



MEDIA RELEASE

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**Elders and Landcare Australia join forces
to secure nation's farming future**

Elders Ltd has entered into a major partnership with Landcare Australia in a bid to secure a viable future for Australia's agricultural sector.

In an agreement announced by Federal Agriculture Minister Peter McGauran in Canberra today, Landcare Australia will receive \$2.5 million worth of national support from Elders over the next five years.

The Elders Landcare Farming Partnership will involve the two organisations working together to promote and encourage uptake of environmentally sustainable practices on Australian farms.

A major objective of the partnership is to support adoption of sustainable land management practices by landowners.

The partnership, which will be supplemented with other forms of assistance from Elders over the five years of the agreement, is one of the largest corporate support packages received by Landcare Australia in its 15-year history.

Mr McGauran praised Elders for its commitment to Landcare.

"Responsibility for the landscape is a shared responsibility, not something that should be left to landholders, governments, and volunteers only," Mr McGauran said.

"Corporate Australia has a major role to play in this partnership and I commend Elders for joining the growing list of companies that are now taking part."

Elders Managing Director Greg Hunt said today's launch of the partnership with Landcare Australia was "of great significance to Elders".

"Healthy and sustainable natural resources are critical for the primary producers on whom our business depends. For nearly 170 years, Elders has worked alongside Australian farmers to help them achieve better outcomes from their investment in primary production.

"Our partnership with Landcare Australia is a natural and logical extension of our commitment to Australian agriculture. Elders is deeply committed to the future viability and success of our nation's primary producers and the partnership with Landcare Australia is an example of our support for sustainable farming practices and sensible and sensitive land stewardship."

Landcare Australia Chief Executive Officer Brian Scarsbrick welcomed the significant support from Elders, stating that he believed it would help to stimulate further uptake of sustainable farming practices.

“Landcare has achieved a great deal since its launch in 1989 – it has been extremely successful in changing the focus of Australia’s land managers into pursuing more sustainable and profitable ways of managing and working the land,” Mr Scarsbrick said.

“While we’re currently experiencing many land degradation problems particularly relating to salinity, soil acidity and water quality, Landcare Australia, and the whole Landcare movement, is working hard with farmers, industry groups, our corporate partners such as Elders, and government to build a more sustainable future.”

Elders and Landcare Australia said this partnership would assist Australian farmers in promoting themselves to the world marketplace as being environmentally friendly.

Elders is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Futuris Corporation, an Adelaide-based company listed on the ASX.

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