



## The Biosecurity 2030 Project: a collaboration driving national biosecurity reform for nature and sustainable agriculture

### Overview

Right now, invasive species is one of the greatest threats to our environment, economy and way of life. It is responsible for dramatic species extinctions and decline, threatening devastating crop failure and livestock disease. Urgent action is required to protect Australia's environment and support sustainable food systems.

**That's why, for the first time in recent history four organisations – Animal Health Australia, Invasive Species Council, Centre for Invasive Species Solutions and Plant Health Australia – representing agricultural and environmental interests, have joined forces as the Biosecurity Collective to create the Biosecurity 2030 Project.** The project builds a powerful alliance to confront these unprecedented challenges.

The Biosecurity 2030 Project is an ambitious initiative designed to both drive and achieve preventative biosecurity practices to protect our farms and bushland, people and wildlife and transform our national biosecurity system. Funding is sought for a dedicated role to coordinate joint efforts and make this the decade of biosecurity! Your investment can help stop the next pandemic of the natural world from landing on our shores and wreaking havoc.

### Issue

Our future is clearly in sustainable agriculture. But sustainable agriculture is only as good as the environment and community that supports it. Unfortunately, risks from invasive species to Australia's agricultural systems and environment are growing at an accelerated rate due to increased global trade and travel. Australia does have a biosecurity system that is meant to protect our farms and nature, but our despite best efforts it's no longer fit for purpose. **There are major gaps in Australia's biosecurity net that must be fixed urgently if we are to successfully fend off what's coming and continue to succeed as a world-leader in biosecurity prevention and preparedness.**

For example, in 2010, myrtle rust disease made it to our shores, placing 45 species at serious risk of decline, with one already due for imminent extinction. Myrtle rust has the potential to destroy significant numbers of native plant species in wildlife and livestock grazing ecosystems, including vegetation needed for waterway stabilisation and agroforestry. We must prevent the next strain that could potentially wipe out even more plant species including large numbers of eucalypts.

Australia's livestock industries are free from many animal diseases found in other parts of the world. The continued global spread of African swine fever poses an immense threat to Australian pig production and health, whereas highly pathogenic avian influenza would have a dramatic impact on both our economy and public health.

We can solve this urgent problem. **We can and must achieve government commitments for a stronger national biosecurity system** that is innovative, dynamic and well-funded in order to keep harmful pests and diseases out of Australia.

### The Biosecurity 2030 Project

**Biosecurity 2030 Project is an ambitious and powerful biosecurity alliance which will drive the transformative biosecurity reform we need.**

A stronger fit-for-purpose biosecurity system will achieve a positive impact by implementing preventative biosecurity practices capable of keeping pests and diseases out of Australia, off our farms and lands and out of harm's way for animals. Specifically, it can:

- Prevent pests and weeds from impacting crops, livestock and the environment;
- Support safer and more sustainable food systems by significantly reducing the need for harmful pesticides and herbicides; and
- Manage pests and disease on farms and in the environment.

The Biosecurity 2030 Project aims to achieve these goals by:

1. Designing a multi-stakeholder, innovative biosecurity system;
2. Advocating for sustainable funding for the national biosecurity system;
3. Mobilising a strong multi-sector biosecurity mass movement to achieve bipartisan federal government support; and
4. Securing a formal national biosecurity partnership agreement between government, industry and the community.

This work leverages multi-sector support and is being developed in collaboration with governments. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Australian Biosecurity Symposium (a key activity within the Biosecurity 2030 project) being convened in October 2021 is our opportunity to turn this moment into a movement.

### Biosecurity – the most effective way

**A strong national biosecurity system, achieved by 2030, is the best way to ensure sustainable food systems and the environment are effectively protected from destructive invasive species.** The Biosecurity 2030 Project began in 2019 and as a key initiative has already secured support from strategic partners including Landcare Australia, National Farmers’ Federation, NRM Regions Australia and National Landcare Network. Importantly, the Australian Government recognises the need to improve the biosecurity system. This initiative is critical to drive the momentum needed to bring about the needed changes.



2019 Biosecurity Symposium host Costa with Invasive Species Council CEO, Andrew Cox

### Project budget and funding opportunities

**\$125,000 per year for three years is sought for a dedicated coordinator to make this the decade for biosecurity.** The role will deliver the project and build multi-sector stakeholder momentum on behalf of four groups: Animal Health Australia (host), Plant Health Australia, Invasive Species Council and the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions (funds recipient).

#### Project budget

Project component	Cost per year
Salary for dedicated coordinator	\$100,000
Project costs	\$25,000
<b>Project total</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>

#### Gift table

Funding opportunity	Gifts	Amount	Total yr 1
Founding Benefactor	1	\$50,000	\$50,000
Founding Partner	2	\$25,000	\$50,000
Founding Supporters	5	\$5,000	\$25,000
<b>Project total</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>\$125,000</b>

### Thank you

You can help fund this powerful collaboration to create a strong biosecurity system to stop pests and diseases arriving in Australia. This project will have a big impact on the environment and agriculture. We must protect and defend our environment, economy and livelihoods from harmful invasive species.

### Contacts

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### Tax deductibility status

Donations for the project are to be made to the Invasive Species Solution Fund. The Invasive Species Solutions Fund is managed by the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions and has DGR1 deductible gift recipient status. Bank details for donations can be provided on request.