

Financial Interests and Related Carbon Service Provider Entities Declaration

Completion and lodgement of this Declaration by the Applicant and Project Partner(s) (where relevant) is an eligibility requirement (see Grant Opportunity Guidelines, section 4.2).

Applications that do not include a Financial Interests and Related Carbon Service Provider Entities completed by the Applicant and Project Partner(s) (where relevant) will **not be accepted**.

The provision of **independent advice** is a key element of the Carbon Farming Outreach Program. For this reason, organisations that are Carbon Service Providers are not eligible to apply for a grant or to be project partners (see Grant Opportunity Guidelines, section 4.3). The information in this Declaration will be taken into account when your application is assessed against assessment criterion 2 (Capacity, capability and resources to deliver your project), in particular, when assessing your capacity and capability to provide trusted and independent advice (see Grant Opportunity Guidelines, section 6.2).

Completion instructions

1. This Declaration must be completed by the **Applicant**. A **separate** declaration must be completed by **each of the Project Partner(s)** (where relevant).
2. In order to complete the Declaration, Sections 1, 2 and 3 must be fully completed (all checkboxes marked and data entry fields completed); and the declaration in Section 4 made.
3. The Declaration completed by the Applicant and each separate Declaration completed by each of the Project Partner(s) (where relevant) must be uploaded as part of the Application.
4. If there is any aspect of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines or this Declaration that you have questions about, please contact the Business Grants Hub at business.gov.au or by calling 13 28 46.

SECTION 1

Please select the checkbox that relates to you.

- I am the Applicant.
- I am a Project Partner.
- I have read and understood the Grant Opportunity Guidelines for the Carbon Farming Outreach Program.

Please complete the following details:

Full legal name:	
ABN, ACN or ARBN:	
Trading or business name:	
Address of registered office:	
Postal address:	

SECTION 2

Declaration - Financial Interests

- I understand that an eligibility requirement of the Carbon Farming Outreach Program is that all Financial Interests held by the Applicant and any Project Partner must be declared.

What is a Financial Interest?

The Glossary in section 14 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines defines “Financial Interest” as follows:

Financial Interest - A pecuniary interest in carbon or climate-related activities. Examples of Financial Interests include (but are not limited to) the interests of the applicant (or its principals, owners, directors, officers or other like individuals) and/or its project partner (or its principals, owners, directors, officers or other like individuals) in carbon markets, carbon credits, Carbon Credit Projects, carbon mutuals, carbon- or climate-neutral certifications, carbon accounting tools and sales of emissions-reduction technologies.

A **Carbon Credit Project** is defined as “project whereby a landholder, land manager, business, state or territory government or local council can earn carbon credits through undertaking activities that result in the sequestration of carbon or avoidance of greenhouse gas emissions”.

Guidance on declaring Financial Interests:

The Department needs to be aware of the Financial Interests held by the Applicant and each Project Partner to be able to assess the extent to which trusted and independent advice can be provided.

As a **guide only**, examples of interests that are Financial Interests and must be declared include:

- If the Applicant or the Project Partner (ie whoever is making the declaration) or any of their individual officers hold carbon credits or invest in Carbon Credit Projects.

- *If the any officers of the Applicant or the Project Partner (ie whoever is making the declaration) hold prominent positions in organisations undertaking or investing in a Carbon Credit Project. These officers could be involved in decision-making or engagement with community or delivery of services involving carbon. An example of this situation is a regional agricultural advisory service where the advisers undertaking the grant activities are involved in carbon-like services or are profiting from these activities. The Declaration should include: the names of these officers, the role they each hold in the organisation that is involved or investing in the Carbon Credit Project, and whether each officer derives any financial benefit from it.*

The above are examples only, and are not a complete list of the types of interests that constitute a Financial Interest as defined in the Grant Guidelines. Applicants and Project Partners (ie whoever is making the declaration) must examine their own interests and ensure that all pecuniary interests that are Financial Interests are declared.

Financial Interests

If you are the Applicant or a Project Partner, please complete the entry fields below, including the interests you hold that meet the definition of Financial Interests in section 14 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

<p>Financial Interests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>All Financial Interests must be declared.</i> • <i>Add more rows or pages if necessary in order to include all Financial Interests.</i> • <i>If there are no Financial Interests, write “[INSERT NAME OF DECLARANT] DOES NOT HAVE ANY FINANCIAL INTERESTS AS DEFINED IN THE GRANT OPPORTUNITY GUIDELINES” in the next column.</i> 	
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SECTION 3

Declaration - Related Carbon Service Provider Entities

I understand that to be eligible for the grant I must declare all related Carbon Service Provider Entities as defined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, and details of the associated relationships.

What is a Related Carbon Service Provider Entity?

The Glossary in section 14 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines defines a “Related Carbon Service Provider Entity” as follows:

Related Carbon Service Provider Entity - *A Carbon Service Provider that:*

- a. can control, or materially influence, the activities or internal affairs of the applicant and/or its project partner(s);
- b. has the capacity to determine, or materially influence, the financial and operating policies of the applicant and/or its project partner(s);
- c. is financially interested in the success or failure or apparent success or failure of the applicant and/or its project partner(s);
- d. if the applicant or any of its project partners is a company, a Carbon Service Provider that:
 - (i) is a holding company of the applicant or a project partner;
 - (ii) a subsidiary of the applicant or a project partner; or
 - (iii) a subsidiary of a holding company of the applicant and/or a project partner;
- e. has principals, owners, directors, officers or other like individuals in common with the applicant and/or its project partner(s); or
- f. has principals, owners, directors, officers or other like individuals who are in a familial or spousal relationship with the principals, owners, directors, officers or other like individuals of the applicant and/or a project partner.

A **Carbon Service Provider** is a business that offers services to landholders and land managers interested in establishing and managing a Carbon Credit Project in exchange for a fee (for example by direct payment, or other incentive such as apportionment of proceeds of carbon credits issued for a project). Services may include (but are not limited to) management of, or being the project proponent for Carbon Credit Projects, provision of mapping and feasibility studies and facilitating the trading, buying and selling of carbon credits.

Guidance on declaring Related Carbon Service Provider Entities:

The Department needs to be aware of any relationships that the Applicant and each Project Partner has with a Related Carbon Service Provider Entity, in order to be able to assess the extent to which trusted and independent advice can be provided.

The kind of information that should be declared in relation to any relationships with a Related Carbon Service Provider Entity include:

- If the Applicant or the Project Partner (whoever is making the declaration) is a private company and has sibling company(s) which own shares in a Carbon Service Provider, the Declaration should include details of the relevant holding company, the shares held by your sibling company(s), and details of the Carbon Service Provider.

I understand that an eligibility requirement of the Carbon Farming Outreach Program is that all Related Carbon Service Provider Entities and details of associated relationships must be declared.

If you are the Applicant or a Project Partner, please complete the entry field below in relation to any Related Carbon Service Provider Entity as defined in section 14 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, and your associated relationships.

<p>Related Carbon Service Provider Entities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All details regarding Related Carbon Service Provider Entities and associated relationships must be declared. • Add more rows or pages if necessary in order to include all details of Related Carbon Service Provider Entities and associated relationships. • If there are no Related Carbon Service Provider Entity or associated relationships to declare, write “[INSERT NAME OF DECLARANT] DOES NOT HAVE ANY RELATED CARBON SERVICE PROVIDER ENTITY AS DEFINED IN THE GRANT OPPORTUNITY GUIDELINES” in the next column. 	
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SECTION 4

Capacity and capability to deliver trusted and independent advice

Assessment criterion 2 involves assessing the “Capacity, capability and resources to deliver your project” (see Grant Opportunity Guidelines, section 6.2). Applicants are asked to demonstrate this by identifying a number of matters (see Grant Opportunity Guidelines, section 6.2). These matters include identifying:

- Your capacity and capability to provide trusted and independent advice

Applicants and Project Partners (whoever is making this Declaration) should explain here how any Financial Interests that are declared in Section 2 or any Related Carbon Service Provider Entity and associated relationships that are declared in Section 3 will be managed in order to support the provision of trusted and independent advice.

Please note that the information provided in the text box below will be assessed (together with the remainder of the Application).

[Add pages to this Declaration if more space is needed]

SECTION 5

Declaration

I declare that the information contained in this Declaration is complete and accurate in every respect, and is not false or misleading.

You are responsible for ensuring this Declaration is complete and accurate. Knowingly giving false or misleading information to a Commonwealth entity is potentially a criminal offence under section 137.1 of the Criminal Code (enacted under the Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cth)).

If the Department considers that you have provided false or misleading information in this Declaration, your Application may not progress.

If you find an error in this Declaration after submitting it, you should call us immediately on 13 28 46.

I am authorised to sign this Declaration on behalf of the Declarant.

Name of
Declarant:

Name of person
signing Declaration
on behalf of
Declarant:

Signatory's
position

Signature:

Date of Declaration: