

## **Aussie Cotton Farmers Grow Communities 2018 Guidelines**

*Aussie Cotton Farmers Grow Communities* gives farmers the opportunity to support their communities by nominating a local not-for-profit organisation for one of thirty \$5,000 grants on offer.

The program, presented by the Monsanto Fund in partnership with the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR), aims to support local communities in cotton growing regions by providing a total of \$150,000 in grants per year.

The nominations are independently assessed and administered by FRRR which manages a number of grant programs across rural and regional Australia.

### **Who can apply?**

- Cotton Farmers aged over 18 years and actively engaged in farming cotton in one of the 14 Cotton Grower Association areas in NSW and QLD, may nominate a community project. An eligible not-for-profit organisation is one which:
  - Supports projects and activities that offer clear public benefit for communities in rural, regional and remote locations in Australia;
  - Contributes to rural and regional renewal, regeneration and development in Australia in social, economic, environmental, health, education, or cultural areas; and
  - Is located in one of the Cotton Grower Association areas listed below:

#### Queensland:

- Darling Downs
- Central Highlands
- St George
- Dawson Valley
- Dirranbandi
- Macintyre Valley

#### New South Wales:

- Lower Namoi
- Gwydir Valley
- Macquarie
- Southern Valleys (Lachlan/Murrumbidgee)
- Upper Namoi
- Mungindi Water Users
- Walgett
- Darling River Food and Fibre (Bourke)

- Community groups themselves are not eligible to apply - they must be nominated by a cotton farmer.
- Community groups and local community members can suggest an idea, which a local cotton farmer may choose to nominate.

### **Eligibility**

Nominated not-for-profit community groups must demonstrate the following:

- Have a charitable purpose (i.e. address a need in the community and not benefit an individual);
- Demonstrate clear community support - for example, be based on a community plan endorsed by the community;
- Have a good prospect of longer-term viability and impact;
- Involve partnerships or leverages financial and/or in kind contributions;

- Be supported by viable project management arrangements (and a financially sound organisation);
- Offer value for money;
- Demonstrate innovation;
- Use the grant to undertake a project anytime between December 2018 and November 2019.

#### **What can't be funded?**

- Projects that benefit an individual rather than a community
- Scholarships or endowments
- Projects outside of the 14 eligible Cotton Grower Association areas in NSW or QLD
- Purely social, sporting or recreational activities. The encouragement or advancement of sport, recreation and social activities is not considered a charitable activity by the Australian Taxation Office. Applications from sporting organisations need to clearly demonstrate a benefit to the wider community
- Underwriting deficits
- Religious, politically partisan, or similar groups

#### **How to apply**

Applications will be accepted online or by mail between 9am on 2 July 2018 up until 5pm on 31 August, 2018.

1. To enter online, visit <http://www.modernag.com.au> and nominate a not-for-profit organisation project by selecting the online "submission" option. All applicants are required to complete all required registration information (including your name, address and other contact information).
2. To apply by mail, please go to <http://www.modernag.com.au> to print out the application form. Once completed, mail to the FRRR at **PO Box 41, Bendigo, Victoria 3552, Australia** postmarked no later than 5pm AEDT 31 August 2018.

Outcomes will be announced by December 2018.

**Enquiries:** You can contact FRRR on free call 1800 170 020 or email [cotton@frrr.org.au](mailto:cotton@frrr.org.au)