

## **DRAFT CHARTER**

### **Forest and Wood Products RD&E Forum**

#### **STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE**

1. The national Forest and Wood Products RD&E Forum (“Forum”) will comprise of 12 individuals drawn from three categories: research providers (four people); government as represented by the Forest and Wood Products Council (four people); and industry (four people).
2. Participation in the Forum is based upon skills and level of interest – it is not intended to be a representative based organisation.
3. Participants are allowed to nominate a proxy in their absence.
4. The process for identifying the initial participants was coordinated by a small steering committee consisting of Dr Gordon Duff (CRC for Forestry), Lee Miezis (DSE Vic) and Ric Sinclair (FWPA).
5. The term for participants is three years with no limit on additional terms.
6. Vacancies in the Forum will be filled by candidates from the same category.
7. Candidates to fill a vacancy in the Forum will be agreed by all Forum participants.
8. A chair of the Forum will be elected by Forum participants on an annual basis.
9. Ideally, the chairmanship of the Forum will rotate between the three main groupings (i.e. government, research providers and industry).
10. Decisions by the Forum will be on a consensus basis.
11. Minutes of Forum meetings will be circulated and approved at subsequent meetings.
12. The Forum will meet at least twice per annum.

#### **PURPOSE**

1. Be responsible for the continued development and implementation of the forest and wood products sector national RD&E strategy.
2. Provide a national forum for consultation, communication and coordination between the forest and wood products industry and RD&E funders and providers.
3. Provide input to Forest and Forest Products Committee, Forest and Wood Products Council, PISC R&D Committee, and other forums of relevance to RD&E.

4. Identify initiatives to enhance the forest and wood products sector RD&E capability, investment and cost-effectiveness, including by defining the research capability needed in the sector and developing mechanisms to deliver this.
5. Review, on an ongoing basis, common priorities for RD&E in the sector.
6. Communicate RD&E outcomes to policymakers and the general public.
7. Ensure communication between other primary industry sectors on RD&E priorities, particularly with respect to farm forestry.

### **KEY ACTIVITIES**

1. Improvement in national, state and regional collaboration in existing and emerging areas.
2. Development of new initiatives to address capability gaps.
3. More coordinated capacity in the sector to respond to new directions in knowledge need and to derive benefit from new funding initiatives.
4. Publication of a new, sector-wide research priorities analysis.
5. Publication of a full analysis of national research capability, and regional development and extension capabilities, including gap analyses.
6. Adoption or refinement of within-sector performance measures for RD&E.