

Federal Budget 2018-19 Fast Facts



Agribusiness

The government continues to invest in its \$75b infrastructure program announced last year which is focused on delivering produce to markets more efficiently. Additional funding has been made available to improve biosecurity threat detection technology and enhance GPS capability. This is expected to improve connectivity in rural areas and assist with automation and efficiency in farming techniques.

There is no further funding for the mobile blackspots program while changes to the R&D tax incentive will impact agribusiness.

Most important take outs

- \$225m over four years to enhance GPS capability.
- \$226m in grant funding and a \$50m concessional loan to projects which access water for farmers.
- \$102m to manage biosecurity risks.
- \$51.3m to expand Australia's network of agricultural trade counsellors in export markets.
- \$20m National Forestry Industry Plan.

Main impacts to your business

- The government has invested in trade, market access and biosecurity. The continued roll-out of the \$75b infrastructure program will continue. This will improve transport infrastructure and allow farmers get their produce to international markets.
- GPS capability improvements will improve farm productivity.

- Global market development will be enhanced with the addition of more trade counsellors that will be based in key global markets.
- The budget also continues the immediate asset write-off for small business assets under \$20,000.
- There will be a reduction in the benefit from the R&D tax incentive with the exception for those businesses with an intensive research and development spend.

Maximising your opportunity

- The continued investment by the government in infrastructure, public technology and enhanced biosecurity capabilities will improve productivity for agribusinesses while the deployment of more counsellors to key export markets will create more income for the farming sector.
- The opportunity for Agribusiness lies in the continued enhancement of technology, infrastructure and export market development. With Australia seen as a 'premium' market for produce clients should review their operations to ensure they are maximising their opportunities from both prior year budgets and this years' initiatives.

Connect

#budget18 | in | f
shinewing.com.au



Tom Mullarkey

Associate Director

E tmullarkey@shinewing.com.au