



POSITION DESCRIPTION

Industry Engagement Officer for Climate Resilience

September 2024

UNIVERSITY of 
TASMANIA

Position Summary

College / Division	College of Sciences and Engineering
School / Section	Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture
Location	Cradle Coast, Launceston or Hobart
Classification	HEO Level 7
Reports to	Business Manager
Direct reports	Nil

Position Overview

The Agricultural Industry Engagement Officer for Climate Change Resilience sits within the [Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture \(TIA\)](#) which is part of the [College of Sciences and Engineering](#). This role will engage with the ongoing research at TIA that underpins the Tasmanian agriculture industry's resilience to the effects of climate change and otherwise limits the levels of greenhouse gasses that the Tasmanian agricultural industry produces.

The role is funded by the TAS Farm Innovation Hub ('the Hub'). The Tasmanian Hub, which sits within TIA, is one of a network of eight hubs nationally and is part of a large program sponsored by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) under the Commonwealth's Future Drought Fund (FDF) program.

This role will be expected to work with the climate change related researchers in TIA, along with the industry engagement and extension officers of the Hub to engage with farmers, farming groups, local entrepreneurs, traditional custodians, practitioners in natural resource management, industry, and others in the community, to communicate the learnings of relevant TIA research, and thereby encourage effective adoption. Ultimately, the purpose of this role is to support innovation and adoption of new practices and products that increase Tasmanian farmers resilience to drought and climate change.

The role will report to TIA's Business Manager, within TIA's Industry Development team with a secondary reporting line to the Extension Program Manager, TAS Farm Innovation Hub to ensure alignment of the industry engagement of extension activities within TIA and the Hub and a contribution to their mission to help Tasmanian farmers become more climate resilient.

About the University of Tasmania

Welcome to the University of Tasmania, your island campus 1,270 million years in the making. This is heightened education at a slower pace of life. A place that attracts the highest percentage of scientists per capita in the world. Home to towering temperate rainforests, 60,000 years of human knowledge and underground cultural experiences of legend. Take your time to breathe it all in.

Our journey began in 1890, with a seed of academic excellence sown on our island. We inspire and encourage people to flourish and thrive. Our unique circumstances have made us resilient, transforming us into creative problem solvers. Our success is a testament to our quiet determination and adaptability.

We are more than just a place of learning. We are a catalyst for economic growth, a beacon for literacy, a champion for health and a guardian of our environment. We generate powerful ideas for and from Tasmania. We invite inquiring minds, from near and far, to join us in our pursuit of the extraordinary.

Accountabilities and outcomes

Purpose

Work with TIA's scientists, Industry Development Officers, the TAS Farm Innovation Hub, the agricultural industry of Tasmania and other stakeholders to facilitate the uptake of new innovations on-farm/at local level focusing on improved climate change and drought resilience.

Key Outcomes

- Developing, leading and managing an understanding of and mapping TIA's research in resilience for the agricultural industry for climate change and the abatement of greenhouse gases.
- Leading TIA's engagement and collaboration with the Tas Farm Innovation Hub, including knowledge brokers, extension program manager and extension officers to develop climate related extension activities.
- Creating, developing and leading activities to build TIA's capabilities in industry development and extension, including their personal capabilities.
- Assist both TIA and the Hub in guiding farmers to relevant information and tools, helping translate the knowledge of others to support on-farm adoption and by explaining the benefits of innovation and new technologies to achieve climate resilience.
- Collaborating with TIA and the Hub communication teams to co-create and disseminate information about relevant knowledge and identifying appropriate media and communications channels to (e.g., social media, face-to-face events, podcasts).
- Engaging and partnering with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and ensuring an understanding of the need for genuine consultation and negotiation.
- Undertake other duties as reasonably requested.

Behavioural Expectations

We aim for everyone to have a positive experience at our university, and all staff contribute toward creating a university culture that is safe and supportive, enabling our community to flourish by:

- Treating all others – staff, students and community with fairness, equity and respect.
- Ensuring the workplace is an inspiring and safe place to be.
- Ensuring the workplace is free from harassment, bullying, victimisation and discrimination.

Success profile

Personal Attributes

- Rapport Building: Enjoys interacting with other people and effectively establishes rapport by putting others at ease. Effectively promotes achievement and recognition.
- Communicative: Enjoys articulating information and giving presentations. Shapes opinion through influencing skills while challenging established views and assumptions.
- Supportive: Understands others through listening and empathy, works well in a team and actively involves others by valuing individuals' unique perspectives.
- Driven: Takes action and uses initiative to seize opportunities and pursue outstanding results, even when presented with difficulties or setbacks.

Core Capabilities

- **Community Engagement:** Role models a genuine commitment to our mission and plays an active role contributing toward sustainable social, economic and cultural progress for the Tasmanian society we serve.
- **Sustainability in Action:** Brings multiple lenses of sustainability to work activities including financial, environmental and commercial sustainability.
- **Innovation Management:** Effectively facilitates idea generation within and across teams. Brings cohorts of people together to incubate ideas from concept to design to implementation. Fosters and enables safe spaces for creative thinking and contribution.
- **Growth Mindset:** Adopts a growth mindset and consistently seeks feedback, makes others comfortable with taking risks and experimenting to improve over time.

Role Specific Skills, Knowledge and Experience

- Demonstrated capacity to undertake on-farm and local level extension and adoption activities.
- An understanding of strategies to improve farmer and on farm resilience in the context of climate change and mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions.
- Ability to liaise, collaborate, negotiate and influence business and industry stakeholders involved in TIA and the Hub's activities.
- Ability to communicate effectively and develop productive relationships with a diverse range of collaborators within the agricultural and/or food processing sector.
- Ability to co-operate with others to achieve organisational objectives and to build trust and reciprocity with other teams including those in partner organisations.

Qualifications and Licences

- A minimum undergraduate degree in a discipline related to agriculture and/or climate change, or equivalent combination of relevant experience and training.
- Drivers Licence.

Other Requirements

To be eligible for this position, you are required to hold Australian or New Zealand Citizenship, permanent residence or a valid visa that enables you to fulfil the requirements of this role.

As part of our commitment to a safe and inclusive workplace, employment history and criminal background checks may be conducted as part of the selection process.

Other position requirements:

- Regular intrastate travel to our Tasmanian campuses and field visits, including rural locations.



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The intention of this Position Description is to highlight the most important aspects, rather than to limit the scope or accountabilities of this role. Duties may be altered in accordance with the changing requirements of the position