

# Australian Beef Sustainability Framework

## *Steering Group Chair*

### Expression of Interest

<b>Position:</b>	Steering Group Chair
<b>Reporting to:</b>	Australian Beef Sustainability Framework Advisory Board
<b>Supported by:</b>	Manager – Beef Sustainability (Meat & Livestock Australia)
<b>Remuneration:</b>	Expenses and sitting fees will be paid in accordance with the Meat & Livestock Australia’s (MLA) Policy on <a href="#">payment of expenses and sitting fees for MLA committees</a> .
<b>Commitment:</b>	Up to 130 hours per annum. This includes 6 x half day meetings and 4 x key stakeholder events.
<b>Tenure:</b>	12 months, with a maximum of up to 3 consecutive terms

### About the Australian Beef Sustainability Framework

The [Australian Beef Sustainability Framework](#) (ABSF) was launched in 2017 to create a pathway of best practice for the Australian beef industry and track performance against a series of critical indicators aligned to the themes of best animal care, environmental stewardship, economic resilience and people and the community.

The ongoing development of the ABSF is informed by globally accepted standards that require the application of principles including stakeholder inclusivity and responsiveness and materiality. Priorities and indicators will continue to be responsive and refined through materiality and stakeholder consultation. Since its launch considerable effort has been committed to improving the indicators and collecting evidence to substantiate industry’s sustainability performance and progress.

The ABSF:

- Promotes industry transparency and progress to customers and the community
- Informs industry investment for continuous improvement in areas most important to our stakeholders
- Helps protect and grow access to investment and finance by providing evidence of performance and improvement
- Fosters constructive relationships with stakeholders to work collaboratively on improvement

The ABSF does not:

- Establish or endorse measurement systems at an individual business level
- Provide an accreditation or certification system
- Endorse prescriptive management practices
- Create additional work for individual businesses

The ABSF is owned and led by the Australian beef industry through the peak industry bodies; Cattle Australia, Australian Lot Feeders’ Association, and the Australian Meat Industry Council. These bodies form the ABSF Advisory Board.

## About the position

The ABSF is led by the Steering Group (SG).

The role of the SG Chair is to:

- Lead the SG to ensure impactful administration and sound delivery of the ABSF for the entire industry.
- Effectively managing the SG's activities and reporting its advice and outcomes to the ABSFAB to inform its decision-making.
- Where appropriate, facilitating events or presenting on the SG's activities to internal and external stakeholders.
- Be the primary spokesperson for the ABSF in consultation with the ABSF Advisory Board.
- Obtaining SG consensus for terms of reference for RDA activities to support the ABSF Advisory Board endorsed priorities.
- Represent the ABSF on the GRSB board of directors when elected (or appoint a proxy member to undertake these duties) or similar domestic and international conferences.
- Nominate SG members for GRSB working groups
- Approving content of media releases for digital, social and print media in alignment with the ABSF approved communications plan in collaboration with MLA and AMPC. Act with MLA and AMPC on informing the ABSF Advisory Board of upcoming external communications.
- Meet and report to the ABSF Advisory Board on a Quarterly basis and as required.

In addition, the SG Chair is to undertake the following with the SG members:

- Use their experiences, skills, and knowledge of specific topics or sectors to support the continuous improvement of the ABSF, and
- Represent and positively promote the ABSF in relevant parts of the value chain, state or region in which they are active.
- Assist in developing Consultative Committee and Industry Forum agendas
- Review and recommend ABSF Annual Updates to be approved by Advisory Board
- Identify priorities areas for sustainability Research, Development, and Adoption (RDA) activities to drive progress in material sustainability areas for approval by the Advisory Board.
- Endorse terms of references for any relevant project work.
- Review and comment on final project reports of MLA and Australian Meat Processors Corporation concerning RDA activities of the ABSF.
- Attend working groups for the Global Roundtable for Sustainable Beef, and other sustainability forums as nominated by the SG Chair.
- Responsible for developing and proposing indicators to ensure ongoing alignment with domestic and international sustainability reporting standards with recommendation made to the Advisory Board.

## Benefits in getting involved

The Chair of the SG has the opportunity to support the sustainability of the Australian beef industry by improving reporting on the care of our animals, land, people and communities.

Additionally, you will be part of a forward-thinking and collaborative group that strives for continuous improvement and to be on the forefront of industry sustainability reporting. There is also opportunity to engage with a wide variety of stakeholders throughout the Australian beef value chain that actively participate in and align with the ABSF.

## Key skills and qualifications

The ABSF Advisory Board is seeking a candidate that has production or industry experience across the lot feeding, grazing and processing sectors, along with a solid understanding of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) reporting.

The successful candidates will have expertise in the one or more of the following areas:

- Governance and chairing of committees
- Data confidence and objectivity, with scientific literacy
- Domestic and global markets and positioning
- Communications
- Beef cattle production and processing
- Knowledge of sustainability principles within the grassfed, lot feeding, or processing sector
- Willingness and availability to attend committee meetings and key events.

## Further information

For further information please contact:

Jacob Betros  
Manager – Beef Sustainability,  
Meat & Livestock Australia  
[jbetros@mla.com.au](mailto:jbetros@mla.com.au)

## To Apply

Interested applicants are encouraged to apply with a cover letter addressing the above skills and qualifications, complemented by their Curriculum Vitae

Applications are to be sent directly to [jbetros@mla.com.au](mailto:jbetros@mla.com.au) by COB Sunday 8 December 2024.

All applications are confidential.