

# Commonwealth On-Farm Further Irrigation Efficiency Program (COFFIE) - PILOT

## What is the new program?

There is up to \$15 million in funding available from the Commonwealth Government for the COFFIE Pilot Program. The program will fund on-farm irrigation efficiency activities.

As a delivery partner the **South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board (SAMDBNRM)** will be responsible for working with irrigators to design, manage & implement projects. This includes ensuring proposals are technically feasible, suitable for the property and ensure the transfer of all relevant Eligible Water Entitlements.

## What is different from previous irrigation programs?

- **Value of the Water** – funding available for infrastructure relates to the volumes of water to be transferred in exchange, and is based on contemporary water market prices. Advertised funding per megalitre is available here <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/water/mdb/programmes/basin-wide/coffie/sa-pilot-coffie>
- **Timeframe for Approval of Project** – Approximately 2 weeks from the time all documentation is supplied
- **Applications** – accepted at any time for consideration
- **Smaller Minimum Water Return** - 2ML minimum water transfer

## How does the program work?

An assessment of each individual project proposal will take place to determine the water savings generated by improving farm irrigation infrastructure.

There are no funding rounds – proposals are submitted whenever they are ready.

Agreed water savings will be transferred to the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder.

## What types of projects are eligible?

- Conversion to, or upgrade of existing drip irrigation
- Pump upgrades
- Main line and sub main upgrades
- Automation and control system upgrades
- Filtration & fertigation upgrades
- Installation of new, or upgrading of existing centre pivot or lateral move irrigation
- Installation of new, or the expansion of existing soil moisture monitoring networks
- Laser levelling

## Additional activities that may be funded?

When integrated with an irrigation efficiency upgrade other activities that improve the on-farm productivity and profitability of the business may also be eligible for funding including:

- Redevelopment of existing permanent plantings
- Purchase of Plant & Equipment including sheds
- Energy efficiency components of irrigation infrastructure
- Development of an Irrigation Design or Farm Irrigation Plan
- Processing equipment that can add value to your product

## For more information

Please contact Natural Resources SA Murray-Darling Basin:

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