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### **Participant Information Form**

Project title:

Coolcrowd: Investigating farmer interest in crowdfunding to support

greenhouse gas reductions

Name of Researchers:

Dr Marit E. Kragt and Ms Vandana Subroy

This research project is looking at the potential to use crowdfunding to finance on-farm greenhouse gas reduction measures (i.e. climate change mitigation practices). The project is carried out in Norway, Australia, and New Zealand.

The Australian component focusses on the willingness of Australian dairy farmers to engage in climate change mitigation practices through crowdfunding.

As an Australian dairy farmer, or manager of a dairy farm, we are inviting you to take part in the project.

#### **Online survey**

Your participation would involve completing an online survey. The survey should take no more than 12-15 minutes to complete. The survey will have three parts:

- 1. Questions about your farm's characteristics;
- 2. Questions about your familiarity and interest in crowdfunding;
- 3. Questions about what climate change mitigation practices could be adopted on your farm.

The answers will be analysed for the overall sample, to see the range of perspectives between Australian, Norwegian, and New Zealand dairy farmers.

#### Confidentiality

Your participation in this survey and any information you provide will be kept strictly confidential. The information will only be reported in aggregate and de-identified form. The data collected will be used only for the purpose of this research, and only the researchers involved will have access to your data.

Your help with this research is greatly appreciated. Your participation is completely voluntary and you are free to withdraw at any time from the survey. There are no foreseeable risks associated with this research. Completing the survey that follows is taken as evidence of voluntary consent to take part in this study.

#### **Publication of results**

After analysis, the findings from this research will be written up into a report, and it will also be included in articles comparing findings from Australia, New Zealand, and Norway. In the report and research papers, no individual information will be revealed and only summary statistics from the whole survey will be reported.

Your help with this survey is greatly appreciated. Your participation will allow us to develop and recommend guidelines for implementing a local climate crowdfunding program.

You may keep this form. If you have any queries or concerns with any aspect of this focus group discussion, you can contact me directly. You can also contact the Human Research Ethics Office of the University of Western Australia by emailing <a href="mailto:humanethics@uwa.edu.au">humanethics@uwa.edu.au</a> or by calling (08) 6488 3703.

Thank you very much for your time and participation in this research. Sincerely,

- House

Dr Marit E. Kragt Chief Investigator

UWA School of Agriculture and Environment, Agricultural and Resource Economics

University of Western Australia

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Approval to conduct this research has been provided by the University of Western Australia, in accordance with its ethics review and approval procedures. Any person considering participation in this research project, or agreeing to participate, may raise any questions or issues with the researchers at any time.

In addition, any person not satisfied with the response of researchers may raise ethics issues or concerns, and may make any complaints about this research project by contacting the Human Ethics office at UWA on (08) 6488 4703 or by emailing to humanethics@uwa.edu.au.

All research participants are entitled to retain a copy of this Participant Information Form and/or Participant Consent Form relating to this research project.

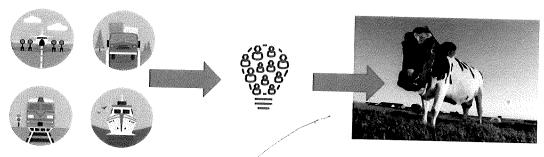
# COOLCROWD: Local crowdfunding for a low-emission society: Investigating the concept of local climate crowdfunding in agriculture

The overall objective of COOLCROWD is to assess the potential for a locally crowdfunded system that enables farmers to install climate-friendly technologies on their land and the public to invest in local climate mitigation measures. A well designed crowdfunding program will increase the transparency, trust and overall delivery potential of greenhouse gas reduction schemes.

For this project, the focus will be on lowering emissions from agriculture through crowdfunding. By allowing people to fund investments and interact with local providers of climate change mitigation practices, crowdfunding offers a real possibility of making mitigation measures directly visible and relevant to their lives.

# Secondary objectives include:

- To review existing crowdfunding approaches and analyse how these might be applied in a local context
- ii. To explore legal and socio-cultural issues that may facilitate or inhibit the application of a crowdfunding approach in agriculture
- iii. To develop alternative business models for a locally crowdfunded climate program
- iv. To explore the acceptability of the crowdfunding approach for farmers and investigate optimal design from the perspective of the farm
- v. To establish the likely response of the general public to the concept of locally crowdfunded climate measures and identify optimal measures
- vi. To develop and recommend measures for the implementation of a crowdfunded approach in collaboration with relevant stakeholders



Dr Marit Kragt
Ass/Prof Agricultural Economics
Uni of WA

# Dairy farmers survey on climate change mitigation and crowdfunding

# Part I. Background information about you and your farm

1. Please indicate your gender
( ) Female
O Male
O Prefer not to say
2. Please state your year of birth
3. What is the highest level of education you have completed?
Year 12 or below (includes Certificate I or II)
Certificate III or IV
O Diploma or Advanced Diploma
O University Undergraduate or Bachelor Degree
O University Graduate Diploma, Certificate or Masters Degree
O Doctorate (PhD)
O Something else, namely
4. Do you have any children under the age of 18?
O Yes
O No
5. In what year did you first take over farm management responsibility? (four digits)

or is this farm your main source of income?
Yes, this is my only source of income
Yes, but I also have some off-farm income
No, my main source of income is off-farm income
7. What is the size of your milking herd?
C Less than 50 cows
○ 50-199 cows
○ 200-349 cows
○ 350-499 cows
○ 500-999 cows
1,000 cows or more
•
8. Does your farm run conventional or organic production?
○ Conventional
Organic
O Both / in transition
O Planning to shift in the next 5 years
9. On an average day how much time do you spend on social media (Facebook, Twitter etc.?)
○ No time
○ < 1 hour per day
○ 1-2 hours per day
○ > 2 hours per day

10. Which farming activities do you carry out on your farm? (Tick ONE primary production system, and any additional/side activities).

	Main activity	Additional/side activity
Dairy cattle		
Beef cattle		
Sheep	$\circ$	
Other livestock	O	$\bigcirc$
Cropping for supplementary feed	$\bigcirc$	
Arable / broadacre cropping	$\circ$	
Irrigated cropping		$\circ$
Horticulture		
Forestry	0	$\circ$
Other activities, namely		O
No other activities		0
11. Do you think the financial return Increase No change Decrease I do not know	s from your farm will incre	ease or decrease over the next 5 years?
12. How large do you estimate your  Too big Big Medium Small	total farm debt to be, rela	tive to the turnover of your farm?
O I do not have debts		

#### II. Crowdfunding

"Crowdfunding" means collecting money from different people (usually general public) to support a cause or project initiated by private people. Crowdfunding campaigns are usually set up through so-called crowdfunding platforms on the internet. Example of crowdfunding platforms include Indiegogo, GoFundMe, Pozible, and Kickstarter.

13. Had you heard of the concept of crowdfunding before?
○ Yes
$\bigcirc$ No
14. Have you ever given money to a crowdfunding campaign, or conducted your own crowdfunding campaign?
Yes, I have previously given money to a crowdfunding campaign
Yes, I have previously conducted my own crowdfunding campaign
O Neither of the above

## **Crowdfunding types**

Crowdfunding can be a new or additional financing opportunity to support climate change mitigation practices in Australian agriculture. There exist four types of crowdfunding structures:

- 1) **Donation-based**: People give money to a project or business without the expectation of getting anything in return
- 2) **Reward-based**: People give money to a project or business, in exchange for a non-monetary reward (e.g. gift card, thank you card, farm produce)
- 3) **Loan-based**: People, instead of a bank, lend money to a project or a campaign, in exchange for financial return at a later date
- 4) **Equity-based**: People invest money in a project or business, in exchange for shares in the company

V.,	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Neither likely nor unlikely	Somewhat unlikely	Very unlikely	Don'i know
Donation-based	Page 1		0		()	<u> </u>
Reward-based	()	<b>()</b>	()	0	0	
Loan-based	0	()	<u>(</u> )	(_)	()	· · · · · C
Equity-based	(*)	()	0	0	()	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
nlikely are you to of Open farm day/	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Neither likely nor unlikely	tribute money t Somewhat unlikely	to your campa Very unlikely	nign? Don' knov
					unlikely	knov
farm visits Farm products				0		
collected at the farm	1 1		()	0		C
Farm products sent to contributors		Ö			0	(°)
Thank you card or a Facebook post	0	0				
'. Imagine that you a ould you be willing t	are conductin to accept mo	ng your own cro ney from the fo Yes	wdfunding camp llowing groups? No	paign. Don't know	* **	
rivate individuals (g	general public		0			
Companies or oth	ner businesse	S				
		1				

18. We would like your opinion on the following statements about crowdfunding. Please indicate **to what extent you agree or disagree** with each of the statements below:

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't
1. Crowdfunding would be too time-consuming for me			<u> </u>	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
2. Crowdfunding sounds like an attractive solution for financing climate change mitigation practices on farms	()	()	0	<u>(</u> )	· ()	()
3. I do not want to presented publicly as a recipient of a crowdfunding campaign	· ()		0			
4. I would prefer to apply for financial support through a shared crowdfunding project rather than conducting my own campaign	0	0	0	0	0	()
5. Crowdfunding is most relevant to me if I can get help from an external organisation who can set up and run the campaign for me	0	()	0	0	()	
6. Crowdfunding of climate measures is only relevant to me if it does not lead to new farm regulations or inspections	()	O	() 	0		()
7. If I use crowdfunding, I think this would be considered negatively by people in my community	()		()	<u>(</u> )	· · · · · ·	0
8. I am willing to work with other farmers to initiate a crowdfunding campaign		<u>(</u> )	0	0	()	
9. Crowdfunding is a good opportunity to increase the relevance of, and support for, agriculture among the general public	(_)	0	<u>()</u>	0	· ·	

## Feedback questions:

(a) On a scale from 1 (=very easy) to 5 (=very difficult), could you indicate whether the previous question (#18) was easy to answer?

THE RESERVE THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TRANSPORT OF THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TRANSPORT NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TRANSPORT NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TRANSPORT NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TRANSPORT NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TRANSPORT NAMED IN CO	Extremely easy	Somewhat easy	Neither easy nor difficult	Extremely difficult
	()	0		

(b) Were the statements about crowdfunding above sufficiently different from each other?
○ Yes
○ No → Please also answer the next question
(c) Please indicate which statement numbers were not sufficiently different from each other.

19. The next statements are about of practices. Please indicate <b>to what</b> of	crowdfunding extent you ag	and sources	s of finance for clir <b>gree</b> with each sta	nate change mi	itigation
	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongl disagre
I trust crowdfunding as a way of	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				

	agree	Agree	nor disagree	omewnat disagree	Strongly disagree
I trust crowdfunding as a way of sourcing finance	()	0	$\bigcirc$	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	()
I am willing to apply for a <u>bank</u> <u>loan</u> to cover what is not covered by crowdfunding	0	()	()	0	(_)
I am willing to invest <u>my own</u> <u>funds</u> to cover what is not covered by crowdfunding	()	· ()	0	()	
Co-financing from the government would increase the likelihood that I would participate in crowdfunding	O	0		0	()

20. On a scale from 1 to 7, how much do you **trust** each of the following groups/organisations when it comes to setting up and running a crowdfunding platform for financing climate measures?

7 (completely trust)	Don't know
0	. ()
The state of the s	Ö
	and the second
	0
О	()
()	and the second

#### III. Climate and climate change mitigation practices in agriculture 21. Which of the following options best describes your views about climate change? ( ) I don't think that climate change is happening I have no idea whether climate change is happening or not I think that climate change is happening, but it is a natural fluctuation in Earth's temperatures ()I think that climate change is happening, and that humans are largely causing it ()22. How familiar are you with practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in farming? O Very familiar Somewhat familiar A little bit familiar Not really familiar O Not familiar at all 23. Below are some statements about climate change and agriculture. Please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree with each statement. Strongly Don't Neither agree Strongly Disagree Agree nor disagree disagree know agree It is more important to reduce ()greenhouse gases in other ()()sectors than agriculture There are too many greenhouse ( ) gas emissions from the ()()() ()Australian agriculture sector As a farmer, it is primarily my responsibility to reduce ()()() ()() greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture It is primarily the government's responsibility to reduce

()

1

greenhouse gas emissions from

agriculture

()

	Very negatively	Somev negati		portant pact	Somewhat positively	Very positively	Don't know
Climate change	(_)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	)			()	(*)
Animal/ and plant diseases		i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i		$\circ$			
Requirements to reduce greenhouse gas emissions	0			0	0	O .	
Increased energy prices		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	) )		··· (_)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	()
missions from your fa	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some small extent	e Not at all	Don't know	Not relevant
	_	_			Not at all		
Planting trees	0	(_)		0	()	0	$\bigcirc$
Feed or dietary management	. ()	$\bigcirc$	<i>C</i> " \				
0					(")	( )	()
Covering effluent ponds	0		0		() ()	() ()	
Covering effluent	0				(O) (O) (O)		0
Covering effluent ponds Liquid manure		· .		0	0	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Covering effluent ponds  Liquid manure injection  Biogas production	0			0	0	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	O
Covering effluent ponds Liquid manure injection Biogas production from livestock effluent	. 0				0	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Covering effluent ponds  Liquid manure injection  Biogas production from livestock effluent  Rotational grazing							

Supplementing soils with biochar

()

 $\binom{1}{2}$ 

26. Which of the following (tick all that apply)	ng climate	change mitiga	ation practices h	ave you <b>alreac</b>	ly implem	ented?		
O Planting trees			() s	olar panels				
Feed or dietary I	managem	ent	( ) W	/ind energy				
O Covering effluer	nt ponds		Os	upplementing	soils with	biochar		
O Liquid manure i	njection			recision agricu	_	GPS,		
O Rotational grazi	Rotational grazing							
Biogas producti manure	on from li	vestock	O N	lone of the abo	ove			
27. How likely or unlikel practices in the next 5 y		you will <b>inves</b>	t in any of the f	ollowing clima	ate change	mitigatio	n	
	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Neither likely nor unlikely	Somewhat unlikely	Very unlikely	Do not know	Not relevant	
Planting trees	$\bigcirc$	0		0				
Feed or dietary management	$\bigcirc$	0	$\bigcirc$	()	0			
Covering effluent ponds		(*)	0	()			0	
Liquid manure injection	0	0	0	()		<u></u>	0	
Biogas production from livestock effluent	0		0	<u>()</u>	<u></u>	<u>.</u>	()	
Rotational grazing	0	(		()			()	
Solar panels	()	. 0	0			(_)	()	
Wind energy	(_)			()	(_)	()		
Precision agriculture e.g. GPS, automated steering	0	0	0	0			0	
Supplementing soils with biochar		0				0		

# 28. If crowdfunding was available now, **how likely is it that you would use a crowdfunding campaign** to help invest in any of the following mitigation practices?

	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Neither likely nor unlikely	Somewhat unlikely	Very unlikely	Don't know	Not relevant
Planting trees	$\bigcirc$		The state of the s	(_)		()	()
Changing feed or other dietary management	0	·-	()	()	· · · · · ·	(`)	0
Covering effluent ponds	(_)			$\bigcirc$	0	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Liquid manure injection equipment	()·	O	()	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			()
Biogas production from livestock effluent	0	0	Ô	0	(_)	0	· · · · · · ·
Rotational grazing		()	O	()	( <u>)</u>	( )	
Installing solar panels	()		0	0	( )	· ·	(_)
Wind energy generation	()	0					()
Precision agriculture equipment e.g. GPS, automated steering		0	О	( )	()	()	0
Supplementing soils with biochar	<u>()</u>	<u>(</u> )	<u> </u>	Ô	0	0	· · · · · ·

# Feedback questions:

Vere the climate change mitigation practices we presented all clear to you? Please tick any practices that were <b>not clear</b> or <b>confusing</b> to you below.
O None of the below, all options were clear
○ Planting trees
Feed or other dietary management
○ Covering effluent ponds
○ Liquid manure injection
Biogas production from livestock effluent
Rotational grazing
○ Solar panels
O Wind energy
O Precision agriculture e.g. GPS, automated steering.
○ Supplementing soils with biochar
Feedback 2) Did you have enough information about the climate change mitigation practices?
○ Yes, there was enough information
No, I needed more information about the following practices:
•

Page 14 of 19

29. Imagine that you are going to introduce one or more climate change mitigation practices on your farm. How important are the following factors to the implementation of new practices?

	Very important	Somewhat important	Neutral	Somewhat unimportant	Not important	Don't know	Will not consider mitigation
1. That it fits in with the farm management	0						
2. Low investment costs		Ó	0	0			
3. Accurate figures / numbers on how much the practice can reduce emissions on the farm	()		0	( )	0		
4. That other farmers in the neighbourhood do the same			()		0	O	C
<ol><li>That the practice does not lead to increased work effort on the farm</li></ol>	i de la companya de l			Name of the second			) (
6. That the practice contributes to overall cost reductions	( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( )	**************************************	()		The state of the s	) (	) (
7. That the practice contributes to increased productivity		Control of the contro				) (	)
8. That I have financial support from					)		5)
external sources					Ô		$\odot$
mind later if it does not work		- Common	0	0		0	
10. That I have someone to collaborate (or work) with to implement new practices	0	()				0	Ö

## Feedback question:

On a scale from 1 (=very easy) to 5 (=very difficult), could you indicate whether the previous question about adopting climate change mitigation practices was easy to answer?

Extremely	Somewhat	Neither easy	Somewhat	Extremely
easy	easy	nor difficult	difficult	difficult
Ó	Ö			

Feedback (b) Were the statements above sufficiently different from each other?
○ Yes
○ No → Please also answer the next question
Feedback (c) Please indicate which statements about were similar to each other.

30. Thank you so much for your time and effort. Our final question is for statistical purposes only, to ensure that we have a representative sample. All responses are treated confidentially, and no results will be linked to individual respondents.

Over the past 5 years, what was your approximate **average annual net farm income**? (*Net farm income = Gross income minus expenses minus depreciation*)

If you have more than one farm, just report for your primary farm.
○ Negative
O \$0-\$2 <b>4,</b> 999
○ \$25,000-\$99,999
\$100,000-\$199,999
. ( \$200,000-\$499,999
\$500,000-\$999,999
○ \$1 million or more

O Would rather not say

## Part IV - Survey feedback

	e next few questions relate to some general feedback about the survey. We appreciate your time to ovide this feedback.
A)	Was the length of the survey acceptable?
	Yes, the survey length was fine
	O No, I found the survey a little bit long
	○ No, the survey was so long that I did not want to complete it
В)	We provided the following information in the survey about crowdfunding: "Crowdfunding" means collecting money from different people (usually general public) to support a cause or project initiated by private people. Crowdfunding campaigns are usually set up through so-called crowdfunding platforms on the internet. Example of crowdfunding platforms include Indiegogo, GoFundMe, Pozible, and Kickstarter.
	What did you think about the information provided?
	The information was useful and accurate
	The information was inaccurate
	There was not enough information
	○ There was too much information
	The information was confusing

O Something else, namely

С	Were there any practices that you deem <b>impossible</b> for Australian dairy farms?
	○ Planting trees
	Feed or dietary management
	Covering effluent ponds
	C Liquid manure injection
	Biogas production from livestock effluent
	Cell/strip grazing
	○ Solar panels
	O Precision agriculture e.g. GPS, automated steering.
	Supplementing soils with biochar
	None of the above, all options are possible
D)	Are there any practice(s) that could be feasibly implemented on dairy farms were not described in the options?
E)	Was there anything that is relevant to your answers that should have been included as questions in the survey?

If you would like to enter a draw to win one of four \$50 shopping vouchers, please leave your name and email address in the fields below.  Your name and contact details will be treated confidentially. They will not be linked to the survey results, and will only be known to the primary investigators on this project.
If you are one of the winners, we will contact you via email, at which time you can choose your preferred shopping voucher (Coles, Myers, Woolworths, Bunnings).
O Name
C Email address
If you wish to stay informed about the results of this study, please provide your email address in the box below.
Yes, I want to receive the final results of this survey. Please send them to the following email address
Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this survey!
Should you have any comments or concerns about this survey or topic that has not yet been raised, please let us know in the box below, or contact the lead researcher at marit.kragt@uwa.edu.au.

For news and eventual results from the project, see <u>www.coolcrowd.no</u>

Part IV - Final

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