-investment of cash and in-kind. EOIs with a high cash contribution will be viewed more favourably
- clearly demonstrate how the EOI is supported by industry as a necessary investment i.e. has demonstrable links to other industry and/or Government strategic plans and priorities.
- have a clearly outlined pathway to impact
- demonstrate a strong Return on Investment



## Next steps: successful EOI submissions

If a project proposal is successful, a CRCNA Project Manager will be assigned to assist the project team develop a more detailed Project Plan.

When completed and agreed to, the Project Plan forms the basis of a project contract / agreement with the CRCNA. The Plan includes:

- Project contributions from all listed participants, including in-kind and cash co-contributions
- Details of project participants
- A project summary, including the research question.
- A description of the research and research methodology
- Key research activities
- Project outputs
- Communications and stakeholder engagement plans
- Education and training stemming from the work i.e., PhD students
- Details of all staff and researchers involved in the project
- Expected outcomes of the research, including the estimated impact of the project
- Background and new IP and commercialisation
- Project milestones
- Risks assessment
- Comprehensive budget and payment schedule

## Reporting requirements for CRCNA projects

The lead project participant is responsible for ensuring all listed project participants fulfil their activity milestones and reporting requirements. The CRCNA requires projects to report on their activities and milestone progress each quarter as well as an annually.



Information contained within your project's quarterly and annual reports is collated and reported each quarter to the Commonwealth Government (the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources).

CRCNA Project Managers work closely with project team to ensure their reporting requirements are met and ensure the project milestones are delivered within the agreed timeframes.

### **How do I get paid by the CRCNA?**

The CRCNA pays projects on an agreed schedule as outlined in the Project Plan (the payment schedule).



## Appendix 1: CRCNA Strategic objectives

The CRCNA seeks to deliver high impact research which will lower investment barriers and enable significant capital to flow in northern Australia leading to:

1. Increased GDP
2. Increased investment in Northern Australian
3. Improved supply chain efficiencies in Northern Australia
4. Generation of new jobs on Northern Australia
5. Improved wellbeing of the Northern Australian community

Table 1 below provides a guide to how Applicants may consider calculating the EOI's impact against these criteria.

Please note, successful EOIs will have the opportunity to elaborate on these responses in the **Project Outline** but should provide some brief comments against these objectives as part of the EOI response.

<b>Strategic Objective</b>	<b>Calculated Impact of the proposed EOI</b>
<b>Increased Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in northern Australia.</b>	Specific calculation of new economic trade enabled by the CRC investment and reflected as GDP impact (in Australian dollars) per annum.
<b>Increased investment in northern Australia.</b>	Specific calculation of new investment arising (in Australian dollars), categorised as research, infrastructure and services per annum.
<b>Improved (supply chain) efficiencies in northern Australia.</b>	Specific calculation of increased cost efficiencies in production and the supply chain (in Australian dollars) per annum.
<b>Generation of new jobs in northern Australia.</b>	Specific calculation of new and retained jobs created (calculated in FTE terms) per annum.
<b>Improved wellbeing of the northern Australian community</b>	Specific calculation of multiple but specific wellbeing measures calculated per annum.

## Appendix 2: Area of operations

