

# FOOD IN THE CAPITAL

**9-10 AUGUST, 2022**

AUSTRALIA'S ONLY NATIONAL CONFERENCE  
DEDICATED TO CITY-REGION FOOD SYSTEMS

# DRAFT PROGRAM



SUSTAINABILITY  
OF FOOD



FUTURE  
OF FOOD



BUSINESS  
OF FOOD

# ABOUT US

Having successfully illustrated the many moving components that make up a sustainable city-region food system during Food in the Capital 1 and 2, Food in the Capital is now **Australia's only national conference dedicated to City-Region Food Systems**. It deep-dives into the critical role food production, consumption, and associated technologies must play in achieving a fully sustainable city, bringing together businesses, thought leaders, researchers and government from Southern NSW and the ACT, and new city-region food initiatives across Australia and around the globe. Embracing the growth in the use of conferencing technologies and the need for hybrid events for the foreseeable future, the event model is both live and online, with marketing for our 2022 conference encouraging a global audience.

Aligning with the initiative of the FAO (Food & Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations), the event continues to challenge current thinking, showcase technology, and create conversations about what actions are required to establish a system-wide urban food model – a model that can grow tourism, birth new food businesses, serve local, national and export markets, and rebuild the economy, while also enabling greater livability, nutrition and inclusion outcomes.

**ALL OF THE CHAIN:** Convening our entire food value chain for the first time, including farmers, food manufacturers, distributors, retailers, providers, transport/storage and restauranteurs.

**SUSTAINABILITY:** Recognising food as the missing piece of the puzzle for creating a fully sustainable city underpinned by addressing food waste, renewable energy, water, transport and livability objectives.

**A FUTURE FOOD SYSTEM:** Developing a system that best serves the needs of Canberra and the Capital region to help generate more abundant, more nutritious local food with fewer emissions, food miles, water and waste.

**BUSINESS & EXPORTS:** Aiding the establishment and growth of food businesses in local, regional and national markets and tourism and exports.

**TRADE DISPLAY, TOURS AND CONFERENCE PROGRAM:** Featuring striking technological developments in vertical farming, the circular economy and advanced food manufacturing.

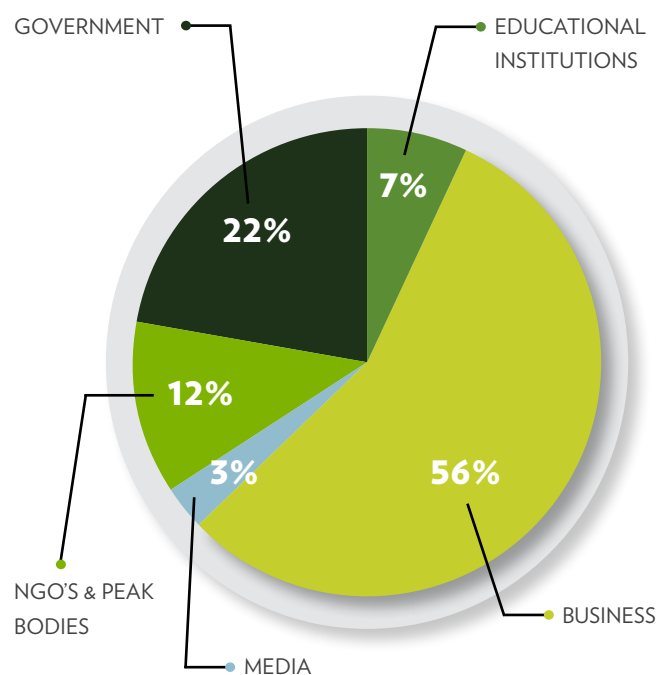
FOOD IN  
THE CAPITAL

# OBJECTIVES

- Create a pilot city-region food system in the ACT region that sets the standard for implementing city-region food systems across Australia and globally.
- Help food businesses sell more into Canberra and other markets.
- Identify leading trends in food production for cities and share capacity and brand building ideas to grow the presence of local food in the regional, national and global marketplace.
- Recognise the need for a systemized whole-of-value-chain approach to regional food production, mapping possible paths forward for Canberra.
- Provide a compelling demonstration of the latest technologies and initiatives needed for a thriving city-region food system.
- Secure recognition of food's critical role in achieving Government objectives of livability, sustainability, carbon reduction and broader economic objectives while bridging the urban-region divide.
- Create awareness of the food circular economy and commitment by key stakeholders to utilise and reduce food waste.

# AUDIENCE

Food in the Capital (FIC) 1 and 2 reached a venue capacity of 120 for FIC1 and 220 for FIC2 and were sold out a week before the event. Both events also had a strong online presence from Australian and International delegates who were otherwise unable to attend. Based on past attendance, we expect FIC3 to have an in-person audience of around 300 and an online presence of around 200.



# PROGRAM



## **FOOD** IN THE CAPITAL

9-10 AUGUST 2022

Having successfully illustrated the many moving components that make up a sustainable city/region food system during Food in the Capital 1 and 2, Food in the Capital is now Australia's only dedicated City/Region Food Systems Conference that deep-dives into the critical role food production, consumption and associated technologies must play in achieving a fully sustainable city.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

## **PRELIMINARY PROGRAM**

8 AUGUST 2022

## **PRE-EVENT ACTIVITIES**

### **Farmers Market Convivium**

Farmers markets have become the ubiquitous face of quality farm produce direct to the consumer in Australia.

This by invitation only pre-FIC event brings together many of Australia's founders and leaders in the sector for the first time. An opportunity to share experiences and look ahead.

### **'Welcome to Canberra' Networking Event**

9 AUGUST 2022

## MORNING SESSION

# VISION AND STRATEGY

**INTRODUCTION** - Mr Ross MacDiarmid – Chair, Regional Development Australia ACT

**OPENING** - Minister, ACT Agriculture and Food Policy

**KEYNOTE** - The RUAF Global Partnership on sustainable Urban Agriculture & Food Systems

The RUAF Global Partnership on Sustainable Urban Agriculture and Food Systems is a consortium of expert institutions and individuals that includes cities, research institutes and NGOs, with a recognised track record in urban and peri-urban agriculture and urban food system solutions. The partnership is a platform for learning and knowledge brokering between science, policy and practice.

**PANEL** - City-Region Food models – Panel 1 (Facilitator Henry Gordon-Smith - Agritecture)

**PRESENTATION** - Canberra Region food Collaborative Q&A

The ACT is developing its own agrifood sector strategy for creating a Canberra Region Food Bowl setting directions for the next decade or more. Realising the vision of a fully integrated City-Region food system will need strong governance, a trusted intermediary working between Government and enterprises and a participatory co-design process involving all stakeholders to help shape our food future.

**PANEL** - Food and Farm Business Incubation

The Canberra Region Food Collaborative will support all manner of food enterprises and initiatives. Food business incubation will take pride of place. We need to assist both small food producers and farmers to build their businesses and for some to scale-up. A younger generation are keen to get involved but they need training, financial support, and good advice to do so. The rewards are there as this panel will show.

## AFTERNOON SESSION

# SKILLS AND INFORMATION

**SCENE SETTER** - The economic impact of local food systems

**PRESENTATION** - William Angliss Institute - Training needs for Urban & Regional food production

Research shows that barely 50% of urban farmer start-ups have any prior experience or training. Our food system will need to boost formal training, workshops, master classes and mentoring. This panel will identify what is needed, how it can be funded and explore what is needed to encourage people to consider jobs and careers in agrifood.

**PANEL** - Food Skills & Training – WAI, CIT, Spark, UWS

**SCENE SETTER** - Food for Social Impact - Disability

**PRESENTATION** - Food Agility CRC – Solving the Information Challenge

**PANEL** - Data & Digitisation (research and region focused) Facilitator: David Eyres, Future Food Systems CRC  
Information is everything. The digitisation of the agricultural and food sector is proceeding apace – helping support and optimise provenance, food safety, transport efficiency and production. A significant gap exists around bringing some of these technologies to bare on local food systems and linking regional and smaller volume produce into the larger national system. We will hear about what's going on in this space and what we might need to examine to help our local and regional enterprises get more visibility and get their product to Canberra consumers more easily and cheaply.

**PARALLEL SESSION** - Food E-Commerce Platforms Presentations

Seafood diets – see it and eat it! Visibility is everything – the trust inherent in local food networks needs to have an infrastructure. This parallel session will feature presentations by Australia's leading local food e-commerce platforms as well as discussions of results from the trials of related transport and logistics solutions. Take this opportunity to meet the providers and consider registering your business on their platforms.

OPTIONAL DINNER

## CHEFS, FOOD SERVICE & SAFETY

10 AUGUST 2022

MORNING SESSION

## DESIGN FOR BEAUTIFUL FOOD

**KEYNOTE** - Flavia Fayet-Moore – Nutrition Research Australia

Nutritionists point out that a variety of fresh, naturally grown produce is best for our health and vitality. Australia remains beset by a host of health conditions stemming from obesity and poor diet. Backed by education and knowledge consumers know that part of the answer is more local food production. Consumer survey data shows that the market for better food is huge and yet to be tapped. Whether it is lentils or a local iceberg lettuce the answers to many of our health issues hide in plain view.

**PANEL** - Nutrition and Sustainable Food – Australia's leading nutritionists and consumer experts

**SCENE SETTER** - Food for Social Impact – Investors & Philanthropists

**PANEL** - Food Waste

The second panel on food waste in the FIC series will go deeper on the various aspects of reducing food waste: how to utilise this resource to assist a range of purposes from organics fertilizers through to high end confectionary products.

**PRESENTATION** - Sundrop Farms – Innovation, Technology and Imagination

Agtech and various technologies are everywhere – whether simple innovations or large sophisticated machines. Sensors which relay data to food producers need to be part of this equation although the cost and complexity of what's on offer can scare smaller enterprises off. In this session we will look deeper at the role of Agtech – what's already being used and what is becoming available that can help better serve the producers in the Canberra Region.

**PANEL** - Agtech for your urban farm; Greenhouses, Small Scale Processing, Manufacture (regional focus)

Facilitator: CBRIN

OPTIONAL AFTERNOON  
**TOUR**

Experiencing a Canberra Food Trail



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