

Appendix 1. Interview questions for members of the communities of practice in irrigated dairying in the Goulburn-Broken Irrigation District, Australia.

1. What are the main challenges for you in managing your dairy businesses over the next 5 years? (Prompt: Please talk from your perspective.)
2. Are these challenges the same for other dairy farmers you know? Do other farmers you know say different things about their farming future? (Prompt: Why do you think this is the case?)
3. Thinking about the farmers and the dairy companies in this (Murray Dairy) region... have the challenges for the dairy industry been covered by what you've said or are there other challenges for this region?
4. What has helped you to manage your dairy businesses through the recent period of water management and policy changes in the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District and across the Murray Darling Basin more broadly? (over the past 5 years)
5. Can you please talk about how your local community has helped you to address these challenges (related to water management and policy changes) you have faced? How has the dairy industry helped you address these challenges? Are there others who have also been important in addressing these challenges? (Prompts: Who has been involved? How have they worked together? What was involved?)
6. Assuming there will be less irrigation water available in the future due to a combination of factors, e.g. competing interests for environmental flows (water policy change), growing urban populations, climate change, bushfires etc., can you please describe the (two) most important things that will help you in your dairy businesses to deal with changes in irrigation water availability?
7. What could be improved with respect to water management and policy and dairying in this region? And: How could these improvements be made? Who would need to be involved? What would need to happen?