

## Guiding principles for project development, partnerships and engagement

The following principles have been established in consultation with our stakeholders to ensure that ***Impact Roadmap***-aligned projects are consistent, transparent, and focused on long-term impact. These principles provide a common foundation for potential partners to prepare for discussions with the Hub on ideas and potential initiatives, projects or programs they may have.

**Resilience first:** All activities and programs must focus on building resilience to drought and climate impacts.

**Farmer-centric goals:** Farmers should understand their goals, the impacts of those goals, and the pathways to achieve them.

**Science-based decisions:** Activities and decisions must be informed by sound science and proven principles or centred on First Nations caring for Country and living through climate change.

**Avoid duplication:** Make use of existing knowledge, data, infrastructure, and frameworks.

**Inclusive leadership:** Encourage participation and leadership, especially among youth and First Nations people, while remaining open to all.

**Community-led:** Support First Nations and community-led decision-making and embed it in programs.

**Engage trusted advisors:** Include private advisors wherever possible, as they influence behaviour and support better decision-making.

**Design for inclusivity:** Activities should consider motivations and value for land managers and communities and be farmer/community-led where possible.

**Continuous learning:** Trial new ideas and methods where appropriate and share lessons learned.

**Tailored solutions:** Activities should be co-designed with end users and value local knowledge.

**Think long-term:** Plan systemically and with a long-term perspective.

**Positive futures:** Support realistic, positive views of a climate-affected future, and adjust programs for regional impacts.

**Co-creation and iteration:** Projects should be co-created, with research questions evolving through diverse stakeholder engagement and feedback with ongoing testing.

**Regional focus:** Ensure projects benefit the broader region, not just individual communities.

**Local communication:** Use language and messaging that is locally relevant and specific.