



# ARA Sustainability Framework

2026

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# 1.1 The ARA Sustainability Framework: On A Page

## Vision

A globally trusted and sustainable Australian rendering and UCO recycling sector, recognised for recovering value from meat processing co-products, used cooking oil and other recoverable materials.

## Strategic Focus Areas & Commitments

### Circular Economy

Keep animal co-products and other recoverable materials in productive use, while minimising waste

### Environmental Protection

Reduce GHG emissions and support effective air management practices

### Resource Efficiency

Optimise resource use through technology, innovation and continuous improvement

### Market Access

Secure and expand market access by demonstrating product integrity, traceability, biosecurity and supply chain assurance

## Our foundations: support for people, communities and industry

*Skilled people, safe and responsible workplaces, constructive community relationships and resilient value chains underpin our industry's long-term sustainability.*

## Enablers

**Collaboration and Industry Engagement**

**Insights, Evidence and Communication**

**Capability Building and Enablement**

**Standards and Accreditation**

**Metrics:** the way in which we will move towards monitoring our progress over time.



# 02

## Background



## 2.1 Who we are and who we represent

**The Australian Renderers Association (ARA) is the national industry body for Australia's rendering and used cooking oil (UCO) recycling sector. We represent and advocate for rendering and UCO businesses across domestic and international markets.**

### Who we are

The ARA represents a sector that plays an important role in Australia's broader circular economy. Our members recover value from animal co-products from the meat processing sector that are not suitable for human consumption, along with UCO, and convert these inputs into valuable products used in stockfeed, pet food, aquafeed, biofuels, cosmetics, and other industrial applications. In doing so, the sector contributes to resource efficiency, supports key supply chains and helps ensure materials are retained in productive use.

The ARA supports the industry through advocacy, trade, accreditation, and industry capability development, providing a coordinated industry voice to governments, regulators, customers, and other stakeholders. ARA also provide training and accreditation support to help guide members through industry requirements and promote safe, sustainable, and high-quality operations.

ARA works to uphold the standards that support a safe, credible and sustainable industry. Through ARA's Code of Practice and Accreditation program, ARA provides a framework for consistent practice, which is delivered in partnership with AUS-MEAT.

### Who we represent

ARA represents a diverse membership across Australia's rendering and UCO recycling sectors, reflecting the breadth of the value chain and the different roles required to recover, process, trade, and sell rendered products, recycled fats and oils, and other recoverable materials in domestic and international markets. ARA's members range from operational businesses directly involved in rendering and UCO recycling through to traders, logistics providers, technology suppliers, testing and assurance bodies, and other industry stakeholders such as industry associations, regulators, customers, and export market participants.

### Our membership base

|                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Integrated renderers</i>            | Members that undertake rendering as part of a broader meat processing enterprise.                                                                                                               |
| <i>Service renderers</i>               | Specialist operators that collect and process animal co-products, sometimes on behalf of other businesses within the supply chain.                                                              |
| <i>UCO recyclers</i>                   | Members that recover and process recycled fats and oils into downstream markets such as biofuels and industrial applications.                                                                   |
| <i>Associates and overseas members</i> | Organisations that support the sector through services, technology, inputs or other forms of industry participation.                                                                            |
| <i>Industry associations</i>           | Members that reflect ARA's broader industry network, including peer bodies and international connections.                                                                                       |
| <i>Traders and overseas members</i>    | Members that help connect Australian rendered products, UCO, and recycled fats and oils with domestic and export markets, supporting market access and commercial flows across the value chain. |



## 2.2 Why the ARA is developing a Sustainability Framework

**The Australian rendering and UCO sectors play an inherently sustainable and practical role in enabling resource recovery and maximising value across some of Australia's largest agricultural supply chains. As sustainability-related challenges and opportunities continue to emerge, a coordinated, industry-led response is needed.**

### Context

In a rapidly changing operating environment, members of the ARA are increasingly being asked by customers, regulators, investors, and communities to demonstrate how sustainability topics are being identified, understood and managed across the industry.

At the same time, external pressures are increasing, including evolving regulatory requirements such as sustainability and climate-related disclosures, rising energy and input costs, and the emergence of trade barriers linked to sustainability performance. Broader geopolitical and environmental uncertainty is also shaping market conditions and reinforcing the need for resilience. Together, these factors are contributing to a growing expectation that the industry can articulate its sustainability performance in a consistent manner.

In that context, ARA, on behalf of its members, commissioned the development of a Sustainability Framework that is intended to act as a consistent industry narrative, one that can be used to help the industry engage with sustainability and key stakeholders in a clear and consistent manner.

### This Framework aims to provide:

- A clear set of sustainability priorities for the industry, which have been informed by a double materiality assessment (DMA)\*, broad industry consultation, and a representative advisory group;
- A structured approach to addressing material sustainability topics;
- A set of common definitions and language, to support the industry and its members to communicate sustainability consistently to its stakeholders; and
- A foundation for baselining, tracking progress, and building industry insights over time, supporting sustainability reporting and helping to tell the industry's sustainability story

### The ARA Sustainability Framework is not:

-  A mandatory requirement that requires completion by members, i.e. it is not a certification process.
-  Prescriptive in terms of tasks or methods by which a business is "sustainable".
-  A replacement for existing business-specific sustainability activities, strategies, frameworks or national/global regulatory or voluntary standards.

*\*Double materiality considers both the impact the industry has on the economy, environment, and people (impact materiality), as well as risks and opportunities that affect the industry financially (financial materiality)*



# 03

## Development of the Framework

## 3.1 Leading practice approach to developing a Sustainability Framework

The ARA Sustainability Framework was developed through a structured approach, combining a DMA with iterative framework design and stakeholder validation.

### Double Materiality Assessment (DMA)

Double materiality considers both the impact the industry has on economy, environment, and people (impact materiality), as well as risks and opportunities that affect the industry financially (financial materiality).

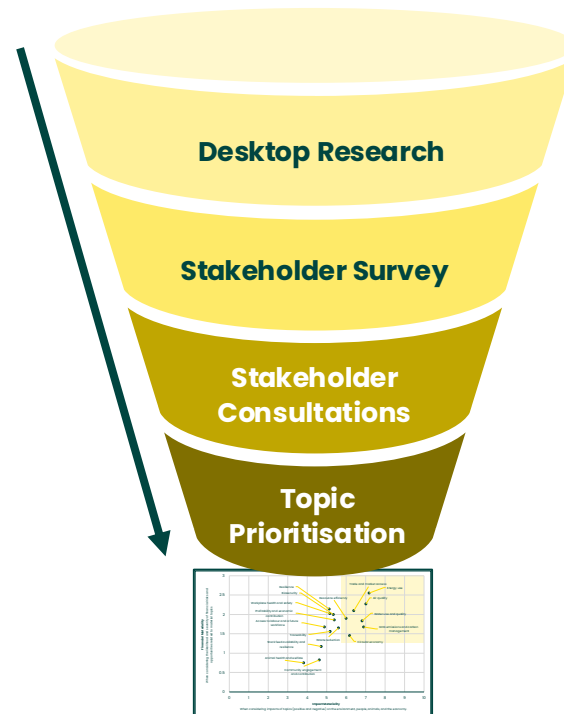
Typically, materiality assessments are used to identify the material topics an entity should prioritise for reporting to stakeholders. In this case, the DMA has been applied at an industry-wide level to identify material topics relevant across the Australian rendering and UCO sectors.

The DMA approach combines two specific elements:

- The GRI, which informs **impact materiality**, and
- The AASB, which provides guidance on **financial materiality**.

The benefit of a DMA is that the approach:

- Aligns with growing stakeholder expectations;
- Supports the identification and management of priority sustainability topics; and
- Considers both financial implications and broader impacts.



### Developing the Framework

#### Framework design

Material topics were translated into a structured Sustainability Framework, including four strategic focus areas, commitments, underpinning elements, and enablers. This included refining definitions, terminology, and the overall narrative to ensure clarity, support external communication, and reflect industry priorities and strengths.

#### Iterative refinement through industry engagement

The Framework was refined through ongoing engagement with an expert advisory group and an executive Steering Committee, incorporating feedback on structure, language, and topic coverage. This included updates such as area structure and language, incorporating additional topics (e.g. biosecurity), strengthening the emphasis on resource efficiency and industry value, and ensuring the Framework supports a clear outward-facing narrative and stable long-term positioning.

#### Design of commitments and enablers

Commitments were developed for both the ARA and its members, reflecting how change is delivered across the industry while avoiding overly prescriptive targets. Enablers were defined to support implementation, including identifying required capability building, reporting guides case studies, peer learning, forums, and workshops.



## 3.2 Maintaining and evolving the Sustainability Framework

**The ARA Sustainability Framework is foundational for ARA, designed to evolve in line with industry maturity, emerging priorities and performance insights.**

### A practical foundation for industry-wide sustainability alignment

This Sustainability Framework represents a significant milestone for ARA, bringing together industry input and a shared ambition to establish a consistent and aligned approach to sustainability. As the first framework of its kind for the sector, it provides a strategic foundation for coordinated action, ARA-led actions, member engagement, and roadmap implementation, while recognising that sustainability is an emerging and evolving focus for many ARA members.

Accordingly, the Framework is positioned as an ambitious yet practical starting point. It is designed to support the gradual development of capability, consistency, and performance across the industry over time, enabling members to progress at different stages of maturity while working toward common goals.

The Framework balances long-term stability with flexibility. Its four focus areas establish an enduring structure for ARA's sustainability priorities and reflect the most material topics at a given point in time. These focus areas are expected to evolve as industry practices, risks and stakeholder expectations change.

This approach also acknowledges the complexity of the industry, including dual value chains and differing sector dynamics. As a result, the Framework is intended to allow for variation in interpretation and emphasis, while maintaining a shared foundation for alignment, accountability and progress across the industry.

### Reviewing a Sustainability Framework

Consistent with good practice, ARA's Sustainability Framework will be subject to periodic review to ensure it remains relevant, effective and aligned with industry needs. An initial three-year review cycle is recommended, reflecting the early stage of the Framework. This timeframe allows for sufficient embedding of the Framework, development of reliable data, and assessment of performance, while enabling timely refinement where needed. As the Framework matures, this cycle may extend to three to five years, aligning with common practice and supporting greater industry stability.

Ongoing implementation and monitoring will generate increasingly robust data and insights, strengthening ARA's understanding of industry performance and areas of impact. Over time, updates to the Framework will be informed by:

- shifts in industry trends, risks and regulatory expectations;
- changes in material sustainability topics; and
- performance outcomes indicating where effort should be strengthened or reprioritised.

Through this structured review process, the Framework will continue to evolve in an evidence-based and responsive manner, ensuring it remains aligned with the industry's most material sustainability priorities and supports continuous improvement over time.



## 3.3 Governance of the Sustainability Framework

**Developed through extensive industry collaboration, the Framework is underpinned by robust governance to ensure continuous improvement and alignment with evolving expectations.**

### Industry collaboration during the development process

ARA's Sustainability Framework was developed through extensive collaboration, consultation and support from across the industry. Its development was guided by an Industry Advisory Group (IAG) and a Steering Committee.

The IAG brought together members from the across the rendering and UCO value chains. IAG members represented businesses of various size and scale, as well as location and value chain. The IAG provided critical input and feedback on the development of the Framework, ensuring it represents the views of members and is fit for purpose for members and the ARA itself as the representative association.

Complementing this, a Steering Committee made up of ARA Board representatives, ensured the Framework aligned with ARA's broader strategic objectives. It also guided the development of the Framework to support dual-track usage: as a structured roadmap for ARA to support whole of industry progress on sustainability and as a standardised, practical tool that members can use as a source of information on guiding their own sustainability efforts within their businesses.

### Ongoing governance of the Sustainability Framework

To ensure ongoing industry alignment, fitness for purpose and accountability of the Sustainability Framework the following governance structures will be maintained moving forward.

| Governance Forum                            | Membership                                          | Meeting Cadence        | Purpose                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| IAG                                         | 8-10 Members, who've nominated to participate       | As needed              | In alignment with the IAG Terms of Reference, the IAG provides structured input to the development and maintenance of the Framework.                                                                         |
| Sustainability Framework Steering Committee | 2-3 ARA Board Members and the ARA Executive Officer | 1-2 per year           | Provide overall ARA direction on the design, development and implementation of the Sustainability Framework. Support annual review of roadmap progress, member engagement, and emerging industry priorities. |
| ARA Board                                   | As already established                              | As already established | Endorse the ongoing use and maintenance of the Framework, championing it in market and ensuring it remains updated to incorporate emerging trends or issues.                                                 |



# 04

## The ARA Sustainability Framework

## 4.1 The Structure of ARA's Sustainability Framework

ARA's Sustainability Framework provides a clear and structured approach to defining, prioritising, and communicating the sustainability topics that matter most to the industry. Aligned with good practice, the Framework links vision, focus areas, commitments, enablers, and metrics to guide delivery and track progress over time.

**VISION:** A vision serves as an enduring promise. It's a short, sharp, future focused, aspirational and inspirational statement that sets the ambition levels for the industry.

**STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS:** Guide where the ARA focuses its sustainability efforts, focusing on the most material topics.

Focus area 1

Focus area 3

Focus area 2

Focus area 4

**UNDERPINNING ELEMENTS:** Foundational considerations that sit beneath strategic focus areas and account for the industry's less material topics. They remain core priorities for the ARA and are areas of continuous improvement.

**COMMITMENTS:** Defined for each focus area, a commitment sets out ARA's strategic intention for the industry.

**ENABLERS:** The practical actions that the ARA and its members could undertake to progress towards its sustainability objectives.

**METRICS:** Data points that could be used by ARA to track and measure progress towards its sustainability commitments over time.



## 4.2 The ARA Sustainability Framework: On A Page

### Vision

A globally trusted and sustainable Australian rendering and UCO recycling sector, recognised for recovering value from meat processing co-products, used cooking oil, and other recoverable materials.

### Strategic Focus Areas & Commitments

#### Circular Economy

Keep animal co-products and other recoverable materials in productive use, while minimising waste

#### Environmental Protection

Reduce GHG emissions and support effective air management practices

#### Resource Efficiency

Optimise resource use through technology, innovation and continuous improvement

#### Market Access

Secure and expand market access by demonstrating product integrity, traceability, biosecurity and supply chain assurance

### Our foundations: support for people, communities and industry

*Skilled people, safe and responsible workplaces, constructive community relationships and resilient value chains underpin our industry's long-term sustainability.*

### Enablers

**Collaboration and Industry Engagement**

**Insights, Evidence and Communication**

**Capability Building and Enablement**

**Standards and Accreditation**

**Metrics:** the way in which we will move towards monitoring our progress over time. See page 31-33.



## 4.3 FOCUS AREA 1: CIRCULAR ECONOMY

To keep animal co-products, UCO and other recoverable materials in productive use, whilst minimising waste generated throughout the value chain.



| Material Topics          | Circular economy                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Waste reduction                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Our Commitment           | Optimise the recovery and productive use of animal co-products, UCO, and other recoverable materials, whilst minimising waste generated throughout the value chain |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Our Enablers             | For ARA                                                                                                                                                            | Develop an Australian specific, consistent industry-wide approach to defining and communicating the circular economy contribution of rendering and UCO, and actively represent the industry in key forums to increase recognition of this role. | Curate and showcase case studies and examples of businesses that have adopted circular economy principles and waste reduction practices, and the outcomes they're delivering. | Engage with value chain partners to identify initiatives to drive circularity activities with upstream (livestock, processors, restaurants, food service) and downstream (feed, energy, manufacturing) partners.  | Use the ARA Symposium, member forums and industry communications to bring emerging circular economy and waste reduction innovations to members, including opportunities to recover additional value from process residuals. |
|                          | For members                                                                                                                                                        | Consider contributing to ARA-led case studies to highlight practical examples of circular economy and waste reduction practices for industry members.                                                                                           | Draw on ARA-developed guidance and industry messaging, where relevant, to support a unified value chain narrative on rendering and UCO's circular economy contribution.       | Consider identifying circular economy and waste reduction opportunities within operations, including opportunities to recover value from process residuals and reduce waste generated throughout the value chain. | Engage with the ARA-led forums, Symposium sessions, and value chain initiatives to understand emerging circular economy, waste reduction innovations, and collaboration opportunities.                                      |
| What can ARA members do? |                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

How will we measure our progress? See pages 31–34.



## 4.3 FOCUS AREA 2: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY

Embedding approaches that improve the efficient use of energy, water and operational inputs across rendering and UCO operations, while maintaining water quality and responsible resource management.



| Material Topics          | Resource efficiency                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Energy use                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Water use and quality                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Our Commitment           | Enhance resource efficiency across rendering and UCO operations through technology, innovation and continuous improvement. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |
| Our Enablers             | For ARA                                                                                                                    | Enable industry resource-use baselining through a third-party, anonymised member survey to establish a clear, data-driven understanding of current resource use and support future benchmarking as data maturity improves. | Develop simple templates to enable members to consistently and accurately measure and track resource use over time.                                                                                                                                                         | Develop evidence-based case studies to demonstrate proven, financially viable solutions to improve resource efficiencies for renderers and recyclers.                                                  | Establish peer-learning programs to accelerate adoption by enabling members to share experiences and lessons learned. This could include topic-specific training workshops and site visits to locations using better practice.                                        |  |
| What can ARA members do? | For members                                                                                                                | Consider participating in third-party, anonymised resource-use member surveys; this will allow ARA to build greater visibility on industry wide resource efficiencies and help to identify new activities for adoption.    | Consider adopting ARA measurement tools, and, where practical, invest in systems to track, manage, and assess resource use across operations, supporting more accurate resource-use data, year on year comparison, and identification of resource efficiency opportunities. | Look to review ARA case studies to identify relevant interventions that could improve resource efficiency and explore participating in trials or where there is a clear operational or commercial fit. | Consider engaging with ARA-led workshops, forums and working groups to support knowledge sharing, peer learning and the identification of opportunities to improve resource efficiency within the business through technology, innovation and continuous improvement. |  |

How will we measure our progress? See pages 31–34.



## 4.3 FOCUS AREA 3: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Embedding responsible practices and process efficiencies to reduce GHG emissions, support responsible air management and meet regulatory obligations, as part of protecting the natural environment and supporting responsible industry operations.



| Material Topics          | Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and carbon management                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Air management                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Our Commitment           | Safeguard the environment by reducing GHG emissions across operations and the value chain, while supporting effective air management practices. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Our Enablers             | For ARA                                                                                                                                         | Support the development of an industry operational emissions baseline and practical decision-support tools to help members identify major GHG emissions sources, assess potential abatement opportunities and understand investment requirements. | Develop and disseminate best-practice guidance, case studies and training to educate and support members in air management, including odour risk management, regulatory obligations, and relevant operational, design, and technology improvements. | Establish peer learning programs to support knowledge sharing on emissions reduction, carbon management and air management practices, including workshops, forums and site visits.                                     | Enable collective positioning of the industry’s emissions reduction potential, including through biofuels, resource recovery and operational abatement to support access to low-carbon markets and other future revenue opportunities. |
|                          | For members                                                                                                                                     | Consider supporting the development of an industry operational baseline emissions inventory and abatement insights to identify potential emissions reduction initiatives.                                                                         | Assess practical opportunities to reduce operational emissions through low-carbon and renewable energy options, fuel switching, biofuels, biomethane, and other abatement initiatives.                                                              | Review ARA best-practice guidance and consider implementing appropriate air management and emissions controls, including odour risk management practices and relevant operational, design and technology improvements. | Explore participating in ARA-led forums and information sessions on carbon markets, renewable fuel certification and assurance schemes, energy certification schemes, and other low-carbon market opportunities.                       |
| What can ARA members do? |                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

How will we measure our progress? See pages 31–34.



## 4.3 FOCUS AREA 4: MARKET ACCESS

**Maintaining trusted access to domestic and international markets by demonstrating product integrity, traceability and biosecurity across the value chain to meet regulatory requirements and support consumer confidence.**



| Material Topics          | Traceability                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Trade and market access                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Biosecurity                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Our Commitment           | Secure and expand market access by demonstrating trusted product integrity, traceability, biosecurity, and supply chain assurance. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Our Enablers             | For ARA                                                                                                                            | Maintain and periodically review the existing ARA Accreditation Program to ensure it continues to support robust, credible industry practice and remains aligned with regulatory requirements, internationally recognised standards and market expectations.                                              | Lead advocacy on market access, including engagement with government (such as DFAT and DAFF), regulators, the World Renderers Association, WOA and other policy and standard setting value chain stakeholders to influence policy and trade settings. | Identify priority markets and cultivate strategic relationships with key stakeholders through trade missions, hosting forums, targeted promotion, and market development activities.                | Support members to understand evolving traceability, certification and assurance expectations that may affect market access and supply chain credibility.                                                                        |
|                          | For members                                                                                                                        | Maintain relevant accreditation and quality assurance systems, including ARA Accreditation, and build staff capability through ARA Accreditation Workshops, member meetings and industry events to support product integrity and supply chain assurance for rendered products and recycled fats and oils. | Consider contributing trade, operational, technical and market insights to support ARA’s market access prioritisation, advocacy, policy engagement, and technical submissions.                                                                        | Engage with ARA-led market development activities, including expos, forums and promotional opportunities, to support customer engagement, stakeholder relationships and access to emerging markets. | Review evolving certification and assurance expectations, including digital traceability technologies, that may support market access and supply chain credibility, and assess implications for business systems where relevant. |
| What can ARA members do? |                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

How will we measure our progress? See pages 31–34.



## 4.3 OUR FOUNDATIONS: PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES AND INDUSTRY

ARA recognises that a resilient and sustainable rendering and used cooking oil industry is underpinned by a skilled workforce, safe workplaces, responsible employment and supply chain practices, constructive community relationships, and a robust value chain. We are committed to supporting these foundational areas to protect industry resilience, maintain confidence and grow future demand for rendered products and recycled fats and oils.



Workforce capability, responsible employment, strong workplace health and safety practices, community engagement, and economic performance are critical underpinning elements of ARA's Sustainability Framework. These elements are fundamental to the safe and responsible operation of facilities and support the consistent delivery of sound environmental practices across the value chain.

**To support members to maintain their social licence to operate, ARA can:**

- **Support workforce capability** through training, professional development and peer-led knowledge sharing, including ARA workshops, member meetings and events.
- **Build industry understanding** of safe, responsible and skilled industry operations, and the role of ARA members in maintaining trusted supply chains.
- **Strengthen industry coordination and resilience**, by facilitating collaboration across the value chain and coordinating responses to emerging risks.
- **Advocate for settings that support industry continuity and growth**, including through engagement with regulators, customers and other stakeholders.

**ARA members** play a key role in growing the industry sustainably. Industry growth will require members to support workforce capability, maintain safe, compliant and responsible operations, and contribute to industry-wide collaboration, capability building and advocacy.

**What can ARA members do to underpin the sustainable industry of the future?**

- **Invest in staff training and professional development programs** to support workforce attraction, retention, and capability, including attendance at ARA workshops, member meetings and industry events.
- **Maintain safe, compliant, inclusive, and responsible employment practices** in line with applicable Australian workplace legislation and work health and safety requirements.
- **Engage proactively with local communities**, and manage site impacts such as odour, noise and traffic are in line with regulatory requirements.
- **Contribute to ARA led initiatives**, working groups and member training, including sharing practical insights where feasible to support industry capability, collaboration, and advocacy.

### What's driving our underpinning elements?

*These elements are foundational to the safe, responsible, and sustainable operation of the industry. They underpin the four strategic focus areas and remain critical to workforce capability, community confidence, value chain resilience, and long-term industry performance.*

Profitability and economic contribution

Animal health and welfare

Access to labour and a future workforce

Workplace health and safety

Community engagement and contribution

Climate change and supply chain resilience

Stock feed availability



# 05

## Roadmap

## 5.1 Implementation Roadmap for a Sustainability Framework

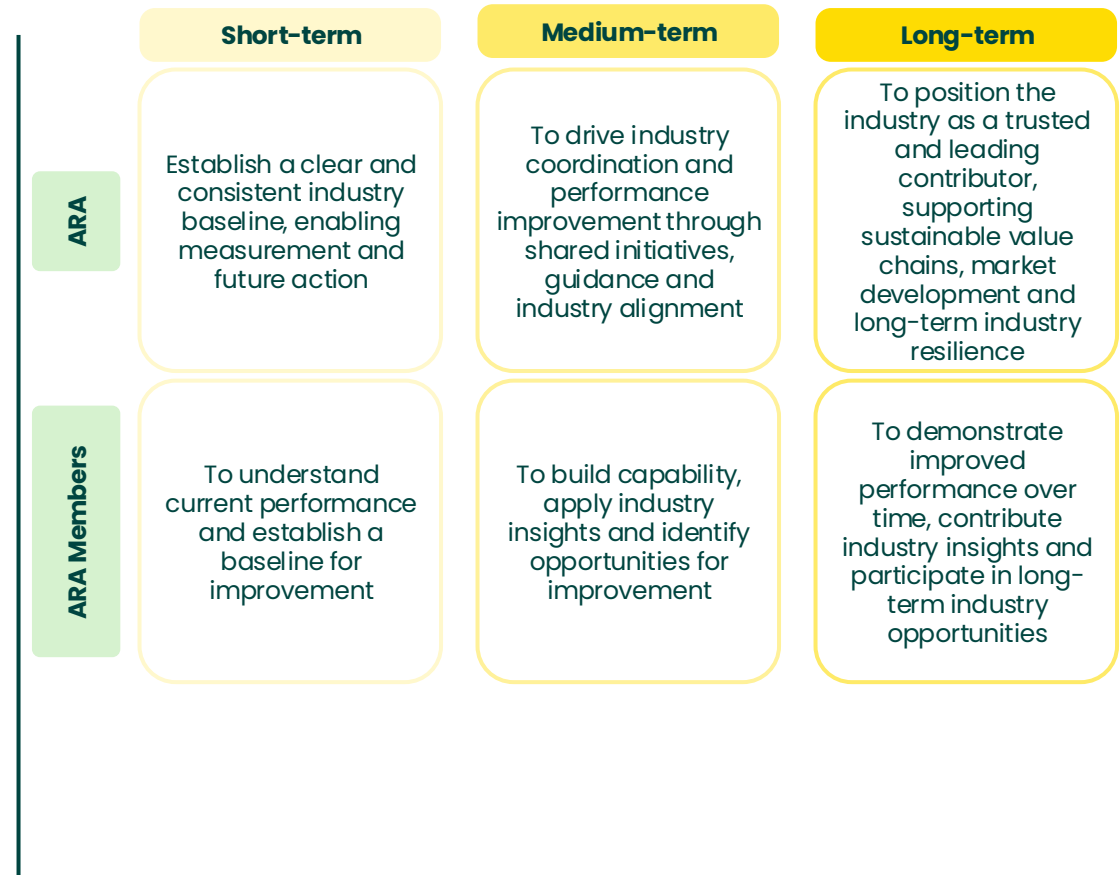
**This roadmap translates ARA's overarching sustainability objectives into a clear, actionable, and measurable plan for implementation. It adopts a phased approach across the short, medium, and long term, providing a structured pathway for progressing sustainability outcomes over time.**

### A roadmap with ambition, grounded in practicality

The roadmap outlines the respective roles of ARA, as the industry representative body, and its members across each of the Framework's focus areas. ARA's role focuses on convening forums and working groups, sharing case studies, supporting advocacy, and building consistent industry narrative, developing guidance and establishing industry baselines. In parallel, ARA members are encouraged to participate in ARA-led activities, map current performance, identify practical opportunities, implement site-appropriate improvements, and contribute insights where feasible.

Recognising that this is the first sustainability framework for the industry, the roadmap establishes foundational activities in the short term to build baseline capability, support industry alignment and enable effective implementation. Over the medium term, these actions are intended to embed practical guidance, consistent practices and strengthen alignment with good practice approaches. In the long term, the roadmap positions the industry to demonstrate improved performance, contribute to industry-wide reporting, and be recognised as a trusted and leading participant in sustainable value chains.

This staged approach acknowledges the varying levels of maturity across the membership and supports a practical, achievable transition toward stronger sustainability performance at both the organisation and industry level.



## 5.2 Roadmap

### FOCUS AREA 1: CIRCULAR ECONOMY

| Stakeholder  | Short-term                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Medium-term                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Long-term                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ARA:         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop an Australian-specific, consistent industry-wide approach to defining and communicating the circular economy contribution of rendering and UCO recycling.</li> <li>Curate and showcase member case studies that demonstrate circular economy and waste reduction practices, and the outcomes they're delivering.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use the ARA Symposium, member forums, and communications to bring emerging circular economy and waste reduction innovations to members.</li> </ul>                                                                                                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with value chain partners to identify initiatives to drive circularity activities with upstream and downstream partners.</li> </ul>                                                      |
| ARA Members: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider contributing practical circular economy and waste reduction examples to ARA-led case studies.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draw on ARA guidance and messaging to support a unified value chain narrative on rendering and UCO's circular economy contribution.</li> <li>Consider identifying practical circular economy and waste reduction opportunities within operations.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with ARA-led forums, Symposium sessions, and value chain discussions to understand emerging circular economy and waste reduction innovations and collaboration opportunities.</li> </ul> |



## 5.2 Roadmap

### FOCUS AREA 2: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY

| Stakeholder  | Short-term                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Medium-term                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Long-term                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ARA:         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enable industry resource-use baselining through a third-party, anonymised member survey to establish an understanding of current resource use and support benchmarking.</li> <li>• Develop simple templates to enable members to consistently and accurately measure and track resource use.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop evidence-based case studies to demonstrate proven, financially-viable solutions to improve resource efficiency.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish peer learning programs to accelerate adoption of innovations that improve resource efficiency.</li> </ul>                                                                  |
| ARA Members: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider participating in third-party, anonymised resource-use survey.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider adopting ARA measurement tools, and where practical, invest in systems to track, manage and assess resource use.</li> <li>• Review ARA case studies to identify relevant interventions that could improve resource efficiency and explore participating in trials.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider engaging with ARA-led peer learning programs to support knowledge sharing, peer learning and the identification of opportunities to improve resource efficiency.</li> </ul> |



## 5.2 Roadmap

### FOCUS AREA 3: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

| Stakeholder  | Short-term                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Medium-term                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Long-term                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ARA:         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support development of an industry operational emissions baseline.</li> <li>Develop practical decision-support tools for emissions reductions opportunities.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop best-practice guidance, case studies and training on air management.</li> <li>Establish peer-learning programs to support knowledge sharing on emissions reduction, carbon management, and air management practices.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enable collective positioning of the industry's emissions reduction potential to support access to low-carbon markets and other future revenue opportunities.</li> </ul>          |
| ARA Members: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider supporting the development of an industry operational baseline emissions inventory.</li> </ul>                                                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess practical emissions reduction and abatement opportunities.</li> <li>Review ARA best practice guidance and consider implementing appropriate air management and emissions controls.</li> </ul>                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exploring participating in ARA-led forums and information sessions on carbon markets, renewable fuel certification schemes, and other low-carbon market opportunities.</li> </ul> |



## 5.2 Roadmap

### FOCUS AREA 4: MARKET ACCESS

| Stakeholder  | Short-term                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Medium-term                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Long-term                                                                                                                                                                            |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ARA:         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain and periodically review the existing ARA Accreditation Program.</li> <li>• Lead advocacy on market access, including engagement with government, regulators and other policy and standard setting value chain stakeholders.</li> </ul>                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify priority markets and cultivate strategic relationships with key stakeholders through trade mission, hosting forums, targeted promotion, and market development activities.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support members to understand evolving traceability, certification and assurance expectations.</li> </ul>                                   |
| ARA Members: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain relevant accreditation and quality assurance systems including ARA Accreditation and invest in staff capability.</li> <li>• Consider contributing trade, operational, technical, and market insights to support ARA's market access activities.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage with ARA-led market development activities, including expos, forums and promotional opportunities.</li> </ul>                                                                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review evolving certification and assurance expectations that may support market access and assess implications, where relevant.</li> </ul> |



# 06

## Appendix



## 6.1 Members' operating environment

**The ARA is the national industry body for Australia's rendering and UCO recycling sector. We represent and advocate for businesses involved in processing rendered products as well as used cooking oil, across domestic and international markets.**

### Rendering industry size and economic value:

- The ARA represents approx. 98% of national rendering production, positioning it as the industry's peak body.
- Rendered product exports were valued at around 1.3 billion AUD in 2021-22, with strong recent growth driven by demand for tallow in biofuel markets.
- In 2023-24, Australian tallow exports exceeded 1 billion AUD for the first time, reflecting the industry's growing role in global low-carbon energy supply chains.

### Geographic spread

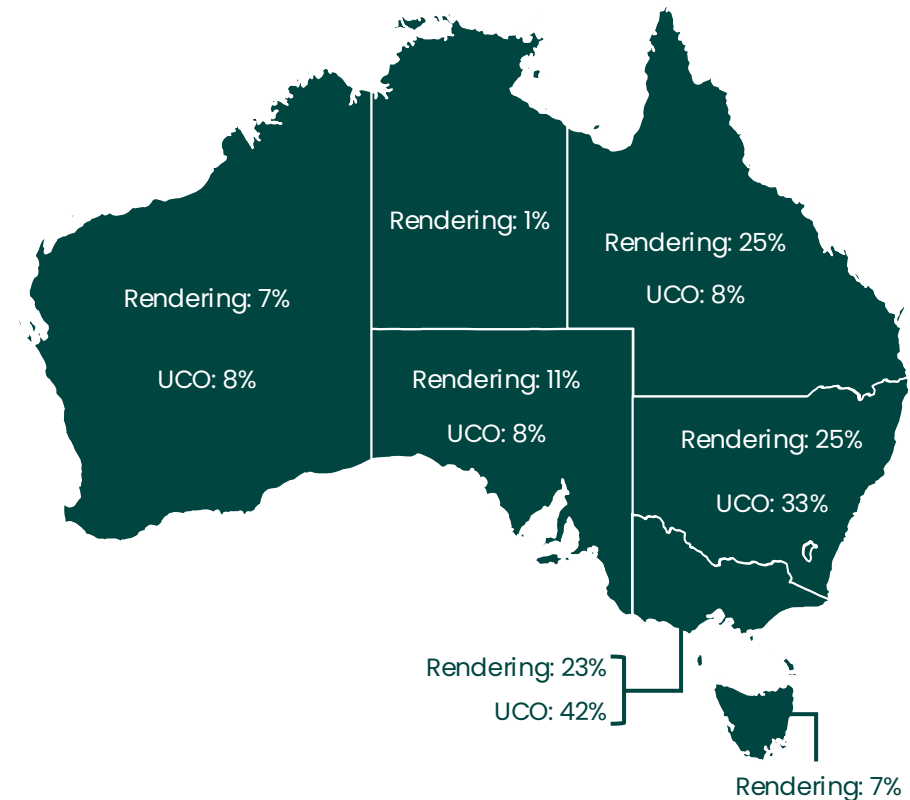
- All states/territories, typically co-located with livestock processing regions in QLD, NSW, VIC, SA, WA.

### UCO industry size and economic value

- Australia's UCO industry is valued at AUD 270-310m (2024) and is projected to double by 2033-35, growing at 6-8% CAGR.
- UCO is a critical feedstock for biodiesel, renewable diesel and sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), supporting Australia's low-carbon fuels and circular economy goals
- Demand is being driven by renewable fuel mandates, emissions reduction targets, and export opportunities

### Geographic spread

- While UCO services are available across Australia, ARA's current member base exists predominantly within NSW and VIC.



*Proportion of accredited rendering sites and UCO members by state/territory (from our Member directory)*



## 6.2 Members' value chains

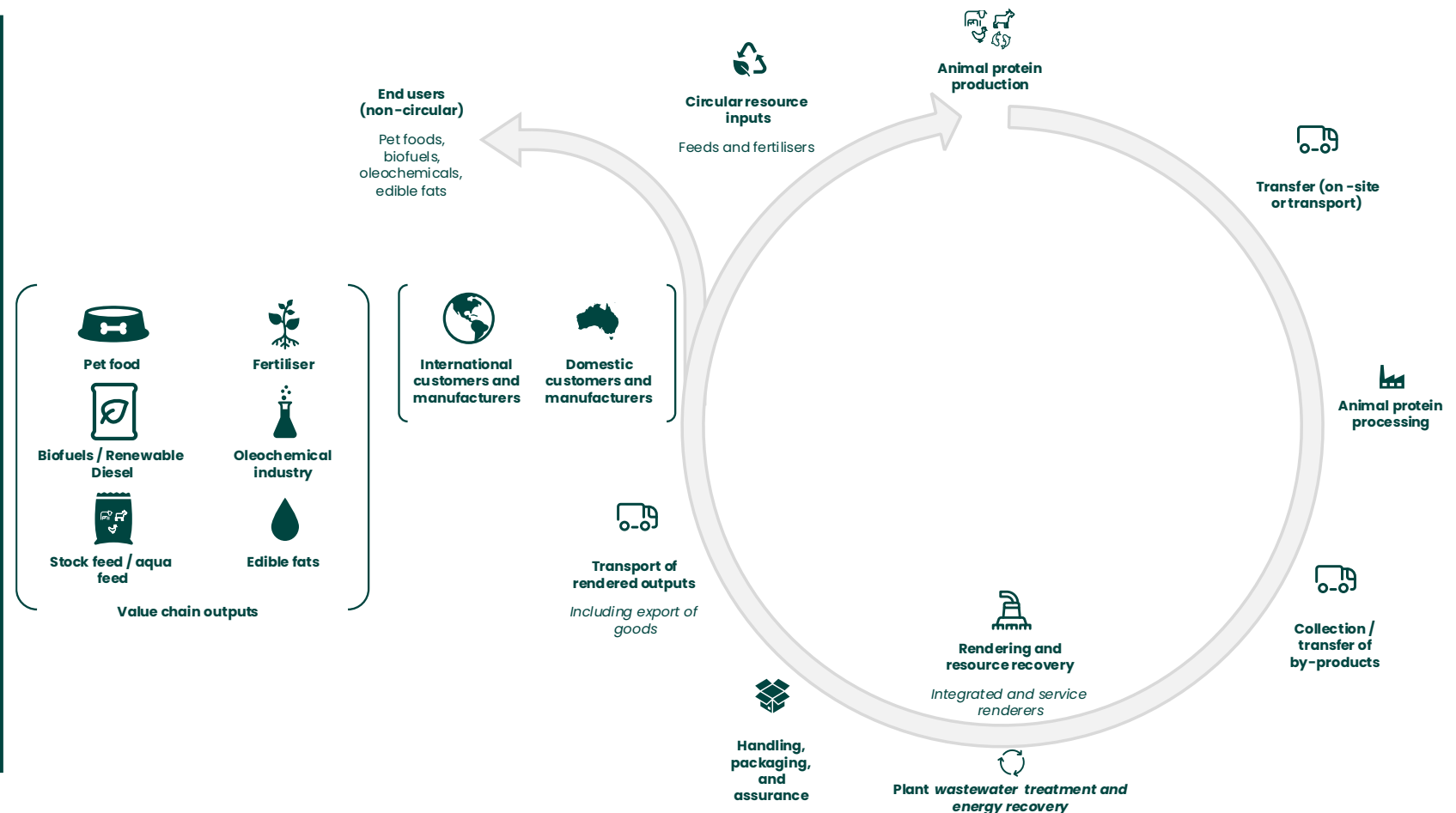
The Australian Renderers Association (ARA) is the national industry body for Australia's rendering industry and UCO recycling sector. We represent and advocate for businesses involved in processing and exporting rendered products, including tallow and animal protein meals, as well as used cooking oil, across domestic and international markets.

### The rendering value chain

The rendering value chain has been produced as a circular diagram to indicate the significant role of circularity that already exists. This reflects stakeholder feedback in the consultation sessions.

Value chain outputs, typically produced by the domestic/international customers and manufacturers can be seen to the left. These outputs branch out to either end users that use non-circular outputs (e.g., biofuels) or they feed back into the value chain as feeds and fertilisers, which, in turn, contribute to a continued supply of co-products for rendering.

As rendering can be undertaken by both integrated and service renderers, it is important to note that transportation of products can be on-site or by vehicle to another site. This impacts the emissions profile of businesses.



## 6.2 Members' value chains

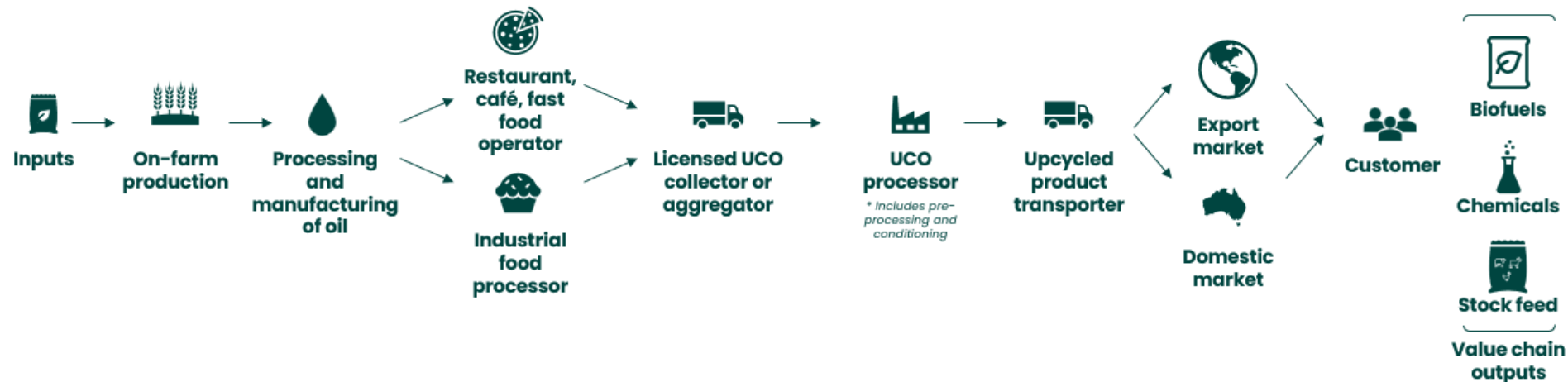
**The Australian Renderers Association (ARA) is the national industry body for Australia's rendering industry and UCO recycling sector. We represent and advocate for businesses involved in processing and exporting rendered products, including tallow and animal protein meals, as well as used cooking oil, across domestic and international markets.**

### The UCO value chain

UCO is generated through food service and industrial food processing activities and can be recovered and processed into valuable inputs for downstream markets.

Value chain outputs are typically directed to domestic and international markets and include applications such as biofuels, chemicals and other industrial products. These outputs contribute to the displacement of virgin and fossil-based inputs, reinforcing circular economy outcomes and resource efficiency across the broader energy and manufacturing systems.

The value chain comprises a range of operating models, including dispersed UCO generators, licensed collectors and aggregators, and dedicated processing facilities that undertake testing, filtering and conditioning. Transport may occur at multiple stages, connecting generators to processors and processors to end markets, with logistics pathways influencing emissions profiles and operational footprints across the sector.



## 6.3 Identifying material topics for the Sustainability Framework

A comprehensive DMA was undertaken to identify sustainability topics material to the rendering and UCO value chains.

To inform the development of the ARA Sustainability Framework, a DMA was undertaken, supported by a survey of ARA members and targeted stakeholder consultation.

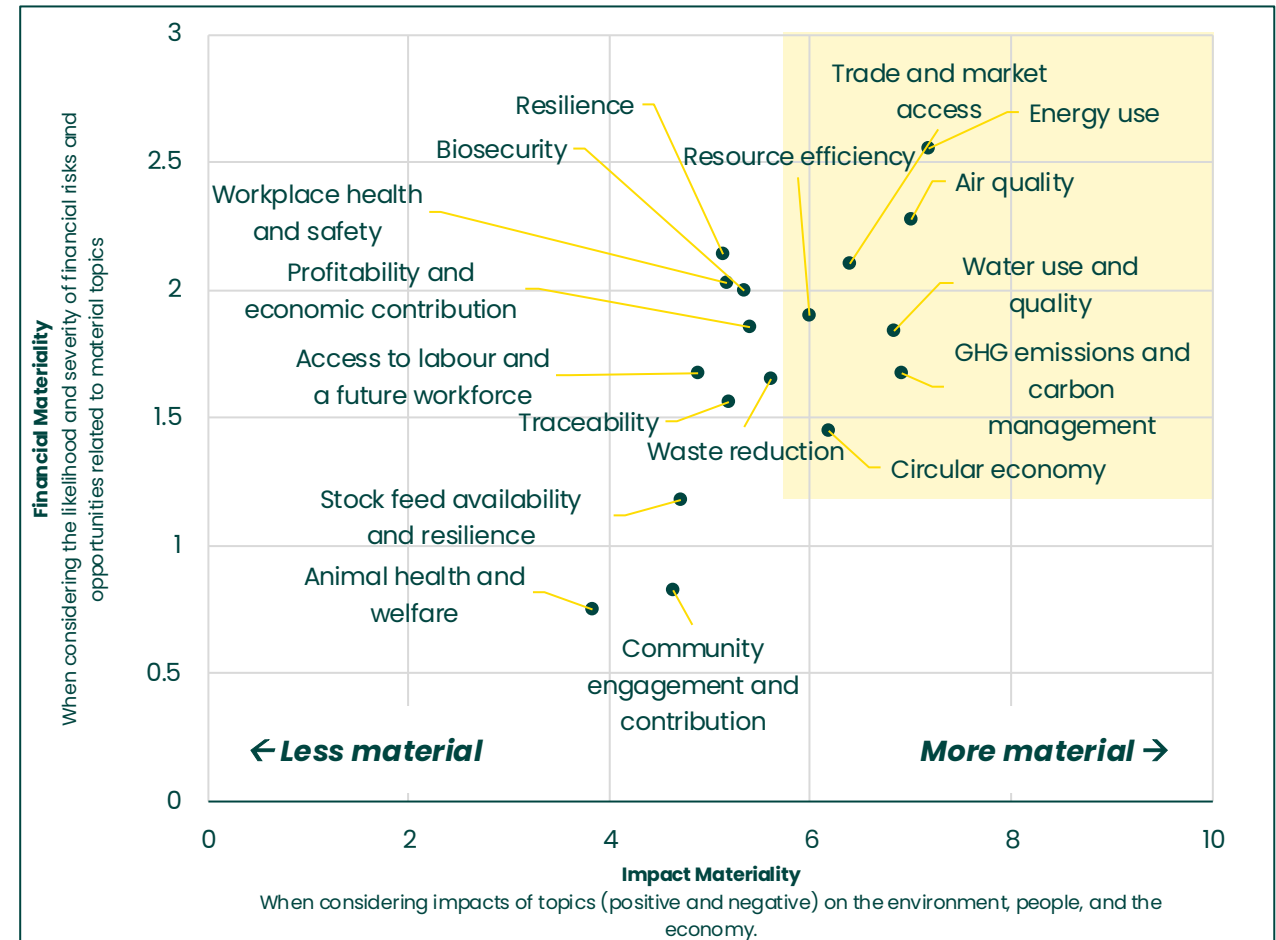
Sustainability topics that were identified as material across two of the three data inputs, were shortlisted for consideration (17 topics).

| No. | Material Topic                          | Source         |               |                          |
|-----|-----------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------------|
|     |                                         | Desktop Review | Member Survey | Stakeholder Consultation |
| 1   | Circular economy                        |                |               |                          |
| 2   | Energy use                              |                |               |                          |
| 3   | GHG emissions and carbon management     |                |               |                          |
| 4   | Profitability and economic contribution |                |               |                          |
| 5   | Resource efficiency                     |                |               |                          |
| 6   | Trade and market access                 |                |               |                          |
| 7   | Waste reduction                         |                |               |                          |
| 8   | Animal health and welfare               |                |               |                          |

| No. | Material Topic                          | Source         |               |                          |
|-----|-----------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------------|
|     |                                         | Desktop Review | Member Survey | Stakeholder Consultation |
| 9   | Biosecurity                             |                |               |                          |
| 10  | Access to labour and a future workforce |                |               |                          |
| 11  | Air quality                             |                |               |                          |
| 12  | Community engagement and contribution   |                |               |                          |
| 13  | Stock feed availability and resilience  |                |               |                          |
| 14  | Supply chain resilience                 |                |               |                          |
| 15  | Traceability                            |                |               |                          |
| 16  | Water use and quality                   |                |               |                          |
| 17  | Workplace health and safety             |                |               |                          |

These topics were then further assessed based on their potential impacts, as well as their associated risks and opportunities for the sector. As a result, a subset of the most material topics was identified, which collectively form the basis of the Sustainability Framework and underpin its four-focus areas.



# 6.4 More material topics and implications for the Framework

**The DMA provided the evidence base for determining which sustainability topics should be prioritised within ARA’s Sustainability Framework.**

The ARA has identified ten sustainability topics for inclusion in its inaugural Sustainability Framework.

Together, these priority topics provide a focused and practical foundation to guide the ARA’s allocation of resources, effort and activity as the industry body, while supporting members to prioritise action on the sustainability topics most relevant to their operations and the sector more broadly. The Framework is intended to promote consistent direction across the industry, while allowing flexibility for members to prioritise their efforts based on their specific circumstances.

While the ARA primarily focuses its sustainability efforts on these ten topics, other shortlisted topics remain important to the industry. The ARA will continue to monitor and review sustainability topics over time to ensure the Framework remains relevant and impactful.

**Material topics selected for inclusion in the Sustainability Framework**

Air management

Biosecurity

Circular economy

Energy use

GHG emissions and carbon management

Resource efficiency

Trade and market access

Traceability

Waste reduction

Water use and quality

*Note: Material topics are presented in alphabetical order and do not reflect relative importance.*



## 6.5 Definitions of more material sustainability topics and associated metrics

The following table outlines the metrics by which ARA, and its members, can measure progress against the material topics within its four focus areas. Measuring progress using the metrics outlined for members in the column 'Metric(s) for Members' is voluntary (some members are likely to already be capturing this data for other, regulatory reporting requirements). Any additional sharing of data with ARA is also on a voluntary basis.

Overtime, members may choose to share data with ARA in an anonymised way, allowing for ARA to report on industry wide Framework progress, starting firstly with a baseline report then moving to regular reporting intervals. In the preparation of this Sustainability Framework, members largely indicated a willingness to do this. Outside of industry reporting, ARA will also demonstrate the industry's sustainability progress using the metrics in the column 'Metric(s) for ARA'.

| Topic          | Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Metric(s) for Members                                                                                       | Metric(s) for ARA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Existing Relevant Measures in ARA Code Of Practice                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Air management | Managing non-GHG air emissions (e.g. particulates, NOx, odour) to support local amenity and social licence to operate, including meeting regulatory requirements.                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of regulator confirmed air quality exceedances (#)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compliance with EPA (% of eligible members with no reportable air quality exceedances)</li> <li>Air management case studies developed (# of) and industry reach (# of)</li> <li>Air management peer program initiatives (# of) and industry participation (# of)</li> </ul> | % of eligible ARA membership buildings where buildings are ventilated and/or fitted with extraction systems to prevent dust build-up, condensation and excessive heat (Section 4.2.6 of ARA CoP) |
| Biosecurity    | Systems within operations to prevent, identify, and manage pests and diseases impacting source inputs, facilities and products, including controls relating to people, vehicles, water, and distribution pathways. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of biosecurity incidents reported annually (#)</li> </ul>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members with documented Biosecurity Incident Management Systems (BIMS) or equivalent (# of eligible members)</li> <li>Provision of annual training related to biosecurity (# of or # of participants)</li> </ul>                                                            | % of eligible ARA membership with a documented pest control program to prevent infestation of rendering premises (Section 12.1 of ARA CoP)                                                       |

*Note: The material topic Air Management was initially identified as "Air Quality". This has been refined to "Air Management" to better reflect the industry's broader management air-related impacts, risks and opportunities.*



## 6.5 Definitions of more material sustainability topics and associated metrics

| Topic                               | Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Metric(s) for Members                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Metric(s) for ARA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Existing Relevant Measures in ARA Code Of Practice |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Circular economy                    | Designing innovative products and value-chain practices to keep by-products (and other recoverable streams) in productive use, reducing demand for virgin resources.                                                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diversion rate (%) = material diverted from landfill ÷ total material generated × 100</li> <li>• Material diverted from landfill (tonnes diverted per tonne of raw material processed)</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circular economy case studies developed (# of) and industry reach (# of)</li> <li>• Circular economy trainings delivered (# of) and industry participation (# of)</li> </ul>                                                                                 |                                                    |
| Energy use                          | Managing the consumption, efficiency, and sourcing of electricity and fuels across operations, including onsite generation, demand management, and integration of sustainable energy.                                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total energy consumption (GJ/year)</li> <li>• Energy intensity (GJ per tonne of raw material processed)</li> <li>• Renewable energy consumed (%) = Renewable energy consumed ÷ total energy consumed × 100</li> <li>• Behind the Meter ('BTM') Renewable Energy Consumed (%) = BTM renewable energy consumed ÷ total energy consumed × 100</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy use measurement templates developed (# of) and industry reach (# of)</li> <li>• Energy use case studies developed (# of) and industry reach (# of)</li> <li>• Energy use peer program initiatives (# of) and industry participation (# of)</li> </ul> |                                                    |
| GHG emissions and carbon management | Quantifying, reporting, and managing Scope 1–3 GHG emissions associated with operations and value chain activities, including baselines, emissions factors, targets, and abatement planning (including carbon-related obligations/claims). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Absolute gross GHG emissions generated during the reporting period, expressed as metric tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>-e)</li> </ul> <p><i>In the future, members may wish to also include their Scope 3 emissions.</i></p>                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GHG emissions decision-making tools developed (# of) and industry reach (# of)</li> <li>• GHG emissions peer program initiatives (# of) and industry participation (# of)</li> </ul>                                                                         |                                                    |



## 6.5 Definitions of more material sustainability topics and associated metrics

| Topic                   | Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Metric(s) for Members                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Metric(s) for ARA                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Existing Relevant Measures in ARA Code Of Practice                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Resource efficiency     | Improving the yield and productive use of process inputs and outputs (e.g., co-products and chemicals) through optimisation, recovery, and substitution.                                                                                                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of resource efficiency initiatives implemented annually (#) supported by qualitative case studies and outcome evidence – may include water, energy, materials or waste.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resource efficiency case studies developed (# of) and industry reach (# of).</li> <li>Resource efficiency peer program initiatives (# of) and industry participation (# of)</li> </ul> | % of eligible ARA membership who's heat treatment processes meet validated critical limits and have completed parameter recording (Sections 7.1 and 7.2 of ARA CoP) |
| Traceability            | Maintaining chain-of-custody data and systems that verify origin, processing stages, and compliance of products across the value chain (including to support labelling/certification claims).                                                                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of Non-Conformances (NCs) issued each year related to traceability (#)</li> </ul>                                                                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># Non-Conformances issued to members per year</li> </ul>                                                                                                                               | % of eligible ARA membership achieving full raw material inspection, QMS classification, and end-to-end traceability (Sections 5.1 and 5.3 of ARA CoP)              |
| Trade and market access | Maintaining and expanding market access by meeting regulatory and customer entry requirements (e.g., labelling, quality assurance, certification and documentation), including awareness of applicable non-tariff measures; focuses on access/compliance mechanisms. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of Non-Conformances (NCs) issued each year related to recall procedures (#)</li> </ul>                                                                                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># new markets opened</li> <li># of markets with a Free-Trade Agreement or nil Non-Tariff Barriers to entry</li> </ul>                                                                  | % of eligible ARA membership with a documented recall procedure that is annually tested (Section 9.4 of ARA CoP)                                                    |



## 6.5 Definitions of more material sustainability topics and associated metrics

| Topic                 | Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Metric(s) for Members                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Metric(s) for ARA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Existing Relevant Measures in ARA Code Of Practice                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Waste reduction       | Preventing, reducing, and diverting solid and process wastes away from landfill (including materials sourced from other generators where relevant), focusing on operational waste handling, segregation, and diversion.         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waste generated to disposal (tonnes/year),</li> <li>Waste generation intensity (tonnes per tonne of raw material processed)</li> <li>Total waste diverted from disposal (tonnes/year),</li> <li>Diversion rate (%) – waste diverted ÷ total waste generated × 100</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waste reduction case studies developed (# of) and industry reach (# of)</li> <li>Waste reduction trainings delivered (# of) and industry participation (# of)</li> </ul>                                                                              | % of eligible ARA membership compliant with <i>waste disposal systems sufficient to manage solid and liquid wastes</i> (Section 4.1.2 of ARA Code of Practice) |
| Water use and quality | Responsible abstraction, use, reuse/recycling, treatment and discharge of water used in operations; minimising pollutants and improving wastewater performance, including compliance requirements for wastewater and discharge. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water reused and recycled (%) = Water reused/recycled ÷ total water consumption × 100</li> <li>Wastewater solids diverted (tonnes dry solids/year)</li> </ul>                                                                                                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water use measurement templates developed (# of) and industry reach (# of)</li> <li>Water use case studies developed (# of) and industry reach (# of)</li> <li>Water use peer program initiatives (# of) and industry participation (# of)</li> </ul> | % of eligible ARA membership compliant with <i>adequate suppliers of hot and cold potable water</i> (Section 4.1.2 of ARA CoP)                                 |



## 6.6 Definitions of less material sustainability topics

| Topic                                   | Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Access to labour and a future workforce | Maintaining an active and skilled workforce across operations and planning pipelines (e.g., youth, apprenticeships, reskilling) to meet evolving skills needs.                                                                                                                               |
| Animal health and welfare               | Ensuring humane care, husbandry, and transport practices that safeguard animal wellbeing, including responsible sourcing expectations across the value chain.                                                                                                                                |
| Community engagement and contribution   | Maintaining structured, transparent dialogue and initiatives with local communities to manage the impacts of operations and deliver community benefits.                                                                                                                                      |
| Profitability and economic contribution | Ensuring the economic viability of the industry across varying operating conditions and market volatility, supporting sustained investment, employment, and broader economic contribution.                                                                                                   |
| Resilience                              | The capability of the end-to-end value chain to anticipate, withstand, adapt to and recover from disruptions across operations and logistics (e.g., transport, processing continuity, customer collection, market disruptions), including where relevant climate-related disruption impacts. |
| Stock feed availability                 | Access to affordable and consistent sources of feed and the ability of feed supply to withstand supply chain shocks, including impacts on throughput and downstream users.                                                                                                                   |
| Workplace health and safety             | Work health and safety systems to prevent injuries/illnesses and continuously reduce risk in operations, and to protect workers' mental health.                                                                                                                                              |



