

Sustainability Data Symposium

Our Speakers

24-25 September 2026
Customs House, Brisbane

Welcome

Meet the speakers driving the Sustainability Data Symposium. Over the next 2 days our speakers explore what practical, nationally coordinated action would require.

Master of Ceremonies



Angela Schuster is the Managing Director of Schuster Consulting Group and a member of the cross-functional team responsible for delivering projects under the Australian Agricultural Sustainability Framework. Angela is Chair of the Agricultural Business Research Institute (ABRI) and Standards Australia's technical committee on data-driven agrifood systems, sits on the Board of NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust and was previously the Australian representative for the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) Strategic Advisory Group on Smart Farming.

In addition, Angela and her husband run a sheep, cattle and cropping enterprise just out of Dubbo in the Central West of NSW.

Opening address



Nick Blong is the First Assistant Secretary of the Sustainability, Climate and Strategy Division at the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Nick is leading a program of work across climate adaptation and emissions reduction as well as sustainable agriculture policies and programs. In this role Nick and his team work closely with industry, communities, researchers and with state and territory governments on ensuring Australia remains a world-leading, climate-smart producer and exporter of food and fibre.

Previously Nick has worked in a broad range of public policy roles at state and federal levels and has also worked extensively in the private sector both in Australia and abroad.

Session 1

Requests for sustainability evidence are numerous and increasing - can Australian agriculture use this as an opportunity?



Nicole Yazbek-Martin is an Executive at the Australian Sustainable Finance Institute (or ASFI), leading the development of sustainable finance standards designed to increase capital flows to the climate and nature transition. She led development of the Australian Sustainable Finance Taxonomy, working with government, regulators, financial institutions and standard setters to establish common definitions for sustainable investment. Nicole has experience across government, banking, investment and law, including sustainable lending, investment assessment and the application of sustainability frameworks. She has also led the design and review of climate and nature policies. Nicole holds a Master of Laws and postgraduate qualifications in finance and economics.



Jack Holden is a sustainability practitioner with over 25 years in corporate, government and advisory experience. He provides services to food and agriculture clients on aligning sustainability with profitability. His experience includes 13 years with Fonterra, most recently as GM of Sustainability in Asia Pacific, where he worked in market development projects in Australia, Asia and Europe. He is also a Director of Meat & Livestock Australia, Deputy Chair of the Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework and Chair of the Victorian Agriculture & Climate Change Council.



Carmel Onions is the Executive Manager of Agribusiness Sustainability at Commonwealth Bank. She leads CommBank's work in the opportunities and risks for producers related to climate and natural capital. She has a Bachelor of Agricultural Honours (1st class) from the University of Sydney and is on the Board of Soils for Life.



Bel Quince has spent over 20 years living and working across Australia's food and fibre supply chain. From an early role with the Department of Agriculture, to leading national Agribusiness strategy for two of Australia's big four banks, Bel currently leads Woolworths climate, nature and animal welfare programs across Australia and New Zealand, with a clear focus on supporting a sustainable and resilient food supply chain. She also leads Woolworths climate and nature reporting, recognising the value of transparent disclosures to a broad range of stakeholders (such as customers, suppliers, investors, industry and regulators) to protect and grow trust and long-term value.

Session 2

Indicators, metrics and measures – why consistency and coordination matters



Kylie Porter is the Chief Executive Officer of the Queensland Farmers' Federation (QFF), Queensland's peak body for agriculture. Through QFF, Kylie works with member organisations to support farmers, strengthen policy and contribute to the future of Queensland's regional communities. Kylie is known for bringing people, industries and ideas together to tackle complex challenges, unlock practical solutions and strengthen regional resilience. A respected regional and industry leader, she is committed to ensuring regional and rural voices are heard in the decisions that shape their future. Kylie is also a founding Director of C-Res, one of Australia's largest social enterprises, which delivers a local buying platform in remote and regional locations across Australia in partnership with BHP, and a member of Queensland Treasury's Clean Expert Economy Panel helping guide Queensland's low-emissions future.



Maya Stuart-Fox is Head of Division, Environment Information Australia (EIA) and has been the statutory Head of EIA since 1 July 2026. Maya has held senior roles in climate change, environment and the Indigenous affairs portfolio. She has led policy and program teams to deliver national initiatives, including elements of the carbon market, the nature repair market and the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.



David Lemon is Principal Research Scientist for CSIRO and leads the Social and Strategic Design Team. David's research interests focus broadly on the nature of data (especially geospatial data), and the ways in which society creates, manages, governs, and structures data and data supply chains for the purposes of sharing data. He designs and leads projects aimed at creating new systems for sharing information as well as systems for managing environmental information. Over his career, David has worked across numerous domains including environment, agriculture, water, defence and transport and is regularly called upon as a trusted advisor with respect to the design of human systems for the purpose of sharing data across multiple organisations.



Hamish McIntyre is President of the National Farmers' Federation and Managing Director of McIntyre Agriculture, a family-owned Queensland agribusiness spanning 236,000 hectares. Its integrated operations include irrigated and dryland cropping, livestock breeding, feedlot operations and broiler chicken meat production, producing cotton, grain, pulses, forage crops, Angus and Wagyu cattle, sheep and rangeland goats. Elected NFF President in October 2025 after serving as a Director from 2023, Hamish began as an agronomist before moving into cotton, irrigation development and corporate agriculture consulting. He is an Australian Rural Leadership Program graduate and serves on the boards of the Australian Wagyu Association and Australian Made Campaign Limited.

Session 3

Data, ownership and value – why nobody wants to share



Mike Guerin is an experienced executive and agri-industry leader with expertise in corporate governance, capital markets and stakeholder engagement. After more than 20 years in banking, he held senior agribusiness roles including Managing Director of Elders Rural Services. He later served as CEO of AgForce QLD, where he built a strong reputation across the NFF federated family and contributed to national reform, advocacy and policy development. As Acting CEO of NSW Farmers, he deepened his understanding of member-based organisations and farmer representation. Mike brings commercial acumen, collaborative leadership and proven experience leading complex organisations in challenging environments into his role with the National Farmers' Federation.



Andrew Skinner, Founder and Director of More Than Machines, has over 25 years experience working in technology with 10 of those in agriculture, uniquely bridging deep domain expertise with cutting-edge AI and data innovation. A former Chief Data Officer at Meat & Livestock Australia and leader of national scale data initiatives, Andrew has a proven track record for connecting emerging AI capabilities with real world industry challenges, ensuring technology delivers trusted, practical, and transformative outcomes for the agrifood sector.



Jane Siebum has led Freshcare since 2021, guiding its globally recognised certification standards across domestic and international supply chains. With the needs of horticulture and wine businesses at the forefront, she is passionate about ensuring everything Freshcare does is fit for purpose and that the organisation itself operates as a sustainable business. Outside of work, Jane volunteers with the NSW State Emergency Service and serves as a Director of a disabilities service provider.



Xavier Murray is a Brisbane-based Manager of Environment Digital Projects at BHP, responsible for the global environmental data management systems, digital transformation and process enhancement. Originally from rural Victoria, where his family kept cattle. Xavier brings a practical appreciation for leveraging data as it related to the land and ecosystems. A Marine Biologist turned Data Scientist, a qualified mechanic, and ex-Defence, Xavier combines hands-on problem solving, operational discipline and change leadership to improve data quality, strengthen compliance outcomes and enable better environmental decision-making across the business.

Session 4

Enabling infrastructure, standards and interoperability - focusing on what must be centralised and what must not



Salvo Vitelli is the General Manager, Agribusiness Policy – Department of Primary Industries.

His grandparent's roots are from a farming background, and he has a long history working in the agriculture and natural resource management sectors. He has had various roles in government, industry and private organisations. He is committed to shaping and implementing an effective and functioning Queensland agribusiness system that benefits rural and regional communities. During his time in the Queensland Government, he has designed and delivered policies and programs that are focussed on sustainable production in partnership with industries and community-based organisations across a variety of areas that include agriculture and biosecurity. In his current role he is focussed on working with others to maximise innovation and sustainability opportunities for agribusiness sector and their related value chains and services that have been created by changing domestic and international market demands.



David Lamb is a physicist and has worked in precision agriculture R&D for more than 30 years. As the Deputy CEO & Chief Scientist of the Food Agility CRC he oversees projects ranging from precision agriculture & smart farming, AI & robotics, natural capital & sustainability, supply chain integrity & traceability and climate resilience & environmental monitoring. He also leads the national AgTrace initiative.



Andrew Cooke is a founding director and CTO of Rezare now part of global agri-data business Map of Ag. Andrew has worked extensively in farm data, livestock traceability, and more recently in carbon emissions and sustainability data. He is involved in the development of farming data standards globally, leading livestock data standards development for ICAR (the International Committee for Animal Recording), maintaining a liaison to cropping and machinery standards group AgGateway, as well as being ICAR's liaison to ISO/TC/347 Data-driven agrifood systems.



David Hansen is CEO and Research Director of the Australian e-Health Research Centre at CSIRO – Australia's national science agency. The AEHRC is CSIRO's digital health research program.

With over 150 scientists and engineers across health informatics, biomedical informatics and health services research, the AEHRC is Australia's largest digital health research centre.

David is passionate about the role of information and communication technologies in health care and the role of digital health professionals in developing a safe, high quality efficient and sustainable healthcare system.

Session 5

Stewardship by design - governing a federated sustainability data ecosystem



Su McCluskey is the Australian Agriculture Trade Diversification Representative, Chair of the Crawford Fund for Food Security, Director of LiveCorp, a member of the National Food Council and the CSIRO Food and Agriculture Advisory Group and a CPA and ATSE Fellow. She is also a beef cattle farmer at Yass NSW. Su was most recently Interim Chief Executive of the National Farmers' Federation and prior to this was Australia's inaugural Special Representative for Australian Agriculture, advocating for sustainability, global food security and trade and market access.



Jo Quigley is Meat & Livestock Australia's General Manager, Integrity Systems, responsible for safeguarding the integrity and traceability of Australia's red meat supply chain. She leads the strategy and delivery of cornerstone national red meat integrity programs including the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS), National Vendor Declarations (NVDs) and the Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program. These systems combine data, technology and standards to underpin the industry's food safety, animal welfare and biosecurity credentials. With an agricultural upbringing and a Bachelor of Agricultural Economics (Hons) from the University of New England, Jo has spent two decades with MLA advancing initiatives that reduce food safety, biosecurity and product integrity risks. Her leadership has focused on modernising traceability systems, enhancing data interoperability and driving technology adoption to maintain Australia's global reputation as a trusted supplier of premium, safe and ethically produced red meat.



Laura Kostanski works at the intersection of science, design, policy and data. She focuses specifically on the problems and opportunities this Symposium seeks to address: how credible evidence is shared, compared and trusted across sectors and organisational boundaries. As a strategic designer, she negotiates and co-develops the governance arrangements and data ecosystem strategies through which multiple forms of evidence deliver value for the industries, agencies and communities that depend on them. She co-leads CSIRO's contributions to the AASF Data Ecosystem project with Dr David Lemon, and her wider work spans national and international water, soil and environmental information infrastructure design. Laura is Principal Research Consultant – Strategic Design at CSIRO, a Churchill Fellow, and a Fellow and Victorian Deputy Chair of the Design Institute of Australia.



Toby Evans is the Head of Economic Crime at the Australian Payments Network (AusPayNet), where he leads comprehensive strategies to combat fraud, scams, money laundering, cybercrime, and child exploitation across Australia's payments ecosystem. A recognised international leader in economic crime prevention, Toby contributes his expertise to multiple high-level forums, including the National Anti-Scams Centre, Economic Crime Forum, and Global Anti-Scams Alliance Oceania Board. He chairs the International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children Risk and Assurance Committee and is Deputy Chair of the Crime Stoppers Cyber Advisory Committee. Toby's perspective is informed by two decades of distinguished service in international and domestic intelligence, anti-corruption, and law enforcement.

Thank you for joining us at the Sustainability Data Symposium.

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