



Department of
**Jobs, Tourism, Science
and Innovation**

Innovation Action Plan: Programs and initiatives

Innovation Action Plan: programs and initiatives

This Action Plan outlines the Government of Western Australia's initial agenda to support its Innovation Strategy, and help establish Western Australia as a global hub of invention, investment and innovation.

These actions will be updated and added to as the need and opportunity arise.

Priority Areas

Commitments and Specific Actions



Skills, people and culture

The Western Australian Government will invest in building and attracting talent across the State, and attracting talent globally.

Specific actions include:

- » Advancing the State's STEM Skills Strategy
- » Leveraging the Premier's Science Fellowship program to attract accomplished global talent to WA
- » Investigating new talent attraction programs including reverse landing pad programs
- » Connecting innovators with venture capital from other ecosystems, such as the Eastern States of Australia, Singapore, Israel, London and the US
- » Working with regional innovation hubs to build local capacity
- » Supporting ongoing public sector innovation

Priority Areas

Commitments and Specific Actions



Research and tech transfer

The Western Australian Government will set out a bold new science and research agenda, fit for the decade ahead, and seek to optimise technology transfer opportunities across the State's growing economy.

Specific actions include:

- » Developing a new science and research agenda to identify research priorities, funding models, and supportive institutional and policy frameworks
- » Implementing a new Public Sector IP Policy to encourage and support public sector researchers
- » Implementing new biodiscovery legislation to guide benefit sharing from biodiscoveries, including greater involvement of Aboriginal communities
- » Exploring partnerships with universities and industry on how to best support IP development and commercialisation and research impact
- » Expanding the State's technology transfer efforts (such as AROSE)



Networks, precincts and shared facilities

The Western Australian Government will accelerate efforts to enable innovation hubs, precincts and shared facilities to strengthen the innovation ecosystem across the State.

Specific actions include:

- » Advancing to support innovation hubs, platforms, co-working spaces and networks across the State and regions to accelerate connections, mentoring and collaborations
- » Advancing opportunities for existing and new innovation precincts, including regional precincts
- » Investigating new ways to support providers of innovator and investor educational programs such as the X-TEND WA program and use of the Innovation Hubs

Priority Areas

Commitments and Specific Actions

Networks, precincts and shared facilities (continued)

- » Working with relevant peak bodies
- » Delivering the Life Sciences Strategy Common Use Infrastructure Plan and investigating other common use infrastructure opportunities to support collaborative design, proof of concept and access to specialised equipment
- » Optimising the benefits from the State's outstanding science and research infrastructure, including upcoming SKA and robotic facilities



Access to capital

The Western Australian Government will encourage the growth of an active local venture capital market for WA startups and scale ups, and investigate other ways to ensure the State's innovators have access to sufficient capital.

Specific actions include:

- » Advancing accelerator and incubator programs such as Innovation Booster Grants
- » Supporting WA businesses accessing relevant Australian Government funding, including the Commonwealth Reconstruction Fund
- » Exploring new partnership models that match researchers, developers and producers to better integrate the innovation value chain
- » Assisting the education of investors, encouraging improved understanding of the innovation asset class
- » Trialling the WA Venture Support (WAVES) program to encourage more venture capital activity to set up in WA
- » Investigating how best the WA government can further support and enhance the venture capital industry in WA

Priority Areas

Commitments and Specific Actions



Procurement and supply chains

The Western Australian Government will investigate how procurement can be made easier for WA startups and small businesses to provide access to major industry and Government contracts, and work with partners to open market access to global supply chains.

Specific actions include:

- » Reviewing the 2017 Western Australian Jobs Act
- » Making it easier for WA startups and small businesses to navigate the government procurement rules and access government contracts
- » Investigating options to better enable startup and SME access to large private procurements in various industries
- » Invest and Trade WA, coordinating with Austrade, will work to enable WA startups to better access new global supply chains
- » Running 'Challenge' programs so local startups can tackle Government 'problems', win trials and test their innovations in the field
- » Fostering an enterprise-friendly business framework, with modern, innovation-friendly regulations and competitive investment environment.



Diversity and inclusion

The Western Australian Government will continue to seek ways to increase the diversity and inclusiveness of the Western Australian economy, providing opportunities for greater participation in new and innovative economic activity by under-represented groups.

Specific actions include:

- » Release of the short-term Digital Inclusion Blueprint and whole of government initiatives
- » Targeted support for regional, Aboriginal and female entrepreneurs, innovators and programs

Priority Areas

Commitments and Specific Actions

Diversity and inclusion

- » Advancing the ability of all WA businesses and communities to have to access the latest technologies
- » Supporting regional innovation hubs and networks
- » Creating safe spaces, programs and initiatives for all kinds of innovators to be included, from all backgrounds and abilities
- » Promoting the unique experiences of 60,000 years of continuous Aboriginal culture and innovation, including through story-telling
- » Diversifying the existing innovation ecosystem networks through broader, more inclusive representation
- » Measuring the value of each under-represented sector within the innovation ecosystem, so this can be tracked and improved upon as part of a broader performance measurement framework



Promotion and adoption

The Western Australian Government will elevate efforts to promote and celebrate the outstanding scientific, technological and innovative capability of WA internationally and at home, and support the adoption of new technologies and innovations across businesses and communities.

Specific actions include:

- » Promoting the advantages of innovating in WA as part of the Government's Reconnect Program, including through international trade offices and global platforms such as Dealroom
- » Continuing to recognise our great talent, including through Premier's Science Awards, WA Innovator of the Year and continued support for an Innovation Showcase
- » Investigating the potential role of 'Innovation Champion(s)'
- » Investigating new technology engagement and adoption initiatives to support SMEs
- » Investigating new ways to support WA businesses in creating and using critical technologies at the forefront of innovation



Department of
**Jobs, Tourism, Science
and Innovation**

Contact us

Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation
Level 11, 1 William Street
Perth Western Australia 6000
Ph: +61 8 6277 3000
www.jtsi.wa.gov.au

