Handbook on Australian programmes for EU researchers

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Disclaimer

This handbook serves informational purposes only. It is based on public information, expert input, and desk research by the EPIC team. It does not express any official views of the European Commission or its services.

Note

Although we took great care that the information in this handbook is correct at the time of its publication, the information contained herein is subject to change. Please contact the team of editors at info@epicproject.eu for any change requests and updates. Readers of this handbook should also visit the EPIC project web site at www.epicproject.eu for updates and further information. Note that the report also includes closed calls of programmes that have in past often had annual calls.

*Australia icon courtesy of www.flaticon.com

Content

1 About EPIC

The EPIC initiative was created in response to an EU call for projects to support dialogues between the EU/EC and its strategic partner countries to foster cooperation in ICT R&D. The aim of the call was to organise events, support policy dialogue meetings, strengthening cooperative research links and reinforce industrial collaboration as well as coordination with other EU level initiatives.

EPIC, therefore, aims to **improve the research and innovation collaboration** between the EU and its strategic partner countries **Australia, New Zealand, and Singapore** in the area of **information and communication technologies**. It targets both the strategic, more policy-oriented level and the direct cooperation of researchers/innovators in academia and industry. The aim is to exploit mutually beneficial opportunities and to prepare new grounds for future collaborations.

EPIC aims to help overcome the current lack of dedicated co-operation support actions and improve the low visibility of Europe's ICT RDI capabilities in the target countries. The project follows a topical methodology: the focus is on specific areas of ICT research of high strategic importance. Initial topics include artificial intelligence, internet of things including wearables, cybersecurity, ICT in transport, digital economy, next generation internet and spatial intelligence.

The specific objectives of the project are to:

- Identify priority research topics for collaboration and identify synergies between the *Digital Single Market* and 3rd countries/regions' ICT strategies

- Organise and support events targeting research, industry, and policy makers and an event demonstrating impact and highlighting recommendations for future cooperation

- Identify common policy opportunities and the potential for joint activities

- Create a roadmap for stronger cooperation building on researcher exchanges and joint projects for lasting cooperation

- Deliver a handbook for EU researchers on opportunities in Australia, New Zealand and Singapore and information material to disseminate the objectives and results of the project among relevant stakeholders.

This edition of the handbook, focusing on ICT RTDI programmes in Australia, provides EU stakeholders with an overview of research programmes open to collaboration with Europeans, detailing the possibilities and the conditions to access, participate, or be funded.

2 Executive summary

This handbook for EU researchers offers an overview of local research programmes for those who are interested in collaborating with their peers in Australia. Local EPIC project partners, researchers and research managers have worked together to identify and describe RTDI programmes funded by national or regional authorities. In line with the objectives of the EPIC initiative, the focus is on information and communication technology programmes. However, where relevant, other initiatives that can provide funding are also included.

Researchers in Europe looking for opportunities to collaborate with Australia will no doubt realise that finding a suitable funding scheme or domestic funding source for participation in European programmes is not always easy and can, in fact, be downright challenging. For this reason, this report includes some closed calls, especially for programmes that typically open for proposals once per year - and can thus be expected to be renewed in the future.

However, this should not mislead nor discourage EU researchers with an interest in collaborating with their colleagues Downunder. Europe is still seen as a reliable partner with outstanding research competencies. Long historical relations and cultural ties contribute to a generally very welcoming atmosphere and environment for European researchers. Australia has an excellent standard of university research, and many are keenly interested in collaborating with European colleagues.

Australia has a relatively strong academic research community, outstanding non-university labs and interesting industry development activities. The country's funding system focuses heavily on the domestic research community. However, several programmes have annual calls for overseas researchers. The inclusion of foreign research in Australian projects can often be funded within larger projects or programmes such as the Cooperative Research Centres (CRCs).

3 Introduction

3.1 Collaborate internationally

Recent studies have emphasised the trend towards internationalisation of RTD collaboration.[1] This is true for multinational enterprises, as well as for research organisations and government institutions. The reasons for this development are manifold and include economic aspects and technological advances, but also social developments. Economic drivers of international research in ICT are primarily relevant for companies and very broad by themselves. Cooperation is seen as a means of tapping into expertise not available elsewhere, which includes attracting scientists and engineers, adapting products for new markets and gaining access to local knowledge and competences. These are very different reasons for research collaboration with different characteristics.

At the academic research level, an important driver for researchers to collaborate across country borders is to exchange knowledge with their peers in the field. However, there are also many other reasons such as gaining access to students and young researchers and engineers or increasing the reputation and recognition as a researcher or as an institution. International benchmarking, stimulation of new ideas, or simply fun are further reasons for academics to cooperate internationally.

3.2 Purpose and use of this handbook

The purpose of this handbook is to offer a clear overview of local research programmes open for European researchers who are interested in collaborating with their peers in Australia. Local EPIC project partners, researchers and research managers have collaborated to collect a broad range of programmes funded by national or regional authorities. For completeness, we have added current and forthcoming EU calls in the H2020 programme of relevance to Australia and the EPIC focus topics.

The intended use of this handbook is as a reference to sources of funding for research collaboration. This manual can only provide a panorama of resources available at the time of its preparation. Most programmes listed are, however, fixed deadline calls that are only open for submission during certain periods. Thus, users of this manual should check availability on the various programmes' homepages or on the EPIC website[2], bearing in mind that the project will conclude in July 2019. Researchers looking for a support programme should note that most programmes described in this manual regularly open for submission, many of them at least once per year.

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[1] Cf. L. Georghiou, Global cooperation in research. In: Research Policy 27 (1998), 611-626. J. Hoekman, K. Frenken, R.J.W. Tijssen, Research collaboration at a distance: changing spatial patterns of scientific collaboration within Europe. In: Research Policy 39 (2010), 662-673.
[2] https://epicproject.eu/ or https://epicproject.eu/index.php?id=65

3.3 The funding situation in general

Researchers in Europe looking for opportunities to collaborate with Australia will no doubt realise that finding a suitable funding scheme is not always easy, in particular because Australia has significantly streamlined its international collaboration schemes in recent years. It is even harder to identify programmes particularly targeting collaboration with European researchers and there are few programmes of this kind in Australia.

This situation at least partially also reflects the growth of research collaboration with other areas in the world, particularly in Asia and most notably perhaps with China or South Korea. In addition, global ICT leaders such as the U.S.A. remain high on the business and policy agenda for countries such as Australia, not least for their huge financial investments in the technology sector, tech ventures and start-ups.

However, this should not mislead nor discourage EU researchers with an interest in collaborating with their Australian colleagues. Europe is still seen as a reliable partner with outstanding research competencies. Long historical relations and cultural ties contribute to a generally very welcoming atmosphere and environment for European researchers. This also leads a large number of EU nationals who have become long-term or even permanent residents. They have created an often-dense network of EU nationals that still maintain close connections with their home countries and in many cases also with national and European research and innovation initiatives including the EU's Framework Programme for Research.

Consequently, (former) EU nationals now residing in Australia are not only an important source of information and key entry point to networks for EU researchers; in many cases they are also drivers of EU projects and in general highly appreciative of maintaining, expanding or re-establishing collaborations with their colleagues from back home. Beyond the formal programmes described in this handbook, these (former) EU nationals therefore often provide informal and personal pathways to longer-term and potentially mutually beneficial research collaborations for Europeans with an interest in the work of their Australian peers. Some EU countries actively maintain networks of their expats in order to facilitate collaboration both within the network and of those networks with their countries of origin or the EU. The network of French researchers in Australia – AFRAN – is a good and active example (see the Australian resources section for points of contact).[3]

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[3] http://afran.org.au/

4 Australia

4.1 Country overview

Australia offers identifiable strengths in key areas and significant ICT research capability. The country boasts more than 4,000 ICT researchers in publicly funded organisations and a similar number of researchers funded by business.

Australian universities rank well internationally with nearly all universities supporting ICT research. The 2019 QS ranking in Computer Science & Information Systems placed seven Australian ICT schools/departments in the top 100 in the world. Other publicly funded organisations include Australia's Information and Communications Technology Research Centre of Excellence, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO, whose ICT branch is called Data61), the ICT Centre and the Defence Science Technology Organisation (DSTO). These organisations house many world-leading ICT researchers in a range of ICT fields.

Business funded ICT R&D is undertaken by corporate labs, small to medium enterprises (SMEs), and companies in the telecommunications, finance, and mining sectors. Some of the larger ICT corporate employers in Australia are CISRA, Silverbrook, Google, and Cochlear. The ICT industry in Australia has a strong influence on the ICT research sector and supports many of the domain areas where Australia has developed expertise. The Australian Government is making a significant investment in the creation of a National Broadband Network (NBN), which aims to deliver fibre-optic broadband to 93% of Australians. This will lead to new opportunities and research initiatives in networks and applications.

The Australian ICT R&D sector has researchers and research groups with world-class expertise in a range of ICT fields in established and emerging areas. Some of Australia's key ICT capabilities are in the areas of wireless and future Internet, artificial intelligence and information systems including embedded enterprise systems.

Other key capabilities and potential topics of interest include robotics, optimisation, databases and information retrieval. Australia also has a proven record of success in medical bionics. This has been further strengthened by significant investments by the Australian Government into Bionic Eye research. Another important application area and national priority for Australia is water management, which has led to new ICT technologies such as sensor networks for water information management and modelling and predicting water flow.

4.2 Success story

There are several examples of previously successful European-Australian research collaborations. Here, we present one example of a longer-term cooperation in the area of bioinformatics that also provides a more durable support structure in the form of a joint laboratory.

The EMBL-Australia Bioinformatics Resource (EMBL-ABR, http://www.emblaustralia.org) represents a successful collaboration between the European Union and Australia. To address the imbalance caused by U.S. domination of molecular biology, the founders of the European Molecular Biology Laboratory EMBL had a vision of creating a European flagship for the life sciences. EMBL, founded in 1974, is funded by contributions from its 21 European member states, and the two associate member states of Australia and Argentina. EMBL-ABR was created to maximise the benefits of Australia's membership in EMBL by supporting Australian scientists and researchers and delivering an impact in the field of bioinformatics. The organisation was established as a collaboration with the European Bioinformatics Institute (EBI) to take bioinformatics in Australia to the next level. In 2008, Australia decided to join the EMBL as the first associate member. The EMBL Australia started running in 2010 with the goal of developing Australia's global position in life sciences by focusing on early-career scientists and investing in scientific infrastructure.

EMBL Australia became responsible for supporting the internationalisation of Australian research and mentoring the best researchers at the beginning of their careers as well as experienced research leaders. By participating in the EMBL, Australia links its scientists with a big EMBL Network of 1,400 people from 60 nations and gives them a chance to share and exchange data with the life science community.

According to plan, EMBL Australia will create 18 to 20 research groups spread across the country, enabling hosting institutions access to the scientific excellence, data and governance. Participating Australian universities already host research groups in areas such as:

- Skeleton and neural circuits
- Maintenance of stem cell fate
- Immune regulations of stem cells and regeneration
- Innate immune system
- Neurological disorders and cancer

and many more – always with an emphasis on the bioinformatics aspects.

EMBL Australia can be regarded as solid evidence that international cooperation between the EU and Australia can yield high-quality research. Among other scientific outcomes, EMBL activities resulted in a comprehensive collection of databases in bioinformatics – thus laying a solid and sustainable basis for future cooperation.

4.3 Strategic topics for cooperation

EPIC priority topics[4] for Australia include in particular

- Artificial intelligence
- Cybersecurity and privacy
- Digital economy and advanced manufacturing

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[4] Original topic list. Fintech was not continued into the second year of the EPIC project.

- Spatial intelligence
- Fintech

4.4 Priority constituencies (research groups, institutes, organisations)

Many universities have research activities in the priority topic areas. The Australian government regularly publishes a ranked list of its universities. However, these lists only provide high-level information, as they are usually not detailed at the level of smaller topics. For example, top universities in Australia for information and computing science in general are:

- Australian National University
- University of Melbourne
- University of New South Wales
- University of Sydney

For the area of artificial intelligence and image processing, there is also a ranking list. The leading research university with a rank of 5 out of 5 for this area is:

- Australian National University (ANU)

ANU is followed (with a ranking of 4 out of 5) by the following universities:

- Deakin University
- Federation University
- Griffith University
- Monash University
- RMIT University
- University of Adelaide
- University of Melbourne
- University of New South Wales
- University of Queensland
- University of Sydney
- University of Technology, Sydney
- University of Western Australia

In addition, the following dedicated research organisations can be of particular interest in relation to the priority topics.

Artificial intelligence

- Advanced Analytics Institute at the University of Technology Sydney (Big Data)

  https://www.uts.edu.au/research-and-teaching/our-research/advanced-analytics-institute

- Centre for Artificial Intelligence at the University of Technology Sydney

  https://www.uts.edu.au/research-and-teaching/our-research/centre-artificial-intelligence

- UBTECH Sydney AI Centre at the University of Sydney

  https://sydney.edu.au/engineering/our-research/data-science-and-computer-engineering/ubtech-sydney-artificial-intelligence-centre.html

- 3A Institute of the Australian National University

  https://3ainstitute.cecs.anu.edu.au/

Cybersecurity and privacy

- Australian Cyber Security Institute

  https://www.acsri.org.au/

- Optus Macquarie University Cyber Security Hub

  https://www.mq.edu.au/about/about-the-university/offices-and-units/optus-macquarie-university-cyber-security-hub

Fintech

- Capital Markets Cooperative Research Centre

  https://www.cmcrc.com/

4.5 Funding opportunities: programmes and calls

4.5.1 Overview of funding opportunities

Table 1- Overview of funding opportunities in Australia

funding scheme	international applicants	named partner with Australian applicant	funding for international partner	funding for international visitor	max funding (AUD)
Australian Research Council (ARC)					
Discovery Program					
Discovery Projects	X	✓	X	✓	$500 000
Linkage Program					
Linkage Projects	X	✓	X	X	$300 000
Industrial Transformation Research Program (ITRP)	X	✓	X	X	$5 000 000
Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities (LIEF)	X	✓	X	X	
ARC Centres of Excellence	X	✓	X	✓	$35 000 000
National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)					
Project Grant	X	✓	✓	X	$4 000 000
Program Grant	X	✓	✓	X	$25 000 000
Development Grant	X	✓	✓	X	$1 000 000
NHMRC - European Union Collaborative Research Grants	X	✓	X	X	$500 000
Cooperative Research Centres (CRCs)					
CRCs	X	✓	✓	✓	$55 000 000
CRC-Projects	X	✓	✓	✓	$3 000 000
Global Innovation Strategy (GIS)					
Global Innovation Linkages	X	✓	X	X	$1 000 000
Global Connections Fund					
Priming Grants	X	✓	X	X	$7 000
Bridging Grants	X	✓	X	X	$50 000
Regional Collaborations Programme	X	✓	X	X	$500 000

Australia Awards	No funding rounds in 2019-2020			
Endeavour Scholarships and Fellowships				
Endeavour Postgraduate Scholarship	✓	X	X	✓
Endeavour Research Fellowship	✓	X	X	✓
Endeavour Executive Fellowship	✓	X	X	✓
New South Wales (NSW)				
NSW-Israel Research & Development and Technological Innovation Program	X	✓	X	X
Victoria				
Veski				
Veski Innovation Fellowship	✓	X	X	✓
Victoria-Israel Science Innovation and Technology Scheme (VISITS)				
Victoria-Israel Feasibility and Proof of Concept (VISFPC)	X	✓	X	X
Victoria-Israel Science and Technology Research and Development Fund (VISTECH)	X	✓	X	X
Queensland				
PhD Scholarship	X	X	X	✓
Research Fellowship	X	X	X	✓
other opportunities				
Australia-Germany Joint Research Cooperation Scheme	X	✓	✓	X
Fasic Program 2019	✓	✓	✓	✓
Australia Research Training Program	✓	X	X	X

Background

Public research and innovation (R&I) in Australia focuses on providing support for domestic actors to increase Australia's competitiveness in the international arena. The flow of funds is thus normally restricted to Australian entities and individuals. Just as in Europe, the policy focus is to spend Australian taxpayer dollars on Australian taxpayers. However, since a common goal amongst most of these programmes is to position Australia successfully in the international landscape, many include provisions for international partnerships as well as opportunities for international actors to contribute to these national goals.

As Australia is a federation of six states and two self-governing territories, there are three tiers of government (federal, state and local). Whilst most of Australia's relevant research funding programmes are managed at the federal level, there are also several opportunities operated by state governments.

This document aims to highlight all research programmes across Australia that may provide opportunities for European R&I actors, particularly in the ICT (information and communications technologies) domain. In addition, a separate spreadsheet has been

prepared to identify the level of accessibility of these programmes for European researchers.[5]

Several websites serve as excellent portals to information about current calls and opportunities, in particular:

- https://www.grants.gov.au/
- https://www.business.gov.au/Assistance

Australia has, in contrast to many common misconceptions, a highly urbanised population. Hence, R&I is concentrated in its major (capital) cities. However, with the current construction of a National Broadband Network, it may be expected that this focus will be somewhat diluted to regional centres in the coming decades as businesses take advantage of this new infrastructure.

Federal

In 2015, the Australian Government announced the National Innovation and Science Agenda (NISA),[6] to create a whole-of-government approach to science and innovation.

One of the key aspects in this agenda is the Global Innovation Strategy (GIS),[7] which is the primary mechanism for dedicated support for international collaboration and engagement. This document details many relevant aspects of this strategy further below.

More recently, the Australian Government released a summary document titled *Partnering with Australia on Innovation, Science and Research*[8] that outlines Australia's national programmes and institutions and is an excellent resource for those (particularly executives and research managers) wishing to learn about Australia's research and innovation landscape.

The strategy paper *Australia 2030: Prosperity through Innovation*,[9] describes a roadmap plan released by the Innovation and Science Australia Future. It also provides an insight in recent national investment directions. This document makes a case for national missions (i.e. grand challenges) and in particular notes a Genomics and Precision Medicine National Mission. The document further introduces two more national missions: Restore the Reef and Hydrogen City.

In the following, we give some details and an analysis of Australia's federal programmes as well as a description of how they can be utilised for the benefit of European research.

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[5] Note that Australia's national funding initiatives are generally more open than most other nations' funding programs, including the majority of EU Member States.
[6] http://innovation.gov.au/
[7] http://innovation.gov.au/page/global-innovation-strategy
[8] http://science.gov.au/international/CollaborativeOpportunities
[9] https://industry.gov.au/Innovation-and-Science-Australia/Australia-2030

4.5.1.1 Australian Research Council (ARC)

http://www.arc.gov.au/

The Australian Research Council (ARC) is one of the two premier sources of competitive funding for Australian researchers. It funds all areas of research based on excellence and impact, excluding medical research that is funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC).

There are two competitive programmes operated by the ARC: The Discovery Program (which offers funding that is similar in nature to the European Research Council grants) and the Linkage Program (to improve the uptake of research outcomes by industry). The latter includes the ARC Centres of Excellence scheme (to support critical mass in excellent research, with multi-year flexible funding).

Additionally, the ARC leads Australia's policy discussions around the funding of research, which includes engagement with international dialogues such as with the European Commission, the Global Research Council, and other bilateral and international efforts.

International researchers cannot apply for funding from the ARC. Funding proposals must be submitted via a specified Eligible Organisation (i.e. an Australian university),[10] with all funding for successful bids to be administered and spent by these Eligible Organisations in Australia. Although the rules do allow for individual international researchers to submit an application via an Eligible Organisation, in order to accept the funding, they must subsequently be employed by that organisation to conduct the research in Australia.

As with many European programmes, the ARC funding schemes will generally fund the direct costs of research, including salary, but will not provide any funds for the research activities of international partners listed in the application.

The only exceptions to this are where Australian researchers may need to pay for access to international facilities and expertise, or where the funding scheme allows for travel and subsistence costs of international visitors to spend time in Australia to directly contribute to the research activities of the Australian research.

Priority will be given to proposals that articulate their contribution to Australia's national research priorities.[11]

Discovery Program

Discovery Projects

This scheme provides up to $500,000 per year for up to five years, and can be awarded for projects by individual researchers, teams and also for collaborative projects. These

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[10] http://www.arc.gov.au/university-rms-contacts
[11] http://www.science.gov.au/scienceGov/ScienceAndResearchPriorities

funds cover most types of direct costs, including salaries, scholarships, travel, equipment, access fees, etc.

International actors can be named partners on a project, though they will not be granted funding for their participation. In this way, *Discovery Projects* are analogous to many national project funding schemes in Europe. Funds may, however, flow through to international partners for appropriate project costs such as facility access fees where necessary and justified.

Additionally, proposals may include a request for a **Discovery International Award**, which can be used to support an Australian-based researcher to spend time overseas, or to support the travel and subsistence costs for international researchers to contribute to the project in Australia.

Australian Laureate Fellowships

These three fellowships are somewhat analogous to the ERC's *Starting Grant*, *Consolidator Grant*, and *Advanced Grant*. In essence, they provide funds for salary and some research costs in order to attract and retain early-career, mid-career, and world-leading researchers to Australia.

The DECRA fellowships are for three years and provide funding for the applicant's salary (as per their employment level at their Administering Organisation) plus on-costs. In addition, up to $40,000 per year may be awarded for a limited range of project expenses (including research assistants and postgraduate students, or travel, equipment). Approximately 200 DECRAs are awarded each year.

Future Fellowships are for four years, also providing funding for the applicant's salary. This fellowship may further award up to $50,000 for a limited range of project expenses. Approximately 100 Future Fellowships are awarded each year.

The Laureate Fellowships provide significantly higher amounts of funding, over five years. For the applicant, the salary support provided will be in addition to their normal salary at their Administering Organisation, approximately $160,000 extra. The fellowship will also provide funding for up to two postdoctoral researchers, up to two postgraduate research students and an additional $300,000 per annum for other research costs. Less than 20 Laureate Fellowships are awarded each year. This level of funding (approximately $3.5 million total) makes these fellowships globally competitive and attractive.

Linkage Program

The primary aims of the Linkage Program are to foster cooperative research amongst different research sectors and to enhance the use of research outcomes in the innovation system. As such, projects usually involve academic researchers working jointly with actors from other public institutions as well as with private enterprise.

As with the Discovery Program, these is no direct funding for international partners. However, funds may flow to international partners if they are for allowable cost items

such as facility access fees. Also, funding may be used to support relevant conferences and workshops in order to achieve project goals.

Linkage Projects

The mainstay of the Linkage grants are the Projects. These provide up to $300,000 per year for two-to-five years, to undertake research that is of interest to non-university groups, including industry, the public sector and civil society.

This funding is to provide resources to the Eligible Organisations (i.e. Australian universities, plus some other selected public Australian entities) to collaborate with partners from outside of Australia's university environment. Any number of partners may be written into the proposal, as long as the collective contributions (in-kind or cash) of these partners totals at least as much as the budget requested from the grant. Additionally, the *cash* contributions from these partners must total at least 25% of the requested grant. This cash contribution requirement does not apply to certain exempt organisations, including charities and other non-profit organisations. Some Australian start-ups and SMEs may also be exempt from this cash contribution requirement, according to their size.

Industrial Transformation Research Program

The ITRP provides funds in specified industrial domains to assist Australian industry in solving critical problems and developing a qualified workforce in order to become more competitive.

The main partners in these projects will clearly be Australian universities and Australian businesses. However, international partners are also able to contribute.

Cash and in-kind contributions from partners are necessary. In particular, for the *Industrial Transformation Research Hubs*, the cash contribution from partners must total at least 75% of the requested funding.

The funding available is up to $5 million for five years.

Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities

The purpose of LIEF grants is to support large infrastructure facilities in such a way as to enhance their useability amongst university and industrial organisations, as well as support access to international facilities via reciprocal arrangements.

Whilst there is no specified maximum funding, minimum funding requests are $150,000 per annum, for up to five years. These funds should support the construction or enhancement of research infrastructure in Australia but cannot be used for conducting research or maintaining the facilities.

Funds can also be used to coordinate reciprocal access to international facilities, including subscription or access fees to these facilities.

Centres of Excellence

This funding scheme is perhaps the most flexible and useable in terms of support for international engagement with international funding programmes such as Horizon 2020.

Typically, the Australian Research Council supports Centres of Excellence for seven years, with funding of up to $5 million per year with significant contributions from partners. There is a great deal of flexibility on how these funds can be spent, including supporting the Centre's research contributions towards a Horizon 2020 project, for example. And, because the funding extends to seven years, Centres are in a position to partner on Horizon 2020 proposals and know the status of their finances for the duration of the project.

These Centres allow Australian university researchers – usually in partnership with researchers from multiple Australian universities, other public and private organisations, and international organisations – to dedicate a significant research effort towards addressing a focused research topic, including the development of physical, virtual and human resources necessary for achieving the objectives.

Whilst there is no direct funding for international partners, the funds can be used for access costs to international facilities, hosting international workshops and conferences and also to provide travel and subsistence costs for international research visitors to the Centre.

Calls of proposals are only open once every three years, and a complete list of currently funded projects can be found online.[12] In the ICT domain, this includes (but is not limited to):

- ARC Centre of Excellence for Engineered Quantum Systems, https://equs.org/
- ARC Centre of Excellence in Future Low Energy Electronics Technologies, http://www.fleet.org.au/
- ARC Centre of Excellence for Quantum Computation and Communication Technology, http://www.cqc2t.org/
- ARC Centre of Excellence for Robotic Vision, https://www.roboticvision.org/

The most recent round of funding for applications opened in mid-2018 and was applicable for Centres commencing operation in 2020.

4.5.1.2 National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)

https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/

The NHMRC is the medical research counterpart to the ARC. Unlike the ARC, however, it offers a significantly more diverse range of funding instruments, including dedicated funds for international engagement. It is also responsible for Australia's health-related research ethics rules and guidelines, leading national initiatives related

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[12] http://www.arc.gov.au/arc-centres-excellence

to medical research, and overseeing Australia's international obligations and agreements in health and medical related research matters.

Whilst all research funded by the NHMRC is in the medical and health fields (from basic research, to clinical, public health as well as health services), there are circumstances where they fund research in areas of ICT and engineering that are directly relevant to health and medical matters.

Whilst the NHMRC offers numerous fellowships and scholarships, applicants must be Australian citizens or permanent residents in order to accept these. However, for project funding it is only necessary to have an appropriate working visa in order to work in Australia for the duration of the grant. For these reasons, the following analysis will consider only project funding.

Funding from the NHMRC can only be granted to approved Administering Organisations, which includes Australian universities, public research agencies and specified medical research organisations,[13] and is typically for a five-year duration. Normally, funds must be spent in Australia. However, where necessary and justified **funds can be used for overseas research activities, including salary support** for those activities, but this excludes financial support for named chief investigators at those overseas organisations.

Project Grants

These grants are the main project funding instrument of the NHMRC. No maximum funding is specified, though funding requests should be based on specified levels of direct costs as pre-determined by the NHMRC (such as for salaries, etc).[14] In recent years $3-4 million would be an upper maximum.

Program Grants

The aim of the Program Grants scheme is to provide support for teams of high calibre researchers to pursue broad, multi-disciplinary and collaborative research activities. There is a significant amount of funding available, calculated according to the track record of the chief investigators rather than articulated project costs. The highest quality individuals will attract a funding rate of approximately $550,000 per annum which, when combined with other individuals named in the application, typically adds up to $10-20 million for the total Grant.

That is, Program Grants are designed to give maximum flexibility to teams to pursue their research in new and unexpected directions.

Development Grants

These grants are designed to assist proof-of-concept research to reach commercial outcomes. In particular, they will support commercial development of a product,

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process, procedure or service that would result in improved health care, disease prevention or provide health cost savings.

NHMRC - European Union Collaborative Research Grants

This grant is the only one in Australia explicitly designed to support Australian involvement in Horizon 2020.

Each year, the NHMRC publishes a list of Horizon 2020 topics for which Australian partners will be eligible to receive support from the NHRMC. For 2018, this included topics such as:[15]

- SC1-BHC-05-2018: International flagship collaboration with Canada for human data storage, integration and sharing to enable personalised medicine approaches
- SC1-DTH-03-2018: Adaptive smart working and living environments supporting active and healthy ageing
- SC1-DTH-07-2018: Exploiting the full potential of in-silico medicine research for personalised diagnostics and therapies in cloud-based environments
- SU-TDS-02-2018: Toolkit for assessing and reducing cyber risks in hospitals and care centres to protect data/infrastructures

In order to be eligible for funding, Australian organisations must be listed as full partners on a successful Horizon 2020 proposal (i.e. they cannot be added to the list of partners afterwards) in one of the topics selected by the NHRMC.

4.5.1.3 Cooperative Research Centres (CRCs)

Round 21 Indicative Timing

Stage 1 Open	Stage 1 Close	Stage 2 Open	Stage 2 Close	Outcomes Expected	Funding From
30 April 2019	1 July 2019	September 2019	October 2019	December 2019	July 2020

https://www.business.gov.au/assistance/cooperative-research-centres-programme

The CRC programme has been an important component of Australia's innovation landscape for over 25 years. It provides matching funding from the Australian Government for large industry-led research and development efforts.

Each CRC is incorporated as its own business entity, and this entity formalises the collaborative relationship between all of the partners from industry, academia and the community. Each CRC has a detailed business and research plan to achieve commercialisation and use outcomes from research. Funding can be significant, and, depending on the success of the CRC, can continue for 10 years.

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[15] https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/grants-funding/apply-funding/nhmrc-european-union-eu-collaborative-research-grants-funding

International participants are able to be members of a CRC, however funding (which is provided to and administered by the CRC entity) should normally be spent in Australia unless there are strong commercial benefits to Australia for these funds to be invested in overseas activities.

The building and selection of CRCs is a long and highly competitive process. Only those consortia with robust business plans, committed partners (particularly Australian businesses), and strong political support can hope to be successful. For these reasons, the CRC Association was established to support and enhance both ongoing CRCs as well as new bids seeking to strengthen their proposal. International researchers and organisations who are interested in the CRC programme would do well to speak with the CEO of the CRC Association.[16]

Current CRCs that have specific focus on ICT areas include:

- Innovative Manufacturing CRC, http://imcrc.org/
- Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems CRC, http://acecrc.org.au/
- Capital Markets CRC, https://www.cmcrc.com/
- CRC for Living with Autism, https://www.autismcrc.com.au/
- CRC for Spatial Information, http://www.crcsi.com.au/
- Data to Decisions CRC, https://www.d2dcrc.com.au/
- Space Environment Management CRC, http://www.serc.org.au/
- The HEARing CRC, https://www.hearingcrc.org/

Many other CRCs also involve elements of ICT research and capability development and should not be discounted for collaboration.

The CRCs also engage with Australia's *Industry Growth Centres*, which are a separate mechanism – funded by government and led by industry – to support Australia's most important industries to advance through policy and regulatory reforms, to research engagement improvements, to increase access to global markets and support workforce skills.

Eligibility

Applications are open to all industry sectors and research disciplines. To be eligible for a CRC grant, applications must:

- be submitted by a group of applicants who have agreed to collaborate;
- the collaboration must, at a minimum, include one Australian industry entity and one Australian research organisation;
- demonstrate the ability to at least match the grant funding sought; and
- demonstrate the ability to undertake eligible activities of a CRC as outlined in the CRC Programme Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

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[16] https://crca.asn.au/

CRC Projects

A new addition to the CRC schemes are shorter (up to three years) and more targeted project grants called, simply, CRC Projects (or, CRC-P). However, the basic aims are the same as for their larger CRC counterparts: to achieve tangible commercial benefits from industry-led research.

4.5.1.4 Global Innovation Strategy (GIS)

http://innovation.gov.au/page/global-innovation-strategy

The GIS is part of Australia's *National Innovation and Science Agenda (NISA)*, and is specifically designed to increase Australia's competitiveness through collaboration with highly innovative economies and with Australia's strategic partners.

Whilst there are numerous schemes available, not all of them are applicable to collaboration with Europe.

There are two primary schemes of interest, and within each scheme projects must be topically aligned with Australia's Industry Growth Centres:[17]

- Advanced manufacturing
- Food and agribusiness
- Medical technologies and pharmaceuticals
- Mining equipment, technology and services
- Oil, gas and energy resources

and a third, regional, scheme that may also be relevant in limited circumstances.

Global Innovation Linkages

There was no grant round in 2019.

This scheme funds Australian consortia (which must contain at least one industrial partner and one research partner) to collaborate with international partners to develop new products, services and processes. It provides up to $1 million for up to four years for the Australian partners, which must be matched by these partners via cash and/or in-kind contributions.

The funds cover many direct costs for the Australian partners and may be used overseas for necessary activities than cannot be conducted in Australia (however, the funds cannot be used to cover any costs of the international partners).

Proposals are expected to work closely with the relevant Growth Centre.

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[17] https://industry.gov.au/industry/Industry-Growth-Centres

4.5.1.5 Global Connections Fund

The Global Connections Fund builds on the experiences of the Horizon 2020 project *CAESIE*.[18] It provides seed funding to explore or establish new international collaborations (to work towards commercialisation outcomes, not for basic research) between researchers and SMEs.

Each collaboration must involve two partners – an Australian partner and an international partner – and one must be an SME, and the other a research organisation (e.g. university, public research agency, etc.).

Priming Grants 2019

There are *Priming Grants*, which provide travel funding for an Australian partner to explore the possibility of a new collaborative relationship.

We advise that Priming Grants under the current GCF programme have now concluded and that there will be no Priming Grant round in 2019. The round 2020 is expected to be renewed for the funding.

Bridging Grants 2019

This grant is supported by a larger *Bridging Grant* (up to $50,000), which provides seed funding to kick-start new projects. This funding must be supported by cash/in-kind contributions from the partners of at least 50% of the requested funding.

The final round of Bridging Grants under this current GCF programme is now closed to applications. All applicants will be notified of outcomes by August 30th.

Regional Collaborations Programme

This programme is aimed at supporting strategic research between Australia and the Asia Pacific region, in particular where it relates to areas of mandated focus (such as determined by the numerous multi-lateral fora in the region). It is important to keep in mind that this includes a number of Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) of European countries, including New Caledonia and French Polynesia.

Funding will only support direct costs of Australian applicants, and this is expected to have a matching cash contribution from the Australian and/or overseas partners.

4.5.1.6 Australia Awards – Endeavour Scholarships and Fellowships

As part of the 2019-20 Budget, the Australian Government has announced there will be no further rounds of the Endeavour Leadership Program (ELP).
https://internationaleducation.gov.au/scholarships/scholarships-and-fellowships/pages/default.aspx

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[18] https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/105220_en.html

The *Australia Awards* programme has long offered the Endeavour Scholarships and Fellowships, some of which support overseas students, researchers and professionals to pursue activities in Australia. There are three opportunities available:

- *Endeavour Postgraduate Scholarship*, to pursue a PhD or Masters degree at an Australian institution
- *Endeavour Research Fellowship*, to undertake four-to-six months pursuing research in Australia that contributes to the candidate's overseas study or research activities
- *Endeavour Executive Fellowship*, for one-to-four months for the candidate to undertake professional development opportunities in Australia

These awards include support for travel, insurances, and a modest stipend.

4.5.1.7 Grants and funding on state level

Australia has six states:

- New South Wales
- Victoria
- Queensland
- Western Australia
- South Australia
- Tasmania

and two self-governing territories (whilst they have their own regional governments, these governments are subordinate to the federal government):

- Australian Capital Territory
- Northern Territory

Each has its own mechanisms for supporting research and innovation. Most of this support is in the form of direct financial assistance or concessions to businesses operating in these regions and budgets for local universities, as well as significant capital investment into research infrastructure.

Government departments also conduct their own research (both in-house, as well as in collaborations) that is relevant to state government responsibilities (e.g. agriculture, water, infrastructure, etc.).

There are a few programmes, however, operating at this regional level that can be of particular value for research and innovation collaborations with Europe.

New South Wales (NSW)
https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/business-and-industry-in-nsw/innovation-and-research

NSW is Australia's most populous state and home to Australia's largest and most famous city, Sydney. Sydney is also the epicentre of Australia's capital markets, including home to the Australian Stock Exchange and the Reserve Bank of Australia.

The NSW Government invests heavily into local R&I capabilities, including universities, infrastructures, grants, business assistance, medical research, and more.

NSW-Israel Research & Development and Technological Innovation Program

Submission Deadline 2019: closed

The only scheme operated by NSW that is explicitly open to international participation is this scheme with Israel. The basic requirement is for a commercial entity in NSW and a commercial entity in Israel to engage in a joint project.

Funding of up to $250,000 will be provided to the NSW entity, with a requirement that the NSW entity contribute matching finances (which may be sourced from other government grants, commercial sources, or indeed from the Israeli partner).

Projects should advance new and innovative products for the global market and have the potential to contribute to economic growth, skills development and job creation in NSW.

Victoria
https://economicdevelopment.vic.gov.au/

Like NSW, the Victorian Government provides operational funding and strategic investments into local research organisations and capabilities.

There are two excellent portals for searching for grants and assistance in Victoria:

- https://www.vic.gov.au/grants.html
- http://www.business.vic.gov.au/support-for-your-business

Most of the listed opportunities are only relevant to Victorian-based entities. The two exceptions are:

Veski Innovation Fellowship

The Victorian Government provides funding for several fellowships, administered by the Veski Foundation (an organisation whose mission is to encourage innovation for the Victorian economy). They currently offer the *Veski Innovation Fellowship*, which aims to attract international researchers to a Victorian institution (typically university or research agency) for up to three years. The funding support of $50,000 per annum must be matched by cash and in-kind by the host organisation in Victoria. Work must be undertaken in one of the following areas:

- biotechnology,
- biomedical,
- advanced manufacturing including food science and bioengineering,
- environmental and energy technologies, or
- the enabling sciences.

Victoria-Israel Science Innovation and Technology Scheme (VISITS)

As with NSW, Victoria operates a funding scheme to support collaboration with Israel. The VISITS scheme provides several different types of support for Victoria-Israel innovation collaboration.

The *Feasibility and Proof of Concept Studies* (VISFPC) scheme provides funding for early feasibility and proof of concept studies directed at advancing solutions to demand driven challenges. The applicant must be a Victorian entity (not necessarily business), and applications must name both an Israeli partner as well as a Victorian SME than would benefit from the studies. The applicant must match the grant amount (of up to $50,000).

The other applicable VISITS scheme is the *Science and Technology Research and Development Fund* (VISTECH), which supports market-oriented collaborative research. Partners must include a Victoria company and an Israeli company and may also include other entities. However, universities and research agencies are not eligible for funding. Under this scheme, the Australian partners can seek up to $250,000, which must be matched by a co-contribution. In Israel, there is a matching scheme to support their participation in the collaboration.

Queensland
https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/science-it-creative

Queensland is Australia's northernmost state, and as such it attracts many people for lifestyle reasons, including researchers and innovators.

In recent years, particularly during the time of the commodities boom (the state exports half of the world's supply of coking coal for steel production), Queensland invested heavily into research infrastructures and other research and innovation capability development, including in ICT areas. They offer a wide range of grants, which can be searched online at:

https://www.grants-and-assistance.services.qld.gov.au/

Also, the government runs a programme called *Advance Queensland* that provides information, training, networking and funding for research and innovation.[19]

In particular, there are scholarships and fellowships available to attract talent to Queensland. These awards, however, much be submitted by the host organisation and offer either a top-up (in the case of the scholarship) or co-funding (in the case of the fellowship) to contributions from the host organisation or other sources.

Western Australia (WA)
http://www.jtsi.wa.gov.au/what-we-do/science-and-innovation

The state of Western Australia is most famous for its mining endeavours, especially iron ore. As such, it has been at the global forefront of mining innovation, including site

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[19] https://advance.qld.gov.au/

automation, remote sensing and logistics. WA will also be the primary Australian location for the international Square Kilometre Array (SKA) telescope.[20]

Like Queensland, the state has also had strong investments into research and innovation in recent years. They have recently launched an initiative called *New Industries WA*,[21] that aims to provide support for new and emerging industries as a way to provide sustainability via diversity to the WA economy. This initiative will include fellowships and other opportunities and will be launched at a later date.

South Australia (SA)

In recent times South Australia has made international headlines as the new home to the world's largest lithium-ion battery storage facility, built by Tesla Inc. - a solution to electricity load smoothing in a state that is the lead in the proportion of its electricity being supplied by renewables (wind and solar in particular).

It is also a centre for Australia's defence manufacturing and research, which includes new large-scale programmes for ship-building, in addition to aerospace and cyber-security undertakings.[22]

The SA Government's grant database is online at:

http://www.grantassist.sa.gov.au/

Tasmania

Australia's southernmost state is also home to the Australian Antarctic Division – an agency that, amongst other things, provides facilities, infrastructure and expertise for use by international researchers.

Tasmania also has a vibrant arts community, including digital arts and innovation, enhanced significantly in recent years by the establishment of the private art museum MONA – Museum of Old and New Art.[23]

It is also the smallest state in Australia, so state funding opportunities for international researchers are virtually non-existent. However, the government has a renewed focus on economic growth, establishing the Department of State Growth to support this,[24] and provides a number of grants and assistance, which can be searched online at:

https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/grants_and_funding_opportunities

Other Opportunities

Of course, governments are not the only funders of research in Australia. Australian businesses enjoy generous tax support for research via the R&D Tax Incentive [25] which

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[20] https://www.skatelescope.org/
[21] http://www.newindustries.wa.gov.au/
[22] http://www.defencesa.com/domains/research
[23] https://mona.net.au/
[24] https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/
[25] https://www.business.gov.au/assistance/research-and-development-tax-incentive

offers tax offsets of up to 43.5% of research costs, to encourage private research undertakings (which may include overseas research activities).

However, the only non-government schemes that support collaboration with Europe are:

4.5.1.8 Australia-Germany Joint Research Cooperation Scheme

Deadline: 13 June 2019

The Australia-Germany Joint Research Cooperation Scheme is a joint initiative of Universities Australia (UA) and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The scheme supports exchanges for researchers to spend time at partner institutions in Germany and for collaborating German researchers to spend time at the University of Melbourne. Proposals must include an early career researcher.

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) operates numerous agreements around the world that foster international cooperation. In Australia, the agreement is managed by Universities Australia.[26]

The purpose of this scheme is to support travel (and exchange) between an Australian university and a German organisation. Costs for Australians are covered by Universities Australia (up to $12,500), whilst the costs for Germans is covered by DAAD (up to €8,000).

Eligibility

- Lead applicants must be employed as continuing or contracted academic staff at the University of Melbourne at the time of application and for the duration of the project. Honorary and adjunct academic staff are not eligible to apply. Honorary researchers from the Sir Peter MacCallum Department of Oncology, the Florey Department of Neuroscience and Mental Health, and the Medical Bionics Department are also not eligible to apply.
- PhD students enrolled at the university are eligible to receive funding through this scheme but an eligible UoM staff member must be the Lead Applicant.
- Lead applicants can lead only one application per round. However, they can be a named non-lead participant on other applications.
- All applications must involve an Early Career Researcher (ECR). ECRs are defined as PhD students enrolled at UoM, researchers with a PhD awarded within five years of the application or researchers who, due to career interruptions, have had less than the equivalent of five cumulative years of research experience.

4.5.1.9 FASIC Programme 2019

Deadline: 3 January 2019

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[26] https://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/global-engagement/international-collaboration/international-agreements-and-activities/Australia--Germany-Joint-Research-Cooperation-Scheme

FASIC is the Franco-Australian Hubert Curien Programme. FASIC is implemented jointly by the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE) and the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation (MESRI) in France, and by research partners in Australia.

Calls for applications for this programme are launched on an annual basis.

Scientific cooperation is a major pillar of the enhanced bilateral strategic partnership adopted in 2017 between France and Australia. It enables the two countries to jointly develop innovative solutions that can benefit their respective communities and ensure their global economic competitiveness.

The French Embassy in Australia has put in place new instruments promoting research collaboration between France and Australia, under the umbrella of the PHC FASIC Programme. This programme aims to be a catalyst and to support the launch and development of bilateral research projects at the critical moment of their initiation, and more broadly the development of science and technology strategic collaboration.

The PHC FASIC Programme will help initiate or strengthen bilateral research collaborations and allow scientists from French and Australian research institutions to meet and discuss future collaborative projects. This programme aims to support the establishment of scientific networks between France and Australia and potentially future joint research laboratories.

The PHC FASIC Programme will be implemented through three specific instruments:

- FASIC RESEARCHERS
- FASIC DOCTORANTS
- FASIC WORKSHOPS

Types of Projects

The objective of this programme is to develop scientific and technological exchanges of excellence between laboratories in both countries, by encouraging new cooperation and the participation of young researchers.

Eligibility Criteria

Applications are open to post-docs or researchers affiliated with French higher education institutions or research organisations. Each project must explicitly associate an Australian research partner. Industry partners can participate in the project as long as they are collaborating with an academic partner. French and Australian researchers involved in the project must have the support of their respective institutions. A letter of support from the institutions must be attached to the application. An equivalent level of matching funding from the Australian research partner institution on the project is required. This can be either cash or in-kind financial support from the Australian partnering research institution to the French scientist(s) during their mobility to Australia / or the funding of reciprocal mobility to France of an Australian researcher to the project (researcher, post-doctoral fellow). Projects that have already received

financial support under PHC FASIC Programme are not eligible for re-application immediately upon completion. Priority will be given to new projects.

Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation will focus on:

- clear description of the objectives and expected impact of the submitted research project,
- the quality of the scientific project (originality of the research subject, quality of the research teams involved, development perspectives and technology transfer), and
- interest, complementarity and level of the proposed cooperation.

Selection Procedure

For the French component, MESRI's European and International Mission for Research, Innovation and Higher Education (MEIRIES) ensures the scientific evaluation of the files.

Management of the Programme

Grants under the FASIC RESEARCHERS programme are managed by the Campus France Agency. Selected French researchers must mandatorily complete their mobility to Australia by 31 December 2018. No postponing of the mobility is negotiable. Travel support covers roundtrip transportation between two international airports. Once tickets are issued, a change of dates is no longer possible. Grants under the PHC FASIC RESEARCHERS encompass exclusively the payment of subsistence allowances and travel costs for researchers affiliated in France. Grants are capped at €3,500 per application (including travel costs at economy airfare capped at €1,600).

Intellectual Property

Project managers are responsible for making all the necessary arrangements regarding IP management. Applicants shall take into account the document regarding good practices and IP management under the PHC programme. By submitting, applicants acknowledge compliance with these IP management good practices.

Project Monitoring

A final report is required no later than three months after the end of the projects. French project managers must download and complete the report template and attach it to their file online within this timeframe. This report is also to be sent to the French Embassy by the same deadline (see contact for the programme). It is requested that all publications resulting from the project supported by this programme mention the support provided by MEAE and MESRI.

4.5.1.10 Australia Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarship

Masters/PhD Degree

Deadline: varies, April-October (annual)

Study in: Australia

Course starts 2019/2020

https://www.education.gov.au/research-training-program

Brief Description

On 31 December 2016, the International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS) ceased and was replaced by the Research Training Program (RTP) from 1 January 2017. The RTP provides block grants, on a calendar year basis, to higher education providers (HEPs) to support both domestic and overseas students undertaking Research Doctorate and Research Masters degrees, known as higher degrees by research (HDRs).

Participants can take up their Masters or Doctorate degree at numerous hosting universities in Australia. The number of awards is not specified. This scholarship is aimed at both domestic and international students.

Scholarship Value/Inclusions/Duration

Under RTP, a university provides one or more of the following types of support to an RTP Scholarship recipient:

- An RTP Fees Offset pays for the tuition fees of a higher degree by research (HDR) student that would otherwise have been paid by the student. This requires that a university fully offset tuition fee applicable for a student. This is not a stipend.
- An RTP Stipend to assist students with their living costs while undertaking a higher degree by research.
- RTP Allowances to assist students with ancillary costs of a higher degree by research (HDR). This includes relocation costs to undertake an HDR, HDR thesis printing and academic publication costs and health cover costs for recipients and their dependents.

RTP scholarships are available for a maximum period of two years for a research masters OR a minimum of three years, up to a maximum of four years (at the discretion of the HEP) for a research doctorate degree.

Eligibility

To be eligible for an RTP Stipend, RTP Fees Offset or RTP Allowance, the applicant must be either a domestic student or an overseas student enrolled in an accredited HDR course of study at an Australian HEP. The basic eligibility criteria for an RTP are listed in Section 1.5 of the Commonwealth Scholarships Guidelines (Research) 2017.

Application Instructions

Applications for RTP Scholarships need to be made directly to participating universities. Each university has its own application and selection process. Please contact your chosen university directly to discuss how to apply for the RTP scheme. The deadline varies per university but generally falls between April and October each year.

It is important to read the *Frequently Asked Questions* and visit the website of the university where you intend to apply and the official website (link found below) for detailed information on how to apply for this scholarship.

4.6 Networks

There is a wealth of networks, associations and organisations that can provide useful information and access to expert knowledge and into networks although they are not focused solely on research collaboration. The following table lists associations and organisations located in EU member states that have active networks in Australia.

The only exception in this list is Austrade. Austrade is the Foreign Trade Organisation of the Australian government with multiple offices in Europe. The Polish Office is in charge of Poland, Ukraine, Greece, Serbia and other South and Eastern European countries. The German office of Austrade is in charge of Germany, Austria and the Netherlands. Scandinavian countries are represented by Austrade's office in Stockholm, Sweden. The French office is also responsible for Belgium, Luxemburg and Monaco. Spain and Portugal are supervised by the Spanish office of Austrade. Austrade Italy is in charge of Israel.

Table 2- Overview of networks linking Europe and Australia including selected organisations in trade and research.

Network	Country	Link
Austrian-Australian Society	Austria	www.australia-austria.at
German Asia-Pacific Business Association	Germany	www.oav.de
Sustainable Manufacturing and Life Cycle Engineering Research Group	Germany	www.lceresearch.unsw.edu.au/index.htm
Association for Australian Studies	Germany	www.australienstudien.org
Austrade Germany	Germany	https://www.austrade.gov.au/contact/offices/germany
German-Australian Chamber of Industry and Commerce	Germany	www.australien.ahk.de
Research Institute for Software and Service Ecosystems	Germany	www.internationales-buero.de/en/rise.php
The Networked Service Society	Germany	www.internationales-buero.de/en/networked_service_society.php
New Challenge International Consultancy	Poland	www.newchallenge.com.au
Austrade Poland	Poland	www.austrade.gov.au/Contact/Offices/poland
Australia Spain Business Association	Spain	www.australiaspain.com
La Camara- Spanish-Australian Chamber of Commerce	Spain	www.lacamara.com.au

SRAP- Spanish Researchers in Australia-Pacific	Spain	www.srap-ieap.org
Spain-Australian Council Foundation	Spain	www.spain-australia.org/en
Austrade Spain	Spain	https://www.austrade.gov.au/contact/offices/spain
Australia Spain Business Association	Spain	www.australiaspain.com
Austrade Sweden	Sweden	https://www.austrade.gov.au/contact/offices/sweden
The Australian-French Association for Research and Innovation (AFRAN)	France	www.afran.org.au
Austrade France	France	https://www.austrade.gov.au/contact/offices/france
Austrade Italy	Italy	https://www.austrade.gov.au/contact/offices/italy
Slovenian Australian Academic Association	Slovenia	http://saaa.si/

EU-Australia Leadership Forum

https://www.europeaustraliaforum.eu/

The EU-Australia Leadership Forum (EUALF) is an EU-run project with a diplomacy focus. It demonstrates a shared commitment to the already strong bilateral relationship between the EU and Australia. The Forum's overall objective is to broaden and deepen the existing ties and in so doing, help shape the vision for the partnership, based on the future EU-Australia Framework Agreement and forthcoming EU-Australia Free Trade Agreement.

EURAXESS

https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/funding/search

While not strictly linked to ICT, the EURAXESS programme supports researchers working outside of Europe who wish to connect or stay connected with Europe. EURAXESS Australia and New Zealand offers a wealth of information on research funding opportunities at European and national level, from individual grants to supporting start-ups.

4.7 Ideal-ist contact point

Ideal-ist aims to help ICT companies and research organisations worldwide hoping to find project partners for participation in Horizon 2020. Ideal-ist offers a unique and quality-labelled Partner Search, as well as other services that help proposers with participation in H2020.

The Australian representative in the Ideal-ist network supporting EU project consortia in finding partners is:

Cameron Slatyer

Department of Industry and Science

Canberra, A.C.T., Australia

Email: cameron.slatyer@industry.gov.au

Phone: +61 2 62761981

Web Address: http://www.industry.gov.au

5 Further resources

5.1 Partners from Australia in H2020

The EC H2020 project database – CORDIS – provides an overview of previously successful partners in H2020. The following projects are listed on CORDIS as participating in H2020 with an Australian partner. From experience previously successful participants tend to return to the Framework Programme and therefore are recommendable networking contacts.

BELS

Building European Links toward South East Asia in the field of GNSS

Coordinator in Italy: Instituto Superiore Mario Boella Sulle Tecnologe Dell'informazione e delle Telecomunicazioni Associazione

Partner in Australia: University of New South Wales

BRAVE

BRidging gaps for the adoption of Automated VEhicles

Coordinator in Spain: Treelogic Telematica y Logica Racional Para la Empresa Europea Sl

Partner in Australia: The University of Sydney

ESSENTIAL

Evolving Security SciencE through Networked Technologies, Information policy And Law

Coordinator in Netherlands: Rijksuniversiteit Groningen

Partner in Australia: Edith Cowan University

EarthServer2

Agile Analytics on Big Data Cubes

Coordinator in Germany: Jacobs University Bremen

Partner in Australia: The Australian National University

my-AHA

My Active and Healthy Aging

Coordinator in Italy: Universita degli Studi di Torino

Partner in Australia: University of the Sunshine Coast

OrganiCity

Co-creating Smart Cities of the future

Coordinator in Denmark: Aarhus University

Partner in Australia: University of Melbourne

STORIES

Stories of Tomorrow – Students Visions of the Future of Space Exploration

Coordinator in Germany: Universität Bayreuth

Partner in Australia: Curtin University of Technology

THOR

Technical and Human Infrastructure for Open Research

Coordinator in UK: The British Library Board

Partner in Australia: Monash University

BIoTope

Building an IoT Open Innovation Ecosystem for connected smart objects

Co-ordinator in Finland: Aalto University Finland

Partner in Australia: CSIRO – Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial

Research Organization

5.2 EU calls targeting Australia

Several H2020 calls target international collaboration.[27] Countries outside the EU with specific resources or expertise are explicitly mentioned in the call texts. The current H2020 programme includes several calls in the area of ART – automated road transport. In the case of Australia, German multinational Bosch developed a self-driving vehicle in its Australian plant in a joint venture with the Victorian government. Bosch worked on the project with the Transport Accident Commission and VicRoads.

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[27] A full overview of international cooperation topics, not limited to but including Australia, can be found at:

https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/ftags/international_cooperation.html#c,topics=callStatus/t/Forthcoming/0/1/0/default-group&callStatus/t/Open/1/1/0/default-group&callStatus/t/Closed/0/1/0/default-group&+title/desc

5.2.1 Testing, validation and certification procedures for highly automated driving functions under various traffic scenarios based on pilot test data

Call opens on 31 October 2017

Deadline: 04 April 2018

Topic Description

The automotive industry commits significant efforts and resources to test and validate advanced driver assistance functions. For systems with high levels of automation, the need for testing and validation will drastically increase as a comprehensive range of driving situations and scenarios have to be considered. Current available procedures do not provide an efficient and cost-effective solution. There is a great need for a comprehensive approach to develop common procedures for testing, validation and certification for highly automated driving functions in various traffic scenarios.

1. Eligible Countries

Australia is eligible for funding and has implemented specific provisions to make funding available for their participants in Horizon 2020 projects.

2. Eligibility and Admissibility Conditions

To be considered admissible, a proposal/application must be:

(a) submitted in the electronic submission system before the deadline given in the call conditions or rules of contest;

(b) readable, accessible and printable;

(c) complete and include the requested administrative data, the proposal description, and any obligatory supporting documents specified in the call/contest;

(d) include a draft plan for the exploitation and dissemination of the results, unless otherwise specified in the call conditions. The draft plan is not required for proposals at the first stage of two-stage procedures.

All requirements are specified in the Annex of the Work Programme.[28]

3. Evaluation

Evaluation criteria, scoring and thresholds are described in Annex H of the Work Programme.[29] Proposals must be submitted electronically using the electronic submission system of the Participant Portal.

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[28] Annex B: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/wp/2018-2020/annexes/h2020-wp1820-annex-b-adm_en.pdf
Annex C: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/wp/2018-2020/annexes/h2020-wp1820-annex-c-elig_en.pdf
[29] Annex H: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/wp/2018-2020/annexes/h2020-wp1820-annex-h-esacrit_en.pdf

4. Indicative Time for Evaluation and Grant Agreements

Information on the outcome of evaluation (single-stage call): maximum five months from the deadline for submission.

Signature of grant agreements: maximum eight months from the deadline for submission.

5.2.2 Support for networking activities and impact assessment for road automation

Calls open: 31 October 2017

Deadline: 04 April 2018

Topic Description

Besides technological progress in developing new automated driving functions, there are still many challenges and uncertainties related to the deployment of connected and automated vehicles. Many of these challenges can be better addressed when European partners work together and cooperate with international partners. Therefore, a coordinated and harmonised approach to support the deployment of automated driving systems at European and international level is needed. More cooperation is also necessary to assess the impacts of connected and automated driving systems. Several methodologies to assess impacts of connected and automated transport systems have already been developed and applied. However, a commonly agreed methodology to assess the impacts of connected and automated driving systems that would allow for informed decision making does not exist.

1. Eligible Countries

Australia is eligible for funding and has implemented specific provisions to make funding available for their participants in Horizon 2020 projects.

2. Eligibility and Admissibility Conditions

To be considered admissible, a proposal/application must be:

(a) submitted in the electronic submission system before the deadline given in the call conditions or rules of contest;

(b) readable, accessible and printable;

(c) complete and include the requested administrative data, the proposal description, and any obligatory supporting documents specified in the call/contest;

(d) include a draft plan for the exploitation and dissemination of the results, unless otherwise specified in the call conditions. The draft plan is not required for proposals at the first stage of two-stage procedures.

All requirements are specified in the Annex of the Work Programme.[30]

3. Evaluation

Evaluation criteria, scoring and thresholds are described in Annex H of the Work Programme.[31]

Proposals must be submitted electronically using the electronic submission system of the Participant Portal.

4. Indicative Time for Evaluation and Grant Agreements

Information on the outcome of evaluation (single-stage call): maximum five months from the deadline for submission.

Signature of grant agreements: maximum eight months from the deadline for submission.

5.2.3 Human centred design for the new driver role in highly automated vehicles

Call opens: 04 December 2018

Deadline: 24 April 2019

1. Eligible Countries

Australia is eligible for funding and has implemented specific provisions to make funding available for their participants in Horizon 2020 projects.

2. Eligibility and Admissibility Conditions

To be considered admissible, a proposal/application must be:

(a) submitted in the electronic submission system before the deadline given in the call conditions or rules of contest;

(b) readable, accessible and printable;

(c) complete and include the requested administrative data, the proposal description, and any obligatory supporting documents specified in the call/contest;

(d) include a draft plan for the exploitation and dissemination of the results, unless otherwise specified in the call conditions. The draft plan is not required for proposals at the first stage of two-stage procedures.

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[30] Annex B: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/wp/2018-2020/annexes/h2020-wp1820-annex-b-adm_en.pdf
Annex C: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/wp/2018-2020/annexes/h2020-wp1820-annex-c-elig_en.pdf
[31] Annex H: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/wp/2018-2020/annexes/h2020-wp1820-annex-h-esacrit_en.pdf

All requirements are specified in the Annex of the Work Programme.[32]

3. Evaluation

Evaluation criteria, scoring and thresholds are described in Annex H of the Work Programme.[33]

Proposals must be submitted electronically using the electronic submission system of the Participant Portal.

4. Indicative Time for Evaluation and Grant Agreements

Information on the outcome of evaluation (single-stage call): maximum five months from the deadline for submission.

Signature of grant agreements: maximum eight months from the deadline for submission.

5.2.4 Developing and testing shared, connected and cooperative automated vehicle fleets in urban areas for the mobility of all

Call opens: 04 December 2018

Deadline: 24 April 2019

Topic Description

Shared, connected and cooperative automated vehicles may become a game changer for urban mobility. They can provide seamless door-to-door mobility of people and freight delivery services, which can lead to healthier, more accessible, greener and more sustainable cities as long as they are integrated into an effective public transport system. For the past few years, the development of shared automated vehicle pilots has been emerging around the world. Today, most of these pilots are small-scale and involve either on-demand ride services or low-speed shuttles operating in controlled environments. In order to accelerate the uptake of high quality and user-oriented mobility services, based on shared, connected and cooperative automated vehicles, there is a need for demonstrating these services in real life conditions to test the performance, safety and viability of these systems and services and to prove that they are attractive for and accepted by users. Furthermore, the potential impacts on reducing CO_2 emissions and pollutants, safety and overall transport system costs need to be assessed.

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[32] Annex B: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/wp/2018-2020/annexes/h2020-wp1820-annex-b-adm_en.pdf
Annex C: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/wp/2018-2020/annexes/h2020-wp1820-annex-c-elig_en.pdf
[33] Annex H: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/wp/2018-2020/annexes/h2020-wp1820-annex-h-esacrit_en.pdf

1. Eligible Countries

Australia is specifically mentioned in the call – together with the U.S.A., Singapore, Japan, and South Korea as countries that should be considered for a cooperation or project partner.

2. Eligibility and Admissibility Conditions

To be considered admissible, a proposal/application must be:

(a) submitted in the electronic submission system before the deadline given in the call conditions or rules of contest;

(b) readable, accessible and printable;

(c) complete and include the requested administrative data, the proposal description, and any obligatory supporting documents specified in the call/contest;

(d) include a draft plan for the exploitation and dissemination of the results, unless otherwise specified in the call conditions. The draft plan is not required for proposals at the first stage of two-stage procedures.

All requirements are specified in the Annex of the Work Programme.[34]

3. Evaluation

Evaluation criteria, scoring and thresholds are described in Annex H of the Work Programme.[35]

Proposals must be submitted electronically using the electronic submission system of the Participant Portal.

4. Indicative Time for Evaluation and Grant Agreements

Information on the outcome of evaluation (single-stage call): maximum five months from the deadline for submission.

Signature of grant agreements: maximum eight months from the deadline for submission.

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[34] Annex B: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/wp/2018-2020/annexes/h2020-wp1820-annex-b-adm_en.pdf
Annex C: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/wp/2018-2020/annexes/h2020-wp1820-annex-c-elig_en.pdf
[35] Annex H: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/wp/2018-2020/annexes/h2020-wp1820-annex-h-esacrit_en.pdf

5.3 Points of contact and further information

EPIC website

EPIC's website is the main online dissemination channel presenting the project and its goals in general and providing detailed information on EPIC's findings and activities.

The website delivers systematically updated information on funding opportunities, upcoming events, open calls, international partners and networks. A special 'Library' section also enables the sharing of EPICs deliverables, briefs, brochures and more with the public.

The website connects all of EPIC's dissemination activities and addresses the project's target audiences. While the general description of the project and its goals is meant for an audience unfamiliar with the subject, other subpages such as events, funding and the library address users who are part of the research community.

The contact person for EPIC is the project coordinator Erich Prem.

www.epicproject.eu

Ideal-ist

Ideal-ist is an international network encompassing ICT National Contact Points and supporting scientists, specialists, research and innovation institutes from the ICT sector within the EU Framework Programmes. The network consists of over 60 partners from inside and outside of the European Union.

The services offered by Ideal-ist include support and expertise in the process of proposal writing. A team of international experts accompanies the proposers from the very beginning until the submission of a proposal. The target groups for Ideal-ist are SMEs, large enterprises, research and academic organisations and public administrations. Ideal-ist helps with the interpretation of the ICT Work Programme of Horizon 2020 and coaches the proposers in the writing process.

Ideal-ist plays an advisory role helping the proposal writers to undergo the application process. The applicants can receive relevant information about participation in Horizon2020 and other ICT funding programmes.

https://www.ideal-ist.eu/

CORDIS

CORDIS stands for Community Research and Development Information Service and is a data bank of the European Commission which includes information on all running and closed research project funded by the EU.

The website delivers public information such as factsheets, reports and deliverables; editorial content fostering communication and exploitation (news, events, success stories, magazines etc.); and links to external sources such as open data platforms and websites.

Another important task of CORDIS is delivery of project results based on a report summary. CORDIS provides short synopses of the results in different languages and fulfils an informative role.

https://cordis.europa.eu/home_en.html

5.4 Trade associations and missions

The European Australian Business Council

http://www.eabc.com.au/

The EABC enables business leaders to engage in high-level dialogue on economic and public policy issues with Australian and European political leaders, senior officials, diplomats and business delegations. As part of its annual programme, the EABC organises each year a Business Mission to Europe as an initiative to strengthen bilateral relationships with European leaders, institutions, officials, peak business groups and policy organisations.

The Delegation of the European Union to Australia

https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/australia_en

The European Union is represented in Australia by a Delegation in Canberra established in 1981. It is responsible for the official relations, makes contact with key interlocutors, keeps players in Australia informed about EU developments, and facilitates the preparation and implementation of bilateral agreements. It also maintains links with several EU Centres in Australia. There are now five such centres in Australia:

- The Hawke EU Centre for Mobilities, Migrations and Cultural Transformations at the University of South Australia;
- The EU Centre for Global Affairs at the University of Adelaide;
- The University of Melbourne EU Centre on Shared Complex Challenges;
- The EU Centre at RMIT in Melbourne;
- The Australian National University Centre for European Studies (ANUCES).

5.5 Fairs and major annual events

CeBIT Australia

http://www.cebit.com.au/

CeBIT Australia is the Australian version of the widely known German technology fair Deutsche Messe. In 2019, CeBIT Australia will celebrate its 18th year. It attracts more than 15,000 attendees from Australia's most important organisations. It now positions itself as the prime business technology event for the region and attracts technology professionals from enterprises, Government, SMEs and start-ups.

INTEGRATE

http://integrate-expo.com/

INTEGRATE is one of the largest Australian trade shows in audio-visual and has been running for over a decade.

Research Innovation

https://researchinnovation.iqpc.com.au

This conference is now in its third year with an aim to maximise commercialisation of research. It brings together industry and universities to discuss challenges and good practices in developing partnerships and commercialisation.