

PATHWAYS TO ACTION – Framework

Achieved through clear goals that leverage food procurement for food system change: supporting health, equity, sustainability and resilience. We need:



Leadership

- **Government officials** at all levels of government working on procurement policy/regulation, the Feeding Australia strategy, and administering relevant funding programs
- **Institutional staff** in universities, schools, residential aged care facilities, prisons, hospitals, and long day care responsible for translating policy into procurement practice
- **Civil society actors** including researchers, entrepreneurs, farmers, business owners, and social enterprise leaders who supply regeneratively produced food and advocate for systemic change
- **Indigenous leaders** including food system experts, farmers, and advocates to ensure indigenous food sovereignty is respected and embedded throughout all processes
- **Philanthropic organisations** and impact investors



Investment & Time

- Increase food systems literacy
- **Short term** – detailed feasibility and scoping to **identify readiness** and context for **demonstration and quick actions**, including coordination and capacity building to create an equipped workforce
- **Medium term** – support actions in targeted settings identified
- **Long term** – scale up to other regions and cities
- For a minimum and consistently for 10 years, acknowledging contracting cycles and the significant transition needed across the food system



Measurable Action Coupled with Monitoring

- Codesign and embed agreed **targets/ standards/criteria** to achieve system goals
- Introduce supportive **regulation**
- **Produce guidelines** to embed and achieve the targets for impact and effectiveness
- **Regular monitoring** of institutional practices, policy and food system change/impacts to inform progress, identify enablers and barriers, and scale implementation



Governance & Partnerships

- Include academics as partners in applied research to inform progress and demonstration site decisions
- **Cross-sectoral**, across government, and including food system actors and civil society
- Include **Indigenous representatives** and food sovereignty acknowledgment



Coordination & Capacity Building

- Expand food systems literacy
- Invest in connection infrastructure for all levels of system and resilience planning and demonstration projects – place/regions, state/territory and Commonwealth
- Use **Communities of Practice** to build skills in institutions and with food system actors; deliver **public campaigns** to improve food systems literacy
- Codesign across value chains with all scales of farmers, processors, anchor institutions (e.g. procurers/ buyers, sustainability managers, chefs and food service staff, menu planners), Indigenous people, wholesalers/ aggregators, government and civil society. Consider on farm planning and seasonality

PRIORITY SETTINGS

Short term (quicker wins; 2-4 years) in place-based/ regional projects with anchor institutions – such as long day care, residential aged care and Meals on Wheels due to their dispersed nature; the emerging food and nutrition requirements and connection with community; Antarctic base supplies (an annual arrangement); COP 31; social supermarkets²⁰²

Medium term (3-6) – Schools, hospitals and corrections (due to contracting cycle, procurement guidelines reform and scale); Olympics 2032 Food Vision

Longer term – Defence

