

Ministry for Primary Industries  
Manatū Ahu Matua



# Agritech Data Reference Group

<https://forms.gle/idBxtbNXSoec3GYF7>

+

# Geospatial Ag Data Working Group

<https://reza.re/geo>

Ministry for Primary Industries  
Manatū Ahu Matua



Kenneth Irons, Chair AgriTechNZ

Andrew Cooke, MD of Rezare Systems, CTO of Map of Ag

Brendan O'Connell, CE AgriTechNZ



# Opening Remarks


Kenneth Irons, Chair AgriTechNZ



# Objective

Seek expressions of interest to join an agritech data reference group : to represent AgriTechNZ and shared sector interests

Seek expressions of interest to join a geospatial data working group : to develop technical agreements on geospatial ag data



Budget 2021 funding includes \$37m towards national integrated farm planning system for farmers and growers

“To meet our climate change and sustainability goals we need a single national farm planning framework that is easy for farmers and growers to use and that integrates with their business requirements,” Damien O’Connor



# Growing opportunities for NZ's agritech ecosystem

## OUR MISSION

To scale the New Zealand agritech ecosystem through:

Advocacy



Collaboration



Innovation



And to support farmers and growers to adopt agritech to increase:

Productivity



Profitability



Sustainability



## OUR PROGRESS

**1** Industry Transformation Plan

**1** Economic impact research report

**5** Global partnerships

**3** International Agritech Missions

**4** Key recommendations

- National agritech strategy
- Trans-Tasman agritech strategy
- Understand local adoption better
- Stimulate local agritech adoption

**36** Events and webinars for members

**2,200** Agritech Insights Webinar Attendees

**13** National workshops hosted to develop the New Zealand Agritech Story - Powered by Place

**150+** Members

AGRITECH INDUSTRY TRANSFORMATION PLAN

# New Zealand Agritech



Photo credit: Paul Sutherland Photography

**GOOD FOR THE WORLD**

Working in partnership to grow and transform the Agritech sector



Ministry for Primary Industries  
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**CallaghanInnovation**  
New Zealand's Innovation Agency



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New Zealand Government

All of Government with industry collaboration



# Industry Transformation Plans (ITPs)

ITPs - A key tool in delivering the Government's Industry Strategy

<b>What</b>	High intensity, high investment, partnership-based approach to Industry policy
<b>Goals</b>	Lift productivity through enabling scaling up of internationally competitive clusters with a comparative advantage  Transform environmental and labour market outcomes - lifting productivity, sustainability & inclusivity
<b>Focus</b>	Long-term vision with short & mid term step change actions
<b>How</b>	Partnerships & collaboration across government, business, Māori & workers is core to transformation success

## Transforming Industries to Lift Productivity

Enabling the scaling up of highly productive & internationally competitive clusters in areas where we have a comparative advantage

### Scaling up Value

*High value, currently smaller sectors  
Supporting diversified, resilient,  
knowledge intensive & high value  
future economy*

### Moving from Volume to Value

*Significant employers & exporters  
Opportunity to become more  
productive & move up the value chain*

**1 - Agritech**  
**2 - Digital Technologies**

**3 - Advanced Manufacturing**  
**4 - Food and Beverage  
Manufacturing**  
**5 - Forestry and Wood Processing**  
**6 - Construction**

# Agritech ITP : Workstreams

## AGRITECH INDUSTRY TRANSFORMATION PLAN

Work-stream	1 – Global	2 – Commercialisation	3 – Investment	4 - Data Interop & Regulations	5 - Skills & Workforce	6 – Government
Areas of focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Connecting the NZ agritech ecosystem to global opportunities</li> <li>•Collaborating with Australia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Accelerating commercialisation of research institute IP</li> <li>•Private sector commercialisation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Specialist early-stage capital funding</li> <li>•Maximising global funding links &amp; opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Data interoperability &amp; open data</li> <li>• Variations in regulatory requirements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Skills required to develop agritech</li> <li>•Skills required to use agritech, &amp; impact of agritech on the workforce</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Improving transparency of government support</li> <li>•Improving understanding of agritech sector</li> </ul>
Why	NZ's developments in agritech not well connected to international opportunities	NZ invests a significant amount into agritech research but struggles to bring research-based ideas & IP to market	NZ agritech firms and start ups struggle to attract the growth capital needed to scale.  There is a lack of specialised funding in NZ	Agritech systems are often not cross-compatible, don't share standards & data produced can't be easily integrated into other systems.	Agritech struggles with skills shortages in several areas.  Need for upskilling primary workers to ensure they can utilise agritech innovations.	Engagement with govt can be challenging  Measurement of NZ agritech is incomplete
Lead Agency	NZTE	Callaghan Innovation	NZTE	MPI	MBIE	MBIE



1. 'Data Interoperability'
2. Commercialisation
  - *funding supports*
  - *policy impact?*
3. Technology Adoption
4. International opportunities
5. ...Connectivity?

# Agritech ITP : Workstreams

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# Agritech Data Reference Group

# Role of Reference Group

The role of this Industry Reference Group (IRG) is to

- a) bring together senior representatives from AgriTechNZ membership - to represent shared industry perspectives
- b) provide leadership and guidance on industry data interoperability projects...in partnership with Government and in support of data collaboratives
- c) be a independent conduit for information from projects back to the wider sector

# Role of Reference Group

- Engage widely across the industry and seek to represent a wide range of views, not just the views of your organisation
- Work in partnership with Industry and Government groups to further develop and prioritise projects that improve data interoperability and data use in the sector





Shared  
aspirations,  
and context





# SfTI Collaboration



Our vision to become global leaders in aquaculture technology by transforming the relationship between science and industry.

Collaboration among industry players and scientists to accelerate innovation has never been more critical than now as the aquaculture sector seeks to expand significantly and into riskier offshore environments to achieve its ambitious goals (five-fold increase in value to \$3B by 2035).

# Emerging tech no longer emerging

PlantTech in Tauranga building **AI** platform for hort research.

Pernod Ricard using Smart Machine's **autonomous vehicles** for vineyard tasks.

**IOT** enabled remote water monitoring & irrigation management on NZ farm.



Fonterra, Wave & HSBC launch **blockchain** bill of lading.

**Robotic** dog being trialed in NZ for sheep herding. v

Autonomous **drones** being used for precision spraying.

# Agritech potential



**1.4bn**

Revenue 2019

**2x**

NZ primary sector productivity  
and sustainability  
+  
Impact global environmental, food  
and sustainability challenges



**\$10bn**

# Tech often lacking from policy thinking



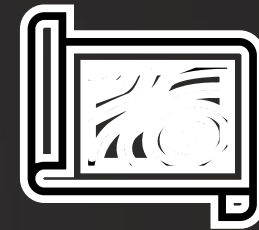
## Reserve Bank Bill

No mention of digital currency or cryptocurrency in the bill about the future of NZ's Reserve Bank.



## Water Services Bill

No mention of digital technology, IoT, data or sensors in the bill about monitoring NZ's water.



## FEP 'framework'

Digital technology, IoT, data or sensors considered???

# Lots of pieces of the digital puzzle

DIGITAL  
COUNCIL

DIGITAL  
ECONOMIC  
PARTNER  
AGREEMENT

DIGITAL  
IDENTITY

DIGITAL  
SME  
BOOST

DIGITAL  
INCLUSION

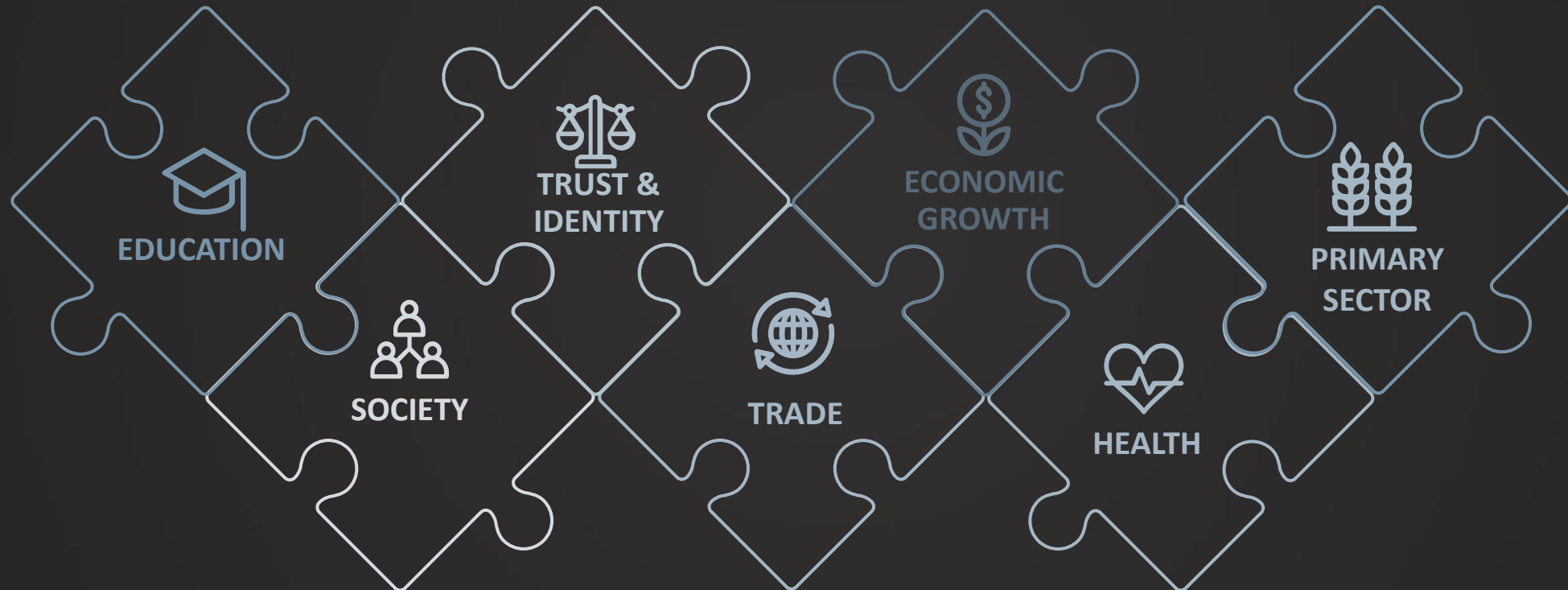
DIGITAL  
INDUSTRY  
TRANSFORMATION  
PLAN

AGRITECH  
INDUSTRY  
TRANSFORMATION  
PLAN

DIGITAL  
TECHNOLOGY  
CURRICULUM

DIGITAL  
APPRENTICESHIPS

# A connected national digital strategy





Trust  
Alliance  
New Zealand

# Trust Alliance New Zealand



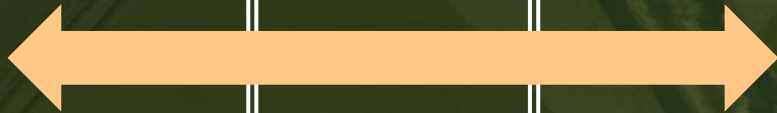
Identity



Location



Critical  
control  
points/  
transactions



Klaeri Schelhowe

E: [Klaeri@track-back.co](mailto:Klaeri@track-back.co)

M: +64 21 2532 842



# Starting hypotheses

- data collaboratives and partnership development within the ecosystem are to be encouraged
- data collaboratives will be better enabled where there are open data standards
- the process of defining standards needs to be transparent, collaboratively created with good stakeholder representation, independent of any one commercial solution
- open data standards need to be linked with international standards
- data standards on their own are insufficient in enabling better data interoperability
- issues of governance, security and privacy need discussion and will likely be addressed through data collaboratives and industry regulation – with input from groups like this IRG
- agritech is in demand and globally the sector is expecting significant growth
- primary industry will never thrive without primary data

# Composition

- Be made up 9 +/-2 members; with the ability to bring in additional members or expertise to address issues as needed
- Incorporate representation and experience from AgriTechNZ membership groups:
  - Major and Large corporates x3
  - Medium and Small corporates (including public sector research and independent research groups) x3
  - SMEs and early-stage business x3
- Reflect the diversity of New Zealand and be representative of all New Zealanders

# Meeting Frequency and Format

- The group will self select a Chair and Vice-Chair
- Kick off meeting face to face
- Initial period of data gathering and formulation
- Monthly videoconferences
- Other requirements mutually agreed

# Process

- Terms of Reference available : email ([info@agritechnz.org.nz](mailto:info@agritechnz.org.nz))
- <https://forms.gle/idBxtbNXSoec3GYF7>
- **Expressions of Interest before May 28**
- Representation considered and initial reference group informed June 4
- Kick off meeting during June

# Geospatial Data Working Group



# Geospatial Ag Data Interoperability

Working group and opportunity

Andrew Cooke, Rezare Systems

# About me

- **Rezare Systems** a 2004 spin out from AgResearch, privately owned.
- Bespoke software for NZ / Australia / UK agritech, cooperatives, and agribusiness.
- Specialises in pasture systems, livestock performance, and farm data.
- From July 2020, part of the **Map of Agriculture Group** (founded in New Zealand, headquartered in the UK).
- **Andrew Cooke** – Managing Director NZ and CTO (and ag data specialist)
- Involved in farm data interoperability since 2013



# Where did this come from?

- Work on DataLinker and related projects (more on that later)
- Review of interoperability solutions and approaches globally
- Many groups working on farm data interoperability, especially:
  - Farm Plans (of various sorts)
  - Sustainability, climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Organisations and groups have already expressed interest in working together to crack this.



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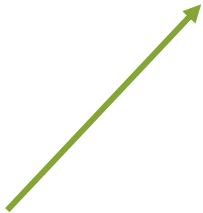




# Review of different models of interoperability

	Data governance	Empowering farmers	Widespread participation	International standards	Rapid adoption
Collectors					
Hubs					
Brokers					
Networks					
Distributed Ledgers					

New solutions pay more attention to security and permissions



Any deliberate interoperability helps farmers



Cultivate the ecosystem for innovation and long-term benefits



Can be hard to bring legacy systems along



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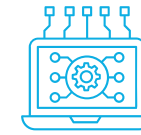
# Different models but recurring components



Identity (people)



Meaning



Protocols



Entity Id (things)



Messages



Discovery



Permission



Translation



Agreements



Authorisation




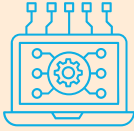








Reference



Governance



# Different models but recurring components

 Identity (people)	Meaning	 Protocols
 Entity Id (things)	Messages	 Discovery
 Permission	 Translation	 Agreements
 Authorisation	 Reference	 Governance

Easiest, but still moderately useful

# I promised more on DataLinker...

- Confusion – often seen as a hub, but it was a network approach
- Commercial model didn't help with engagement
- Relied on each party “building their bit” (client or service)  
(few or no pre-built components)

# I promised more on DataLinker...

- Confusion – often seen as a hub, but it was a network approach
- Commercial model didn't help with engagement
- Relied on each party “building their bit” (client or service) (few or no pre-built components)
  
- Few reasons to build a service to make data available:
  - Other party is going to pay for access to the data
  - My farmers are going to pay to have the data available
  - Its politically difficult/dangerous not to make the data available



# Geospatial Data Interoperability

Working group approach

# Questions that could be answered

- How do I share/get <geospatial data type of interest>?
- How do we label spatial data so we know what it claims to be?
- What are the attributes that go with spatial shapes
- What are the valid values for those attributes? Meanings?
- How do we represent things – formats, international standards?
- Are there useful API patterns?
- Which system is the “master” for different sets of data? By farm?
- How do we manage updates and changes?



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# Principles

- Address specific technical issues that could unlock multiple projects
- Acknowledge that technical solutions are not the whole answer
- Re-use, don't reinvent the wheel (wherever possible)
- Open-source approach: cost is your time (so align with your interests)
- Short, facilitated initial activity (MVP)
- Establish long-term mechanism for improvement, extension



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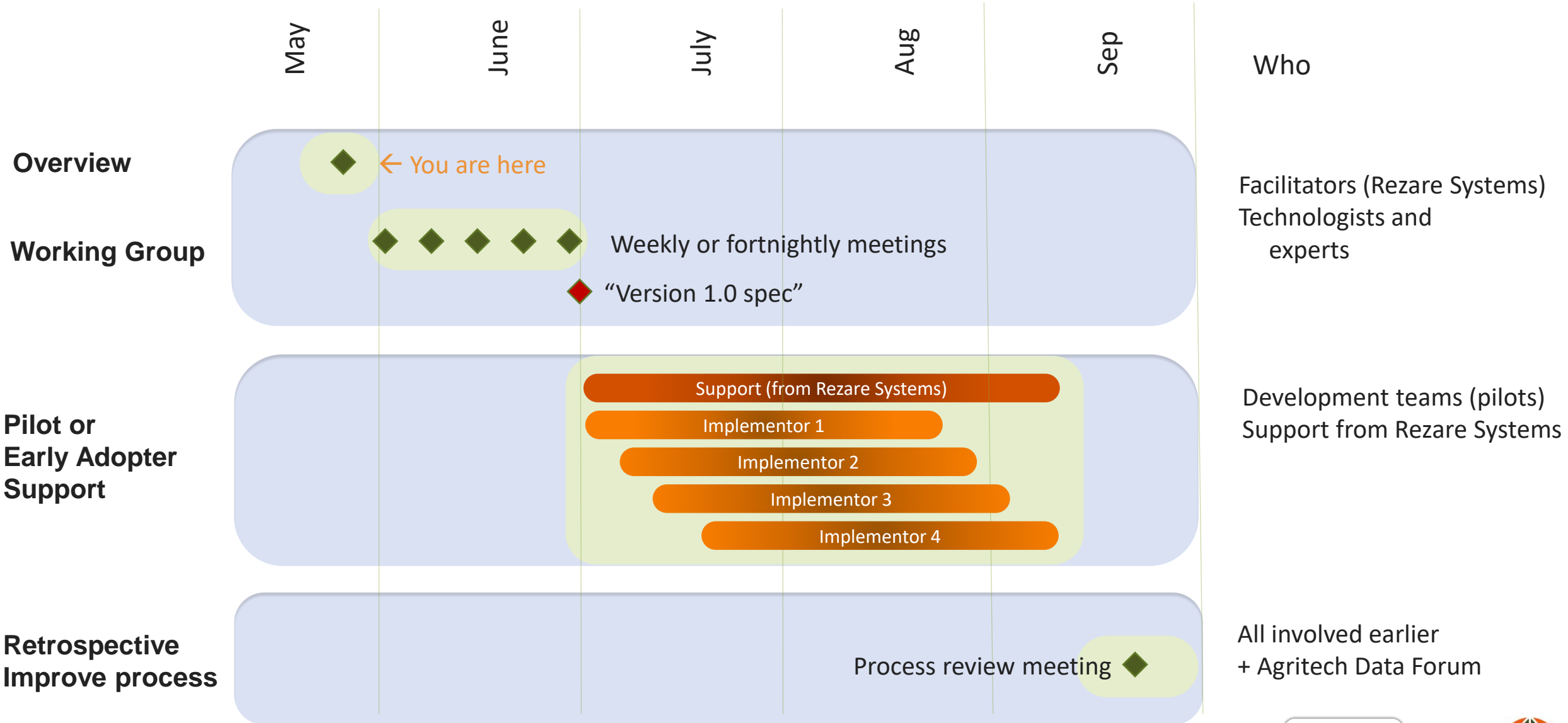




# Geospatial Specification – MVP Process



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# How to get involved

- Call for technical specialists  
Architects / Developers / BA or data specialist
  - Usually only 1-2 from each organisation
  - Commitment 4 x 1 hour meetings plus contributions
  - Register at <https://reza.re/geo>

# How to get involved

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  - Register at <https://reza.re/geo>
- Call for organisations to pilot this:
  - Support may be available via Agritech NZ / MBIE
  - Will ask for timeframe commitments
  - Register at <https://reza.re/geo>



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