



AUSTRALIA

SAI Platform Australia

2024 Membership Prospectus



Welcome to SAI Platform Australia

SAI Platform was established in Australia in 2007. It is a Chapter of the global SAI Platform (www.saipatform.org) and provides a focus on Australian issues but with a global context for these issues.

Today many people across the globe, and especially Australians, realised how important it is that our country has an economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable agricultural supply chain. The SAI (Sustainable Agriculture Initiative) Platform Australia Chapter contributes to strengthening our supply chain and to improving the long-term sustainability and viability of our food and fibre exports.

The SAI Platform is different from other sustainability and industry organisations because our members are from across the whole food, fibre and fisheries supply chain. Through the Platform members can discuss and address key sustainability issues in an open, trusted environment with peers. They come together to share collective knowledge in a pre-competitive environment.

Under our 2021–24 Strategy Plan SAI members are implementing, trialing and engaging directly with an increasing range of sustainability organisations and service providers. We are working to give members access to tools and people that can accelerate sustainability in our food systems, in particular access to information, tools and learnings from the Global SAI Platform. Importantly, we are also constantly expanding our network and access to experienced sustainability specialists and tapping into the increasing interest in ‘sustainable ag, food, fibre and fisheries’ as a career choice.

SAI Platform Australia is committed to supporting the professional development of its members and has co-designed a short course with the University of Melbourne on Sustainable Sourcing in Food and Fibre. This 6-week online MicroCertificate has been run during 2022 and 2023 and SAI members are entitled to a 2-for-1 enrolment deal for their staff. Around 50 people have completed the course so far with 30 participating from member organisations.

Our 2020 collaborative project on ecosystem services informed government officials and policymakers, with the Australian Government subsequently initiating a multi-million dollar program to support environmental services on farms along the lines suggested by our work. In 2023, we held a Carbon Practice Change Opportunity Forum in Canberra which included presentations and representation from members, experts and key Australian Government Departments. This two-way conversation was valuable for all involved by sharing knowledge of industry issues, progress and challenges and gaining updates on policy direction and implementation.

During 2023, we worked with Agriculture Innovation Australia to co-fund a comprehensive Regenerative Agriculture State of Play report. This piece of work entailed a desktop review and interviews with key organisations involved with regenerative agriculture and we hope will be a valuable resource for any organisation or person trying to navigate the definitions and impacts of regenerative agriculture in Australia.

SAI Platform Australia members also have the opportunity to participate in field trips where we see sustainable farming practices on farms and investigate research and commercialisation of solutions for agricultural industries to achieve greater sustainability.

SAI Platform Australia is viewed as an important stakeholder in policy development with a unique position to contribute to the future of sustainable agriculture in Australia. There has definitely been a shift from ‘why’ sustainable agriculture is necessary to the ‘how’ it can be implemented through practice change. SAI Platform members have a genuine desire to understand and influence the ‘how’. I invite you to join us in shaping the future of Australian agriculture, food and fibre production.

Michael Anderson,
President, SAI Platform Australia

Our Vision

“A sustainable, thriving and resilient agricultural sector that protects the earth’s resources, human rights and animal welfare”

Our members

The SAI Platform has a unique value proposition that differentiates it from other sustainability and industry organisations. This comprises its:

- cross-value chain membership
- independence
- focus on achieving tangible sustainability outcomes
- capacity to inform policy debates (although not as a lobbyist to advance particular interests).

The diversity of players, including primary producers, processors, manufacturers, retailers and service advisors, is a key differentiator of the Platform in Australia.

Our membership spans the value chain and key production sectors:



DAIRY



MEAT



GRAINS



FISH



BEVERAGES



FARMERS



RESEARCHERS



AGRI SUPPLIER
INPUTS



FOOD PROCESSORS



FIBRE



MARKETING



SUPERMARKETS



UNIVERSITIES



Our strategic priorities

The SAI Platform Australia has membership spanning the value chain, offering a safe space for learning and implementing improved sustainability practices. Activities are around themes that are important to members' organisations. As a group, SAI Platform aims to play a leadership role in the development of sustainability policy options by engaging closely with policymakers, researchers and other stakeholders and through internal and commissioned analysis.

Current focus areas

The SAI Platform's 2021–24 Strategy Plan focuses on a number of key themes, which are based on:

- the areas in which the Platform has a comparative advantage in the sustainability space
- members' organisations learning priorities
- the potential for achieving material practice change
- the relevance of these to the broader supply chain
- New tools and new people especially early career professionals.

The four key themes are:

- Water and climate
- Regenerative agriculture
- Customer assurance of sustainability practices
- Eco-system services and economic sustainability.

Our initiatives

The SAI Platform provides opportunities to improve and innovate across the supply chain and through members' value chains and it fosters and enables learning and collaboration. The Platform's independence provides members with a sense of self-determination about the topics and issues that are explored. There is a focus on achieving tangible sustainability outcomes and informing policy development.

As a group, members identify common themes of interest and work together to learn and share knowledge and experiences. This approach enables constructive dialogue and at times members with differing views come together to debate and learn from each other.

The SAI Platform provides access to tools that will help change practices that otherwise would not be available, both through internally generated collaborative projects and through a connection with the Global SAI Platform.

Farmlink research plot



Photo acknowledgements (left to right):
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Membership features and benefits

	FULL MEMBER	ASSOCIATE MEMBER	ORGANISATION SUPPORTER	INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTER
Learning on key themes				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual learning events In-person briefings, forums Briefing reports Field trips 	✓	✓	✓	✓
Access to SAI Platform members only content on website	✓	✓	✓	✓
Access to Global SAI Platform tools and events	✓	✓		
Round table (in camera) discussions on sustainability issues	✓	✓	At discretion of Committee	At discretion of Committee
Collaboration				
Developing collaborative projects	✓	✓	✓	✓
Engagement across supply chain	✓	✓	✓	✓
Contribution to policy development	✓	✓	At discretion of Committee	At discretion of Committee
Tools				
Development of sustainability tools	✓	✓	At discretion of Committee	At discretion of Committee
Access to tools	✓	✓	At discretion of Committee	At discretion of Committee
Linkages				
Peer group sustainability partnerships	✓	✓	✓	✓
Access to wider stakeholder group	✓	✓	✓	✓
Governance				
Voting rights	✓			
Management Committee member	✓			
Membership annual fees Rate (AUD ex. GST)	\$8000 (Subsidiary of Global SAI Platform member – \$4000)	Determined by Committee (suitable for industry bodies)	\$3000	\$200 (Student at a Supporters Group University – \$80)

FULL MEMBER

SAI Platform's full membership is open to food or agricultural industry companies, including manufacturers, producers and marketers, or businesses otherwise interested in the fields of food, beverages or agriculture, and must have a demonstrated interest in and commitment to sustainable agriculture within the field of their business.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

SAI Platform's associate membership is open to organisations that demonstrate an interest in the area of sustainable agriculture or areas otherwise related to the promotion of products produced from sustainable agricultural practices.

ORGANISATION SUPPORTER

SAI Platform's Supporters Group is open to organisations including Government and Non-Government Organisations otherwise ineligible to be Full Members. This enables participation by organisations with demonstrated commitment to and interest in sustainable agriculture in the activities of the group as determined by the Committee of Management.

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTER

SAI Platform's Supporters Group is also open to individuals otherwise ineligible to be Full Members. This enables participation by individuals with demonstrated commitment to and interest in sustainable agriculture in the activities of the group as determined by the Committee of Management.

Contact us

To discuss SAI Platform Australia membership, contact
Selwyn Heilbron, Co-ordinator

Phone: +61 418 548099

Email: selwyn@saiplatformaustcom.onmicrosoft.com



@SAIPlatformAust



Sustainable Agriculture Initiative
Platform Australia

