

# Partnering to Implement the National Soil Action Plan 2023-28 Program

## FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT – ENVIRONMENT

<b>Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule</b>	
<b>Parties</b>	Commonwealth South Australia (SA)
<b>Duration</b>	This Schedule is expected to expire on 30 June 2028.
<b>Purpose</b>	<p>This Schedule will support the delivery of one project under the Partnering to Implement the National Soil Action Plan 2023-28 program in South Australia:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Creating the South Australian Soils Collaboration Centre: which will establish the SA Soils Knowledge Network, upgrade the state’s soil information into an accessible data and information bank, and secure the future capacity for SA soil action.               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The SA Soils Knowledge Network and SA Soils Data and Information Bank will provide a platform for the development of collaborative, holistic, priority programs and projects based on credible, locally-relevant, scientific data and information. Long-term soil health monitoring sites will be established to contribute to the state data bank.</li> <li>ii. Sharing of knowledge among stakeholders will accelerate the adoption of protective land use and management practices. Engagement with members of the Soils Knowledge Network will enable scoping of the community of practice to identify gaps and opportunities in the soils workforce and offer direct opportunities for career development of individuals.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>The project will contribute to progress on the action plan through clear, measurable commitments to localised action. They will provide significant contributions to facilitate the delivery of priority actions 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the action plan, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an agreed national framework to support the measurement, monitoring, mapping, reporting and sharing of soil state and trend information, to inform best practice management, decision making and future investment in soil.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partner to develop a holistic policy and strategy approach where soil function is recognised, valued, and protected for the environment, economy, food, infrastructure, health, biodiversity, and communities.</li> <li>• Accelerate the adoption of land use and management practices that protect soil and improve soil state and trend.</li> <li>• Identify and develop the soil workforce and capabilities needed to meet current and future challenges for Australia and the region.</li> </ul>																																			
<p>Estimated financial contributions</p>	<p>The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to South Australia of \$2.831m in respect of this Schedule towards one project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$2.831m for Creating the South Australian Soils Collaboration Centre</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>Table 1</b> (\$ million)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2023-24</th> <th>2024-25</th> <th>2025-26</th> <th>2026-27</th> <th>2027-28</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Estimated total budget</td> <td>-</td> <td>1.482</td> <td>1.636</td> <td>0.760</td> <td>0.901</td> <td>4.779</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Less estimated National Partnership Payments</i></td> <td>-</td> <td>0.849</td> <td>1.083</td> <td>0.384</td> <td>0.515</td> <td>2.831</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- South Australia</td> <td>-</td> <td>0.849</td> <td>1.083</td> <td>0.384</td> <td>0.515</td> <td>2.831</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions</td> <td>-</td> <td>0.633</td> <td>0.553</td> <td>0.376</td> <td>0.386</td> <td>1.948</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <hr/>		2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Total	Estimated total budget	-	1.482	1.636	0.760	0.901	4.779	<i>Less estimated National Partnership Payments</i>	-	0.849	1.083	0.384	0.515	2.831	- South Australia	-	0.849	1.083	0.384	0.515	2.831	Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions	-	0.633	0.553	0.376	0.386	1.948
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<p>Additional terms</p>	<p><i>Financial contributions</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The South Australian government is responsible for providing a financial and/or in-kind contribution equal to or greater than \$1.948m (when rounded up) to support the activities outlined in this Schedule.</li> </ol> <p><i>Project Plans</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. The South Australian government will be responsible for delivering the two projects in accordance with project plans, which may be agreed between senior Commonwealth and South Australian officials.</li> <li>3. Should the plans need to be varied over time to accommodate changed circumstances, variations that directly affect the outputs and timeframes for the project are subject to written agreement between senior Commonwealth and South Australian officials.</li> </ol>																																			

*Data accessibility*

4. The State of South Australia must obtain for the Commonwealth a permanent, irrevocable, royalty-free, licence fee-free, world-wide, non-exclusive licence (including a right to sub-licence) to collect, use, interrogate, reproduce, modify, adapt, publish, perform, broadcast, communicate, distribute, commercialise and exploit the Intellectual Property Rights in Soil Data for a Commonwealth Purpose.
5. In this clause 4:
  - a. Commonwealth Purpose means:
    - i. using Soil Data for any purpose connected to the Commonwealth's policies for valuing, managing and improving Australia's soil assets;
    - ii. accessing and using of georeferencing information contained in that Soil Data for government and non-government research and policy development;
    - iii. uploading that Soil Data to a managed database and made available to the Australian National Soil Information System or any successor or related database; and
    - iv. combining the Soil Data with any third-party data to form an aggregate database which is licenced to third parties.
  - b. Intellectual Property Rights means any intellectual property rights, whether registered or unregistered and includes copyright, designs, patents, trademarks, semi-conductor and circuit layout rights.
  - c. Soil Data includes:
    - i. the soil test data from the soil testing undertaken by a person;
    - ii. the georeferencing information relevant to the tested soil samples; and
    - iii. any other data, and/or qualitative or contextual information collected from the landholder relevant to the tested soil samples.

<b>Output</b>	<b>Performance milestones<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Report due</b>	<b>Payment</b>
1. Creating the South Australian Soils Collaboration Centre	1.1 Delivery and acceptance of a project plan – which should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the project scope</li> <li>desired project outcomes</li> <li>a project budget</li> <li>planned activities (including engagement/communications) and schedule for delivery</li> <li>key stakeholders/partners and their responsibilities</li> <li>how performance will be monitored and evaluated (including performance measures)</li> <li>list of any intellectual property that will be used in the project</li> <li>governance arrangements</li> <li>risk management.</li> </ul>	01/10/2024	\$849,231.90
	1.2 Progress report 1 – delivery and acceptance of a report demonstrating satisfactory progress against the project plan. Progress reports should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>progress against activities in the project plan</li> <li>key achievements</li> <li>key risks and mitigations</li> <li>an outline of activities to be commenced in the next reporting period.</li> </ul>	01/08/2025	\$1,082,744.10
	1.3 Progress report 2 – delivery and acceptance of a report demonstrating satisfactory progress against the project plan. Progress reports should include the components as outlined for progress report 1.	01/08/2026	\$384,307
	1.4 Progress report 3 - delivery and acceptance of a report demonstrating satisfactory progress against the project plan. Progress reports should include the components as outlined for progress report 1.	01/08/2027	\$286,714
	1.5 Delivery and acceptance of a final report – which should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an outline of all activities undertaken</li> <li>description of achievements and impacts from the project (including key research findings where relevant)</li> </ul>	15/05/2028	\$227,776

<sup>1</sup> All reporting milestones must be endorsed by a senior state government official.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• evaluation of the project against the desired outcomes, National Action Plan Priority Actions and performance measures, including learnings and recommendations</li><li>• list of any intellectual property created as part of the project</li><li>• summary of project engagement/communications and/or extension materials produced</li><li>• a financial report which summarises expenditure throughout the program.</li></ul>		
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$2,830,773</b>

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth  
of Australia by



**The Honourable Julie Collins MP**  
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

21/9/2024

Signed for and on behalf of the  
State of South Australia by



**The Honourable Clare Scriven MLC**  
Minister for Primary Industries and Regional  
Development

Minister for Forest Industries

29/11/2024