



Australian Government  
Department of Agriculture,  
Water and the Environment



Future  
Drought  
Fund

# Science to Practice Forum

Building the Foundations of Drought Resilience

*29 June to 1 July 2021*



*The department acknowledges the traditional custodians of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to traditional custodians, their cultures and elders past and present.*

Drought is an enduring feature of the Australian landscape. It has economic, environmental and social impacts on farmers, communities and the landscape.

The Future Drought Fund (FDF) aims to build drought resilience – helping farmers and regional communities become more prepared for, and resilient to, the impacts of drought. It is part of the Australian Government's commitment to deliver the support that Australian farmers and communities need to be sustainable and productive.

## About the Science to Practice Forum

This event will connect researchers, farmers, agribusinesses, communities and governments to discuss practical opportunities and strategic challenges in building drought resilience across Australia.

The Forum will bring together for the first-time the eight new Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hubs who will present their region's co-design priorities and how they plan to address these issues over the next four years. There will also be opportunities to learn about the other Future Drought Fund programs, other national programs and initiatives such as the National Agricultural Innovation Agenda and contribute to the Research and Adoption Investment Plan.

## Registration

The Forum will be a hybrid that combines a virtual event with physical venues in seven of the Hub regions, and in Canberra, that are connected online.

Details about registration for the online and physical locations can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3geD1PW> or via the QR code.

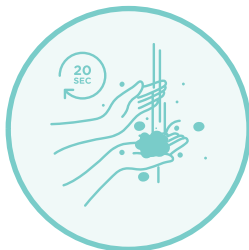


# COVID-19 Protocols and Sign-in

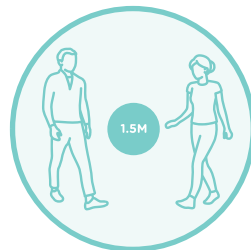
## Key COVID Measures



**STAY HOME IF UNWELL  
AND GET TESTED**



**WASH YOUR HANDS  
REGULARLY**



**KEEP YOUR DISTANCE –  
STAY 1.5M APART**



**AVOID PHYSICAL CONTACT –  
NO HAND SHAKING**



**IF SYMPTOMS DEVELOP,  
SEEK MEDICAL ADVICE**

Additional measures that only apply in certain states and territories include COVID marshals, mask-wearing, COVID-19 signage, and increased cleaning and disinfecting of venues, particularly high-touchpoints.

Before attending a Forum venue, please make sure you have registered to attend and have download your relevant state or territory check-in app. If you cannot access the relevant check-in app, we will have sign-in sheets available each day.

Violation of policies will cause removal from the event.

In the event of a COVID-19 lockdown or increased event restrictions within your state or territory, affected Forum venues will be cancelled. You may like to register to participate online in case there are last minute restrictions in your area.

## Access the dedicated online platform

Make sure you have registered for the Science to Practice Forum on Hopin. Registering on HopIn allows you to livestream the Forum on your personal device and gain access to the national chat, polls and Q&As.

## Signing in on the day

We recommend using **Google Chrome** to login to Hopin. Login to your Hopin account using the following link: [https://hopin.com/users/sign\\_in](https://hopin.com/users/sign_in).

You will be met with a welcome message asking you to sign in. Please enter **the same details** you used when registering for the Forum.

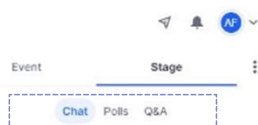
Your upcoming events



Click on the 'Science to Practice Forum – Building the Foundations of Drought Resilience' event to enter. You will then be taken to the reception where you can view the schedule for the event. To tune into the live event please click on the stage button.



## How to use the chat, polls, and Q&A functions



To chat, type into the box underneath the chat button. This is a place to speak to other attendees and share your thoughts.

The poll section, located in between the chat and Q&A functions, is where you can answer polls that may be asked over the three days. We recommend checking in on the poll section every so often to see if there are any new polls that you can answer.

The Q&A section is where you can ask questions of our speakers and event organisers.

Please note: Not all questions and comments will be answered and published during the event. If you have a pressing question that you would like answered that was not on any of the event days, please email it to [fdfhubs@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:fdfhubs@agriculture.gov.au).

# DAY 1: Tuesday 29 June 2021

All times are Australian Eastern Standard Time

## Opening ceremony

**10:00 – 10:30** Welcome to Country

### Opening Address

The Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management

### Vision for the Drought Resilience Hubs to inspire agricultural innovation

Andrew Metcalfe AO, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

## Keynote session: drought and innovation

**10:30 – 12:00** The Future Drought Fund

Brent Finlay, Chair of the FDF Consultative Committee and Travis Bover, Assistant Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

### Innovation driving science and exploration

Lloyd Symons, Polar Technology Manager, Australian Antarctic Division, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

### A vision for co-designed drought research

Dr Graham Bonnett, Interim Leader Drought Resilience Mission, CSIRO

**12:00 – 13:00** Lunch

## Hubs in focus

**13:00 – 14:30** Tropical North Queensland Hub

James Cook University

### Southern Queensland and Northern New South Wales Hub

University of Southern Queensland

### Southern New South Wales Hub

Charles Sturt University

## Investing in drought resilience

**14:30 – 15:15** The National Drought Resilience Research and Adoption Investment Plan

Michele Akeroyd, Director, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment and Alluvium Consulting

**15:15 – 15:45** Afternoon tea

## Stronger together: connecting communities for transformative outcomes

**15:45 – 17:00** Networks to Build Drought Resilience & Drought Resilience Leaders

Nina O'Brien, Disaster Resilience & Recovery Lead, Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal, and Philippa Woodhill, Partnerships Director, Australian Rural Leadership Foundation

### Getting Young Farmers off their Tractors

Alexandra Hicks, Young Farmer Business Program, New South Wales Department of Primary Industries

### Community engagement strategies to strengthen the preparedness of First Nations People through the adoption of drought resilient processes

Dr Raelene Ward, School of Nursing, University of Southern Queensland

### Drought, wellbeing and adaptive capacity in rural and regional Australia

Associate Professor Anthony Kiem, School of Environmental and Life Sciences, University of Newcastle

# DAY 2: Wednesday 30 June 2021

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## Hubs in focus

**10:00 – 11:40** **Welcome** – Kerren Crosthwaite, First Assistant Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment  
**Tasmania Hub**  
The University of Tasmania  
**Southwest Western Australia Hub**  
Grower Group Alliance  
**Northern Western Australia and Northern Territory Hub**  
Charles Darwin University

## Working with and for country

**11:40 – 13:00** **Jindaola - An Aboriginal Way of Embedding Knowledges and Perspectives**  
Professor Pascal Perez, Director of the SMART Infrastructure Facility, University of Wollongong and Jade Kennedy, Academic Developer and lecturer in Indigenous Knowledges, University of Wollongong  
**Droughtmasters in the Southern Rangelands**  
Debbie and Ashley Dowden, Challa Station  
**Climate Services for Agriculture and the Drought Resilience Self-Assessment Tool**  
CSIRO and the Bureau of Meteorology

**13:00 – 14:00** **Lunch**

## Panel session: designing a drought resilient future

**14:00 – 15:30** **What does a drought resilient future look like?**

- Amanda Leck, Executive Director, Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience
- Dr Liz Petersen, FDF Consultative Committee, Principal Applied Economist and Director of Advanced Choice Economics, and Adjunct Senior Lecturer at the University of Western Australia
- Enterprise Professor Bruce Pascoe, Indigenous Agriculture, University of Melbourne, and published author
- Dr Kate Andrews, Executive Officer for NRM Regions Australia, and Senior Lecturer at the Fenner School of Environment and Society, Australian National University.

**15:30 – 16:00** **Afternoon tea**

## Bridging the gap: research-to-end-user success stories

**16:00 – 17:00** **Demonstration of GrowAg, a tool developed by AgriFutures**  
Arianna Sippel, Senior Manager, GrowAg  
**Harnessing biodiversity to build resilience and sustainability in diverse agricultural systems**  
Professor Geoff Gurr, School of Agricultural & Wine Sciences, Charles Sturt University  
**Northern Australia Climate Program**  
Dr Chelsea Jarvis, Centre for Applied Climate Sciences, University of Southern Queensland  
**Developing a framework for tactical decision making to address feed deficits**  
Dr Warwick Badgery, Rangelands & Tropical Pastures Research Leader, New South Wales Department of Primary Industries  
**Building farmers' ability to manage effectively during drought: the [www.ifarmwell.com.au](http://www.ifarmwell.com.au) approach**  
Dr Kate Gunn, Department of Rural Health, University of South Australia  
**Queensland's Drought and Climate Adaptation Program (DCAP)**  
Dr Neil Cliffe, Program Manager of the Drought and Climate Adaptation Program, Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries  
**The Derwent Pasture Network, Tasmania: a dryland grazing community of practice**  
The Derwent Catchment Project  
**Resilient Together**  
Lorraine Gordon, Director of Strategic Projects, Farming Together and the Regenerative Agriculture Alliance, Southern Cross University

# DAY 3: Thursday 1 July 2021

All times are Australian Eastern Standard Time

## Connecting to national priorities

- 10:00 – 11:20** **Welcome** – Joanna Stanion, First Assistant Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment
- National Soil Strategy**  
Troy Clarkson, Assistant Director, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment
- Agriculture Stewardship Package**  
Ryan Wilson, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment
- Agricultural Innovation Agenda**  
Christine Mulhearn, Director, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

## Science into practice

- 11:20 – 13:00** **Chair:** Anwen Lovett, Climate Research Strategy for Primary Industries
- Almond irrigation best practice management**  
Mark Skewes, Research Scientist, South Australian Research and Development Institute
- Climate Smart Horticulture**  
Jessica Fearnley, Development Officer, New South Wales Department of Primary Industries, and Dr Allen Benter, Climate Applications and Digital Agriculture, New South Wales Department of Primary Industries
- Rural Research and Development Corporation's Climate Initiative**  
Matt Barwick, Research Portfolio Manager, Fisheries Research and Development Corporation
- Agricultural Innovation Australia**  
Michelle Ford, Acting CEO, Agricultural Innovation Australia

## 13:00 – 13:30 Lunch

## Hubs in focus

- 13:30 – 14:30** **Victoria Hub**  
The University of Melbourne
- South Australia Hub**  
The University of Adelaide

## Investing in drought resilience

- 14:30 – 15:30** **The National Drought Resilience Research and Adoption Investment Plan: Reflections on priorities and innovations arising at the Forum**  
Alluvium Consulting

## 15:30 – 16:00 Afternoon tea

## Innovation grants: information session

- 16:00 – 16:30** **Future Drought Fund Innovation Grants Information Session**  
Louise Palfreyman, Director, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

## Forum close

- 16:30** **Closing remarks**  
Lyn O'Connell, Deputy Secretary, Water, Climate Adaptation, Natural Disasters and Antarctic Group, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

