



WOOLPRODUCERS
AUSTRALIA

Wool Industry Post-farmgate Emergency Animal Disease (EAD) Preparedness and Response RD&E Strategy 2025-2030

Minimising trade impacts of emergency animal diseases on the Australian Wool Industry

Sponsors

- Animal Health Australia
- WoolProducers Australia

Industry representative groups

- Australian Council of Wool Exporters and Processors
- National Council of Wool Selling Brokers of Australia
- Wool Industries Australia

Industry service providers

- Australian Wool Exchange
- Australian Wool Innovation
- Australian Wool Testing Authority
- AWH Pty Ltd

Government organisations

- Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Commonwealth)
- Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (Victoria)
- Department of Primary Industries and Regions (South Australia)

Consultants / facilitators

- Ag Star Projects

The WPA Post-farmgate EAD Working Group recognises the ongoing commitment to the Strategy including funding and in-kind contribution.

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Executive Summary

This Wool Industry Post-farmgate Emergency Animal Disease (EAD) Preparedness and Response research, development and extension (RD&E) 2025-2030 strategy (the Strategy) aims to minimise the potential trade impacts of EAD incidents on the Australian wool industry.

The Strategy outlines key focus areas, priorities and outcomes to enhance the post-farmgate biosecurity preparedness and response of the Australian shorn wool pipeline from the farmgate to market over the 2025-2030 period. It builds upon the successes and learnings from the 2019/20-2021/22 Strategy and aligned achievements since, integrating the latest advancements in wool traceability, biosecurity preparedness and international market access initiatives.

The Australian wool industry upholds high biosecurity and traceability standards, underpinned by a strong understanding of their importance. The industry remains committed to aligning with evidence-based practices to maintain and enhance preparedness for EADs, protecting trade and market integrity.

The four Strategy pillars are:

1

Policy and operational plans

2

Capacity building and culture

3

Coordination and relationships

4

Enhanced traceability and data exchange

1. Strategy goal

The goal of the Strategy is to strengthen the Australian wool industry's post-farmgate EAD preparedness and response capabilities by:

- Improving response efficiency and coordination across industry and government partnerships;
- Reducing trade and reputational risks by reinforcing biosecurity and supply chain integrity;
- Minimising disruptions to wool exports with enhanced traceability and risk management; and
- Supporting rapid industry recovery post EAD incursion for wool growers, brokers, exporters and supply chain stakeholders.

The Strategy will guide the development of Annual Workplans for the WoolProducers Australia (WPA) Post-farmgate EAD Working Group, ensuring a structured and proactive approach to industry preparedness and response.

2. Purpose of the Strategy (2025-2030)

This Strategy provides a framework to guide RD&E investment and action to strengthen the Australian wool industry's post-farmgate preparedness and response to EAD risks by:

- Identifying RD&E priorities for EAD preparedness along the wool supply chain, supporting WPA's obligations under the EAD Response Agreement (EADRA) and aligning with the National Animal Biosecurity Research Development and Extension Strategy (NABRDES).
- Ensuring RD&E investments are coordinated and targeted.
- Encouraging an industry-wide biosecurity culture by increasing awareness, engagement and adoption of biosecurity practices across the wool supply chain.
- Providing a pathway for continuous improvement by guiding the development, delivery and review of Annual Workplans for the WPA Post-farmgate EAD Working Group.

3. Strategy scope

This Strategy focuses on EAD preparedness and response measures across the Australian wool supply chain, from the point of harvest (shearing) through to the point of early-stage processing or export. The strategy seeks to engage key stakeholders including:

- WPA, as the wool industry signatory to EADRA and coordinator of the WPA Post-farmgate EAD Working Group.
- Animal Health Australia (AHA), leading national coordination of livestock disease preparedness and EAD preparedness and response activities under EADRA.
- Australian Wool Innovation (AWI) as the wool industry's research, development and marketing corporation.
- Federal, state and territory governments, including Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs), responsible for policy, regulation, trade and emergency response coordination.
- Australian Wool Testing Authority Ltd (AWTA) and Australian Wool Exchange Ltd (AWEX) as the industry's wool testing and certification bodies, ensuring quality and compliance.
- Australian industry organisations and wool sector representatives, ensuring industry-led preparedness, including the following:
 - » Woolgrowers, shearing contractors and transport service providers in relation to shearing, clip preparation and transporting wool.
 - » Brokers, exporters, traders, transporters and logistics providers managing wool post-farmgate.
 - » Early-stage processors (scouring and carbonising).
 - » Warehousing, shipping and storage facilities ensuring proper wool handling and traceability.
- International trade and biosecurity partners, including the International Wool Textile Organisation (IWTO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

4. Strategy development and context

The Strategy was developed following an online workshop of the WPA Post-Farmgate EAD Working Group in February 2025. The workshop reviewed achievements and challenges from the 2019/20-2021/22 Strategy including the monitoring and evaluation plan as well as initiatives undertaken across the industry since 2021/22. A SWOT analysis and deep-dive assessment of post-farmgate biosecurity preparedness were conducted to identify gaps, emerging risks and opportunities for improvement.

It is important to note that this Strategy does not operate in isolation, rather it aims to align with key national documents, including but not limited to:

- National Biosecurity Strategy
- AHA Strategic Plan 2025-2030
- AWI Strategic Plan 2025-2028
- Animalplan 2022-2027
- Sheep Sustainability Framework
- National Agriculture Traceability Strategy 2023 to 2033
- National Sheep Industry Biosecurity Strategy 2025-2030

4.1 Post farmgate EAD preparedness achievements 2022-2025

Since the 2019/20-2021/22 Strategy, significant progress has been made in traceability and preparedness including the following:

Enhanced Traceability

- **eBale - 2023**
Australian Wool Exchange (AWEX) introduced Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) and QR-coded eBale labels for all new wool packs imported from 1 July 2023, improving traceability and linkage with the Australian Wool Traceability Hub (AWTH).
- **Australian Wool Traceability Hub (AWTH) – Launched August 2024**
An industry developed and supported platform to track wool along the domestic supply chain from farm to early-stage processing using Property Identification Code (PIC), with the objective to centrally store data for >90% of all wool bales by July 2025.
- **International Wool Textile Organisation (IWTO) PIC Paper - May 2025**
Proposal to mandate PIC declaration as a condition for testing for all farm originating wool bales, strengthening traceability.

Enhanced Preparedness

- **IWTO Biosecurity Framework - 2022-23**

Development of IWTO Biosecurity Framework - Temperature Treatment of Wool to inactivate pathogens, aligning with the WOAHS Terrestrial Code.

- **AUSVETPLAN Updates**

The following AUSVETPLAN documents have been reviewed or are in review:

- » Enterprise Manual Wool Industry Version 5.0 (review 2021-2024) updated and streamlined for enhanced usability.
- » Response strategy Foot- and-mouth disease Version 5.3 (review 2022-2024) updated to incorporate scouring/storage as risk mitigation measure.
- » Response strategy Peste de petits ruminants (PPR) Version 5.0. Manual under review (as at August 2025) to include scouring/storage as risk mitigation measure.
- » Response strategy Sheep and goat pox (SGP) manual under review (as at August 2025).
- » Operational manual Valuation and compensation Version 5.1 (review 2022-23) reviewed guidance on valuation of wool and sheep that are treated/destroyed under an EAD response.
- » Operational manual Decontamination Version 5.1 (review 2021-24) improved guidance for wool handling facilities and packaging under an EAD response.

5. Situation analysis

5.1 Gap analysis

Building on the gap analysis in the 2019/20-2021/22 Strategy, it is recognised that the following key areas across the national EAD preparedness and response system must be continually strengthened to support rapid industry recovery following any EAD incursion:

1. Enhanced disease surveillance and traceability systems with improved data sharing across the supply chain to enable early detection and rapid response.
2. A robust governance framework for EAD response, tested through industry and government EAD exercises.
3. A science-based, internationally aligned response framework, integrating AUSVETPLAN updates and WOAHS standards to facilitate trade resumption.
4. Stronger trade recovery structures, including zoning and compartmentalisation strategies leveraging improved wool traceability delivered via the AWTH.
5. Access to critical response tools, such as validated diagnostics, disinfection protocols and emergency response vaccines.
6. Adequate financial and human resources to ensure workforce capacity for biosecurity oversight, enforcement and trade negotiations.
7. Coordinated, transparent communication between industry, government and trading partners to build confidence and support trade recovery.

5.2 Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) analysis update

The 2019/20-2021/22 Strategy SWOT analysis was reviewed and updated based on recent developments, industry insights and findings from the deep-dive session in the 2025 workshop. This session assessed post-farmgate biosecurity preparedness, emerging risks and opportunities to enhance EAD response and trade resilience and is captured in Table 1.



Table 1. Post farm-gate EAD preparedness and response SWOT analysis (February 2025)

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
1. Well-established national EAD response plans & updated AUSVETPLAN manuals. 2. Integration of wool into national EAD response frameworks, ensuring wool-specific measures. 3. Strong collaboration between WPA, livestock industry bodies, AHA and government agencies. 4. Participation in international standard-setting bodies (IWTO) to promote Australia's position. 5. Development of the IWTO Biosecurity Framework (2022-23) for heat-treatment of wool. 6. Enhanced wool traceability through eBale (2023) and the AWTH (2024). 7. Improved biosecurity awareness among wool producers, brokers and exporters. 8. Long established export protocols with key trading partners.	1. Heavy reliance on a single market, increasing trade vulnerability. 2. Limited and decreasing onshore wool processing capacity, increasing reliance on international trade during an incursion. 3. Lack of a clear mechanism to repay wool industry EADRA obligations. 4. Some gaps in wool traceability systems, outside the current capabilities of the AWTH, requiring broader industry adoption. 5. Biosecurity seen as a low priority by some industry players, leading to inconsistent implementation. 6. Complicated wool supply chain, making widespread biosecurity adoption difficult. 7. Declining state government resources for EAD preparedness and response. 8. No demonstrated national experience in implementing zoning strategies for a major grazing livestock EAD. 9. Lack of structured business continuity planning for wool enterprises in the event of an EAD incursion. 10. Inconsistent EAD preparedness across the broader industry, including gaps in training & engagement of private veterinarians. 11. Gaps in training for wool brokers, exporters and processors on their roles in an EAD response. 12. Ongoing gaps in communication channels between industry and government on EAD-related matters. 13. Increasing farm consolidation, reducing on-farm biosecurity capacity.	1. Strengthen trade diversification by expanding access to emerging and established markets. 2. Strengthen advocacy efforts to improve recognition of wool industry biosecurity mitigations by trading partners. 3. Utilise wool's low risk and non-perishable status to advocate for early trade resumption after an EAD incursion. 4. Develop internationally recognised zoning & compartmentalisation frameworks to enable faster trade resumption post-EAD. 5. Develop SOPs for wool bale storage & disinfection to support trade negotiations. 6. Leverage South Africa's FMD experience to refine wool industry preparedness. 7. Increase industry participation in EAD exercises to test & strengthen preparedness. 8. Improve biosecurity culture through targeted extension & training across the supply chain. 9. Engage with regulatory reforms to improve biosecurity oversight & compliance. 10. Align with the National Agriculture Traceability Strategy (2023-2033) to integrate wool with broader agriculture systems. 11. Strengthen wool traceability through AWTH, targeting >90% clip with PIC upload by July 2025. 12. Adopt emerging technologies like AI-driven surveillance. 13. Integrate biosecurity into sustainability frameworks to capture industry commitment. 14. Clarify roles and responsibilities for EAD response and preparedness.	1. Heavy reliance on a single market, increasing vulnerability to trade disruptions. 2. Due to wool being a non-perishable product, it may be deemed a lower priority when establishing movement protocols or in trade negotiations following an EAD incursion. 3. Regulatory changes in key markets, impacting export requirements & biosecurity protocols. 4. Slow progress in zoning & compartmentalisation, delaying trade resumption post-EAD. 5. Limited industry engagement in EAD exercises, weakening response capability. 6. Declining government & private investment in EAD preparedness & response. 7. Lack of recognition of biosecurity mitigations by trading partners, creating trade barriers. 8. Negative media coverage during an EAD incursion, damaging market confidence. 9. Declining confidence in the wool industry among brokers & producers, affecting engagement in biosecurity initiatives & risk management. 10. Climate change expanding disease risks, increasing threats like bluetongue virus. 11. Trading partner departure from international conventions (e.g. WOH) through unsubstantiated or inconsistent application of biosecurity measures as non-tariff trade barriers.

6 2025-2030 Strategy

To strengthen the Australian wool industry's preparedness and response to EADs, this Strategy is structured around four key pillars.

Each pillar outlines focus areas, RD&E outcomes and potential activities that will drive continuous improvement and preparedness. This provides a framework for guiding the Annual Work Plans of the WPA Post-Farmgate EAD Working Group, ensuring that industry efforts remain aligned with biosecurity best practices, regulatory requirements and international market expectations.

The four Strategy pillars are:

1	Policy and operational plans Establishing clear, trusted response frameworks, integrating AUSVETPLAN updates, zoning strategies and financial preparedness mechanisms to support trade continuity.
2	Capacity building and culture Strengthening industry awareness, training and engagement to embed biosecurity as a standard operational practice across the wool supply chain.
3	Coordination and relationships Enhancing collaboration between industry, government and trading partners to improve response efficiency, trade advocacy and market access.
4	Enhanced traceability and data exchange Improving wool traceability systems, digital adoption and data-sharing frameworks to enable rapid response and trade resumption.

During the period of this Strategy (2025–2030), an EAD exercise will be essential to test the effectiveness and adaptability of post-farmgate systems, policies and procedures.

Ongoing horizon scanning will also be critical to identify emerging risks which determine future preparedness and response planning.

6.1 Pillar 1. Policy and operational plans

Pillar 1 focuses on ensuring clear, trusted policies and operational response frameworks are in place for EAD preparedness and response. This includes embedding biosecurity as a business-as-usual practice across the supply chain, integrating AUSVETPLAN updates and developing zoning and compartmentalisation strategies to support rapid response and trade resumption. A key component of this will be the use of eBale and PIC via AWTH to deliver wool traceability data that is trusted by both Australian and trading partner governments.

Policies must align with domestic and international trade requirements to ensure market confidence and continuity.

Regular review, assessment and horizon scanning will keep these policies current, practical, and responsive to emerging biosecurity risks. Additionally, funding mechanisms for industry recovery and repayment of EADRA obligations will be explored to ensure financial preparedness.

These policies and frameworks should be tested through an exercise and through scenario planning, ensuring that industry and government stakeholders are prepared, aligned and ready to implement response plans efficiently in the event of an EAD incursion.

Table 2. Pillar 1. RD&E outcomes and potential activities

Focus area	RD&E outcomes for Pillar 1: Policy and operational plans	Potential activities / How can it be achieved
1.1 AUSVETPLAN alignment	Wool industry response is aligned with AUSVETPLAN, ensuring clear and effective biosecurity protocols including wool bale disinfection protocols.	Develop industry guidance materials on how AUSVETPLAN applies to the post-farmgate wool sector.
1.2 Zoning & compartmentalisation for trade recovery	Wool industry-specific zoning & compartmentalisation frameworks are developed, tested and recognised to facilitate faster post-EAD trade resumption	- Develop wool-specific zoning & compartmentalisation frameworks aligned with AUSVETPLAN & WOA guidelines, to support market access negotiations with key trading partners. - Establish eligibility criteria & certification processes for industry adoption.
1.3 EADRA repayment planning	A clear and transparent EADRA repayment system is in place, ensuring financial preparedness and industry resilience.	Design and implement a transparent, industry-endorsed repayment framework with input from brokers, exporters and processors, ensuring financial sustainability and fair cost distribution.
1.4 EAD exercises & horizon scanning*	EAD exercises and horizon scanning ensure policies remain relevant and industry and stakeholders are informed to allocate resources to activities that improve EAD preparedness (e.g. development of work plans).	- Update policies based on emerging risk and engage stakeholders in scenario planning. - Implement recommendations from previous exercises. - Develop work plans and project proposals to address emerging needs and opportunities. - Conduct an EAD exercise (similar to Exercise Argonaut).

* relevant across all pillars

6.2 Pillar 2. Capacity building and culture

Pillar 2 focuses on developing a skilled and well-prepared wool industry workforce by embedding biosecurity as a core part of the wool industry's daily operations to ensure EAD preparedness is not just an emergency response, but a continuous practice. This involves building industry capability through awareness campaigns, targeted extension and workforce engagement.

By increasing participation in a biosecurity exercise, improving training for wool brokers, exporters and processors and fostering a proactive risk-management culture, the industry can ensure that all stakeholders understand their roles in an EAD response. Strengthening the biosecurity mindset across the supply chain will improve adoption, consistency and compliance, making industry-wide EAD preparedness more effective and sustainable over time.

Table 3. Pillar 2. RD&E outcomes and potential activities

Focus area	RD&E outcomes for Pillar 2: Capacity building and culture	Potential activities / How can it be achieved
2.1 Industry training & engagement	The wool industry has a skilled workforce with clear roles in EAD preparedness and response.	Identify skill gaps and deliver targeted training programs for brokers, exporters, processors and transporters.
2.2 Embedding biosecurity in daily operations	Biosecurity is integrated into standard operating procedures and becomes a business-as-usual practice across the wool supply chain.	Develop training resources aligned with AUSVETPLAN and integrate biosecurity response modules into existing industry training frameworks.
2.3 Industry EAD awareness & adoption	Increased industry-wide understanding and adoption of EAD preparedness measures.	Develop industry resources and training on biosecurity best practices, incorporating compliance checklists to embed biosecurity as a standard operational procedure, not just an emergency response.

6.3 Pillar 3. Coordination and relationships

Pillar 3 focuses on strengthening collaboration between industry, government and trading partners to ensure a coordinated and effective EAD response. Clear engagement frameworks will support policy alignment, response coordination and trade recovery efforts, ensuring all stakeholders understand their roles and responsibilities.

Trade advocacy is a critical component, ensuring that Australia's wool biosecurity measures are recognised and accepted by international trading partners. Building trust and transparency in these measures will enhance market confidence and minimise trade disruptions during and after an EAD incident.

Stronger coordination between industry, government agencies and biosecurity regulators will improve information sharing, decision-making and response effectiveness. A combined industry and government EAD exercise, scenario planning and engagement activities will ensure that response plans are well-integrated and adaptable to emerging biosecurity risks, supporting a rapid return to business following an EAD incursion.

Table 4. Pillar 3. RD&E outcomes and potential activities

Focus area	RD&E outcomes for Pillar 3: Coordination & relationships	Potential activities / How can it be achieved
3.1 Industry-government coordination	Strong industry-government coordination ensures a unified, effective and timely EAD response.	Strengthen engagement through a combined EAD exercise, improved data-sharing systems, cross-sector collaboration and clearer role definitions to enhance decision-making, response efficiency and trade recovery efforts.
3.2 Trade advocacy & market access	Trade recovery mechanisms and advocacy efforts ensure minimal disruptions, sustained wool exports and recognition of wool as a lower risk, non-perishable product with rapid trade resumption potential.	Develop trade recovery protocols, strengthen advocacy efforts and engage trading partners proactively to promote wool's low-risk status and rapid trade resumption potential post-EAD incident. Develop evidence-based trade advocacy materials that highlight wool's low-risk status and integrate traceability data to reinforce compliance with international standards.
3.3 International recognition of biosecurity measures	Australia's wool industry biosecurity measures are recognised and accepted by key international trading partners.	Work with government and international bodies to align biosecurity measures with global trade standards and trading partner requirements.
3.4 Information sharing & decision-making	Efficient and transparent information-sharing and communication frameworks improve decision-making and response capability.	- Implement information-sharing and communication strategies to improve rapid response capability. - Engage CVOs, trading partners and regulatory bodies in AWTH validation to align with national biosecurity policies, AUSVETPLAN and international trade requirements.

6.4 Pillar 4. Enhanced traceability and data exchange

Pillar 4 focuses on strengthening wool traceability and data-sharing systems to support rapid EAD response and trade continuity. A robust and transparent traceability framework ensures that industry and government can quickly track and certify wool movements, helping to maintain market confidence during an EAD event.

Enhancing traceability involves aligning industry efforts with the National Agricultural Traceability Strategy, improving AWTH participation and data plus ensuring that wool traceability systems meet both domestic and international standards. Industry-agreed metrics will help monitor performance, and stakeholders must continue engaging in ongoing efforts to maintain and enhance traceability across the supply chain.

Collaboration with trading partners and regulatory bodies is essential to ensure trust in Australian wool traceability systems, reducing trade disruptions in an EAD incursion. Strategies to improve data-sharing between brokers, exporters and processors will enhance supply chain efficiency and EAD response capability.

Table 5. Pillar 4. RD&E outcomes and potential activities

Focus area	RD&E outcomes for Pillar 4: Enhanced traceability and data exchange	Potential activities / How can it be achieved
4.1 Industry-wide traceability alignment	Wool traceability systems are aligned with national and international (commercial and regulatory) standards to support traceability requirements, trade continuity and EAD response.	- Align AWTH with the <i>National Agricultural Traceability Strategy</i>, ensuring interoperability with broader agriculture traceability infrastructure. - Identify opportunities to improve traceability of bulk class (rehandled) wool.
4.2 Adoption of digital traceability tools	Increased industry participation in industry-wide digitised traceability systems. AWTH ensures sufficient data for effective EAD response and trade assurances, with a target of >90% clip traceability via AWTH to PIC by early 2026.	- Drive industry uptake through education, stakeholder engagement and recognition of AWTH for traceability compliance. - Deliver targeted industry and government training & awareness programs to drive adoption and ensure effective use of the AWTH in EAD scenarios. - Demonstrate value of AWTH through a simulation exercise.

Cont'd

Focus area	RD&E outcomes for Pillar 4: Enhanced traceability and data exchange	Potential activities / How can it be achieved
4.3 Data-sharing and integration	Improved data-sharing between brokers, exporters and processors enhances supply chain visibility and biosecurity risk management. Efficient and transparent data-sharing with governments to support EAD response activities and facilitate export certification activities.	- Strengthen AWTH functionality by improving data exchange channels, user accessibility and monitoring wool movements in real-time. - Establish data-sharing agreements and integrate traceability systems across the wool supply chain. - Establish data-sharing agreements with government and ensure industry data and governance protocols meet government and trading partner requirements.
4.4 International recognition and trade confidence	Trading partners formally recognise and trust Australian wool traceability systems, minimising trade disruptions during an EAD incursion.	- Engage with international markets and regulatory bodies to establish trust in Australian wool traceability measures. - Conduct regular trade advocacy and technical briefings with regulators and industry stakeholders to demonstrate traceability system functionality.
4.5 Future-proofing wool traceability through digital innovation	The wool industry evaluates new digital technologies that may enhance traceability, biosecurity and trade resilience.	Consideration of emerging digital technologies when developing work plans and projects to enhance traceability of Australian wool.
4.6 Traceability metrics and monitoring	Industry-agreed traceability metrics and reporting frameworks with increased industry participation provide transparency and build market confidence.	Develop monitoring and evaluation metrics to track and assess traceability system functionality.

7. Workplan template

To ensure the effective implementation of the RD&E Outcomes outlined in the Strategy, it is proposed that a structured workplan template such as Table 6 be adopted by the WPA EAD Working Group.

The workplans should provide a clear framework for determining and coordinating inputs and activities, ensuring accountability and tracking progress across all key areas.

The workplans should also have:

- Roles and responsibilities clearly defined for industry stakeholders, government partners and relevant members of the WPA EAD Working Group.
- Identification of inputs/investments including necessary resources, timing, funding requirements and workforce needs, to support delivery.
- A built-in M&E framework to track progress, assess impact and facilitate continuous improvement. This step should include a reporting component.
- An outline of stakeholder engagement mechanisms to ensure collaboration across industry, government and trading partners.

The workplans should serve as living documents, updated annually to reflect industry progress, emerging risks and evolving biosecurity requirements.

Table 6. RD&E Workplan template

[illegible]

8. Risk management

The table below identifies potential risks to the Strategy implementation and potential mitigation strategies.

Table 7. Risks to the Strategy implementation and potential mitigation strategies

Risk description	Risk description	Potential mitigation strategies
Resourcing - funding and personnel	Insufficient funding or lack of skilled personnel to deliver identified RD&E activities.	Integrate activities into Working Group's Annual Workplan. Identify lead organisation, secure investments (funding and personnel), assess capacity needs.
Industry engagement	Low engagement or lack of buy-in from key industry bodies and stakeholders.	Involve industry in the Working Group's Annual Workplan process. Maintain open communication, ensure that consultation and feedback mechanisms are in place.
Government engagement	Inconsistent or limited support from state/ territory and Commonwealth governments.	Involve government stakeholders in the Working Group's Annual Workplan development, align activities with national strategies and priorities (e.g. NABRDES), maintain regular liaison with agencies.
Trading partner engagement	Limited trust or recognition of wool-specific mitigations by international trading partners.	Incorporate international engagement milestones in the Annual Workplan. Proactively engage during trade negotiations, promote evidence-based traceability systems.
Governance and coordination	Lack of clarity or continuity in Working Group leadership or structure.	Review and reaffirm Working Group's terms of reference. Clarify roles and responsibilities. Annual review of governance model.
Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)	Lack of mechanisms to measure and report on progress.	Embed M&E from the outset, use consistent reporting and stakeholder feedback loops.

9. Acronyms

AHA	Animal Health Australia
AWEX	Australian Wool Exchange
AWI	Australian Wool Innovation
AWTA	Australian Wool Testing Authority
AWTH	Australian Wool Traceability Hub
CVO	Chief Veterinary Officer
EAD	Emergency Animal Disease
EADRA	Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement
IWTO	International Wool Textile Organisation
NABRDES	National Animal Biosecurity Research Development and Extension Strategy
PIC	Property Identification Code
RD&E	Research, development and extension
SOP	Standard operating procedures
WOAH	World Organisation for Animal Health
WPA	WoolProducers Australia

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