

# What a good idea

COMMONWEALTH

GOVERNMENT

PROGRAMS

LINKING INDUSTRY

WITH PUBLIC

SECTOR R&D



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COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS  
LINKING INDUSTRY WITH PUBLIC SECTOR R&D

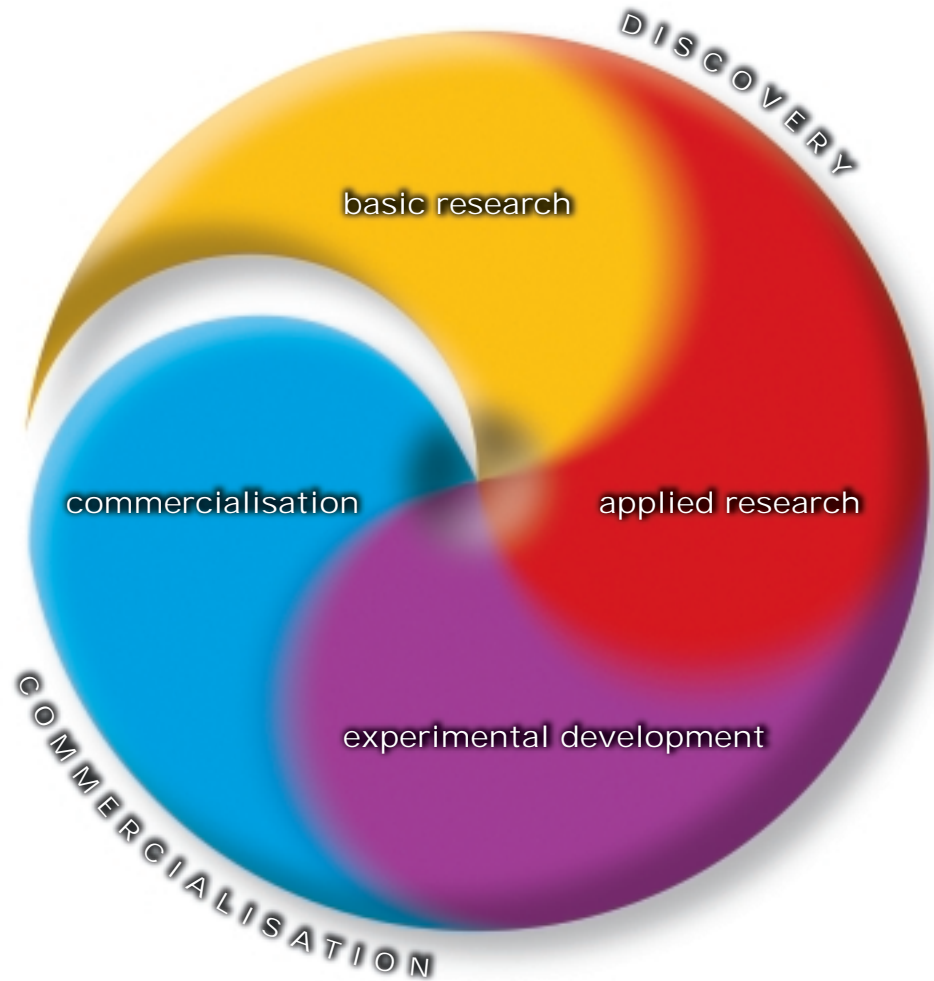
This brochure has been designed to assist organisations and individuals involved in the innovation enterprise to identify and gain access to the Commonwealth Government programs that best fit their needs and capabilities.

Australia has a strong and growing national innovation system. We have a highly qualified and scientifically literate population, a world class research system and the business skills to grasp opportunities to turn ideas into commercial products and services to the benefit of the Australian community.







Linkages are fundamental to innovation. They make it possible for research organisations, businesses and other research users to gain access to new ideas and technologies, to exchange skills and to tailor activities and products to market demands. They are crucial to our capacity to capture to the full the economic, social and cultural benefits of R&D.

The Commonwealth Government has a role to play in facilitating partnerships and alliances between researchers in our universities and research institutes and the users of research in the private and public sectors. It pursues this role through a portfolio of programs which have been tailored to support innovation, from basic research to commercialisation.

INNOVATION CYCLE



Refer to the 'Key' column below for your area of interest.

KEY	AGENCY & PROGRAM	DESCRIPTION	CLOSING DATE	FUNDING	GRANT SIZE/PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
	<b>Australian Geological Survey Organisation (AGSO)</b> BASIC AND APPLIED RESEARCH	<b>AGSO</b> is Australia's national geoscience agency. It undertakes collaborative research with state and local governments, universities and the private sector to capture economic, social and environmental benefits from the application of geoscientific research.  AGSO's facilities support marine geochemistry, sedimentary analysis, hydrochemistry, microbiology, rock magnetism and paleomagnetism, and enable it to deliver outputs in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ marine zone management information;</li> <li>■ geohazards;</li> <li>■ geomagnetism; and</li> <li>■ petroleum and minerals promotion and technical policy advice.</li> </ul>	Not applicable.	\$60m in 1999–2000.	Not applicable.	Not applicable.
	<b>Australian Research Council</b> Special Research Centres BASIC RESEARCH	<b>Special Research Centres</b> are based in universities. They undertake basic research of outstanding quality, promote advancement of knowledge and interaction between universities, government and the private sector.	One selection round every three years.  Special Centres selection round in 1999.	\$14.7m in 1999.	9 year grants subject to review.  Average grant size of \$770,000 per annum.	The host institution must be an eligible university. Industry is able to participate as a collaborating partner.
	<b>Australian Research Council</b> Strategic Partnerships with Industry — Research and Training Scheme (SPIRT) ALL TYPES OF ACTIVITY — WITH A FOCUS IN BASIC AND APPLIED RESEARCH	The <b>SPiRT Scheme</b> supports collaborative research projects between university researchers and industry.  Funds are provided for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ collaborative research projects;</li> <li>■ postgraduate awards; and</li> <li>■ postdoctoral fellowships.</li> </ul>	One selection round per year.	\$51.3m in 1999.	1–3 year grants.  Average grant size of \$50,000 to \$100,000 per annum.	Eligible universities with an industry partner willing to contribute in cash or in kind.
	<b>Australian Research Council</b> Key Centres of Teaching and Research APPLIED RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL DEVELOPMENT	<b>Key Centres</b> are based in universities. Their activities include: research, education, consulting, development and maintenance of cooperative links with industry and end user communities.	One selection round every three years.	\$5.5m in 1999.	3–6 year grants.  Average grant size of \$200,000 to \$500,000 per annum.	The host institution must be an eligible university. Industry is able to participate as a collaborating partner.
	<b>Bureau of Rural Sciences</b> APPLIED RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL DEVELOPMENT	The <b>BRS</b> promotes sustainable development through collaborative activities with other research organisations, universities and the private sector.  The Bureau offers individually tailored <b>BRS Fellowships</b> and commissions consultancies to encourage links with its research partners. Applications from industry and academia are particularly welcome.	Applications accepted throughout the year.	Salary and reasonable travel costs.	Fellowships and consultancies vary in size and duration.	Any individual, company or organisation — selection on merit.
	<b>CSIRO</b> BASIC AND APPLIED RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL DEVELOPMENT	<b>CSIRO</b> carries out scientific research of benefit to Australia and to facilitate the application or utilisation of the results of that research. CSIRO offers access to a multi-disciplinary pool of talent and facilities. It works with potential users of R&D outputs to exploit the opportunities created, eg. via: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Collaborative research: Joint R&amp;D activities to fulfil a technology objective;</li> <li>■ Contract research: R&amp;D to achieve specific market objectives;</li> <li>■ Consultancy: Advice on science and technology;</li> <li>■ Licensing: Commercialisation of intellectual property developed by CSIRO; and</li> <li>■ Testing and accreditation services.</li> </ul>	No specific grant program available.	Appropriation funding for CSIRO in 1998/99 was \$475m.	Size and duration of contracts open to negotiation.	Any individual, company or organisation. Interested parties should contact CSIRO to discuss services available and commercial arrangements.



**Department of Industry  
Science and Resources**  
Technology Diffusion Program  
BASIC AND APPLIED RESEARCH

The **Technology Diffusion Program (TDP)** helps Australian industry access leading edge technologies. It also assists the research community access global science and technologies not available within Australia. The TDP comprises two integrated components, **Technology Alliances** and **Technology Transfer**.

There are 5 elements of **Technology Alliances**:

- **Industrial Research Alliances (IRA)** — small competitive grants to support collaborative industry-research projects with commercial potential;
- **Targeted Research Alliances (TRA)** — support which is strategically focussed on sectors and countries where Australia has strong science and technology relations, and with the greatest potential for Australian industry innovation and commercial benefit;
- **International Science and Technology Networks (ISTN)** — small grants facilitating the establishment of international science and technology networks through international exchange, fellowship and award programs and targeted missions;
- **Access to Major Research Facilities (AMRF)** — support for Australian investigators to access major international research facilities; and
- **International Conference Support Scheme (ICSS)** — small loans to support international scientific, technological or engineering conferences held in Australia.

**Technology Transfer** aims to improve industry productivity and competitiveness by promoting the uptake of leading edge technologies, particularly by small and medium sized enterprises.

IRA has two application rounds per year. For closing dates see the AusIndustry website.

TRA proposals are called for on an ad hoc basis.

ISTN has one round of applications per year. For closing dates see the Australian Academy of Science website.

AMRF applications are received all year, but January and July are preferred.

ICSS has two application rounds per year. For closing dates contact the Institution of Engineers, Australia.

Technology Transfer receives applications continuously.

The TDP has funding of about \$90m over the four years to 2002.

The size of grants vary depending on the element of the Program.

All eligible persons must be Australian citizens or have permanent resident status.

Depending on the element:

- practising scientists and technologists with links to industry related research, & vice versa (IRA, TRA);
- researchers employed by an organisation in a research capacity (AMRF);
- Australian citizens (ISTN);
- international scientific, technological or engineering conferences held in Australia (ICSS);
- individuals, private companies, organisations such as universities, CRCs, TAFEs, CSIRO and consortia comprising the above (Technology Transfer).



**Department of Industry  
Science and Resources**  
125% Tax Concession for Research and Development  
APPLIED RESEARCH,  
EXPERIMENTAL DEVELOPMENT  
AND COMMERCIALISATION

The **Tax Concession** enables eligible companies to claim 125% of their R&D expenditure as a tax deduction, subject to meeting legislative requirements.

Companies can contract out R&D activities to other companies or approved Registered Research Agencies (RRAs) which have the expertise and facilities to do specific types of R&D on behalf of others.

Not applicable.

Not applicable.

Not applicable.

Companies incorporated in Australia, or public trading trusts.

A minimum expenditure of \$20,000 applies for companies undertaking their own R&D.



**Department of Industry  
Science and Resources**  
Research and Development (R&D) Start Program  
APPLIED RESEARCH,  
EXPERIMENTAL DEVELOPMENT  
AND COMMERCIALISATION

**R&D Start** is a program of assistance measures to foster research and development and related commercialisation, directed at small to medium sized enterprises. It includes:

- **Core Start**
- **Start Plus**
- **Start Premium**
- **Start Graduate**

**Core Start** provides assistance of up to 50% of project costs for smaller Australian companies through grants for R&D projects.

**Start Plus** provides grants up to 20% of project costs for larger Australian companies, with group turnover of \$50 million or more to undertake R&D projects.

Further assistance is available for high quality projects.

**Start Premium** offers all companies an additional repayable amount which 'tops up' either Core Start or Start Plus to a maximum of 56.25% of project costs.

**Start Graduate** helps companies to engage a graduate on a specific R&D related project undertaken in collaboration with a research institution.

Applications may be lodged at any time.

\$700m over 4 years to June 2002.

Grants are available for up to three years.

Grants range from \$50,000 and \$5m (to a maximum of \$15m).





Projects can be up to two years.

The maximum grant is \$100,000 (50% of eligible project costs).

Non-tax exempt companies incorporated in Australia.

Companies with a turnover of less than \$50m.

Companies with a turnover of less than \$50m.

	<p><b>Department of Industry Science and Resources</b> Cooperative Research Centres Program</p> <p>BASIC AND APPLIED RESEARCH, EXPERIMENTAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMMERCIALISATION</p>	<p><b>Cooperative Research Centres</b> are collaborative research and education ventures which seek to develop strategic linkages between researchers and research users, particularly industry.</p>	<p>Selection rounds are planned every 2 years. The next selection round is in the year 2000.</p>	<p>\$139.7m in 1999–2000.</p>	<p>Funding for up to 7 years (in initial agreement). Average funding for each Centre of \$2.2m per annum.</p>	<p>Any number and type of organisations together with at least one university.</p>
	<p><b>Department of Industry Science and Resources</b> Innovation Investment Fund</p> <p>COMMERCIALISATION</p>	<p>The <b>Innovation Investment Fund</b> encourages investment in the commercialisation of Australian research and development by matching every dollar raised by licensed fund managers with a two dollar Federal Government contribution.</p>	<p>Not applicable.</p>	<p>The second round of funding for the program will provide \$100m in 1999–2000.</p>	<p>Not applicable.</p>	<p>Investee companies include those which are commercialising the results of R&amp;D activities.</p>
	<p><b>National Health and Medical Research Council</b> Development Grants</p> <p>APPLIED RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL DEVELOPMENT</p>	<p>Development grants are designed to support development work undertaken on processes, techniques or procedures arising from fundamental biomedical research and which are now close to marketing to the community. There must be potential benefits to the community.</p> <p>Funds may be provided for a range of developmental activities eg:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Producing a working prototype of a piece of equipment.</li> <li>■ Improving the formulation of a chemical compound.</li> <li>■ Testing the viability of a diagnostic or technique.</li> </ul>	<p>One selection round per year as part of the standard Project Grant Round.</p> <p>The next round closes in March 2000 for grants commencing in 2001.</p>	<p>Funded within the allocation for new Project Grants (\$31m in 1999).</p>	<p>1–3 year grants. Average size between \$50,000 and \$100,000 per annum.</p>	<p>Health and medical researchers in Australia. Some restriction on holding of other Commonwealth support. Must have equivalent support from commercial collaborator.</p>
	<p><b>Rural Research and Development Corporations (RDCs)</b> Australian Wool Research &amp; Promotional Organisation Cotton RDC Dairy RDC Dried Fruits RDC Fisheries RDC Forest &amp; Wood Products RDC Grains RDC Grape &amp; Wine RDC Horticultural RDC Land and Water Resources RDC Meat and Livestock Australia Pig RDC Rural Industries RDC Sugar RDC Tobacco RDC</p> <p>BASIC AND APPLIED RESEARCH, EXPERIMENTAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMMERCIALISATION</p>	<p>The <b>Rural RDCs</b> build research links between industry and a wide range of research providers including universities. Statutory research funds are established in most cases through industry levies applied to producers. These contributions are matched by Commonwealth funds on a dollar-for-dollar basis up to certain limits. The Corporations conduct a wide range of activities including strategic planning, funding, managing and reporting on the outcomes of R&amp;D to industry, government and other stakeholders.</p> <p><b>Rural RDCs</b> have different offerings including project funds, scholarships, travel awards, and training awards.</p> <p>Note: Each of the RDCs manages its own affairs under the direction of a Board. The Rural R&amp;D Chairs Committee looks after issues of joint interest.</p>	<p>Applications are called for each year for new and continuing research projects.</p>	<p>Total expenditure across all RDCs in 1997–98 was \$300m. This comprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$26.6m (AWRAPO)</li> <li>\$9.3m (Cotton)</li> <li>\$20.8m (Dairy)</li> <li>\$1.3m (Dried Fruits)</li> <li>\$16.1m (Fisheries)</li> <li>\$4.8m (Forest&amp;Wood)</li> <li>\$74.2m (Grains)</li> <li>\$5.2m (Grape &amp; Wine)</li> <li>\$28.8m (Horticultural)</li> <li>\$19.1m (Land &amp; Water)</li> <li>\$48.9m (Meat &amp; Livestock)</li> <li>\$9.3m (Pig)</li> <li>\$21.5m (Rural Industries)</li> <li>\$12.8m (Sugar)</li> <li>\$1.3m (Tobacco)</li> </ul>	<p>Most projects are funded for between 1–3 years.</p>	<p>Any individual, company or organisation.</p>
<p>KEY</p>	<p>AGENCY &amp; PROGRAM</p>	<p>DESCRIPTION</p>	<p>CLOSING DATE</p>	<p>FUNDING</p>	<p>GRANT SIZE/PERIOD</p>	<p>ELIGIBILITY</p>

CONTACTS

AGENCY	PROGRAM	NAME	TELEPHONE	EMAIL or WEBSITE
AGSO	Petroleum and Marine	Dr Trevor Powell	Tel: 02 6249 9471	Trevor.Powell@agso.gov.au
	Minerals	Dr Chris Pigram	Tel: 02 6249 9397	Chris.Pigram@agso.gov.au
	Geohazards and Geomagnetism	Dr Wally Johnson	Tel: 02 6249 9377	Wally.Johnson@agso.gov.au
ARC	SPIRT	Rod Barlow	Tel: 02 6240 9684	rod.barlow@detya.gov.au
ARC	Key Centres of Teaching and Research	June McKendry	Tel: 02 6240 5262	june.mckendry@detya.gov.au
ARC	Special Research Centres	June McKendry	Tel: 02 6240 5262	june.mckendry@detya.gov.au
BRS	Executive Director	Dr Peter O'Brien	Tel: 02 6272 3447	www.brs.gov.au peter.obrien@brs.gov.au
	Agriculture, Food and Social Sciences	Dr Craig Pearson	Tel: 02 6272 4951	craig.pearson@brs.gov.au
	Fisheries and Forestry Sciences	Dr Roger Bradbury	Tel: 02 6272 4524	roger.bradbury@brs.gov.au
	Land and Water Sciences	Dr Colin Charters	Tel: 02 6249 9267	colin.charters@brs.gov.au
CSIRO		CSIRO Enquiries	Tel: 1300 363 400	enquiries@csiro.au; www.csiro.au
Alliance	<i>Agribusines</i>			
	Field Crops Sector	Ms Paula Fitzgerald	Tel: 02 6246 5077	
	Food Processing Sector	Mr Roger King	Tel: 08 8303 8823	
	Forestry, Wood and Paper Industries Sector	Mr Mick Crowe	Tel: 02 6281 8357	
	Horticulture Sector	Ms Angela Gackle	Tel: 08 8303 8630	
	Meat, Dairy and Aquaculture Sector	Mr Shaun Coffey	Tel: 07 4923 8182	
Alliance	<i>Textiles, Clothing and Footwear Sector</i>	Mr Pat Naughtin	Tel: 03 5246 4057	
	<i>Environment and Natural Resources</i>			
	Biodiversity Sector	Dr Sarah Ryan	Tel: 02 6242 1667	
	Climate and Atmosphere Sector	Mr Paul Holper	Tel: 03 9239 4661	
Alliance	Land and Water Sector	Dr Graham Harris	Tel: 02 6246 5621	
	Marine Sector	Mr Tim Mangan	Tel: 03 6232 5267	
	<i>Information Technology, Infrastructure and Services</i>			
	Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector	Ms Carole David	Tel: 02 9372 4245	
Alliance	Built Environment Sector	Mr Robert Nixon	Tel: 02 9252 6385	
	Measurement Standards Sector	Ms Glenda Sandars	Tel: 02 9413 7087	
	Radio Astronomy Sector	Ms Helen Sim	Tel: 02 9372 4251	
	Services Sector	Mr Kevin Cryan	Tel: 02 9325 3242	
Alliance	<i>Manufacturing</i>			
	Chemicals and Plastics Sector	Mr Gerry Scheltinga	Tel: 03 9545 2468	
	Integrated Manufacturing Products Sector	Ms Wilna Macmillan	Tel: 03 9545 2806	
Alliance	Pharmaceuticals and Human Health Sector	Mr Gerry Sheltinga	Tel: 03 9545 2468	
	<i>Minerals and Energy</i>			
	Energy Sector	Mr Harro Drexler	Tel: 02 9490 8666	
	Mineral Exploration and Mining Sector	Mr Tim McLennan	Tel: 07 3212 4480	
Alliance	Mineral Processing and Metal Production Sector	Ms Andrea Boothroyd	Tel: 03 9545 8500	
	Petroleum Sector	Mr Peter Bosci	Tel: 02 9490 8242	
DISR	Cooperative Research Centres Program	CRC Secretariat	Tel: 02 6213 6429	www.isr.gov.au/crc/
DISR	Research & Development (R&D) Start Program		AusIndustry Hotline: 132846	
DISR	<i>Technology Diffusion Program</i>			
	Industrial Research Alliances	IRA Secretariat	Tel: 02 6213 7592	www.ausindustry.gov.au/tdp
	Targeted Research Alliances	TRA Secretariat	Tel: 02 6213 7738	www.ausindustry.gov.au/tdp
	International Science and Technology Networks	Australian Academy of Science	Tel: 02 6247 3966	www.science.org.au/internat/exhchange/contscix.htm
	Access to Major Research Facilities			
	International Conference Support Scheme	Dr John Boldeman (ANSTO)	Tel: 02 9717 3206	www.isr.gov.au/science/ist/techdiff/tap.html
DISR	Technology Transfer	Mrs Vesna Strika (IEA)	Tel: 02 6270 6515	www.ausindustry.gov.au/tdp
		Technology Transfer Secretariat	Tel: 02 6213 6382	
DISR	125% tax concession		AusIndustry Hotline: 132846	
DISR	Innovation Investment Fund		AusIndustry Hotline: 132846	
NHMRC				www.nhmrc.health.gov.au/research
Rural RDCs	Development Grants	David Adcock	Tel: 02 6289 5422	david.adcock@health.gov.au
Rural RDCs	Australian Wool Research & Promotional Organisation	Ms Lyn Coyne	Tel: 03 9341 9111	www.wool.com.au
	Cotton RDC	Mr Ralph Schulze	Tel: 02 6792 4088	www.affa.gov.au/pie
	Dairy RDC	Dr Paul Donnelly	Tel: 03 9602 5300	www.drdc.aust.com
	Dried Fruit RDC	Mr Ross Skinner	Tel: 03 5022 1515	mildura.ozland.net.au/dfrdc/
	Fisheries RDC	Mr Peter Dundas-Smith	Tel: 02 6285 0410	www.frdc.com.au/
	Forest & Wood Products RDC	Dr Kwame Asumadu	Tel: 03 9614 7544	www.fwprdc.org.au
	Grains RDC	Professor John Lovett	Tel: 02 6272 5525	www.grdc.com.au
	Grape & Wine RDC	Dr David Hall	Tel: 08 8364 2688	winetitles.com.au/gwrdc.index.html
	Horticultural RDC	Ms Jenny Longbottom	Tel: 02 9418 2200	affa.gov.au/pie
	Land and Water Resources RDC	Mr Sandy Lolicato	Tel: 02 6257 3379	www.lwrrdc.gov.au
	Meat and Livestock Australia	Dr Len Stephens	Tel: 02 9463 9333	www.mla.com.au
	Pig RDC	Dr Tony Peacock	Tel: 02 6272 5139	www.affa.gov.au/prdc/home.html
	Rural Industries RDC	Mr Peter Core	Tel: 02 6272 4539	www.rirdc.gov.au
	Sugar RDC	Mr Eoin Wallace	Tel: 07 3210 0495	www.affa.gov.au/pie
	Tobacco RDC	Mr Bob Coombs	Tel: 02 6253 4562	
	Rural R&D Chairs Committee	Mr Alan Newton	Tel: 02 6272 3499	rrdcc@teknnet.net.au; www.rrdc.com



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