

## Proposal Assessment Criteria – NESP TWQ Hub Multi-Year Funding Call Open 14 September 2015

Below are the criteria and criteria weightings that will be applied in the assessment of research funding proposals received under the call for multi-year project funding (open 14 September 2015) of the NESP Tropical Water Quality Hub (<http://rrrc.org.au/nesp/>).

All proposals received will initially be screened to ensure that they have followed the guidelines for this funding call (available at <http://rrrc.org.au/nesp/>). Those deemed eligible for assessment will be assessed against the below criteria by the Tropical Water Quality Hub Scientific Advisory Committee. This committee will then make recommendations to the Tropical Water Quality Hub Steering Committee for endorsement or further review. The Scientific Advisory Committee consists of research scientists with extensive relevant experience in the region. The Steering Committee consists of representatives of end-user organisations and agencies. They will be especially looking to see that projects provide useful, adoptable outcomes. After review by both committees, the Tropical Water Quality Hub will forward the list of selected projects to the Department of the Environment for their ratification.

Note that these criteria and weightings apply to the current funding round (open 14 September 2015; closing 9 October 2015). Future funding rounds may have different criteria and weightings.

Assessment Criteria	Weighting
<p><u>Need for the Project</u> How well does the project align with an identified high priority need (see NESP TWQ draft Research Investment Strategy in the funding call guidelines)? How directly useful is this project in addressing the ability to maintain and improve the condition of aquatic environments in the Great Barrier Reef and Torres Strait regions and/or engage various sectors of the community in those goals?</p>	35%
<p><u>Outcome Criteria</u> What practical and tangible outcomes will the project deliver? What management action will be able to be taken as a consequence of the delivery of this project? What trial programmes to improve the physical environment will be conducted? How will this research improve the environment and how will this be measured?</p>	30%
<p><u>Value for Money Criteria</u> What other research or management investment will the project leverage? Does the project represent value for money?</p>	20%
<p><u>Project Management Criteria</u> Does the project leader have a positive track record in delivering previous research projects, including timely delivery of outputs, administrative requirements and data and metadata? Can the project be delivered on time and within budget? Does the project provide for appropriate end-user/stakeholder engagement?</p>	15%