



Strategic Sustainability Consultants

Committee Inquiry into Growing Australian Agriculture to \$100 Billion by 2030



The Global Goals Australia Campaign



Caterina Sullivan

Chief Executive Officer

Strategic Sustainability Consultants

PO Box 6157

O'Connor ACT 2602

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Standing Committee on Agriculture and Water Resources

PO Box 6021

Parliament House

Canberra ACT 2600

To the Committee,

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to provide you with our recommendations on growing Australia's agricultural sector to \$100 billion by 2030.

One of the key aspects of sound agricultural policy, as with any policy, is sustainability. This includes economic, social and environmental sustainability. In 2015, 193 United Nations member states signed up to the 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development, an agenda which has the ambitious aim to end poverty, fight inequality and fix climate change by 2030. These 17 goals are accompanied by 169 targets and 232 measurable indicators and provide a guiding framework for development in every country around the world over the coming ten years. As one of the signatories of this agenda, it is important that we fulfil our international commitment. It is also in the best interest of Australia's economy, society and environment that we do so.

In my role as Chief Executive Officer of the Global Goals Australia Campaign, I have previously met with members of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Agriculture and Water to discuss these goals, also known as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the benefits of their adoption in Australia.



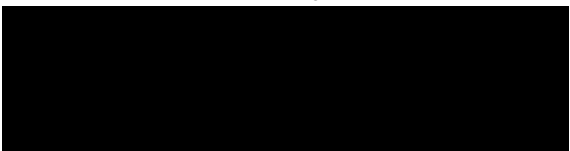
It is fantastic that Australia has made such an impressive commitment to growing agriculture in this country. A thriving agricultural sector offers promise for further economic, social and environmental growth and development.

In the following pages of this submission, I will be demonstrating the benefits of aligning the commitment to grow the primary production sector to \$100 billion by 2030 with the 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development and their 169 associated targets as measured by the 232 indicators to ensure every aspect of economic, social and environmental policy is considered. This will allow Australia to make our most efficient investments into the sector and ensure no one will be left behind in the adoption of new policies. It will also mean that this growth can be sustained into the future as the global population grows and natural resources become more scarce.

What we have provided in this submission is an elementary outline of the sustainability measures required for sustainable development of the agricultural sector in Australia. We are able to provide a more complex and in-depth analysis of these sustainability policies should they be required by the committee or the Department of Agriculture.

On behalf of Strategic Sustainability Consultants and the Global Goals Australia Campaign, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Senator the Hon Bridget McKenzie for referring this matter to the committee and to thank the committee in advance for their commitment to investigating this further. I hope our submission provides further insight into the sustainability of Australia's agricultural sector. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or a member of our team.

Yours in sustainability,



Caterina Sullivan

Chief Executive Officer

Strategic Sustainability Consultants

About Strategic Sustainability Consultants:

Strategic Sustainability Consultants is an Australian-based consultancy assisting corporates, SMEs, government departments and not-for-profit organisations in becoming more economically, socially and environmentally sustainable organisations. We work closely with the Global Goals Australia Campaign, using the United Nations' 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development as a framework for organisations to make a commitment to sustainability, set targets for economic, social and environmental sustainable development, report on these targets and communicate them effectively to relevant stakeholders.

Strategic Sustainability Consultants is well-qualified to assist any organisation, whether it be for-profit, not-for-profit or governmental organisations, in the implementation of any of these recommendations outlined in this submission as part of our consulting services.

About Global Goals Australia:

Global Goals Australia is a registered not-for-profit working to promote and assist in the achievement of the United Nations' 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development and their associated 169 targets as measured against the 232 indicators. The Global Goals Australia Campaign has a proud history of working collaboratively with a number of politicians at a federal, state and local level across the country from all major parties as well as a number of minor parties and independents.

Summary:

The achievement of a combined \$100 billion value of production by 2030 in the primary production sector in Australia requires a holistic approach through sound and sustainable economic, social and environmental policy. The most effective strategy to achieve this is by aligning this impressive commitment to the United Nations' 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development and their associated 169 targets. This can be further supported by the 232 measurable indicators. While this commitment to growing the agricultural sector is primarily an objective focused on economic growth, it requires innovative social and environmental policies.

This submission outlines such policies in relation to poverty eradication, hunger eradication, the promotion of physical and mental health and well-being, the provision of quality education, gender equality, the sustainable management of water resources, the sustainable management of energy, investment in infrastructure, industry and innovation, inequality reduction, the creation of sustainable human settlements, responsible consumption and production patterns, climate change, the sustainability of marine and terrestrial ecosystems, peace and justice, the creation of strong institutions and the effective implementation of partnerships.

Sustainability is a focus of our submission as growth is only meaningful if it can be sustained into the future on an economic, social and environmental scale.

Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

When speaking about growing the agricultural industry, it is vital to ensure our farmers are not living in farm poverty or any other type of relative poverty. This can be done by ensuring farmers across Australia have equal rights to economic resources as well as access to basic services, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services. Access to new technology is key in agriculture to ensure that many of the processes in the primary production sectors can be automated and streamlined to increase productivity. The development of basic services is also vital to the sustainability of agricultural growth in Australia to make the regional areas of Australia more liveable with better access to education, health and transport. It is also important to ensure our government implements sound social protection systems for farmers and those living in remote and regional communities.

An ongoing cause of concern for farmers across Australia is the threat of natural disasters such as drought and bushfires. To ensure farmers are not facing economic or social problems due to these natural disasters, it is important to implement policies to mitigate such climate-related extreme events (please see Goals 2, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15). It is also vital that we strengthen our disaster risk reduction policies to ensure the impact of any disaster - whether it be economic, social or environmental - is minimised. These policies must be adopted at a federal, state, territory and local level of government.

A final aspect of Goal 1 is to look at those living in extreme poverty in other countries and work with governments of our neighbours to increase Australian agricultural exports to these countries to assist in the eradication of extreme poverty (as outlined in Target 1.1) through the exporting of food.

Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Arguably the most directly-relating goal to agriculture out of the 17 goals, Goal 2 aims to achieve a number of outcomes through its targets.

Firstly, Targets 2.3 and 2.4 require direct outcomes for the primary production sectors.

Target 2.3 states we must double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment.

This can be measured through its two indicators: 2.3.1: volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming / pastoral / forestry enterprise size; and 2.3.2: average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status.

In this target, it is important to note the focus on women and indigenous peoples. In order to empower these demographics in the agricultural sectors, we must provide equal access for educational opportunities and access to financial services, as stated in Goal 1.

Target 2.4 aims to ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.

This can be measured through its only indicator 2.4.1: proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture.

In order to effectively measure Indicator 2.4.1, it is necessary for there to be a concise definition of sustainable agriculture as set out by the Department of Agriculture in collaboration with peak industry bodies. There also needs to be an achievable Australia-wide rating system for farms, which is aligned with the 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development and their 169 targets. To encourage engagement in these practices, it is recommended to investigate what subsidies or tax incentives the government could provide to all agricultural businesses, especially small-to-medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), for their participation in sustainable agricultural practices.

For a leading example of a sustainable farm, we recommend the committee look into the structure of Sundrop Farms in South Australia. Sundrop Farms utilise sustainable farming solutions such as greenhouses, solar towers and desalination plants in order to create an economically, socially and environmental sustainable and viable business, which exports to Coles Supermarkets.

Aside from these main two targets, we must also focus on ensuring we maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species. This includes lowering or eliminating the number of animals at the 'at risk' or 'unknown risk' level of extinction classification.

Economically, we must take steps to ensuring the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives. We must also help limit extreme food price volatility through the facilitation of timely access to market information, including on food reserves.

As stated in Goal 1, our exports are vitally important to helping developing countries. Goal 2 focuses on the ending of world hunger and elimination of malnutrition. We must ensure

implementation of the Doha Development Agenda, especially when we look at agricultural trade restrictions, to ensure we are not leaving least developed countries behind when it comes to our economic, social and environmental development global agenda.

Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

In order to sustainably grow the agricultural sector in Australia, we need to ensure the physical and mental health and well-being of our farmers across the country. Mental health especially is a huge concern with male farmers in Australia dying from suicide at around twice the rate of males who are not engaged in agriculture. It is also important to have sound policy surrounding substance abuse which often is coupled hand in hand with mental health.

There also must be a focus on physical health as farmers are often exposed to different and, in some cases, more extreme physical threats than their urban counterparts. This includes machinery and hazardous chemicals. With farmers being exposed to high rates of stress and the possibility of mental health concerns as well as dangers and threats to their physical health in their farming environment, it is vital to invest in the physical and mental health and well-being of our farmers to ensure sustainability of economic agricultural growth.

Additionally, the contribution made from the growth of the agriculture sector back into the achievement of the Global Goals cannot be ignored in the discussion of Goal 3. By growing the agricultural industry and increasing our global exports, we will be able to provide food for those living in other countries and assist in the achievement of targets such as lowering maternal mortality and ending preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age.

Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Many have argued that Goal 4 is the centrepiece of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as an education on sustainable development is necessary to ensure the next generation of young professionals are also adhering to sustainable practices for the future of our economy, our society and our planet.

Agriculture and sustainable agriculture are two subjects which should be taught in schools across the country, even just as a minor part of the curriculum, in order to arm the next generation with the knowledge for sustainable agricultural practices and to ensure young people are engaged in the understanding of their food production. Many schools are currently doing this and engaging in initiatives such as the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation. There is also the \$10 million investment by the 2019 Morrison Government into the election commitment to Showcase Agriculture: Our Heritage. Our Future.

It is important to note that these subjects need to be taught through an analytical lens through the implementation of inquiry-based learning. No aspect of sustainability can be achieved if we do not work on economic, social and environmental sustainability simultaneously. This is vital to understand when it comes to education around sustainable agriculture.

Vocational training for sustainable agriculture is also necessary to see the growth of the agricultural sector to \$100 billion by 2030. As stated in the previous paragraph, these training centres also need to ensure that they are taking a holistic approach to sustainability on an agricultural level and are looking at economic, social and environmental sustainability when it comes to farming and agricultural growth.

All types of educational institutions need to be further expanded in regional and remote Australia. This includes pre-primary, primary, secondary and tertiary and vocational education and training centres. These institutions need to be child, disability and gender sensitive and inclusive and effective learning environments.

Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

As stated in Target 2.3, it is important to support our female farmers in Australia and ensure they have equal access to economic and social services as well as land ownership and natural resources as their male counterparts.

An effective method for the empowerment of female farmers is through the use of enabling technology which will allow processes to become more streamlined and more efficient, as discussed in Goal 1.

It is also important to value the domestic work of male farmers' wives and female partners in the recognition of unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies.

Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Drought is a major concern for farmers across Australia. Recently, we have seen arguably the worst drought on record, comparable only to the Federation Drought at the turn of the 20th Century. Sustainable management of water resources is crucial to the growth and development of Australia's primary production sector. In a recent interview, Strategic Sustainability Consultants CEO Caterina Sullivan had the pleasure of discussing water management by the Goulburn

Mulwaree Council with the Mayor Bob Kirk. As Mayor Kirk stated during the interview, it is important that we spend money now to prevent economic issues brought about as a result of drought than to be continually investing in drought relief into the future. The Goulburn Mulwaree Council would be an excellent case study for this. Here, it is important to note that the participation of local governments in the sound management of water resources is crucial to the sustainable development of the agricultural sector and its growth to \$100 billion by 2030.

Water efficiency is crucial to the sustainability of the agricultural sector. This can be done by engaging in sustainable agricultural practices, as highlighted in Goal 2. This participation could be subsidised by the government or participating farms could receive tax incentives.

Another area of focus is to ensure that the water we have access to in Australia is free from pollution and hazardous chemicals and materials. This can be done through the elimination of dumping and the minimising of the release of hazardous substances into water streams. One of the objectives of Target 6.3 of the Global Goals is to halve the proportion of untreated wastewater and to increase substantially recycling and safe reuse of water. These two recommendations are vital for the ongoing sustainability of our water use in Australia with the agricultural sector accounting for approximately 59% of Australia's water extractions.

It is also recommended that we monitor our level of water stress, freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources, to ensure we are not causing further damage to our ecosystem by requiring too much from our natural resources.

In order to manage our water equitably and sustainably, it is necessary to use the process of integrated water resources management (IWRM) to ensure a holistic approach is taken to water management on an economic, social and environmental level. We must also invest in protecting

and resorting water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes to ensure the sustainable supply of these natural sources of water into the future.

Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Lower energy prices, more reliable energy and cleaner energy benefits the entire country, not just our farmers. Subsidies and tax incentives for farms using their own clean energy is important to encourage participation in sustainable agricultural practices. It is also important to encourage farmers to increase their energy efficiency. Not only will this be better for the future of our planet, it will lower costs for farmers, which will have a great economic benefit, particularly for farmers from SMEs.

As a country, we must be investing more in cleaner and sustainable energy, especially solar and wind energy, with a further interest in hydro and wave energy as a means to ensure our energy is not reliant on non-renewable resources which may no longer be available in a few decades' time.

In the regions, it is necessary that we have adequate infrastructure to ensure the sustainable and reliable supply of energy to the entire country, not just the urban areas of Australia. This development needs to ensure that areas of agricultural productivity are not left without electricity or not left to be reliant on generating their own electricity.

Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Goal 8 has a heavy focus on economic growth which is the main focus of the \$100 billion goal for the primary production sector that is the focus of this inquiry. To do this, it is vital that we diversify our practices used in the agricultural sector, especially through technological upgrading and innovation as discussed in Goal 1 and Goal 5.

In order to create sustainable growth, we must ensure that we decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, especially in the agricultural sector. This can be done through the implementation of the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns and the implementation of sustainable agricultural practices.

We also must adhere to Target 8.7, which requires immediate and effective measures to be taken to eradicate forced labour and end modern slavery, an issue which is quite prevalent in the primary production sector, especially with employees on work holiday visas. Modern slavery also needs to be considered throughout a farm's supply chain, and rules and policies outlined in the Modern Slavery Act must be adhered to.

All workers must be protected through appropriate labour rights and the promotion of safe and secure working environments. Young people must also be a focus of employment in the agricultural industry to ensure the sustainability of the sector and the social sustainability of young people across Australia.

It is important that the local economies of these agricultural hubs are also developed both in terms of local culture and tourism. Further economic development in these areas will allow for greater investment back into the local community, which will further support farmers in the growth of the production of their businesses.

Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation

As mentioned previously in this submission, infrastructure in the regions is crucial to support agricultural development. This includes roads, electricity, water, schools, hospitals and other social services buildings. Indicator 9.1.1 has a particular focus on ensuring a high proportion of the rural population lives within 2km of an all-season road.

Goal 9 also has a focus on innovation. It is important we are investing in agricultural research and technological development, both through human resources and the allocation of funding. The more sustainable agricultural practices we discover and are able to implement, the more we are able to grow the gross domestic product of our primary production sector.

Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

As we continue through analysis of the goals, we see many of the recommendations for previous goals and targets become applicable to goals and targets further along in the 2030 Agenda.

By adopting social protection policies and increasing the access to affordable, equitable and inclusive education, health and social services as well as developing infrastructure in the regions, we will be empowering those who are living on the margins or are in the bottom 40% of the

population in terms of income. Policies such as these will help our farmers to ensure they are able to grow their agricultural businesses in order to achieve collectively the target of \$100 billion across the nation by 2030.

In order to provide a sustainable economy in which we can achieve this target of ensuring income growth of the bottom 40% of the population, we must ensure economic stability in Australia, which will require continued work to ensure we keep interest rates low and stable and inflation rates low and stable.

Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

In order to develop our regions sustainably to promote sustainable agricultural growth, it is necessary to ensure both urban and regional development support one another through positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas through a focus on strengthening national and regional development planning. This includes but is not limited to the implementation of national disaster risk reduction strategies as outlined in Goal 1 and ensuring the lowering of the per capita environmental impact of the cities. There needs to be a special focus on municipal and other waste management affecting air, soil and water quality.

When it comes to regional development, we need to invest in safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for people living in the regions and provide adequate, safe and affordable housing.

Another recommendation when looking at the link between urban development and small-scale food productivity is the establishment of small-scale farms in urban areas, especially the establishment of co-farming spaces for small-scale food producers living in the city. These co-farming spaces would increase the value production of the agricultural sector without reliance on

investment in the regions, creating a higher return on investment in terms of agricultural development when looking through the lens of urban, peri-urban and rural investment.

Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

As discussed in Goal 8, it is important to implement the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns in order to ensure sustainable growth in the agricultural sector. To ensure this framework of programmes is appropriate for Australia, we need to ensure we create sustainable consumption and production (SCP) action plans which are applicable to our nation's economic, social and environmental interests. Strengthening scientific and technological capacity should be a strong focus of this development.

A sustainable approach to agriculture also requires the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources. This relates back to the recommendation outlined in Goal 2 to create a national framework and definition for sustainable agriculture. It also requires a commitment to Goal 6 and Goal 7 when it comes to water and electricity. We also must look at the sustainable mining of natural resources and how activities such as fracking disturb nearby agricultural hubs.

Target 12.3 requires that we halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses. By removing aesthetic restrictions put in place by supermarkets on produce such as fruit and vegetables, farmers will be earning more for their goods while simultaneously minimising post-harvest losses. Additionally, by minimising food wastage at the retail and household level, we will be able to increase agricultural exports to countries globally, which will then allow us to further develop our agricultural sector.

Goal 12 also looks at the sound management of chemicals and wastes throughout their life cycle so as not to cause environmental degradation to land used for agricultural purposes or natural ecosystems, including water-related ecosystems, which feed into land used for agricultural purposes. The minimisation of waste can also be achieved through sound prevention, reduction recycling and reuse policies across all sectors and households throughout the country.

It is also important to ensure corporates, especially publicly listed companies, engage in sustainability practices and encourage their supply chain to also engage in sustainability practices to ensure participation in such systems reaches the entire economy. This will mean farmers engaging in sustainability practices are prioritised in procurement, which feeds back into the greater sustainability of our economy, our society and our environment.

As discussed in Goal 4, it is also necessary to engage in citizenship education around sustainability to ensure all citizens across the country are involved in the economic, social and environmental development of our agricultural sector and to create greater pathways for citizen engagement in the achievement of the \$100 billion value of production target.

Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Acknowledging that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change

As discussed in both Goal 1 and Goal 11, we must engage in risk reduction strategies and strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries at the federal, state, territory and local level. As part of this, climate change policies must be implemented in large corporate farms to ensure economic, social and environmental sustainable growth and development in Australia's agricultural sector.

Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Aquaculture is an important part of agriculture in Australia and needs to be considered when discussing the growth of the primary production sector nationally. In order to grow the aquacultural sector in Australia, we must sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems and minimise and address the impacts of ocean acidification. It is also necessary to effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices. This can be further enhanced by prohibiting certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminating subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refraining from introducing new such subsidies.

To further develop the aquacultural sector, it is important that we prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds. These environmental focuses will provide a chance for sustainable economic growth of the sector and assist in progressing towards the \$100 billion target. This will require research into marine biology as well as ensuring access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets.

Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

With the primary production sector accounting for 58% of Australia's land usage, it is vital that we ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services. This includes a particular focus on forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands through implementation of sustainable management of all type of forests. A focus on

halting deforestation, restoring degraded forests and substantially increasing afforestation and reforestation globally is a key aspect of this.

We also must look at combatting desertification and restoring degraded land and soil. This includes land affected by desertification, drought and floods. It is also vital to take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species. This can be done through the creation of microclimates on agricultural and other rural properties by planting trees around the exterior of the property. Not only does this encourage biodiversity but it also increases water-efficiency on the property, contributing to the aims of Goal 6 and reducing costs for farmers. When done on rural properties not used for agricultural purposes, it encourages biodiversity growth in the region and brings about water efficiency, freeing up water usage for agricultural purposes, which is crucial in times of drought. When assessing these policies, it is important to refer to the national targets established in accordance with Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 - 2020. This needs to be done at a federal, state, territory and local level.

Currently, Australia has excellent border security policies around bringing invasive and threatening species to the country which could impact agricultural productivity. These policies need to be maintained into the future and invasive species introduced already into Australia must be controlled or eradicated, as deemed most suitable.

Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Goal 16 requires open, transparent and accountable decision-making in all institutions at all levels, free from corruption and bribery. This includes all industry bodies associated with agriculture as corruption and bribery are big impediments to economic development of the industry.

Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development

In order to grow the agricultural industry to \$100 billion by 2030, it is essential that public-private and international partnerships are formed, developed and fostered over the coming 10 years. This includes science and technology cooperation agreements and programmes, the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies and the operationalisation of the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanisms.

In order to ensure the maximisation of productivity from exports, it is necessary to promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization. In order to ensure economic sustainability of Australia's agricultural exports, we need to work collaboratively with countries around the world to ensure global macroeconomic stability through policy coordination and policy coherence. This includes policy coherence for sustainable development in relation to social and environmental sustainability as well as economic sustainability.

In order to monitor our progress towards a sustainable and thriving agricultural sector, we must ensure we have relevant and appropriate data collection measures in place to monitor achievement and ensure we are focusing on the areas of weakness to achieve the \$100 billion target over the next ten years.

The achievement of the Global Goals in relation to agriculture requires a collaborative approach between government and private enterprises.

Recommendations:

- Align the \$100 billion commitment to the United Nations 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development and their associated 169 targets
- Ensure farmers are not living in relative poverty
- Ensure access to economic resources, basic services, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services
- Implement sound social protection systems for farmers and those living in remote and regional communities
- Implement policies to mitigate such climate-related extreme events
- Strengthen disaster risk reduction policies
- Increase Australian agricultural exports to least developed countries
- Double agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers
- Ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices
- Create a concise definition of sustainable agriculture
- Establish an achievable Australia-wide rating system for farms, which is aligned to the 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development
- Investigate what subsidies or tax incentives the government could provide to all agricultural businesses for participation in sustainable agricultural practices
- Maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species.
- Lower or eliminate the number of animals at the 'at risk' or 'unknown risk' level of extinction classification
- Ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives
- Limit extreme food price volatility through the facilitation of timely access to market information, including on food reserves

- Implement the Doha Development Agenda
- Ensure the physical and mental health and well-being of our farmers
- Ensure the teaching of agriculture and sustainable agriculture in primary and secondary educational institutions
- Create a thriving vocational training curriculum for sustainable agriculture with a holistic approach to sustainability
- Expand all types of educational institutions in regional and remote Australia
- Empower female farmers through ensuring access to economic and social services as well as land ownership and natural resources
- Value domestic work of farmers' wives and female partners
- Invest in water management and drought preparedness to minimise the need for drought relief into the future
- Ensure water is free from pollution and hazardous chemicals and materials
- Eliminate dumping and the minimising of the release of hazardous substances into water streams
- Halve the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse of water
- Monitor our level of water stress, freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources
- Implement integrated water resources management (IWRM) processes
- Invest in protecting and resorting water-related ecosystems
- Encourage farmers to increase their energy efficiency
- Invest more in cleaner and sustainable energy
- Build adequate infrastructure to ensure the sustainable and reliable supply of energy to the entire country

- Diversify our practices used in the agricultural sector
- Ensure that we decouple economic growth from environmental degradation
- Implement the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns
- Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour and end modern slavery
- Protect workers through appropriate labour rights and the promotion of safe and secure working environments
- Ensure young people are a focus on employment in the agricultural industry
- Develop the local economies of agricultural hubs in terms of local culture and tourism
- Develop road, electricity, water, education health and other social services infrastructure in the regions
- Ensure a high proportion of the rural population lives within 2km of an all-season road
- Investing in agricultural research and technological development
- Ensure economic stability by keeping interest rates low and stable and inflation rates low and stable
- Ensure both urban and regional development support one another through positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas
- Lower the per capita environmental impact of the cities
- Invest in safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for people living in the regions
- Provide adequate, safe and affordable housing for people living in the regions
- Establish small-scale farms in urban areas, especially the co-farming spaces for small-scale food producers living in the city
- Create sustainable consumption and production (SCP) action plans which are applicable to our nation's economic, social and environmental interests

- Strengthen scientific and technological capacity
- Ensure the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources
- Ensure the sustainable mining of natural resources
- Refrain from activities such as fracking which disturb nearby agricultural hubs
- Halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses
- Remove aesthetic restrictions put in place by supermarkets on produce such as fruit and vegetables
- Ensure the sound management of chemicals and wastes throughout their life cycle
- Create sound prevention, reducing recycling and reuse policies across all sectors and households
- Ensure corporates, especially publicly listed companies, engage in sustainability practices and encourage their supply chain to also engage in sustainability practices
- Implement climate change policies in large corporate farms
- Sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems
- Minimise and address the impacts of ocean acidification
- Effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices
- Prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies
- Prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds
- Further develop research into marine biology
- Ensure access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets

- Ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services
- Halting deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation
- Combat desertification and restore degraded land and soil
- Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species
- Create microclimates on agricultural and other rural properties by planting trees around the exterior of the property
- Ensure the adherence to Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 - 2020
- Maintain border security policies around the importing of invasive and threatening alien species
- Control or eradicate existing alien species
- Ensure industry bodies associated with agriculture are free from corruption and bribery
- Form, develop and foster public-private partnerships
- Create science and technology cooperation agreements and programmes
- Develop, transfer, disseminate and diffuse environmentally sound technologies
- Operationalise the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity- building mechanisms
- Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization
- Work collaboratively with countries around the world to ensure global macroeconomic stability through policy coordination and policy coherence
- Ensure we have relevant and appropriate data collection measures in place to monitor achievement