

Measuring what matters

Attachment A: Measuring What Matters: Consultation Feedback form

Consult hub

Response received at:

1 May 2023, 3:38am

Response ID:

sbm266b7ce68f89195edf0cf

1 Meeting Host Name

Lorraine Gordon

2 Organisation (if individual please enter N/A)

National Regenerative Agricultural Organisation at Southern Cross University

3 Email

lorraine.gordon@scu.edu.au

4

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

5 Meeting host

Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)

6 Other

Regenerative Carbon Farmer, Educator, Researcher in Sustainable Farming Systems

7 Meeting date

1 May 2023

8 Meeting location

Virtual

- 9 Location/City/Town
Not answered
- 10 State
Not answered
- 11 Participants attending
Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)
- 12 Other
Leading Educators, Farmers, Consultants working in regenerative farming and landscape verification.
- 13 Number of participants
35
- 14 1. Did the five emerging policy themes Prosperous, Inclusive, Sustainable, Cohesive and Healthy resonate with meeting participants?
Yes
- 15 If not, why not (200 words)
Not answered
- 16 2. Which of the following themes are most important to you? (Select 3)
Sustainable: A natural environment that is valued and sustainably managed in the face of a changing climate for current and future generations
Healthy: A society in which people feel well and are in good physical and mental health now and into the future
Prosperous: A growing, productive and resilient economy
- 17 3. Which themes or descriptions were most frequently discussed?
(Select 3)
Prosperous: A growing, productive and resilient economy
Sustainable: A natural environment that is valued and sustainably managed in the face of

a changing climate for current and future generations

Healthy: A society in which people feel well and are in good physical and mental health now and into the future

18 4. What do you see as the most important issues for future wellbeing?

Are these captured by the emerging policy themes?

Farmers and land managers of Australian landscapes, creating resilient landscapes and communities which protect our environments so that we can produce health, nutritious food into the future.

Educating farmers on regenerative agricultural techniques that will assist them to be more resilient around climate change.

Educating farmers on how to be carbon farmers and sequester carbon.

Addressing landscape degradation through conventional industrial farming practices that have caused soil loss at massive scale, species loss and reduced therefore reduced the quality of our food.

The lack of nutritious value in our food systems has decreased our immunity to fight diseases such as a cancer.

The focus on increasing 'yield' at the expense of both our health and the health of the environment has come at a huge cost.

We don't think the themes identify the connection with our soil health, plant health, animal health and human health. Our gut biomes have a reduced ability to fight major diseases and our agricultural landscapes are crashing. It is no longer about just sustaining landscapes, we need to repair the damage that has been done.

Future wellbeing is connected to healthy landscapes and regenerative farming systems that produce quality food.

19 5. How might the descriptions be amended to best reflect our priorities?

Given that farmers manage 60% of our landmass in Australia, the voice of the regenerative farming organisation's is essential. The existing list of feedback is lacking the regenerative farming voice and the potential that carbon sequestration in landscapes will have in meeting our Paris Agreement and Net Zero requirements into the future. We can't see in the documentation where it covers how to measure healthy landscape function.

20 6. Are there any indicators and existing data sources that will be critical to inform the emerging policy themes?

Yes, please look at Land to Market's Environmental Outcomes Verification system www.landtomarket.com run by the Australian Holistic Management Cooperative www.holisticmanagement.au

This is the most robust whole of landscape verification system in place in Australia and could work alongside the Australian Accounting Standards to deliver robust outcomes. You can't achieve wellbeing if you don't have healthy landscapes to produce food from. Therefore, you need to measure landscape function and health.

21 7. Is there any additional information you would like to see in the Measuring What Matters Statement? If so, please outline.

Measuring the landscape health and function through credible methods that can be applied by land managers on the ground. We have indicators available for landscape health that are robust, measurable and reliable. We would welcome the opportunity to match these indicators with the AAS. It all starts with soil health and it seems that is being left out of the discussion somewhat. Environmental Outcomes Verification is required for farmers land managers.