DAIRY AUSTRALIA

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

STRATEGY

2007 - 2010

People, Profits, Planet.

Our Motivation:

Sustainable, profitable, production of high quality milk products.

Our Goal:

A sustainable, profitable, and productive Australian dairy industry with;

- A community endorsed 'license to operate', and
- Market demand and appreciation of its products

Overview:
Strategies and actions

1. Understanding: Knowledge of sustainability issues and management options.	1.1 Scanning	• Analysis & Scenarios • Consumer Expectations
	1.2 Research	• Efficiency Research • Impact Investigations
2. Capability: Ability to profitably apply sustainable practices.	2.1 Supporting Change	• Coordination • Program Planning
	2.2 Tools	• Risk Assessment • Environmental Management
3. Engagement: Positive relationships with key stakeholders.	3.1 Networks	• Industry Networks • NRM Networks
	3.2 Leadership	• Development & Training • Partnerships
4. Community Accountability: Respect for dairy's NRM efforts.	4.1 Communication	• Knowledge Management • Reporting
	4.2 Policy	• Investigations • Response Manuals

INTRODUCTION

The Australian dairy industry has a long history of successfully delivering safe, quality products to domestic and international markets. A strong commitment to natural resource management, based on the keen affiliation that local farmers and processors have with their properties and communities, is central to Australia's quality guarantee to customers.

Despite its commercial success Australian dairy faces increased challenges in the area of resource management and future access to key resources. In both domestic and export markets consumers are demanding not only that their foods be healthy and low cost but that the production systems that deliver these foods are ethical and environmentally sound.

In line with this, Australian governments are increasingly regulating activities that may harm (or are seen to harm) the environment. Regional NRM bodies regularly set targets for the condition and management of natural resources. Environmental protection agencies are setting stricter licensing rules for farm and manufacturing operations.

Internationally, buyers want confidence in the continued availability of quality milk and milk products from Australia at competitive prices. At the same time they are seeking greater assurance over the systems used to deliver products. Supermarkets and large end users are imposing their own standards and conditions on suppliers in terms of acceptable, sustainable production systems. Overseas governments are increasingly using environmental practices and standards as a means of regulating potential trade flows into key markets.

Emerging policy responses to climate change and variability also have implications for dairy NRM practices because of their potential effect on the sector's ongoing access to key resources such as water and the long term viability of existing farm management systems.

Access to water in Australia is now widely regulated. Governments are seeking to balance the supply of an increasingly scarce resource between competing economic and social priorities (urban water needs, environmental flows, production inputs).

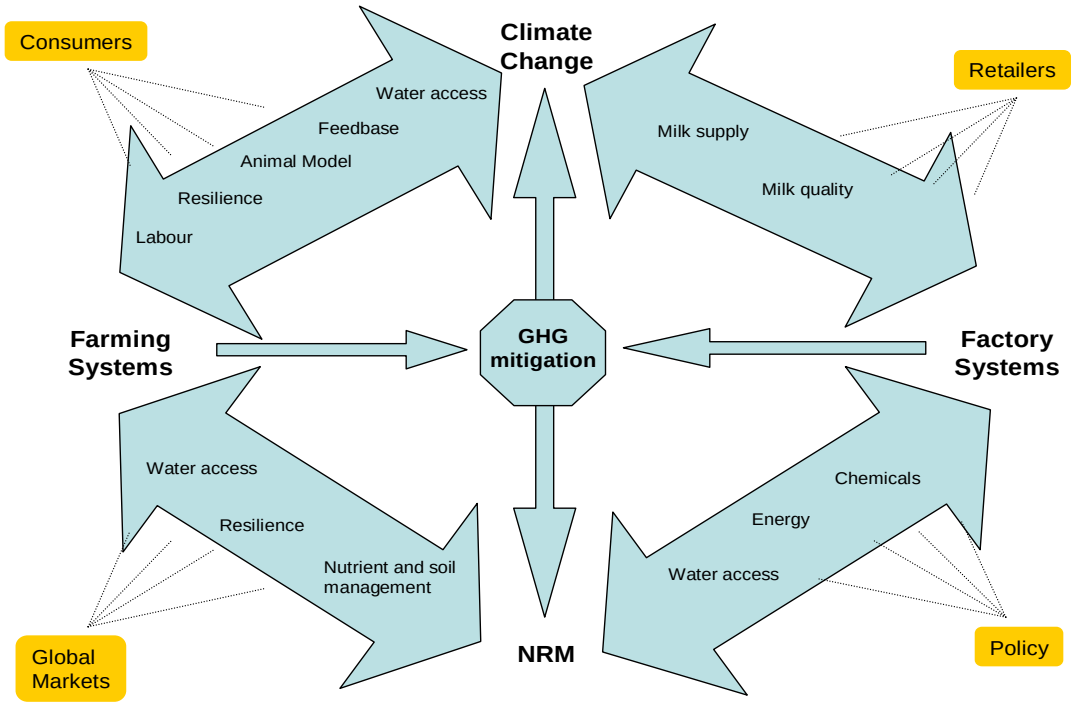
The associated debate on green house gases (GHG) and climate change is also putting greater focus on agricultural and manufacturing production systems, waste management practices etc. This includes:

- The viability of industry-based GHG mitigation systems
- The adaptability of specific farm systems to expected changes in regional climates
- The ongoing role of farm and manufacturing practices in climate change mitigation.

The importance that the Federal government attaches to these issues was highlighted by its inclusion of NRM and Climate Variability as key challenges to be addressed over the next five years under its revised *Australian Rural R&D Priorities* (2007).

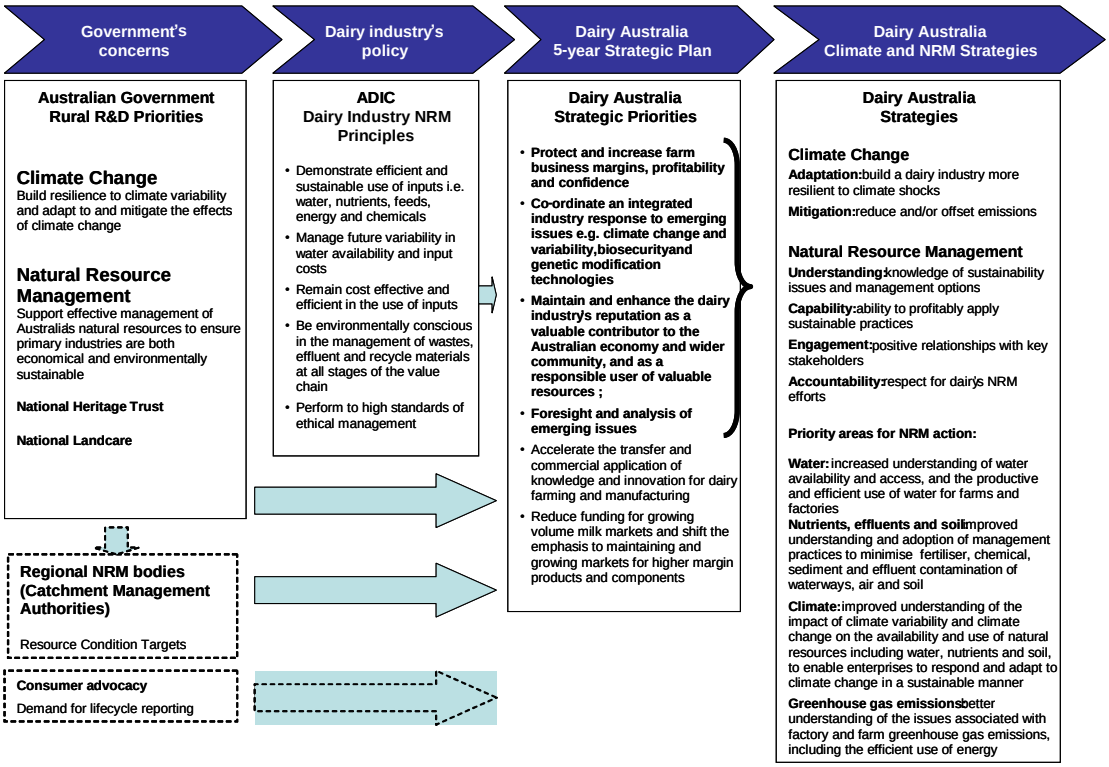
The impact of climate change on NRM practices on-farm and in factories is not a direct cause and effect relationship. Climate change has a direct influence on the viability of farming and factory systems, particular in terms of water usage, feedbase and GHG emissions. Adapting to such climate changes influences the way farmers and factories manage their natural resources better. But to mitigate climate change, the dairy industry will in part use NRM to cut down things like GHG emissions.

As set out in the diagram below, the four aspects– climate change, farm and factory systems and NRM practices - are closely inter-linked and influence each other. As detailed above, there are other pressures coming to bare from domestic and overseas markets, retailers, consumer and policy-makers that also put pressure on NRM to achieve key outcomes, not just adopting and mitigating climate change.



AN INDUSTRY LEVEL APPROACH TO NRM

Dairy Australia, as the dairy industry's services company, works with key partners such as the ADIC, ADF and ADPF to formulate the dairy industry's position on a range of issues, including climate change and NRM. Dairy Australia's main funding source is the Dairy Service Levy but another significant provider of funds is also the Australian Government through its matching payment scheme to support industry R&D. Dairy Australia, in developing its strategies to tackle climate change and NRM, must ensure it addresses both industry and Australian Government priorities. The following diagram shows how key stakeholder policy helps shape Dairy Australia's and thus the dairy industry's strategies.



The Australian dairy industry is committed to meeting these NRM challenges to ensure that it achieves its vision of growing as an internationally competitive, sustainable and innovative industry. In its *NRM Strategy 2007,* the Australian Dairy Industry Council (ADIC) recognized that to achieve this vision, the dairy sector must:

- Demonstrate its efficiency and sustainability in the use of inputs such as water, nutrients, feeds, energy and chemicals.
- Manage future variability in water availability and input costs
- Remain cost effective and efficient in the use of inputs such as water, nutrients, feeds, energy and chemicals;
- Be environmentally conscious in the management of wastes, effluent and recycled materials at all stages of the value chain; and
- Perform to high standards of ethical management.

Industry must also successfully communicate its NRM credentials and performance to a range of key stakeholders and the broader community in order to ensure that the regulatory and policy environment facing dairy reflects industry realities and supports sustainable industry development.

The ADIC strategy recognizes that the management of natural resources is ultimately the responsibility of individual farmers and processors. However, industry level action has an important role to play - providing frameworks and tools that complement and sustain the activities of individual farmers and processors. A higher level approach is also essential to ensure that appropriate linkages exist between national, regional and local responses to NRM (and associated climate change) issues.

As a key facilitator/ coordinator of industry level action for the Australian dairy industry, Dairy Australia has incorporated a whole of chain NRM strategy as an area of strategic emphasis within its *Strategic Plan 2008-2012.* This strategy aims to achieve sustainable and profitable dairy production, while enhancing the dairy industry's reputation among government, commerce and the wider community as a responsible, forward-looking manager of natural resources.

In line with the ADIC Strategy, Dairy Australia has set the following priority areas for NRM action over the next 3-5 years:

- **Water:** increased understanding of water availability and access, and the productive and efficient use of water for farms and factories. Over 50% of Australian dairy farms use water for irrigation of pasture and fodder crops. Secure and increased access to water is a necessary requirement for sustained growth.
- **Nutrients, effluents and soil**: improved understanding and adoption of management practices to minimise fertiliser, chemical, sediment and effluent contamination of waterways, air and soil. Some of these management practices may include the fencing off and re-vegetation of waterways.
- **Climate**: improved understanding of the impact of climate variability and climate change on the availability and use of natural resources including water, nutrients and soil, to enable enterprises to respond and adapt to climate change in a sustainable manner.
- **Greenhouse gas emissions:** better understanding of the issues associated with factory and farm greenhouse gas emissions, including the efficient use of energy. In the future agriculture may be required to participate in carbon trading schemes. To ensure the industry is not disadvantaged a better understanding of the opportunities and costs associated with carbon trading is needed to inform the development of appropriate and effective policy.

Dairy Australia will address these priority areas through an integrated four-pronged approach that centres on:

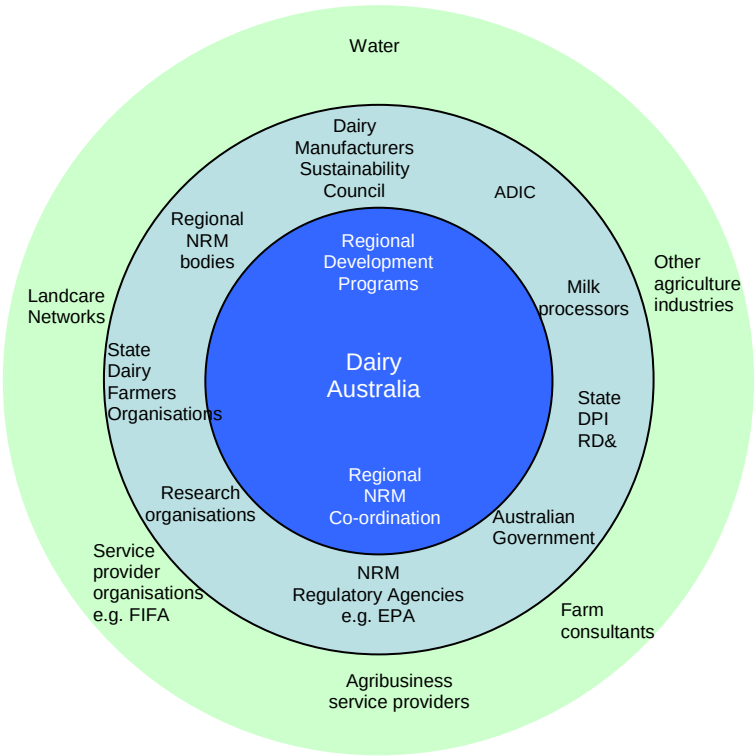
Understanding: Building awareness and informed understanding of emerging issues, their implications for production and processing systems and the tools needed to successfully manage and respond to change,

Capability: Enhancing the capability of individuals, industry groups and service providers to deal with variability, complexity and change including through the provision of support networks, decision tools to enhance sustainable practices.

Engagement: Creating opportunities for collaboration across industry and supporting the development and delivery of core messages that raise stakeholder awareness of dairy's approach to NRM and improving sustainability.

Community Accountability: Reporting on industry's sound performance in tackling NRM issues and ensuring that policy development reflects clear understanding of dairy's performance and contribution to social and environmental sustainability.

Reflecting the multi-faceted and evolving nature of NRM and climate change issues, the successful implementation of this strategy will require close co-operation between Dairy Australia and a range of national and regional level partners and networks. It will also build on the platform of NRM programs and human resources that have been jointly developed to improve NRM in the dairy industry in recent years.



The following section sets out the key actions through which Dairy Australia will give effect to this NRM strategy in coming years and the expected outcomes of its implementation.

Dairying for Tomorrow Networks

In 2000 the Dairying for Tomorrow (DfT) program was launched as the industry on-farm NRM strategy with a key focus on the development of Regional Action Plans that would drive regional investment in NRM.

In most regions the process of developing these plans fostered the development of regional NRM networks. Resourcing these networks became a major issue for several Regional Development Programs and in 2004 the National Landcare Programme and Dairy Australia funded the appointment of part-time regional DfT co-ordinators.

Since the appointment of the DfT co-ordinators, regional NRM networks have played a key role in building dairy's reputation as an efficient and responsible user of natural resources. They have also been instrumental in capturing funds to support adoption of improved environmental practices. An example is the WestVic NRM Dairy Network which meets on a regular basis and includes representatives from DPI Vic, Landcare, Catchment Management Authorities, Milk Companies, Australian Dairy Farmers, Regional Dairy Programs, Victorian Farmers Federation, Environment Protection Authority, Shire Environment Officers, Dairy Australia and Southern Rural Water. DIDCO, DairySA, GippsDairy, SDP, DairyTas and Western Dairy have similar NRM networks.

Key features of successful regional NRM networks:

- Industry co-ordinators;
- Dedicated position/responsibility for network co-ordination and communication;
- Key industry and NRM stakeholders contribute e.g. regional NRM agencies, EPA, water authorities, milk companies and state farming organisations;
- Members meet on a regular basis, not only in response to a crisis or a funding opportunity;
- Participants input is listened to and valued.

NRM STRATEGY – OUTCOME SUMMARY

	UNDERSTANDING		CAPABILITY		ENGAGEMENT		COMMUNITY ACCOUNTABILITY	
	Scanning	**R&D**	**Supporting change**	**Tools**	**Networks**	**Leadership**	**Communication**	**Policy**
Outcomes	**Information gathered, analysed and distributed** Clear and timely information on NRM issues NRM strategies developed for likely scenarios	**Management options identified** Sustainable management options for farmers and processors to increase productivity and environmental outcomes Information to inform favourable NRM policy	**NRM infrastructure enhanced** World class national and regional NRM structure that provides the financial, technical and coordination support required to enable dairy farmers and processors to deliver improved environmental outcomes	**NRM-based production adopted** NRM considerations are incorporated into production decisions all along the dairy value chain, facilitated by the availability and use of improved decision support tools	**NRM program extension improved** Increased effectiveness of industry programs and reduced duplication of effort Improved synergies between different industry and NRM stakeholder activities	**Industry NRM communication network enhanced** Co-ordinated network of credible industry representatives who can communicate consistent NRM messages to industry and community stakeholders Industry and NRM stakeholders, including regulators, are able to understand and accommodate each other's perspectives	**NRM credentials accepted** Industry members, environmental stakeholders, regional communities and consumers have a better understanding and appreciation of dairy's NRM credentials	**Regulators/policy-makers influenced** Industry leaders and partners have access to evidence-based information on industry NRM issues, alternative policy options and their potential implications for industry and other stakeholders Better policy outcomes and a more sustainable business environment for industry
KPIs	Situation analysis reports that are responsive and relevant to dairy needs e.g. ADIC NRM sub-committee feedback is positive Findings from scenario analysis are incorporated into industry R&D business plans and industry extension programs e.g. Dairy Australia NRM business plans reviewed to ensure they accommodate likely future scenarios; regional NRM programs incorporate processes to deal with likely future scenarios; regional industry NRM networks assess findings from scenario analysis and identify how they may impact on the delivery of regional NRM action plans	Dairy Australia R&D priorities reflect industry and government priorities Dairy industry recommended 'good practice' is practical, validated, effective and economically viable e.g. technical experts, farmers and NRM stakeholders endorse DairySAT Best Management Practices National, state and local government NRM policy has minimal impact on industry productivity	A regional NRM co-ordination process that delivers required industry NRM outcomes e.g. regional NRM action plans are implemented; and industry maintains dairy NRM co-ordination role Industry maintains and increases access to NRM funding support e.g. National Landcare Programme, Natural Heritage Trust 3, Regional NRM bodies, Sustainability Victoria	Adoption by farmers and processors of environmental risk analysis and decision support tools (e.g. increase in the number of farmers and companies using tools such as DairySAT, Farm Nutrient Loss Index) Dairy farmers and milk companies increase adoption of practices that build resilience to climate variability	Industry surveys show an increase in the number of farmers and processors adopting industry 'good practice' NRM and climate risk strategies More effective delivery partnerships between industry and NRM stakeholders as evidenced by: range of partners involved (regulators, regional NRM bodies, government agencies, NCDEA, milk companies, water authorities, farmers etc); sharing of learnings; level of satisfaction expressed by stakeholders' evaluation; adoption rate among by participating farmers and processors Maintenance of 'no competitive' advantage policy with respect to NRM by milk companies	Dairy industry NRM advocates (e.g. dairy farmers and relevant milk company, RDP, ADF, Dairy Australia and SDFO employees) participate in NRM forums and are nominated for regional NRM committees and/or regional NRM boards Regulatory agencies (e.g. EPAs, SA Water, state governments) consider and accommodate dairy industry perspectives e.g. resultant policy has minimal impact on industry productivity	Consumers and NRM stakeholders express 'trust' in industry NRM reporting standards and tools as evidenced by positive feedback about the dairy industry at NRM forums and in media coverage Dairy is recognised by governments and the community as an efficient and responsible user of natural resources e.g. dairy used as a case study for proactive NRM by government and community organisations; industry NRM programs are nominated for environmental awards; dairy factories are accepted and valued by their communities Industry works proactively with environmental NGOs e.g. meets with ACF to discuss DfT survey results	Industry leaders and stakeholders are provided with adequate and relevant NRM information by Dairy Australia National, state and local government NRM policy has minimal impact on industry productivity

1. UNDERSTANDING

1.1 Scanning

Purpose

The Australian dairy industry needs to be aware of issues and trends that may affect its future. By proactively scanning for emerging issues, it will have an informed understanding of potential environmental threats and opportunities regarding production, processing and product demand.

Actions

Dairy Australia will:

1.1.1 Develop situation analysis reports that assess emerging issues and their implications for the Australian dairy industry.

1.1.2 Undertake market research and other activities to understand consumer, marketer and community expectations regarding NRM environmental management along the supply chain.

1.1.3 Involve industry partners in developing and analysing alternative scenarios of the future to better understand the likely implications of potential threats and opportunities, the measures that industry could adopt to deal with them, and the key factors to monitor for early insight of emerging trends.

Potential and existing partners include the Australian Government, ADF, SDFOs, regional NRM bodies, RDPs, community organisations and milk companies.

Outcome

- Clear and timely information for the ADIC, Dairy Australia, RDPs, and milk companies about NRM issues likely to affect the dairy industry in the **future**, an assessment of their potential impact and strategies for addressing them.

Key performance indicators

- Situation analysis reports that are responsive and relevant to dairy needs e.g. ADIC NRM sub-committee feedback is positive.

- Findings from scenario analysis is incorporated into industry R&D business plans and industry extension programs e.g. Dairy Australia NRM business plans reviewed to ensure they accommodate likely future scenario's; regional NRM programs incorporate processes to deal with likely future scenarios; regional industry NRM networks assess findings from scenario analysis and identify how they may impact on the delivery of regional NRM action plans.

1.2 Research & Development

Purpose

A core requirement for a sustainable industry is the know-how to manage operations along the value chain efficiently, profitably and responsibly with regard to management of resources and the impact of industry operations on the environment. Dairy Australia will collaborate globally to analyse how both individual enterprises and industries interact with their local communities to develop solutions tailored to the Australian value chain.

Actions

Dairy Australia will:

1.2.1 Conduct participative on-farm and manufacturing-based research into the use of water, nutrients, soil, greenhouse gases / energy and chemicals.

1.2.2 Collaborate with stakeholders to empirically measure the impact of dairy farming, manufacturing and marketing on the environment; and to identify management and mitigation options for improved outcomes.

1.2.3 Contribute to applied research into topics that have universal impact on social and economic well-being e.g. climate variability and change, biodiversity and salinity.

Potential and existing partners include domestic and international research institutions, regional NRM bodies, state agencies, the Australian Government, RDPs, agribusiness and other Research & Development Corporations (RDCs).

Outcome

- Farmers and processors will be able to select from a range of sustainable management options to improve productivity and environmental outcomes. Relevant information, evidence and options to inform favourable NRM policy development will be available to industry and other key stakeholders.

Key performance indicators

- Dairy Australia R&D priorities reflect industry and government priorities.
- Dairy industry recommended ‘good practice’ is practical, validated, effective and economically viable e.g. technical experts, farmers and NRM stakeholders endorse DairySAT Best Management Practices.
- National, state and local government NRM policy has minimal impact on industry productivity.

2. CAPABILITY

2.1 Supporting Change

Purpose

Farmers and processors need to know how and when to apply appropriate management practices. They also need to have the opportunity to test them before being confident in their application. In some cases this will require training, and assistance may be needed with implementation (e.g. additional expert advice or financial resources). This will require new delivery programs coordinated through a range of stakeholders.

Actions

Dairy Australia will:

2.1.1 Support regional NRM co-ordination processes that deliver industry NRM outcomes.

2.1.2 Support RDPs to develop and implement regional NRM action plans that incorporate local issues, and align with regional catchment strategies (from farm to factory).

2.1.3 Support industry NRM networks, milk companies, factory environment officers and other service providers with processes, training and tools (e.g. DairySAT, service provider training and catchment impact models) to assist them in accessing funding and technical support for industry NRM programs.

2.1.4 Seek opportunities to develop industry-wide programs that facilitate on-ground change (e.g. the Water Smart application through the National Water Initiative).

Key partners include the Australian Government, NCDEA, RDPs, ADF and SDFOs, milk processors, regional NRM bodies and state agencies.

Outcome

- A world class national and regional NRM structure that provides the financial, technical and coordination support required to enable dairy farmers and processors to deliver improved environmental outcomes.

Key performance indicators

- A regional NRM co-ordination process that delivers required industry NRM outcomes e.g. regional NRM action plans are implemented; and industry maintains dairy NRM co-ordination role.

- Industry maintains and increases access to NRM funding support e.g. National Landcare Programme, Natural Heritage Trust 3, Regional NRM bodies, Sustainability Victoria.

2.2 Tools

Purpose

Dairy farmers and processors need practical tools, calculators, processes and decision support tools to effectively apply the results of research. Producers are increasingly concerned with strategic operational and business decisions to remain profitable, increasing the importance of having suitable decision support tools readily available.

Actions

Dairy Australia will:

2.2.1 Develop and support tools to help farmers and processors assess the environmental risks associated with their production; plan appropriate responses and, if they wish, record their actions with regard to NRM management (e.g. DairySAT, Farm Nutrient Loss Index and climate risk management tools).

2.2.2 Develop and support tools, calculators and packages to help farmers and processors improve the efficiency and NRM performance of their operations (e.g. Better Fertiliser Decisions, Effluent Management Technical Database and the Greenhouse Gas Calculator).

Potential and existing partners include state agencies, the Australian Government, milk processors and other industries.

Outcomes

- NRM considerations are incorporated into production decisions all along the dairy value chain, facilitated by the availability and use of improved decision support tools.

Key performance indicators

- Adoption by farmers and processors of environmental risk analysis and decision support tools (e.g. increase in number of farmers and companies using tools such as DairySAT, Farm Nutrient Loss Index).

- Dairy farmers and milk companies increase adoption of practices that build resilience to climate variability.

3. ENGAGEMENT

3.1 Networks

Purpose

Information sharing and collaboration are fundamental to the way Dairy Australia operates. Supporting networks and providing forums for communication stimulates discussion, the exchange of ideas and the identification of opportunities for collaboration.

Actions

Dairy Australia will:

3.1.1 Facilitate and help support industry-wide networks and forums e.g. the Dairy Manufacturers Sustainability Council, regional dairy industry NRM networks, and the ADIC NRM Communications Network.

3.1.2 Contribute to relevant forums and networks involving key stakeholders e.g. the RDC NRM Working Group, other agricultural industries, regional NRM agency activities, Natural Heritage Trust and National Landcare Program activities, and research forums and conferences.

Potential and existing partners include state agencies, NCDEA, RDPs, regional NRM bodies, Landcare networks, the Australian Government, milk processors and other industries.

Outcomes

- Increased effectiveness of industry programs and reduced duplication of effort.
- Improved synergies between different industry and NRM stakeholder activities.

Key performance indicators

- Industry surveys show an increase in the number of farmers and processors adopting industry 'good practice' NRM and climate risk strategies.
- More effective delivery partnerships between industry and NRM stakeholders as evidenced by: range of partners involved (regulators, regional NRM bodies, government agencies, milk companies, water authorities, farmers etc); sharing of learnings; level of satisfaction expressed by stakeholders' evaluation; adoption rate among by participating farmers and processors.
- Maintenance of 'no competitive' advantage policy with respect to NRM by milk companies.

3.2 Leadership

Purpose

Industry needs to develop and deliver strong, consistent messages to build and maintain effective partnerships. Industry representatives must be able to articulate the pertinent NRM issues and facts and have an understanding and empathy for the needs of partners and stakeholders.

Actions

Dairy Australia will:

3.2.1 Support farmer and manufacturer advocates to speak on behalf of industry at public functions e.g. conferences.

3.2.2 Explore local situations with regional dairy leaders, and provide background information on NRM matters on request.

3.2.3 Support the activities of the ADIC NRM Sub-Committee.

3.2.4 Maintain strong relationships with Australian Government NRM programs and regional NRM bodies through on-going interactions and reporting.

3.2.4 Maintain strong relationships with the Manufacturing sector and provide assistance and co-ordination for improvement in resource efficient processing.

Potential and existing partners include dairy farmers, state agencies, RDPs, regional NRM bodies, the Australian Government, milk processors and other industries.

Outcomes

- Co-ordinated network of credible industry representatives who can communicate consistent NRM messages to industry and community stakeholders.
- Industry and NRM stakeholders, including regulators are able to understand and accommodate each other's perspectives.

Key performance indicators

- Dairy industry NRM advocates (e.g. dairy farmers and relevant milk company, RDP, ADF, Dairy Australia and SDFO employees) participate in NRM forums and are nominated for regional NRM committees and/or regional NRM boards.
- Regulatory agencies (e.g. EPA, SA Water, state governments) consider and accommodate dairy industry perspectives e.g. resultant policy has minimal impact on industry productivity.

4. COMMUNITY ACCOUNTABILITY

4.1 Communication & Reporting

Purpose

Organisations and individuals within and external to the dairy industry need ready access to information about industry NRM research and extension programs. The information should help stakeholders better understand the NRM issues the industry is addressing, how it is tackling these issues, and the success it is achieving.

Actions

Dairy Australia will:

4.1.1 Promote access to a range of research, investigation and program reports through the Dairy Australia website (and its NRM adjunct, www.dairyingfortomorrow.com).

4.1.2 Conduct surveys and assessments and report publicly about on-the-ground management across the industry (e.g. the Dairying for Tomorrow farm survey and dairy processing site surveys).

4.1.3 Align industry NRM performance with regional management action and resource condition targets (and assessments of the social and economic contributions of industry) through Regional Report Cards.

4.1.4 Advocate and support the alignment of externally imposed environmental auditing requirements with existing industry reporting tools e.g. DairySAT.

4.1.5 Encourage the wider promotion of NRM strategies by contributing information about NRM programs and industry performance to stakeholder marketing programs, as appropriate.

Potential and existing partners include state agencies, RDPs, Dairy Food Safety Victoria, regional NRM bodies, Landcare networks, the Australian Government and milk processors.

Outcomes

- Industry members, environmental stakeholders, regional communities and consumers have a better understanding and appreciation of dairy's NRM credentials.

Key performance indicators

- Consumers and NRM stakeholders express 'trust' in industry NRM reporting standards and tools as evidenced by positive feedback about the dairy industry at NRM forums and media coverage.

- Dairy is recognised by governments and the community as an efficient and responsible user of natural resources e.g. dairy used as a case study for proactive NRM by government and community organisations; industry NRM programs are nominated for environmental awards; dairy factories are accepted and valued by their communities.

- Industry works proactively with environmental NGOs e.g. meets with ACF to discuss DfT survey results.

4.2 Policy

Purpose

Policies and regulations affect industry access to natural resources (e.g. water and land) and the manner in which resources are managed during milk production and processing. It is vital that the development of future policies and regulations is conducted with the full knowledge of the likely impact on industry and of alternative ways to achieve the desired outcomes.

Actions

Dairy Australia will:

4.2.1 Conduct investigations and prepare information papers on topics likely to be the subject of policy interventions e.g. greenhouse gas emissions, carbon trading, and the management of nutrients, effluent and chemicals.

4.2.2 Develop and maintain registers of useful information and contacts concerning key environmental issues to assist with quick responses to any emergency situations.

Potential and existing partners include state agencies, regional NRM bodies, the Australian Government, milk processors and other primary industries.

Outcomes

- Industry leaders and partners have evidence-based information on industry NRM issues, alternative policy options and their potential implications for industry and other stakeholders.

- Better policy outcomes and a more sustainable business environment for industry.

Key performance indicators

- Industry leaders and stakeholders are provided with adequate and relevant NRM information by Dairy Australia.

- National, state and local government NRM policy has minimal impact on industry productivity.

STAKEHOLDER GLOSSARY

Australian Government: Several Federal Government departments are significant investors in industry NRM and climate change adaptation programs, either directly through programs such as the National Landcare Programme, the National Water Initiative and the Greenhouse Challenge; or indirectly through its investment in regional NRM bodies.

Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF): The ADF is the national voice of Australia's dairy farmers. It is formed by the six state dairy farmer organisations (SDFOs): NSW Farmers' Association - Dairy Committee, Queensland Dairyfarmers' Organisation, South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association, Tasmanian Farmers & Graziers Association - Dairy Council, Victorian Farmers Federation - United Dairyfarmers of Victoria and Western Australian Farmers' Federation - Dairy Council.

Australian Dairy Products Federation Inc (ADPF). The ADPF is the peak policy body for commercial/non-farm members of the Australian dairy industry and is open to entities operating in Australia that are engaged in the manufacture, marketing or trading of dairy products and/or dairy related products.

Australian Dairy Industry Council (ADIC): The peak industry organisation where dairy farmers and dairy companies come together to agree whole of industry policy. The ADIC comprises Australian Dairy Farmers Limited (ADF) and the Australian Dairy Products Federation Inc. (ADPF) which are the peak policy bodies for Australian dairy farmers and dairy companies, respectively.

Dairy Manufacturers Sustainability Council: The council addresses sustainability issues affecting the dairy industry through leadership, education and research, with a focus on communicating sustainability initiatives and influencing stakeholders to support opportunities to improve industry's environmental performance.

Milk processors: Private or public companies that include milk processing and the production of dairy products among their business enterprises. The main milk processors in Australia are Fonterra, Murray Goulburn Cooperative, Dairy Farmers, National Foods, Parmalat, Bega Cheese Cooperative and Warrnambool Cheese and Butter.

National Centre for Dairy Education Australia: An initiative of Dairy Australia and Goulburn Ovens TAFE, the NCDEA aims to delver VET training that is vocationally relevant and promotes academic excellence. The NCDEA is responsible for the development of standardised quality learning systems that are responsive to industry issues and specific training needs.

Regional NRM bodies: These are the bodies responsible for protecting and managing Australia's natural resources. Each regional NRM body has developed a regional NRM plan that outlines how a regional body will identify and achieve the region's NRM targets. There are 56 regional NRM bodies in Australia; 32 of these have dairy enterprises operating within their catchment and dairy has NRM delivery partnerships with 29 of the 32 relevant NRM bodies.

Research and Development Corporations (RDCs): The RDC model is a partnership between government and industry where the government matches industry expenditure on R&D dollar for dollar up to a limit of 0.5 per cent of each industries gross value of production.

Regional Development Programs (RDPs): The eight dairy RDPs are coordinated and managed by the regions to improve local and national productivity, prosperity and sustainability. Funded by Dairy Australia, the RDPs also secure other state, federal and community contributions. Their objective is to drive innovation in research and extension throughout Australia’s dairying areas.

Research institutions: Federal and state funded research institutions and agencies
Community organisations

State agencies: Agencies responsible for primary industry research, development and extension, and agencies responsible for the regulation and management of natural resources such as water authorities, EPA and Sustainability Victoria.