

Hon. Niall Blair, Charles Sturt University

The Hon. Niall Blair is a highly skilled professional with more than twenty years' experience in Government and key private sectors, including risk management and agribusiness.

He served in the NSW Parliament for nearly nine years and during his tenure he was appointed Deputy Leader of the Government as well as Minister for Primary Industries, Water, Lands and Trade and Industry.

It was in these roles that he delivered significant reform across water, fisheries and agricultural research and innovation sectors. He also played a critical role in developing new and emerging trade markets with a particular focus on ASEAN countries.

He is a passionate advocate for the food and fibre production sectors and has demonstrated not only leadership, but courage and resilience to inspire and drive change in order to achieve long-term results. Paramount to his success in leadership roles has been his consultative manner while also being decisive and willing to communicate and justify difficult decisions in the best interests of the organisation.

Mr Blair is a strategic, innovative thinker and adopter of new technology and production systems. He has been recognised for having a strong ability to understand industry and consumer sentiments in important areas such as waste, animal welfare, social license, climate change and global markets.

Prior to working in Government, Mr Blair had a long and established career working in the agricultural sector, as well as vocational training. Alongside this he is an accomplished Chairman and negotiator, public and media spokesperson and diplomat with strong domestic and international trade connections. Mr Blair holds a Masters in Occupational Health and Safety and a Bachelor of Horticultural Science. He is graduate of the Australian Institute of Company of Directors.

Who is driving Food Sustainability?

This presentation will provide an overview of the push and pull of food sustainability and how it is changing the way we live and work. This change is well and truly upon us and Australia is catching up to the rest of the world. Understanding the drivers in this area will make the transition and impact on your workplace seamless.