



uOttawa

Université d'Ottawa | University of Ottawa

Institut de l'environnement | Institute of the Environment

120 University (6005), Ottawa ON K1N 6N5 Canada

[envirograd@uottawa.ca](mailto:envirograd@uottawa.ca)

<https://www.uottawa.ca/recherche-innovation/environnement>

### Invitation to Participate in a Research Project

My name is Karina Lopez Ivich and I am a PhD candidate at the University of Ottawa, Institute of the Environment. I am studying innovative policy options to consider ecosystem-based management approaches to agriculture and its connection with agriculture production practices and ecological outcomes. The Research Question I am addressing is: What would be the main elements and attributes to design a collective bonus payment to incentivize ecosystem-based management in agriculture? And how can this assure greater engagement from farmers within an ecological boundary?

#### **If you agree to participate in this study, you will be asked to:**

- Take part in a 60-minute interview on your role as farmer on the agricultural sector. The interview may be in-person or virtual, whatever suits you better. The interview will be video-recorded if virtual, and audio-recorded if in person. Participants' identities will remain anonymous.

#### **Who is Conducting this Research?**

- **Principal Investigator: Karina Lopez Ivich**  
PhD Candidate, Institute of the Environment, University of Ottawa; Email: [klope065@uottawa.ca](mailto:klope065@uottawa.ca)
- **Supervisor: Dr. Geoff McCarney**  
Assistant Professor, School of International Development & Global Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences and Research  
Director, Institute of Environment & Smart Prosperity Institute, UOttawa  
Email: [Geoff.McCarney@uottawa.ca](mailto:Geoff.McCarney@uottawa.ca)

The project is being conducted independently of the organizations and agencies from which participants may be recruited.

#### **Inconveniences or Risks**

There may be minimal social risk from sharing perspectives about your thoughts and opinions about the policy innovation to be presented during the interview. However, your information will be kept confidential, your participation in the study is entirely voluntary and you may withdraw consent at any time without consequences of any kind.

#### **Benefits**

Participants will benefit from sharing their ideas and perspectives about the application of agriculture practices and designing farm landscapes considering environmental benefits and impacts at a broader ecological boundary. Farmers' participation in this study will help us identify how a collective bonus payment program could work best for them, what would be the main elements to make it attractive and open up new revenue opportunities for on-farm activities you might already be engaging in or could adopt to protect the environment.

Once the research is concluded, I will share my research publicly through blog posts and online articles, academic journal articles, as well as at academic, agricultural and government conferences. The participants if they wish to, will have access to these publications where research synthesis and knowledge will be shared.

We value your time and we will do everything possible to accommodate to your needs and preferences and reduce any inconveniences. The research team does not have the resources to offer financial compensation to interview participants. We apologize for the inconvenience. However, we would very much appreciate your participation! If you are willing to participate and support this research, please contact me at [klope065@uottawa.ca](mailto:klope065@uottawa.ca). Thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely,

Karina Lopez Ivich, M.Sc., M.A.

PhD Candidate, Institute of the Environment, University of Ottawa

Research Assistant at Smart Prosperity Institute [Profile](#):

LinkedIn: [Karina Lopez Ivich](#); Cel: +1 343 543 5822