

# Expression of Interest

## Australian AgriFood Data Exchange (AAFDX) Program

### A collaborative pan industry project

*Any questions regarding this EOI should be addressed to the EOI Contact Officer at the following address: [au-fmozagdx@kpmg.com.au](mailto:au-fmozagdx@kpmg.com.au)*

*EOI Release date: 20 July 2022*

*Closing time for submittal of clarification questions:*

*27<sup>th</sup> July 2022, 2PM AEST*

*Closing time for lodgement of Submissions:*

*12<sup>th</sup> August 2022, 2PM AEST*

*Submissions must be lodged in accordance with Part C of the EOI.*

# Expression of Interest

## Australian AgriFood Data Exchange Program

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# Part A – Introduction

## 1. Background

### 1.1 Preamble

This Expression of Interest (EOI) is an invitation to technology vendors from around the world to collaborate with Australian agriculture and food (agrifood) leaders to help enable data sharing - one of the major barriers currently identified that is holding Australia's agrifood industry back from reaching its full potential whilst also maintaining domestic and global competitiveness.

Although all major stakeholders have a significant interest in improving the agricultural data ecosystem, the diversity of Australian agriculture and value chain participants has meant that past efforts have been restricted to specific commodities or regions and lacked the resources and impetus to address whole of agriculture change. We know that biosecurity pests and diseases do not organise themselves differently state to state, yet many of our plant and animal compliance records of truth do. The lack of interoperability between systems and platforms is significantly hampering wide adoption of supply chain technology. By contrast, other established and emerging agricultural exporting nations have been making significant investment in data infrastructure to take advantage of the increasing digitisation of farm systems, food safety and export compliance, and logistics planning.

Today's disparate, often siloed, and proprietary data systems do not enable data owners to easily access and direct the exchange of their data are leading to costly inefficiencies, poor collaboration, wasteful use of critical time. There is no simple easy to use data ecosystem in Australia which supports primary producers from across all agricultural industries and other value chain participants to exchange their data efficiently on agreed terms with trusted service providers, or other interested parties such as regulatory bodies and researchers.

The Australian AgriFood Data Exchange project ('AAFDX') has been conceived to address this challenge with a vision to establish *An interconnected data highway for Australia's AgriFood value chain*.

The Australian AgriFood Data Exchange project is a collaboration between The Australian Government, Meat & Livestock Australia, Charles Sturt University, The Victorian Government, Fisheries Rural Research & Development Corporation, Food Agility CRC, AgriFutures, The Western Australian Government, South Australian Government, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australian Wool Innovation, Food & Agriculture Growth Centre (FIAL), Australian Plant Phenomics Facility, Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation, Cotton Rural Research Development Corporation, Elders Rural, Federation University, Grower Group Alliance, Australian Eggs, The New South Wales Government and KPMG.

Ultimately, the Australian AgriFood Data Exchange seeks to establish a digital platform that enables:

- The permissioned exchange of data between AgriFood industry participants
- Timely access to information that supports decision making for the AgriFood value chain
- The release of management capacity (enabling data to work harder to create value for producers and supply chain participants)
- Standardisation and consistency of industry data assets
- The capacity to adapt, incorporating new use cases for data exchange that deliver value and support resilience of AgriFood value chain participants and encourage agtech innovation
- Increased transparency of AgriFood industry data to support multiple use cases (e.g., regulatory compliance, collaboration between public & private data sets)
- A mechanism to connect disparate data sources

Recognising this is an ambitious, complex, multi-year, multi-phased program requiring significant investment to bring the vision to life, in order to build confidence for supporters, a program of work (subject to change) has been established as follows:

- i. Confirm the need and develop a vision (completed August 2020)
- ii. Secure funding and support for the initial stages of the project (completed June 2021)
- iii. Identify prioritised use cases (completed August 2021)
- iv. Open call to technology vendors to implement experiments - also known as proof of concepts - that support each of the prioritised use cases (Completed March 2022).
- v. Expression of Interest to identify priority vendors to deliver a Minimal Viable Product and inform investment costings for the business case (Purpose of this EOI).
- vi. Delivery of a business case to fund a Minimum Viable Product (Sep-Oct 2022)
- vii. Funding for the business case (early 2023)
- viii. Deployment of the Australian AgriFood Data Exchange (2023)

Specifically, with regard to item (v), the EOI will seek to understand the technology vendor solution alignment with the key functional and non-functional requirements for the AAFDX data exchange. **The EOI responses will be used to select priority vendors for reference within the business case. The pricing received from this activity will serve as an essential input for the business case to inform the investment funding to be secure to deliver Australian AgriFood Data Exchange.**

## 1.2 Challenges facing the Australian agrifood sector

The Australian agrifood sector currently faces a number of challenges in regard to data - access, sharing and integrated management. These include:

- Emerging adoption of digital solutions on farm, with barriers to adoption being the multiple siloed data solutions and no easy to use platform in Australia which allows primary producers from across all agricultural industries, food industries and other value chain participants to exchange their data efficiently and effectively on agreed terms with service providers, or other interested parties such as government and researchers.
- Australia's agrifood sector participants are unable to access and take full advantage of the huge amounts of data they are generating and efficiently transfer their data across the value chain.
- Disparate, siloed and proprietary data systems that do not enable data owners to easily access and direct the exchange of their data is leading to costly inefficiencies, poor collaboration, wasteful use of critical managerial time and loss of opportunities for the sector to deliver superior outcomes for all supply chain stakeholders.
- Nuanced approaches to data taxonomies and meta data records between States and industries, resulting in lack of common data and interoperability standards.
- An absence of well-managed national agricultural and food data exchange for use by the various stakeholders within agriculture industry is limiting Australia's production potential, causing significant supply side inefficiencies and leaving Australia trailing behind competing nations. This problem is likely to get worse as the world becomes increasingly reliant on technology and access to information.

## 1.3 Why Australia's agrifood industry needs a data exchange

- Businesses often need to access multiple data systems/datasets which are stored across various proprietary platforms and functions and are currently not well integrated. Aggregating and reconciling these datasets requires manual intervention, leading to errors/duplication and requiring significant effort to ensure uptake across the business in order to lead to tangible analytics outcomes. This interoperability challenge is commonplace across the industry today.

- Finding and preparing data for decision-making purposes consumes a significant amount of management capacity. Producers and researchers spend time manually reconciling data and hand coding integrations and transformations. Knowledge of availability of existing data sets and tools is limited, making it challenging to generate meaningful insights and enable efficient leverage of investment in building foundational data sets.
- Data is not regularly or easily shared between the various stakeholders within the industry, at times leading to analysis taking place with incomplete datasets and other times for duplication of efforts with varying results. Data sharing and a culture of collaboration could be enhanced through the establishment a data governance framework including protocols/policies for data access, privacy, definition and standards, would uplift the industry analytical capabilities.
- Businesses that operate across different nodes within a supply chain, or have operations in different government regions (states / territories) have to compliance with different maintain different data management systems to accommodate the nuanced differences in how each state identifies geolocation of farms and produce.
- A constrained up take of digital technologies is slowing agricultural productivity growth. As Australia looks to achieve the target of \$100 billion farm gate output by 2030, digital agriculture is expected to contribute up to an additional \$20 billion annually to the gross value of agricultural production and aid decision making and value protection in periods of climate and economic volatility.
- Challenges in understanding where to prioritise efforts to best support the industry. With significant opportunities for data-driven use cases across the value chain, defining the prioritisation of funding and efforts to build capabilities is a critical challenge for industry bodies and governments. An industry-controlled data exchange service could enable consolidated, integrated and standardised data, to help reduce the labour-intensive effort of collecting and analysing data to make better informed prioritisation decisions on deployment of limited support resources and capabilities.

#### **1.4 The opportunities available from an Australian agrifood data exchange solution include:**

- An Australian data exchange service designed and controlled by the agrifood industry would enable participants to share, reuse and merge data from disparate systems in a secure and trusted environment.
- A holistic, integrated approach to data management would enable the generation of insights previously not available while stimulating sustainable entrepreneurship, consumer assurance and innovation.
- Deliver value for industry, government, and the research community by enabling simple controlled access to external data and reference data sets.
- It would enable Australia's agrifood industry to access leading practice world data infrastructure similar to that other leading agrifood exporting nations are already using to help their industry participants thrive in today's digital economies.
- Partnering with world class data exchange and application providers to leverage their proven capabilities and experience in the delivery of the core services of the Australian AgriFood Data Exchange.

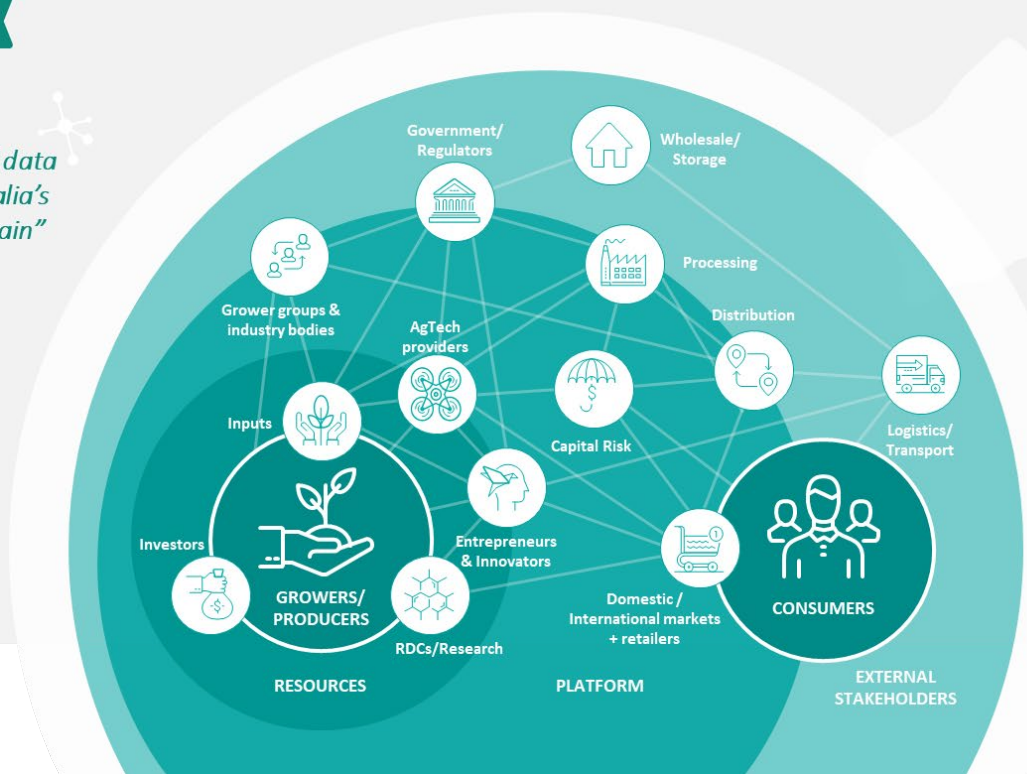
## **2. Australian AgriFood Digital Exchange Program**

### **2.1 Vision**

A consortium of parties across Australia's Federal and State Governments, Research and Development, Science and Innovation, and industry bodies has been formed to establish the Australian AgriFood Data Exchange Program (the Data Exchange). The vision for the Data Exchange is to "Deliver an interconnected data highway for Australia's AgriFood value chain".

## VISION:

*"An interconnected data highway for Australia's AgriFood value chain"*



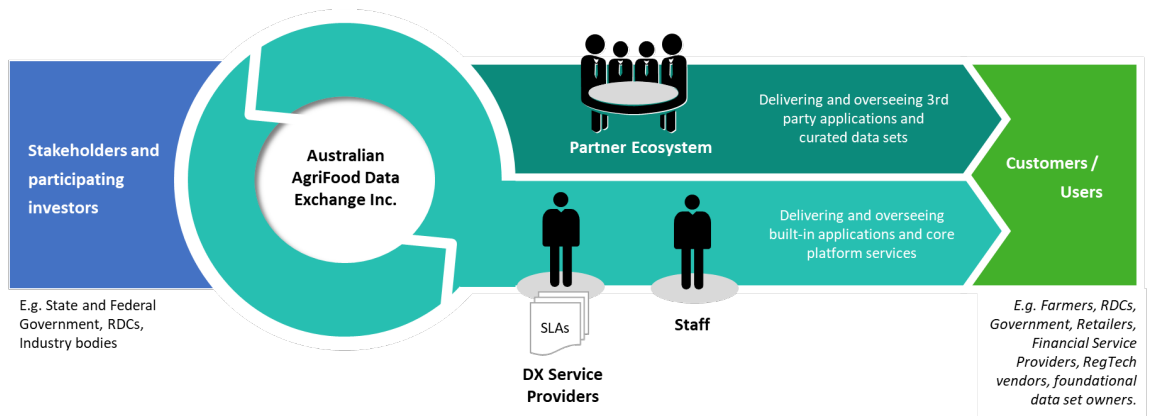
## 2.2 The Australian AgriFood Data Exchange seeks to provide a digital platform that enables:

- The permitted exchange of data between AgriFood industry participants
- Timely access to information that supports decision making for the AgriFood value chain
- Standardisation and consistency of industry data assets
- The capacity to adapt, incorporating new use cases for data exchange that deliver value and support resilience of AgriFood value chain participants
- Increased transparency of AgriFood industry data to support multiple use cases (e.g. regulatory compliance, collaboration between public & private data sets)
- A mechanism to connect disparate data sources (manage a national data catalogue and connect stakeholders through a data marketplace service)

The Program is expected to be completed over the coming several years and comprise multiple phases.

The Program is seeking to deliver core infrastructure that can support an increased scale and scope of services over time, as detailed in this EOI.

The intention of AAFDX is to establish a stand-alone enterprise to deliver the data exchange service to the Australian agrifood sector. The enterprise will likely directly employ some resources (leadership, governance, customer relationship management) as well as partnering with vendors to leverage their capacity and capability for the delivery of the core platform and/or a series of applications. The determination is yet to be made as to where those boundaries would sit in terms of resources sitting within AAFDX and outsourced to a partner, or partners. As part of the EOI, we welcome respondents' views and suggestions on the balance between direct and indirect resourcing of the service. An indicative representation of the roles is detailed on the figure below.



More information about the Program is available here: [www.ozagdx.com.au](http://www.ozagdx.com.au).

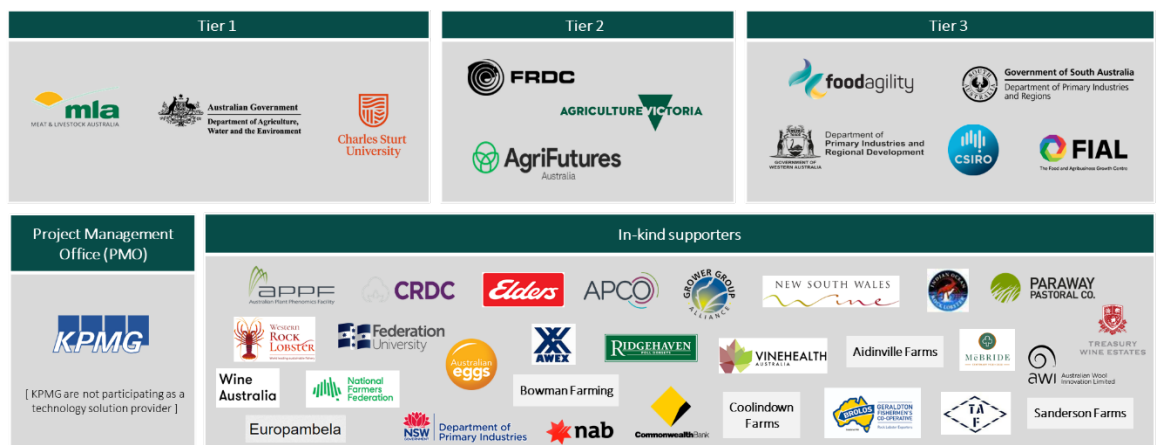
### 2.3 The Australian AgriFood Data Exchange is targeting a range of benefits:

- Unlock more management capacity
- Enable consistency and centralisation of traceability data systems
- Verification assurance to consumers and regulators to support market access
- Improve access to natural capital and risk-adjusted financing and insurance opportunities
- Digitised compliance outcomes with regulatory requirements
- Enable data owners to share access to data with Rural Research and Development Corporations, researchers, government, supply chain partners and entrepreneurs
- Make it easy for data owners to share useful data with biosecurity agencies to improve national, state and shire predictive biosecurity capabilities to support Australia’s agrifood domestic and export market access.

## 3. Meat and Livestock Australia

Meat and Livestock Australia, one of Australia’s rural research and development corporations, is acting on behalf of the Data Exchange consortia to conduct this EOI process.

The list of supporters is highlighted below and also listed in Attachment 2 to this EOI. Further supporters may join over time.



### 3.1 About Meat and Livestock Australia

Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA), a public company limited by guarantee, is the declared industry marketing and research body for Australian red meat and livestock. MLA’s purpose is to foster the

long-term prosperity of Australia's cattle, sheep and goat industries. Collaborating with partners and stakeholders, this is achieved by:

- delivering world-class research and development across the supply chain that contributes to producer profitability, sustainability and global competitiveness
- growing demand for red meat in Australia and overseas.

MLA receives funding from transaction levies paid on livestock sales, the Australian Government and voluntary contributions from industry partners. MLA owns two operating subsidiary companies:

- The MLA Donor Company (MDC) works in partnership with investors in areas that bring value to the red meat supply chain through innovation and new technologies.
- Integrity Systems Company (ISC) administers the National Livestock Identification System database which records livestock movements. It is also responsible for the Livestock Production Assurance program and National Vendor Declarations and Livestock Data Link.

### 3.2 What MLA Does

MLA works in partnership with the red meat industry and the Australian Government to deliver marketing, research and development products and services to beef, sheep and goat producers, with the core purpose of fostering the prosperity of the red meat industry. MLA also collaborates with other industries and partners in projects that deliver value back to the red meat sector.

MLA invests in world-class research, development and adoption projects to increase the productivity and profitability of Australia's cattle, sheep and goat businesses. Through the subsidiary companies, MLA also accelerates innovation across the value chain and delivers the industry's integrity and on-farm quality assurance program.

MLA are the coordinating project agent for the Australian AgriFood Data Exchange syndicate.

## 4. Procurement Process

MLA conducted a Request for Information process with technology vendors in September 2021 to identify and select technology vendors to implement a series of data sharing experiments (known as proof of concepts) designed to test the viability and feasibility of the prioritised use cases, and to understand different approaches and solutions taken by vendors. This resulted in selection of 4 vendors to conduct the experiments based on defined use cases in March 2022.

This Expression of Interest is an open market engagement process designed to gather pricing information on the Minimum Viable Product (MVP) to inform the business case and select priority technology vendors for reference within the business case. **Vendors that were appointed to conduct the experiments will be invited alongside this open market call to respond to the EOI, and will be assessed as part of the EOI process on equal basis according to merit.** No binding contract (including a process contract) or other understanding (including any form of contractual, quasi-contractual, restitutionary rights, or rights based upon similar legal or equitable grounds) will exist between MLA and a Respondent in relation to the information provided during the EOI process.

The EOI will achieve the following:

- The pricing feedback received from this activity will serve as an essential input for the business case to secure sufficient funding for the program.
- EOI responses will be used to prioritise vendors for reference within the business case.
- Understanding of the core platform capabilities of the data exchange providers in the marketplace and the solution alignment with the key requirements for the AAFDX data exchange, with a view to short listing vendors for engagement post business case confirmation and securing the funding to deliver the Australian AgriFood Data Exchange.



- Understanding the application development capabilities for the provision of the prioritised applications

## 5. The Expression of Interest process

The EOI includes the following components:

- (i) **Schedule 1: Requirement Matrix**, The EOI will detail the core platform services prioritised for Day 1 and a suite of prioritised applications addressing gaps in the market for the Minimum Viable Product (MVP) to address specific data challenges in priority areas. It will request the vendors to provide their technical solution to meet the functional and non-functional requirements as specified in this schedule.
- (ii) **The Requirement Matrix** is designed to understand the rough order of magnitude pricing from the vendors for the following:
  - Platform Services, or
  - Core Application development, or
  - Platform services + core application development

Respondents can choose to provide a Submission to the functional requirements and propose rough order magnitude pricing for:

- The core platform services only, or
- Prioritised applications only, or
- Both.

The Program Team intends to use the Submissions to help inform the associated Business Case and future procurement strategies. Following the evaluation process the Evaluation Team will put forward a prioritised list of vendors to the Steering Committee for endorsement and inclusion in the business case.

As such, lodging a Submission may assist in maximising any business opportunities that could be available to the Respondent from the AAFDX project. However, there is no contract guaranteed at the end of this EOI stage.

Submissions should be provided in the form set out in the Schedule 1 – Requirements Matrix.

## 6. Timetable

The table below sets out the indicative timetable for the EOI and subsequent stages. The timeframe is indicative and may vary.

Milestone	Date
EOI issue date	20th July
Market briefing sessions held	25 <sup>th</sup> July
Submission of EOI clarifications	2pm AEST, 27th July
EOI closing date	2pm AEST, 12th August
Respondent solution clarification sessions (if required)	18th and 19th August
Shortlisting vendor submissions for inclusion in business case	w/c 29th August

## 7. Market Briefing Session

Two optional virtual market briefings will be held using Microsoft Teams on the date and times indicated below. Respondents may elect which market briefing session they wish to attend, or to attend neither. The EOI Contact Officer and PMO will present an overview of the Exchange, procurement process and be available to answer any queries. Names of persons attending the market briefing must be provided to the EOI Contact Officer at least two (2) working days prior to the date. One nominated speaker from each Respondent will be permitted to ask any questions during the Question and Answer session that shall follow the briefing.

A written copy of all questions and answers shall be provided to all Respondents, regardless of attendance at the briefing sessions.

### Option 1:

<b>Date:</b>	Monday, 25 July 2022
<b>Time:</b>	9 AM AEST
<b>Pre-register to attend market briefing:</b>	<i>au-fmozagdx@kpmg.com.au</i>

### Option 2:

<b>Date:</b>	Monday, 25 July 2022
<b>Time:</b>	6PM AEST
<b>Pre-register to attend market briefing:</b>	<i>au-fmozagdx@kpmg.com.au</i>

## 8. EOI Contact Officer

Prior to lodging a Submission, the Respondent may request clarification about any part of this EOI or any other information provided in relation to this EOI. All enquiries or requests for clarification are required to be:

- (a) made in writing;
- (b) directed to the Contact Officer using the email address shown on the cover page of this EOI;
- (c) received by the Contact Officer prior to 2PM AEST on 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2022. Further clarifications will not be provided subsequent to this time and date; and
- (d) Further information regarding communications in relation to this EOI can be found in clause 14 of Part C.

## 9. Evaluation Criteria

Responses will be assessed against the evaluation criteria listed below. Information supplied by the Respondent in its Submission will contribute to the assessment against each criterion.

Respondents are advised to respond clearly to all the evaluation criteria listed in this EOI. Responses that do not include fully completed Schedules 1 (Form of Response), in particular those which do not contain sufficient information to permit a proper evaluation to be conducted, or electronic that cannot be effectively evaluated because the file has become corrupt, may be excluded from the procurement process without further consideration at the Evaluation Team's discretion.

Evaluation criteria comprise of the following:

- (a) **Assessment criteria** – The questions in Schedule 1 – Form of Response are framed as per the assessment criteria detailed below.

No.	Criteria	Sub-criteria
1.	Technical Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed solution clearly articulates how the solution maps to the functional requirements described in the schedule</li> <li>Proposed solution clearly articulates how the solution maps to the non-functional requirements described in the schedule</li> <li>Demonstrated previous experience in delivering the core services listed in the schedule</li> </ul>
2.	Delivery Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Description of the roles &amp; responsibilities (including for any consortium/partner/sub-contractor) consortium/partner ecosystem strategy with stated roles and responsibilities</li> <li>Delivery roadmap with key milestones to achieve Go Live</li> <li>Detailed assumptions and key dependencies</li> </ul>
3.	Pricing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rough order magnitude pricing broken into modules as described in the pricing template</li> <li>Commercial assumptions</li> </ul>

## 10. Interpretation

- (a) In this EOI, all capitalised terms have the meaning given in clauses 1 of Supporting Attachment 2 – Glossary, interpretation and precedence.
- (b) In this EOI, except where the contrary intention is expressed, the interpretation rules in clause 2 of Supporting Attachment 2 – Glossary, interpretation and precedence apply.

## 11. Conflict of Interest

Where Respondents identify that an actual or potential conflict of interest might arise in the provision of goods or services contemplated by this EOI, Respondents must immediately notify the EOI probity officer in writing. The Program Steering Committee may:

- (a) enter into discussions to seek to resolve such conflict of interest;
- (b) disregard any Submission provided by such a Respondent; or
- (c) take any other action it considers appropriate.

## 12. Probity

The Procure Group have been onboarded as the probity officer for this EOI.

If a Respondent considers that, during the EOI:

- (a) It has not been provided with a fair opportunity to become the successful Respondent
- (b) It has been prejudiced by any breach of these EOI conditions; or
- (c) Any party has breached any other relevant principle affecting the submission of responses or their evaluation

Then it must immediately contact the probity officer via email.

**Name:** Damian O'Connor

**Email:** [doconnor@procuregroup.com.au](mailto:doconnor@procuregroup.com.au)

**Phone:** +61 400 476 984

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## Part B – Objectives and Scope

### 13. Overview

#### 13.1 Overview

The Data Exchange seeks to provide a digital platform that enables:

- (a) The permissioned exchange of data between agrifood industry participants
- (b) Timely access to information that supports decision making for the agrifood value chain
- (c) Increased standardisation and consistency of industry data assets to improve value of data to users
- (d) Trust by the users that the data they originate / own is being treated (moved, accessed, combined) in accordance with their express permission
- (e) The capacity to adapt, incorporating additional use cases for data exchange that deliver value and support resilience of agrifood value chain participants and agrifood tech entrepreneurs
- (f) Increased transparency of agrifood industry data to support multiple use cases
- (g) A mechanism to connect disparate data sources and enable a national data catalogue
- (h) Participants to access a voluntary data market place.

Through this EOI, MLA is seeking technical solutions to meet the requirements for the core platform services prioritised for Day 1 and a suite of prioritised applications addressing gaps in the market for the MVP. The Program has a strong focus on identifying innovative and collaborative approaches.

#### 13.2 Data sharing principles

The project's Data Governance working group reviewed key literature relating to the following to inform the key data sharing principles that the data exchange should adopt:

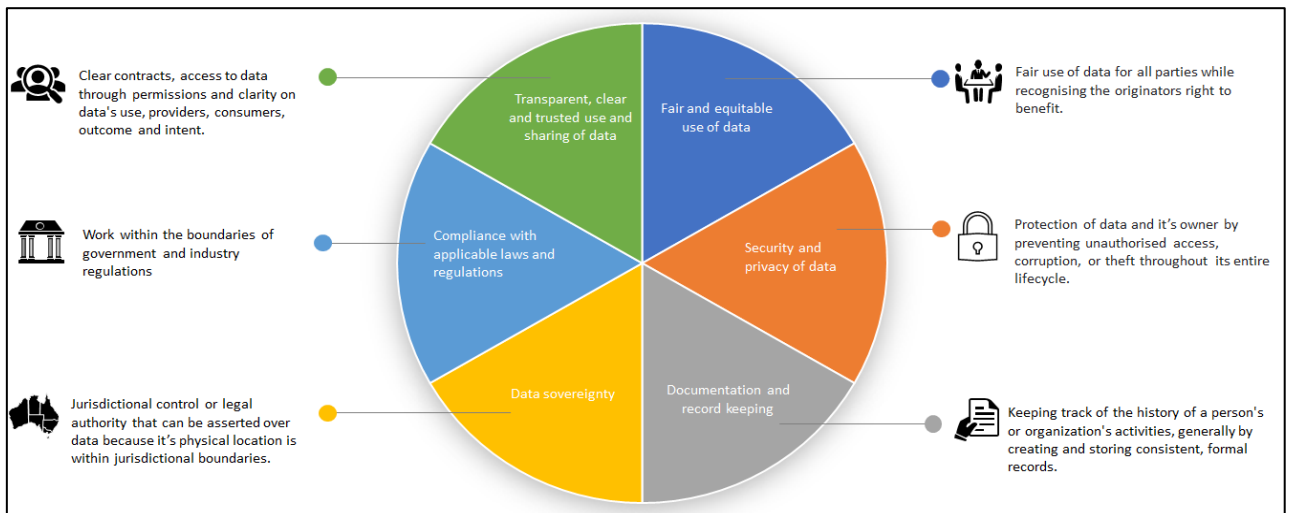
- a. National Farmers Federation (NFF) Farm Data Code
- b. F.A.I.R. principles
- c. Food Agility Cooperative Research Centre Data Sharing Policy and Agreement
- d. Data privacy and rights impacting agriculture and food

Key themes such as data security, data control and data sovereignty were identified through discussions with the working group.

Based on the identified key themes, **6 data sharing principles** are proposed for AAFDX:

- Transparent, clear and trusted use and sharing of data
- Fair and equitable use of data
- Security and privacy of data
- Documentation and Record Keeping
- Sovereignty
- Compliance with applicable laws and regulations

Building on these principles, 6 key themes have been identified for the AAFDX data sharing model. The 6 key themes outlined in the model below outline the guidelines for sharing data across the data exchange.



### 13.3 Minimum Viable Product (MVP) for Go-Live (Day 1)

The Australian AgriFood Data Exchange will provide a platform for discovering and exchanging data in a permissioned and secure way. The **core platform services** (which are defined in more detail in section 13.3(a)) prioritised for Go Live (Day 1) are:

- Data Marketplace (Platform)
- Private Data Exchange
- Data Catalogue
- Curated Datasets
- Self-service reporting

A suite of **prioritised application services addressing gaps in the market** will also be developed for the MVP to address specific data challenges in priority areas. These prioritised applications will be provisioned on the platform as either built-in applications or 3<sup>rd</sup> party applications.

3<sup>rd</sup> party applications are developed by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party and integrated with the AAFDX platform. Users can access these applications via the web portal and depending on the purpose of the application, send data to the application for off-platform analysis, or load data from it for exploring on-platform.

Built in applications, unlike 3<sup>rd</sup> party applications, are not integrated as independent services but native functions enabled through the core platform and accessible by users directly via the web interface. The potential priority areas we have explored are -

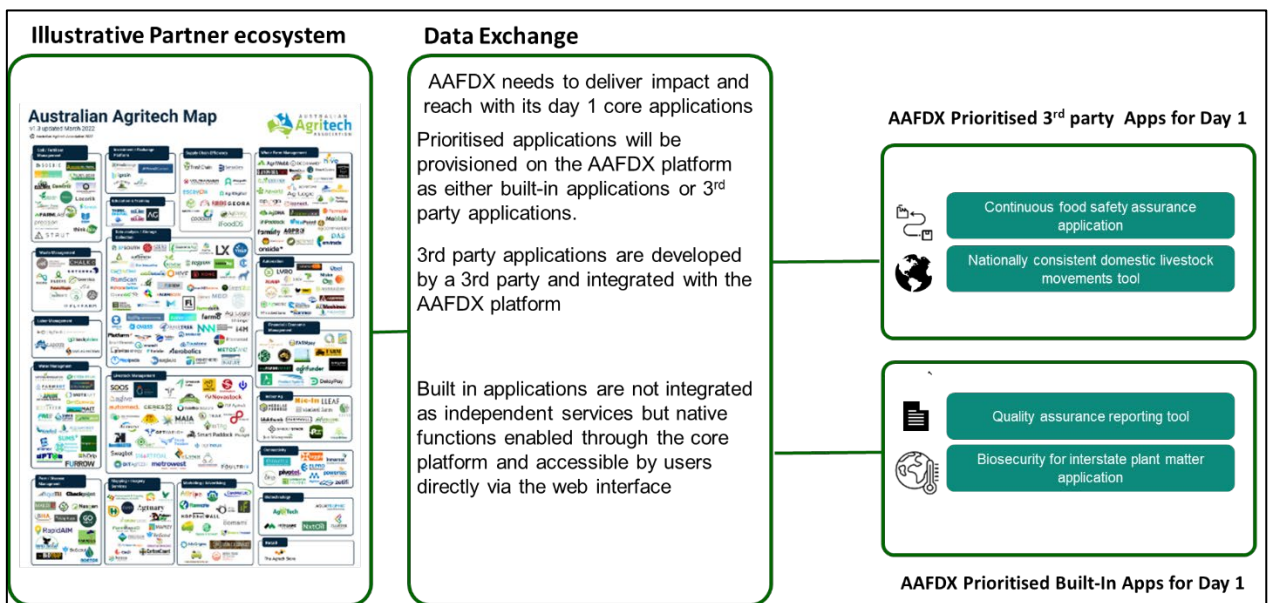
- **Continuous food safety assurance application** – Is a 3<sup>rd</sup> party application to federate data that enables collection, collation and presentation of data as evidence of compliance with standards in relation to market requirements (domestic and export). Enabling sharing of the data as a record of compliance in the required format with regulators and other parties as necessary to secure and maintain market access. Enable consistent decision making on suspected food safety incidents to limit disruption of supply. Provide actionable intelligence for operators along the supply chain and risk-based compliance inspections. from processing plants with environmental and other data sources to enable efficient risk-based ratings and assessment of compliance procedures, starting with food safety. The risk rating can support plant and jurisdictional benchmarking as well as compliance.
- **Nationally consistent domestic livestock movements tool** – is a 3<sup>rd</sup> party application that integrates with National Livestock Identification System and national vendor declarations, to create a real time record of livestock collection point origin and point of termination (Property

Identification Code reconciliation), record of transport service provider, Livestock Producer Assurance status of seller, fit for transport condition of stock, withholding period data, animal health, integrating into stock management systems and NLIS. Map and create a dashboard of animal movements in and out of regions and properties, alongside information on current biosecurity and natural disaster threats to improve stakeholder visibility of individual resiliency as well as national sector health. This mapping and dashboard will be supported by an early warning surveillance system built to track current and emerging risks and provide real time updates to all stakeholders on animals and regions impacted, and potentially impacted, across the country.

- **Quality assurance reporting tool** - is a built-in application that enables producers to auto populate compliance documents by - connecting / collating primary quality assurance records, relating to their crop or livestock with the quality assurance reporting tool. The tool will also highlight any missing information required by the relevant quality assurance frameworks and enable producers to efficiently spot gaps and benefit from measuring once and reporting the data point many times by auto-populating and publishing reports to supply chain QA systems and compliance programs. The key benefit being saved time and more accurate reliable collation of compliance data.
- **Biosecurity for interstate plant matter application** – is a built-in application enables the digital traceability of people and equipment that have come into contact with plant material prior to harvest through to delivery to receiving and processing point, incorporating publishing of data to biosecurity compliance organisations and receiving parties.

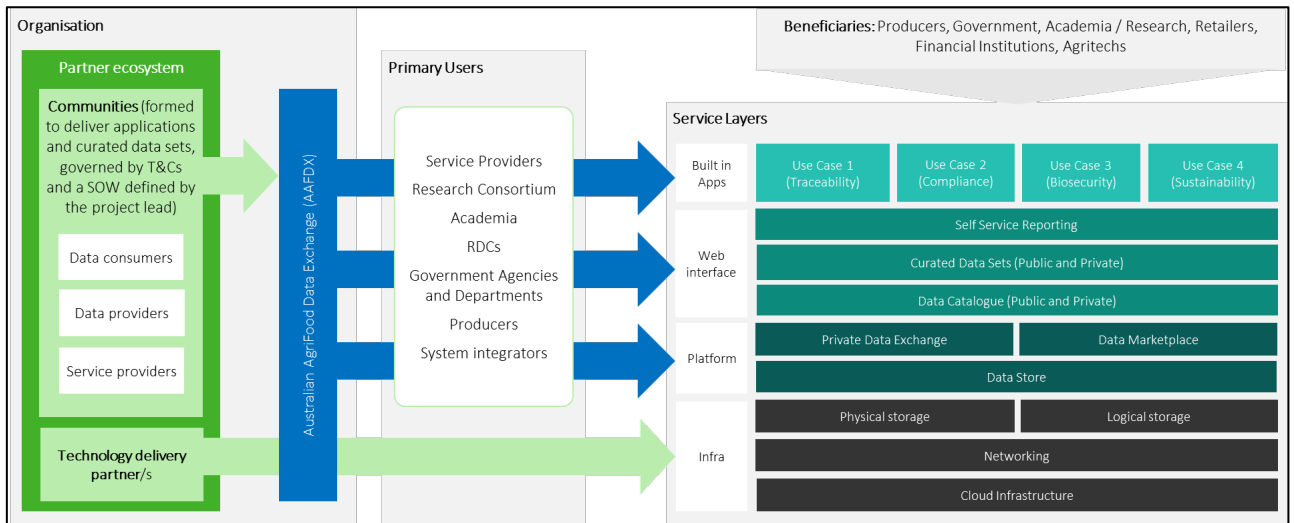
The aim for AAFDX is to go live before **31 December, 2023**. This would include the core platform services for day 1 as indicated in section 13.3(a) and prioritised applications as indicated in section 13.3(b). A description of the mid-term/future platform services have been provided in section 13.3(c) which will included in future programs of work.

The analogy of applications on the data exchange will be as follows:



(a) Provisioning core enabling services for MVP at Go Live (Day 1)

The structure of the core platform services for the AAFDX release and what parties would be primarily responsible for provisioning services is as follows:



The core platform enabling services are defined as follows:

Prioritised applications	Quality assurance reporting tool addressing the cumulative burden of compliance for livestock producers through to processors operating in Australia.	Biosecurity for interstate plant matter application strengthening biosecurity in the horticulture sector through standardised, accurate traceability data and risk profiling nation-wide	Nationally consistent domestic livestock movements tool supporting producers nationally in monitoring, pre-empting and managing production volatility and climate variability	Food safety assurance tool providing assurance for market access through accessible and standardised data as trusted evidence of compliance with Food Safety Standards and export market requirements
Web interface	Self Service Reporting: Simple data analysis and report-building for non-technical users. For example - An auditor being able to build a report filtered by all non-compliant producers in last eighteen months in a state.			
	Curated Data Sets (Public and Private): Transformed and curated data sets available from multiple sources optimised to address a specific purpose (e.g. a use case, information requirement etc.). For example - Aggregated cotton farm data sets pan Australia – can be used for benchmarking or driving in-season insights.			
Platform	Data Catalogue (Public and Private): Organised inventory of data assets with the ability to browse data by categories or keywords. (Note: requires minimum metadata for organising data. Richer the metadata, the more sophisticated the data cataloguing capabilities can be). For example - Researchers being able to search for soil and yield data filtered by owner/ author, geography, year etc.			
	Private Data Exchange: Capability for securely exchanging data privately between multiple parties under the agreed terms and conditions. For example – Government shares their stored data with fishers and application service provider for quota management application.		Data Marketplace: A platform which allows individuals or businesses to upload and publish datasets with an intention to share or monetise their data under specific terms and conditions. For example - Producers sharing farm data with an intention to sell; researchers/ Ag-Tech organisation buying the data under stipulated agreements.	
Infrastructure	Backbone infrastructure: Includes the cloud infrastructure services, networking and logical and physical storage required to enable data sharing and discovery.			

Examples of platform services to be provided by the data exchange on go-live:



	Definition	Examples
<b>1</b> Data marketplace	A platform which allows individuals or businesses to upload and publish datasets with an intention to share or monetise their data under specific terms and conditions.	Producers sharing farm data with an intention to sell; researchers/ Ag-Tech organisation buying the data under stipulated agreements.
<b>2</b> Private Data Exchange	Capability for securely exchanging data privately between multiple parties under the agreed terms and conditions.	DPIRD shares their stored data with fishers and application service provider for quota management application.
<b>3</b> Data Catalogue	Organised inventory of data assets with the ability to browse data by categories or keywords. (Note: requires minimum metadata for organising data. Richer the metadata, the more sophisticated the data cataloguing capabilities can be).	Researchers being able to search for soil and yield data filtered by owner/ author, geography, year etc.
<b>4</b> Use-cases based curated datasets	Transformed and curated data sets available from multiple suppliers optimised for a specific set of use cases.	Aggregated cotton farm data sets pan Australia – can be used for benchmarking or driving in-season insights.
<b>5</b> Self service reporting	Simple data analysis and report-building for non-technical users.	An auditor being able to build a report filtered by all non-compliant producers in last eighteen months in a state.

Detailed description of operational services required by the data exchange on go-live:

	Definition	Examples
<b>Contract management</b>	A built in process in the data exchange of handling and carrying out contractual obligations for users of the exchange. This can include a boilerplate for terms and condition of use of the data exchange.	An ability for user of exchange to read and agree to terms and conditions, and add information where required for further processing.
<b>Smart contracts</b>	The data exchange will require a mechanism to automatically execute, control or document legally relevant events and actions according to the terms of the agreements.	Digital execution of contracts between data owners, via docusign or a similar service, who are providing access to their data and innovators who want to gain access.
<b>Payment engine</b>	The data exchange must have a mechanism to accept payments from the users of the exchange.	A researcher paying for a curated data set for research purposes.
<b>Customer service</b>	The exchange must expect a lot of enquiries and feedback to come through and therefore must have a dedicated customer support system to handle such enquiries.	A farmer enquiring about setting up a private data exchange to share his data with regulators.
<b>IP and Copyright management</b>	A mechanism should be in place to protect the IP rights of stakeholders involved.	A newly defined data model, or advanced analytics algorithm managed in GIT repository should have the appropriate IP controls for access and use.
<b>Rules Engine</b>	A mechanism to classify quality and sensitivity of data after it is uploaded to keep up with standardisation and avoid risk of (re)identification.	Identifying PII data within a dataset and classifying it as highly sensitive data set, or ascertain the quality of data set published by the user.
<b>Capture Feedback</b>	A mechanism to capture feedback by the users on the quality or useability of the datasets or report misuse of AAFDX so they can be continuously improved.	Quality of dataset which did not deliver what it promised should be enhanced.

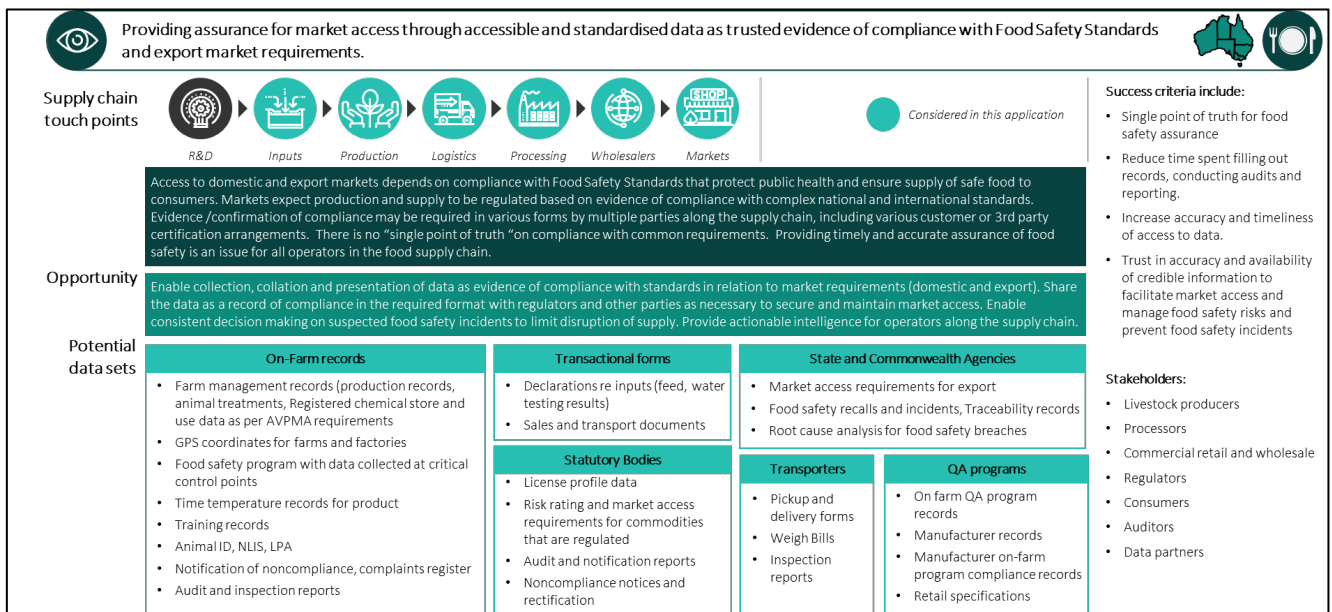
(b) **Prioritised Applications for MVP (Day 1)**

• **Continuous food safety assurance application**

This is a 3<sup>rd</sup> party application that provides additional features on top of the base functionality of a private data exchange (the core functions of a private data exchange are described in the earlier section). Users can leverage this tool when collating and sending data evidencing food safety along the supply chain. To enable this application will require building out a connector framework, rules engine (quality and interoperability standards sitting behind this), real time data sharing and pre-built templates for participating schemes and programs.

<p><b>Bring all of your data together</b></p> <p>The Connector Framework allows the AAFDX platform to access data being stored in a variety of management systems and locally on a user's computer or other devices. Additionally, data being held by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party for a user (I.e. compliance and monitoring information held by a statutory body on-behalf of a producer or processor).</p> <p>A rich REST based API surface allows for data sources &amp; types not natively supported to be rapidly integrated. In this way, a user only has to request AAFDX be able to access data stored in an external system once, then a record and data link can be created in the web portal.</p>	<p><b>Manage your data in one place</b></p> <p>Our rules engine is responsible for processing ingested data from different sources and the automatic categorisation of data records as evidence of a particular food safety claim, that needs be shared with various schemes and programs.</p> <p>Only the metadata describing a data set is required to be ingested into the platform. The data, file or document remains in place and can continue to be edited and added to by users at the data source.</p> <p>Users are also able to create a unified set of rules for applying information governance policies across all connected data sources.</p>	<p><b>Link and share data securely</b></p> <p>When data has been processed, categorised (e.g. Time temperature records) and classified (e.g. confidential) it can be compared against the requirements of participating food safety assurance schemes.</p> <p>For example, a user has ingested all data relating to their red meat products. The system can assess whether there are inconsistencies across sources or required data is missing. Any issues are flagged for the user.</p> <p>Once resolved, users can select data to share with specific supply chain partners, to provide assurance that food safety standards were maintained through a product's journey.</p> <p>Once a data flow is created, data doesn't need to be entered again. It will be automatically shared as updates become available, in the format required by the recipient.</p>
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The high-level definition of this application is as follows:

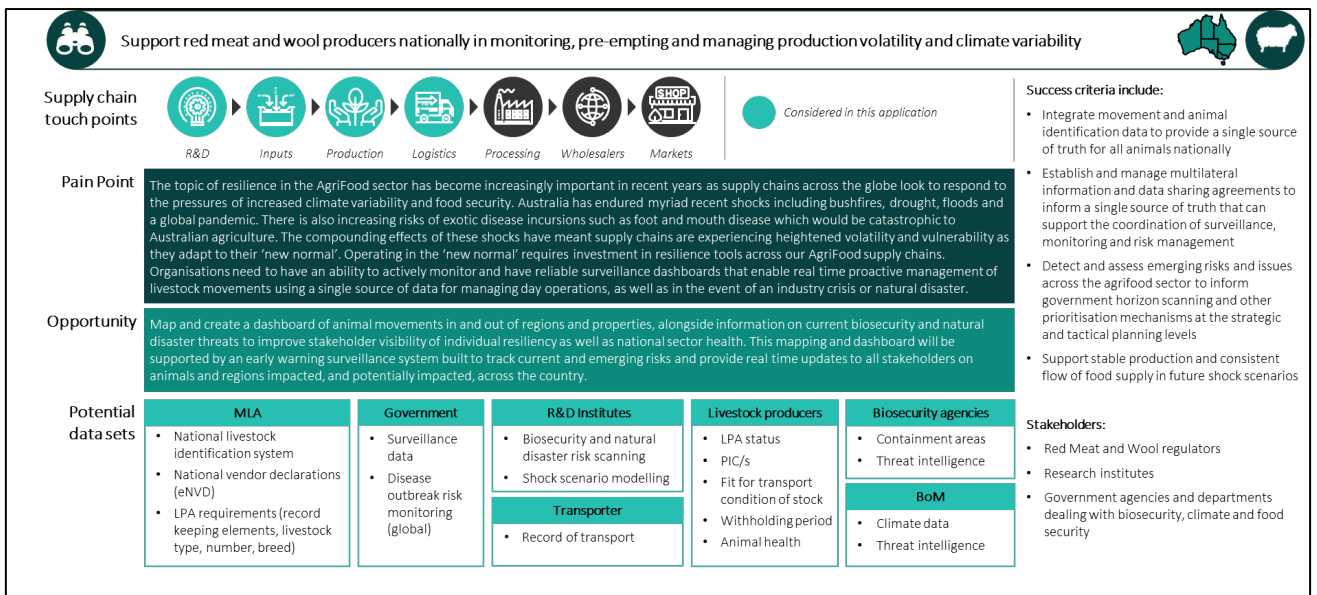


- **Nationally consistent domestic livestock movements tool**

This is a 3<sup>rd</sup> party application with a geospatial interface that will be used to track animal movements and flag areas currently impacted by climate variability and production volatility. Users will also be able to access real time dashboards for monitoring, pre-empting and managing biosecurity and natural disaster threats as they relate to their livestock and operational sites. This application will require developing/leveraging a GIS interface, integrating with the eNVD app being developed by MLA to track livestock movements in real-time and drawing together information on active climate/biosecurity incidents and known threats.

<p><b>Link high quality data for better insights</b></p> <p>MLA is currently developing the eNVD app to integrate eNVD movement data with the NLIS database and enable automated movement data to be collected in real time.</p> <p>AAFDX's geospatial interface will load movement data from the eNVD app and link it with threat intelligence and information on containment areas and active incidents published by regulators and emergency response agencies.</p> <p>This integration will allow users to monitor livestock movements in real-time, overlaid with a current view of incidents affecting agricultural production, as well as predictive view of potentially high risk areas.</p>	<p><b>Explore industry data in new ways</b></p> <p>Producers will have the option to identify their livestock and sites by verifying their PIC/s (or equivalent).</p> <p>Once a producer has verified their identity, the tool will allow these users to generate an individual dashboard for monitoring, pre-empting and managing risks and issues relating to climate variability and biosecurity.</p> <p>This dashboard will provide real time updates on the status of livestock and information on current incidents and projected threats that may impact their site/s, livestock and production volatility.</p>	<p><b>Discover new industry data sets</b></p> <p>A public "State of the Sector" dashboard will also be provisioned, which can be viewed alongside the mapping tool available online.</p> <p>Real time updates will be provided via this dashboard to all stakeholders (including states, commonwealth, SAFEMEAT, AHA etc.) on the regions and number of animals impacted across the country by current issues affecting climate variability and production volatility.</p> <p>Scenario modelling and risk forecasting undertaken by R&amp;D and government partners will also inform a view of potential future threats and the impact they may have on the health of the livestock sector.</p>
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The high-level definition of this application is as follows:

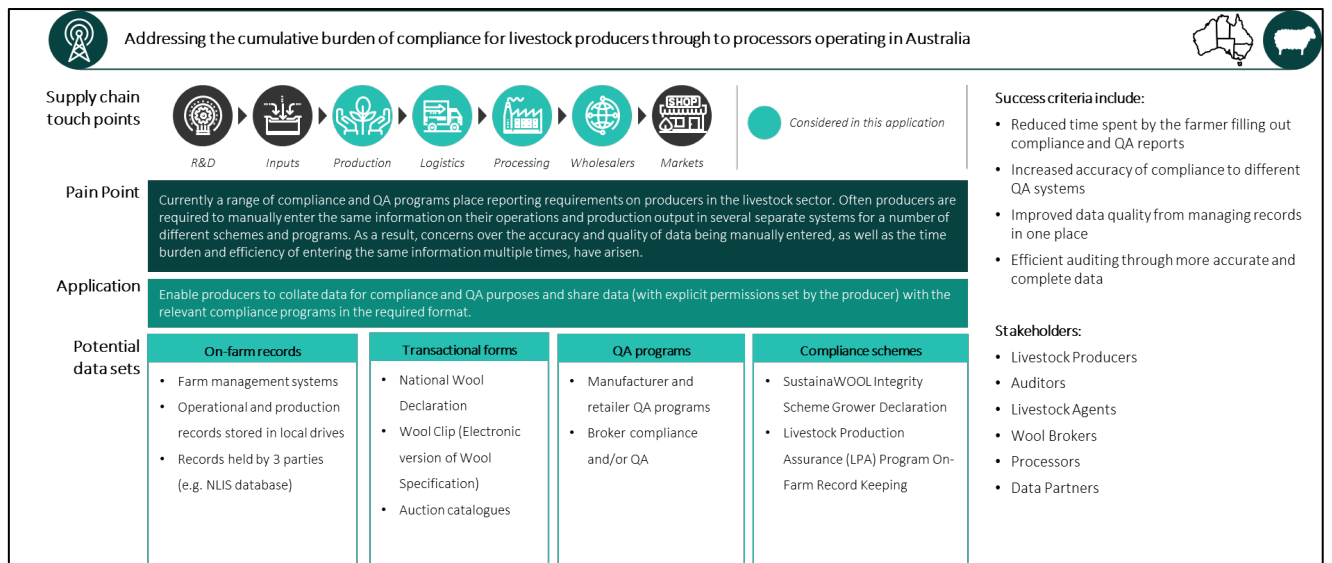


- **Quality assurance reporting tool**

This is a built-in application that provides additional features on top of the base functionality of a private data exchange. Users can leverage this tool when collating and sending data evidencing claims to participating compliance schemes and QA programs. To enable this application for the private data exchange will require building out a connector framework, rules engine (and quality and interoperability standards sitting behind this) and pre-built templates for participating schemes and programs.

<p><b>Bring all of your data together</b></p> <p>The Connector Framework allows the AAFDX platform to manage data being stored in a variety of farm management systems and locally on a producer's computer or other devices.</p> <p>A rich REST based API service allows for data sources &amp; types not natively supported to be rapidly integrated.</p> <p>In this way, a user only has to request AAFDX be able to access data stored in an external system once, then it can be ingested into the web portal.</p>	<p><b>Manage your data in one place</b></p> <p>Our rules engine is responsible for processing ingested data from different sources and the automatic categorisation of these data sets according to claims that need to be satisfied in various schemes and programs.</p> <p>Only the metadata describing a data set is required to be ingested into the platform. The file or document remains in place and can continue to be edited by users at the data source.</p> <p>Users are also able to create a unified set of rules for applying information governance policies across all connected data sources.</p>	<p><b>Link and share data securely</b></p> <p>Once data has been processed, categorised (e.g. NVD records) and classified (e.g. highly confidential) it can be compared against the requirements of participating compliance schemes and QA programs.</p> <p>For example, a user has ingested all data relating to their livestock over the past year. Looking at all this data as a whole, the system can assess whether there are inconsistencies across sources or information missing that a particular scheme requires to evidence a claim. Data quality and completeness issues are flagged for the user.</p> <p>Once resolved, users can share all relevant data with a selected scheme/program. Data doesn't need to be entered again as it can be automatically shared in the format required using pre-built templates.</p>
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The high-level definition of this tool is as follows:

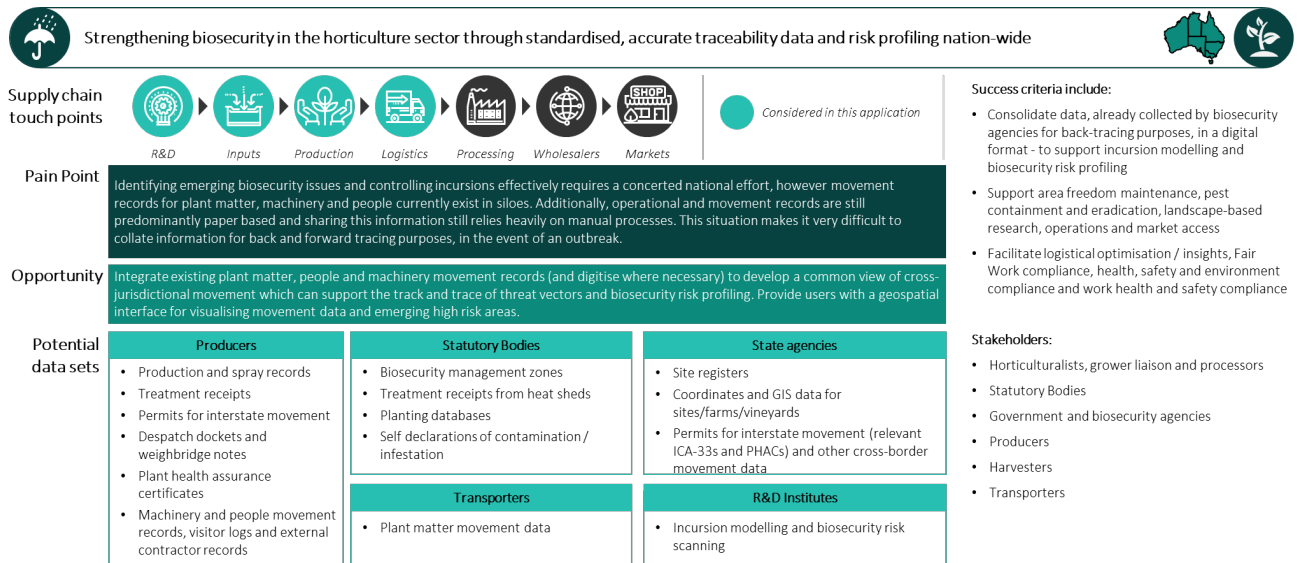


- **Biosecurity for interstate plant matter movements application**

This is a built-in application where in a geospatial interface will be provided within the Data Marketplace. This application will first be used to visualise the movement of people, machinery and plant matter onto and between sites and highlight areas with significant associated biosecurity risks. This application will require developing/leveraging a GIS interface, drawing together data from across horticulture to trace the movement of biosecurity vectors, and linking this data with information on known biosecurity threats for the purpose of risk forecasting.

<p><b>Discover new industry data sets</b></p> <p>Browse available data sets in the AAFDX data catalogue and load those that are geospatially enabled into the Map tool. For Biosecurity, this will include plant matter, machinery/equipment and people movement data that has been published by participating groups and transporters, as well as information on high risk areas and active incursions published by regulators.</p> <p>Multiple data sets can be viewed in the GIS interface as layers on the map. This allows users to not only visualise what and who is moving between sites but also if there has been movement across site and state boundaries as well as through or near high risk biosecurity zones.</p>	<p><b>Link high quality data for better insights</b></p> <p>The AAFDX will work with data providers to ensure data published meets baseline standards for quality and interoperability. A common baseline allows for comparison and integration of all data sets accessible through the data marketplace.</p> <p>For the Biosecurity application, users have the option to also upload their movement data and biosecurity records for viewing. Users can also join traceability projects (e.g. QR Code trials) to improve the quality and comprehensiveness of biosecurity track and trace data visualised through the app.</p>	<p><b>Explore industry data in new ways</b></p> <p>The biosecurity application can be used to visualise the movement of transporters carrying plant-matter as well as people and machinery moving between sites, in real time. This can be visualised alongside mappings of known incursions and biosecurity zones.</p> <p>For individual users contributing data to the tool, an additional view can be offered highlighting biosecurity threats for a particular site. For example, where machinery entering the site has been previously, including whether it as been through a sanitisation process recently.</p>
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The high-level definition of this application is as follows:



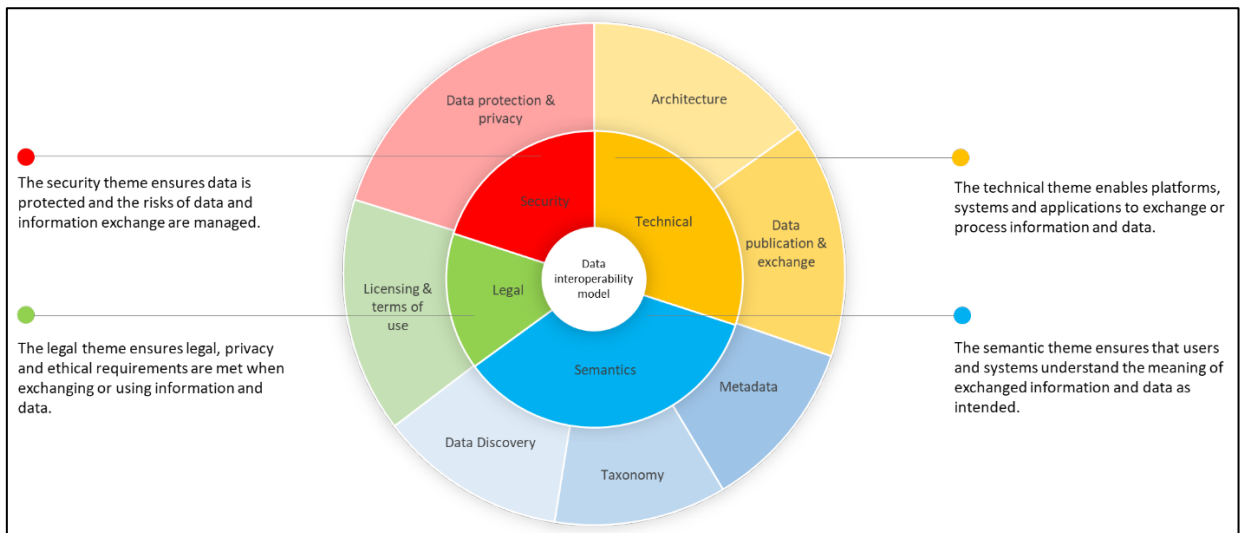
(c) **Mid-term/future services to be provided by the data exchange (future programs of work)**

Detailed below is a description of mid-term/future services to be provided by the data exchange (future programs of work):

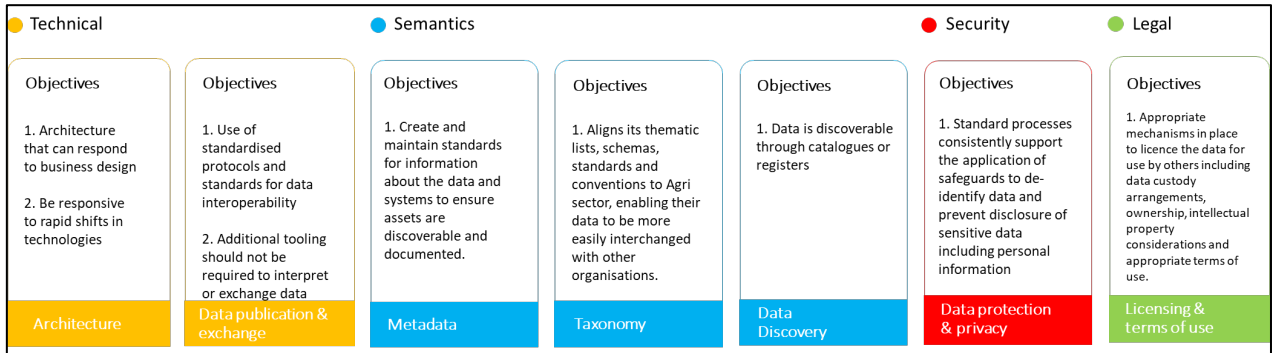
	Definition	Examples
<b>Data Transformation Tools</b>	Ability for users to transform multiple data sets to build a custom dataset containing only the data required.	A query builder which allows a technical user of the exchange to join data from multiple sources and extract required data.
<b>Analytics and Insights</b>	Analytical tools that can help process data and generate insights.	Using an R studio environment enabling users to analyse their data in the platform itself.
<b>Sandbox Environment</b>	A sandbox environment is the place to safely develop and test application changes with low risk.	A development environment with the underlying services to build and test applications/ software.
<b>Linked Data Explorer</b>	A tool which lets user visually explore data by linking all the datasets related to each other by agricultural concepts, such as soil, water etc.	Linking data such as air, humidity, wind, temperature under one concept: weather.
<b>Real Time Notifications</b>	A mechanism to gather up-to-date data about an event and relay it to users via timely notifications.	Updating farmers about an upcoming flood warning, or threshold breach of water levels in nearby water sources.
<b>Asset Repository</b>	Mechanism to maintain code base/ data models/ other IP. Allow for collaboration, re-use and version management.	Git Hub integration.

**13.4 Interoperability – Themes**

By analysing existing assets and artifacts on Interoperability models, 4 key themes were identified as a foundation for the AAFDX interoperability model of security, legal, semantics and technical. The technical element to how interoperability is built is certainly the major component, however, will be also informed by security, legal and semantics considerations. The key themes below outline how the AAFDX will maintain interoperable data, systems and processes.



Within each of the 4 key interoperability themes, a set of key principles have been identified. The principles include objectives and MVP (minimum viable product) requirements which will be used to guide the interoperability of the exchange.



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## Part C– Submission lodgement

### 14. Closing Time

Respondents must lodge their Submissions before the Closing Time set out on the cover page of this EOI.

### 15. Communications

All queries and requests for technical or operational support should be directed to:

EOI Contact Officer

Email: [au-fmozagdx@kpmg.com.au](mailto:au-fmozagdx@kpmg.com.au)

#### 15.1 Communication between the Program Team and Respondents

- (a) Respondents should direct all communications through the EOI Contact Officer by email in writing to the email address on the cover page of this EOI and should not communicate with any other supporters relating to this EOI process, unless advised otherwise by the EOI Contact Officer. Any notice by a Respondent to EOI Contact Officer will be effective upon receipt only if in writing and delivered to the EOI Contact Officer at the email address specified on the cover page of this EOI.
- (b) Respondents should nominate a person for the purpose of answering enquiries which may arise during the EOI process. The name, address and contact details of that person should be included in the Submission.
- (c) If a Respondent finds any discrepancy, error or omission in this EOI, that Respondent should notify the Contact Officer in writing as soon as possible.

#### 15.2 Addenda, clarifications and other notices

- (a) Subject to clause 15.2(c) of Part C, the Contact Officer will:
  - (i) respond to requests for clarification; or
  - (ii) vary or supplement this EOI,
- (b) by written notification issued on the MLA issuing website or in accordance with clause 15.3 of Part C and may do so on a non-attributable basis and without disclosing any confidential information of a Respondent.
- (c) Respondents must lodge any queries or clarification requests before the Closing Time set out on the cover page of this EOI.
- (d) Respondents who have attended briefing sessions will be notified via email of the issue of any addenda, clarifications or other notices in respect of the EOI documentation.
- (e) Respondents are required to go to the MLA website and collect addenda, clarifications and other notices as notified.
- (f) MLA will accept no responsibility if a Respondent fails to become aware of any addendum notice which would have been apparent from a visit to the MLA website page for this EOI.
- (g) If a Respondent has obtained EOI documentation other than from the MLA website, they will need to visit the MLA website, and download the EOI documentation for this EOI.



### 15.3 Other written notifications

The EOI Contact Officer may deliver any written notification to a Respondent after the Closing Time by sending it to the email address of the Respondent's Contact, as specified in the Submission, or as otherwise nominated in writing by the Respondent to the EOI Contact Officer.

### 15.4 Information provided to Respondents

- (a) No representation made by, or on behalf of, MLA in relation to this EOI will be binding on MLA unless that representation is in writing and is incorporated into a formal agreement with MLA
- (b) No representation or warranty, express or implied, is made by MLA or any of its officers, employees, advisers or agents that the documents and information provided to Respondents are complete, accurate or up to date.

## 16. Information to be provided in Submissions

Respondents should provide as part of their Submission a completed Schedule 1 and 2 consisting of;

- (a) Submission Checklist; and
- (b) Form of Response.

## 17. Other specific requirements for Submissions

### 17.1 Language

The Submission should be written in English.

## 18. Lodging a Submission

- (a) Submissions must be sent via email to the contact officer at [au-fmozagdx@kpmg.com.au](mailto:au-fmozagdx@kpmg.com.au) before the Closing Time.
- (b) Submissions lodged by any other means or after the Closing Time may not be accepted or considered.

## 19. Electronic lodgement

### 19.1 Preparing to lodge an electronic Submission

- (a) *Submission File Formats, Naming Conventions and Sizes* – Respondents are to lodge their Submissions in accordance with the requirements set out in this clause 19.1(a) for file formats, naming conventions and file sizes. Failure to comply with any or all of these requirements may result in the Submission not uploading successfully.
- (i) **Submission File Format** – Submissions should be lodged in Adobe pdf, Microsoft Word or any subsequent versions or upgrades to those software products. While Submissions should be lodged in the specified formats, MLA may require Respondents to provide the relevant document or part of the Submission in its original format (i.e. the file format prior to the file being converted into the accepted specified format) at any stage of the EOI process.
- (ii) **Submission Naming Convention** – The Submission file name(s):
  - a) should incorporate the Respondent's company name; and
  - b) should reflect the various parts of the Submission they represent, where the Submission comprises multiple files.

- (iii) **Submission File Size** – The Submission file size cannot exceed a combined file size of **twenty (20) megabytes**.
- (b) Submissions should comply with any recommended word limits specified in the Form of Response.

## 19.2 Late Submissions

Any attempt to lodge a Submission after the Closing Time need not be accepted and considered by MLA.

## 20. Alterations, erasures, additional information or illegibility

Should a Respondent become aware of any discrepancy, error or omission in its submitted Submission prior to the Closing Time, and wish to lodge a correction or additional information, that material should be in writing and lodged in the same manner as the Submission.

## 21. Clarification of Submission

- (a) After the Closing Time, the Program Team may seek additional information or clarification on any matter from any Respondent.
- (b) Respondents should:
  - (i) respond to any request for clarification or additional information within the time period and in the format specified; and
  - (ii) ensure that clarifying information provided answers the enquiry.

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## Part D – Conditions of Submission

### 22. No contract or undertaking

- (a) This EOI is an invitation for Respondents to provide information in connection with the Data Exchange Program.
- (b) No binding contract (including a process contract) or other understanding (including any form of contractual, quasi-contractual, restitutionary rights, or rights based upon similar legal or equitable grounds) will exist between MLA and a Respondent in relation to the information provided during the EOI process.

### 23. Rights and liabilities of MLA

#### 23.1 Rights

In addition to the other rights detailed in this EOI and without limiting its rights at law or otherwise, MLA may at any stage of the EOI process:

- (a) amend this EOI;
- (b) seek amended, or call for new, Submissions;
- (c) allow any Respondent to change its Submission at any time;
- (d) require additional information or clarification from any Respondent or anyone else at any stage of the EOI process and may review and consider such additional information provided by a Respondent or anyone else;
- (e) make independent inquiries about any matters that may be relevant to the EOI and any Submission;
- (f) provide additional information or clarification to Respondents;
- (g) change the structure and timing of the EOI process;
- (h) vary or extend any time or date in this EOI at any time and for such period as MLA may consider appropriate;
- (i) reassess its needs in relation to the AAFDX;
- (j) conduct other industry engagement activities in the relation to the Data Exchange
- (k) decide not to proceed with any future procurement activities;
- (l) use information obtained through this EOI process to inform and conduct future procurement activities;
- (m) obtain information and use information obtained outside of this EOI process to inform the Data Exchange including to inform and conduct future procurement activities; and
- (n) suspend or terminate the EOI process.

#### 23.2 MLA not liable

To the extent permitted by law, neither MLA nor its officers, employees or advisers will be liable to any Respondent on the basis of any promissory estoppel, quantum meruit or on any other contractual or restitutionary ground or any rights with a similar legal or equitable basis whatsoever or in negligence as a consequence of any matter or thing relating or incidental to a Respondent's participation in the EOI process, including instances where:

- (a) MLA decides not to proceed with any or all parts of the Data Exchange;
- (b) MLA suspends or terminates the EOI process;

- (c) MLA does not proceed with future Procurement phases in relation to any component or all of the Data Exchange;
- (d) MLA decides to proceed with a procurement that is not an open process for the Data Exchange or any component of the Data Exchange;
- (e) MLA exercises or fails to exercise any of its other rights under or in relation to this EOI (whether or not MLA has informed a Respondent of its exercise of the rights);
- (f) a Submission or any other material or communication relevant to this EOI is not received in time, is corrupted or altered or otherwise is not received as sent, cannot be read or decrypted, or has its security or integrity compromised; or
- (g) MLA makes, or fails to make, information available to a Respondent relating to projected future, current or historical requirements.

### **23.3 Decision making**

MLA has sole and absolute discretion in connection with any and all decisions or actions made or taken, refused to be made or taken or required to be made or taken, by it in connection with the EOI process. MLA and its advisors have no liability to any Respondent for any such decision, action or refusal.

## **24. Respondents to meet costs and expenses**

The Respondent's participation in any stage of the EOI process, or in relation to any matter concerning the EOI, is at the Respondent's sole risk, cost and expense. MLA will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by any Respondent in preparation or lodgement of a Submission or taking part in the EOI process.

## **25. Acknowledgement**

This EOI is issued, and Submissions will be lodged and reviewed and considered, on the basis that:

- (a) Lodgement of a Submission does not of itself entitle, qualify or disqualify a Respondent from being invited to participate in future Procurement phases;
- (b) Pricing in each submission must be valid for a period of at least 6 months from the Closing date.
- (c) MLA may approach other suppliers to provide information relevant to the Data Exchange, including information the same as or similar to that requested by this EOI;
- (d) Respondents will not, in deciding whether or not to lodge a Submission, or in preparing a Submission or in lodging a Submission, rely on:
  - (i) any representation (whether oral or in writing) other than as expressly set out in this EOI; or
  - (ii) any other conduct of MLA, or any of its officers, employees, advisers or agents;
- (e) this EOI (and other documents and information provided by MLA) is designed to summarise information concerning MLA's requirement only and is not necessarily a comprehensive description of it; and
- (f) to the maximum extent permitted by law, neither MLA, nor its officers, employees, advisers or agents will in any way be liable to any person or body for any cost, expense, loss, claim or damage of any nature arising in any way out of or in connection with any statement or other representations, actual or implied, contained in or omitted from this EOI or by reason of any reliance on them by any person or body.

## 26. Ownership of Submission files

- (a) Intellectual property rights that exist in a Submission remain the property of the Respondent or other relevant third party.
- (b) MLA will retain all files and documents lodged in response to this EOI to enable the review and consideration of Submissions for requirement development and procurement planning purposes, including to assist MLA identify, refine and cost the solution or develop any part of the Data Exchange, develop any aspect of the strategy and to inform the preparation of any future capability development and procurement documentation, and to comply with obligations relating to accountability and record keeping. Accordingly, Respondents lodge files and documents in response to this EOI on the basis that those files and documents will become the property of MLA.
- (c) In lodging a Submission, Respondents grant to MLA and its advisors a licence to use, reproduce, adapt, modify and disclose (including to the responsible Minister and any advisers) on a royalty-free, perpetual and irrevocable basis any material contained in a Submission, or provided by a Respondent in response to this EOI, for the purposes of:
  - (i) the EOI process, reviewing and considering or clarifying Submissions.
  - (ii) informing and developing any future Procurement processes undertaken by MLA in relation to the Data Exchange or one or more components of the Data Exchange, including for requirement development and procurement planning purposes and including to:
    - (A) assist MLA to identify, refine and cost its requirement
    - (B) develop any part of the Data Exchange
    - (C) develop any aspect of the strategy
    - (D) inform the preparation of any future capability development and procurement documentation
  - (iii) audit requirements
  - (iv) complying with governmental and parliamentary reporting requirements, including requests for information by Parliament or Parliamentary Committees
  - (v) addressing any dispute concerning this EOI process
  - (vi) any other purpose related to the EOI process; and
  - (vii) the development of any other procurement process conducted by MLA or verifying the currency, consistency and adequacy of information provided under any other procurement process conducted by MLA.

## 27. Use of Submissions

- (a) The Respondents should note that MLA may need to use and disclose information from Submissions for the purpose of informing and conducting any future procurement steps once the business case is approved.
- (b) Subject to clause 27(c) of and to the use and disclosure of any such information for the purpose of informing and conducting any procurement processes after the EOI process, MLA undertakes to keep confidential all Submissions provided by Respondents prior to the completion of the EOI process.
- (c) The obligation of confidentiality in clause 27(b) of Part D does not apply if the confidential information:

- (i) is disclosed by MLA to its advisers or employees, solely in order to consider Submissions, clarify a Submission or for a purpose specified in clause 26 of Part D;
- (ii) is disclosed to MLA internal management and senior personnel, to enable effective management or auditing;
- (iii) is disclosed by MLA, in response to a request by a House or a Committee of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia;
- (iv) is disclosed by MLA in response to a request made by the Auditor-General, or by a person authorised by the Auditor-General;
- (v) is disclosed as agreed with the Respondent;
- (vi) is authorised or required by law to be disclosed.

## 28. Application of laws and MLA policy

- (a) The law applying in the State of New South Wales, Australia applies to this EOI and to the EOI process.
- (b) Respondents should obtain, and will be deemed to have obtained, their own advice on the impact of legislation and related guidelines on their participation in this EOI process.
- (c) Respondents should not make false or misleading statements in their Submissions.

## 29. Security

- (a) Respondents' attention is drawn to the:
  - (i) Privacy Act 1988 – the Australian law that deals with Privacy (further information can be found at <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2021C00139>); and
  - (ii) the Information Security Manual (ISM), which is the standard that governs the security of government ICT systems (further information can be found at <https://www.asd.gov.au/infosec/ism/>).

Respondents are required to familiarise themselves with the above. Respondents must ensure they comply with the Privacy Act 1988 in this EOI process

# **Expression of Interest**

## **Supporting Attachment 1 – Glossary, interpretation and precedence**

### **Australian AgriFood Data Exchange Program**

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# Supporting Attachment 1 – Glossary, interpretation and precedence

## 1. Definitions

In this EOI, capitalised terms have the following meaning:

Term	Definition
<b>Business Day</b>	any day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in Sydney, New South Wales.
<b>Closing Time</b>	the date and time by which Submissions must be lodged, as set out on the cover page of the EOI, or as amended by any addendum issued
<b>Component Solution</b>	an approach or a solution proposed by a Respondent in a Submission which addresses all or some components of the required Solution.
<b>Australian AgriFood Data Exchange</b>	has the meaning given in clause 1 of Part A.
<b>Experiment</b>	the four proposed use case or proof of concept solution
<b>FAIR principles</b>	Set of guiding principles proposed by a consortium of scientists and organizations to support the reusability of digital assets. (Findability, Accessibility, Interoperability and Reuse of digital assets). Further information can be accessed here: <a href="https://www.go-fair.org/fair-principles/">https://www.go-fair.org/fair-principles/</a>
<b>Food Agility CRC Data Sharing Policy and Agreement</b>	It is committed to leading the way in how data is managed in agrifood research to encourage data sharing, propel innovation and protect the interests of those that generate data.
<b>Form of Response</b>	the Returnable Schedules set out at Returnable Schedule 1 – Requirement Matrix.
<b>Information Security Manual or ISM</b>	the document suite published by the Australian Signals Directorate that details controls, principles and rationale for information security on ICT systems, which can be accessed at <a href="http://www.asd.gov.au/infosec/ism/index.htm">http://www.asd.gov.au/infosec/ism/index.htm</a> .
<b>NFF Farm Data Code</b>	The code published to promote the adoption of digital technology by ensuring that farmers have comfort in how their data is used, shared and managed. It can be accessed here: <a href="https://nff.org.au/programs/australian-farm-data-code/">https://nff.org.au/programs/australian-farm-data-code/</a>
<b>Objectives and Scope</b>	Part B of this EOI and its attachments.
<b>Proof of Concept</b>	a certain method or idea in order to demonstrate its feasibility, or a demonstration in principle with the aim of verifying that some concept or theory has practical potential.
<b>Protective Security Policy Framework or PSPF</b>	the Government’s protective security requirements for the protection of its people, information and assets (which replaced the <i>Commonwealth Protective Security Manual 2005</i> ), as amended or replaced from time to time.



Term	Definition
<b>Expression of Interest or EOI</b>	the Expression of Interest in relation to the Data Exchange, including the EOI terms and conditions, Objectives and Scope, attachments, schedules, annexures and any related addenda issued by MLA
<b>Respondent</b>	a respondent or potential respondent to this EOI.
<b>Returnable Schedule</b>	a document titled returnable schedule 2 attached to this EOI.
<b>EOI Contact Officer</b>	the person to whom enquiries regarding the EOI should be directed. The EOI Contact Officer contact details are set out on the cover page of the EOI.
<b>Solution</b>	the overall solution for the provision of Data Exchange described in the Objectives and Scope.
<b>Sub-capabilities</b>	the sub-capabilities as described in clause 12.2 of the Objectives and Scope.
<b>Submission</b>	all documents and materials lodged, submitted or provided by a Respondent in response to the EOI.
<b>Submission Checklist</b>	the checklist set out at Schedule 2 – Form of Response.
<b>Supporting Attachment</b>	a document titled supporting attachment attached to this EOI.

## 2. Interpretation

In this EOI, except where the contrary intention is expressed:

- (a) a reference to time, unless specified otherwise, is to the time in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.
- (b) words in the singular include the plural and vice versa;
- (c) a reference to A\$, \$A, dollar or \$ is to Australian currency;
- (d) if any word or phrase is given a defined meaning, any other part of speech or other grammatical form of that word or phrase has a corresponding meaning;
- (e) a reference to a clause, paragraph, schedule or annexure is to a clause, paragraph, schedule or annexure to this EOI;
- (f) a reference to a person includes a natural person, partnership, body corporate, association, governmental or local authority, agency or other entity;
- (g) a reference to a statute, ordinance, code or other law includes regulations and other instruments under it and consolidations, amendments, re-enactments or replacements of any of them; and
- (h) the meaning of general words is not limited by specific examples introduced by including, 'for example' or similar expressions and the word 'include' is not a word of limitation.

**Expression of Interest**

**Supporting Attachment 2 –Supporters**

**Australian AgriFood Data Exchange Program**

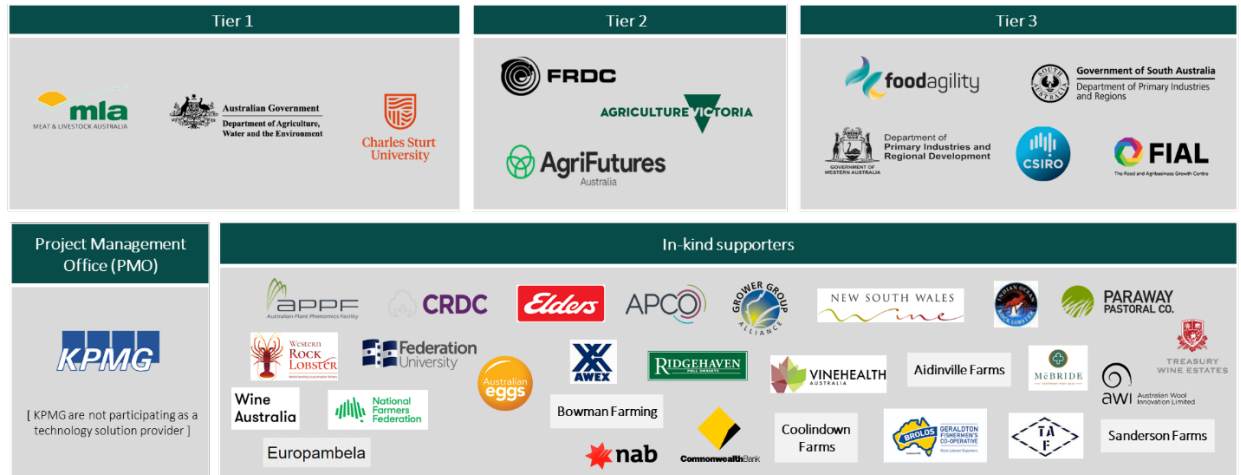
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# Supporting Attachment 2 – Supporters

## 1. This Supporting Attachment

This Supporting Attachment provides an overview of the supporters actively assisting establishment of the Data Exchange. Further supporters may join over time.

## 2. List of Supporters



## 3. Governance Structure:

A tiered governance structure has been established for the project comprising:

- (b) Independent Chairperson being Honourable Andrew Robb AO
- (c) Steering Committee
- (d) Advisory Council
- (e) Four Working Groups
- (f) Expert Panel
- (g) Contract Management
- (h) Project Management Office (KPMG)