

Fight Food Waste CRC

\$5m in R&D leverage

The Fight Food Waste Cooperative Research Centre (FFW CRC) has issued a national call for new research projects with \$5 million in CRC grant funding available as leverage (January 2023).

All project funding involves matching leverage for industry participant contributions (including state and territory government participants) to undertake research, development, education, extension and commercialisation activities with one or more of the FFW CRC's research providers. University research providers include the University of Adelaide, Central Queensland University, Curtin University, Queensland University of Technology, RMIT University, Swinburne University, The University of Queensland, and University of Southern Queensland. State government research providers are South Australian Research & Development Institute (SARDI), Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, and ChemCentre, Western Australia.

The 2023-2028 Investment Framework Update is available for download via the CRC website and provides a clear agenda as to the type of projects it will co-invest in to ensure the delivery of maximum impact from the funding available.

For more information, please email us enquiries@fightfoodwastecrc.com.au

We are seeking industry-driven R&D projects across the following strategic areas:

PROGRAM/PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
REDUCE	
Supply chain food loss and waste (FLW) reduction benchmarking and intervention mapping.	Benchmarking of current 'state of the art' and projections of the impact of alternative interventions at various supply chain stages to drive FLW reduction. Sector wide projects can be considered in this context, thus projects that are connected to Stop Food Waste Australia (SFWA) Sector Action Plans, namely applying R&D and measurement, are also of interest.
Supply chain/ packaging innovation/ intervention feasibility testing and scaling for reducing FLW.	Piloting and testing of interventions/ innovations aimed at driving FLW reduction at various supply chain stages. A focus should be on scalable solutions for large FLW reductions.
Improving retail operational efficiency	Explorations of alternative retail discount policy, digital pricing/ stock management, ordering processes/ replenishment sizes, cold chain maintenance, and on-shelf availability targets, amongst other foci, are of interest here. This is in order to drive retail and household food waste down. A focus should be on areas that could deliver large FLW reductions.
TRANSFORM	
Tools to assist in the prioritisation of value-add opportunities	Enable decision-makers to put food waste and surplus to its best and highest use through tools, new information and new product and/or business model alternatives that assist in the prioritisation of transformation opportunities (using factors such as tonnes of food waste prevented, industry profitability and contribution to SDG 12.3 (i.e. whole foods, food ingredients, extracts, fibres)).
Creating the necessary supply chains to enable upcycling of food waste	Data, insights and models to connect food surplus, to processors, to end markets (taking into consideration logistics, infrastructure, technology needs and policy barriers).
Overcoming the barriers to use of existing technology or creating new technology and processes to transform food waste	Enhancing the application and adoption of food surplus processing and stabilisation technologies to enable valorisation.
Creating the necessary regulation and policy environment to enable food waste transformation	Enabling market access and overcoming policy barriers for upcycled products and high value uses for food waste.
Efficient preparation of food surplus to enable transformation	Methods, processes and technology to prepare food surplus for transformation either at the source of production or in centralised locations (considering for example stabilisation, dewatering, transport, storage).
ENGAGE	
National Behaviour Change Program	Improving information available to decision-makers to enhance the effectiveness of consumer food waste reduction interventions
Changes in behaviour and shifts in culture for food businesses	Providing organisations with resources which will help guide them to create a culture that supports food waste reduction activities.
Knowledge hub for collating, storing and disseminating food waste reduction information for organisations and individuals	Collating the best and most recent information on food waste reduction in Australia and making this easy to identify and accessible for organisations and individuals.



Download the 2023-2028 Investment Framework Update