



**SAGIT**

Office Use Only

Project Code	
Project Type	

# FINAL REPORT 2022

Applicants must read the *SAGIT Project Funding Guidelines* prior to completing this form. These guidelines can be downloaded from [www.sagit.com.au](http://www.sagit.com.au)

Final reports must be submitted by email to [admin@sagit.com.au](mailto:admin@sagit.com.au) as a Microsoft Word document in the format shown **within two months** after the completion of the Project Term.

<b>PROJECT CODE</b>	AGX121G-2021
<b>PROJECT TITLE</b> (10 words maximum)	
Ag Excellence Forum – A Climate of Opportunity in Ag	

<b>PROJECT DURATION</b> <i>These dates <b>must</b> be the same as those stated in the Funding Agreement.</i>	
<b>Project start date</b>	<b>9/08/2021</b>
<b>Project end date</b>	<b>9/08/2021</b>

<b>PROJECT SUPERVISOR CONTACT DETAILS</b> <i>(responsible for the overall project)</i>		
<b>Title:</b>	<b>First Name:</b>	<b>Surname:</b>
Ms	Kerry	Stockman
<b>Organisation:</b>	<b>Ag Excellence Alliance</b>	

**PROJECT REPORT:** Please provide a clear description for each of the following:

**Executive Summary** (200 words maximum)

*A few paragraphs covering what was discovered, written in a manner that is easily understood and relevant to SA growers. A number of key dot points should be included which can be used in SAGIT communication programs.*

Ag Excellence Alliance hosts an annual Forum to provide member grower groups and the industry with a networking and capacity building opportunity. The Forum is usually a face to face event however due to restrictions 'A Climate of Opportunity in Ag' was held as a virtual hybrid event. The program included a number of keynote, farmer and scientific speakers with panel and breakout sessions.

Keynote speaker highlights included:

- Prof Mark Howden, Director, ANU Institute for Climate, Energy & Disaster Solutions
- Fiona Simson, President, National Farmers Federation & Farmer, Liverpool Plains NSW
- Prof Richard Eckard, University of Melbourne & Director, Primary Industries & Climate Challenges Centre

**Project objectives**

*A concise statement of the aims of the project in outcome terms should be provided.*

The overall objective is to *increase awareness* on the opportunities for landholders to take action and engage on carbon neutral industry goals.

The Forum will *build awareness and capacity* of key influencers on soil carbon, markets, industry targets, sustainability frameworks and examples of implementation on farm.

The Forum will ignite a *conversation* around what can be done on farm to achieve carbon neutral goals and identify the gaps that exist in understanding, knowledge and research.

Attendees will leave with *confidence* around seeking further information that aids decision making.

**Overall Performance**

*A concise statement indicating the extent to which the project objectives were achieved, a list of personnel who participated in the Research Project including co-operators, and any difficulties encountered and the reasons for these difficulties.*

The greatest challenge of the Forum was moving from a face to face to a hybrid event. Kerry Stockman, Admin Manager and Emma McInerney, Regional Ag Landcare Facilitator, worked closely with Encore to set up the Chime Platform to run the hybrid event. The day was a success with the following data collated:

- 196 Eventbrite Registrations
- 584 Live Stream Views
- 138 Delegates Logged In
- 175 Speaker Profile Views
- 90 Partner Profile Views
- 74 Resource Page Views
- 14 Partner Banner Clicks
- 3618 Page Views.

Both speaker and delegate feedback was overwhelmingly positive with the level of engagement in the Q&A Sessions being testament to this.

Click [here](#) for a detailed outline of program and speaker lineup as well as access to the recordings. Click [here](#) for the complete Forum Evaluation Report.

## KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPI)

Please indicate whether KPIs were achieved. The KPIs **must** be the same as those stated in the Application for Funding and a brief explanation provided as to how they were achieved or why they were not achieved.

KPI – <i>Not Applicable</i>	Achieved	If not achieved, please state reason.
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION (Not to exceed **three** pages)

Provide sufficient data and short clear statements of outcomes.

The Forum provided a wide variety of technical knowledge across the broader ag industry, including:

- Prof Mark Howden, Director ANU Institute for Climate, Energy & Disaster Solutions – ‘The Climate of Agriculture’
- Fiona Simson, President National Farmers Federation & Farmer, Liverpool Plains – ‘Industry Carbon-Neutral Targets’
- Prof Richard Eckard, Professor University of Melbourne & Director Primary Industries & Climate Challenges Centre – ‘Carbon Methods, Trading, Markets & Tools’
- Dr Mark Farrell, Principal Research Scientist CSIRO – ‘Policy and Practicalities of Soil Carbon’
- Dr Amanda Schapel, Senior Soils Consultant Primary Industries & Regions – ‘South Australian Soil Carbon Benchmarking’
- Simon Wallwork & Cindy Stevens, Chair AgZero2030 & Farmer Corrigin WA – ‘Carbon Neutrality in a Cropping System’
- Tom Grant, General Manager Pannell Wines – ‘Utilising a Pest to Improve Soil Quality’
- Dr Sharon Harvey, R&D Program Manager Wine Australia – ‘Towards CarbonZero for the Wine Sector’
- Ed Scott, Soil Scientist & Director Soil & Land Company – ‘Soil Carbon in Vineyards’
- Oli Madgett, Director Platfarm – ‘The Madgetts Block’
- Doug McNicholl, Manager Sustainable Innovation, MLA – ‘The Journey to Carbon Neutral’
- Dr Stephen Weidemann, Managing Director Integrity Ag – ‘Presentation not available’
- Matthew Harrison, Director Carbon Storage Partnership UTAS – ‘Carbon Neutrality Opportunities for Livestock’
- Dr Ellen Litchfield, Farmers for Climate Action – ‘Climate Change and Farming Communities’

- Liam Moltoni, Malt Barley Merchant Boortmalt Group – ‘The Journey to Becoming Carbon Neutral’
- Sam Duncan, Chief Executive Officer Farm Lab – ‘FarmLab is Xero for Soil’
- Adrian McCabe, Chair Grain Producers SA – ‘A Grain Producers Perspective’

## CONCLUSIONS REACHED &/OR DISCOVERIES MADE (Not to exceed one page)

*Please provide concise statement of any conclusions reached &/or discoveries made.*

Summation and evaluation of the event include the following conclusions:

- The shift to a virtual hybrid event still attracted a large number of attendees
- 66% of delegates were very satisfied, 33% satisfied and only 1% not satisfied
- Overwhelming majority were either satisfied or very satisfied with the presenters and quality of the content
- When asked to rate their understanding of the farming pathway to carbon neutral, 63% were informed and 19% were very informed
- 85% of delegates would like to continue the journey towards carbon neutral with future support from the farming group networks

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

*Please provide concise statement of any intellectual property generated and potential for commercialisation.*

Not applicable

## APPLICATION / COMMUNICATION OF RESULTS

*A concise statement describing activities undertaken to communicate the results of the project to the grains industry. This should include:*

- *Main findings of the project in a dot point form suitable for use in communications to farmers;*
- *A statement of potential industry impact*
- *Publications and extension articles delivered as part of the project; and,*
- *Suggested path to market for the results including barriers to adoption.*

*Note that SAGIT may directly extend information from Final reports to growers. If applicable, attach a list of published material.*

- All recordings and presentations are available on the Ag Ex website
- A number of social media posts were scheduled to promote this access
- Evaluation of the event using data sourced from the event, also available on the Ag Ex website

## POSSIBLE FUTURE WORK

*Provide possible future directions for the research arising from the project including potential for further work and partnerships.*

- Follow up workshops are planned early next year in the northern and yorke region
- New strategic plan includes ‘climate resilience’ as one of Ag Ex’s four priorities, specifically looking at helping grower groups deal with the growing challenges associated with climate change by identifying and connecting them with relevant trustworthy bodies and information sources. As well as supporting grower groups in

the development of climate-related adaption, mitigation and transformation opportunities

- The viticultural breakout panel went on to further collaborate to investigate updating the soil sampling protocol for growers of vines and permanent tree crops so that soil sampling points are stratified by these 2 different management zones.