

Combined survey responses for each question

1. Which food system activities are included in this project?

Bruce:

Salisbury will say all areas because our focus is more on the bigger processors, logistics, refrigerated warehousing (traditional centralised production & distribution) factory jobs etc. However, the study is meant to be focused on how different levels of government can better facilitate 'local food' initiatives (and maybe selling the concept that more jobs, and more interesting/rewarding jobs, can be created by a local small scale 'distributed' approach will be important for Salisbury Council buy-in)

Christy:

All of the above as it mapping and understanding the players/actors across the system as well as the powers/influencers/educators that affect/interplay within in.

Greg Sarre - Mount Barker

I guess I see the following as especially relevant to this project - Education/literacy building, Producing, consuming, retailing, disposing/reusing, transport (within the context of food miles and seeking out sustainably produced local options)

Sharon McGann

All of the above as well as food system advocacy and learning how to put a dollar value on things for those who need to see the \$value

Linda:

All food systems activities – so we can get a full picture of the system as a whole and how the activities relate or link with each other.

Kylie:

I think we need to include all food system activities in this project as there may be spaces for local government to play some sort of role in any/all of these areas. The food system as a whole also determines the food system outcomes (e.g. climate change, nutrition/public health, food security, etc)

2. Which impacts of food system activities are relevant to include/think about in this project – by reference to the wider systems in which the food system is embedded?

Bruce:

1. Economic – important to demonstrate the \$/jobs benefits of a local/distributed approach (primarily to avoid political blocks)
2. Public health benefits
3. Social & food security, food cultures
4. Environmental

Christy:

All of the different categories explained below are relevant as local and state government is embedded/works across all of these impacts in a variety of ways. This project is about increasing food system literacy – the understanding of systems being embedded in systems and the linkages is a critical part of that. I think communicating this in a way that is accessible for those beginner system thinkers as well as those who are in the fish bowl of system thinking.

Mount Barker – Greg Sarre

Biological system, social system and economic system are primary with political and health system secondary

Sharon McGann

All of the above and also a call out for health – physical mental and emotional impacts of access to healthy nutritious food ... or not

Linda

Environment, Social, Economic and Health – keen to explore how they influence each other – important to consider all for a holistic approach.

It would also be good to think about the political side as a local government

Kylie:

I think it is important to think about all of these impacts within this project as local government has a role to play in each of these impacts and may potentially be able to influence some of the food system drivers (e.g. through advocacy, action, connecting the right players) that causes these impacts. These broader impact areas are all part of council's business in some fashion.

Environmental impacts of food system activities - consider the nitrogen and phosphorous cycles, GHG emissions, land use change, water quality, soil quality, soil erosion, air quality, impacts on biodiversity etc.

Christy:

Green Adelaide have a strong interest in the impacts on the environment.

Greg:

Environmental impacts of food system activities are of primary concern to our LGA and the broader region.

Sharon:

All of the above including recent State Government decisions to approve GMO and a toxic local waste management plant

Linda

Land use – zoning

Climate change links

Kylie

Yes – local government has a role to play in zoning for land use, water management, natural resources management, relationships with farming community, climate change mitigation strategies.

Social/societal impacts of food system activities – consider , food cultures, First Nations food histories and traditions, food knowledge and utilization, foodscapes, social movements, household structure, homelessness, race and gender etc.

Christy:

Green Adelaide are establishing a stronger Aboriginal engagement framework particularly with the traditional owners of Adelaide – Kurna so this is a strong priority also.

Greg:

Social impacts: I feel like there is lots to be done in this space and LGs well placed to influence and support.

Opportunities for LG to work with individual supermarkets to make available waste foods to those in need who don't want to or have the capacity to 'dumpster dive'

Sharon:

all of the above and food as a sociodemographic leveller or connector. Whilst we think the 'poor' have low food skills a proportion (possibly culturally influenced) have great skills and knowledge that can be shared to bridge the divide.

Linda

Food knowledge and utilisation

Food waste

First Nations and CALD communities

Target populations – aging, youth, at risk, newly at risk with COVID

Food as a connector

Sharing of food

Kylie:

Yes – local government has a role to play in food culture through community wellbeing and tourism. Land zoning and council policies relating to land use, edible plantings and community gardens influence foodscapes.

Public health impacts – incidence of food security and who is most affected and at risk, incidence of overweight and obesity and who is most affected and at risk, incidence of dietary-related ill-health and disease (e.g. Type 2 diabetes, cancer, heart disease, etc.) and who is most affected and at risk, incidence of food deserts (lack of access to fresh and affordable food within a 500m walk from dwellings) and food swamps (excessive concentration of unhealthy food outlets as a ratio compared to healthy food outlets), etc.

Christy

Green Adelaide/DEW's partnership with the Department of Health is a driver to link health across all policies. Healthy Parks Healthy People is a strategic policy driver for this.

Greg:

Public health impacts are primarily a State/Federal issue but LGs have a role to play in supporting public health messages and programs (mostly funded by others). Food swamps are a concern (e.g. in the Mount Barker CBD) and Council can influence by supporting alternative options in adjacent locations, e.g. farmers markets, community gardens, festivals and events. Role for community centres and other ngos in accessing and distributing leftover food e.g. Mount Barker Community Centre does this with businesses like Bakers Delight.

Sharon:

Also the 'poisoning' of a class – by foisting 'second hand' food on people

Also COVID introducing fear and privileging single serves in plastic, plastic serving instruments etc.

Also public health promotion opportunities to change the discourse in our local area.

Linda

Links between strong food systems and food security

Links in reducing obesity

Food access

Food affordability

Kylie:

Yes – through Regional Public Health Plans, health promotion activities, environmental health activities.

Economic impacts of food system activities – sustainable livelihoods of food system actors and related industries, market concentration (centralization of food system activities amongst a few major companies or support for SMEs), community ownership and wealth building approaches to combatting inequalities underpinning food insecurity, trade, subsidies and market protections etc.

Christy:

This is a key driver community/business and Government departments. New economic models are of interest.

Greg:

Significant priority for our LGA and region as a major source of current and future employment consistent with community sentiment and the positioning of the region as a niche/boutique food producer. Threatened however from urban development and fragmentation of agricultural land and the prevalence of lifestyle properties etc.

Potential for a ‘Small is beautiful’ approach to boutique investment and trade and branding and marketing

(Doughnut economics referred to in later answers)

Sharon:

All of the above including Distribution issues in a large LGA and lack of distribution options or fair platforms for farmers and producers.

Linda

Alternative models for local food distribution

Supporting local business

Local employment

Exploration of strong food systems, strengthening local economy

Kylie:

Yes – through business development programs and campaigns, initiatives like the Alexandrina Sustainable Agriculture Round Table to support sustainable farming, food tourism activities.

Political impacts of food system activities – which policy, regulatory or legislative levers are in force or potentially may be considered at different levels of government

e.g. consumer taxes on meat or sugar, changes to procurement policies to support local businesses, regulations on the use of food waste for animal food, mandatory waste separation and composting, etc.

Christy:

For the urban environment – land use regulations are a prohibiting factor to more urban food growing (Planning SA), local business procurement policies at both state and local government (current State Gov prioritise local business engagement and Aboriginal business options are growing), waste strategies (Green Industries and local government diversities) – Food Waste CRC is currently underway in Adelaide.

Greg:

A lot of this is outside of the remit of LG. The power of vested interests and their lobbyists mean any tax on unhealthy/environmentally destructive foods is unlikely despite the reality that society pays in other ways e.g. through the health system, environmental remediation, climate change mitigation and adaptation.

We should focus on what can be done at the LG level and procurement is important. Similar to unhealthy fast food space, Councils supporting options and choices for people to avoid dealing with the big 3 supermarkets is worthwhile or at least seeking our better options within the existing system

44% of our LGA's domestic waste is organic and 60% of waste in commercial bins is organic also (co-mingled). A 'pay as you throw' option is identified in Council's waste plan but only as an action to 'assess the potential for'.

Sharon: All of the above plus an apparently restrictive policy which privileges grape / wine growing over broader food growing in Onkaparinga and recent State Govt decisions to overrule council and approve GMO plus an EPA report that a toxic waste management plant in proximity to food growing land is not a problem ie a state government that either doesn't care or wants to send a message that the local councils views do not count.

Lack of awareness or accountability re local procurement or social procurement options.

Linda

Protection of land

Local procurement – we do have a policy around this, but would be good to think more about it

Kylie:

Yes – through council procurement policies to support local business, use of sustainable event/catering guidelines

3. What are the goals of this project in terms of food system outcomes?

Bruce:

A better approach that is:
more equitable/accessible to all community members
healthier

less energy intensive (less fuel, chemical fertilizer/pesticide/herbicide, avoids imported water – desalination/Murray River)
encourages regional identity

Christy

- greater understanding, advocacy for and fostering of **local** food systems within governments and communities
- further investment and promotions of **local** food system initiatives
- embedding food systems policy and planning as part of governments' response to climate change risk

- **Localisation** of livelihoods and the system's feedback loops – build on SA local/pick a local movements because this enhances local environments, keeps work/livelihoods in the state/enhances food security/health

Greg Sarre Mount Barker did not answer the goals of this specific project part of the questionnaire

Sharon: Healthier more connected system. Healthy nutritious accessible food for all. More autonomy over our decisions.

Linda

Create a shared vision with community and internally within council – social cohesion

Access to fresh, affordable food for all – health and increased food security

Explore opportunities to support our local food system – develop a strong local food system – economic

Bring community together to drive action around food

Advocate to council and other levels of gov about importance of this work

Clarify council's role in this work

Education around food systems

Reduced environment impacts – ie carbon reduction

Kylie

- Balanced and sufficient diet for citizens
- Reduced environmental impact of food system activities
- Competitive agri-food businesses that are environmentally aware and considerate
- Thriving local food initiatives that connect people and connect people to place
- A food system that can adapt and bounce back from shocks (resilience) like that experienced through the COVID-19 lockdowns (panic buying).
- Improved accessibility and affordability of healthy food for citizens
- Increased food literacy of citizens to support healthy, enjoyable eating
- Resilience of local farmer livelihoods – farming is a valued and attractive occupation and farmers can earn a decent livelihood
- Increased action amongst food businesses to reduce their ecological footprint
- Increased number of food citizens (not food consumers). People value their food and think critically about their food choices and how they interact with the food system to ensure their actions make a contribution to a healthier, more sustainable food system.

- Improved skills, networks and resources to support the resilience of our local food system to adapt to shocks.
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4. What are the values and principles shaping this project?

Bruce: All of the below – a view/perception that is difficult to clearly (& simply) articulate that a local approach has to be much better than the current seriously flawed system of production & distribution

Christy

For me it is building a local economy that protects the rights of the environment and the livelihoods of local communities. In particular this project has arisen out of the desire for local/state governments to participate/invest more fully in food system initiatives because they have flown on effects to every part of our collective lives.

Food and climate resilience are also intrinsically interconnected but it seems we have disconnected them in our local policy and discourse – the UN Sustainable Development Goals and complexity/systems approaches remind us not to do this. How do put this into practice?

Greg

Please refer to our Community Plan

https://www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0028/791542/Community-Plan-2020-2035-FINAL-PDF-December-2020.pdf

Sharon:

Connection, connectedness, we are all in this together

Linda

Collaboration and co-design

Citizen lead

Participation

Shared resources

Local economy

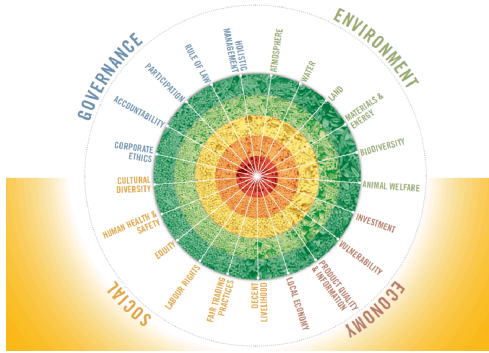
Inclusion

Environmental sustainability

Equity

Kylie:

1. Land, Water, Biodiversity
2. Vulnerability, Participation, Holistic Management, Equity
3. Decent Livelihood, Local economy, Accountability



5. Who is supplying the funding for this coalition/project and what do they want out of this?

Bruce: Local Government via direct contribution by a number of Councils and a grant from the Local Government Association (LGA)

Christy

Local Government Association of SA, Local governments, a state government agency – Green Adelaide and in-kind inputs from Wellbeing SA (state government) and Heart Foundation and two collectives/community groups – Onkaparinga Food Security Collaborative and SA Urban Food Network.

Greg

Our Council is a minor funding partner. 2 of the high priorities in our Community Plan are ‘Circular Economies’ and ‘Climate Innovation’ so I see this project as helping to progress actions relevant to those priorities (pages 16 and 20 of the linked Community plan)

Whether our Council area is mapped or not, I would hope to be able to show our executive team and elected members the local relevance and applicability.

Re mapping, rather than map individual Council areas I wonder if we would be better off choosing representative areas. This might avoid any friction amongst funding partners and be more helpful for applicability, e.g. inner urban, outer urban, peri urban, rural

Sharon:

LGA – something practical that serves their constituency

Linda:

Local Government Association of SA and individual councils
Exploring and clarifying the role of LG in SA around this work
Something that is going to benefit all of local government in SA

For individual councils – to provide evidence, practice reflection, practical examples, tools etc to use, recommendations moving forward around best practice

Kylie:

Local Government Association - Research & Development Scheme. R&D outcomes that will benefit all South Australian local government organisations.

6. Who are the beneficiaries of the project? How will they benefit from the project activities and outcomes?

Bruce: The main aim is to increase food systems understanding within different levels of Government and provide templates and guidance for the development of better policies & procedures that remove road-blocks and better facilitate organisations and community members who are striving to implement a local approach.

Christy

LGA of SA, local governments across SA – provided with toolkit/how tos/expertise/experience/case studies, Food Systems Network/working group-beneficial learnings/internal capacity building, Tender consultants, community groups/initiative owners with future investment in their projects/plans because of increased understanding of how they benefit local/state gov climate resilient work.

Greg

The ultimate beneficiaries must be the community and the environment supported by a regional economy that has agriculture and healthy food systems as its core. The Doughnut Economics model discussed on page 31 of our Community Plan is a useful way to frame what we are trying to achieve. Could be reinterpreted for this project

Sharon

Individual councils

Linda:

Local councils – as above, clearer direction

Staff at officer level in council – some tools to be able to speak with senior management about the importance and value of this work – there are barriers with senior management and Elected Members due to lack of understanding and many competing priorities for the time and budgets

Community – bringing them together, social cohesion, active citizenship, a way forward to create strong food systems where they can access healthy, local foods, skill development

Kylie:

Local government – a clearer understanding of what role local government can and should play in supporting a resilient local food system (and tools they can use to determine this as it applies to their own area).

Food system stakeholders – as local government actions resulting from the project should improve the lives/livelihoods of some of these stakeholders

7. What is (or are) the measure(s) of success of the project? Who will decide the measure(s) of success? Who will decide if those measures have been met?

Bruce: The Food Systems Steering Group – based on feedback from member Councils.

Christy:

It would be great to dig into the outcomes/indicators outlined by the project team a little further – to see if we are missing anything that would be simple to uncover, to better tell the story of this type of project. I understand that each time you seek an outcome, you may miss the flip side of the outcome or blinker your view. What is significant that we are missing/or could miss?

Who decides if they have been met? – a diversity of players – the evaluators, the project team, the participants. How do we tell the story collectively and clearly from the outset and ask this larger group of people for their indicators of success...

| Outcome/Measure | Indicator(s) | Timeframe |
|--|--|------------------|
| Local food system visions and principles developed | # of stakeholders engaged in creating the vision and principles | Immediate |
| Coherent collective actions and priorities identified and outlined | Summary in end of project report and the # of stakeholders intending to undertake action | Short term |
| Increased food systems literacy | # of stakeholders reporting an increase in their knowledge of food systems | Short term |
| Increased local government advocacy for local food systems | # of local governments using and embedding the maps, guides and tools in their work | Long term |
| Increased food systems advocacy (general) | # of councils, stakeholders and communities influencing the system (using and embedding the tools in their work) | Long term |
| Increase of food system initiatives | # of new food system initiatives Increase of amount of investment into local food systems initiatives | Long term |
| Stakeholders building their capacity to act coherently | # of stakeholders using their vision to build the capacity of their organisations and networks to act coherently | Long term |
| New local governments using the project approach themselves | New local governments planning to undertake the project approach in their local areas | Long term |

Greg

Agreed shared objectives and actions that can be replicated and extended within each LGA.

A clear positive future narrative for the Adelaide metro region, its semi rural/rural hinterland and across the State.

Sharon:

The measures are Practicality, usability, relevance for councils and ratepayers;
Those who decide are mainly council representatives

Linda:

As outlined in the LGA funded – we will need to report back on these

Having a map of a local system that shows its complexity

Practical tools that we can test and utilise with our community and internally at council

Action to follow

Interest in food systems

Further engagement of our community and more importantly of council

Project working team and the Food Systems Working Group

Kylie

The number and diversity of stakeholders engaged in creating the vision and principles

Coherent action by local government organisations to build resilient food systems in line with the needs of food system stakeholders

Increased investment in local food systems initiatives by local government (and others?)

I'm not sure of who will decide the measures of success and if those measures have been met. As the project Steering Group has an obligation to meet the funding requirements I believe we should have some say, however I also think that as this is a project that is heavily reliant on the local knowledge and experience of food system stakeholders who we will be inviting to participate and form the visions and principles to inform local government action, I think that the measures of success should also be reflective of the information and contributions they provide to the project.

8. How will those affected by the project but not involved have a say? Can they change the measure(s) of success? (E.g. what if locals say they only care about economic prosperity)

Bruce: The FSSG should consider a broader survey of stakeholders as a follow activity to this exercise.

Christy:

Great question...I think they should, can the measures of success shift or are they set? How adaptive is the project and the project team?

Greg (Mount Barker) :

Some clear messaging and ways for people to contribute during and beyond the life of this project is important. Our challenge is to change the narrative to show that there will be no economic prosperity on a dead planet. We should do this by projecting great examples of healthy food systems and positive future options while at the same time challenging the dominant paradigm of economic growth that is so often destructive and contrary to human health and ecosystem protection outcomes. We need to articulate an alternative future and the steps needed to get there ...

Sharon:

Ratepayers, residents often have a say only through agencies or organisations and the council reps. Some are willing to listen, others assume they are the experts.

Linda:

Consideration of different approaches ie workshops, interviews, smaller conversations, survey tool online etc

Kylie

I'm not sure...

9. Which types of food system actors do we want to map and engage with in this project?

Bruce: Home gardeners, Community gardeners, Urban & peri-urban farmers & orchardists, farmers markets, fruit & vegetable distributors, fresh food shops, local manufacturers, composters/organic fertilizer producers, rainwater & stormwater suppliers. This is not saying that broad acre farmers, feedlots, food manufactures etc don't have an ongoing role – this project is about facilitating affordable, healthier food for more people in a less energy & waste intensive way.

Christy:

A diverse range from across the system – actors from the large/industrialised system to the neighbourhood networks. Kurna and traditional owners as a key starting point.

Greg

All of the above ultimately but realistically for this project I think keep it small with a view to upward pressure on large corporates and government - so farmers, community gardens, water providers and regulators, small and medium scale food processors, local shops, farmers market, food system activists, consumer advocacy groups, health agencies (e.g. the Heart Foundation), environmental advocacy groups

For our Council we are especially interested in how we can use our treated waste water for productive and sustainable purposes including fresh food production.

Some of our water currently irrigates horticultural crops east of Mount Barker but we have more than we can reuse and as the town grows availability will increase.

Sharon:

REsidents, residents, residents! We want to hear the views and wishes of the people.

Linda: Each actor of the food system as outlined in first diagram

Kylie

I'm inclined to open participation to all who want to be involved. Is this achievable? If not, perhaps we need to narrow down to direct food system players like farmers, food processors, food retailers, food citizens/consumers?

10. Given we are taking a place based approach to food systems, if a local food system actor depends upon a food system actor operating in a different place, do you want those included in the map or engaged in interviews or workshops?

Bruce: We are looking to map examples that are uniquely 'local' that can be used as a template for others to follow.

Christy:

Yes, I think this makes sense, the geographical lines are blurred and the mapping needs to show/uncover the often "unseen" way we interrelate. This also helps to display *who* holds the power in these systems and can become visible resource/tool for advocacy.

Greg, not answered

Sharon: People who live and eat. I'm not seeing the people in this diagram.
(those are all people who live and eat)

Linda: Yes I think the links between these are important and hopefully can be captured. The hard council border could be a barrier – ie I'm interested in links between Alexandrina and Onkaparinga

Kylie

Yes, I think so. I think this helps us to understand and appreciate that our food systems do span across council areas and how local government action in this space may affect others outside of our immediate area.