



**REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**One Basin CRC Limited  
(ACN 660 665 305)**

**October 2022**

## **ONE BASIN CRC LIMITED**

### **REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

#### **1. Purpose and Scope of the One Basin CRC**

The One Basin CRC (1BCRC) is a national consortium of more than 85 partners to develop and commercialise opportunities for Australia's irrigated agriculture, rural water and closely related industries to be more productive, resilient and sustainable in a changing world.

One Basin CRC Partners will identify challenges that require research solutions and co-design and deliver demand-driven outcomes at a regional scale that focus on innovation to underpin future production. The One Basin CRC partnership, across water, agriculture, First Nations, government, technology and environment responds to three shared opportunities to enable our regions to:

- Diversify economic opportunities to build resilience in the face of increasing water scarcity
- Transition irrigated agriculture for a drier future, and
- Design smart connected water infrastructure to maximise efficiency and capacity for meeting multiple demands.

The 1BCRC's long-term vision is Australia's irrigation basins are the most productive, resilient and sustainable in the world.

#### **2. Regional Hubs**

Trusted delivery through Regional Hubs will be at the heart of the 1BCRC's operations over its ten-year term. Its activities will be concentrated across the Murray-Darling Basin with four major regional hubs, located at Loxton, Mildura, Griffith and Goondiwindi.

Researchers at Australia's leading universities will work directly with industry, businesses, First Nations, community and government to deliver over 75 per cent of the work program through these Hubs.

Research in the regions enables meaningful collaboration and engagement with all partners. This ensures research is fit for purpose and directly relevant to the region – that will drive greater uptake and adoption, which is essential to achieve the innovation required for growth in both productivity and sustainability.

Regionally-based research and development will support innovation and adaptation by farmers and communities, resulting in more resilient farms and diversified income streams. Regions will benefit from job growth and socio-economic improvements.

### **3. Regional Advisory Committee Responsibilities**

Each Regional Hub of the 1BCRC will establish a Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) with the following primary responsibilities:

- 3.1 Oversee any processes to identify significant R&D challenges for the region to guide Program co-design;
- 3.2 Review project proposals and endorse proposals that address regional needs to inform deliberations of the Partner Forum and Board on project priorities;
- 3.3 Oversee annual reviews of Regional Hub Projects and provide comments on project progress from a regional perspective;
- 3.4 Support the work of the Regional Hub through advocacy in the region;
- 3.5 Provide strategic advice for the Regional Hub Manager (RHM) in establishing the Regional Hub as a sustainable and valued resource for the region including beyond the life of the 1BCRC;
- 3.6 Advise the Cross-Hub Advisory Committee on opportunities, issues and risks for the Regional Hub;
- 3.7 Contribute to planning for legacy arrangements for the Regional Hub following completion of the 1BCRC; and
- 3.8 Maintain a register of partners with an interest in the region (Regional Hub Partners).

RAC Members will also have the opportunity to:

- 3.9 Advocate for the Hub in and outside of the region;
- 3.10 Advise the Regional Hub Manager;
- 3.11 Advise on opportunities to collaborate with other 1BCRC partners in the challenge identification, co-design, and delivery of the 1BCRC activities within their Hub;
- 3.12 monitor and provide feedback on the progress of 1BCRC activities in

their Hub outside of annual reviews;

- 3.13 advise on variations that are needed to existing 1BCRC activities where they are not meeting industry, community and regional needs or expectations, or are not contributing to an increase in climate change adaptability capabilities of partners and their members;
- 3.14 recommend location(s) for delivery of 1BCRC activities within their Hub; and
- 3.15 consider emerging issues and future potential projects for development within or across Hubs.

#### **4. Membership**

RAC members will be appointed by the Board. Membership of the Regional Advisory Committees will be developed in consultation with hub partners; and include at least one First Nation's person appointed following an open call for EOIs.

The RAC chair will be independent of all existing 1BCRC partners.

In addition to 1BCRC Partners, the Board may admit non-1BCRC partners to a Regional Advisory Committee in the interests of:

- Complimenting skillsets of partner members on the Regional Advisory Committee members;
- Ensuring appropriate regional industry representation at the Hub level and;
- Representative Regional coverage across the Hub wherever practical.

Appointments will be made with regard to the One Basin CRC's commitment to diversity and inclusion.

The organisations managing each hub (i.e. employer of the Regional Hub Manager) will be invited to provide up to three representatives to attend RAC meetings to participate in discussions but will not contribute to decisions.

#### **5. Appointments and Renewal**

The process for appointing initial members for each of these RACs will involve the participation of 1BCRC partners who have an on-going presence in the region (referred to as Regional Partners). Each Regional Partner will be invited to nominate a chair for the RAC. The Chair will be appointed from these nominations by the Board in consultation with the organisation that manages the

Regional Hub (i.e. employs the Regional Hub Manager). The four Chairs (one from each Hub) will form the Cross-Hub Advisory Committee (CHAC). The CHAC will jointly agree a final draft Terms of Reference (TORs), guidelines for committee membership including skills requirements, the process for assembling the list of nominees. There is no specific requirement for consistency in approach across the Regional Hubs imposed by the 1BCRC. The CHAC will also advise on membership terms and the process for renewal. As a guide, three year terms should be considered with the possibility of reappointment on recommendation of the CHAC.

The Board will review and approve these CHAC recommendations.

RAC chairs will implement the approved ToRs supported by the Regional Hub Managers. A list of committee nominees will be submitted by the Board for review and approval.

RAC members are expected to attend a minimum of 2 meetings per annum. Should this minimum attendance not be met, the 1BCRC may replace the member.

## **6. Remuneration**

Non-1BCRC partners and First Nations RAC members and the Chair of a RAC are eligible to receive an honorarium (remuneration) for their time or travel, however professional 1BCRC partner representatives can include RAC participation against in-kind contributions.

Reasonable travel costs for all members will be funded by the 1BCRC. Air travel is restricted to economy fares.

## **7. Expectations of Members**

RAC members are expected to:

- 7.1 Understand the 1BCRC objectives and the desired outcomes of the Hub;
- 7.2 Have a genuine interest in the Hub's outcomes and overall success;
- 7.3 Actively participate in meetings through attendance, discussion, and review of minutes and papers;
- 7.4 Work collaboratively to problem solve issues/matters that may arise;
- 7.5 Disseminate information from the meeting to those they represent;

- 7.6 Comply with privacy and conflict of interest processes;
- 7.7 Representation of their respective 1BCRC Partner's priorities;
- 7.8 Position contributions to meetings and Hub activities;
- 7.9 Promotion of Hub priorities and activities through their respective networks;
- 7.10 Provide feedback on research activity programs and any suggested required changes;
- 7.11 Input into future project activity program development; and
- 7.12 Promote collaboration between 1BCRC partners where possible.

## **8. Meetings**

Meet at least twice per year prior to Partner Forum meetings with an expectation of more frequent meetings during periods of more intense planning. Meetings will be held at a 1BCRC Hub site, virtually (e.g. Zoom / Teams / Skype) or other suitable location or format as agreed by the members of the RAC.

The agenda for each meeting will be prepared by the RHM in consultation with the Program Leads and emailed to all members at least 7 days prior to the meeting.

A quorum for meeting purposes is 70% or more of RAC members for the respective Hub.

The RHM shall provide copies of the minutes via email of each meeting to the RAC members within 15 working days after the date of the meeting. If within 10 working days of the issue of the minutes, no objection has been raised to these minutes, they shall be considered adopted.

Objections/comments must be raised, in writing or via email, addressed to the RAC Chair, who will request any amendments to the minutes to the RHM, who will then circulate the amended version to the committee members.

## **9. Review**

These ToR will be reviewed after 6 months or earlier if the Committee deems it necessary and annually thereafter. The Committee will assess its performance against the ToR annually and report on its performance to the Board including any suggested amendments to the ToR.

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**APPROVAL**

**Approved By:**

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**Wendy Craik  
Chair, One Basin CRC Limited Board**

**Date : [tbc] 2022**

## Document Version Control Table

Policy Author:	Company Secretary	Policy Owner:	Regional Advisory Committee
Status:	Draft	Review period:	Annual
Version:	1	Next review date:	October 2023
Effective Date:	1 October 2022	Document Location:	BoardEffect One Basin CRC Shared Document Folder

## Document History

Version	Date Approved	Approver	Description of revision	Internal Distribution	
				Date	Recipient/s
1	[tbc] 2022	Board Chair	First Version		