



Which of the following best describes your situation?

Industry representative

Are you responding on behalf of an organisation or industry body?

Yes

Who are you responding on behalf of?



How would you like to respond?

a. Answer discussion paper questions via the online survey

What are the opportunities to reduce emissions and build carbon stores in agriculture and the land? What are the main barriers to action?

Silvo-pastoral systems and timber plantations on farms. There is a worsening shortage of construction timber, and importing it will only shift the problem elsewhere, increase the cost of building and houses and worsen Australia's housing shortage. Timber is the only carbon negative construction material and should be grown locally to also reduce transport emissions. There is a growing knowledge of the benefits of livestock and plantation trees' coexistence. Main barriers (in the Northern Territory) are lack of knowledge amongst the farming community, complex process to obtain a permit for planting trees on farms, lack of government support and incentives for pastoralists.

How can we progress emission reduction efforts whilst also building resilience and adapting to climate change?

Diversifying farm activities will make them more resilient to changes in cattle and/or other markets. Trees grown for timber can be harvested flexibly when required (once big enough) to supplement farm income. In the meantime, trees provide shade for livestock (in the worsening heat), prevent erosion and reduce carbon in the atmosphere.

Are there initiatives or innovative programs underway that could be applied or expanded on at a national scale?

Silvo-pastoral and agro-forestry models from many other countries and some in Australia could be tailored to most environments and climates. There are numerous successful models that improve production, reduce the need for herbicides, insecticides and fertilisers, improve livestock well-being and reduce GHG emissions.

How can the Australian Government bring together existing effort and new initiatives into one coordinated plan?

Coordinate and fund dedicated Farm forestry advisors in ALL parts of the country. There is a dire need for a resource in this space as foresters don't know farming and farmers don't know forests/tree growing. There needs to also be consumer education regarding all efforts of emissions reduction and GHG sequestration.

What are the most important options to be further adopted or supported, looking in the short and the longer-term?

Biomass technology as an energy source. Small scale energy production on farms, stations, schools, remote communities etc. is an opportunity to reduce fossil fuel use and utilise natural fuels which would otherwise be wasted. Economic studies and model for various parts of Australia is needed as the viability and success can vary dependent on vegetation, climate, other environmental factors, supporting infrastructure quality etc. This needs to be supported by funding for technology, skills, capital outlay. Result is not only reduced emissions from fossil fuels, but increased carbon sequestration in vegetation that grows to replace what is removed.

What are the practical solutions to increase uptake?

Incentives for biofuels instead of diesel. Further development of technology that allows wider variability in bioenergy plants. Incentives for pioneers in the technology development and uptake.

How do you see the agriculture and land sectors contributing over the medium and longer-term? What are the opportunities to deliver emission reductions in parallel with wider goals?

Further resources for electric vehicle development and incentives for uptake. Increased local production and use, i.e. reduced transport needs, reduced fossil fuel needs, reduced energy needs.

What new initiatives could the Australian Government design that would support emissions reduction and carbon storage in agriculture and land and help ensure a productive, profitable, resilient and sustainable future for the sectors?

Create forums to connect various land user groups / industries where information and experiences could be shared. This could also allow forming partnerships between land users to cooperate and collaborate on projects that aim to reduce emissions. For example, cattle farmers and tree growers could form alliances where both benefit in their respective businesses, while contributing to our climate targets.

A consistent and trusted approach for assessing and reporting emissions is often raised as a barrier to reducing emissions. Is there a role for the Australian Government in addressing this concern, and how can producers and land managers be supported?

Method needs to be government approved and the government needs to promote it and educate people. Local face-to-face events might be a palatable option for farmers. Incentive for those who are willing to participate in on-farm trials/research.

What skills, knowledge and capabilities do you think producers and land managers need to implement change? What information and data would help them make decisions about emissions reductions and sustainable land management in the short and longer-term?

Methods that don't demand large amounts of time or other resource, targeted to-the-point training session that are relevant to each persons circumstances.

Is your response confidential?

No

Do you agree to your response being published on our website?

Yes

Please de-identify my response

Yes

I have read and understood the privacy notice and consent to the collection, use and disclosure of my personal information as outlined in the privacy notice.

Yes

Confirm that you have read and understand this declaration.

Yes