

NSF Action Plan

(Based on outcomes of Defining the Science and Practice of NSF Workshop)

- 1. Define and document the NSF approach** – the vision, the concept and the practice. Who are, or will be, the drivers behind NSF? How is success defined? Define the language e.g. irrigation v hydration.
- 2. Build NSF implementation capacity** – There is a growing appetite throughout Australia for Peter Andrews's ideas. But there is currently little capacity for any broad-scale learning or implementation. Ideas were presented that included a CRC for NSF, NSF Foundation. The need for an education and training program resonated.
- 3. Resolve policy and legislation issues** – There should be a referral group that can coordinate and discuss issues across several departments and levels of government. The group should know the principles of NSF and it should have a clear understanding of legislative issues, including licencing and property rights within all of Australia's jurisdictions. The group should see itself as a facilitator for on-ground NSF action. It can provide the necessary government safety net while allowing a broadening of NSF trials throughout Australia.
- 4. Social issues/community engagement** – Need to take the community along. Need to connect with the local networks, e.g. Landcare, the regional NRM bodies, and promote the discussion at the grass roots level. How will implementation of NSF affect my patch?
- 5. Promote economic outcomes** – Demonstrate economic and environmental benefits such as better water quality and greater biomass in the form of fodder, soil building, biodiversity and carbon fixing. Justify co-funding by Government and other investors on this basis.
- 6. Implement on-ground demonstrations** – well monitored, locally relevant, farm and landscape scale demonstrations set up in a wide variety of landscapes across Australia. The communities in these areas should be the drivers of the on-ground demonstrations. These communities should be well supported through clear communication.
- 7. Targeted research** – Enormous research potential. Research should be integrated, participatory and go hand in hand with the demonstrations. Peter Andrews should be appropriately acknowledged for his contribution to this point and engaged in or leading NSF research in the future.
- 8. Landholder education, training and accreditation** – Formalised education and training. Include land owners, government and land investors. Should be locally relevant.
- 9. Recompense to Peter Andrews** – Peter Andrews has risked everything to bring the principles of NSF to the public's attention. Mr Andrews should be compensated appropriately for the public good research and development he has undertaken to this point.