



Request for Quote – October 2024
Joint RDC Annual Report (*Working Title*)

Purpose

This RFQ seeks proposals from suitability qualified providers to prepare the 2024 Joint RDCs Annual Report across the 15 rural Research and Development Corporations (RDCs).

Background

The rural Research and Development Corporations invest around \$800 million per annum in research, development, extension, adoption and commercialisation (RDEA&C) to advance the sustainability and productivity of Australia’s agriculture, fisheries and forestry sectors. They are a key investment partner in Australia’s innovation system.

The Council of rural RDCs is the collective forum of the RDCs. It provides the mechanism through which the RDCs meet regularly and work together on joint matters of importance. Its members are Agrifutures Australia; Australian Eggs Limited; Livecorp; Australian Meat Processors Corporation; Australian Pork Limited; Australian Wool Limited; Meat and Livestock Australia; Fisheries Research & Development Corporation; Cotton Research & Development Corporation; Dairy Australia; Forest & Wood Products Australia; Grains Research & Development Corporation; Horticulture Innovation Australia; Wine Australia and Sugar Research Australia.

RDCs have deep connections with their industries and focus on outcomes for industry which can be achieved more efficiently collectively than by individual businesses or governments. Those outcomes are reported each year in RDC Annual Reports.

At the same time RDC collaboration around areas of mutual importance continues to be scrutinised. This Joint RDC Annual Report is intended to assist in increasing the transparency around how RDCs are achieving cross-commodity outcomes.

About this RFQ

The RDCs wish to prepare a joint RDCs Annual Report which communicates how the collective investment of the RDCs benefits industry and the Australian community. The aim is for the Annual Report to become a central source of information which will be produced each year between September and December.

The intent of the Annual Report is to demonstrate the benefit of the investments being made by the RDCs in terms of short, medium and long-term gains. It will have a focus on the big national issues that are important to the agriculture, fisheries and forestry sectors and the Australian Government.

A key outcome is to demonstrate where the RDCs collaborate and how they collaborate through a variety of mechanisms and formats. Examples include RDCs collaborating around RDEA&C, Emerging National Rural Issues projects; RDC investment partnerships with research and extension providers and RDC internal collaboration around joint business, communication and R&D management needs.

Objectives

1. Identify the key areas of focus for the joint Annual Report and a table of contents.
2. Complete a desktop review of RDC Annual Reports:
 - a. prepare a matrix of the quantitative and qualitative information which can be drawn together to complete the joint Annual Report.
 - b. Assess the information and identify gaps, follow up with RDCs to complete information – the aim being to achieve consistency across the joint RDC Annual Report
3. Prepare a template to enable consistent reporting of collaborative activity across the RDCs. Share and coordinate with RDCs provision of information against the template.
4. Prepare the joint Annual Report

Outputs

1. Joint Annual Report
2. Joint Annual Report Executive Summary/ Factsheet/ Talking Points
3. Template or matrix to assist in consistent preparation of qualitative and quantitative information across the RDCs to enable repeat of the process ongoing
4. Template for ongoing collection of collaboration information from across the RDCs

Timeline

RFQ in market – 14 October and closes 25 October

- Project commences 1 November – inception meeting Council Secretariat
- Update with Executive Committee 14 November
- Annual Report Table of Contents + Template for Collaboration Reporting + Progress in RDC Engagement submit to Secretariat by 4th December (*discussion with CEOs at meeting on 10 December*)
- Near – final Joint Annual Report (with Executive Summary) mid-late January 2025
- Annual Report Completed early February 2025

Selection Criteria

1. Demonstrated understanding of the task – understanding of what will be required to collate information from across the 15 RDCs
2. Demonstrated delivery of similar projects
3. Project team bring appropriate skills and expertise against the Objectives
4. Capacity to deliver the project within the required timeframe
5. Value for money

Proposals

Proposals should be submitted to the Council Secretariat by no later than cob 25 October to Anwen Lovett anwen.lovett@crrdc.com.au

Enquiries about this proposal please contact Anwen Lovett on 0418284169.