



# **Australian Beef** *Sustainability* *Framework*

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# SOCIAL LICENCE TO OPERATE

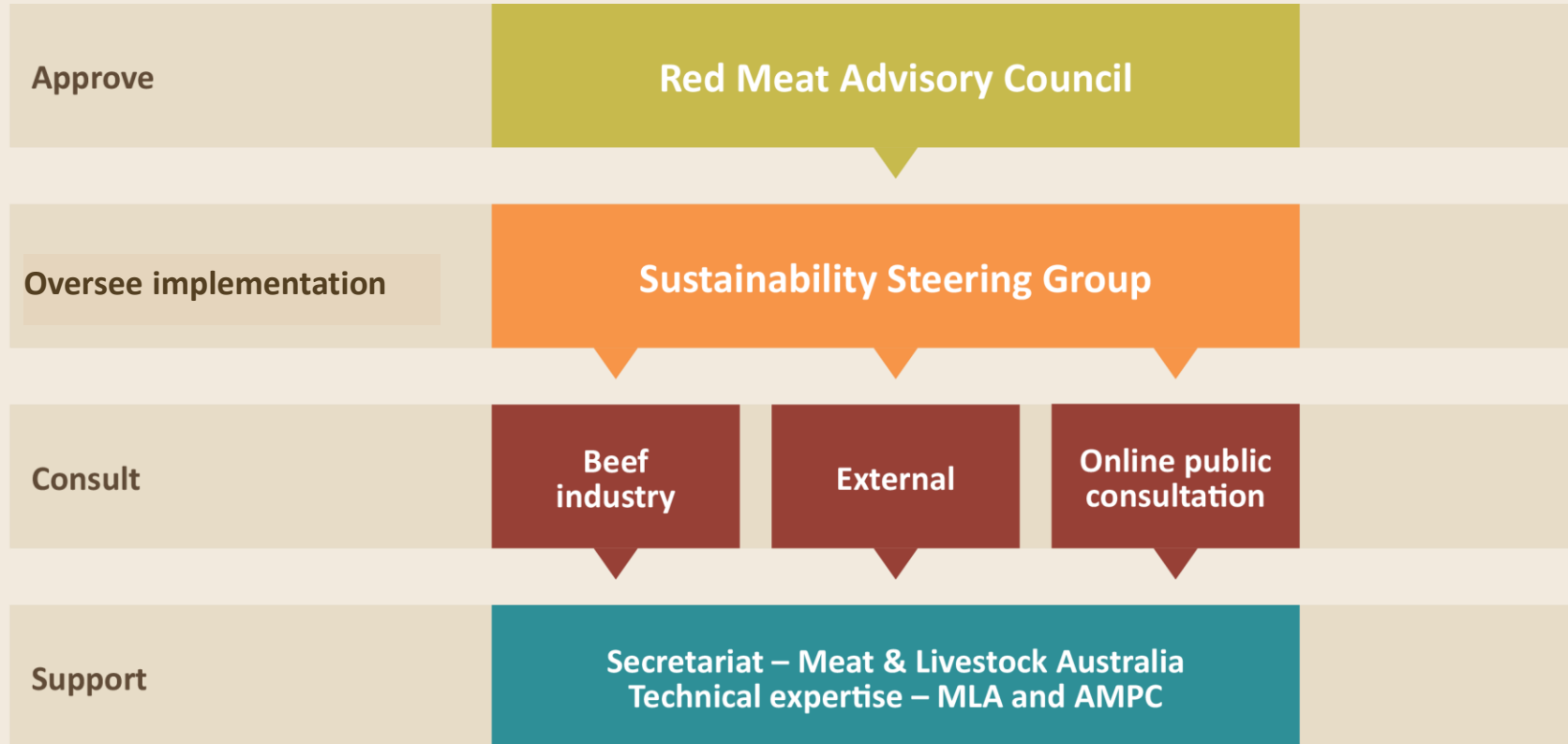


# WHAT IS THE FRAMEWORK?



- The framework will **define sustainable beef production** in an Australian context
- Establish **key indicators and measures** and provide the platform for performance to be reported in subsequent years
- Deliver a report that addresses the sustainability priorities of the industry's major domestic and international stakeholders** without imposing unnecessary costs or reporting burdens through the value chain

# GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



# WHAT WILL THE FRAMEWORK LOOK LIKE?



Vision

*A thriving Australian beef industry that continually improves the wellbeing of people, animals and the environment.*

Definition

*Sustainability is the production of beef in a manner that is socially, environmentally and economically responsible. We do this through the care of natural resources, people and the community, the health and welfare of animals, and the drive for continuous improvement.*

Themes



# EXAMPLE: ENVIRONMENT

Theme	Priority area	Indicator	Definition	Boundary	Measure	Value chain impact					
						On farm	Feedlot	Processing	Export	Transport	Consumer
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP</b>  	Climate	Emissions intensity of raising beef cattle	Australia's livestock industry produces approximately 10 per cent of Australia's total greenhouse gas emissions. Most of these emissions come from methane which is produced by the natural digestion process of cattle and sheep. Greenhouse intensity from raising beef on farm including methane from animal digestion, fertiliser inputs	Operational control	kg CO2e per kg LW (in producing grass fed beef)						
					Operational control	kg CO2e per kg LW (in producing grain fed beef)					
		Emissions intensity of beef processing	Greenhouse gas emissions resulting from fossil fuel use in beef processing.	Operational control	kg CO2e per tonne HSCW						
	Water	Blue water used in raising beef cattle	Freshwater used during cattle raising that is not released back into the same catchment (ISO) as well as drinking water which is used as irrigated water.	Operational control	KL blue water per tonne HSCW						
		Blue water used in beef processing	Freshwater used during processing that is not released back into the same catchment (ISO) as well as drinking water which is used as irrigated water.	Operational control	KL blue water per tonne HSCW						
	Land management	Soil health	Healthy soil that has biological, chemical and physical properties that promote the health of plants, animals and humans while also maintaining environmental quality.	Operational control	Increased soil carbon						
					Capacity of soil to retain water						
		On farm ground cover	Material on or near the soil surface that protects the soil against the erosive action of rain and overland flow. This includes all living or dead plant material as well as rubble.	Operational control	The % of coverage						
		Deforestation	The conversion of forest to another land use or the long-term reduction of the tree canopy cover below the minimum 10 percent threshold across cattle operations.	Operational control							
	Capacity of land use to support biodiversity	Biodiversity is the diversity of different plant and animal species within the one area. Well managed cattle grazing can support biodiverse environments to thrive.	Operational control								
Waste	Solid waste to landfill from processing	Utilising all of the carcass is both an economic and social imperative. Solid waste to landfill from the processing sector represents the most material waste stream. The industry recognises that the majority of waste occurs at the consumer and retail end through food and packaging waste. For the first report the scope excludes waste at the consumption end, however acknowledges it as an issue for future consideration.	Operational control	kg solid waste per tonne HSCW							

# MARCH IS REALLY THE START



The key activities beyond the initial report release being investigated are:

1. Stocktake of activity across the value chain that addresses the priority areas from the Framework Report
2. Establish a multi-stakeholder consultative committee (a reference group)
3. Maintain a SSG to direct ongoing activities with a transitional handover period from current group
4. Expert panels to progress indicators
5. Report back on progress annually and develop a five-yearly Sustainability Report

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