

Mallee Sustainable Farming



Role	Independent Chair
Location	Regional
Board size	Up to 11
Meeting frequency	Quarterly
Sector	Environment / Agriculture / Research

The Organisation

Mallee Sustainable Farming (MSF) has a vision for farming in the Mallee to be sustainable, dynamic and profitable for farmers and their communities. Everything they do has the purpose of protecting and enhancing the natural environment through the encouragement of and research in sustainable farming practices.

MSF brings farmers and researchers together through events, digital engagement including podcasts and projects to build more efficient, profitable and sustainable farming businesses in the low-rainfall Mallee region across New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. As MSF membership grows, more farmers are receiving new, updated and timely information on the latest scientific research and best land management practices to improve their farm business' efficiency, sustainability and profitability. MSF projects have not only increased farm profitability, they are also delivering environmental and social gains for rural communities across the four million hectares of Mallee covered by MSF.

As one of the foremost sustainable member-based farming organisations in the country, MSF has grown its knowledge and project management experience and has seen rapid growth in its funding over the last two years. With this has come the appointment of new staff and seen growth in the administration of project management. MSF is looking for some experienced directors to strengthen the governance to support this growth.

Mallee Sustainable Farming is an outstanding organisation that is at the forefront of delivering ground-breaking research to Mallee farmers in partnership with industry and others such as the CSIRO, Universities, the Grains Research & Development Corporation and respective state-wide NRM bodies. MSF's work is critical in ensuring their farmers can adapt to climate change and keep the farmers on the farm. It is a Registered Environmental Organisation with DGR Status. The team currently consists of five FTE employed directly as staff and/or contractors.

Role

The Chair plays a paramount role in establishing/retaining the culture of the board and setting the tone for the board and staff through positive and open dialogue. Alongside this, the Chair leads the

business and meetings of the board as well as represents the board to members including at, and between, member meetings. You will be the key conduit between the CEO and the Board ensuring information flow and trust are built and the Board receive the information it needs to make good strategic decisions in a timely manner.

Mallee Sustainable Farming is looking for an independent, experienced Chair. The Chair doesn't need to be from the Agricultural Sector. Key selection criteria include:

- Strong leadership skills
- Experienced in working with a new team
- Excellent communicator

Qualities of the MSF Chair:

- Listener
- Emotional intelligence
- Time manager for meetings
- Valuing diversity
- Bring Board members together when opinions differ

The Chair will be appointed for a period of two years in the first instance.

Application Details

Mallee Sustainable Farming is an equal opportunity Registered Environmental Organisation and promotes a culture that actively seeks to include, welcome and value the unique contributions of all people. With \$3.85M in annual revenue, this is a great opportunity to join an organisation with history that is embedded in supporting rural farmers across the Mallee. If you like a challenge, have passion for making a real difference in the area of sustainability and sustainable communities and want to be involved with a member-based organisation that makes a big impact, we'd love to hear from you.

Remuneration

Reimbursement of expenses and some supported Director education opportunities.

Organisation

Organisation Type: Not for Profit

Sector: Environment, agriculture, research

How to apply

If you meet these requirements and have a desire to foster the future goals of Mallee Sustainable Farming, please apply submitting your cover letter addressing the skills required section above and your CV to jenny@nonprofittraining.com.au before Thursday 16 February. Further information is available on application.

Short-listed applicants will be interviewed online between 20-24 February 2023.
Contact details of two referees will need to be provided at this time.