

OFFICIAL

# On-Farm Emissions Action Plan Pilot

Program Guidelines

Updated October 2023

**AGRICULTURE VICTORIA**

OFFICIAL

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### Acknowledgment

We acknowledge and respect Victorian Traditional Owners as the original custodians of Victoria's land and waters, their unique ability to care for Country and deep spiritual connection to it. We honour Elders past and present whose knowledge and wisdom has ensured the continuation of culture and traditional practices.

We are committed to genuinely partner, and meaningfully engage, with Victoria's Traditional Owners and Aboriginal communities to support the protection of Country, the maintenance of spiritual and cultural practices and their broader aspirations in the 21st century and beyond.



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### Accessibility

If you would like to receive this publication in an alternative format, please telephone the DEECA Customer Service Centre on 136186, email [actionplanpilot@agriculture.vic.gov.au](mailto:actionplanpilot@agriculture.vic.gov.au) or call Agriculture Victoria on 136 186. This document is also available on the internet at [www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/climate-and-weather/policy-programs-action/on-farm-action-plan-pilot-program](http://www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/climate-and-weather/policy-programs-action/on-farm-action-plan-pilot-program).

## 1. Purpose

These guidelines provide information about the grants program available as part of the Victorian Government On-farm Emissions Action Plan Pilot program (the Pilot Program). The guidelines are for Pilot Program Participants (Participant) and provide key details about the process for applying for a grant.

## 2. Pilot Program summary

### 2.1. What is the Pilot Program?

The Victorian Government launched the Pilot Program in June 2022. It is a three-year initiative to support up to 250 Victorian farmers and growers to:

- estimate their on-farm emissions profile;
- develop emissions reduction action plans (On-farm Emissions Action Plans);
- implement emissions reduction actions on their farm by providing access to grants from a fund of up to \$5 million.

### 2.2. Why is government delivering the Pilot Program?

The Pilot Program forms part of the Victorian Government's [Agriculture Sector Pledge](#), developed under the *Climate Change Act 2017*. The Pledge represents an investment of nearly \$20 million to support the agriculture sector to respond to climate change and reduce its emissions, and includes delivery of:

- a long-term shared vision for agriculture's role in a net zero emissions economy;
- ground-breaking Victorian research into agriculture emissions reduction technologies and practices;
- tools and services to help farmers to reduce emissions while maintaining productivity and profitability.

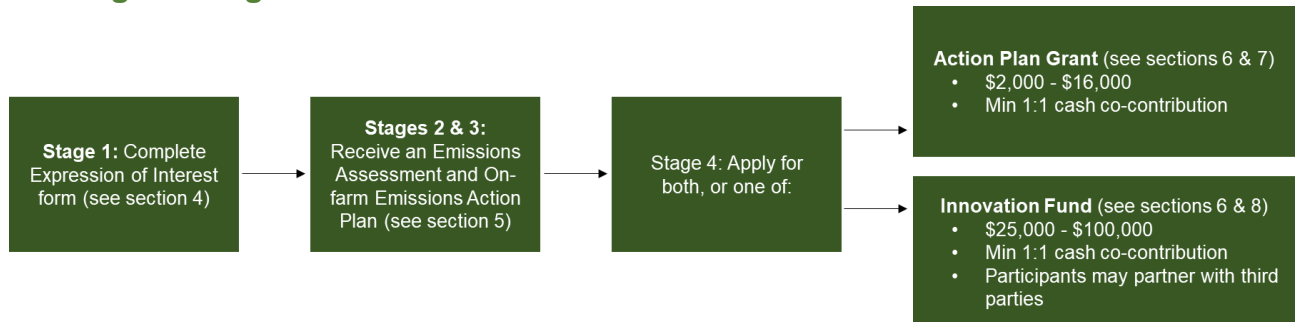
### 2.3. What is the purpose of the Pilot Program?

A key focus of the Pilot is to build Participants' and the agriculture service sector's climate literacy and capability by providing opportunities for learning and collaboration. The intended outcomes are that:

- **Outcome 1:** The Victorian agriculture sector has improved approaches to identify on-farm sources of emissions and actions to manage them.
- **Outcome 2:** Participants have made investments to reduce their emissions.
- **Outcome 3:** The Victorian agriculture sector has greater capability to monitor and manage emissions and is preparing for new technologies and changing conditions.

### 3. Overview: How the Pilot Program works

#### 3.1. Program stages



#### 3.2. Who can participate in the Pilot Program?

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (the Department / DEECA) will select up to 250 Participants for the Pilot Program. Potential Participants will be identified in partnership with key industry organisations and stakeholders and will include a range of commercial farm businesses from different commodities and regions. Farm businesses wishing to participate will need to complete an Expression of Interest (EOI) process (read more about the EOI process and eligibility considerations under Section 4 of these guidelines). Participants are selected through the EOI process, which is staged over a number of rounds targeting different agricultural industries.

#### 3.3. Grant program dates

There are two streams of grants available through the Pilot Program (see section 3.1, 6 and 7). Application dates will vary for the different streams:

- Applications for the **Action Plan Grants** are open from 1 June 2022 to 25 November 2024. Applicants must apply for an Action Plan Grant within two (2) months of receiving their On-Farm Emissions Action Plan.
- Applications for the **Innovation Fund** will open and close twice throughout the 3-year Pilot. Innovation Fund applications will be open for four (4) weeks.

Pilot Participants applying for a grant are referred to as Applicants.

Stream	Dates
<b>Action Plan Grants</b>	1 June 2022 to 25 November 2024
<b>Innovation Fund (Round 1)</b>	Early 2024
<b>Innovation Fund (Round 2)</b>	Late 2024

Further information can be found on the Agriculture Victoria [website](#).

## 4. Stage 1: EOI process

Farm businesses wishing to participate in the Pilot Program will need to complete an EOI form. The form will request information such as:

- details to confirm the Applicant's eligibility for the Pilot Program
- a summary of why the Applicant is interested in participating in the Pilot Program and how they will benefit.
- details of the Applicant's relationship with any industry associations or networks. Applicants may wish to attach a letter of recommendation from those groups.

The aim of the EOI process is to choose a cross section of Victorian farm businesses to support the testing of emissions reduction technologies and practices in commercial farm settings. Applications will be assessed according to the eligibility criteria and the considerations below.

The Department may request additional information, documentation or clarification at any time in the EOI assessment process.

### 4.1. Eligibility criteria and considerations

To be eligible for the Pilot Program, the Applicant must:

- be a primary producer with a current Australian Business Number (ABN)
- be operating from a Victorian farm location
- meet all industrial relations obligations as an employer in accordance with the National Employment Standards
- be a farm that is a commercial operation
- align to the considerations detailed in section 4 outlining the EOI process.

Considerations for how farm businesses are chosen to participate in the Pilot include:

- representation of a cross section of farm commodities
- farm system type and size
- geographic location
- experience in the sector
- involvement in previous programs from Agriculture Victoria
- the breadth and depth of Participant's networks within their industries.
- previous experience with emissions reduction on farm

The Department expects that Participants can only participate once over the life of the Pilot Program, unless otherwise agreed. Successful Participants will be invited to participate in the Pilot Program and receive the free Emissions Assessment and On-Farm Emissions Action Plan.

## 4.2. Conditions of participation

If invited to participate, Participants must agree and/or attest that they will:

- share data generated by the trial with the Department during the Pilot Program
- participate as a Pilot Program case study, or in Pilot Program demonstration events.
- participate in future evaluation activities.

## 5. Stages 2 and 3: Free Emissions Assessment and On-Farm Emissions Action Plans

Participants will receive a free Emissions Assessment and On-Farm Emissions Action Plan, supporting them to calculate their on-farm emissions profile “know their number” and identify options to reduce emissions on-farm.

This will involve a three-step process as outlined below:

### **Step 1: Assess on-farm emissions profile and benchmark**

- Gather necessary farm data and use recommended sector-specific calculator/tool to quantify emissions on-farm (including carbon offset options)
- Compare to others in the industry and set a farm baseline
- Know the sources and scope of emissions on farm.

### **Step 2: Identify potential actions**

- Identify potential types of actions to reduce emissions based on the assessment.

### **Step 3: Provide tailored recommendations**

- Tailor identified actions to the individual farm business, market opportunities and goals of the Participant through 1:1 engagement
- Develop an On-farm Emissions Action Plan with recommendations (priority actions with most impact, short term vs long term etc.) and supporting information to assist implementation.

Emissions Assessments and On-Farm Emissions Action Plans will be led by the Department and undertaken in partnership with industry service providers.



## 6. Stage 4: Applications for grant funding

Pilot Participants are eligible to apply for two types of grants (see section 6.1). Participation in Stage 2 of the Pilot Program and the receipt of an On-Farm Emissions Action Plan does not automatically guarantee that a Participant will receive grant funding. Applications for grants will be assessed based on defined criteria (see sections 7 and 8). Refer to section 11 for further information on how to apply for grant.

### 6.1. What types of grants are available through the Pilot Program?

There are two streams of grants available – Action Plan Grants and the Innovation Fund. Participants are eligible to apply for both grant streams.

	Overview	Key details
<b>Stream 1 - Action Plan Grants</b>	<p>The Action Plan Grants are designed to fund actions derived from the On-Farm Emissions Action Plans.</p> <p>This includes enabling actions, and infrastructure and technology resulting in both indirect and direct emissions reduction. Enabling actions develop farmer capability and readiness, especially where limited mature emission reduction solutions exist.</p> <p>Actions must be listed on the Participant's personalised On-Farm Emissions Action Plan to be eligible. Actions will vary across different farm-types and circumstances. Examples may include soil testing, soil moisture monitoring equipment or effluent management (though this is not an exhaustive list).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grant funding available is between \$2,000 and \$16,000 per recipient.</li> <li>• Minimum \$1:\$1 (Participant: government) cash co-contribution required.</li> <li>• To fund actions derived from On-farm Emissions Action Plans</li> <li>• Projects can include more than one recommended action from the On-farm Emissions Action Plan up to a combined maximum of \$16,000 in grant funding per recipient.</li> </ul>
<b>Stream 2 - Innovation Fund</b>	<p>The primary purpose of the Innovation Fund is to trial and evaluate innovative ideas to significantly reduce on-farm emissions, and to develop case studies for learning and collaboration. See Section 8 for further detail.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grant funding available is between \$25,000 and \$100,000 per recipient.</li> <li>• Minimum \$1:\$1 (Participant: government) cash co-contribution required.</li> <li>• Prioritise direct agriculture emissions reduction activities.</li> </ul>

## 6.2. Applying for both grant funding streams

Participants may apply for and receive a grant through both funding streams, up to the total maximum amount of available grant funding for each stream.

However, applications to each funding stream must be for a separate project or activity. If an Applicant is successful in receiving grant funding through both the Action Plan Grants and Innovation Fund, these cannot be pooled to fund different components of the same project or activity, and a project cannot rely on receiving both funding streams in order to be completed.

Applications for an Action Plan Grant and to the Innovation Fund will need to be submitted separately and comply with the timelines, eligibility requirements and assessment criteria of each funding stream.

The assessment outcome in one grant funding stream will not influence the assessment of applications in the other stream.

## 7. Action Plan Grants

### 7.1. Eligible expenditure and considerations

Project expenses must directly align with the On-Farm Emissions Action Plan recommendations. Project expenses that do not align with the On-Farm Emissions Action Plan recommendations will be considered ineligible.

Participants may apply for funding to implement one or more recommended actions from their On-Farm Emissions Action Plan. Funding available to each applicant for an Action Plan Grant will not exceed \$16,000 (exclusive of GST).

The Department will prioritise Action Plan Grant funding to activities that reduce on-farm emissions, and activities not covered by other programs – such as the Victorian Government's \$15.3 million Carbon Farming Program and Solar Homes Program. Actions in these domains may be considered on a case-by-case basis if ineligible for other programs.

Eligible project expenditure must be:

- Incurred by the recipient within six (6) months of execution of the grant agreement, unless otherwise agreed by the Department.
- A direct cost of the project; and
- Exclusive of GST for grant calculation purposes.

### 7.2. Ineligible expenditure

Project expenses that will generally not be considered for Action Plan Grant funding include:

- **Ongoing costs:** Ongoing salary or operating activities
- **Retrospective funding:** Activities which have already commenced or are already scheduled to commence at the time of the application.
- **Purchase of particular goods:** Items without a direct benefit for on-farm emissions reduction activities including, but not limited to, the purchase of land, office equipment and vehicles.
- **Standard management practices:** Activities primarily to meet on-farm regulatory requirements or considered minimum standard practices.

Exceptions may be considered under limited circumstances at the discretion of the Department. Applicants are invited to contact the Pilot team if they have any queries.

### 7.3. Grant funding and co-contribution

Action Plan Grants require \$1:\$1 cash co-contribution up to the maximum grant value. The total grant value will be a maximum of \$16,000 (exclusive of GST) or 50% of total eligible costs, whichever is less.

### 7.4. Documentation and information requirements

Participants must have received their complete On-Farm Emissions Action Plan prior to applying for Action Plan Grant funding.

Applications for grant funding require at least two quotes for each requested item or service. The Department may accept one quote if it can be demonstrated that there is a valid reason why two quotes are not reasonable in the circumstances.

### 7.5. What is the duration of the project?

Projects must be completed **within six (6) months** of the execution of the grant agreement, unless otherwise agreed by the Department. Longer term projects may be negotiated on a case-by-case basis if there is demonstrated justification e.g., seasonal limitations.

In Year 3 (2024-2025) funding will be prioritised for projects that will be completed by 30 June 2025.

Funded recommendations should be trialed on farm for at least two (2) years. Failure to follow these instructions could affect future applications to the Department’s funding programs.

### 7.6. What is the assessment process?

Applications for funding will be considered in order of submission of a complete application to the Department. Applications will be assessed by a departmental assessment panel. All applications will be assessed against the eligibility criteria and assessment criteria for the particular funding stream.

The Department may request additional information, documentation or clarification at any time in the assessment process.

### 7.7. What are the assessment criteria?

Assessment Criteria	Considerations	Assessment
Does the proposed project align with recommendation on the Participant’s On-Farm Emissions Action Plan?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the proposed project recommended on the Participant’s On-farm Emissions Action Plan?</li> </ul>	Yes/No
Will the proposed project provide benefits to the Participant and the intended learning outcomes of the Pilot Program?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will this action contribute benefits to the Participant, e.g. emissions reductions and broader environmental benefits?</li> <li>Does the project contribute to the intended learning outcomes of the Pilot Program?</li> </ul>	Yes/No
Does the project represent value for money?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the proposed project demonstrate a fair market value or project cost?</li> <li>Participants are generally expected to provide at least two quotes for each item requested in the application (see section 7.4).</li> </ul>	Yes/No

## 7.8. Acceptance of offer for Action Plan Grant

Applicants will have **14 calendar days** from the date of the Letter of Offer to accept the offer and **14 calendar days** sign the grant agreement. The offer may be withdrawn if the grant agreement is not executed within the **14-day** timeframe.

## 8. Innovation Fund

### 8.1. What is the purpose of the Innovation Fund?

The primary purpose of the Innovation Fund is to trial and evaluate innovative ideas to significantly reduce on-farm emissions, and to develop case studies for learning and collaboration. A wide range of projects will be considered, including the use of new technologies and practices, or new applications of existing technologies.

Projects must demonstrate credible potential for significant reduction in on-farm emissions through innovation in emissions reduction technology or applied practices. Projects that utilise existing or standard farm practices and technology need to clearly articulate how the proposal demonstrates innovation in a Victorian setting to be considered.

Strong preference will be given to projects that focus on agriculture emissions with innovation in a Victorian setting.

### 8.2. Applicant eligibility

Applications for the Innovation Fund are open to Pilot Participants who have commenced working with the Department on their Emissions Assessment (see section 5).

Eligible Participants may submit an individual application or an application in partnership with a third party. Where a Participant is applying with a third party, the application should:

- be submitted by the Participant;
- demonstrate how the Participant and third party will work together to maximise project outcomes; and
- specify who will be the lead contact. If the application is successful, the lead contact will be required to enter into a grant agreement with the Department.

### 8.3. Eligible expenditure and considerations

Eligible project expenditure must be in line with the purpose of the Innovation Fund and:

- Incurred by the recipient within twelve (12) months of execution of the grant agreement, unless otherwise agreed by the Department.
- A direct cost of the project; and
- Exclusive of GST for grant calculation purposes.

### 8.4. Ineligible expenditure

Project expenses that will generally not be considered for Innovation Fund grant funding include:

- **Ongoing costs:** Ongoing salary or operating activities.
- **Retrospective funding:** Activities which have already commenced or are already scheduled to commence at the time of the application.
- **Purchase of particular goods:** Items without a direct benefit for on-farm emissions reduction activities including, but not limited to, the purchase of land, office equipment and vehicles.
- **Standard management practices:** Activities primarily to meet on-farm regulatory requirements or considered minimum standard practices.

Exceptions may be considered under limited circumstances at the discretion of the Department. Applicants are invited to contact the Pilot team if they have any queries.

### 8.5. Grant funding and co-contribution

The Innovation Fund requires \$1:\$1 (Participant: government) cash co-contribution up to the maximum grant value. The total grant value will be a maximum of \$100,000 (exclusive of GST) or 50% of total eligible costs, whichever is less.

- Where a Participant is applying for an Innovation Fund Grant with a third party, cash funding from named project partner(s) may form part of the required co-contribution. Any co-contribution sourced from project partners will require written confirmation of financial commitment. Other evidence may be required at the Department's discretion.
- In-kind contributions cannot form part of an Applicant's required co-contribution funding.

### 8.6. Documentation and information requests

Participants must have commenced their Emissions Assessment prior to applying for Innovation Fund grant funding.

Applicants will be required to complete an online application. Applicants are required to contact the Department via email to [actionplanpilot@agriculture.vic.gov.au](mailto:actionplanpilot@agriculture.vic.gov.au) to request an individual grant application link. This will be provided via direct email along with additional information on document requirements for supporting material depending on the value and complexity of the project, which may include:

- Detailed project plan including budget and timelines for delivery
- Business case including justification of potential emissions reduction or increased sequestration.
- Where applicable, evidence of project partner support, including confirmation of funding, description of role in delivery
- Where applicable, information about how the Participant and third party will work together to maximise project outcomes
- Evidence of supporting research
- Other supporting documentation as required.

## 8.7. What is the duration of the project?

Projects must be completed within twelve (12) months of the execution of a grant agreement, unless otherwise agreed by the Department.

In exceptional circumstances, longer term projects may be negotiated on a case-by-case basis if there is demonstrated justification.

## 8.8. What is the assessment process?

The Department will:

1. Review applications for eligibility
2. Score applications individually against the assessment criteria
3. Rank applications against each other
4. Provide a list of endorsed applications to the Minister for Agriculture for consideration and approval, subject to available funding.

The Department may request additional information, documentation or clarification at any time in the assessment process.

Where relevant, the Department may seek advice from independent external experts to support assessment of the applications.

The Minister for Agriculture's decisions on all matters pertaining to the award of grant funding under this Program is at their absolute discretion.

Applicants will be advised of the decision relating to their application in writing. Successful Applicants will receive a Letter of Offer.

Applicants who are unsuccessful in round 1 of the Innovation Fund can reapply in round 2.

## 8.9. What are the assessment criteria?

Assessment criteria	Considerations	Weighting
<b>Grant purpose: How well does the proposed project meet the purpose of the Innovation Fund?</b>	Applicants will be asked to describe their proposed project and how it relates to the objectives of the Innovation Fund. Specifically, innovation and emissions reduction potential.	30 per cent
<b>Project benefits: How well does the proposed project demonstrate broader agriculture community benefits beyond any direct project benefits to the Applicant?</b>	Applicants will be asked to demonstrate how their proposed project aligns with Pilot Outcomes and how the proposed project will deliver benefits to other Victorian farmers.	30 per cent

<p><b>Feasibility and delivery: How well does the application show that the project can be delivered on time and within budget?</b></p>	<p>Applicants will be asked for an outline of a project plan, including budget and resourcing. Larger proposed projects may be required to provide a detailed business case.</p>	<p>25 per cent</p>
<p><b>Need for Victorian Government funding: How well does the application make a case for government assistance.</b></p>	<p>Applicants will be asked to address how Victorian Government funding will support them to, for instance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• deliver the outcomes from the proposed project more quickly</li> <li>• reach more beneficiaries</li> <li>• deliver a project that might otherwise not have sufficient funding to proceed.</li> </ul>	<p>15 per cent</p>



## 9. Funding conditions

### 9.1. Grant conditions

If successful, Applicants will be invited to enter into a legally binding grant agreement with the Department.

Applicants will have **14 calendar days** from the date of the Letter of Offer to accept the offer in writing and **14 calendar days** from the date of acceptance to execute the grant agreement with the Department. The offer may be withdrawn if the grant agreement is not executed within the **14-day** timeframe.

The project must not commence until a grant agreement has been duly executed by both the Department and the successful Applicant.

Once the agreement has been executed, the successful Applicant will be required to commence the project within the agreed timeframe. If a successful Applicant does not commence the project by the commencement date, the Department has at its absolute discretion the option of terminating the agreement.

The grant agreement will detail all funding obligations and conditions including payment against deliverable milestones and reporting requirements.

### 9.2. Risk assessments

Applicants may be subject to a risk assessment which verifies business details provided with the Australian Business Register, Australian Securities and Investment Commission, Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commissioner, Consumer Affairs Victoria and/or other applicable regulator.

Any of the following circumstances may be taken into consideration in any decision whether to award a grant:

- Any adverse findings by a regulator regarding an Applicant;
- An Applicant is placed under external administration;
- There is a petition to wind up or deregister the Applicant;
- The Applicant is or becomes deregistered or unregistered (including cancellation or lapse in registration); and

The Department may at any time, remove an Applicant from the Application process, if in the Department's opinion association with the Applicant may bring the Department, a Minister or the State of Victoria in disrepute.

The Department may undertake a financial risk assessment of the Applicant to assess the ability of the Applicant to deliver the proposed project.

Applicants may be asked to provide the following:

- Audited Financial Reports for the last three financial years. This should be the 'final accounts' with Directors' Report and Declaration and should include Profit & Loss Statement, Balance Sheet, Cash Flows, and notes to the accounts. If accounts are not audited, unaudited accounts from an Accountant will be accepted
- If the latest financial report is more than six months old, up-to-date Management or Interim Accounts for the current year including Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet, and, in the case of public listed corporations, a half yearly financial report

- Current Business Plan, or project proposal
- The company's financial projections for the next three financial years, including Profit & Loss and Cash Flow.

Outcomes from any risk assessments will be taken into consideration in any decision to recommend and award the grant.

## 10. General terms and conditions

### 10.1. Privacy

Any personal information about you or a third party in your application will be collected by the department for the purposes of administering your grant application and informing Members of Parliament of successful applications. Personal information may also be disclosed to external experts, such as members of assessment panels, or other Government Departments for assessment, reporting, advice, comment or for discussions regarding alternative or collaborative grant funding opportunities. If you intend to include personal information about third parties in your application, please ensure that they are aware of the contents of this privacy statement.

Any personal information about you or a third party in your correspondence will be collected, held, managed, used, disclosed or transferred in accordance with the provisions of the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014* and other applicable laws.

DEECA is committed to protecting the privacy of personal information. You can find the DEECA Privacy Policy online at [www.delwp.vic.gov.au/privacy](http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au/privacy).

Requests for access to information about you held by DEECA should be sent to the Manager Privacy, P.O. Box 500 East Melbourne 8002 or contact by emailing [Foi.unit@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:Foi.unit@delwp.vic.gov.au).

### 10.2. Post project evaluation

Recipients may be requested to complete a post-project evaluation demonstrating the actions taken and outcomes achieved.

Evaluation may be required for up to three (3) years following the end date of the Pilot Program and is a non-negotiable requirement for all Participants. Non-compliance could affect an Applicant's future applications to the Department's funding programs.

Successful outcomes may be used in Pilot evaluation reviews and Department marketing collateral.

### 10.3. Publicity

Successful Applicants are expected to acknowledge the Victorian Government's support and promotional guidelines (<https://www2.delwp.vic.gov.au/grants>) will form part of the funding agreement. Successful applicants must liaise with the departmental program area to coordinate any public events or announcements related to the project.

This may include involvement in media releases, case studies or promotional events and activities, and may include using Participant's names in publications.

The Department may request Participants to fact-check any text and seek approval to use any owned imagery associated with the activity prior to the publication of any such promotional materials.

Participants must not make any public announcement or issue any press release regarding the receipt of a grant without prior approval of the Department.

## 11. How to apply: Grant application checklist

Applicants must contact [actionplanpilot@agriculture.vic.gov.au](mailto:actionplanpilot@agriculture.vic.gov.au) to receive an application link to apply for an Action Plan and/or Innovation Fund Grant.

	Action Plan Grants	Innovation Fund
<b>Prerequisite</b>	Participants must have received their Emissions Assessment and On-farm Emissions Action Plan before applying for an Action Plan Grant	Participants must have commenced working with the Department on their Emissions Assessment or received their Emissions Assessment before applying for an Innovation Fund Grant
<b>Eligibility</b>	All eligibility criteria must be met. See section 4.1	All eligibility criteria must be met. See section 8.
<b>How can I obtain a farm emissions assessment?</b>	Refer to Section 4 for further information on the EOI process and how to apply. Assessments and plans will be led by the Department and undertaken by an industry expert.	Refer to Section 4 for further information on the EOI process and how to apply. Assessments and plans will be led by the Department and undertaken by an industry expert.
<b>Amount on offer</b>	Between \$2,000 and \$16,000	Between \$25,000 and \$100,000
<b>Matched funding</b>	Yes, you must match the grant funding <b>\$1 for \$1</b> provided by the government up to the maximum value of the grant. Anything over the maximum grant value is your responsibility to fund.	Yes, your application must demonstrate that you will match the grant funding with <b>\$1 for every \$1</b> provided by the government up to the maximum value of the grant. Anything over the maximum grant value is your responsibility to fund.
<b>How is my application assessed?</b>	Your application will be assessed against the listed assessment criteria.	Your application will be assessed against the listed assessment criteria and competitively ranked against other applications.
<b>Am I required to enter into a grant agreement?</b>	Yes. You must sign a DEECA grant agreement	Yes. You (or where applicable, the lead contact) must sign a DEECA grant agreement
<b>When can I purchase goods and services with grant funding?</b>	ONLY after you and the Department have both signed a grant agreement. If you purchase goods and services before receiving the fully executed grant agreement the project expenditure will be considered ineligible.	ONLY after you and the Department have both signed a grant agreement. If you purchase goods and services before receiving the fully executed grant agreement the project expenditure will be considered ineligible.

	Action Plan Grants	Innovation Fund
<b>What can I purchase with grant funding?</b>	You must use the grant to fund one or more recommended actions identified in your On-Farm Emissions Action Plan.	<p>Projects must demonstrate credible potential for significant reduction in on-farm emissions through innovation in emissions reduction technology or applied practices.</p> <p>You can apply for funding for high value recommended actions listed on your On-Farm Emissions Action Plan, providing that you can demonstrate an element of innovation in the project. Projects utilising standard farm practices or known technology are unlikely to be supported. See Section 8 for further detail.</p>
<b>How much time do I have to implement the recommended action?</b>	Project must be completed within six (6) months from receiving a Letter of Offer from the Department, unless otherwise agreed by the Department.	Project must be completed within twelve (12) months of the execution of the grant agreement by the Department, unless otherwise agreed by the Department.
<b>How can I apply for a grant?</b>	<p>Applicants must undertake the following steps to apply:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Carefully read these Program Guidelines.</li> <li>2. Compile all necessary supporting documents to apply as detailed in the 'Documentation and Information Requirements' section of these Program Guidelines.</li> <li>3. Submit application online via the grant application link provided.</li> <li>4. Await email confirmation of application submission. Please check spam/junk mail if confirmation email cannot be seen in your inbox.</li> </ol>	<p>Applicants must undertake the following steps to apply:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Carefully read these Program Guidelines.</li> <li>2. Compile all necessary supporting documents to apply</li> <li>3. Submit application online via the grant application link provided.</li> <li>4. Await email confirmation of application submission. Please check spam/junk mail if confirmation email cannot be seen in your inbox.</li> </ol>