

Healthy Food Systems Plan 2025-2029

Plan on a page



Goal 1: Build a more resilient, equitable and healthier food system by supporting and promoting evidence-informed programs and initiatives, to improve access to affordable, healthy food.



Goal 2: Support the availability of healthy, locally grown, plant based fresh food to enable our region to improve planetary health, whilst also supporting climate mitigation.

SITUATION



INPUTS



ACTIVITIES/STRATEGIES



INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES



LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

The [LMPHU Population Health Plan](#) aims to enable delivery of the [Victorian Public Health & Wellbeing Plan](#) priorities in alignment with place-based plans for Community Health – Health Promotion and Municipal Public Health & Wellbeing Plans.

To extend a food systems focus across all 9 LGAs in the LMPHU catchment, this plan outlines the sub-region activities to enable place-based food systems strategies to address availability and accessibility of healthy sustainable food for everyone.

This HFS plan has been prepared based on;

- Areas of influence within the LMPHU role and function
- Stakeholder consultations
- [Food systems policy scan](#) (2025) across National and State approaches
- [Feeding Australia: A National Food Security Strategy](#) (in development), and
- Aligning to the [CSIRO Roadmap to reshape Australia's food systems](#) and [VicHealth Food System Consensus statement](#) leverage points most related;
 - *Leverage point 2: Food Systems Governance;*
 - *Leverage point 3: Food Systems Monitoring*
 - *Leverage point 5: Local food infrastructure*
 - *Leverage point 9: Community food systems planning*
 - *Leverage point 10: Food Relief Models*

Key initiatives, frameworks and action plans

- [Building Better Food Systems for Healthier Communities Modules](#)
- [INFORMAS](#)
- [GLOBE and Institute for Health Transformation Local Food EPI+ tool](#)
- [Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations](#)
- [Foodprint Melbourne - Resilient Food Systems](#)
- [Healthy Loddon Campaspe \(HLC\) - Flourish Regional Food Systems Framework](#)
- [FoodPATH Community Report](#)
- [Community Food and Farming Survey report](#)

Healthy Food System [Regional Forum outcomes report 2025](#)

[Loddon Mallee Climate Change and Health Framework](#) incorporates sustainable food systems practices

Community Health - Health Promotion plans
Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plans
Health Services Healthy Choices directive
[Healthy and more sustainable food procurement](#)

[VicHealth Local Partnerships for Food First](#) project 2025- 2028 (Victorian Food System Network of Networks) led by [Sustain](#): Australian Food Network

Edith Cowan University [Australian Food Atlas](#) interactive tool to map, measure, monitor food access

LMPHU Mallee, Loddon Campaspe place-based teams/ Prevention Population Health Officers.

COLLABORATION:

- Strengthen partnerships with First Nations organisations to support self-determination approach in food systems
- Embed native produce use and procurement in health services
- Implement local governments Food-EPI+ assessments and action plans
- Support local sustainable food networks and cross-sector collective action
- Stakeholder participation in Sustain's Victorian Food System Networks of Networks (Food First project)

CAPACITY BUILDING:

- Deliver food systems workshops, webinars, communities of practice and peer-to-peer learning
- Develop LGA food systems data profiles
- Monitor food security issues and trends across the region
- Utilise tools that map food access and retail environments across the region (Australian Food Atlas)
- Undertake grocery pricing cost comparison study (Sustain partnership)

COMMUNICATION:

- Implement regional social marketing campaigns that
 - focus on health and environmental outcomes/benefits
 - enhance food literacy related to locally grown, plant-based and culturally relevant foods
 - promote an equity approach to food security
 - amplify state-based messages and programs

Priority populations have access to culturally safe, inclusive and accessible information to support their understanding of healthy food systems, programs and resources

Commitment to action: Related plans (eg MPHWP and CH-HP) have sustainable food systems as a priority and detail place-based action through our work with Food EPI+

Increased cooperation within and across sub-region food networks to align objectives with national and state food systems policy/action plans

Stimulated dialogue on food security which increases awareness and knowledge of food equity, stigma and dignity around food insecurity

Stakeholder have the local intelligence, evidence and data to inform priority setting, planning and advocate for the needs of their communities

Community and stakeholders have increased connection, knowledge, trust and understanding of local food system influences

Community, stakeholders and local and regional food systems needs are advocated for and their voice is amplified.

Our Approach

Place-based: Tailored strategies across the Loddon Mallee region.

Equity: Climate justice, lived and living experience, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander self-determination.

System strengthening: Collaboration, capacity building and communication.

Improve sustainable food systems and promote healthy food environments (VPHWP)

Increased procurement of product and services, delivered by Indigenous owned business and/or social enterprises.

Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Outcomes Framework
Outcome 1.1: Victorians enjoy high levels of physical health
Outcome 1.3: Victorians are supported to protect and promote health
Outcome 2.2: Victorians communities are safe and inclusive
Outcome 5.1: Victorians belong to resilient and liveable communities

Improved access to locally produced, fresh, plant- based foods

Enabling availability to healthy sustainable foods across the Loddon Mallee

Increased stakeholder engagement and collaboration with LMPHU activity

