



Australian Government

Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research

# Research and Engagement in the Higher Education Sector

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# Overview

- Key changes since the Bradley and Cutler Reviews
- Research and innovation in the wake of the GFC
- The Government's reform agenda and its objectives for universities
- What remains to be done
- Environment in 2010





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## Budget 2009-10

- Extra \$5.7 billion over four years
- Deliver reforms across the higher education and innovation sectors
- Build on the Education Revolution





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# Reform Agenda

- New research funding
  - Sustainable Research Excellence
  - Better indexation
- Boost participation and develop human resources
- Boost infrastructure
- Super Science initiative
- ERA





## Position in other economies

- OECD – impact of the GFC on investment in R&D ‘an issue of concern’
- US – mixed picture
- UK – major cuts
- France, China, others – embracing opportunity





<p><b>Collaboration</b> <i>Collaborative Research Networks program</i> Co-operative Research Centres Infrastructure collaboration</p>	<p><b>Participation</b> <i>Increased Aust. Postgraduate Awards</i> <i>Super Science fellowships and other Aust. Research Council fellowships</i> Research Training Scheme</p>
<p><b>Engagement</b> <i>Joint Research Engagement</i> Co-operative Research Centres ARC Linkage program</p>	<p><b>Excellence</b> <i>Sustainable Research Excellence</i> <i>Excellence in Research for Australia</i> <i>Improved indexation of Block Grants</i></p>

**Compacts with universities will provide a framework for the Government's reform agenda**

**Dual system of core funding:**  
*Existing formula-based Research Block Grants and Competitive Research Grants (ARC, NHMRC etc)*

<b>Infrastructure funding programs</b>	<b>National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy</b>	<b>Education Investment Fund - SuperScience Package</b>
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Reformed university research system that:

- **Drives Excellence**
- **Builds Sustainability**
- **Provides transparency**
- **Improves performance**
- **Promotes collaboration & responsiveness**
- **Engages broadly**





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## Other initiatives

- Commercialisation Australia
- Industry Innovation Councils
- R&D Tax Credit





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# Priorities for 2010

- Mission-based Compacts
- Research Workforce Strategy
- Collaborative Research Networks
- ERA
- TEQSA





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## Other initiatives

- Higher Education Research Reference Group
  - Provides independent, expert advice to the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research





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# Environment in 2010

- Economic recovery
- Skills shortages
- Fiscal environment
- Election year





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