



Australian Government

International dimensions of Australian science and innovation policy

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International engagement: the fourth pillar of STEM

“...Australian STEM will position Australia as a respected, important and able partner in a changing world, for both domestic and global benefit...”

Professor Ian Chubb AC, Australia's Chief Scientist, in
Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics: Australia's Future (September 2014)

International engagement activities currently underway

- **Strategic Direction**
 - Response to Chief's Scientist's STEM paper
 - National Strategy for International Education
 - AusTrade's *Australian International Education (AIE) 2025*
 - *Industry Innovation and Competitiveness Agenda* e.g. Growth Centres
- **Funding**
 - Australia China Science and Research Fund (ACSRF)
 - Australia India Strategic Research Fund (AISRF)
 - New Colombo Plan
- **ARC, NHMRC, CRCs, Endeavour Scholarships and Fellowships and Block Grants**
- **Other mechanisms facilitating international relationships:**
 - Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs), visas, access to information

1. Develop international engagement strategy

- The strategy could:
 - Identify Australia's major global partners
 - Focus on emerging science partner nations
 - Develop regional cooperation strategies
 - Focus on government to government links

2. Building and maintaining government-to-government linkages

- This could be achieved through:
 - Establishment of a global science and innovation collaboration programme which could:
 - Support Australian businesses and researchers to make international research connections with priority partner countries;
 - Provide voucher-style support for international exchanges for businesses, including SMEs, to work with researchers; and
 - Provide seed funding for Australian business research consortia to work globally
 - Development of an Asian Area Research Zone

3. Supporting exchange of knowledge and research talent

- The Australian Government response to STEM could look at how departments could work together effectively to further improve existing programmes such as the ARC, Endeavour Scholarships, AISRF and ACSRF
- Other mechanisms for removing impediments to exchange of knowledge and research talent are currently being explored through:
 - International Relations (subclass 403) visa
 - Significant Investor Visa (SIV) and Premium Investor Visa (PIV)
 - Student Visa Programme

4. Leveraging science diplomacy

- Opportunities for enhancing our international relationships including:
 - Movement of science ambassadors between countries
 - Events to promote international collaboration

Australian-French cooperation in science and technology

- A strong and productive relationship:
 - Researchers and institutions
- 6th highest scientific publication partner
 - 8,528 joint publications over 2009-13
 - Biology, physics, clinical medicine, earth science, basic medicine, and health science (InCites™, Thomson Reuters)
- Treaty on Cultural and Scientific Cooperation (1977)
 - Strengthen science, research and innovation cooperation
 - Knowledge and researcher exchange
 - Promoting collaboration



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Thank You