

GUIDELINES

Farmer Group Sponsorship Round November 2025

Empowering farmer groups to thrive in a changing climate



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry



Future
Drought
Fund



TAS FARM
INNOVATION HUB

UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA
TIA 
Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture



Sponsorship Overview

The Farmer Group Sponsorship Round is an initiative of the TAS Farm Innovation Hub, designed to support established farmer-led groups in delivering activities that build their capacity to manage climate and drought challenges.

The Hub recognises that farmer groups play an important role in our communities, supporting the learning, innovation and connection that help farmers to grow and adapt in changing environments. This sponsorship round aims to enable well-established farmer groups to achieve greater impact and to deliver targeted activities that strengthen their resilience, build group capability, and provide practical value to members.

Through this sponsorship round, the Hub offers flexible funding for groups to design and implement initiatives that align with climate and drought resilience priorities while also fostering broader group development.

About the TAS Farm Innovation Hub and its priorities

The Hub works with Tasmanian farmers, advisors, and the agricultural industry to help make Tasmanian farms more resilient to drought and climate risks. The Hub is part of a network of eight hubs established across Australia by the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund and sits within the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture (TIA) at the University of Tasmania.

Our priorities are:

- Farm planning and preparedness: Helping farmers understand their options and develop and implement plans to reduce drought risk, based on locally relevant and accessible data and information.
- Water: Contributing to a better understanding of catchment-scale water availability, allocations and demand, and farm-scale issues of reliable access and efficient use of water.
- Landscapes: Building knowledge and skills to increase the health of soil, vegetation and waterways, and measure on-farm natural capital to support drought resilience.
- Climate: Supporting an improved understanding of changes in climate and using this information to guide drought preparedness (cross cutting theme).
- Community: Building social connections, community leadership and wellbeing of people and communities (cross cutting theme).

You can read more about the Hub at: www.tasfarmhub.com.au



Program Objectives

The Farmer Group Sponsorship Round aims to:

- Support farmer groups to deliver activities that build capacity to manage climate and drought risks.
- Enable groups to strengthen their member engagement, leadership, and co-ordination in the context of climate resilience.
- Provide practical, hands-on opportunities for groups to plan and deliver initiatives that create tangible benefits for members.
- Encourage groups to trial new approaches that enhance their role in supporting on-farm adaptation and community resilience.

Funding Available

Farmer Groups (or delivery partners on behalf of groups) can apply for funding of \$2,500-\$5,000 per activity. A total of up to \$50,000 is available in this round.

Groups may apply for multiple activities if well-justified and funding allows, but priority will be given to ensuring broad group participation.

Eligible Activities

Activities must have a clear connection to building climate and drought resilience at the group or farm level. This can be through:

- Direct focus on climate or drought preparedness – for example, workshops or field days on different drought and climate-smart practices, decision support tools, or risk management.
- Strengthening the group's capacity to engage members and facilitate knowledge-sharing around climate and drought challenges – for example, climate communication, facilitation and engagement.
- Leadership development, planning sessions, or member engagement activities - where the purpose is to support the group's role in helping members manage climate variability and resilience.
- Trialling innovative approaches to extension, engagement, or peer-to-peer learning with a resilience lens.

The activity's primary intent may be capacity-building, member engagement, or leadership - however it must be clearly linked to improving the group's ability to support its members in managing climate and drought risks.



Expectations & Deliverables

Successful applicants will be expected to:

- Deliver the approved activity in line with their proposal.
- Provide a short activity report, including:
 - What was delivered
 - Participation and feedback
 - Key outcomes or learnings related to climate/drought resilience.
- Share any resources (such as fact sheets, field day notes, handouts, video, podcast) with the Hub for us share on our website or social media.
- Participate in media about the activity at the request of the Hub, for example, providing a quote for a press release, or sharing images for social media promotion.
- Participate in a brief post-activity debrief with the Hub team to discuss outcomes and opportunities for future collaboration.

Farmer Groups can commence their sponsored activities from 1 January 2025. Sponsored activities must be completed by 31 May 2026.

Who Can Apply?

- Farmer groups.
- Delivery partners (on behalf of a farmer group) who are directly supporting the group to deliver the activity.

Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed on:

- Clear alignment with the Farmer Group Sponsorship Round focus on climate and drought resilience.
- Relevance and value of the proposed activity to the group's capacity-building and engagement goals.
- A sound and deliverable activity plan.
- Demonstrated capability of the group/applicant to deliver the activity.
- Potential for practical, on-ground impact.



Key Dates

Applications Open	19 November 2025
Applications Close	7 December 2025
Successful Applicants Notified	19 December 2025
Activities Commence	1 January 2026
Activities Complete	31 May 2026
Feedback on sponsored activities due	30 June 2026

How to apply

To apply complete the Application Form and email to fdف.تاس.هوب@utas.edu.au by **9PM Sunday, 7 December 2025**

Contact Officer

For more information, please contact:

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