

## Expression of Interest EOI 2022-23

### Part 1- General Details

<b>EOI ID</b>	<b>2223EOI0341</b>		
<b>EOI Title:</b> (max 80 char)	Scoping study – What are the opportunities for greater diversity in the cotton workforce?		
<b>Type of Research</b>	Capacity & Education		
<b>Proposed Start Date:</b>	1/07/2022	<b>Proposed End Date:</b>	1/12/2022
<i>Please refer to CRDC's Strategic R&amp;D Plan 2018-2023 for the following:</i>			
<b>CRDC Goal</b>	3. Build adaptive capacity of the cotton industry		
<b>CRDC Key Focus Area</b>	3.1 Science and innovation capability, and new knowledge		
<b>CRDC Outcome</b>	3.1.2 Increased understanding of an participation from the diverse human capital in regional communities		
<b>CRDC Performance Indicator</b>	Information is available on the diversity of social and business networks		
<b>Rural RD&amp;E Priorities</b>	Adoption of R&D		
<b>Science and Research Priorities</b>	Health		
<b>R&amp;D Manager</b>	Rachel Holloway	<b>FRP Due Date</b>	13/10/2021

### Part 2 –Expression of Interest Requirements

<b>Issue to be addressed and project description:</b>				
<p>This is a novel scoping study that has not been conducted as a standalone project by the cotton industry. Diversity was identified as priority issue in the recent 'National Agricultural Workforce Strategy': 'agriculture needs all available talent and the diversity that comes with it.' This scoping study will therefore seek to answer the question 'How can the cotton industry and supply chain influence the skill sets for the future workforce and create opportunities for diversity and inclusion in rural and regional cotton communities?' It will inform the following industry initiatives: strategic directions of cotton workforce planning, sustainability targets and the advancement of the cotton production in northern Australia (NT). The study will scope the following areas of diversity and inclusion: age, gender, culturally and linguistically diverse persons and Indigenous persons.</p>				
<b>Expected project outputs and outcomes:</b>				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increase the knowledge of diversity issues in the cotton industry and supply chain</li> <li>2. Identify the opportunities and gaps that will influence the skills sets for the cotton industry workforce</li> <li>3. Recommend priority areas to address diversity and inclusion in the cotton industry and supply chain</li> </ol>				
<b>Project Investment:</b>				
<b>Year</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Indicative budget (up to)	\$80,000	\$0	\$0	\$80,000

### **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.

**1. The rationale of the project, how it will support CRDC’s Strategic Plan and the potential impacts for the Australian cotton industry and the Australian community.**

This criterion will be assessed on the soundness of the proposal’s understanding of the issues, and the extent to which the project outcomes will address the issues and support CRDC to achieve its measures of success.

**2. Project methodology.**

This criterion will be assessed on the soundness and clarity of the proposed R&D methods to achieve project deliverables and outcomes.

**3. The skills and capacity of the research team to undertake the project.**

This criterion will be assessed on the track record, technical knowledge and experience of all key personnel in the research area and the demonstrated capacity of the nominated researcher/s to provide project coordination, management, monitoring and evaluation for the timely delivery of high quality outputs.

**4. The proposed ‘Pathway to Impact’.**

This criterion will be assessed on the appropriateness of the proposed ‘Pathway to Impact’ and the demonstrated capacity of the project personnel to effectively translate research/project outcomes to on ground actions. Please include the target audience and process for extension/ communication/ commercialisation (as appropriate), as well as any collaboration partners and potential risks. Note that successful FRPs may be requested to develop specific milestones for delivery of project outcomes in collaboration with CottonInfo or CRDC Commercialisation Manager at the outset of the project.

**5. Proposed collaborations for the project and / or the collaborative networks of the project team.**

This criterion will be assessed on the demonstrated ability of the project personnel to form productive networks to build on national and international research already undertaken in related areas.

**6. How this project is cost effective for the Australian cotton industry, including details of the resources being brought to the project.**

(This criterion will be assessed on the cost effectiveness of this project including cash and in-kind commitments from the applicants and leverage through domestic or international linkages. Budget including descriptive text will also be assessed as part of this criterion. Max 2,000 character limit including spaces)

For information on how to apply, please refer to: [www.crdc.com.au/for-researchers](http://www.crdc.com.au/for-researchers)

This EOI is not a guarantee of funding.