



National Agricultural Traceability Grants Program – Regulatory Technology Research and Insights Grant Round: Charles Sturt University grantee summary

Author: Charles Sturt University (CSU)

Project outcomes

The Australian AgriFood Data Exchange (AADX) project set out to create a secure, scalable and standards-aligned digital infrastructure to support data sharing across Australia’s agricultural supply chains. Its purpose was to make it easier for producers, processors, researchers and regulators to access, permission and use trusted data, particularly for traceability, compliance and sustainability outcomes.

Over the project period, AADX successfully delivered a minimum viable product comprising 3 core components:

- 1) A private data exchange for secure, permissioned sharing.
- 2) A data marketplace to publish.
- 3) Discover and monetise datasets and a data catalogue, providing structured access to public and private data assets.

These tools streamline data workflows, reduce duplication and create value through greater transparency and insight.

To ensure practical application, AADX was tested through 3 real-world case studies:

- 1) Cool Soils (CSU) – enabling low-emissions farming through improved access to emissions and productivity data.
- 2) Transition Hub (CSIRO) – sharing climate transition research to support local decision-making.
- 3) Sheep Sustainability Framework (Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) and Australian Wool Innovation (AWI)) – reducing manual reporting and improving traceability of environmental performance data.

The project also developed critical enablers for adoption, including onboarding resources, legal agreements, governance frameworks and common data schemas. These were co-designed with industry and aligned with the National Farmers Federation Farm Data Code.

Despite changes in the platform vendor, the project maintained strong momentum through contingency planning and co-investment from partners, including CSIRO, Fisheries Research and Development Corporation, AWI, MLA and CSU. The platform is now transitioning to a commercial phase as a dedicated business unit within CSU, governed by a multi-sector advisory committee and supported by a national data governance sub-committee.

National Agricultural Traceability Grants Program – Regulatory Technology Research and Insights Grant Round:
Charles Sturt University (CSU)

The AADX helps address a key barrier to agricultural traceability in Australia – the lack of system interoperability. By reducing compliance costs, enabling trusted data exchange, and creating an on-ramp for producers and subject matter experts, the platform supports market access, brand integrity and sustainability leadership. It is well positioned to become a national public-good infrastructure for digital traceability and regulatory technology adoption.

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the continuous connection of First Nations Traditional Owners and Custodians to the lands, seas and waters of Australia. We recognise their care for and cultivation of Country. We pay respect to Elders past and present, and recognise their knowledge and contribution to the productivity, innovation and sustainability of Australia’s agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries.

© Commonwealth of Australia 2025

Unless otherwise noted, copyright (and any other intellectual property rights) in this publication is owned by the Commonwealth of Australia (referred to as the Commonwealth).

All material in this publication is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International Licence](#) except content supplied by third parties, logos and the Commonwealth Coat of Arms.

The Australian Government acting through the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has exercised due care and skill in preparing and compiling the information and data in this publication. Notwithstanding, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, its employees and advisers disclaim all liability, including liability for negligence and for any loss, damage, injury, expense or cost incurred by any person as a result of accessing, using or relying on any of the information or data in this publication to the maximum extent permitted by law.