

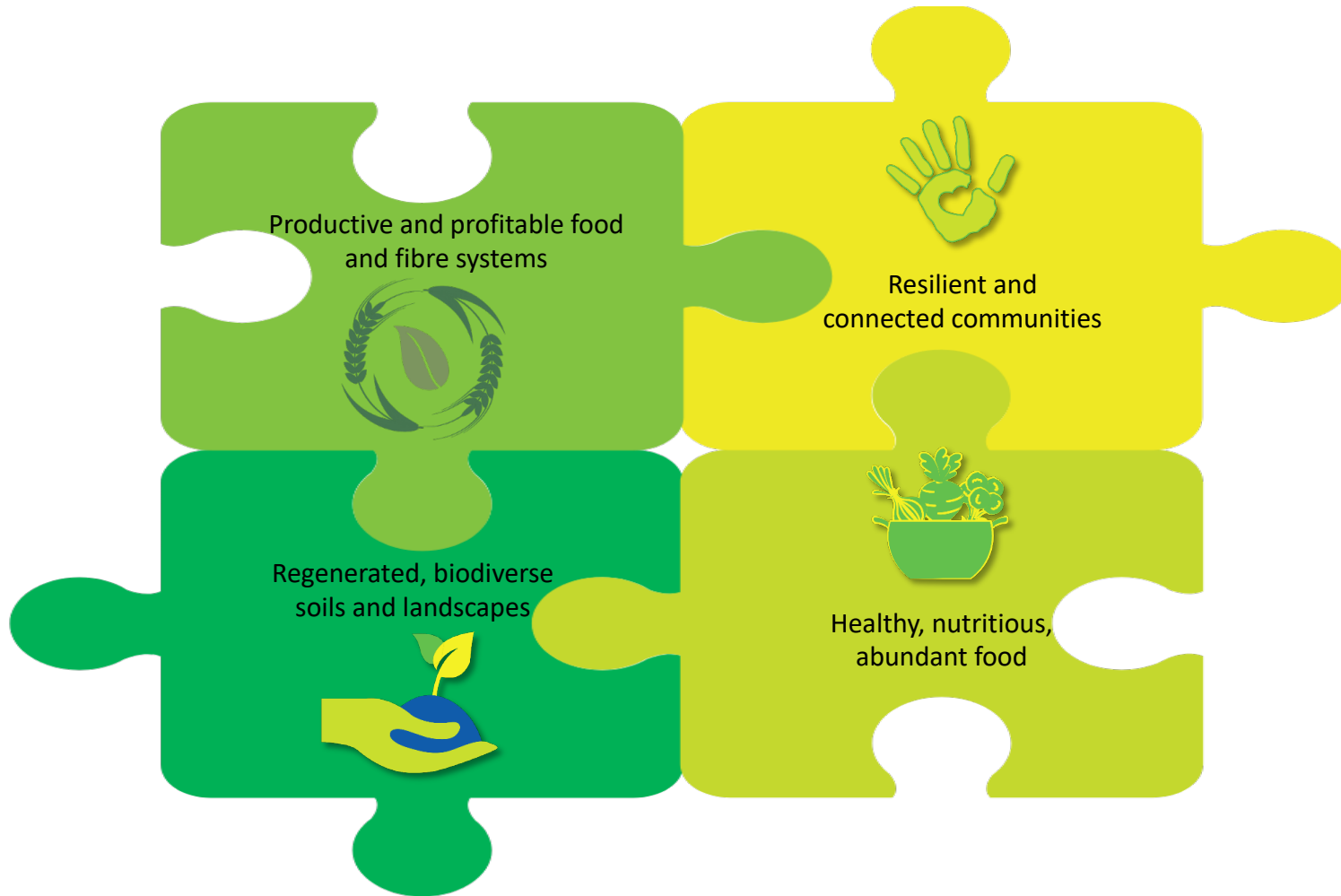


Soils for Life

Strategic framework

November 2020

Soils for Life sits within a complex ecosystem of organisations and groups who share a **common overarching vision**





**Mission: To support Australian farmers in regenerating soils and landscapes:
to build natural and social capital and transform food systems**



Soils For Life acts as **knowledge broker** and **champion of diverse regenerative agricultural systems**. As a not-for-profit organization (working at local, regional, national and international levels), we are uniquely positioned to implement the following strategies:



1. Enable and facilitate farmer innovation and empower local communities of practice

Soils For Life works with farmers and farmer groups to build capacity for innovation, climate adaptation and future resilience.



2. Broker knowledge between our partners and stakeholders

Soils For Life acts as a clearing house for sharing and coproduction of knowledge between a complex ecosystem of groups and organisations.



3. Support a strong evidence base around soil and landscape regeneration in agricultural systems

Soils For Life partners with researchers and research organisations to ensure that regenerative agriculture is underpinned and informed by a strong evidence base as well as being locally adapted.



4. Influence research agendas and future innovation

Soils For Life ensures that farmer questions and insights have a place in influencing research agendas and optimizing adoption of innovative practices.



5. Build and facilitate collaborative research partnerships across the sector

Soils For Life draws together complementary skills and expertise, to use resources in a targeted, cost-effective manner, and to maximise impacts.



6. Support systemic change to create productive, resilient, biodiverse landscapes and communities

Soils For Life uses complex adaptive systems thinking in all our work. We identify tools, tipping points and adaptive capacity to support and amplify positive system change.



Who we are

Soils for Life is a not-for-profit charity dedicated to supporting Australian farmers and rural communities in regenerating soils and landscapes to build natural and social capital and transform food systems. Soils for Life sits within a complex ecosystem of organisations and groups who share a common overarching vision of

- Productive and profitable food and fibre systems
- Regenerated biodiverse soils and landscapes
- Resilient and connected communities
- Healthy, nutritious, abundant food

What we deliver

We build communities of practice around regenerative cultures and thinking to create and enable strong networks and partnerships.

We build a strong evidence base to validate and share understandings of regenerative principles, practices and outcomes. Our holistic and transdisciplinary approach encompasses all aspects of regenerative agriculture including ecological, economic, and social transformation.

We create local, on-ground farmer support mechanisms including mentoring programs and networks, and we do this in partnership with a range of local and regional organisations.

How we operate

We leverage and work with a broad range of partners including research and development organisations, policy actors, practitioner groups, extension and outreach, and agribusiness to support farmers. Our close relationship with the National Soils Advocate provides us with a platform for policy and advocacy engagement, along with our instigating role in the creation of the Parliamentary Friends of Soil.

Our research and development activities include an extensive and long-running regenerative farming case study program which provides interwoven, evidence-based accounts of land manager and landscape change and regeneration. These case studies form the basis of our mentoring and outreach programs together with the network of change agents and rural leaders who share insights and diverse experience. For example, we hold field days, webinars and support local community activities. Soils for Life speaks with an engaged audience across multiple online and offline channels.

Through our networks and our role as a knowledge broker, we harness collective knowledge generation and sharing, drawing on farmers' knowledge and experience of their landscapes and production systems. We build strong co-innovation platforms and processes to initiate and sustain regenerative change.

We are committed to exploring deeper leverage for positive change through reviewing foundational assumptions and beliefs, shifting priorities, attitudes and values.