

# Innovation Fund Grants Guidelines 2010



These guidelines have been prepared to assist proponents develop innovative projects that have the maximum chance of being funded by FBA.

Please read this document carefully to ensure that your application complies with the assessment criteria and investment conditions. Contact FBA for further information.

## Introduction

FBA's primary business is to develop and implement the *Central Queensland Strategy for Sustainability – 2004 and Beyond (CQSS2)*. The CQSS2 defines regionally important assets (such as healthy soils, good water quality and biodiversity), threats on those assets, and outlines targets and actions to protect, enhance, or repair them.

FBA recognises that significant advances in knowledge about how to protect and enhance our assets and to sustainably increase production will only come about from trying new ways of doing and thinking about things. We can't fix a problem with the same knowledge that created it. FBA also recognises that in developing new approaches some ideas will fail, and that as much may be learned from what fails as from what works. The Innovation Fund is designed to invest in projects that foster new ideas or concepts to achieve sustainable use of our natural resources.

***FBA's Innovation Fund will invest in activities that may result in new ways of meeting Resource Condition Targets in the CQSS2.***

FBA's investment in innovation in 2010 is in the order of \$100,000. This funding will be committed at the discretion of the FBA Board.

## Scope of activity

FBA Innovation Fund investment is targeted at activities that:

- Are innovative in their approach or methodology, or trial a new and innovative practice
- Address high priority or emerging pressures on regional assets, for example climate change and the region's capacity to adapt or mitigate its effects, and/or
- Activities that promote, communicate, or increase the uptake of innovative practices that have demonstrated these outcomes elsewhere but are yet to be broadly established in the region.

### Contact FBA:

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Australian Government



Queensland  
Government

FBA is funded under Australian and Queensland Government programs.

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## Investment conditions

The following conditions will apply to investment in FBA Innovation Fund projects

- Groups and individuals are eligible to apply.
- Up to one dollar for every dollar or in-kind equivalent contributed by the applicant or other project contributors may be provided. Matching contributions can be cash, in-kind, or both. An in-kind contribution may include volunteer labour, use of equipment, machinery and materials, and time donated by experts in relevant fields
- Projects can be no more than 1 year in duration.
- Successful proponents should be able to provide evidence of insurance cover for your group including public liability to the value of not less than \$10,000,000, workers' compensation, personal accident and/or volunteer workers' insurance

## Eligible activities and costs

Activities that are eligible for funding include, but are not limited to:

- Investigations, trials, and demonstrations to enable individuals, community and industry groups to compare, determine, or identify new techniques to address priority NRM issues (particularly issues that focus on improving water quality)
- New ways of generating ideas and/or communicating
- Innovative research to fill critical gaps that will help implement CQSS2

FBA will look at **every** project on its merits. If you would like feedback before developing a full project application, please submit an expression of interest.

## Ineligible activities and costs

Funding will not be provided for:

- Activities that are required by law
- Activities which replace an individual's, group's, or government's responsibility for sustainable management of resources under their control
- Purchase, lease or acquisition of land
- Purchase of major capital items
- Day-to-day operating costs e.g. rent, power, cleaning, telephones other than mobile phones acquired specifically for the project: these costs are eligible as matching contributions
- Subsidies for commercial operations

## Communication

Proponents must be prepared to share the results and learnings of their project with the broader public. The application should detail how this is intended to occur e.g. field days, publications, online.

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## **Publicity**

Proponents must be prepared to promote their project through activities organised by FBA, including media releases, radio interviews and publications. FBA requires due recognition for all projects it fully or partly funds through use of logos and appropriate wording. Information and logos will be provided.

## **Project development and assessment**

Proponents are invited to submit an Expression of interest by **25th June 2010**.

The projects will be assessed using the following assessment criteria:

- Contribution or potential future contribution to achievement of Resource Condition Targets in CQSS2, and the priority of those target
- Value for money (cost effectiveness; level of in-kind / external funds leveraged)
- Public vs private benefit ratio, with any funding provided at the same ratio
- Technical merit and innovation
- Soundness of methodology (timeframes, milestones and resources required)
- Quality of monitoring and communication components
- Benefit ratio of FBA involvement for organisational and CQSS2 outcomes

Proponents whose projects are recommended for funding by the assessment panel will be requested to complete a detailed project proposal.

Following receipt of the detailed project proposal, contracts will be prepared in line with FBA's standard terms and conditions.

## **Completing the EoI Form – Do's and Don'ts**

### **DO**

- provide a short (3 or 4 sentences) summary of the project goals and activities
- check the eligibility of the activities and budget items
- provide current and accurate contact details
- check all budget calculations, particularly row and column totals
- ensure that the nominated contact person signs the EoI Form

### **DO NOT**

- change the format and layout of the EoI form (all electronic submissions must be in the Microsoft Word format, as provided)

**Further Information:** Contact FBA on 4999 2800 or visit [www.fba.org.au](http://www.fba.org.au)