



Partnership Prospectus

2025



Acknowledgement of Country

Zero Net Emissions Agriculture CRC acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands across Australia, where we live, work and learn.

We pay deep respect to Elders past and present and extend that respect to all First Nations people who have cared for Country for tens of thousands of years.

We honour their enduring connection to Country and knowledge passed down through generations.

Zero Net Emissions Agriculture CRC is committed to genuine Indigenous inclusion and will actively build respectful relationships with First Nations people, grounded in listening, learning and trust.

These relationships will bring together scientific insight and Indigenous wisdom to foster cultural awareness and understanding, to build a more sustainable future.

Together, we will shape a lower-emissions future for Australian agriculture.

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Introduction

At Zero Net Emissions Agriculture CRC, our vision is ambitious but essential: Zero Net Emissions from a thriving Australian agriculture sector.

Over the life of the CRC, we are investing in breakthrough science, technologies, and tools that empower farmers and land managers to reduce emissions while maintaining productivity, resilience and profitability. Our work is focused, practical and driven by the real-world needs of industry and producers.

Agriculture accounts for a significant share of Australia's national greenhouse gas emissions, ranging from 12% to 19% between 2005 and 2024. Most of these emissions, around 80%, come in the form of methane, primarily from cattle and sheep. That's why the CRC's core research and investment are centred on innovative, scalable solutions to reduce methane emissions from livestock.

What sets ZNE-Ag CRC apart is how we work in deep partnership with producers, agribusiness, researchers and policymakers to ensure that the solutions we develop are grounded, adoptable, and impactful.

We know the scale of the challenge ahead, and we know that collaboration is the key. The strength of the CRC lies in its community of partners who share our commitment to a low-emissions future for agriculture.

Together, we can position Australian agriculture as a global leader in climate-smart innovation.

I invite you to join us in shaping that future.



Richard Heath

Richard Heath
ZNE-Ag CRC Chief Executive Officer

About ZNE-Ag CRC

Zero Net Emissions Agriculture CRC (ZNE-Ag CRC) is leading the transition to sustainable, low-emission agricultural practices across the nation.

Working in collaboration with industry, governments, and leading researchers, we conduct large-scale, long-term research to accelerate the development and implementation of innovative emissions reduction solutions on Australian farms.

ZNE-Ag CRC received \$87 million from the Australian Government through the Cooperative Research Centres (CRC) Program from June 2024 to May 2034. This funding leverages, on average, 2-3 times that amount in partner cash and in-kind contributions, ensuring strong co-investment to lower emissions from Australian agriculture.

Vision

Zero Net Emissions from a thriving Australian agriculture sector.

Mission

Driving innovation for a low-emissions future by advancing practical, scalable solutions that enable producers and land managers to reduce emissions, enhance productivity, and protect natural resources.

Empowering Australian farmers to integrate emissions reduction knowledge and practices to enhance productivity, secure a sustainable future and protect the planet.

Values

- ▶ **Innovative** – We drive research and technology to deliver practical, scalable solutions that reduce emissions in agriculture.
- ▶ **Inclusive** – We value diverse perspectives and engage collaboratively with industries, governments, researchers and land managers to ensure solutions are equitable, effective, and relevant.
- ▶ **Accountable** – We act with transparency, integrity, and credibility, guided by evidence to inform our decisions and actions.
- ▶ **Effective** – We are outcomes-focused and committed to delivering measurable results that support the transition to a low-emissions future.
- ▶ **Collaborative** – We achieve more by working together, building strong partnerships to deliver shared successes.

Guiding principles

- ▶ **Evidence-based impact** – We are uniquely positioned to engage and bring stakeholders together, validate the technical and financial viability of emissions reduction solutions, and generate evidence that informs and shapes industry-led emissions reduction targets for Australian agriculture, aligned with 2040 and 2050 goals.
- ▶ **Targeted investment** – We prioritise timely investment in high-potential R&D that addresses industry-defined challenges and accelerates progress toward emissions reduction.
- ▶ **Practical solutions** – We focus on developing solutions that are not only effective in reducing emissions but also practical, scalable, and financially viable for Australian farmers.
- ▶ **National and global leadership** – We embrace a leadership role, both nationally and globally, to influence measurable, long-term change in agricultural emissions outcomes.
- ▶ **Enabling transition** – We are committed to creating actionable and achievable transition pathways that enable the adoption of lower-emissions practices and systems across diverse farming contexts.

Partnering with ZNE-Ag CRC

Accelerating the transition to zero-net emissions agriculture.

Our partners amplify their research investment, connect with the best research and development capability in Australia, and deliver trusted outcomes.



ZNE-Ag CRC delivers:



Trusted, Evidence-Based Outcomes

Research with the rigor and credibility farmers can rely on.



Cross-Sectoral, National Innovation

Driving transformation across the agricultural system.



Solve the Big Industry-Led Problems

Access a special purpose fund dedicated to breakthrough challenges in zero-net emissions agriculture.



Shape Research, Deliver Impact

Drive projects aligned to industry needs, backed by strong co-investment leveraging the \$87M Commonwealth funding.



Access to the Greatest Minds

A connected network of national and global leaders in agriculture and emissions reduction.



Nationwide Adoption Ecosystem

Translate innovation into on-farm impact and adoption with leading agribusiness partners.



Build Future Capability

Shape the next generation of industry-ready talent through our PhD, education and training programs.

Our Research

We invest in innovative research across four Research Programs.

- 1 Low Emissions Plant Solutions
- 2 Towards Methane-Free Cattle and Sheep
- 3 Whole Farm and Mixed Enterprise Systems Analysis
- 4 Delivering Value from Net Zero

Alongside the Research Programs, is a dedicated Education and Training program to equip the research sector and industry with the knowledge and skills to develop and implement new practices effectively. This program includes a focus on Indigenous inclusion and engagement to strengthen cultural awareness and ensure two-way knowledge exchange in the transition to a lower emissions future.

The Research Programs are also supported by a Commercialisation and Adoption Program that incorporates a nationwide network of Producer Demonstration Sites. These sites will provide practical examples of emissions reduction technologies in action, helping to drive adoption and scale solutions across industry.

Become part of a bold and collaborative movement shaping the future of Australian agriculture, delivering measurable emissions reductions, economic resilience, and a thriving industry for future generations.

Extension and Adoption: Delivering Practical Results on the Ground

Our focus is on ensuring that research leads to real-world outcomes. A significant proportion of research investment is dedicated to extension and adoption to deliver results on Australian farms.

Our partners are contributing to a national adoption ecosystem designed to translate innovation into impact.

Practical solutions developed through the CRC's research programs are channelled into a structured pipeline that includes:



Demonstration across 25 Producer Demonstration Sites (PDS) nationally, providing on-farm validation of emissions reduction technologies.



Engagement with a broad cross-section of the agriculture industry through CRC and partner networks.



Development of collateral and extension materials, including economic analysis, case studies, and communication tools.



Deployment through education and training, including short courses, and train-the-trainer programs.



Develop expertise through a **PhD Program**.

This integrated approach ensures that innovations are not only developed but also adopted - supporting widespread change across Australian agriculture.



Sponsorship opportunity

First and exclusive access to Annual Conference sponsorship opportunities and host partnerships.

R&D Tax Incentive

CRC industry partners may be eligible for the Australian Government's R&D Tax Incentive, which provides a tax offset for eligible R&D activities conducted in Australia.

- ▶ Companies with an annual turnover of less than \$20 million may receive a refundable tax offset of up to 43.5%.
- ▶ Larger companies may be eligible for a non-refundable offset, with rates based on their R&D intensity.
- ▶ The incentive supports partners in reducing the cost of eligible R&D, enhancing the value of their investment in CRC projects.

Eligibility and claim amounts are subject to guidance from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and AusIndustry. Partners should seek independent tax advice to confirm their entitlements.

For official guidance, visit the R&D Tax Incentive page on business.gov.au.

Contribution claims towards Science Based Targets

Partnering with the CRC enables organisations to make credible contribution claims under the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) framework, by supporting **Beyond Value Chain Mitigation (BVCM)**.

While investment in research does not generate verifiable emissions reductions or Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs), the SBTi recognises the

importance of financing mitigation with uncertain or unquantifiable outcomes, such as R&D into emerging climate technologies. This is explicitly encouraged as part of a company's BVCM strategy.

By investing in the CRC, partners can:

- ▶ **Channel finance into climate-relevant R&D**, aligned with SBTi's definition of "complementary measures".
- ▶ **Demonstrate leadership** by going above and beyond their value chain to support long-term climate solutions.
- ▶ **Make contribution claims** based on dollars spent, rather than tonnes reduced, as part of a broader climate strategy.
- ▶ **Position themselves for future verification**, as third-party platforms emerge to validate BVCM strategies.

This approach allows partners to align with global best practice, strengthen their climate credentials, and contribute meaningfully to the development of technologies that will underpin future mitigation.

Partner-Specific Portfolio Reporting

Partners receive tailored reporting that identifies the portfolio of CRC projects most relevant to your organisation's strategic priorities, stakeholders, and board-level interests.

While the CRC maintains the principle of collective investment, we recognise the value in helping partners clearly articulate how their involvement aligns with their own climate, innovation, or sectoral goals. This reporting doesn't change the way investments are made, but it does offer a practical midpoint: visibility over the projects your organisation can point to, talk about, and take to your board with confidence.













The tiered partnership model provides flexibility for organisations of all sizes, while ensuring every partner plays an active role in shaping, delivering, and benefiting from the partnership.

Investment Opportunities

Partnership with the CRC is not passive – it means being at the table where decisions are made, projects are steered, and outcomes are realised. A baseline of industry participation is a requirement of every stage of the investment lifecycle and signals meaningful engagement, ensuring partners expertise, leadership, and resources are actively contributing to CRC projects.

TIER 1	TIER 2	TIER 3	TIER 4
\$300,000 per annum and above plus in-kind contributions	\$150,000 per annum and above plus in-kind contributions	\$75,000 per annum and above plus in-kind contributions	Less than \$75,000 per annum and above plus in-kind contributions
<p>Lead projects, plus participate across unlimited projects</p> <p>Eligible to be a Member of the CRC.</p> <p>Can nominate up to two independent Board members.</p> <p>First rights to access the CRC's industry-embedded PhD Program.</p> <p>First rights to sponsor the Pathways to Zero Net Emissions Annual Conference.</p> <p>All rights associated with lower partner tiers.</p>	<p>Involvement in up to six projects</p> <p>Eligible to be a Member of the CRC.</p> <p>Eligible to have a representative on relevant program, project, and partner committees.</p> <p>Can vote for Board members on a pro-rata basis in proportion to their cash contribution.</p> <p>Can access the CRC's PhD candidate program.</p> <p>Signatories to the Participants Agreement and individual Project Agreements.</p> <p>All rights associated with lower partner tiers.</p>	<p>Involvement in up to three projects</p> <p>IP rights negotiated on a project-by-project basis, allocated pro-rata cash contributions.</p> <p>Eligible to have a representative on relevant project committees.</p> <p>Can nominate research priorities for consideration.</p> <p>Partner contributions may be eligible for R&D tax concessions (subject to professional financial advice).</p>	<p>Involvement as required, supplying specific capability</p> <p>Interact and work with the CRC in a collaborative and strategic way.</p> <p>Benefit from the emergence and adoption of new ZNE-Ag CRC technologies and provide specialist expertise in specific projects.</p> <p>These partners may, in some cases, be signatories to Project Agreements, and may be eligible for R&D tax concessions (subject to professional financial advice).</p>

Strategic Framework

Three Strategic Themes guiding investment and activities 	 Develop Technologies Create, integrate and deliver practical scientifically credible and scalable solutions to drive emissions reduction from Australian agriculture.	 Demonstrate Value Create economic, environmental and social value for end-users by building relationships and pathways for adoption, commercialisation, education and engagement.	 Deliver Impact Validate, measure and communicate outcomes using credible data and transparent reporting to deliver progress.		
Four Research Programs building knowledge and solutions 	 Low emissions Plant Solutions Solutions to reduce emissions across broadacre, horticultural and livestock systems, including the use of enhanced efficiency fertilisers, legumes and in-setting options, as well as reducing emissions in cattle and sheep via the delivery of new low-emissions pasture and forage systems.	 Towards Methane-Free Cattle and Sheep Technology and quantification required to transition livestock to a low-methane emission future.	 Whole-Farm Mixed Enterprise Systems Analysis Integration of the science emerging from the CRC to provide farmers with the guidelines, resources, metrics and benchmarking tools required for a profitable transition to net-zero emissions.	 Delivering Value from Net Zero Renewable energy and circular economy solutions that create profitable opportunities for agribusinesses and rural communities. Improving supply chain management and enhancing access to key export markets.	
Two Enabling Functions supporting scaling and adoption 	 Adoption and Commercialisation Co-designing research to be tested on-farm, at scale and over a long-term to validate findings. <ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Accessible, reliable data produced on active Producer Demonstration Sites▶ Collaboration with end-users to validate solutions and increase adoption potential, including validated, relatable case studies and papers▶ Evidence of cumulative impacts of emissions reduction technologies▶ User-friendly communication and education materials, including digital technologies.		 Education and Training Ensuring the research sector and industry is equipped with the knowledge and skills to implement new technologies and practices. <ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ An Indigenous Academy for two-way knowledge exchange▶ PhD students working with industry partners for industry impact▶ Undergraduate agriculture coursework modules▶ Targeted short courses for industry training and professional development▶ Professional development for secondary school and vocational (VET) educators.		

What our Partners say

“We can see great opportunity for supporting emission reduction in agriculture that will help us to support our farm suppliers.”

“We value research, development and extension/education investment opportunities and the ability to leverage a diverse network of partners all motivated by a common goal to reduce emissions in Agriculture.”

Our Partners

ZNE-Ag CRC brings together partners spanning universities, industry, and government.

Our network includes major agrifood enterprises, agtech innovators, grower and producer groups representing thousands of farmers, farm service and supply companies, a leading supermarket and bank, all levels of government (state, territory, and federal), and 11 Australian universities.

TIER 1 PARTNERS



TIER 2 PARTNERS



TIER 3 PARTNERS



TIER 4 PARTNERS



Governance and Operations

ZNE-Ag CRC is governed by an independent Board of Directors that is responsible for strategic direction, organisational culture, funding allocations, risk management, compliance and accountability of the organisation.

Progress of ZNE-Ag CRC will be closely monitored with regular reviews, financial oversight and risk assessment to maintain accountability and transparency. Currently established Board Committees are:

Finance, Audit, Security and Risk Committee (FASRC) - oversees financial integrity, audit processes, risk management, and information security to ensure effective governance and accountability

Nominations, Remuneration and Performance Committee (NRPC) - responsible for overseeing board nominations, executive remuneration, and performance evaluation to support effective leadership and governance

Research Investment and Commercialisation Committee (RICC) - considers investment cases put to it from the Research Advisory and Management Committee, takes guidance from the Industry Advisory Committee, and recommends project investment cases to the Board for approval

Industry Advisory Committee (IAC) - ensures open, collaborative and constructive partnerships between research and industry and is responsible for evaluating project investment cases with respect to industry needs, commercialisation prospects and pathways, and assessing adoption potential in Australian agricultural industries

Led by the CEO, the **Executive Management Team** delivers the day-to-day management of the organisation, ensuring that all aspects of business administration and objectives are being met. The Research Director, four Research Program Leaders, and the Education and Training Program Leader and Producer Demonstration Site Leader, provide technical expertise, oversee research projects and ensure industry relevance.

The **Research Advisory and Management Committee (RAMC)** fosters open, collaborative, and constructive partnerships between researchers and industry, playing a central role in aligning priorities and coordinating the development of robust, high-impact investment cases with ZNE-Ag CRC partners.

How to Join

If you are ready to collaborate and be part of the solution for lower emissions agriculture, please reach out to us.

To discuss partnering with us, please contact:

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