# RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT AND ADOPTION

# PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL

**2020-21 MLA INVESTMENT CALL**

*Preliminary Proposals* ***must be submitted in word document format, must not exceed four (4) pages of size 11 font with standard margins (2.54cm)****. All italicised instructions should be deleted before submission.* *MLA will acknowledge receipt of each preliminary proposal and record each proposal on the MLA project information system. Applicants will be advised in writing of the success or failure of their Preliminary Proposal in January 2020.*

*Please write this preliminary proposal in plain English for a well-informed, sheepmeat and/or grassfed beef producer audience. Avoid jargon and be succinct in regards to the problem and the proposed solution and pathway to adoption*.

 ***Timing of Application***

*Preliminary Proposals (Microsoft Word version) must be submitted electronically to MLA at:* ***projectcall@mla.com.au*** *before 11.59pm AEDT Wednesday, 16 October 2019. Include the project title in the email subject line.*

**Project Title** *(please delete italicised instructions)*

*Maximum of twenty words*

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**Research Organisation**

*Full Name of each Organisation, business unit/Department.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name****ABN****Street Address****Postal Address** |  |

**Principal Investigator**

*The Principal Investigator is crucial to the delivery of the Project and must be an employee of the Research Organisation.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name****Mailing Address****Phone Number****Email Address** |  |

**Associated/Sub-contracted Organisation(s)** *(e.g.: joint ventures, body corporate, etc.)*

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**Administration Contact Details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name****Mailing Address****Phone Number****Email Address** |  |

**Location/s of Research Work**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**Which agro-climatic zone(s) is the research relevant to:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [ ]  Cold Wet | [ ]  Dry | [ ]  Tub-tropic sub-humid | [ ]  Temperate sub-humid |
| [ ]  Mediterranean | [ ]  Sub-tropical moist | [ ]  Temperate cool-season wet | [ ]  Tropical moist |
| [ ]  Tropical wet | [ ]  Tropical warm-season wet |  |

**Other:** *(please specify)*

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**2020-21 Terms of Reference Priority addressed by this Preliminary Proposal**

*Tick the box/es to identify the 2020-21 ‘Terms of Reference’ that this proposal will address. ‘Terms of Reference’ that you are not addressing may be deleted.*

[ ]  National Animal Welfare Standards & Guidelines

[ ]  Pain Mitigation

[ ]  Matching feed supply to a changing climate

[ ]  Natural Resource Management in a changing climate

[ ]  Sheep Reproduction

[ ]  Expressions of interest to be involved in a Sheep Reproduction Strategic Partnership

[ ]  Total Grazing Pressure

**Summary** *(please delete italicised instructions)*

*Briefly define the problem that has been identified, explain how it will be addressed and describe the benefit of this project for sheepmeat and/or grassfed beef producers (200 words maximum).* *The summary must be easily understood by a lay audience. It should clearly and succinctly convey the importance and relevance of the proposed work to panels of red meat producers who will assist MLA managers in the evaluation process, and who may pay less attention to technical detail in the rest of the preliminary proposal.*

*TIP: have your summary read by someone who is not a scientist or familiar with the work you are proposing.*

**Outputs, Outcomes and Impacts of Project** *(please delete italicised instructions)*

*Define the outputs (products, services, technologies, knowledge, innovations, etc.) created by, or contributed to, by this project and then describe any attributable outcomes and impacts from these outputs. If no adoption outcomes and impacts apply, please state this.*

* *Outputs are the tangible objectives of the project and should be described in a SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time bound) format. They should be linked to attributable adoption outcomes.*
* *Outcomes should relate to adoption related changes in practice and behaviour (qualitative and quantitative) that lead to a measurable changes (impacts) in productivity and/or cost reductions.*
* *Impacts. Describe the mechanism by which the outputs and adoption outcomes of the project will have an impact on sheepmeat and/or grassfed beef producers (e.g. increased productivity, risk mitigation, reduced costs, welfare or natural resource management (NRM) implications)? Is this impact likely to be small, moderate or significant at farm-level?*

**Background of Research Work** *(please delete italicised instructions)*

*Explain how your research is going to build on existing knowledge within the relevant R&D theme. Briefly address each of the following points (one page maximum):*

* *What is the problem or issue?*
* *What is already known about it in Australia and overseas?*
* *What gaps are your project going to address?*
* *What is the basis or reason for the project (e.g. knowledge, adoption, capacity building)?*
* *Are there any related or previous R&D projects in the program of work area? If so, how is your project different from previous work?*

**Brief Project Design and Methods** *(please delete italicised instructions)*

*Without going into detail:*

* *What is the research question or hypothesis?*
* *Outline the experimental design and measures.*
* *Explain how the proposed project will deliver the outcomes that industry requires.*
* *Describe how you have engaged producers and advisors during the development of the proposal.*
* *Describe how producers and advisors will be involved in the project from start to end.*

*NOTE: Technical merit will be assessed by the expert panel for invited full proposals in stage two.*

**R&D Adoption - Pathway to adoption** *(please delete italicised instructions)*

*Each application must consider the relevance of the project and must outline a proposed pathway to the adoption of the research as a component of the project (where applicable). Applicants may consider MLA adoption programs as described in Appendix – 1, ‘Guidelines to developing an adoption pathway for annual call RD&A projects’, although the adoption plan can specifically be developed for the project if required, rather than trying to fit into existing programs. Describe the pathways by which the outputs of this project will be extended to industry, and converted into outcomes and impacts. In completing this section, you should address each of the following questions:*

* *What practical, on-farm issue/problem does this proposal address?*
* *What proportion of sheepmeat and/or grassfed beef producers are affected by the issue/problem(s)? How large is this issue/problem i.e. what is the opportunity? This should be thought of as the ‘target market’ for the project outputs.*
* *If the outputs of this project were delivered, what are the potential barriers/issues to adoption by the target market?*
* *What MLA delivery programs (or other existing adoption programs) could this research be incorporated into?*
* *What engagement and skill development activities are required with (a) the target market and/or (b) intermediaries (advisors, extension specialists, etc) to support efficient and effective adoption?*
* *What evaluation processes are planned to assess the adoption rate and impact of the project outputs?*

**R&D Adoption - Commercial pathways** *(please delete italicised instructions)*

Is the objective for the project outputs to be licensed, sold or otherwise commercially exploited?

YES 🞏 NO 🞏

*If yes, please indicate if a commercial partner has already been identified and provide details on any commercial discussions.*

**Intellectual Property (IP)** *(please delete italicised instructions)*

*Note all IP matters that may require attention in a full proposal, including the following:*

* *an outline of anticipated IP (or type of IP) which will be created as a result of this project*
* *proposed ownership of IP created as a result of this project - an outline of how the background IP will be used by industry*
* *any background or existing IP being brought into the project, ownership of that background IP or any encumbrances (such as a licence) and any obligations that could influence adoption of project IP. In addition, include detail on how the background IP will be incorporated in project IP.*

*Please provide detail of this background IP in the table below – add rows if required.*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No.** | **Title/ description** | **Detail** | **Date** | **Comments (including if encumbered)** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**Personnel** *(please delete italicised instructions)*

*Summarise the role of each participant.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name or job title** | **Role/responsibility** | **% full time equivalent** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

### Overall Preliminary Budget (project “Expenditure”) *(please delete italicised instructions)*

### *All budgets are recorded exclusive of GST, however, MLA will pay GST in addition to this budget.*

*Ensure budget is inclusive of all R&D and adoption activities.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2020-21****$** | **2021-22****$** | **2022-22****$** | **2023-24****$** | **TOTAL**  |
| Salaries and on costs |  |  |  |  |  |
| Travel |  |  |  |  |  |
| Operating |  |  |  |  |  |
| Capital (equipment) |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL BUDGET** (excl. GST) |  |  |  |  |  |

Funding Breakdown (project “Revenue/Income”)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MLA** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Other Contributors cash** (please list) |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Research & Other Organisations** (in kind) |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL BUDGET**  |  |  |  |  |  |

*Please note the TOTAL BUDGET in table (a) and (b) above must be the same.*

### Insurance *(please delete italicised instructions)*

*Please insert details of your current insurance policies.*