

# Sustainable Institutional Food Procurement Tasmania Project Overview



## The Project Why -

COVID-19 showed us how vulnerable our Australian regional food systems are to disruption, as have climate impacts like floods, storms, drought and fires. Our food systems also contribute emissions. These things combined create uncertainty, but fortunately also opportunity. For our future resilience we need sustainable food systems that reduce emissions, secure producer livelihoods including SMEs, regenerate our landscapes and biodiversity, shorten supply chains and provide equitable access to healthy seasonal food. Internationally sustainable food procurement by institutions is regarded as a significant lever to prepare our food systems for the future.

This project aims to make a start on the medium to long-term journey of transition in our food systems, align and add value to other Tasmanian and Australian projects, and build on the 2022 Churchill Fellowship findings and recommendations of Leah Galvin.



## The Project How -

- \* Scope and map the existing institutional food procurement system in Tasmania— institutions, policy, food service and suppliers.
- \* Establish a project Advisory Group with farm to institution members.
- \* Conduct public polling to demonstrate civil society support.
- \* Engage with political and institutional stakeholders to demonstrate need for action and future commitment to supporting sustainable food procurement.
- \* Develop case studies of institutions that are ready to explore the transition.
- \* Share lessons and tools with Australian stakeholders to build capacity.

## The Project Outputs -

- \* Current practice and opportunities for short term collaboration clearly identified.
- \* Case studies of demonstration and/or 'readiness' developed.
- \* Share project tools and approach with other projects and stakeholders.
- \* Additional funding leveraged to support expanded project activities.
- \* A Tasmanian Roadmap for future *farm to institution* program investment.
- \* Champions for sustainable food procurement are active and engaged in advocacy.

This project will run from July 2023 to July 2024 and is co-funded by Sustainable Table and the Healthy Tasmania Strategy through the Tasmanian Government.



## Strategic Alignment Across Government

The project will demonstrate how sustainable institutional food procurement can deliver against several Tasmanian policy and strategy objectives including:

### Healthy Tasmania (Department of Health)

"Promote the supply of local, affordable, nutritious food and reduce exposure to unhealthy food and drink, support Tasmanian organisations to buy and promote healthy local food to support local farmers and producers wherever possible."

### Buy Local Policy (Treasury)

The Policy enhances opportunities for Tasmanian businesses to compete for Government business by: requiring agencies to consider the wider community and social benefits of purchasing decisions; and promoting within Government, the advantages of buying locally.

### Tasmania's Small Business Growth Strategy (State Growth) and implementation plan

Objective 2 - Building on existing purchasing and procurement policies that support local suppliers, including options that increase flexibility and collaboration opportunities.

**Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) 2023 SIPP objectives** -Preparing our food system and agricultural sector for the future by creating innovative solutions to support industry with climate-smart agricultural practices, reducing waste and improving circular economy and the wise use of water; Improving the health safety and wellbeing within the Tasmanian agricultural sector including supporting localised food systems.

**Climate Action Plan (NRE)** - including reduce food waste by 50 % by 2030, increased resilience of agriculture, reduce emissions in agriculture and transport, **climate change considerations will be embedded in government decision making.**

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