

High level overview of the digital Farm Environment Plan (dFEP) research project, led by Trust Alliance NZ (TANZ) and co-funded by their members, and through the Sustainable Food and Fibre Futures (SFFF) funding vehicle of the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI).

Unlocking value in compliance

How to prove environmental claims and benefit from it.

We're working to create a safe and streamlined digital solution for Farm Environment Plans (FEPs) that allows farmers and growers to easily collate and quickly share data, and turn compliance work into a value-added activity.

The current challenge



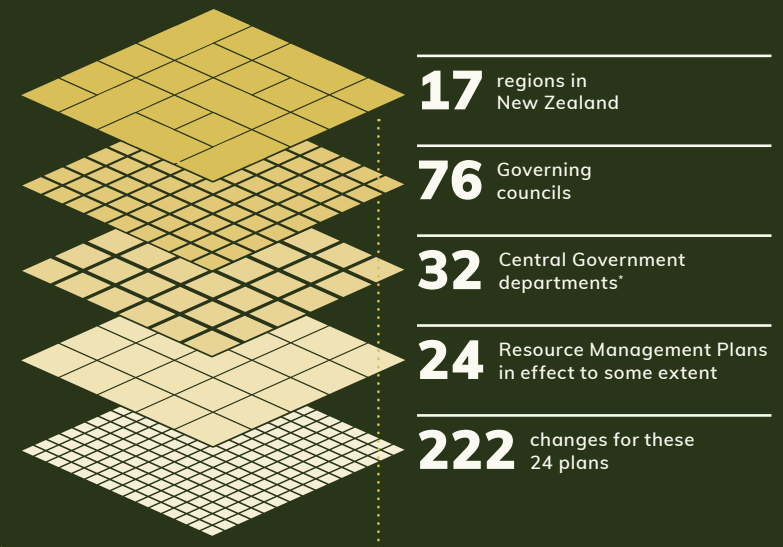
*although not all of them directly impact agriculture.

Please note: these figures are a snapshot of the status quo as we discovered it and are correct to the best of our knowledge. However, there may be additions we are not aware of at this time and are subject to change.

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Lack of definition and a complex regulatory web

There is no one standard definition or template for FEPs.



1. Farm Environment Plan is a process. It does not necessary culminate in a specific output, so the FEP output would be an easily collated set of verifiable data points arranged to meet a variety of stakeholder needs. The decentralised technology solution can be used to allow farmer and growers to control and manage verifiable data sets that in turn enable FEPs data components to become portable and easy sharable, if required.
2. In order to enhance data interoperability a repository for standard definitions, classification and categorisation of farm data is required.

It is imperative that the primary sector has a standard definitions, classification and categorisation of farm data. Therefore programs of work presented by initiatives such Link Aotearoa** will be foundational for enhancing data sharing in the Primary Sector.

**Link Aotearoa is an initiative collecting, documenting, and providing information regarding the use and definition of agricultural data.

Exploring solutions

The dFEP is an exemplar for all compliance requests on a farm.

Farmer/grower potential benefits:

- Reduce data entry and duplication
- Reduce compliance costs
- Gain value-add from compliance requirements
- Improve efficiency
- Enable self-controlled, trusted data sharing
- Strengthen trust through proven evidence
- Promote better environmental and sustainable outcomes for New Zealand

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Types of data sets and outputs that future frameworks could manage:

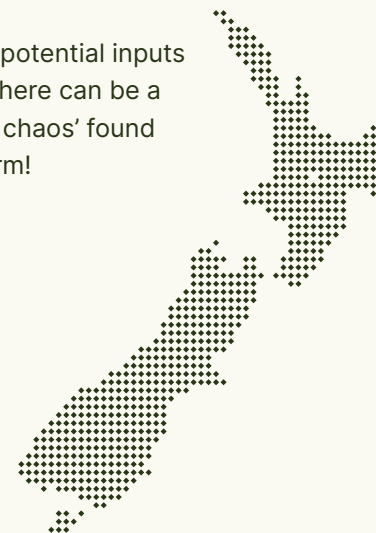
Farmers/growers are regularly having to duplicate and input data sets for the below examples (but not limited to):

- Crop information
- Geospatial Information
- Animal Welfare
- Environmental data

To work towards and for, the following potential outputs:

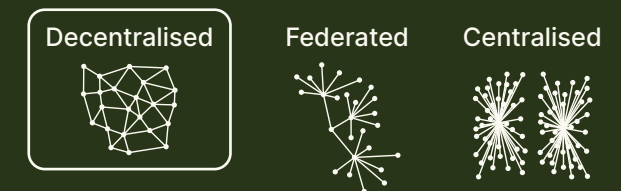
- Provenance and consumer engagement
- Financial Access
- Market Access
- Compliance
- + more

With so many potential inputs and outputs, there can be a slurry of 'data chaos' found on any one farm!



Making data sharing safe, trustworthy and efficient.

A decentralised data sharing framework means you (the farmer or grower) retain ownership and control over your data through digital identity. The decentralised technology including tools, protocols and framework enables a whole ecosystem to request and share verified information easily and safely.



Next steps

1. Build a repository for existing and new standard definitions, classifications and categorisations of farm data.
 - a. "Link Aotearoa" could be a mechanism/vehicle for collecting, documenting and sharing information regarding the use and definition of agricultural data.
2. Create a tool such as a digital wallet for farmers and growers, to improve the efficiency of sharing their verified farm information with regulators, auditors, financial services, processors and/or retailers.

We recommend being part of the journey and playing a leading role in how you can decide who has access to your information, for how long, and for what purpose.