

Australia launches a online tool with 18 different portfolios to shape the future of agriculture

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Australian has launched a new online tool to encourage a wider variety of applicants to apply for government boards across Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry sector. The *Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Portfolio Boards Register* enables eligible applicants to register their interest to be on one of the boards.

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Murray Watt said "There are 18 different portfolio boards that fall under the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry sector. They reflect the different needs of the portfolio – from primary producers, to research and development corporations, to examining drought preparedness across the food and fibre industry".

"Given the broad cross-section of topics these boards look after, we're hoping to see a wider range of Australians putting their hands up and get involved on these boards. This includes more women, more young people and more indigenous Australians" added Minister Watt hoping to see new and upcoming talent who have an interest to shape the future of agricultural work stepping forward.

"Working on a portfolio board is a great opportunity to participate in setting strategic direction, engage with stakeholders and are to work with the Government on growing our agriculture, fisheries and forestry sectors to create more sustainable, productive and profitable food and fibre industries. It would be great to see this breadth of the public and the industry reflected in the portfolio boards" iterated Minister Watt.

The initiative is expected to promote better resource management practices, innovation, sovereign capability, and improved access to international markets.