

# Sustainability Bites

## Hello and welcome

Welcome to our third e-newsletter *Sustainability Bites*. The Sustainable Agriculture Initiative (SAI) Platform Australia brings together agricultural organisations that operate in Australia and seek to collaborate on sustainability initiatives.

These initiatives help to ensure our food remains among the best in the world, and our agricultural practices are able to increasingly provide for future generations.

*Sustainability Bites* will update you on what's happening in sustainable agriculture. [We're also on twitter](#), so follow us for the latest.

That's it for now.

Jack Holden

SAI Platform Australia President



## SAI celebrates 10 years of sustainability action

Leaders from across the sustainability sector came together in March to hold the SAI Platform's General Meeting and also a 10th anniversary luncheon event in Sydney hosted by the NSW Farm Writers, similar to the highly successful July 2017 breakfast event hosted by the Victorian Rural Press Club.

SAI President Jack Holden welcomed SAI members to the days' events which also featured an afternoon session for members of the recently-formed SAI Supporters Group. SAI Platform has been successful at bringing together people and groups with an interest in sustainable agricultural production to share knowledge and best practices. The new Supporters Group is aimed at members of civil society groups, government organisations and universities engaged in sustainable agriculture initiatives.

The SAI meeting for members provided an opportunity to share experiences in enhancing sustainability and develop collaborative projects. The session that included supporters featured a mini-forum on economic sustainability, including a briefing on an exciting project about finance sector recognition of sustainability initiatives by graziers, and an update on developments in genetic technologies.

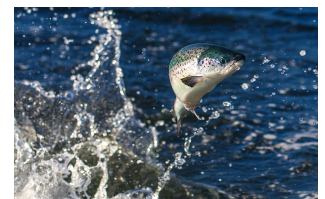
The NSW Farm Writers event featured presentations by SAI members from across the agriculture, food and fishing supply chain on the sustainability challenges they have faced and how they have addressed those challenges. Nearly 80 attendees from the media, finance and many other sectors heard first-hand about these real-world experiences.

## NSW Farm Writers' event



## Members' leading the way

### A 'living' case study on sustainable value generation - a SAI collaborative project



SAI Platform Australia has been undertaking a collaborative project documenting for SAI members in 'real time' the evolution of an initiative by our member Tassal Ltd to demonstrate the shared value generated by its aquaculture operations and associated value chain activities in the various communities in which it operates. The case study is a 'living' document given the ongoing evolution of Tassal's approach to demonstrating shared value and the continuing investments made by the company around Tasmania.

### More SAI collaborative projects underway

SAI Platform Australia members are collaborating on a number of projects as part of the Platform's plan for 2018. These include an investigation into economic sustainability including a review of its meaning, and learning about one of our members' initiative to secure financial market recognition for farmers' sustainability initiatives; a project on food security and one on nutrition and sustainability.

## New members

The SAI Platform Australia welcomes two new members to the Platform.

- Australian Eggs is a member owned not-for-profit company providing marketing and research & development (R&D) services for the benefit of Australian egg farmers. Working together with the egg industry and the Australian Government, Australian Eggs strives to deliver value to industry and the public by investing in programs that increase consumption and ensure industry sustainability. Australian Eggs invests in research projects to improve the sustainability of the egg industry. Research projects aim to provide solutions for egg farmers and industry stakeholders across all of the supply chain, generally in a one to five year delivery timeframe. More information about Australian Eggs can be found [here](#).
- The University of Melbourne School of Agriculture and Food, in the Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences, has joined the Platform's Supporters Group. The School delivers teaching, research and science in the fields of food and agriculture. More information can be found [here](#).

## Upcoming events

### International Conference on Sustainable Agriculture, Environment & Forestry

28-29 June 2018  
London, England  
[Learn more](#)

### SAI Platform General Assembly

24-26 April, 2018  
Aarhus, Denmark  
[Learn more](#)

### Cool Farm Alliance Annual Meeting

April 19 - 20, 2018  
Cambridge, England  
[Learn more](#)



For more information about the Platform or to inquire about membership see our website: [SAI Platform Australia](http://www.saipatformaust.org)

## Members' reports on sustainability



- Our member Fonterra has released its first sustainability report. A copy of the report can be found [here](#).
- Tassal just released their latest sustainability report. Find a copy [here](#).
- At our NSW 10th anniversary event Bayer Australia launched a report on the Bayer's contribution to the sustainability of Australian agriculture and the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals. The report is available [here](#) under the title "Advancing Sustainable Agriculture in Australia".

## SAI Global

The SAI Platform Australia is part of the global [SAI Platform](#) with a rich tradition of [supporting sustainable agriculture](#). A number of our global activities are coming up.

### What's happening around the world?

- SAI Platform's 2018 [annual event](#) will take place in Aarhus, Denmark from 24-26 April. This year's theme "Sustainability through innovation & technology: how to advance sustainable agriculture at landscape level" will provide new insights and an unparalleled networking opportunity for all SAI Platform members and a few selected companies. The event will include learning and sharing opportunities, offering an exciting menu of insightful field trips, an interactive seminar, engaging networking, and concluding with the General Assembly and an inspiring session on 'creating the blueprint for collaboration through our platform'. Registration for this annual event is now open, please use the following [link](#) to register.
- SAI's new 'Spotlight' is an innovative online tool currently under development for SAI Platform members to input data on areas requiring collaboration, e.g. crops, regions, topics of concern, best practices etc. Spotlight helps SAI Platform membership identify industry-wide issues that benefit from collaborative initiatives. It helps members through sharing of best practices, inspiring ideas, encouraging participation in cross-cutting projects, knowledge sharing events and showcasing success. It enables and encourages collaboration and knowledge sharing while creating synergies and driving efficiency. Future working group projects, events and initiatives will primarily be prioritised following data analysis within Spotlight.

[www.saipatformaust.org](http://www.saipatformaust.org)