



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

CREATE CHANGE

Advance Queensland Industry Research Program

UQ R&I 2023 information pack

Acknowledgment of Country

The University of Queensland acknowledges the Traditional Owners and their custodianship of the lands on which we meet.

We pay our respects to their Ancestors and their descendants, who continue cultural and spiritual connections to Country.

We recognise their valuable contributions to Australian and global society.



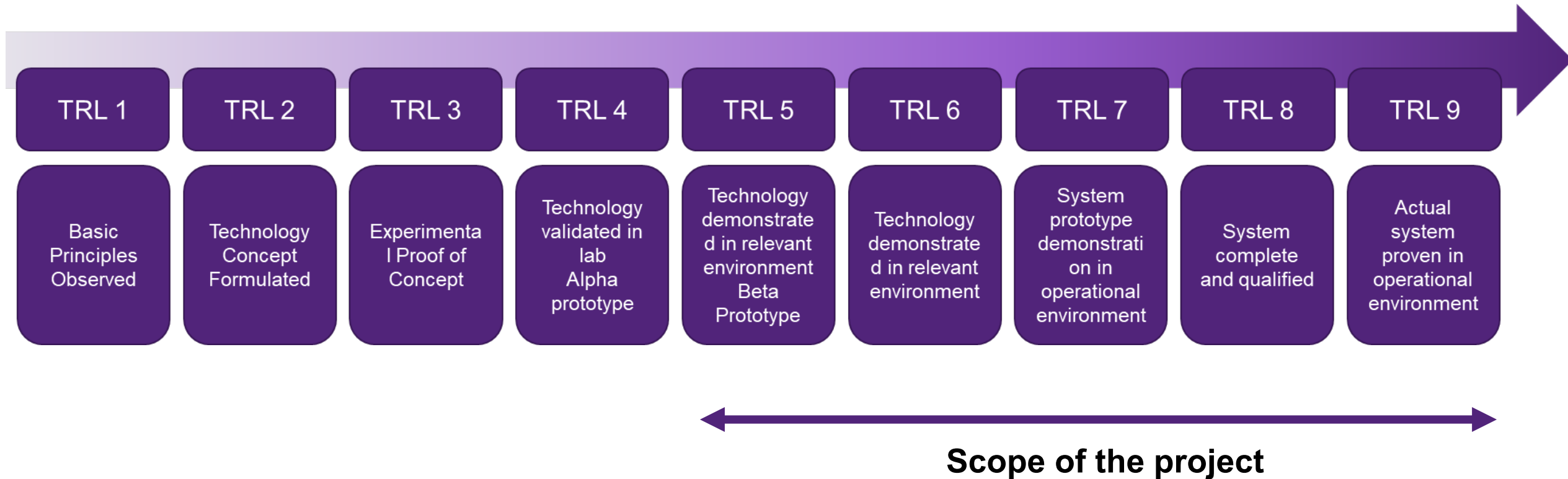
AQIRP Overview

The [Advance Queensland Industry Research Projects \(AQIRP\)](#) program supports meaningful opportunities for researchers to partner with industry to address a **significant** issue or problem identified by the industry partners.

Projects should focus on developing opportunities to **translate research outcomes into commercialisation opportunities for innovative services and products.**

The program targets high quality research projects where research outcomes lead to new products, processes, or services through activities focussed on progressing the innovation within Technology Readiness Level **(TRL) 5 to 9** toward commercial readiness and future investment.

AQIRP Overview



Note: Being within TRL 5-9 is not an eligibility criterion so a project outside of this TRL band is eligible to apply. However, the TRL the project of the project at time of application will be considered as part of the assessment.

AQIRP Overview

The Advance Queensland Industry Research Projects program aims to:

- Increase partnerships between research and industry partners, improving research and business collaboration,
- Translate research outcomes into new innovative services and products,
- Increase expenditure on innovative research and development,
- Increase opportunities for commercialisation as part of growing the innovation economy.

AQIRP Overview

Two tiers are available:

- Tier 1 - applicants located in South-East Queensland: \$500K – \$1.5M (excluding GST), **up to 3 years**, where projects have a **matched funding (1:1)** ratio from the applicant/partners.
 - Tier 2 - applicants located in other regions of Queensland: \$250K – \$1.5M (excluding GST), **up to 3 years**, where projects have 25% matched funding from the applicant/partners.
- **UQ applicants are only eligible for Tier 1**

AQIRP Investment Areas

The proposed project must address at least one of the following priority investment areas:

- **Using the following innovative technology to advance industry:**
 - Autonomous systems
 - Robotics and artificial intelligence
 - Nanotechnology
 - Synthetic biology technologies including mRNA
 - Quantum technologies
- **Innovation in cybertechnology and defence industries and space industries**
- **Innovating the tourism industry**
- **Innovation in methods to drive sporting and sporting event success (Sports Tech)**
- **Using innovative methods to improve agriculture and food** including novel proteins and low emissions production systems
- **Using innovative methods to achieve a sustainable future in a decarbonising economy by:**
 - developing environmentally responsible mining practices including innovative methods to accelerate new economy/critical minerals industry
 - managing Queensland's waste and pollution and developing the circular economy
 - mitigating and preventing climate change
 - developing sustainable energy solutions including technology supporting green hydrogen
 - developing sustainable energy storage solutions
 - developing sustainable water solutions
- **Building resilience against**
 - future potential pandemic crises,
 - natural disasters e.g., droughts, floods, cyclones and bushfires.

AQIRP Eligibility

- **Applicant Organisation must be a Queensland-based** agency that conducts research,
 - e.g., university, government agency, or not-for-profit organisation
- The project includes collaboration between
 - at least one **Queensland-based research organisation**; and
 - at least one **Queensland-based business** (that will progress the translation and practical application of the research)
 - partnering organisations **must not be** an associated entity, parent or subsidiary of the applicant organisation and any spin out companies must be established for over one year.

Partner Organisations

Q: Does the **Key Industry Partner (i.e., the partner that will progress the translation and practical application of the research)** have to be Queensland-based? Or can it be non-Queensland-based and the application have a second partner which is Queensland-based?

A: The key industry partner (that will progress the translation and practical application of the research) must be Queensland-based.

Q: What constitutes as “Queensland-based”? Can a company be registered in NSW but have a physical presence (and address) in QLD to be eligible?

A: The Queensland-based eligibility requirement is that a Queensland-based organisation must be operating its business in a physical location in Queensland which must be maintained for the duration of the project. A company can be registered in NSW but have a physical presence in Queensland and be eligible.

Cash Contributions

Applicable to UQ applicants

Tier 1:

A total cash contribution (from the applicant and/or partner organisation(s)) that is equal to, or greater than, the Innovation Research Projects grant sought.

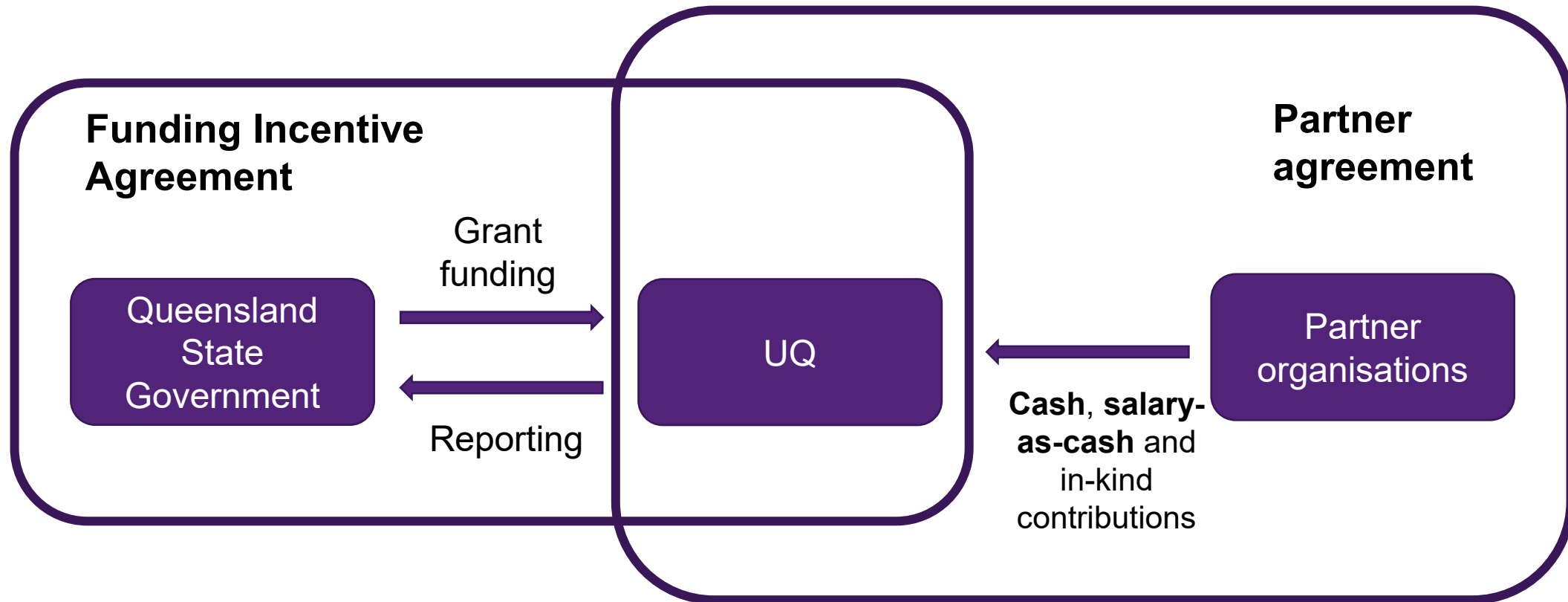
- **Tier 2:**

A total cash contribution (from the applicant and/or partner organisation(s)) that is not less than 25% of the Innovation Research Projects grant sought.

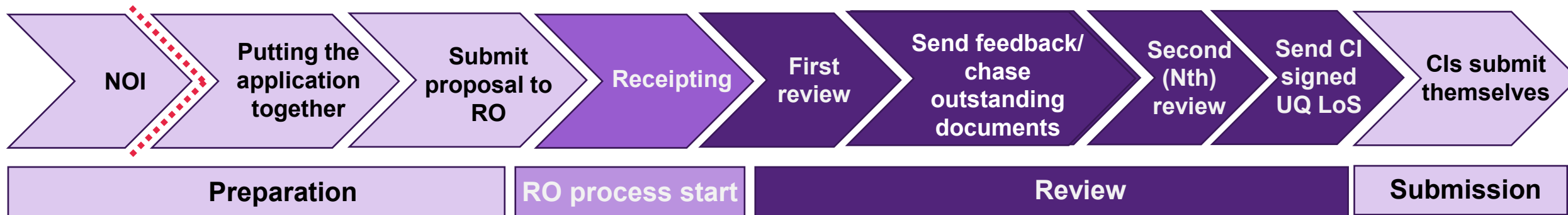
AQIRP Projects must meet this criteria:

- Proposed project should be a **distinct activity/project**
- Proposed project should include a **set of activities with specified start and end dates**
- Proposed project **should focus on the translation of research findings and outcomes in the final third period** of the term of the project.

How does this project work?



Research Office – UQ R&I process



Please see the UQ R&I website for information on [Applying and submitting a proposal](#)

Templates and resources for UQ AQIRP applications are available on the [website](#)

Send your application to: QLDGovtgrants@research.uq.edu.au

Required documents for RO review:

- PDF of **completed application** (export pdf from SmartyGrants)
- A completed **project budget** using the [online AQIRP template](#)
- Complete and signed (by HOS/Director) **Application Coversheet and Cash Commitment Proforma** – available from [UQ R&I website](#)
- Draft of **Partner(s) Support Letter(s)** – [template available](#)
- **CVs** of key researchers. (max two pages each)

AQIRP 2023 Cash Matching

- The project **must have combined cash co-funding** from the Applicant Organisation **and/or** Partner Organisation(s) **that equals or exceeds** the Advance Queensland funding sought.

Definitions:

- **Cash:** direct cash contributions by UQ and/or Partner Organisation (i.e., cash in the bank that can be used on salary and/or project costs)
- **Salaries-as-cash:** salary contributions from other sources of the **Fellow or dedicated research/technical staff**, i.e., in-kind time of staff that can be used as matching funds to meet the matched funds requirements
 - **Time for mentors, HDR students or admin staff CANNOT be claimed as cash co-funding**
 - **Salaries-as-cash** cannot be included in budget for contributions to salary and/or project costs
- Salaries-as-cash can be claimed for the FTE time spent on the project for eligible Applicant and Partner Organisation staff.
- FTE dedicated to other projects of these staff cannot be claimed as a cash contribution, and the time of ineligible staff cannot be claimed (e.g. administrative staff)

Applicant Cash Commitment Letter

- Every application with a cash contribution from UQ (including Central, Faculty/Institute/school/centre contributions) must upload an “Applicant Cash Commitment Letter”.
- Letters need to be drafted and sent to the Research Office with enough time to be signed by Finance and Business Services. Estimated turnaround time for signing is 5 days.
- We recommend you **confirm your UQ cash commitments as early as possible** before the grant deadline to allow time for finalisation of this letter.

Completing your application

- Applications are completed through the [SmartyGrants system](#).
 - UQ Research Office cannot access your application directly; you will need to export a pdf of your application for review.
- Please use the provided document containing [UQ organisational details](#) when completing your application.
 - This document contains necessary business and contact details required throughout the application form.
- When preparing your budget, please use the [AQIRP 2023 UQ Indicative Salary Scales](#) when completing your budget in the [AQIRP budget template](#).

AQIRP 2023 Assessment Criteria

All applications will be assessed against the program objectives and assessment criteria, and all criteria are equally weighted.

- Criterion 1: **Significance of the translation of research into commercialisation**
- Criterion 2: **Strength of collaboration**
- Criterion 3: **Value and viability of the project**
- Criterion 4: **Sustainability and resilience of outcomes achieved**

AQIRP Eligible costs

- Salary costs for project staff (committed FTE)
- Consumables required specifically for the project activities
- Small equipment (<10% of the total fund) required specifically for the project activities
- Third party technical services supporting validation/demonstration of the product/process
- Travel cost (necessary to undertake project activity)

AQIRP Ineligible costs

- Organisational overheads (i.e., UQ indirect costs)
- Capital works and/or physical infrastructure including any buildings or leasing costs, land transportation, telecommunications and IT networks
- Costs associated with the ongoing programs of work and/or core business of the applicant or partner organisation(s)
- Payments between applicants and partners or associated entities.

AQIRP 2023 Key Sections and Tips

Brief Project Description

- Write in plain English and for a non-expert audience.
- Focus on aims, significance, expected outcomes and benefits of the project to Queensland.
- Example:

*This project will convert municipal solid waste into liquid fuels through a designed process technology. Municipal solid waste contains impurities (oxygen, sulphur, nitrogen) that need to be removed. Existing waste-to-fuel technologies are not economical; therefore, up to 10 million tonnes of waste is landfilled yearly. This project aims to remove the impurities by using 3D printed advanced catalysts. These catalysts are designed to react with the impurities present in the waste leading to a formation of impurity-free, valuable fuel range intermediates. The proposed technology will form an integral component of building a circular economy and sustainable chemical industry in Queensland.**

What the project will do

Problem

Aims and solution

Impact and benefit

*2018 AQIRF successful application: Muxina Konarova

AQIRP 2023 Key Sections and Tips

Translation and Outcomes for Queensland – greater emphasis on TRL

What are the expected outcomes and benefits of the proposed research for Queensland [within the next 5 years]?

- Based on past years of similar schemes, assessors appear to be looking for a clear path to translation or other measurable outcomes
- It is very important to include benefits for Queensland here
- Quantify the tangible benefits to QLD economy/society/environment and/or regions

Example:

The catalytic process technology that enables cost-effective waste processing and advanced waste management designed to recover value from waste materials will be developed for commercial use. A small-scale (100,000 kg/day) waste processing plant in Gladstone will be a direct outcome, creating 10-15 direct jobs at the facility.

Outcomes for Industry

Economic and society benefit

AQIRP Milestones

- **Aims:** are what you hope your research will achieve.
- **Milestones:** are the measurable objectives that track your progress towards the aim/outcomes. **Important: The project will report against the milestones!**

Specific

Measurable

Attainable

Relevant

Timely



Form part of the
AQIRP Funding
agreement

- **Outputs:** are the direct deliverables resulting from your research.
- **Outcomes:** are the benefits you expect to arise from your outputs.
- **Impacts:** are the longer term outcomes, and/or outcomes felt more broadly by society/industry sectors not involved in the research.

AQIRP 2023 Milestones

Each milestone should have **4-6 items**,

Example provided by the State of acceptable milestones for similar schemes

Year 1 – The focus is on evaluating a new insecticide (Product X) for managing grasshoppers in maize.

1.1 Complete glass house trials evaluating the toxicity of Product X residues on maize leaves and silks against juvenile and adult grasshoppers.

1.2 Complete field trials comparing the efficacy of Product X against industry standard practices for controlling grasshoppers in maize on commercial farms at Brookstead on the Darling Downs.

Example of Milestones **not within the researcher's sphere of influence**

- Scale up of production.
- Commercialisation of the product.

What's **not a milestone**

- Administrative tasks, literature review, publications, conference presentations or attendances, staff appointments, or the purchase of key equipment.

Required Attachments

- A completed **project budget** using the online template
- Signed **Partner(s) Support Letter(s)**
- **CVs** of key researchers. (max two pages each)
- Signed Applicant Cash Commitment **Letter**

Templates for these documents are available on the [UQ R&I website](#)



Thank you!

For any enquiries, please contact us on
QLDGovtGrants@research.uq.edu.au