



HEALTH 4 WEALTH | A RESEARCH PROJECT

Enhancing Supply Chain Profitability through Reporting and Utilisation of Peri-Mortem Information by Livestock Producers

EVAUATION PLAN

March 2022

RURAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOR PROFIT PROGRAM











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Introduction

Project

Project title	Enhancing supply chain profitability through reporting and utilization of peri-mortem information by livestock producers
Project number	RnD4Profit-15-02-014

Grantee

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Purpose

This Evaluation Report is part of the suite of activities for the *Enhancing supply chain* profitability through reporting and utilization of peri-mortem information by livestock producers project. The purpose of the Report is to evaluate the success of the project in meeting the project objectives.

This report forms part of the collection of project management documents along with the risk profile, governance structure and communication plan. This report is also aimed to support and provide input into the evaluation of the overarching Rural Research and Development for Profit Programme.

Rural R&D for Profit Programme Outcomes and Measures

The Enhancing supply chain profitability through reporting and utilization of peri-mortem information by livestock producers project has been funded under the Rural R&D for Profit Program. The objective of the Rural R&D for Profit Program is to fund collaborative research and development to support continued innovation in Australia's primary industries. This project has addressed the following Rural R&D for Profit Program outcomes:

Generating knowledge, technologies, products or processes that benefit primary producers

- A business case and a subsequent cost benefit analysis for a peri-mortem data capture and reporting system that meets the needs of relevant stakeholders across the beef, goatmeat, pork and sheepmeat supply chains and that considers all of the risks and rewards arising from such a system has been delivered.
- A voluntary Standards and software infrastructure that can be used to collect and
 consistently report the causes and prevalence of disease-related carcase (total and
 partial) and offal condemnations during ante- and post-mortem inspections,
 together with associated pathology, to producers by processors have been
 developed. These Standards have been developed to allow the correlation of certain
 disease/parasite conditions with meat yield and offal recoveries in terms of both
 quantity and quality. Draft business rules were used during the project that detail
 the type and extent of condemnation information collected by processors.

Strengthening pathways to extend the results of rural R&D, including understanding the barriers to adoption

- Pilot studies at 10 processing plants that identified the challenges and barriers to implementing the standards and software modules and that recommend solutions before rollout of a national feedback system
- A national extension and adoption strategy that provide agreed outputs to be integrated into Australia's livestock production, meat inspection and verification systems. This allows for the cross-sector implementation of common reporting frameworks which in turn will maximise the efficiencies of on-farm production through animal health data capture, analysis, reporting and extension.

Establishing and fostering industry and research collaborations that form the basis for ongoing innovation and growth of Australian agriculture

The project has fostered industry and research collaborations between the:

• Cattle, sheep goatmeat and pork industries

- Australian Meat Processors Corporation, Australian Pork Limited and Meat & Livestock Australia
- Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources, Victoria and the South Australian Research & Development Institute.

The project surpassed its initial aims by establishing and fostering industry and research collaboration beyond these organisations to include 15 additional research and consultancy companies, public health and livestock veterinarians, processing companies, software providers and training organisations across the cattle, sheep goatmeat and pork industries. This in turn will strengthen the pathways to extend the results of the *Enhancing supply chain profitability through reporting and utilization of peri-mortem information by livestock producers* project as the organisations continue to work together in this area into the future.

Evaluation

This Evaluation Report has been completed based on the project's Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and the level of achievement mapped against the measurables set out in the project Operations Plan.

The Monitoring and Evaluation Plan included evaluation questions that have been used as the basis for assessing whether the *Enhancing supply chain profitability through reporting and utilization of peri-mortem information by livestock producers* project outcomes were achieved. These evaluation questions were developed around the categories of impact, appropriateness, efficiency, effectiveness, and legacy.

- Effectiveness refers to the extent to which a program's intended results have been achieved.
- Appropriateness compares the environmental context or need on the one hand with the objectives and strategies of the program to determine whether the latter are relevant to the former.
- Impact considers the outcome, or result of having done the planned actions, and considers any changes occurring as a result of the project.
- Efficiency refers to the extent to which activities, outputs (products, services) and the desired results are achieved with the lowest possible use of resources/inputs (financial, people, time).
- Legacy examines whether the actions/project will continue to have an impact after the project's completion.

The detailed assessment against these questions is included in Table 1.

The Operations Plan provided outcomes against the project activities, and key performance indicators to deliver those outcomes. As such a quantitative and qualitative assessment has been conducted against the key performance indicators in Table 2. In addition, this assessment provides a link to the evidence that supports this assessment.

Table I: Assessment of the Project success against the Evaluation Questions

Evaluation Questions	What aspects of the project will be measured and tested?	Assessment of the Project
Effectiveness To what extent were the planned activities and measures achieved?	KPIs/milestones met	The planned activities and measurement were predominantly achieved. These are detailed in Table 2.
What, if any, lessons have been learned that could improve the success of future projects?		Lessons learn from the projects are detailed in Table 3.
To what extent did the project achieve the desired result within budget and timeframes?	Project completed on time and within budget	Sub-projects were predominantly delivered on time. The overall project was delayed and an extension project due to the impact of COVID.
Were the planned actions performed, and to the standard expected?		Sub-projects were contracted including expected deliverables to meet the objectives of the project. No sub-projects were cancelled, and all met their required deliverables.
How much data should be collected for the abattoir animal health data collection and feedback systems to be relevant?	Species-specific standards	A Standard was developed to specify the level of data required to be collected.
Is the same amount of data needed for cattle, goats, pigs and sheep and different supply chains?		The Standard has been developed to be species specific to ensure its appropriate use by all processing plants.

Evaluation Questions	What aspects of the project will be measured and tested?	Assessment of the Project
Impact What has changed or is different because of this project?	Percentage of processing plants that have implemented animal health data capture and feedback systems.	High volumes of data are being captured through the pilots trials conducted and the adoption of the project be additional processing plants.
What is the outcome of the project activities?	Percentage of processing plants that are interested in implementing animal health data capture and feedback systems.	Additional processing have adopted or are in the process of adopting the standard and project objective. In the beef sector alone the adoption rates by volume of head processed would exceed approximately 45% already.
Have animal health abattoir data collection and feedback systems been demonstrated to reduce the prevalence of disease in animals presented for slaughter?	Positive business cases developed and demonstrated.	Due to the complexity of the project being greater than expected this extension and realisation of the full benefits including the reduction in animal disease are yet to be demonstrated. For example it was estimated by Frontier Economics that it takes around 5 years in beef cattle to demonstrate that change has occurred and from a producers perspective it has been estimated that is takes around 15 years for adoption to occur.

Evaluation Questions	What aspects of the project will be measured and tested?	Assessment of the Project
Appropriateness To what extent have the business case and pilot studies contributed useful information to address the objective of industry-wide implementation of abattoir animal health data collection and feedback systems?	Benefits provided to stakeholders by the business case and pilot study activities	The pilot trials were very successful, and the cost benefit analysis has demonstrated significant financial benefit to the industry.
To what extent did the project activities and the way they were undertaken align with stakeholder needs and expectations?		The pilot trials including producer feedback have been very successful and met stakeholder expectation.
Which innovation practices or technology employed did not contribute to / deliver on outcomes? And why?		The online collaborative workshop/consultation 'the jam' did not deliver the expected level of participation and as such additional traditional methods of interviews and surveys were completed.
Have abattoir animal health data collection system been developed that costs less to implement and run than the potential returns?	Pilot studies	The cost benefit analysis work completed from the data captured during the pilot trials shows that there are significant benefits to the supply chain. It has not yet been established where the benefits in the individual segments of the supply chain are cost effective for implementation and adoption given the reliance required on other areas of the supply chain to realise the benefits.
Efficiency To what extent did project / program attain the highest value from available resources?	Suitable personnel engaged Pilot studies of abattoir data collection and feedback	Cost register of all expenditure incurred was assessed by the Steering Committee throughout the project considering—time involved, timeliness of decision making, attendance and costs.

Evaluation Questions	What aspects of the project will be measured and tested?	Assessment of the Project
How could the same outcomes be achieved more simply and for less cost in future projects?	systems according to the project plan Expenditure for different activities commensurate to the impact	Consideration could be given to a more supply chain driven approach with great funds allocated to extension and adoption.
Did the project achieve the desired results within the budget?		The expected deliverables of the project have been achieved and within the budget. The project area is more complex than expected and although great progress has been made through work in the area would be desirable.
Can a system be developed that costs less to implement and run than the potential returns?	Pilot studies and Cost Benefit Analysis	The cost benefit analysis work completed from the data captured during the pilot trials shows that there are significant benefits to the supply chain. It has not yet been established where the benefits in the individual segments of the supply chain are cost effective for implementation and adoption given the reliance required on other areas of the supply chain to realise the benefits.
Legacy How will the project / program continue to have an impact after its completion?	Adoption of abattoir animal health data collection and feedback systems after the project has finished	AMPC/ APL/ MLA Updated fact sheets and project reports are available on the stakeholder websites. The animal health data capture (company slaughter floor software) and data feedback system managed by MLA (LDL) is being advertised through existing industry communications platforms i.e. partner websites, AMPC/ MINTRAC network meeting and conferences. In addition to this companies are also using their own existing data capture and feedback systems.

Evaluation Questions	What aspects of the project will be measured and tested?	Assessment of the Project The RDCs involved in the project are committed to the feedba	
Who will ensure this?		The RDCs involved in the project are committed to the feedback of data to producers.	

Table 2: Assessment of the Project success in meeting the project key performance indicators

KPI no.	KPI description	Outp	uts linkage	Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
1.1	Confirm the engagement of a project manager	1(a)	Engagement of a project manager for the duration of the Project.	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	Dr Joan Lloyd was engaged as project manager until 2018. The secretariat services were then provided by APL at cost and subproject management was contracted to individuals and/or companies on as needed basis.	Sub-project 2016/2225 - Project Manager Role for RR&D4P 'Enhancing supply chain profitability through reporting and utilization of peri-mortem information by livestock producers' (H4W)
1.2	Provide the agreed membership, governance arrangements and terms of reference for the project steering committee	1(b)	Establishment of a project steering committee responsible for the oversight of Project. The project steering committee will agree it's terms of reference which will set out its membership, governance arrangements and responsibilities.	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	The terms of reference for the project steering committee were developed and agreed in the third meeting of the project steering committee on 5 December 2016.	Project Steering Committee Terms of Reference – Appendix 1
1.3	Provide a list of all partner organisations and the status of	1(c)	Executed agreements with partner organisations.	Achieved Partially achieved	Details of partner organisations and associated agreements	

KPI no.	KPI description	Outputs linkage				assessment the outcome and		achievements against the	Supporting documentation	
	partner agreements, including the date, or expected date, of each agreement			Not achieved	were provided in Milestone 1. The partner organisations and contracted consultants are provided in full in Section 4 – Collaboration of the Final Report.					
1.4	Provide a list of cash and in-kind contributions for each partner, for each financial year of the Activity and the total amount of funding and in-kind contributions	1(d)	Establishment of the yearly breakdown of cash and inkind contributions to be provided by partner organisations for the duration of the activity.	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	The cash and in-kind contributions for each partner, for each financial year of the project and the total amount of funding and in-kind contributions was submitted in the Operations Plan attached to the Milestone 1 report.	Operations Plan - Appendix 2				
1.5	Provide a draft project plan	2(a)	A project plan that sets out the schedule for activities, and the human resources and financial resources required. As part of this, a risk management plan will be prepared.	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	The Operations Plan for the project was submitted with the Milestone 1 report.	Operations Plan - Appendix 2				
2.1	Provide the project plan endorsed by the	2(a)	A project plan that sets out the schedule for activities,	Achieved	The Operations Plan was endorsed by the project	Operations Plan - Appendix 2				

KPI no.	KPI description	3 3 4 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3		Outputs linkage Quantitative assessment		Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
	project steering committee		and the human resources and financial resources required. As part of this, a risk management plan will be prepared.	Partially achieved Not achieved	steering committee prior to the submission with the Milestone 1 report, in the third meeting of the project steering committee on 5 December 2016.			
2.2	Provide the communication and extension plan	2(b)	A communication and extension plan that sets out the schedule for communication and extension activities, and the human resources and financial resources required.	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	The Communication Plan for the project was submitted with the Milestone 2 report.	Communication Plan - Appendix 3		
2.3	Provide the monitoring and evaluation plan	2(c)	A monitoring and evaluation plan that sets out the timeframes for activities to be delivered, and the human resources and financial resources required.	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	The Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for the project was submitted with the Milestone 2 report.	Monitor and Evaluation Plan – Appendix 4		
2.4	Update the Commonwealth on consultation with veterinarians	3(a)	Consultation with production veterinarians on animal health conditions and associated pathology for capture and reporting across	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	Veterinarians were consulted with throughout the project especially in the initial project consultation phase sub-project	2016/2238 - Design and provision of an online collaboration event ('jam') to support engagement and idea generation for the		

KPI no.	KPI description	Outputs linkage		Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
			pork, beef and sheepmeat, and any other relevant issues.		2016/2238, the development of the standards, sub-project 2017/004 and the development of training sub-project 2017/2235. This was reported to the commonwealth through the Milestone 2 report.	development of standards for the consistent reporting, recording and analysis of peri-mortem disease information across pork, beef and sheep production systems ('improved Animal Health Feedback Systems') (H4W) 2017/004 - Development of standards for ante/post-mortem processor data collection and reporting for the pork industry (H4W) 2017/2235 - Development and implementation of an accredited training program in animal health data collection (H4W)
2.5	Update the Commonwealth on communication and extension activities	3(f)	Implementation of a communication and extension plan, and promotion of project activities and outcomes. Avenues for extension may	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	The Communication Plan for the project was submitted with the Milestone 2 report. The Communication Plan was updated throughout the	Communication Plan - Appendix 3 2017/2227 - Communications Strategy for the Health 4 Wealth Project for RR&D4P

KPI no.	KPI description	Outp	uts linkage	Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
			include research and development corporations (RDC) websites and publications, emails and updates to producers, processors and veterinarians, industry meetings and field days.		project including through sub-project 2017/2227.	'Enhancing supply chain profitability through reporting and utilization of peri-mortem information by livestock producers' (H4W)
2.6	Report on the development of species-specific standards for anteand post-mortem data	5(a)	Species-specific standards for ante- and post-mortem processor data collection and reporting of the causes and incidence of carcase and offal condemnations, with associated pathology.	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	Disease conditions and standards for beef, sheep, goats and pigs were agreed through extensive consultation. Sub-project 2017/004	A copy of the Standards are provided in Appendix 5, 5a and 6. 2017/004 - Development of standards for ante/postmortem processor data collection and reporting for the pork industry (H4W)
2.7	Report on the development of competency standards for data collection	5(b)	Competency standards for data collection across processing establishments	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	The National Meat Industry Training Advisory Council developed and implemented an accredited training program in animal health data collection. This was developed as a new unit of competency for inclusion in the AMP	AMPA414 Manage the collection, monitoring and reporting of animal health data from a meat processing plant – Appendix 7 and 7a 2017/2235 - Development and implementation of an accredited training program

KPI no.	KPI description	Outputs linkage		Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
					Australian Meat Industry Training Package, AMPA414 Manage the collection, monitoring and reporting of animal health data from a meat processing plant.	in animal health data collection (H4W)
2.8	Report on the development of business rules	5(c)	Business rules that are available to stakeholders, including regulatory agencies, producers and veterinarians. The business rules will outline at minimum the details of data ownership and the type and extent of condemnation information collected that may be provided to stakeholders including, but not limited to, regulatory authorities, producers, processors and veterinarians.	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	Processors who use the MLA - LDL feedback system have a data licence in place which cover data sharing and how the data is use.	2018/0064 - Health 4 Wealth (H4W): Red meat pilot trials
2.9	Advise the Commonwealth of the outcome of the project steering	5(d)	Draft species-specific standards tested and validated through the supply chains.	Achieved	The steering committee were happy with the progress on Activity 5 and	2017/004 - Development of standards for ante/post- mortem processor data

KPI no.	KPI description	Outputs linkage	Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
	committee review of Activity 5 and the recommended next steps	The project steering committee will review the results of outputs 5(a) to 5(c and decide next steps.	Partially achieved Not achieved	this was reported in the Milestone 2 report. Disease conditions and standards for beef, sheep, goats and pigs were agreed through extensive consultation. Sub-project 2017/004. The Australian National Standard for the Development, Collection and Reporting of Animal Health Disease and Defect Data through the Supply Chain was validated through the pilot trials and amendments based on the trial are currently being considered by the Working Group reviewing the Standard.	collection and reporting for the pork industry (H4W)
3.1	Report on communication and extension activities to date	3(f) Improved awareness and engagement with the processing sector, producers and government.	Achieved Partially achieved	Through the project (and sub-projects) extensive communication and extension activities occurred as detailed in	

KPI no.	KPI description	Outp	uts linkage	Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
			Provide insights and learnings on what other countries are doing in animal health and disease feedback to producers. Implementation of a communication and extension plan, and promotion of project activities and outcomes. Avenues for extension may include research and development corporations (RDC) websites and publications, emails and updates to producers, processors and veterinarians, industry meetings and field days.	Not achieved	Section 5 Extension and Adoption Activities of the final report. Industry workshops, webinars, online collaborations, interviews, surveys, face-to-face meetings and video calls were held to throughout the project and sub-projects to ensure continual communication with stakeholders.	
3.2	Report on the development of systems that can collate data from the multiple data	6(a)	Flexible delivery options will be critical to all stakeholders.	Achieved Partially achieved	Generally, it was understood that many establishments have systems in place for the collection and reporting of	2018/0034 - Health4Wealth - pilot trials for the pork industry (H4W)

KPI no.	KPI description	Outputs linkage	Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
	collection systems being used across pork, beef and sheep processing plants	An information platform capable of collating and validating data from multiple sources.	Not achieved	data as such the focus was place on the language and standards and how they could be incorporated into an establishments existing system while ensuring consistency in collection and reporting. From a beef and sheep perspective it was identified that LDL could be used for	2018/0064 - Health 4 Wealth (H4W): Red meat pilot trials
				producer feedback (where companies do not already have their own feedback systems) and for industry benchmarking.	
				The validation trials for pork included the development of hardware and software to collect data centrally. This may be particularly useful in smaller domestic plants with limited funds for IT and hardware	

KPI no.	KPI description	Outp	uts linkage	Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI development (across all species).	Supporting documentation
3.3	Report on the development of the frameworks, definition and module for commercial software providers for all species	7(a)	Ability to test and validate the framework and definitions Frameworks, definitions and modules for in-plant data collection that have been provided to commercial software providers for integration into existing systems.	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	The proposed pork study included a module developed by an IT provider. With the standard that has been developed software providers are able to insert the revised standards into their software packages and make these standards available to their customers at little or no cost. This was achieved in the red meat pilot trials. However, it was limited to software vendors that the pilot processors used.	2018/0034 - Health4Wealth - pilot trials for the pork industry (H4W) 2018/0064 - Health 4 Wealth (H4W): Red meat pilot trials
4.1	Evaluate and report on the progress of the project (Output 2(d), including revised milestone schedule for the	2(d)	An evaluation and report on progress at the mid-point of the Project.	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	Completed in the Milestone 4 report	

KPI no.	KPI description	Outp	uts linkage	Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
	remainder of the project).					
4.2	Update on stakeholder awareness workshops	3(b)	Information sessions and/or workshop in person or online, with producers in association with processing establishment involved in field pilot studies. As a minimum, sessions should cover how to use feedback from processors, strategies to address feedback received and benchmarking for monitoring and improved production.	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	Through the project (and sub-projects) extensive communication and extension activities occurred as detailed in Section 5 Extension and Adoption Activities of the final report. Industry workshops, webinars, online collaborations, interviews, surveys, face-to-face meetings and video calls were held to throughout the project and sub-projects to ensure continual communication with stakeholders.	
4.3	Report on the development of reporting interfaces	7(b)	Software that is transferable and compatible with different industry data collections systems currently being used by processors to support consistent collection	Achieved Partially achieved	Generally, it was understood that many establishments have systems in place for the collection and reporting of data as such the focus was	2018/0034 - Health4Wealth - pilot trials for the pork industry (H4W) 2018/0064 - Health 4 Wealth (H4W): Red meat pilot trials

KPI no.	KPI description	Outpu	uts linkage	Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
			and reporting of carcase and offal condemnation. The software should correlate disease and parasite conditions with meat yield and offal recoveries in terms of both quantity and quality and provide quantitative data to support ongoing risk assessment of inspection procedures for gross pathology of animal conditions.	Not achieved	place on the language and standards and how they could be incorporated into an establishments existing system while ensuring consistency in collection and reporting. From a beef and sheep perspective it was identified that LDL could be used for producer feedback (where companies do not already have their own feedback systems) and for industry benchmarking. Updates were provided in the Milestone 4 report.	
5.1	Conduct and report on outcomes of the validation studies for each species		Nine-month pilot studies in pork, sheepmeat and beef processing establishments to capture and collect perimortem data during processing and provide feedback to producers	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	Pilot Trials occurred with SARDI managing the pork trials in two abattoirs and MLA managing the red meat trials in eight abattoirs. The willingness by abattoirs to participate in the Pilot	2018/0034 - Health4Wealth - pilot trials for the pork industry (H4W) 2018/0064 - Health 4 Wealth (H4W): Red meat pilot trials

KPI no.	KPI description			Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
			through the tools developed under Activity 6.		Trials was exceptional and allowed a wide-ranging systems to be evaluated. Pilot Trials allowed assessment and improvement of the agreed conditions, recording systems, inspection services, reporting and feedback systems, and identified opportunities for improvement in all areas.	
5.2	Advise the Commonwealth of the outcome of the review and incorporated enhancements	8(b)	A review of the pilot trial outcomes after systems have been operating for a minimum of three months, including incorporation of necessary changes.	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	The steering committee discussed potential project activities for the successful completion of the project. In the pork pilot trials at the time, two plants were involved in data collection and the sub-project team were hoping to start work with other processors soon. Eight red meat processing plants were involved in the red meat pilot trials. The	2018/0034 - Health4Wealth - pilot trials for the pork industry (H4W) 2018/0064 - Health 4 Wealth (H4W): Red meat pilot trials

KPI no.	KPI description	Outp	uts linkage	Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
					next step was the release of feedback to primary producers. These updates were reported in the Milestone 5 report.	
6.1	Advise the Commonwealth of the outcome of the project steering committee review of Activity 8 and next steps	8(c)	Identification of the challenges or barriers to implementation of the data capture collection system and recommendation of solutions for each model before the rollout of a national uniform feedback system.	Achieved Partially Achieved Not achieved	As the pork and red meat trials were still underway, this KPI is only partially achieved during Milestone 6. However, challenges and barriers were identified throughout the pilot trials and reported on to the Steering Committee and the Commonwealth in subsequent Milestone reports. These issues included changes to the Innova software for the Marel system for the pork trials.	2018/0034 - Health4Wealth - pilot trials for the pork industry (H4W) 2018/0064 - Health 4 Wealth (H4W): Red meat pilot trials

KPI no.	KPI description	Outp	outs linkage	Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
7.1	Provide the final evaluation of the Project	2(c)	A monitoring and evaluation plan that sets out the timeframes for activities to be delivered, and the human resources and financial resources required.	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	This report and the final report	
7.2	Conduct and report on sessions or workshops held with producers	3(b)	Information sessions and/or workshop in person or online, with producers in association with processing establishment involved in field pilot studies. As a minimum, sessions should cover how to use feedback from processors, strategies to address feedback received and benchmarking for monitoring and improved production.	Achieved Partially Achieved Not achieved	Several producer workshops were conducted by MLA with red meat producers. These workshops focused on providing awareness of the NSHMP, the Health 4 Wealth program and the data that was becoming available through the H4W initiative. Three beef plants that launched animal disease and condition reporting via LDL ran producer webinars or producer days to introduce their suppliers to the animal disease feedback. These webinars or workshops	2018/0034 - Health4Wealth - pilot trials for the pork industry (H4W) 2018/0064 - Health 4 Wealth (H4W): Red meat pilot trials

KPI no.	KPI description	Outputs linkage	Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
				provided producers with information on the processor's business especially around livestock and the current market; H4W pilot trials; LDL, and on-farm production impacts due to disease condition. Agriculture Victoria and Local Land Services District Veterinarians undertook the on-farm production impacts session to highlight to producers the symptoms of the five top conditions; their impacts on productivity and the cost associated with this; and how and why the LDL feedback will benefit producers in managing these diseases. Pork Pilot Trial: The CoVID-19 pandemic led to the cancellation of	

KPI no.	KPI description			Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
					planned producer meetings due to widespread border closures and a reluctance (refusal) to allow nonessential visitors access to piggeries and abattoirs. These restrictions necessitated a review of project methodology. Individual online presentations on H4W were delivered to different stakeholders' who represented more than 50% of pig production in Australia. Further online presentations on H4W have been made to consultant pig veterinarians and their producer clients (presenting the producers individual farm data).	
7.3	Demonstrate and promote the system to processors	3(c)	Demonstration and promotion of the system to processing establishments.	Achieved Partially achieved	Demonstration of the system occurred through the pilot trials. Red meat	2018/0034 - Health4Wealth - pilot trials for the pork industry (H4W)

KPI no.	KPI description	Outputs linkage		Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
				Not achieved	trials were conducted at eight red meat abattoirs including beef, sheep, and goat processing companies. Pork pilot trials were completed at two abattoirs.	2018/0064 - Health 4 Wealth (H4W): Red meat pilot trials
					Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions demonstrate of this project one site was not available however the results of the work have been published. In addition, adoption projects for the collection and reporting of animal health disease and defect data are continuing to be funded by MLA.	
7.4	Conduct and report on inspection extension programme	3(d)	Information and extension activity with inspection and veterinary public health experts, to provide operational and quality assurance managers with the	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	The Health 4 Wealth project and the red meat pilot trials requires the meat inspection team at participating abattoirs to take on a new role in	2018/0034 - Health4Wealth - pilot trials for the pork industry (H4W) 2018/0064 - Health 4 Wealth (H4W): Red meat pilot trials

KPI no.	KPI description	Outputs linkage	Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
		information and training required to support the system.		identification and recording of animal disease and defect data.	
				As part of the red meat pilot trials, MLA worked with plants that used different meat inspection services, including Government Inspectors, company-employed Inspectors and Inspectors provided by third-party companies.	
				Plants that included their meat inspection team early in the project at the design phase were more successful in getting buy in to the project. The plants that did not do this found it challenging to engage the meat inspection team.	
				Some plants found the most difficult part of the project was attempting to engage	

KPI no.	KPI description	Outputs linkage		Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
					DAWR inspectors, possibly because they did not engage their meat inspection team in the design phase of the project.	
7.5	Implement national animal health and disease extension and adoption strategy			Achieved Partially Achieved Not achieved	Sub-project 2021/003 - Animal health and disease extension and adoption strategy has developed a National Animal Health and disease extension and adoption strategy to be implemented by the RDCs	2021/003 - Animal health and disease extension and adoption strategy
7.6	Publish research findings	3(g)	Published research findings. Publications must include instructional information for producers using the system and case study fact sheets. If appropriate, publication may include conference papers and journal articles.	Achieved Partially achieved Not achieved	The publications from the project are the sub-project reports these are available on the APL website.	
7.7	Provide a list of publications, including	3(g)	Published research findings. Publications must include instructional information for	Achieved Partially achieved	The publications from the project are the sub-project	Factsheets for beef and pork conditions detected in

KF	'	Outputs linkage	Quantitative assessment	Qualitative assessment of the outcome and achievements against the KPI	Supporting documentation
	publications that are still in preparation or submitted	producers using the system and case study fact sheets. If appropriate, publication may include conference papers and journal articles.	Not achieved	reports these are available on the APL website. In addition, Factsheets for beef and pork conditions detected in abattoir monitoring were developed under sub-project 2018/0085. Completed factsheets were submitted to the department with the Milestone 7 report.	abattoir monitoring Appendix 8 2018/0085 - Development of Factsheets for beef and pork conditions detected in abattoir monitoring - H4W

Table 3: Lessons learnt

Number	Issue Name	Problem/Success	Impact	Recommendation
Overall p	roject			
1	Expert Panel	An expert panel was formed at the beginning of the project to support the project management team. This panel was very beneficial in reviewing and making recommendations of the technical aspects of the project.	Contributed to the success of the project	Consideration to be given to forming an expert panel for future projects of this nature.
2	Industry Consultation	Industry consultation has been very productive throughout the project. It has allowed the project (and subproject) teams to ensure that practical, real work considerations have been included in the design and implementation of the project to ensure its successful extension and adoption.	Contributed to the success of the project	Industry consultation and engagement is paramount to success in all rural research and development projects.
3	Project management	With such as complex project that crosses 4 livestock species and the entire supply chain and a number of auxiliary services, a project manager is key to the sub-project approach to ensure that there was continual traction gained on the project and to allow for linkage and cross collaboration and learning between the sub-projects being undertaken.	To ensure maximum efficiencies and benefits were gained through the project.	That a project manager be engaged for the duration of similar projects.

Number	Issue Name	Problem/Success	Impact	Recommendation
4	Single IT solution	Any expectation of developing a	By mandating a single system,	The project is to develop
		single system to be used by every	innovation and advancement in	the common language
		abattoir across all species is	the area is hampered. Adoption	and to identify systems
		unrealistic. Individual organizations	can also be reduced or not	that are / could be used
		have the right to use, install, develop	occur at all because of this.	for collection and
		and manage any system they choose.		distribution of that data
				using the common
				language. The Trials
				must facilitate and
				evaluate common
				systems in use as well as
				identify opportunities for
				improvement.
-	•	iciency through the utilization of peri-mo	rtem information for major meat p	production species –
	case development (H4W)	1		
5	Value realisation	Without systematically ensuring key	The expected value of	That the industry
		system components are	\$83,222,1766 will not be	systematically work
		implemented (i.e., inspection	realised.	through the components
		accuracy, information suitability, data		of the project to ensure
		capture, data analysis, information		full value realisation.
		transfer, adoption) value realisation		
		is greatly diminished.		
		online collaboration event ('jam') to supp		- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
		recording and analysis of peri-mortem dis	sease information across pork, bee	f and sheep production
systems ('improved Animal Health Feed			
6	Technological engagement	Although 34 participants took part in	Engagement is key to the	Further engagement by
	uptake by the industry	the 'jam' session and beneficial	success of project adoption.	more traditional and
		discussions and ideas were raised in		known methods is
		regard to the H4W project at a 21%		recommended than was

Number	Issue Name	Problem/Success	Impact	Recommendation
		participation rate compared to the		completed through sub-
		expect 65% participation rate, this		project 2017/2205.
		form of technological engagement		
		was not embraced by the livestock		
		and meat industry.		
2017/004	1 - Development of standards fo	or ante/post-mortem processor data coll	ection and reporting for the pork in	ndustry (H4W)
7	Consistent training of meat	To ensure consistent data is provided	Consistent training will result in	Meat inspection training
	inspectors	to producers, meat inspectors	consistent and reliable data	in the collection of the
		collecting the data must be provided	means that the producers can	data is run with
		with consistent training.	trust the data provided.	refresher courses. New
				and existing meat
				inspectors should be
				consistently trained.
				A manual for inspectors
				is required to improve
				consistency in
				evaluations across
				inspectors and
				inspection systems.
8	Standardisation of language	To allow consistent data to be	This is the foundation of the	Work should continue on
		collected, reported, transfers and	project with all other	the national standard to
		provided back to producers a	components of the project	ensure it is maintained
		standardised and codified language is	being reliant on it.	up to date, and is
		required.		practically applicable to
				stakeholders.
9	Keep the collection system	To ensure ease of collection,	Over complication of the front	The system for collection
	simple	consistency of collection and	of the system when staff are	should be simple to
		integration with existing processing	already time poor will mean	integrate into the
			that data is not accurately and	processing plants

Number	Issue Name	Problem/Success	Impact	Recommendation
		data, the collection system should be	consistently recorded.	existing system. The
		kept as simple as possible.	Complication in the system that	front facing collection
			results in the system not	aspect of the system
			allowing for integration will	should also be simple.
			impact the data analysis and	
			potential value gained from the	
			project.	
10	Domestic processing	There are approximately 80 export	To ensure that consistent	That extension and
	adoption	registered processing plants across	feedback of data to primary	adoption work is
		Australia. In addition to this there are	producers to allow them to	undertaken with the
		90 processing plants purely	trust data and ensure that they	domestic processing
		producing for the domestic market.	act on the data it is key that	plants too.
		Although these figures do not	data is continually provided to	
		represent volume, primary producers	them no matter which	
		send their livestock to both and as	processing plant they send	
		such it is important that extension	livestock to.	
		and adoption activities are also		
		conducted with domestic processing		
		plants.		
11	Adoption through individual	The volume of primary producers in	The livestock industry and	Initial extension and
	supply chains	Australia is very high, to ensure	primary producers are known	adoption rates should be
		engagement with them is maximised,	to be slow adopters; initially	focused on individual
		and to ensure champions of the	focusing on individual supply	supply chains.
		change are identified adoption	chains will improve and	
		through individual supply chains	expediate extension and	
		should be the initial focus of any	adoption rates.	
		extension and adoption activities.		

Number	Issue Name	Problem/Success	Impact	Recommendation
12	Deidentified aggregated	The animal health disease and defect	Without clear business rules to	Business rules are
	data would be of value for	data has great potential in adding	protect identities and supply	required to be
	industry	value to the industry. It has the	chain commercial	developed about the
		potential to support market access	confidentiality the processing	transfer and use of data
		claims, trade negotiations, regulatory	industry will not be willing to	to ensure data can be
		change and animal health policy, as	share data.	used in a deidentified to
		well allow for targeted research and		benefit industry.
		extension activities.		
2017/220	05 - Collection, utilisation and	sharing of post-mortem animal health da	ta in the red meat supply chain (H	4W)
13	Limiting the collection of	There was a general view that the	The view is aimed at providing	If data attributes are to
	data	"list" needs to be limited to those	targeted information to	be limited in feedback
		diseases/conditions that producers	producers and ease of	then this should made
		can act upon and achieve some	collection for meat inspectors,	clear to producers to
		reduction in the incidence of the	however this does not provide	prevent disillusionment
		disease. It was also recommended	the processors with the	when the goal posts
		that only diseases/conditions that do	understanding of value that can	potentially keeps
		not require routine laboratory testing	be realised and could therefore	moving.
		for confirmation be included.	result in lack of adoption.	
		In addition, some plants believe the		
		list should be limited to a few of the		
		most significant diseases (5-8) to		
		make it easier to have on a touch		
		screen or record on paper. Having		
		said that there are 20 conditions in		
		the NSHMP recording sheets and		
		companies and inspectors seem to		
		have coped.		
14	Practicality of collection	The practicalities of animal health	The ability to collect animal	Chain speed and
	(technology verses paper	data collection in plants may	health disease and defect data	inspector resourcing

Number	Issue Name	Problem/Success	Impact	Recommendation
	records, chain speed,	necessitate the use of different		should be considered in
	additional inspector)	technologies and protocols		data collection and the
		depending on the species, chain		method of collection. A
		speed and inspection arrangements.		time in motion and
				workspace assessment
				should be conducted to
				understand resourcing
				needed and the type of
				collection method to be
				used.
15	Inspection model used	Government meat inspectors are	Reliable data collection, and	Strong engagement with
		reluctant to collect animal health	therefore usable data for	meat inspectors is
		disease and defect data. Third party	analysis and feedback.	required in general to
		and company inspectors are more		ensure that they
		likely to collect data.		understand the
				importance of data
				collection. The DAWR
				(and meat inspection
				providers) need to be
				consulted and engaged
				with at a higher
				management level, to
				ensure reliable data
				collection address
				willingness and due to
				turn over of staff, leave
				etc.
16	Reporting format – regional	Consideration should be given to the	Adoption levels are not as high	Traditional paper-based
	connectivity	reporting format, a web-based	as expected and the full	methods of extension

Number	Issue Name	Problem/Success	Impact	Recommendation
Mullibel	issue ivallie	service with login provides the	benefits of the project are not	and reporting need to be
		advantage of allowing for linkage to	realised.	available for some
		extension material and resources	Tealiseu.	regions.
				regions.
		however regional lack of reliable connectivity needs to be considered.		
17	Data sharing	Animal health data should be	Data sharing allows for great	Business rules for data
17	Data Sharing	available to producers (their livestock	value and benefits being	
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1	sharing is required and a national database for
		data) and processors (stock they	realised out of the project.	
		processed.)		data sharing, analysis
		The majority of plants are in favour of		and benchmarking should be established.
		this data being stored in both a		should be established.
		national and company data bases		
		with eighty percent in favour of there		
		being a national data base. Industry is		
		less enthusiastic about other parties		
		sharing this data but more relaxed if		
		the data is aggregated and individual		
2017/201		producers cannot be identified.		(1.1.1.1)
	1	ntation of an accredited training program		
18	Accuracy of data collection	Accuracy of data collection is	Confidence in the data	Meat inspection training
		important to ensure producer	reported is paramount to the	in the collection of the
		confidence in the data reported.	producers acting on the animal	data is run with
			health disease and defect data	refresher courses. New
			to ensure that the value and	and existing meat
			benefits of the project are	inspectors should be
			realised.	consistently trained.
				Verification of data
				collection through
				physical and data

Number	Issue Name	Problem/Success	Impact	Recommendation
				analysis is also important
				to ensure accuracy of
				data collection.
19	Engagement of processing staff	Data collection occurs in the processing environment where many cogs turn to ensure efficiency of processing and hopefully a profit. Changing functions or add additional tasks can throw off the balance that provides the efficiency and profit to a business.	Misunderstanding and negative view of the data collection function. Data not being collected accurately or consistently.	Engagement should occur with the processing management staff of the slaughter floor, livestock team and plant in general to ensure understanding of the benefits and value of the project to the company.
20	Integration of the data collection and reporting systems.	To ensure accurate and timely reporting and meaningful reporting the data collection and reporting systems need to be integrated. Feedback reports need to be linked to the animal identification and it other attributes such as weight, supply chain, etc.	To allow for meaningful analysis and meaningful reporting that can be acted to ensure that the value of the project can be realised.	Data collection and reporting systems should be integrated.
2017/220 (H4W)	62 - Assessment of value from r	reporting findings from analysis of sheep	health data collected at abattoirs	to the sheep supply chain
21	Multivariant statistical	Statistical analysis on data that is not	Misleading outcomes can lead	Careful consideration of
	analysis is not beneficial to verify a business case when the foundational	verified can provide false or misleading outcomes, if outcomes can be established.	to poor adoption.	data analysis conducted and shared should occur.
	components of a system are	In the case of this project the data that is already exists has to be fully		

Number	Issue Name	Problem/Success	Impact	Recommendation
	not in place, despite data	understood to be accurately		
	being available.	analysed.		
2018/003	34 - Health4Wealth - pilot trials	for the pork industry (H4W)		
22	Avenues for adoption and	Due to the COVID pandemic	Level of adoption of the project	Even post COVID all
	extension	traditional avenues of extension	will be reduced and therefore	available avenues for
		(such as face-to-face meeting and	the full value of the project will	adoption and extension
		producer days and workshops) need	not be realised.	need to be considered to
		to be reconsidered.		ensure the greatest
				adoption of the project
				as possible.
23	Retail supply chains must be	Given that the retailers in Australia	This has a potential to reduce	Consideration has to be
	considered	are large owners of livestock across	the level of action on the data	given to retailer led
		Australia any National system must	collected with the data never	supply chains including
		include their supply chains.	reaching the producers for	the ownership and
			them to act upon it.	sharing of data.
				Engagement of these
				supply chains including
				the retailers is important
				to ensure fully value
				realisation of any
				national system.
24	Data sharing	Animal health data should be	Data sharing allows for great	Business rules for data
		available to producers (their livestock	value and benefits being	sharing is required and a
		data) and processors (stock they	realised out of the project.	national database for
		processed.)		data sharing, analysis
		The majority of plants are in favour of		and benchmarking
		this data being stored in both a		should be established.
		national and company data bases		
		with eighty percent in favour of there		

Number	Issue Name	Problem/Success	Impact	Recommendation
		being a national data base. Industry is		
		less enthusiastic about other parties		
		sharing this data but more relaxed if		
		the data is aggregated and individual		
		producers cannot be identified.		
25	Number of pilot trials	State and federal travel and	Examples to be used for	Increased efforts around
		gathering restrictions due to the	adoption and extension have	extension and adoption
		COVID pandemic and company entry	been reduced	should occur with a
		restrictions to ensure continual		focus on early adopting
		production resulted in reduced pilot		plants as examples.
		trial numbers and length.		
26	Correlation and individual	Researchers recommend hook	Accuracy of data is paramount	Inspection data is
	identification	tracking of RFID to line up correlation	to confidence in the data and	maintained manually in
		of data entry.	adoption of the project.	correlation with an
		This unfortunately has the same		individual animal.
		volume of advantages as		
		disadvantages as the data accuracy is		
		reduced when the system is		
		automated and meat inspectors are		
		not moving the system on		
		themselves. It also means that there		
		is no positive entry to ascertain the		
		difference between a missed report		
		and a healthy record against an		
		animal.		
27	Producer feedback	Consideration should be given to the	Adoption levels are not as high	Traditional paper-based
		reporting format, a web-based	as expected and the full	methods of extension
		service with login provides the	benefits of the project are not	and reporting need to be
		advantage of allowing for linkage to	realised.	

Number	Issue Name	Problem/Success	Impact	Recommendation
		extension material and resources		available for some
		however regional lack of reliable		regions.
		connectivity needs to be considered.		
2018/006	64 - Health 4 Wealth (H4W): Re	d meat pilot trials		
28	Consistency of data collection (subjective grades for severity of conditions)	Consistency and accuracy of data collection is important to ensure producer confidence in the data reported.	Confidence in the data reported is paramount to the producers acting on the animal health disease and defect data to ensure that the value and benefits of the project are realised.	Meat inspection training in the collection of the data is run with refresher courses. New and existing meat inspectors should be consistently trained. Training should include
				the definitions and consistent application of subjective grades for severity of conditions.
29	Mapping of data captured against the standard	Variation in mapping of could occur for example generic conditions observed (e.g. Cysts) diagnostic conditions where pathological confirmation of the specific causes are attained (e.g. Hydatid Cysts).	Accuracy of data is paramount to confidence in the data and adoption of the project.	Guidelines for the mapping of data should be developed or mapping should be completed by those with expertise and experience in the development of the standard.
30	Standardisation of data	To allow consistent data to be collected, reported, transfers and provided back to producers a standardised and codified language is required.	This is the foundation of the project with all other components of the project being reliant on it.	Work should continue on the national standard to ensure it is maintained up to date and is

Number	Issue Name	Problem/Success	Impact	Recommendation
				practically applicable to
				stakeholders.
31	Inspection model used	Government meat inspectors are reluctant to collect animal health	Reliable data collection, and therefore usable data for	Strong engagement with meat inspectors is
		disease and defect data. Third party	analysis and feedback.	required in general to
		and company inspectors are more		ensure that they understand the
		likely to collect data.		
				importance of data collection. The DAWR
				(and meat inspection
				providers) need to be
				consulted and engaged
				with at a higher
				management level, to
				ensure reliable data
				collection address
				willingness and due to
				turn over of staff, leave
				etc.
32	Mob based data capture	A mob-based specification for animal	Adoption impacted	The mob-based
32	Wiob basea data captare	health disease and defect data	Adoption impacted	specification be piloted
		collection in small stock has been		in small stock processing
		developed but not tested.		plants.
33	Stakeholder engagement in	Stakeholder engagement in the	With the user (producer or	That stakeholders and
	the design of reports.	design of the report ensured that the	processor) understanding the	users are involved in the
	463,611 31 1640113.	reports were better understood, user	feedback reports there is	development and design
		friendly and included the information	increased use of them and	of feedback report and
		that the user though was important.	therefore increased adoption.	systems.
2018/008	: 35 - Development of Factsheets	for beef and pork conditions detected in	•	1 - /

Number	Issue Name	Problem/Success	Impact	Recommendation
34	Consideration of supply	The differentiation between	Extension material that is not	That different supply
	chain and region	extensive and feedlot producers and	easily understood or relatable	chains and regions be
		northern and southern production	will be ignored. This will lead to	considered when
		variation in the cattle industry should	a lack of adoption	developing extension
		be considered when developing		material to ensure that it
		extension material.		is best suited to the
				audience.
2020/002	21 - An ex-post benefit cost ana	lysis of the validation studies completed	in pork, sheep, beef and goat supp	ly chains (H4W)
35	Standardised application of	Consistency and accuracy of data	Confidence in the data	Verification of data
	a meat classification system	collection is important to ensure	reported is paramount to the	collection through
		producer confidence in the data	producers acting on the animal	physical and data
		reported.	health disease and defect data	analysis is also important
			to ensure that the value and	to ensure accuracy of
			benefits of the project are	data collection.
			realised.	Meat inspection training
				in the collection of the
				data is run with
				refresher courses. New
				and existing meat
				inspectors should be
				consistently trained.
36	Extension activities required	To realise the value in the project	Lack of adoption will result in	Extension actives
	to facilitate take up	producer action must occur. This	decreased value realisation for	continue to be funded to
		requires extension action to occur	the project.	ensure project uptake.
		through a number a routes to ensure		
		maximum uptake and adoption.		
37	Addressing data gaps	Data and information on the linkage	Fully realisation of the costs	Further analysis and
	around the costs and	of peri-mortem findings to animal	and benefits of the project may	research is undertaken
	benefits of conditions	diseases and then the cost incurred	be realised.	to understand the

Number	Issue Name	Problem/Success	Impact	Recommendation
		due to the disease will allow for full		linkages between peri-
		understanding of the costs and		mortem findings and
		benefits that the project can address.		animal diseases and the
				costs and benefits of
				addressing them.
38	Development of a	To ensure that the full extent of costs	Fully value is identified and	Monitoring and
	monitoring and evaluation	and the benefits of the project are	realised.	Evaluation systems
	system	understand and realised monitoring		should be included in
		and evaluation should occur as		further adoption and
		further adoption work is completed.		extension projects.