



# GISERA

Gas Industry Social and  
Environmental Research Alliance

## CSIRO's Gas Industry Social and Environmental Research Alliance (GISERA)

### Annual Research & Development Plan and Budget

2020-21



QGC



Santos



Australian Government  
Department of Industry, Science,  
Energy and Resources



Supported by  
Government of  
South Australia



NORTHERN  
TERRITORY  
GOVERNMENT



PANGAEA  
RESOURCES PTY LTD

# Contents

<b>CSIRO's Gas Industry Social and Environmental Research Alliance (GISERA)</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Annual Research &amp; Development Plan and Budget</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1 Director's summary</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2 Governance</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3 National Budget</b>	<b>17</b>
3.1 National Budget	17
3.1.1 Contributions and Grants	17
3.1.2 Committed Research Investment	20
3.2 Research projects by region	22
<b>4 Queensland R&amp;D Plan &amp; Budget</b>	<b>25</b>
4.1 Queensland Investment profile	25
4.1.1 Committed research investment for 2011/12-2020/21	25
4.1.2 Queensland Current Research Portfolio	27
4.1.3 Queensland Research Progress and Expenditure	31
4.2 Queensland research ideas being discussed for 2020/21	33
<b>5 NSW R&amp;D Plan &amp; Budget</b>	<b>34</b>
5.1 NSW Investment profile	34
5.1.1 Committed research investment for 2016/17-2021/22	34
5.1.2 NSW Current Research Portfolio	35
5.1.3 NSW Research Progress and Expenditure	37
5.2 NSW research ideas being discussed for 2021/21	39
<b>6 South Australia R&amp;D Plan &amp; Budget</b>	<b>40</b>
6.1 South Australia Investment profile	40
6.1.1 Committed research investment for 2018/19 - 2022/23	40
6.1.2 South Australia Current Research Portfolio	41
6.1.4 South Australia Research Progress and Expenditure	43
6.2 South Australia research ideas being discussed for 2020/21	44
<b>7 Northern Territory R&amp;D Plan &amp; Budget</b>	<b>45</b>
7.1 Northern Territory Investment profile	45
7.1.1 Committed research investment for 2018/19 - 2021/22	45
7.1.2 Northern Territory Current Research Portfolio	46
7.1.4 Northern Territory Research Progress and Expenditure	48
7.2 Northern Territory research ideas being discussed for 2020/21	50
<b>8 Western Australia R&amp;D Plan &amp; Budget</b>	<b>51</b>

8.1	Western Australia Investment profile .....	51
8.1.1	Committed research investment for 2020/21 .....	51
8.1.2	Western Australia Current Research Portfolio.....	52
8.1.4	Western Australia Research Progress and Expenditure.....	53
8.2	Western Australia research ideas being discussed for 2020/21 .....	54
<b>9</b>	<b>Proposed management and communication budget for 2020/21.....</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Communication .....</b>	<b>58</b>
10.1	Overview .....	58
10.2	Communication outputs .....	62
10.3	Stakeholder Engagement.....	66
<b>11</b>	<b>Performance against KPIs.....</b>	<b>68</b>
11.1	Overall KPIs .....	68
11.2	Communication goals and KPIs.....	70

#### List of Tables

Table 3.1	Incoming contributions and grants, by contributor, 2011/12-2019/20 .....	18
Table 3.2	Committed research investment across all regions, by research subject area, 2011/12-2022/23 .....	20
Table 3.3	Research project titles in each region.....	23
Table 4.1	Committed research investment in Queensland by research subject area, 2011/12-2020/21 .....	25
Table 4.2	Committed research investment in Queensland by contributor, 2011/12-2020/21 .....	26
Table 4.3	Approved Queensland Research Projects.....	27
Table 4.4	Committed research investment, expenditure and progress in Queensland, by project .....	31
Table 4.5	Future research ideas in Queensland for 2020/21 .....	33
Table 5.1	Committed research investment in NSW by research subject area, 2016/17-2021/22 ...	34
Table 5.2	Committed research investment in NSW by contributor, 2016/17-2021/22.....	34
Table 5.3	Approved NSW Research Projects .....	35
Table 5.4	Committed research investment, expenditure and progress in NSW, by project.....	37
Table 5.5	Future research ideas in NSW for 2020/21 .....	39
Table 6.1	Committed research investment in South Australia by research subject area, 2018/19-2022/23 .....	40
Table 6.2	Committed research investment in South Australia by contributor, 2018/19-2022/23 ...	40
Table 6.3	Approved South Australia Research Projects.....	41
Table 6.4	Committed research investment, expenditure and progress in South Australia, by project .....	43

Table 7.1 Committed research investment in Northern Territory by research subject area, 2018/19-2021/22 .....	45
Table 7.2 Committed research investment in Northern Territory by contributor, 2018/19-2021/22 .....	45
Table 7.3 Approved Northern Territory Research Projects .....	46
Table 7.4 Committed research investment, expenditure and progress in Northern Territory, by project .....	48
Table 7.5 Future research ideas in Northern Territory for 2020/21.....	50
Table 8.1 Committed research investment in Western Australia by research subject area, 2020/21 .....	51
Table 8.2 Committed research investment in Western Australia by contributor, 2020/21 .....	51
Table 8.3 Approved Western Australia Research Projects .....	52
Table 8.4 Committed research investment, expenditure and progress in Western Australia, by project .....	53
Table 9.1 Proposed management and communications budget, 2020/21 with actual expenditure for 2011/12-2019/20 .....	55
Table 9.2 Partner contributions – Initial Alliance Agreement 2011/12-2015/16.....	57
Table 9.3 Partner contributions – National Alliance Agreement 2015/16-2020/21 .....	57
Table 10.1 Scientific presentations, poster presentations and interactions promoting GISERA research in 2019-20 .....	60
Table 11.1 GISERA’s performance against its overall KPIs.....	68
Table 11.2 Performance against key communication goals .....	71
Table 11.3 Summary of engagements over life of GISERA .....	76

## List of Figures

Figure 1 Committed contribution over life of GISERA, by group.....	19
Figure 2 Committed research investment across all regions, by research subject area, 2011/12-2022/23 .....	21
Figure 3 Committed research investment, by region 2011/12-2022/23 .....	21
Figure 4 Number of research projects in each region .....	22
Figure 10.1 Stakeholder interactions from 2011/12 to 2019/20 - These numbers do not take into account the number of individuals engaged in that interaction. Regional community group interactions can range from 20-360 participants and a gas industry interaction only 1-10 participants. ....	67

## COVER PHOTOGRAPH

CSIRO atmospheric monitoring tower at Ironbark, near Tara, Queensland (photo: D. Etheridge)

# 1 Director's summary

This is the ninth Annual Research & Development Plan and Budget of the CSIRO's Gas Industry Social Environment Research Alliance. GISERA's research program has been operational for approximately 9 years.

The 2019-20 financial year progressed the national expansion of CSIRO's Gas Industry Social and Environmental Research Alliance (GISERA), with the Western Australia Regional Research Advisory Committee (WA RRAC) being established. The WA RRAC held its first meeting in June 2020 which resulted in the approval of the first tranche of research proposals.

The term of GISERA National Alliance Agreement was extended for a further 12 months (to 30 June 2021) with existing industry partners Australia Pacific LNG Pty Limited, Origin Energy Upstream Holdings Pty Ltd, Santos Limited, QGC Pty Limited and Pangaea Resources Pty Ltd to encompass the ongoing projects that are underway.

Over the year, a total of existing 8 projects were completed and 13 new projects were approved, taking the total number of GISERA projects to 66 and total research investment to \$29,060,869<sup>1</sup>.

On 15 September 2020 the Prime Minister announced the government's decision to commit an additional \$13.7M towards supporting additional research and communications activities via CSIRO's GISERA. In the coming months, CSIRO will approach industry and State/Territory governments to leverage additional funding contributions for GISERA's extension.

GISERA's primary objectives remain to:

- carry out independent research and improve and extend knowledge of social and environmental impacts and opportunities of onshore gas projects primarily for the benefit of communities living in gas development regions and the broader public
- inform governments, regulators and policy-makers on key issues regarding policy and legislative frameworks for the gas industry
- improve gas industry operations in regions where exploration and production activities are occurring.

All output and activities during the year contribute to GISERA's credibility, trust and respect through the open and transparent conduct and communication of its research and synthesis activities. All GISERA results and research outputs including scientific reports, journal papers and supporting communication products such as factsheets, communiques and online articles, are available to view and download at [www.gisera.csiro.au](http://www.gisera.csiro.au).

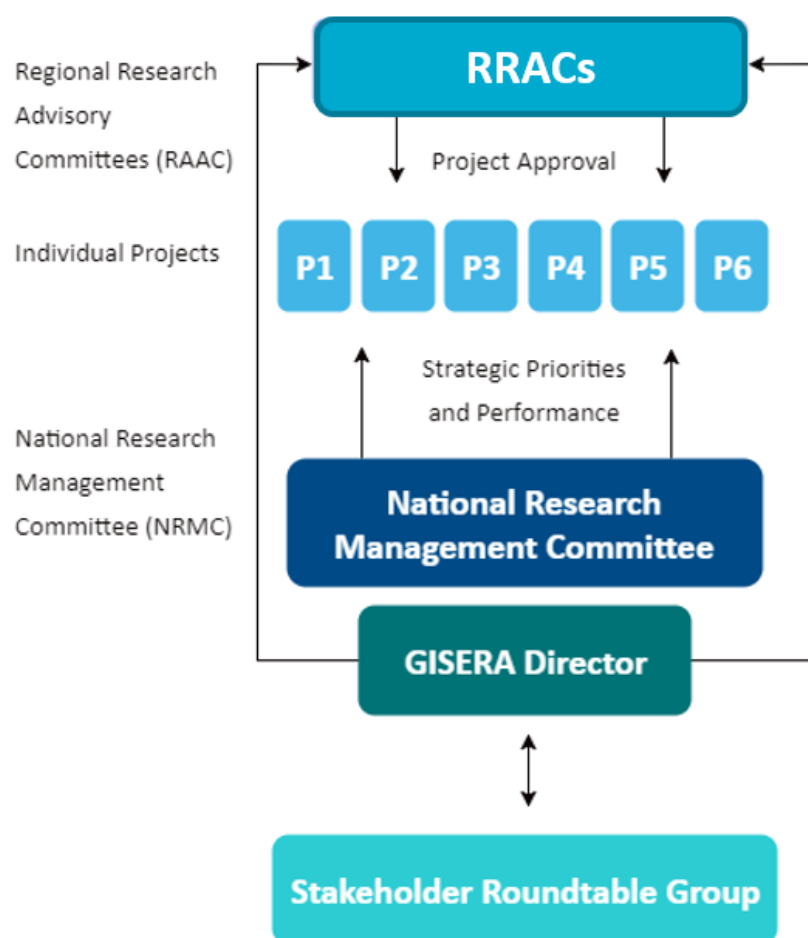
---

<sup>1</sup> This includes CSIRO in-kind contribution.

## 2 Governance

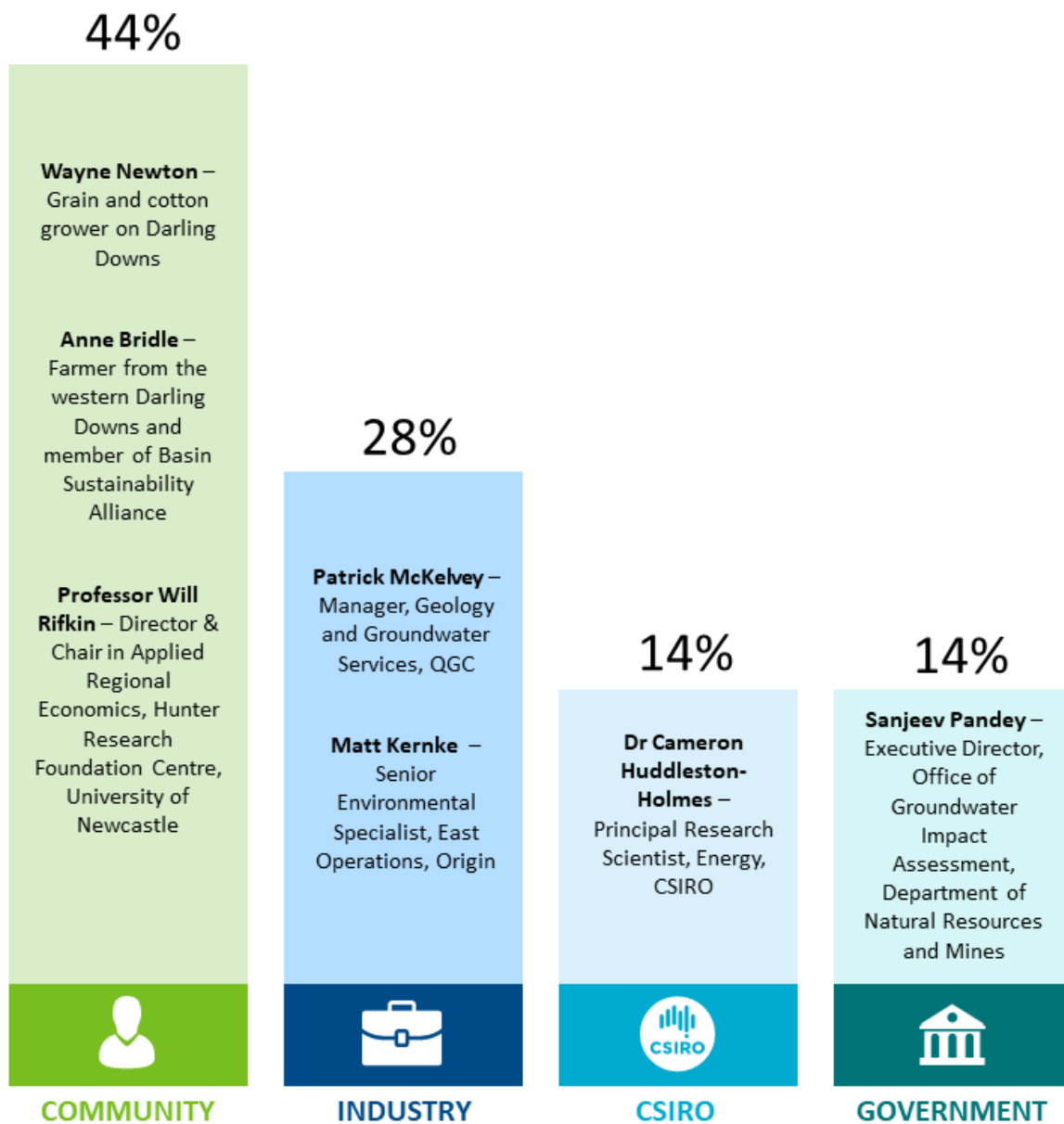
A key function of CSIRO's GISERA is to undertake research on issues of direct community interest using funding supplied by the gas industry and Commonwealth and state governments. To ensure independence of CSIRO research, a rigorous governance structure is imposed utilising external stakeholder-dominated Regional Research Advisory Committees (RRAC) in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Northern Territory and Western Australia.

The RRACs are responsible for approving the allocation of research funds to projects which meet the community objectives of addressing issues of concern. The National Research Management Committee ensures fiscal and project level responsibilities are met but does not determine where research funds are spent. The governance structure is shown below:



The composition and membership of the Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia, Northern Territory and Western Australia RRACs are critical to the success of GISERA and, as shown below, are dominated by esteemed and respected independent participants from the communities in which gas development is occurring:

# Members of the Queensland RRAC





# Members of the NSW RRAC

58%

**Professor Alison Sheridan** – Professor of Management, UNE Business School, University of New England

**Mr Jack Warnock** – Lower Namoi Cotton Growers' Association & Managing Director, Warnock Agronomics Pty Ltd

**Mr Ken Flower** – General Manager, Caputar Motors & Chief Flight Instructor, Namoi Aviation

**Stephanie Stanhope** – State President, Country Women's Association of NSW



COMMUNITY

14%

**Mr Joshua Gilroy**  
Studies Coordinator,  
Santos



INDUSTRY

14%

**Dr Cameron Huddleston-Holmes**  
Principal Research  
Scientist, Energy,  
CSIRO



CSIRO

14%

**Deborah Hailstones**  
Manager Science  
Strategy, NSW  
Department of  
Primary Industries



GOVERNMENT

# Members of the South Australian RRAC

72%

**Mr Andrew Curtis** –  
CEO, Livestock SA and  
CEO, South Australian  
Dairyfarmers'  
Association

**Dr Anne Jensen** –  
Environmental  
Consultant  
Healthy Rivers  
Ambassador for  
Murray-Darling Basin  
and Honorary Research  
Associate, Nature  
Foundation SA

**Mr Stuart Sharman** –  
Viticulturist & Grazer  
Limestone Coast Grape  
and Wine Council Inc.

**Mr Darren Shelden** –  
Chair, Green Triangle  
Regional Plantation  
Committee

**Mr Peter Gandolfi** –  
Chair, Regional  
Development Australia  
– Limestone Coast



COMMUNITY

14%

**Prof Lynne Cobiac** –  
Deputy Director and  
Science Director  
Health and Biosecurity,  
CSIRO



CSIRO

14%

**Dominic Pepicelli** –  
Principal Reservoir  
Engineer,  
Energy Resources  
Division,  
SA Department for  
Energy and Mining



GOVERNMENT

# Members of the Northern Territory RRAC

50%

**Greg Ireland** – Chief Executive Officer, Chamber of Commerce, Northern Territory

**Fay Miller** – Mayor of Katherine, Katherine Town Council

**Greg McDonald** – Minerals and Energy Manager, Northern Land Council

**Greg Owens** – Industry Development Manager, Northern Territory Farmers Association

**Julie-Ann Stoll** – Special Projects, Mining, Central Land Council

**Professor Jenny Davis** – Co-Director, Research Institute for Environment and Livelihoods, Charles Darwin University

**Ashley Manicaros** – Chief Executive Officer, Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association



COMMUNITY

21%

**Stephanie Stonier** – Corporate Affairs Manager (Northern Territory), Origin Energy

**Paul Wybrew** – Manager Environment, Technical, Monitoring and Approvals, Santos

**Tim Radburn** – Executive Director, Pangaea Resources



INDUSTRY

21%

**Dr Cathy Robinson** – Research Group Leader, Land & Water, CSIRO

**Dr Chris Chilcott** – Research Leader Northern Australian Development, CSIRO

**David Dewhurst** – Geoscience Research Leader, CSIRO



CSIRO

8%

**James Pratt** – Executive Director, Onshore Gas Development, Department of Primary Industry and Resources, Northern Territory



GOVERNMENT

# Members of the Western Australian RRAC

50%

**Trevor Whittington** –  
CEO, WA Farmers  
and Chairman,  
Wines of Western  
Australia

**Tyrone Garstone**  
– Deputy CEO  
Kimberley Land  
Council



COMMUNITY

25%

**Allison Horte** –  
Research Group  
Leader,  
Environment,  
Storage &  
Processing, Energy  
Resources  
Program, CSIRO



CSIRO

25%

**Jeffrey Haworth** –  
Executive Director,  
Geoscience and  
Resource Strategy,  
WA Department of  
Mines, Industry  
Regulation and  
Safety



GOVERNMENT

## Regional Research Advisory Committees' activities

### Queensland

The Queensland RRAC met in April 2020, and [approved](#) a variation including additional funding to the Health project '[Potential health impacts from CSG](#)'.

Two Queensland projects were completed during this reporting period:

- [Trends in community wellbeing and attitudes to CSG development - Survey 3](#)
- [Air, water and soil impacts of hydraulic fracturing- PHASE 2](#)

Overall, 31 projects are now complete in Queensland.

### New South Wales

The Narrabri Gas Project is currently being considered for approval. It was therefore decided to pause the New South Wales RRAC gatherings during this period and no new projects were considered.

Overall, 9 projects are now complete in New South Wales.

### South Australia

The South Australia RRAC met in April 2020, resulting in the following projects being approved:

- A surface and groundwater project titled '[Decision support framework for future groundwater development scenarios in south east South Australia](#)'. This study will develop and test a decision support framework to improve management of groundwater resources. Research outcomes will consider probable future groundwater use scenarios, taking account of climate change and various future water use patterns for irrigation, forestry, onshore gas and other industries in the south east of South Australia.
- A surface and groundwater project titled '[Microbial degradation of chemicals and fluids in aquifers of the Limestone Coast, South Australia](#)'. This study aims to demonstrate the potential for microbial degradation of chemicals used by the onshore gas industry across the Tertiary Limestone Aquifer (TLA) in the Limestone Coast region of south east South Australia. This project will establish microbial community baselines in the TLA in the Limestone Coast region. The project will also examine microbial degradation of a range of chemicals likely to be used in onshore gas activities, in aquifer water samples.
- An agricultural land management project titled '[Perspectives on risk to local markets and industries](#)'. This project will explore potential market impacts and associated concerns relating to the value of place of origin labelling and branding arising from conventional gas development in the south east of South Australia. Results from this research will assist community understanding and inform public communications and policy development.
- A socio economic project titled '[The role of gas in South Australia](#)'. This project will clarify the role of natural gas in meeting the state's renewable energy, security, emissions and energy pricing goals. Research outcomes will help define a least cost technical pathway towards 100 per cent renewable electricity and a hydrogen industry which supports an

eventual zero net emissions in South Australia, consistent with South Australia's Climate Change Strategy 2015-2050 – Towards a Low Carbon Economy.

Five South Australia projects were completed during this reporting period:

- [Gas impacts and opportunities on primary industries](#)
- [Assessing the value of locally produced conventional gas in SAs southeast](#)
- [Community wellbeing and attitudes to conventional gas](#)
- [Microbial degradation of onshore gas-related chemical compounds](#)
- [Groundwater balance in gas development regions of South East SA](#)

Overall, 5 projects are now complete in South Australia.

## Northern Territory

The Northern Territory RRAC met in August 2019, resulting in the following projects being approved:

- A greenhouse gas footprint project titled '[Mitigating Fugitive Gas Emissions from Well Casings](#)'. This project will review current industry practice and conduct experimental investigations to evaluate techniques and assess new materials designed to minimise fugitive methane emissions leaking from microfractures and gaps in gas well cement casing. Results of this project will help reduce fugitive methane emissions by improving the integrity of gas wells through the development effective materials and best practice techniques for sealing microfractures and micro-annuli in well casing cement.
- A surface and groundwater project titled '[Improved approaches to long-term monitoring of decommissioned onshore gas wells](#)'. This project investigates options for long-term monitoring of well integrity in decommissioned onshore gas wells in the Northern Territory, including assessment of well decommissioning practices and monitoring techniques and technology, in the context of Northern Territory regulatory requirements. Knowledge developed through this project will assist in the development of long-term well monitoring techniques and technologies to support best practice in onshore gas well decommissioning activities in the Northern Territory.

The Northern Territory RRAC met again in June 2020, resulting in the following projects being approved:

- A greenhouse gas footprint project titled '[Offsets for Life Cycle Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Onshore Gas in the Northern Territory](#)'. This project seeks feasible options to offset life cycle greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions emitted in Australia associated with scenarios of new production and Australian consumption of onshore gas extracted from the Northern Territory's Beetaloo Sub-basin. This project will use scenario analysis to represent potential gas extraction, coupled with technical calculations on the GHG emissions implications of those scenarios.
- An agricultural land management project titled '[Putting Land Management Knowledge into Practice](#)'. This project will develop high-quality spatial data to help landholders, regulators, and the gas industry to evaluate design and placement of gas infrastructure, protect surface water and vegetation, and reduce erosion, soil damage and dust. Part of this work will include development of novel communication tools to improve exchange of data

between groups. This research will use modern data visualization techniques to present spatial data relating to landscape processes in the Beetaloo Sub-basin in a “virtual landscape” using augmented reality technology. This allows complex processes such as hydrology, soil loss or pasture dynamics to be more easily understood, and to communicate best practice management of potential environmental risk.

- A terrestrial biodiversity project titled '[Understanding and managing impacts to biodiversity from roads and pipeline in the Beetaloo](#)'. This study investigates how roads, pipelines and other linear transport infrastructure may impact biodiversity in the Beetaloo Sub-basin during the development of an onshore gas industry. New scientific information about potential biodiversity impacts will help identify areas that are most threatened by infrastructure development and assist management approaches and decision-making to reduce risk to biodiversity while facilitating development.
- A socio economic project titled '[Mapping future transport passages and volumes for improved planning and operation](#)'. Using scenarios of both construction and operational phases of gas development, this project will analyse road and rail freight costs, flows and impacts for identified sites and regions in the Beetaloo Sub-basin in the Northern Territory. It will also test a range of interventions that may increase road safety while reducing costs and impacts on the environment and local communities. Results of this research will support decision-making across industry, government regulation and community. The analysis will consider freight task increase from the current baseline, transport costs, emissions, road maintenance, impacts of dust on agriculture and human health, and related effects on local business activities. It will include existing traffic across the road and rail network as well as introduced traffic (heavy and domestic vehicles).
- A surface and groundwater project titled '[Onshore gas water lifecycle management options framework](#)'. This project will design an options framework and decision criteria for water and wastewater management for Northern Territory onshore gas development. This framework will provide a high level of environmental protection for community and government while remaining cost-effective for industry.

The Northern Territory RRAC [approved](#) a project variation including additional funding for the surface and groundwater project '[Environmental monitoring and microbial degradation of onshore shale gas activity chemicals and fluids in the Northern Territory](#)'.

One Northern Territory project was completed during this reporting period:

- [Baseline monitoring of groundwater properties in the Beetaloo Sub-basin, NT](#)

Overall, two projects are now complete in the Northern Territory.

## Western Australia

The Western Australia RRAC met in June 2020, resulting in the following projects being approved:

- A surface and groundwater project titled '[Groundwater baseline study of the Canning Basin, Western Australia](#)' to explore and summarise the current state of knowledge of groundwater systems in the Canning Basin, Western Australia. Results of this research will identify requirements for future investigation, characterisation and monitoring of groundwater systems. This work will build on and bring together previous groundwater

studies in this region to understand the current status of groundwater knowledge for the entire basin.

- A terrestrial biodiversity project titled '[Baseline assessment of the biodiversity of the Canning Basin, Western Australia](#)' to assess the current state of knowledge about the biodiversity of the Canning Basin in Western Australia. This desktop study will identify the plants and animals that occur in the Canning Basin. Species and threatened ecological communities that are of conservation or cultural significance will be identified. This information will be used to identify knowledge gaps and recommend further investigations to fill these gaps.

## Project modifications and progress reporting

An approved research project consists of a Project Order and Budget that has been approved by the Regional Research Advisory Committee.

During the execution of an approved project, changes and modifications to the Project Order and Budget may be submitted to the Director for consideration. The Director may approve minor modifications to Project Orders that do not significantly alter the proposed outcomes, and do not have significant financial consequences for the project. The Director may consult the Regional Research Advisory Committee about these modifications.

Major modifications to Project Orders that may involve significant financial consequences or significant change in project scope will be prepared in consultation with the Director and presented to the Regional Research Advisory Committee for approval. Any changes made to Project Orders are available for public perusal.

Research updates and progress against project milestones are reported quarterly. Variations, if any, are also included as this allows any variations/modifications to the Project Order to be tracked easily. Summaries of each project's progress against milestones and variations, as well as the original Project Order, are available on the GISERA website: <https://gisera.csiro.au/research/>

## National Research Management Committee

The National Research Management Committee (NRMCM) comprises five industry, two CSIRO and one government representative including:

- Marita Niemelä: Director, Energy (CSIRO)
- Dr Paul Bertsch: Deputy Director-Science, Land and Water (CSIRO)
- Robert Hirst: Health, Safety and Environment, Manager (APLNG)
- Stephanie Stonier: Corporate Affairs Managers (Northern Australia) (Origin Energy)
- Patrick McKelvey: Hydrogeology & Geology Operations Manager (Shell/QGC)
- Matthew Sherwell: Manager Policy & Regulatory Affairs (Santos)
- Tim Radburn: Executive Director (Pangaea Resources)
- David Lawrence: General Manager – Onshore Minerals and Energy Branch, (Department of Industry, Science Energy and Resources) – Government representative

Dr Damian Barrett, GISERA Director (CSIRO), is the NRMCM Chair and has no voting rights.



The NRMCM met 3 times during the 2019-20 financial year:

- Meeting #13 was held on 12 August 2019 at CSIRO offices;
- Meeting #14 was held on 14 November 2019 via teleconference; and
- Meeting #15 was held on 14 May 2020 via teleconference.

## Looking ahead

Plans for the 2020-21 year include the development of the next tranche of research projects in Queensland, New South Wales and the Northern Territory.

The scale of GISERA research activity in CSIRO continues to increase, with the involvement of over 200 researchers across our Energy, Land & Water, Mineral Resources, Oceans & Atmosphere, Agriculture & Food, Health & Biosecurity, Manufacturing and Data 61 business units over the life of GISERA. We seek to recruit and retain researchers of the highest distinction and potential, and we also explore broader research collaboration opportunities as we continue our planned activities in Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia, Northern Territory and Western Australia.

Effective government engagement continues to assist in understanding relevant research challenges, to promote adoption of research outcomes and inform policy, and support positive impact from GISERA science.

## 3 National Budget

This is the ninth *GISERA Annual research & development plan and budget* and covers the financial year 2020-21.

The report objectives are to:

- Detail the contribution of each Partner to GISERA.
- Detail the contribution of government departments to GISERA.
- Include the committed research investment and expenditure for existing projects.
- Identify proposed research projects to be considered in the new financial year, including a draft project objective and project budget.

### 3.1 National Budget

#### 3.1.1 Contributions and Grants

The committed financial contributions received from membership, in-kind, grants, funding agreements, APPEA and other industry contributions (separate from membership) over the life of GISERA is outlined in Table 3.1.

**Table 3.1 Incoming contributions and grants, by contributor, 2011/12-2019/20**

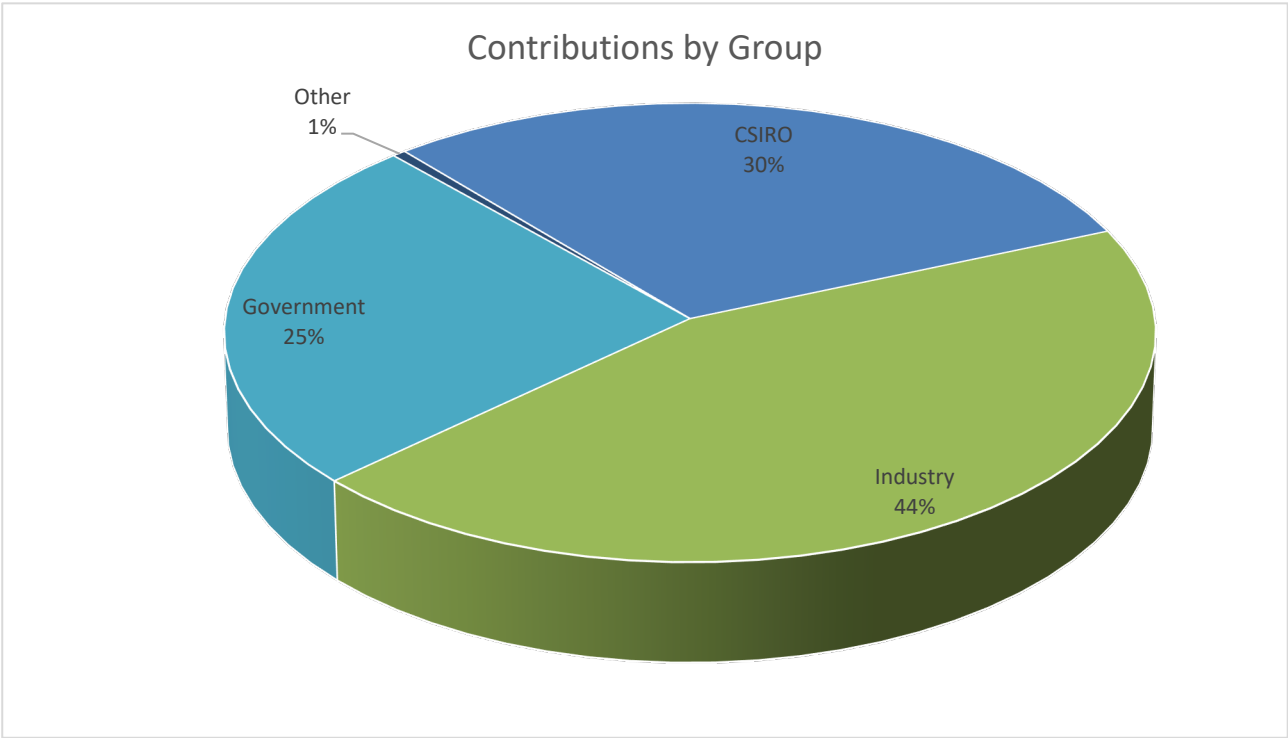
GROUP	PAYMENT TYPE	CONTRIBUTOR	INITIAL ALLIANCE AGREEMENT (2011/12 – DEC 15)	NATIONAL ALLIANCE AGREEMENT (JAN 16 - 2019/20)	TOTAL
Industry	Membership	APLNG	\$10,000,000	\$300,000 <sup>2</sup>	\$10,300,000
		QGC	\$1,250,000	\$300,000 <sup>3</sup>	\$1,550,000
		Santos	\$0	\$900,000	\$900,000 <sup>4</sup>
		AGL	\$0	\$287,500	\$287,500
		Origin	\$0	\$450,000	\$450,000
		Pangaea	\$0	\$150,000	\$150,000
	Contribution to water 11 (Air, water and soil impacts of hydraulic fracturing: Phase 1 project)	APLNG	\$0	\$245,670	\$245,670
	Contribution to water 12 (Air, water and soil impacts of hydraulic fracturing: Phase 2 project)	APLNG	\$0	\$1,285,000	\$1,285,000
	Contribution via APPEA (GHG 1 - Methane Seepage fluxes project)	APLNG, Santos, Arrow Energy & QGC	\$1,121,707	\$0	\$1,121,707
Government	Grant	Federal Govt	\$0	\$5,500,000	\$5,500,000
		NSW Govt	\$0	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
		SA Govt	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
		QLD Govt <sup>5</sup>	\$0	\$500,000	\$500,000
		NT Govt	\$0	\$450,000	\$450,000
	Contribution to GHG 5 (Baseline measurement and monitoring of methane emissions in the Beetaloo Sub-basin project)	NT Government	\$0	\$305,297	\$305,297
CSIRO	In-kind	CSIRO	\$5,297,866	\$5,573,584	\$10,871,450
Other	In-kind (L5 - Without a Trace project)	USQ	\$79,990	\$0	\$79,990
	In-kind (W18 – Stygofauna project)	CDU	\$0	\$53,858	\$53,858
TOTAL			\$17,749,563	\$18,800,909	\$36,550,472

<sup>2</sup> The figure does not include APLNG's first annual contribution of \$150,000 towards National GISERA. As per clause 7.1 (d) of National Alliance Agreement, the parties agreed that this contribution was made under the Initial Alliance Agreement.

<sup>3</sup> The figure does not include QGC's first annual contribution of \$150,000 towards National GISERA. As per clause 7.1 (d) of National Alliance Agreement, the parties agreed that this contribution was made under the Initial Alliance Agreement.

<sup>4</sup> This includes Santos' \$450,000 contribution to research activities in NSW and \$450,000 in the NT.

<sup>5</sup> QLD Government's grant to go towards the 'Potential health impacts from CSG' project.



**Figure 1 Committed contribution over life of GISERA, by group**

### 3.1.2 Committed Research Investment

The committed budget for projects across all regions for 2011/12-2022/23 now stands at \$29,060,869. A breakdown of the committed research budget for the various research subject areas is illustrated in Table 3.2. Figure 2 shows the portion committed to each research subject area and Figure 3 show the portion committed to each region.

**Table 3.2 Committed research investment across all regions, by research subject area, 2011/12-2022/23**

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA / YEAR	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	TOTAL
Water	\$1,102,043	\$1,467,580	\$712,245	\$100,000	\$579,672	\$1,402,164	\$2,452,543	\$1,366,417	\$1,234,958	\$971,233	\$453,052	\$7,933	\$11,849,840
Greenhouse gas	\$0	\$0	\$111,553	\$627,286	\$740,638	\$991,891	\$483,410	\$305,297	\$227,493	\$487,369	\$74,666	\$0	\$4,049,601
Agriculture	\$0	\$732,594	\$863,669	\$533,301	\$273,747	\$245,384	\$160,471	\$175,133	\$0	\$327,568	\$181,112	\$0	\$3,492,979
Biodiversity	\$0	\$414,761	\$663,163	\$503,048	\$290,265	\$297,159	\$130,162	\$0	\$0	\$252,772	\$121,572	\$0	\$2,672,902
Marine	\$0	\$857,142	\$357,143	\$478,914	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,693,199
Socio economic	\$0	\$420,365	\$434,000	\$300,581	\$266,933	\$713,776	\$270,414	\$380,065	\$329,148	\$706,978	\$184,672	\$0	\$4,006,932 <sup>6</sup>
Health	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$144,269	\$180,179	\$494,004	\$304,365	\$172,599	\$0	\$0	\$1,295,416
Total	\$1,102,043	\$3,892,442	\$3,141,773	\$2,543,130	\$2,151,255	\$3,794,643	\$3,677,179	\$2,720,916	\$2,095,964	\$2,918,519	\$1,015,074	\$7,933	\$29,060,869 <sup>7</sup>

<sup>6</sup> This includes \$254,869 allocated to a social and economic project 'Monitoring changes in community wellbeing and local attitudes to CSG development in Narrabri, NSW'. This research project is contingent on the construction phase of gas development in the Narrabri Shire commencing, if approved. If project does not proceed, funds will be returned for future reallocation.

<sup>7</sup> These figures do not include funds for the GISERA Director's office and communications.

Research investment by subject area (across all regions)

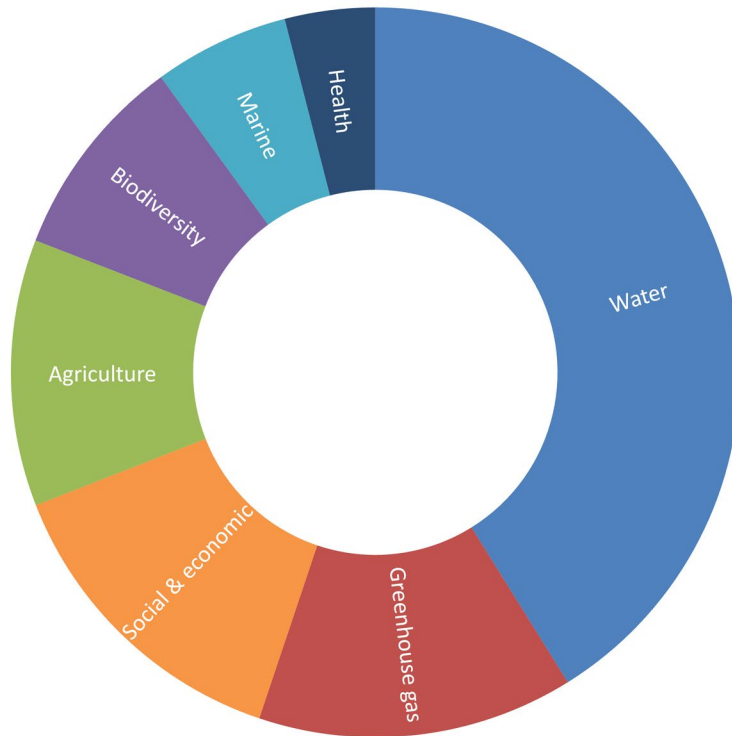


Figure 2 Committed research investment across all regions, by research subject area, 2011/12-2022/23

Research investment by region

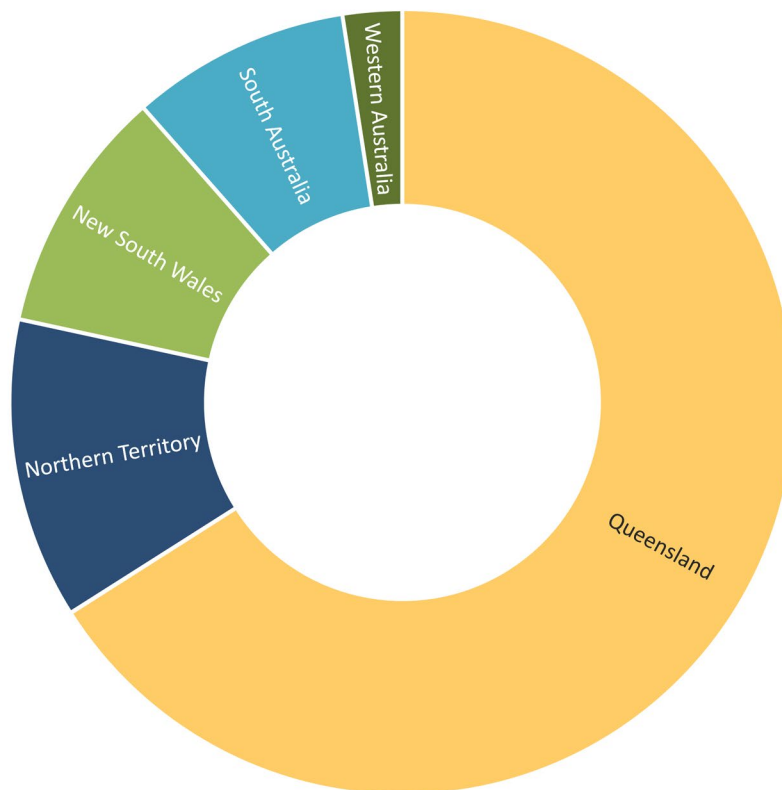


Figure 3 Committed research investment, by region 2011/12-2022/23

### 3.2 Research projects by region

GISERA's integrated research program and regional focus ensures that its research identifies cumulative impacts from onshore gas developments and informs coordinated responses across industry, community and government.



Figure 4 Number of research projects in each region

**Table 3.3 Research project titles in each region**

RESEARCH AREA	QLD	NSW	SA	NT	WA
<b>Surface and Groundwater</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geochemical responses to re-injection</li> <li>• Re-injection of CSG water</li> <li>• Isotope and geochemical groundwater baseline study</li> <li>• High performance groundwater modelling</li> <li>• Hydrocarbons in groundwater, Surat and Bowen basins</li> <li>• Improving groundwater flow models</li> <li>• Groundwater contamination risk assessment on hydraulic fracturing in unconventional gas extraction*</li> <li>• Air, water and soil impact of hydraulic fracturing: Phase 1</li> <li>• Air, water and soil impact of hydraulic fracturing: Phase 2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impacts of CSG depressurisation on the Great Artesian Basin (GAB) flux</li> <li>• Spatial design of groundwater monitoring network in the Narrabri Gas Project area</li> <li>• Improving the representation of the impact of coal seam gas extraction in groundwater flow models for the Namoi region</li> <li>• Groundwater contamination risk assessment on hydraulic fracturing in unconventional gas extraction*</li> <li>• Assessment of faults as potential connectivity pathways</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Onshore gas and water contamination: causes, pathways and risks</li> <li>• Groundwater balance in gas development regions of south-east SA</li> <li>• Microbial degradation of onshore gas-related chemical compounds</li> <li>• Microbial degradation of chemicals and fluids in aquifers of the Limestone Coast, SA</li> <li>• Decision support framework for future groundwater development scenarios in the southeast SA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baseline assessment of groundwater characteristics in the Beetaloo sub-Basin, NT</li> <li>• Environmental monitoring and microbial degradation of onshore shale gas activity chemicals and fluids</li> <li>• Characterisation of the stygofauna and microbial assemblages of the Beetaloo sub-Basin, NT</li> <li>• Improved approaches to long-term monitoring of decommissioned onshore gas wells</li> <li>• Onshore gas water lifecycle management options framework</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Groundwater baseline study of the Canning Basin</li> </ul>
<b>Social and economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring regional transition</li> <li>• Understanding community aspirations</li> <li>• Economic assessment and forecasting project</li> <li>• Community functioning and well-being</li> <li>• Community function and well-being survey 2</li> <li>• Trends in community wellbeing and attitudes to CSG development, Survey 3</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysing economic and demographic trajectories in NSW regions experiencing CSG development and operations</li> <li>• Social baseline assessment of the Narrabri region of NSW in relation to CSG development</li> <li>• Decommissioning pathways for CSG projects</li> <li>• Assessing and projecting on-shore gas effects on regional economic activity</li> <li>• Monitoring changes in community wellbeing and local attitudes to CSG development in Narrabri, NSW</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community well-being and attitudes to conventional gas</li> <li>• Assessing the value of locally produced conventional gas in SA's South East</li> <li>• The Role of Gas in South Australia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mapping future transport passages and volumes for improved planning and operation</li> </ul>	
<b>Greenhouse gas and air quality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Methane seepage in the Surat Basin</li> <li>• Ambient air quality in the Surat Basin</li> <li>• Greenhouse gas emission assessment of the Surat Basin Gas Reserve</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional methane emissions in NSW CSG basins</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baseline measurement and monitoring of methane emissions in the Beetaloo sub-basin</li> <li>• Mitigating Fugitive Gas Emissions from Well Casings</li> <li>• Offsets for Life cycle Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Onshore gas in the NT</li> </ul>	
<b>Terrestrial Biodiversity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority threat identification, management and appraisal</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding and managing impacts to biodiversity from roads</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baseline assessment of</li> </ul>



RESEARCH AREA	QLD	NSW	SA	NT	WA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire ecology of grassywoodlands</li> <li>• Habitat selection by two focal species</li> <li>• Ensuring biodiversity offset success: the right kind of seed for a rare daisy</li> <li>• Guidelines for offset population sizes</li> </ul>			and pipelines in the Beetaloo	the biodiversity of the Canning Basin
<b>Agricultural land management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preserving agricultural productivity</li> <li>• Shared space</li> <li>• Gas farm design</li> <li>• Making tracks, treading carefully</li> <li>• Without a trace</li> <li>• Telling the story</li> <li>• CSG and Livestock - Inside the heard</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gas impacts and opportunities on primary industries</li> <li>• Perspectives on risk to local markets and industries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Putting land management knowledge into practice</li> </ul>	
<b>Health impact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential human health impacts from CSG activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human health effects of CSG activity: Review and study design</li> </ul>			
<b>Marine Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustaining turtles and their homes</li> </ul>				

*\*This is a jointly funded QLD and NSW project.*

## 4 Queensland R&D Plan & Budget

### 4.1 Queensland Investment profile

#### 4.1.1 Committed research investment for 2011/12-2020/21

The committed budget for projects in Queensland for 2011/12-2020/21 now stands at \$19,563,628. A breakdown of the committed research budget across the various research subject areas is illustrated in Table 4.1 and Table 4.2 shows the investment committed by contributor.

**Table 4.1 Committed research investment in Queensland by research subject area, 2011/12-2020/21**

TOPIC / YEAR	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2021-21	TOTAL
Water (36%)	\$1,102,043	\$1,467,580	\$712,245	\$100,000	\$579,672	\$970,311	\$1,975,116	\$179,754	\$0	\$0	\$7,086,721
Greenhouse gas (14%)	\$0	\$0	\$111,553	\$627,286	\$740,636	\$836,528	\$483,410	0	0	0	\$2,799,413
Agriculture (14%)	\$0	\$732,594	\$863,669	\$533,301	\$273,747	\$245,384	\$160,471	0	0	0	\$2,809,166
Biodiversity (12%)	\$0	\$414,761	\$663,163	\$503,048	\$290,265	\$297,159	\$130,162	0	0	0	\$2,298,558
Marine (9%)	\$0	\$857,142	\$357,143	\$478,914	\$0	\$0	0	0	0	0	\$1,693,199
Social & economic (10%)	\$0	\$420,365	\$434,000	\$300,581	\$266,933	\$191,326	\$118,001	\$122,473	\$0	\$0	\$1,853,679
Health (5%)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$51,924	\$494,004	\$304,365	\$172,599	\$1,022,892
Total	\$1,102,043	\$3,892,442	\$3,141,773	\$2,543,130	\$2,151,253	\$2,540,707	\$2,919,084	\$796,231	\$304,365	\$172,599	\$19,563,628

**Table 4.2 Committed research investment in Queensland by contributor, 2011/12-2020/21**

PARTNER	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	TOTAL
CSIRO (29.5%)	\$220,410	\$1,000,459	\$862,590	\$812,376	\$682,819	\$853,083	\$1,060,160	\$193,464	\$53,693	\$34,121	\$5,773,176
USQ (0.4%)	\$0	\$37,958	\$42,032	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$79,990
Australia Pacific LNG (54.9%)	\$881,633	\$2,854,025	\$1,950,355	\$987,982	\$1,023,486	\$792,418	\$365,032	\$47,803	\$3,042	\$13,176	\$8,918,952 (GISERA Membership)
	\$0	\$0	\$18,574	\$104,443	\$52,470	\$52,470	\$52,470	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$280,427 (Methane Seepage project)
	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$245,670	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$245,670 (HF phase 1 project)
	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,174,821	\$110,179	\$0	\$0	\$1,285,000 (HF phase 2 project)
QGC (8.2%)	\$0	\$0	\$212,500	\$325,000	\$235,068	\$439,656	\$67,467	\$47,803	\$3,042	\$1,730	\$1,332,267 (GISERA Membership)
	\$0	\$0	\$18,574	\$104,443	\$52,470	\$52,470	\$52,470	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$280,427 (Methane Seepage project)
Santos (1.4%)	\$0	\$0	\$18,574	\$104,443	\$52,470	\$52,470	\$52,470	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$280,427 (Methane Seepage project)
Arrow Energy (1.4%)	\$0	\$0	\$18,574	\$104,443	\$52,470	\$52,470	\$52,470	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$280,427 (Methane Seepage project)
Federal Government (1.6%)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$11,193	\$106,491	\$65,611	\$123,572	\$306,867
Qld Government (2.6%)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,533	\$290,490	\$178,977	\$0	\$500,000
Total	\$1,102,043	\$3,892,442	\$3,141,773	\$2,543,130	\$2,151,253	\$2,540,707	\$2,919,084	\$796,231	\$304,365	\$172,599	\$19,563,628

#### 4.1.2 Queensland Current Research Portfolio

A summary of all approved research projects in Queensland is provided in table 4.3

**Table 4.3 Approved Queensland Research Projects**

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	RESEARCH PROJECT AND SCOPE	RESEARCH OUTCOMES	STATUS
Surface and groundwater	<a href="#">Geochemical responses to re injection</a> - understand and quantify aquifer reactions occurring due to re-injection of CSG water, and their impacts on water quality.	Methods for predicting water quality changes resulting from CSG water re-injection.	Completed
	<a href="#">Re-injection of CSG water</a> - understand, quantify and manage clogging of injection wells during re-injection of CSG water permeates, brines and blends.	Strategies to manage clogging of re-injection wells to maximise re-injection volumes.	Completed
	<a href="#">High performance groundwater modelling</a> - determine the feasibility of large scale re-injection schemes.	Models that assess the feasibility of large re-injection schemes and predict how re-injection may reduce impacts from CSG development.	Completed
	<a href="#">Isotope and geochemical groundwater baseline study</a> - characterise the baseline geochemistry of groundwater and formation water prior to and during initial stages of development to understand groundwater age and origin.	Baseline measures of groundwater quality and protocols for monitoring changes in groundwater quality, during and after development.	Completed
	<a href="#">Hydrocarbons in groundwater, Surat and Bowen basins</a> - review and assess the presence of organic compounds in groundwater found in the Surat and Bowen basins using existing open source and company held data.	Information and methods to assess possible sources of hydrocarbons in groundwater to help differentiate naturally occurring hydrocarbons and those potentially introduced during gas extraction process.	Completed
	<a href="#">Constraining water flows in the Surat Basin</a> - measuring and modelling specific chemicals called environmental tracers to gain a better understanding of the speed and direction of groundwater flow.	New data and modelling approach to assess flow rates and volumes of usable groundwater resources in CSG regions in Queensland.	Completed
	<a href="#">Groundwater contamination risk assessment</a> - assess the likelihood of groundwater contamination from hydraulic fracturing and wellbore damage.	Quantitative estimate of the risk of groundwater contamination at a basin/sub-basin scale. This will help management plans and strategies to reduce the risk of surface and groundwater contamination and provide communities a better understanding of potential impacts to local water resources.	Completed
	<a href="#">Air, water and soil impacts of hydraulic fracturing (Phase 1)</a> - to design an intensive monitoring campaign that will measure the air, water and soil impacts of hydraulic fracturing of production wells in the Surat Basin.	A report summarising the current state of knowledge regarding sources of air, water and soil pollutants associated with CSG extraction using hydraulic fracturing, a peer-reviewed design for a measurement program that will provide enhanced information of the impacts of hydraulic fracturing and a report presenting an analysis of air, water and soil quality before commencement of hydraulic fracturing activity.	Completed

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	RESEARCH PROJECT AND SCOPE	RESEARCH OUTCOMES	STATUS
	<a href="#">Air, water and soil impacts of hydraulic fracturing (Phase 2)</a> - undertake a comprehensive monitoring campaign to measure the air, surface water groundwater and soil impacts of hydraulic fracturing of gas production wells in the Surat Basin, Queensland.	A series of reports summarising the impacts of hydraulic fracturing on of air, water and soil quality, based on data from a comprehensive measurement program air, water and soil quality before, during and after hydraulic fracturing activity.	Completed
Social and economic	<a href="#">Monitoring regional transition</a> - synthesise existing knowledge on the nature of rural socio-economic transitions occurring as a result of resource developments, and track the social impacts of regional economic change.	Identify ways to help local communities in responding to resource development in order to maximise social benefit.	Completed
	<a href="#">Community functioning and well-being</a> - identify principal indicators of community function and well-being, the resources and strategies necessary for enabling and enhancing community responses, and how communities respond to major developments in their region.	Inform strategic investments that will help maintain or enhance community function and well-being.	Completed
	<a href="#">Economic assessment and forecasting project</a> - understand future impacts on regional economies and how local businesses can respond.	Forecasts calculating likely economic effects during the operations phase and lessons to support local businesses.	Completed
	<a href="#">Understanding community aspirations</a> - identify community aspirations and their overlaps and/or disparities with existing resources, industry, and policy trajectories. Specifically, to understand how different community segments see the future of the region and how these reflect the economic and policy avenues for the region.	Help inform sound industry and policy activities to satisfy the social licence to operate.	Completed
	<a href="#">Community function and well-being survey 2</a> - conduct a community well-being survey to measure the changes since the end of the construction and start of the operations phases and compare results with the Survey 1 in 2014.	Identify strategies that can be enacted by local and state government to proactively reduce stresses associated with rapid change and also to take advantage of opportunities arising from resource development.	Completed
	<a href="#">Trends in community wellbeing and attitudes to CSG development – Survey 3</a> - monitoring and communicating the changes and trends in community wellbeing, resilience and attitudes to CSG development across different phases of industry operation in south west Queensland, and identifies how these vary between the construction, post-construction, and operations phases of development.	The project will inform the community, industry and government understanding of how and why community wellbeing and attitudes to CSG vary between regions and phases of CSG activity for planning and approval purposes. A more comprehensive understanding of these dynamics across time and space will enable more strategic and proactive policy and planning around CSG development.	Completed
Marine environment	<a href="#">Sustaining turtles and their homes</a> - understand how sediments from dredging and discharges affect seagrass and turtles.	Quantifying the risks to turtle populations from dredging and increased boat traffic.	Completed
Greenhouse gas footprint	<a href="#">Methane seepage in the Surat Basin</a> - detect and measure methane seeping from underground in the Surat Basin, and identify sources of methane to provide a baseline of methane emissions on a regional scale.	A methane emissions data set that can be used to compare changes in methane concentrations as coal seam gas production in the Surat Basin increases.	Completed
	<a href="#">Greenhouse gas emission assessment of the Surat Basin Gas Reserve</a> - analysis of the whole of life cycle GHG emissions, including extraction, transportation and usage of CSG in the Surat Basin.	Assessments of benefits and risks related to the extraction, transport and usage of gas in terms of their GHG emission footprint.	Completed

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	RESEARCH PROJECT AND SCOPE	RESEARCH OUTCOMES	STATUS
	<a href="#">Ambient air quality in the Surat Basin</a> - comprehensive assessment of air quality in the Surat Basin region in Queensland using air quality measurement network and modelling.	Identify the impact of CSG production activities on air quality in the Surat region.	Completed
Agricultural land management	<a href="#">Preserving agricultural productivity</a> - assist in the preservation of agricultural productivity during land use change.	Developing methods for most equitably and/ or cost-effectively preserving agricultural productivity.	Completed
	<a href="#">Shared space</a> - understand how farmers from a range of production systems (extensive grazing to intensive cropping) perceive and value CSG developments on their and others' farms.	Information that assists farmers and developers to negotiate means of co-existence that maximise benefits and minimise social and economic costs.	Completed
	<a href="#">Gas farm design</a> - understand how to design farms for a new mixed land use.	Design principles and practices that optimise farm and gas infrastructure and operations, minimising negative impacts and maximising benefits.	Completed
	<a href="#">Making tracks, treading carefully</a> - understand the direct and indirect impacts of tracks and traffic on invasive species and erosion in agricultural landscapes.	Guidelines for quantifying, monitoring and managing weed and erosion threats.	Completed
	<a href="#">Without a trace</a> - identify the nature and likely extent of damage to agricultural soils, and methods for avoiding and improving soils.	Methods for installing and operating gas infrastructure that avoids soil damage, and novel methods for rehabilitating damage that does occur.	Completed
	<a href="#">Telling the story</a> - Share understanding of changes on farms and in towns during CSG development in the Surat area.	Development of a detailed landscape map showing changes during CSG developments and face-to-face engagements at local shows or community events in the Surat region.	Completed
	<a href="#">CSG and Livestock – Inside the Herd</a> - monitoring grazing land with CSG infrastructure to better understand the impacts of CSG infrastructure, traffic and dust on animals and pastures.	A detailed study of livestock behaviour, pastures, soil processes, and dust deposition for a real CSG property.	Completed
Terrestrial biodiversity	<a href="#">Priority threat identification, management and appraisal</a> - identify and understand the broad range of existing and new threats to biodiversity across a CSG development region.	Determine which conservation management activities will best mitigate the risks to biodiversity.	Completed
	<a href="#">Fire ecology of grassy woodlands</a> - determine the sensitivity of the region's flora and fauna to changed fire regimes, and the thresholds at which changed fire regimes cause substantial ecological impact.	Advice on how to best manage the biodiversity impacts of altered fire regimes associated with CSG development.	Completed
	<a href="#">Habitat selection by two focal species</a> - study two species, the Golden-tailed gecko and Glossy black-cockatoo, to assess the range of impacts from CSG development in south-west Queensland on their habitat.	Management options for the Golden-tailed gecko and Glossy black-cockatoo habitats to ensure their long-term endurance.	Completed
	<a href="#">Ensuring biodiversity offset success: the right kind of seed for a rare daisy</a> - Identify genetic and demographic factors that may limit the success of establishing a rare daisy ( <i>Rutidosia lantana</i> ) in a new location.	Best practice guidelines for moving the <i>Rutidosia lantana</i> , a rare daisy, to a new location. The guidelines will help to minimise biological limits to reproductive success and maximise population viability of the daisy.	Completed
	<a href="#">Guidelines for offset population sizes</a> - improve the understanding of how ecological and biological traits of rare species of plants, commonly encountered	Evidence-based guidelines for the size of plant populations needed to maximise establishment and persistence of rare plant species.	Completed

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	RESEARCH PROJECT AND SCOPE	RESEARCH OUTCOMES	STATUS
	in restoration projects, and different environmental factors determine viable population sizes by using computer models.		
Health	<a href="#">Potential health impacts from CSG</a> - establish processes and governance to ensure research quality, define the project boundary, conduct hazard identification and exposure pathways, and screen data.	Identify potential chemical and physical hazards and exposure pathways, assess the quality of existing data, and gaps in the data collected. Key issues will be selected for further in-depth assessment as part of the project to enable the health study framework to be demonstrated in its entirety.	Underway

### 4.1.3 Queensland Research Progress and Expenditure

The committed Queensland research budget, expenditure and milestones completed for each project is provided in table 4.4 (\* = completed projects).

**Table 4.4 Committed research investment, expenditure and progress in Queensland, by project**

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	PROJECT	ALLOCATED BUDGET	EXPENDITURE UP TO 30 JUNE 2020	PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET SPENT UP TO 30 JUNE 2020 <sup>8</sup>	PERCENTAGE OF MILESTONES COMPLETED UP TO 30 JUNE 2020
Surface and groundwater	Geochemical responses to re-injection*	\$1,061,242	\$1,126,356	106%	100%
	Re-injection of CSG water*	\$1,039,989	\$1,085,085	104%	100%
	High performance groundwater modelling*	\$928,215	\$1,024,173	110%	100%
	Isotope and geochemical groundwater baseline study*	\$667,053	\$709,848	106%	100%
	Hydrocarbons in groundwater, Surat & Bowen basins*	\$257,694	\$568,722	221%	100%
	Constraining groundwater flow models*	\$588,957	\$732,651	124%	100%
	Water contamination risk assessment on hydraulic fracturing in unconventional gas extraction*	\$290,624 <sup>9</sup>	\$293,542	101%	100%
	Air, water and soil impacts of hydraulic fracturing (Phase 1)*	\$330,795 <sup>10</sup>	\$351,433	106%	100%
	Air, water and soil impacts of hydraulic fracturing (Phase 2)*	\$2,111,055 <sup>11</sup>	\$2,153,095	102%	100%
Social and economic	Monitoring regional transition*	\$376,088	\$404,084	107%	100%
	Community functioning and well-being*	\$417,438	\$457,314	110%	100%
	Economic assessment and forecasting project*	\$296,508	\$299,971	101%	100%
	Understanding community aspirations*	\$342,692	\$341,821	100%	100%
	Community function and well-being survey 2*	\$180,479	\$190,269	105%	100%

<sup>8</sup> Any expenditure exceeding 100% represents an additional CSIRO contribution.

<sup>9</sup> This is a jointly funded QLD and NSW project. The figures presented in this table are for 'total project costs' and not split by region.

<sup>10</sup> This includes \$245,670 contribution from APLNG (separate from membership).

<sup>11</sup> This includes \$1,285,000 contribution from APLNG (separate from membership).



RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	PROJECT	ALLOCATED BUDGET	EXPENDITURE UP TO 30 JUNE 2020	PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET SPENT UP TO 30 JUNE 2020 <sup>8</sup>	PERCENTAGE OF MILESTONES COMPLETED UP TO 30 JUNE 2020
	Trends in community wellbeing and attitudes to CSG development - Survey 3*	\$240,474	\$243,795	101%	100%
Marine environment	Sustaining turtles and their homes*	\$1,693,199	\$1,802,905	106%	100%
Greenhouse gas footprint	Methane seepage in the Surat Basin*	\$2,015,937	\$2,293,692	114%	100%
	Greenhouse gas (GHG) emission assessment of the Surat Basin Gas Reserve*	\$241,708	\$318,256	132%	100%
	Ambient air quality in the Surat Basin*	\$541,771	\$605,517	112%	100%
Agricultural land management	Preserving agricultural productivity*	\$547,756	\$538,532	98%	100%
	Shared space*	\$140,445	\$138,805	99%	100%
	Gas farm design*	\$651,329	\$626,057	96%	100%
	Making tracks, treading carefully*	\$564,089	\$578,197	103%	100%
	Without a trace*	\$339,990	\$339,990	100%	100%
	Telling the story*	\$332,224	\$329,234	99%	100%
	CSG and Livestock- Inside the herd*	\$233,333	\$239,628	103%	100%
Terrestrial biodiversity	Priority threat identification, management and appraisal*	\$945,400	\$995,144	105%	100%
	Fire ecology of grassy woodlands*	\$789,042	\$840,016	106%	100%
	Habitat selection by two focal species*	\$167,432	\$204,990	122%	100%
	Ensuring biodiversity offset success: the right kind of seed for a rare daisy*	\$198,055	\$225,232	114%	100%
	Guidelines for offset population sizes*	\$198,630	\$200,326	101%	100%
Health	Potential health impacts from CSG	\$1,022,892	\$710,513	69%	50%
TOTAL ALLOCATED BUDGET		\$19,563,628			

\*These projects have been completed and their reports are available at [www.gisera.csiro.au](http://www.gisera.csiro.au)

## 4.2 Queensland research ideas being discussed for 2020/21

Approximately \$183,597<sup>12</sup> cash remains available for new project proposals to be initiated in FY 2020/21.

The following projects ideas are being discussed, but are yet to be ratified and are subject to review by the relevant Regional Research Advisory Committee. Over coming months further stakeholder consultation will occur aiming to prioritise these research ideas in relation to other community issues.

**Table 4.5 Future research ideas in Queensland for 2020/21**

RESEARCH AREA	IDEA	POTENTIAL REGION	ESTIMATED COST
Communications	Decadal summary of social and environmental impacts from CSG production fields	QLD	\$15-30K
Water	CSG brine management strategy for the proper management of brine for ultimate disposal or beneficial use	QLD	\$170-240K

---

<sup>12</sup> This figure is total GISERA funding for Queensland, less \$19,563,628 already committed to research (tables 4.1 and 4.2) and less anticipated costs for the Director's Office/Communication for the life of GISERA. The remaining research budget does not include any future Federal or State Government contributions or CSIRO in-kind contributions.

## 5 NSW R&D Plan & Budget

### 5.1 NSW Investment profile

#### 5.1.1 Committed research investment for 2016/17-2021/22

The committed budget for projects in New South Wales for 2016/17-2021/22 now stands at \$2,998,729. A breakdown of the committed research budget across the various research subject areas is illustrated in Table 5.1 and Table 5.2 shows the investment committed by contributor.

**Table 5.1 Committed research investment in NSW by research subject area, 2016/17-2021/22**

RESEARCH AREA / YEAR	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	TOTAL
Water (46%)	\$431,853	\$477,427	\$226,997	\$128,614	\$106,316	\$0	\$1,371,207
Greenhouse gas (5%)	\$155,363	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$155,363
Social & economic (40%)	\$522,450	\$152,413	\$0	\$149,760	\$300,111	\$74,901	\$1,199,635
Health (9%)	\$144,269	\$128,255	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$272,524
TOTAL	\$1,253,935	\$758,095	\$226,997	\$278,374	\$406,427	\$74,901	\$2,998,729

**Table 5.2 Committed research investment in NSW by contributor, 2016/17-2021/22**

PARTNER	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	TOTAL
CSIRO (25%)	\$331,472	\$204,490	\$5,630	\$95,092	\$77,614	\$17,219	\$731,516
Santos (9%)	\$130,671	\$77,895	\$2,338	\$19,019	\$26,223	\$12,744	\$268,891
AGL (7%)	\$178,144	\$42,993	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$221,137
Federal Government (41%)	\$402,281	\$306,215	\$214,239	\$126,227	\$190,143	\$0	\$1,239,106
NSW Government (18%)	\$211,366	\$126,503	\$4,790	\$38,036	\$112,447	\$44,938	\$538,080
TOTAL	\$1,253,935	\$758,095	\$226,997	\$278,374	\$406,427	\$74,901	\$2,998,729

### 5.1.2 NSW Current Research Portfolio

A summary of all approved research projects in NSW is provided in table 5.3

**Table 5.3 Approved NSW Research Projects**

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	RESEARCH PROJECT AND SCOPE	RESEARCH OUTCOMES	STATUS
Surface and groundwater	<a href="#">Impacts of CSG depressurization on Great Artesian Basin flux</a> - improve the understanding of the GAB groundwater flow in the Pilliga region through integration of existing information from models, hydrochemical data and environmental tracers.	Assess the chances of extreme changes in GAB groundwater flux (flow volumes) as a result of CSG development using state of the art uncertainty analysis and modelling.	Completed
	<a href="#">Spatial design of groundwater monitoring network in the Narrabri Gas Project area</a> - analysis and design of groundwater bore networks for optimal groundwater monitoring and early detection of changes.	Optimal spatial design of groundwater monitoring networks to improve confidence around predicted groundwater impacts, and help minimise the risk of environmental damage.	Completed
	<a href="#">Improving groundwater models to better represent coal seam gas extraction impacts in the Namoi region</a> - develop more representative models for estimating the groundwater impacts from coal seam gas well fields.	Improving the prediction of groundwater impacts by ensuring accurate representation of the effects of CSG production in the groundwater models being developed for the Namoi region.	Completed
	<a href="#">Groundwater contamination risk assessment</a> - Assess the likelihood of groundwater contamination from hydraulic fracturing and wellbore damage.	Quantitative estimate of the risk of groundwater contamination at a basin/sub-basin scale. This will help inform management plans and strategies to reduce the risk of surface and groundwater contamination and provide communities a better understanding of potential impacts to local water resources.	Completed
	<a href="#">Assessment of faults as potential connectivity pathways</a> - improve understanding of sub-surface structures and potential fault zones that may act as pathways between target coal seams and shallow aquifers or surface water systems, and by helping to further improve the accuracy of future groundwater models in the Narrabri region.	Using a combination of different geophysical methods and environmental tracers this study will assess the continuity and performance of aquitards separating shallow aquifers and coal seams within and near the proposed gas project development area south-west of Narrabri.	Underway
Social and economic	<a href="#">Analysing economic and demographic trajectories in NSW regions experiencing CSG development and operations</a> - identify current levels and trajectories of economic, social and demographic variables in CSG regions within NSW and analyse whether or not the CSG industry could change the trajectory of these variables.	Comprehensive baseline assessment of economic, social and demographic characteristics of CSG regions in NSW and the potential impacts of CSG on these characteristics.	Completed
	<a href="#">Social baseline assessment of the Narrabri region of NSW in relation to CSG development</a> - Understand and measure attitudes, perceptions and expectations that exist within the community with respect to CSG	Baseline information about the community's wellbeing, perceptions, expectations and resilience in relation to CSG development.	Completed

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	RESEARCH PROJECT AND SCOPE	RESEARCH OUTCOMES	STATUS
	development, and current levels of community wellbeing and community resilience.		
	<a href="#">Decommissioning pathways for CSG projects</a> - Review regulatory frameworks in relation to principles derived from international literature and consider social concerns with regard to decommissioning of wells and well pad infrastructure.	Recommendations for an integrated approach to improving the social, economic and environmental effectiveness of decommissioning of wells and well pads.	Completed
	<a href="#">Assessing and projecting on-shore gas effects on regional economic activity</a> - this project will analyse the influence of the NSW on-shore gas industry on regional economic and social indicators, and use economic models to generate descriptions of potential future effects for NSW	An improved understanding of the role of the gas industry in NSW across a comprehensive set of economic and social indicators, enabling insights into potential changes to NSW industry, employment, land use, productivity, and human capital under a range of gas industry development scenarios.	Underway
	<a href="#">Monitoring changes in community wellbeing and local attitudes to CSG development in Narrabri, NSW</a> <sup>13</sup> - this project investigates the social impacts of unconventional gas development on local communities over time, and focuses on the Narrabri region of NSW. Research activities will monitor indicators for community wellbeing, resilience, and perceptions of gas development over six to twelve months during the Narrabri gas project construction phase, if approved.	Project results explore social impacts of unconventional gas development and measure any changes in community wellbeing and resilience between baseline pre-approval surveys completed in 2017 and the Narrabri gas project construction phase in 2020-21. These results could also be compared to any subsequent surveys in the operations phase.	Yet to commence
Greenhouse gas footprint	<a href="#">Regional Methane Emissions in NSW CSG Basins</a> - this project will identify and quantify methane emission sources such as CSG infrastructure, feedlots, coal mining, legacy bore holes in the Pilliga region.	This research will result in a detailed inventory and map of methane emissions for the Pilliga region that can be used to compare emissions once large scale gas extraction starts.	Completed
Health	<a href="#">Potential human health effects of coal seam gas (study framework)</a> - review current information to design a study on the health effects of CSG activities based on community stakeholder, governmental, expert consultation group, and industry input.	Comprehensive study design to investigate effects of CSG activity on human health, including development of a conceptual model to inform the study design.	Completed

<sup>13</sup> This research project is contingent on the construction phase of gas development in the Narrabri Shire commencing, if approved.

### 5.1.3 NSW Research Progress and Expenditure

The committed New South Wales research budget, expenditure and milestones completed for each project is provided in table 5.4 (\* = completed projects).

**Table 5.4 Committed research investment, expenditure and progress in NSW, by project**

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	PROJECT	ALLOCATED BUDGET	EXPENDITURE UP TO 30 JUNE 2020	PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET SPENT UP TO 30 JUNE 2020 <sup>14</sup>	PERCENTAGE OF MILESTONES COMPLETED UP TO 30 JUNE 2020
Surface and groundwater	Impacts of CSG depressurisation on the Great Artesian Basin flux*	\$429,859	429859	100%	100%
	Data- worth analysis and spatial design of groundwater monitoring networks in the Narrabri Gas Project area*	\$216,218	\$217,613	101%	100%
	Improving groundwater models to better represent coal seam gas extraction impacts in the Namoi region*	\$301,295	\$301,834	100%	100%
	Water contamination risk assessment on hydraulic fracturing in unconventional gas extraction*	\$290,624 <sup>15</sup>	\$293,542	101%	100%
	Assessment of faults as potential connectivity pathways	\$234,930	\$69,976	30%	20%
Social and economic	Analysing economic and demographic trajectories in NSW regions experiencing CSG development and operations*	\$103,694	\$103,694	100%	100%
	Social baseline assessment of the Narrabri region of NSW in relation to CSG development*	\$272,292	\$320,467	118%	100%
	Decommissioning CSG Wells*	\$298,876	\$299,012	100%	100%
	Assessing and projecting on-shore gas effects on regional economic activity	\$269,903	\$117,950	44%	40%

<sup>14</sup> Any expenditure exceeding 100% represents an additional CSIRO contribution.

<sup>15</sup> This is a jointly funded QLD and NSW project. The figures presented in this table are for 'total project' and not split by region.

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	PROJECT	ALLOCATED BUDGET	EXPENDITURE UP TO 30 JUNE 2020	PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET SPENT UP TO 30 JUNE 2020 <sup>14</sup>	PERCENTAGE OF MILESTONES COMPLETED UP TO 30 JUNE 2020
	Monitoring changes in community wellbeing and local attitudes to CSG development in Narrabri, NSW	\$254,869 <sup>16</sup>	\$0	0%	0%
Greenhouse gas footprint	Regional methane emissions in NSW CSG basins*	\$155,363	\$155,363	100%	100%
Health	Human Health effects of Coal Seam Gas Activity Study Design*	\$272,524	\$317,002	116%	100%
TOTAL ALLOCATED BUDGET		\$2,998,729			

---

<sup>16</sup> This is a newly approved project proposal whereby \$254,869 funds has been committed. This research project is contingent on the construction phase of gas development in the Narrabri Shire commencing, if approved. If project does not proceed, funds will be returned for future reallocation.

## 5.2 NSW research ideas being discussed for 2021/21

Approximately \$312,415<sup>17</sup> cash remains available for new project proposals to be initiated in FY 2020/21.

The following projects ideas are being discussed, but are yet to be ratified and are subject to review by the relevant Regional Research Advisory Committee. Over coming months further stakeholder consultation will occur aiming to prioritise these research ideas in relation to other community issues.

**Table 5.5 Future research ideas in NSW for 2020/21**

RESEARCH AREA	IDEA	POTENTIAL REGION	ESTIMATED COST
Greenhouse Gas	Greenhouse gas baselining and assessment to gauge total and local greenhouse gas emissions now and overtime and opportunities to secure net zero emissions targets	NSW	\$300K
Socio-economic	Third Community Wellbeing Survey to be conducted during operations phase of development, if approved	NSW	\$240K

---

<sup>17</sup> This figure is total GISERA funding for NSW, less \$2,998,729 already committed to research (tables 5.1 and 5.2) and less anticipated costs for the Director's office/Communications for the life of National GISERA. The remaining research budget does not include future CSIRO in-kind contributions.



## 6 South Australia R&D Plan & Budget

### 6.1 South Australia Investment profile

#### 6.1.1 Committed research investment for 2018/19 - 2022/23

The committed budget for projects in South Australia for 2018/19-2022/23 now stands at \$2,677,858. A breakdown of the committed research budget across the various research subject areas is illustrated in Table 6.1 and Table 6.2 shows the investment committed by contributor.

**Table 6.1 Committed research investment in South Australia by research subject area, 2018/19-2022/23**

RESEARCH AREA / YEAR	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	TOTAL
Water (55%)	679,346	164,844	\$374,006	\$258,435	\$7,933	\$1,484,564
Agriculture (16%)	175,133	\$0	\$159,076	\$99,775	\$0	\$433,984
Social & economic (29%)	257,592	179,388	\$212,559	\$109,771	\$0	\$759,310
Total	\$1,112,071	\$344,232	\$745,641	\$467,981	\$7,933	\$2,677,858

**Table 6.2 Committed research investment in South Australia by contributor, 2018/19-2022/23**

PARTNER	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	TOTAL
CSIRO (25%)	278,018	86,057	186,411	116,996	1,983	\$669,465
Federal Government (46%)	417,027	129,088	414,875	260,384	4,414	\$1,225,787
SA Government (29%)	417,027	129,088	144,355	90,601	1,536	\$782,606
Total	\$1,112,071	\$344,232	\$745,641	\$467,981	\$7,933	\$2,677,858

## 6.1.2 South Australia Current Research Portfolio

A summary of all approved research projects in South Australia is provided in table 6.3.

**Table 6.3 Approved South Australia Research Projects**

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	RESEARCH PROJECT AND SCOPE	RESEARCH OUTCOMES	STATUS
Surface and Groundwater	<a href="#">Onshore gas and water contamination: causes, pathways and risks</a> - investigate potential groundwater contamination causes, pathways and vulnerability to understand onshore gas water quality impacts for southeast SA.	Achieve a realistic quantification of groundwater contamination risks in gas development areas of southeast SA.	Underway
	<a href="#">Groundwater balance in gas development regions of South East South Australia</a> - improve groundwater balance models in the onshore gas development regions of south east South Australia.	An improved understanding of groundwater flow regimes in selected gas development areas of the Otway Basin will help inform decision making and community understanding of water takes by the gas industry in relation to other water uses and management measures required for optimal water use.	Completed
	<a href="#">Microbial degradation of chemical compounds used in onshore gas production in the SE of South Australia</a> - understand the biodegradation of certain chemical compounds used in onshore gas production in the south-east of South Australia.	Provide information about which chemical compounds are degraded by microbes living in the soils and subsurface aquifers, and the impact on these microbial communities. This data can be used to assess the health of an ecosystem.	Completed
	<a href="#">Microbial degradation of chemicals and fluids in aquifers of the Limestone Coast, SA</a> - demonstrate the potential for microbial degradation of chemicals used by the onshore gas industry across the Tertiary Limestone Aquifer (TLA) in the Limestone Coast region of south east South Australia.	This project will establish microbial community baselines in the TLA in the Limestone Coast region. The project will also examine microbial degradation of a range of chemicals likely to be used in onshore gas activities, in aquifer water samples.	To commence in 20/21
	<a href="#">Decision support framework for future groundwater development scenarios in the southeast SA</a> - develop and test a decision support framework to improve management of groundwater resources. Research outcomes will consider probable future groundwater use scenarios, taking account of climate change and various future water use patterns for irrigation, forestry, onshore gas and other industries in the south east of South Australia.	Increasing demands on available water resources and the requirement for sustainable development have implications for the amount of water available for agricultural and industrial uses in the future. A science-based decision support framework will assist policy development and decision-makers to manage valuable water resources.	To commence in 20/21
Social and Economic	<a href="#">Community wellbeing and attitudes to conventional gas development in the South East of South Australia</a> - measure levels of perceived risk, benefits, knowledge, and other underlying drivers of trust and social acceptance of conventional gas development in South Australia's south east, and develop baseline data on community values, well-being and future expectations.	Baseline information about community well-being, perceptions, expectations and resilience for conventional gas development, to improve awareness and knowledge.	Completed
	<a href="#">Assessing the value of locally produced conventional gas in SA's South East</a> - develop a profile of the gas industry and its role within the regional economy and develop scenarios for how the local gas industry may evolve.	Knowledge for policy makers and local businesses regarding the socio-economic value of gas activity for local communities, and an improved capacity to forecast outcomes from industry development.	Completed

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	RESEARCH PROJECT AND SCOPE	RESEARCH OUTCOMES	STATUS
	<a href="#">The role of gas in South Australia</a> - clarify the role of natural gas in meeting the state's renewable energy, security, emissions and energy pricing goals.	Research outcomes will help define a least cost technical pathway towards 100 per cent renewable electricity and a hydrogen industry which supports an eventual zero net emissions in South Australia, consistent with South Australia's Climate Change Strategy 2015-2050 – Towards a Low Carbon Economy.	To commence in 20/21
Agricultural land management	<a href="#">Gas impacts and opportunities on primary industries</a> - analyse possible impacts and opportunities from gas development for rural areas in South Australia's south east.	Information to assist community understanding and inform policy development of potential impacts and opportunities from conventional gas development on primary industries.	Completed
	<a href="#">Perspectives on risk to local markets and industries</a> - explore potential market impacts and associated concerns relating to the value of place of origin labelling and branding arising from conventional gas development in the south east of South Australia.	Results from this research will assist community understanding and inform public communications and policy development.	To commence in 20/21

### 6.1.4 South Australia Research Progress and Expenditure

The committed South Australia research budget, expenditure and milestones completed for each project is provided in table 6.4. (\* = completed projects).

**Table 6.4 Committed research investment, expenditure and progress in South Australia, by project**

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	PROJECT	ALLOCATED BUDGET	EXPENDITURE UP TO 30 JUNE 2020	PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET SPENT UP TO 30 JUNE 2020 <sup>18</sup>	PERCENTAGE OF MILESTONES COMPLETED UP TO 30 JUNE 2020
Surface and Groundwater	Onshore gas and water contamination: causes, pathways and risks	\$277,550	\$234,436	84%	83%
	Groundwater balance in gas development regions of south east South Australia*	\$326,036	\$327,997	101%	100%
	Microbial degradation of chemical compounds used in onshore gas production in the south east of South Australia*	\$240,604	\$244,834	102%	100%
	Microbial degradation of chemicals and fluids in aquifers of the Limestone Coast, South Australia	\$273,502	\$0 <sup>19</sup>	0%	0%
	Decision support framework for future groundwater development scenarios in the southeast South Australia	\$366,872	\$0 <sup>20</sup>	0%	0%
Social and Economic	Community wellbeing and attitudes to conventional gas development in the south east of South Australia*	\$198,500	\$197,830	100%	100%
	Assessing the value of locally produced conventional gas in SA's South East*	\$238,480	\$238,667	100%	100%
	The role of gas in South Australia	\$322,330	\$0 <sup>21</sup>	0%	0%
Agricultural land management	Gas impacts and opportunities on primary industries*	\$175,133	\$178,089	102%	100%
	Perspectives on risk to local markets and industries	\$258,851	\$0 <sup>22</sup>	0%	0%
TOTAL ALLOCATED BUDGET		\$2,677,858			

<sup>18</sup> Any expenditure exceeding 100% represents an additional CSIRO contribution.

<sup>19</sup> This is a newly approved project. Expenditure will be incurred in 2020/21.

<sup>20</sup> This is a newly approved project. Expenditure will be incurred in 2020/21.

<sup>21</sup> This is a newly approved project. Expenditure will be incurred in 2020/21.

<sup>22</sup> This is a newly approved project. Expenditure will be incurred in 2020/21.

## 6.2 South Australia research ideas being discussed for 2020/21

Approximately \$0<sup>23</sup> cash remains available for new project proposals to be initiated in FY 2020/21.

Should additional funding become available in South Australia, research issues will be addressed in relation to priorities established through community consultation.

---

<sup>23</sup> This figure is total GISERA funding for South Australia, less \$2,677,858 already committed to research (tables 6.1 and 6.2) and less anticipated costs for the Director's office/Communications for the life of National GISERA.

## 7 Northern Territory R&D Plan & Budget

### 7.1 Northern Territory Investment profile

#### 7.1.1 Committed research investment for 2018/19 - 2021/22

The committed budget for projects in Northern Territory for 2018/19-2021/22 now stands at \$3,670,155. A breakdown of the committed research budget across the various research subject areas is illustrated in Table 7.1 and Table 7.2 shows the investment committed by contributor.

**Table 7.1 Committed research investment in Northern Territory by research subject area, 2018/19-2021/22**

RESEARCH AREA / YEAR	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-21	TOTAL
Water (49%)	\$280,320	\$941,500	\$395,236	\$194,617	\$1,811,673
Greenhouse Gas Footprint (30%)	\$305,297	\$227,493	\$487,369	\$74,666	\$1,094,825
Agriculture (7%)	\$0	\$0	\$168,492	\$81,337	\$249,829
Social & economic (5%)	\$0	\$0	\$194,308	\$0	\$194,308
Biodiversity (9%)	\$0	\$0	\$197,948	\$121,572	\$319,520
Total	\$585,617	\$1,168,993	\$1,443,353	\$472,192	\$3,670,155

**Table 7.2 Committed research investment in Northern Territory by contributor, 2018/19-2021/22**

PARTNER	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-21	TOTAL
CSIRO (23%)	\$69,694	\$279,170	\$360,838	\$118,048	\$827,750
Origin (6%)	\$33,785	\$116,024	\$46,743	\$6,044	\$202,596
Santos (6%)	\$33,785	\$116,024	\$46,743	\$6,044	\$202,596
Pangaea (3%)	\$4,245	\$86,247	\$30,970	\$2,125	\$123,587
Federal Government (43%)	\$68,632	\$313,596	\$885,016	\$322,790	\$1,590,035
NT Government (18%)	\$373,929	\$205,620	\$73,043	\$17,141	\$669,734
Charles Darwin University (1%)	\$1,546	\$52,312	\$0	\$0	\$53,858
Total	\$585,617	\$1,168,993	\$1,443,353	\$472,192	\$3,670,155

## 7.1.2 Northern Territory Current Research Portfolio

A summary of all approved research projects in Northern Territory is provided in table 7.3

**Table 7.3 Approved Northern Territory Research Projects**

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	RESEARCH PROJECT AND SCOPE	RESEARCH OUTCOMES	STATUS
Surface and Groundwater	<a href="#">Baseline monitoring of groundwater properties in the Beetaloo Sub-basin, NT</a> - understand the geochemical properties, recharge rates and recharge mechanisms of groundwater.	Sample and analyse groundwater in the Beetaloo Sub-basin, and create a set of baseline data against which any potential impacts caused by the gas industry can be measured. It will provide information about the baseline geochemistry and groundwater flow characteristics in the Cambrian Limestone Aquifer.	Completed
	<a href="#">Characterisation of the stygofauna and microbial assemblages of the Beetaloo Sub-basin, NT</a> - To undertake a broad spatial pilot-scale survey of water bores in the Beetaloo Sub-basin, using direct sampling and DNA-based approaches to determine the distribution and abundance of stygofauna and characterise subterranean groundwater-dependent ecosystems.	Provide new knowledge concerning stygofauna and subterranean groundwater dependent ecosystems in the Beetaloo Sub-basin and Roper River system, a critical knowledge gap identified by the Final Report of the Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing in the Northern Territory (2018).	Underway
	<a href="#">Environmental monitoring and microbial degradation of onshore shale gas activity chemicals and fluids</a> - better understand how typical onshore gas chemicals biodegrade in relevant aquifers and soil types in the Northern Territory.	Baseline information about microbial communities in aquifers and soils, and understanding how microbes influence degradation of chemicals typically used in the onshore gas industry in soils and aquifers in the Northern Territory. This information can also be used to gauge the health of groundwater ecosystems.	Underway
	<a href="#">Improved approaches to long-term monitoring of decommissioned onshore gas wells</a> - investigate options for long-term monitoring of well integrity in decommissioned onshore gas wells in the Northern Territory, including assessment of well decommissioning practices and monitoring techniques and technology, in the context of Northern Territory regulatory requirements	Knowledge developed through this project will assist in the development of long-term well monitoring techniques and technologies to support best practice in onshore gas well decommissioning activities in the Northern Territory.	Underway
	<a href="#">Onshore gas water lifecycle management options framework</a> - design an options framework and decision criteria for water and wastewater management for Northern Territory onshore gas development.	This framework will provide a high level of environmental protection for community and government while remaining cost-effective for industry.	To commence in 20/21
Greenhouse Gas Footprint	<a href="#">Baseline measurement and monitoring of methane emissions in the Beetaloo Sub-basin</a> - Understanding of the natural methane levels, over the various seasons, a baseline for accurately quantifying any future onshore gas impacts.	Monitor and measure background methane levels and rate of change in methane levels during the dry, wet, and fire seasons using mobile survey technology.	Completed
	<a href="#">Mitigating Fugitive Gas Emissions from Well Casings</a> - review current industry practice and conduct experimental investigations to evaluate techniques and assess new materials designed to minimise fugitive methane emissions leaking from microfractures and gaps in gas well cement casing	Results of this project will help reduce fugitive methane emissions by improving the integrity of gas wells through the development effective materials and best practice techniques for sealing microfractures and micro-annuli in well casing cement.	Underway

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	RESEARCH PROJECT AND SCOPE	RESEARCH OUTCOMES	STATUS
	<a href="#">Offsets for Life cycle Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Onshore Gas in the NT</a> - seek feasible options to offset life cycle greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions emitted in Australia associated with scenarios of new production and Australian consumption of onshore gas extracted from the Northern Territory's Beetaloo Sub-basin.	<p>Currently, there is no natural gas production in the Beetaloo Sub-basin. This project will use scenario analysis to represent potential gas extraction, coupled with technical calculations on the GHG emissions implications of those scenarios.</p> <p>An important aspect of developing natural gas is the estimation of fugitive methane emissions from production scenarios. CSIRO has been actively conducting research on methane emissions for more than 30 years across a range of industries, including the coal seam gas industry in Queensland.</p>	To commence in 20/21
Agricultural land management	<a href="#">Putting land management knowledge into practice</a> - develop high-quality spatial data to help landholders, regulators, and the gas industry to evaluate design and placement of gas infrastructure, protect surface water and vegetation, and reduce erosion, soil damage and dust. Part of this work will include development of novel communication tools to improve exchange of data between groups.	This research will use modern data visualization techniques to present spatial data relating to landscape processes in the Beetaloo Sub-basin in a "virtual landscape" using augmented reality technology. This allows complex processes such as hydrology, soil loss or pasture dynamics to be more easily understood, and to communicate best practice management of potential environmental risk.	To commence in 20/21
Terrestrial biodiversity	<a href="#">Understanding and managing impacts to biodiversity from roads and pipelines in the Beetaloo</a> - investigate how roads, pipelines and other linear transport infrastructure may impact biodiversity in the Beetaloo Sub-basin during the development of an onshore gas industry.	New scientific information about potential biodiversity impacts will help identify areas that are most threatened by infrastructure development and assist management approaches and decision-making to reduce risk to biodiversity while facilitating development.	To commence in 20/21
Social and Economic	<a href="#">Mapping future transport passages and volumes for improved planning and operation</a> - Using scenarios of both construction and operational phases of gas development, this project will analyse road and rail freight costs, flows and impacts for identified sites and regions in the Beetaloo Sub-basin in the Northern Territory. It will also test a range of interventions that may increase road safety while reducing costs and impacts on the environment and local communities.	Results of this research will support decision-making across industry, government regulation and community. The analysis will consider freight task increase from the current baseline, transport costs, emissions, road maintenance, impacts of dust on agriculture and human health, and related effects on local business activities. It will include existing traffic across the road and rail network as well as introduced traffic (heavy and domestic vehicles).	To commence in 20/21



### 7.1.4 Northern Territory Research Progress and Expenditure

The committed Northern Territory research budget, expenditure and milestones completed for each project is provided in table 7.4 (\* = completed projects).

**Table 7.4 Committed research investment, expenditure and progress in Northern Territory, by project**

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	PROJECT	ALLOCATED BUDGET	EXPENDITURE UP TO 30 JUNE 2020	PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET SPENT UP TO 30 JUNE 2020 <sup>24</sup>	PERCENTAGE OF MILESTONES COMPLETED UP TO 30 JUNE 2020
Surface and Groundwater	Baseline monitoring of groundwater properties in the Beetaloo Sub-basin, NT*	\$410,550	\$410,550	100%	100%
	Characterisation of the stygofauna and microbial assemblages of the Beetaloo Sub-basin	\$346,890	\$288,353	83%	78%
	Improved approaches to long-term monitoring of decommissioned onshore gas wells	\$352,436	\$139,050	39%	17%
	Environmental monitoring and microbial degradation of onshore shale gas activity chemicals and fluids	\$291,964	\$258,344	88%	33%
	Onshore gas water lifecycle management options framework	\$409,833	\$0 <sup>25</sup>	0%	0%
Greenhouse Gas Footprint	Baseline measurement and monitoring of methane emissions in the Beetaloo Sub-basin*	\$305,297	\$311,931	102%	100%
	Mitigating	\$371,644	\$219,794	59%	25%
	Offsets for Life cycle Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Onshore Gas in the NT	\$417,884	\$0 <sup>26</sup>	0%	0%
Agricultural land management	Putting land management knowledge into practice	\$249,829	\$0 <sup>27</sup>	0%	0%
Terrestrial biodiversity	Understanding and managing impacts to biodiversity from roads and pipelines in the Beetaloo	\$319,520	\$0 <sup>28</sup>	0%	0%

<sup>24</sup> Any expenditure exceeding 100% represents an additional CSIRO contribution.

<sup>25</sup> This is a newly approved project. Expenditure will be incurred in 2020/21.

<sup>26</sup> This is a newly approved project. Expenditure will be incurred in 2020/21.

<sup>27</sup> This is a newly approved project. Expenditure will be incurred in 2020/21.

<sup>28</sup> This is a newly approved project. Expenditure will be incurred in 2020/21.

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	PROJECT	ALLOCATED BUDGET	EXPENDITURE UP TO 30 JUNE 2020	PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET SPENT UP TO 30 JUNE 2020 <sup>24</sup>	PERCENTAGE OF MILESTONES COMPLETED UP TO 30 JUNE 2020
Socio Economic	Mapping future transport passages and volumes for improved planning and operation	\$194,308	\$0 <sup>29</sup>	0%	0%
TOTAL ALLOCATED BUDGET		\$3,670,155			

---

<sup>29</sup> This is a newly approved project. Expenditure will be incurred in 2020/21.

## 7.2 Northern Territory research ideas being discussed for 2020/21

Approximately \$260,680<sup>30</sup> cash remains available for new project proposals to be initiated in FY 2020/21.

The following projects ideas are being discussed, but are yet to be ratified and are subject to review by the relevant Regional Research Advisory Committee. Over coming months further stakeholder consultation will occur aiming to prioritise these research ideas in relation to other community issues.

**Table 7.5 Future research ideas in Northern Territory for 2020/21**

SUBJECT AREA	IDEA	POTENTIAL REGION	ESTIMATED COST
Land	Characterising the background seismic activity at the well-site scale prior to hydraulic fracturing and fluid injection operations in prospective areas	NT	\$250-350K

---

<sup>30</sup> This figure is total GISERA funding for Northern Territory less \$3,670,155 already committed to research (tables 7.1 and 7.2) and less anticipated costs for the Director's office/Communications for the life of National GISERA. The remaining research budget does not include future CSIRO in-kind contributions.

## 8 Western Australia R&D Plan & Budget

### 8.1 Western Australia Investment profile

#### 8.1.1 Committed research investment for 2020/21

The committed budget for projects in Western Australia for 2020/21 now stands at \$150,499. A breakdown of the committed research budget across the various research subject areas is illustrated in Table 8.1 and Table 8.2 shows the investment committed by contributor.

**Table 8.1 Committed research investment in Western Australia by research subject area, 2020/21**

RESEARCH AREA / YEAR	2020-21	TOTAL
Water (64%)	\$95,675	\$95,675
Biodiversity (36%)	\$54,824	\$54,824
Total	\$150,499	\$150,499

**Table 8.2 Committed research investment in Western Australia by contributor, 2020/21**

PARTNER	2020-21	TOTAL
CSIRO (25%)	\$37,625	\$37,625
Federal Government (75%)	\$112,874	\$112,874
Total	\$150,499	\$150,499

### 8.1.2 Western Australia Current Research Portfolio

A summary of all approved research projects in Western Australia is provided in table 8.3

**Table 8.3 Approved Western Australia Research Projects**

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	RESEARCH PROJECT AND SCOPE	RESEARCH OUTCOMES	STATUS
Surface and Groundwater	<a href="#">Groundwater baseline study of the Canning Basin, Western Australia</a> – explores and summarises the current state of knowledge of groundwater systems in the Canning Basin, Western Australia.	Results of this research will identify requirements for future investigation, characterisation and monitoring of groundwater systems. This work will build on and bring together previous groundwater studies in this region to understand the current status of groundwater knowledge for the entire basin.	To commence in 20/21
Terrestrial Biodiversity	<a href="#">Baseline assessment of the biodiversity of the Canning Basin, Western Australia</a> - assess the current state of knowledge about the biodiversity of the Canning Basin in Western Australia.	This desktop study will identify the plants and animals that occur in the Canning Basin. Species and threatened ecological communities that are of conservation or cultural significance will be identified. This information will be used to identify knowledge gaps and recommend further investigations to fill these gaps.	To commence in 20/21

#### 8.1.4 Western Australia Research Progress and Expenditure

The committed Western Australia research budget, expenditure and milestones completed for each project is provided in table 9.4.

**Table 8.4 Committed research investment, expenditure and progress in Western Australia, by project**

RESEARCH SUBJECT AREA	PROJECT	ALLOCATED BUDGET	EXPENDITURE UP TO 30 JUNE 2020	PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET SPENT UP TO 30 JUNE 2020 <sup>31</sup>	PERCENTAGE OF MILESTONES COMPLETED UP TO 30 JUNE 2020
Surface and Groundwater	Groundwater baseline study of the Canning Basin, Western Australia	\$95,675	\$0 <sup>32</sup>	0%	0%
Terrestrial Biodiversity	Baseline assessment of the biodiversity of the Canning Basin, Western Australia	\$54,824	\$0 <sup>33</sup>	0%	0%
TOTAL ALLOCATED BUDGET		\$150,499			

---

<sup>31</sup> Any expenditure exceeding 100% represents an additional CSIRO contribution.

<sup>32</sup> This is a newly approved project. Expenditure will be incurred in 2020/21.

<sup>33</sup> This is a newly approved project. Expenditure will be incurred in 2020/21.

## 8.2 Western Australia research ideas being discussed for 2020/21

Approximately \$0<sup>34</sup> cash remains available for new project proposals to be initiated in FY 2020/21.

Should additional funding become available in Western Australia, research issues will be addressed in relation to priorities established through community consultation.

---

<sup>34</sup> This figure is total GISERA funding for Western Australia less \$150,499 already committed to research (tables 8.1 and 8.2) and less anticipated costs for the Director's office/Communications for the life of National GISERA.

## 9 Proposed management and communication budget for 2020/21

Table 10.1 shows GISERA's actual management and communications expenditure during the 11-12 to 19-20 financial years and the proposed management and communications budget for 20-21.

**Table 9.1 Proposed management and communications budget, 2020/21 with actual expenditure for 2011/12-2019/20**

ITEM	SUB-ITEM	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE											PLANNED	TOTAL
		Initial Alliance Agreement					National Alliance Agreement							
		2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 (Jul-Dec 15)	2015-16 (Jan-Jun 16)	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21		
Comms	Comms salary & OH	\$188,899	\$214,378	\$259,429	\$110,422	\$95,405	\$86,480	\$163,470	\$192,714	\$172,939	\$165,162	\$169,267		\$1,818,565
	Travel & accom	\$0	\$0	\$4,116	\$3,490	\$8,787	\$11,039	\$20,951	\$14,868	\$4,949	\$3,918	\$10,000		\$82,118
	Factsheets, brochures infographics, videos	\$11,300	\$0	\$600	\$489	\$0	\$7,110	\$19,537	\$21,706	\$26,433	\$13,594	\$20,000		\$120,769
	Public info. sessions	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,145	\$0	\$3,312	\$21,925 <sup>35</sup>	\$3,261	\$14,035 <sup>36</sup>	\$8,000		\$53,678
	Vodcasts	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$3,000
	Printing	\$4,520	\$0	\$296	\$555	\$2,109	\$2,038	\$1,324	\$3,246	\$1,219	\$411	\$2,500		\$18,218
	General Expenses & Annual report	\$8,303	\$21,937	\$511	\$3,507	\$372	\$2,922	\$5,277	\$4,632	\$6,552	\$5,606	\$5,500		\$65,119
	Media training	\$7,530	\$689	\$7,327	\$10,741	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$26,287
Comms total		\$220,552	\$237,004	\$275,279	\$129,204	\$109,817	\$109,589	\$213,870	\$259,091	\$215,353	\$202,726	\$215,267		\$2,187,753
Director's office	Director & Deputy Director salary & OH	\$104,671	\$148,924	\$101,727	\$204,799	\$62,688	\$61,827	\$237,765	\$336,191	\$314,055	\$439,188	\$383,336		\$2,395,171

<sup>35</sup> Includes GISERA's contribution and presence at CSIRO booth at APPEA Conference

<sup>36</sup> Includes GISERA's contribution and presence at CSIRO booth at APPEA Conference for 2020-21



ITEM	SUB-ITEM	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE										PLANNED	TOTAL
		Initial Alliance Agreement					National Alliance Agreement						
		2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 (Jul-Dec 15)	2015-16 (Jan-Jun 16)	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	
	Admin & Exec Officer support	\$0	\$25,801	\$18,416	\$167,848	\$63,488	\$68,411	\$252,594	\$409,412	\$315,639	\$262,418	\$290,571	\$1,874,598
	Contractor	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$61,584	\$168,292	\$48,754	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$278,630
	Travel & accom	\$28,384	\$13,653	\$23,760	\$48,129	\$15,853	\$42,619	\$47,221	\$48,282	\$26,479	\$12,763	\$40,000	\$347,143
	Conferences	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,315	\$10,524	\$10,448	\$3,525	\$0	\$10,000	\$64,812
	Annual Symposium/SRG	\$0	\$0	\$1,859	\$13,410	\$10,279	\$417	\$4,848	\$22,759	\$1,513	\$8,531	\$10,000	\$73,616
	Office supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,089	\$7,648	\$2,650	\$292	\$172	\$830	\$1,500	\$14,181
	Auditor	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000
Director's office total		\$133,055	\$188,378	\$145,762	\$434,186	\$153,399	\$272,821	\$723,894	\$876,138	\$661,383	\$723,730	\$738,407	\$5,051,151
TOTAL (Director's office & Comms)		\$353,607	\$425,382	\$421,041	\$563,390	\$263,216	\$382,411	\$937,765	\$1,135,229	\$876,736	\$926,456	\$953,674 <sup>37</sup>	\$7,238,905

<sup>37</sup> This figure is the anticipated Director's office and Communications costs up to 30 June 2021 (not over life of National GISERA).

**Table 9.2 Partner contributions – Initial Alliance Agreement 2011/12-2015/16**

	COMMS & MNGT COSTS CONTRIBUTIONS	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 (JUL-DEC 15)	2015-16 (JAN-JUN 16)	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	TOTAL
Initial GISERA	CSIRO	\$176,804	\$212,691	\$210,520	\$281,695	\$131,608	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,013,318
	APLNG/QGC	\$176,804	\$212,691	\$210,520	\$281,695	\$131,608	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,013,318
TOTAL		\$353,607	\$425,382	\$421,041	\$563,390	\$263,216	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,026,636

**Table 9.3 Partner contributions – National Alliance Agreement 2015/16-2020/21**

	COMMS & MNGT COSTS CONTRIBUTIONS	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 (JUL- DEC 15)	2015-16 (JAN-JUN 16)	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	TOTAL
National GISERA	CSIRO	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$172,083	\$421,994	\$540,891	\$341,927	\$342,121	\$605,583	\$2,424,599
	Federal Govt	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$45,889	\$112,532	\$267,161	\$275,023	\$324,727	\$0	\$1,025,332
	NSW Government	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$68,834	\$168,798	\$151,862	\$34,558	\$69,484	\$190,735	\$684,271
	SA Government	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$60,071	\$87,673	\$69,648	\$0	\$217,392
	APLNG	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$19,121	\$46,888	\$28,711	\$13,704	\$13,897	\$47,684	\$170,005
	QGC	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$19,121	\$46,888	\$28,711	\$13,704	\$13,897	\$9,537	\$131,858
	Origin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$19,121	\$46,888	\$28,711	\$17,535	\$13,897	\$38,147	\$164,299
	Santos	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$19,121	\$46,888	\$28,711	\$41,113 <sup>38</sup>	\$23,161 <sup>39</sup>	\$57,220 <sup>40</sup>	\$216,215
	AGL	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$19,121	\$46,888	\$400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$66,409
	NT Government	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$43,837	\$41,727	\$0	\$85,564
	Pangaea	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,661	\$13,897	\$4,768	\$26,326
TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$382,411	\$937,765	\$1,135,229	\$876,736	\$926,456	\$953,674	\$5,212,270

<sup>38</sup> Santos contributing to two regions

<sup>39</sup> Santos contributing to two regions

<sup>40</sup> Santos contributing to two regions

# 10 Communication

## 10.1 Overview

As gas exploration and development increases in regions around Australia, information about the onshore gas industry is being sought by local communities, governments, land-use industries (especially farmers), environmentalists and the wider public. GISERA's accessible, transparent research outcomes are well placed to contribute constructively and objectively to this need.

CSIRO GISERA plays an important role in providing trusted information about the challenges and opportunities associated with the onshore gas industry. Details of GISERA's communication goals are summarised in [Section 11.2 Communication goals and KPIs](#).

Since launching CSIRO's GISERA in July 2011, the GISERA Director and CSIRO research staff have participated in 1267 engagements with a range of stakeholders, such as federal and state Members of Parliament, industry associations, community groups, research organisations, gas developers, journalists and consultants. A breakdown of this activity can be found in [Table 11.3 Summary of Engagement over the life of GISERA](#).

CSIRO GISERA presentations at conferences, community information sessions and seminars continue to be key opportunities to inform stakeholders about research outcomes which address the social and environmental impacts and opportunities arising from onshore gas development. Examples of presentations can be found at [Presentations](#).

Communication of CSIRO GISERA research has occurred through the use of traditional and online media channels, as appropriate, to reach wider community audiences. While the GISERA Director and CSIRO research staff provided 8 media interviews with traditional media channels, including print, television and radio in 2019-20, a key communication focus was development of innovative online communication products accessible directly by public audiences.

Communication highlights during this period include development of a range of communication products to showcase CSIRO GISERA research, including:

- GISERA [e-newsletter Issue #12](#)
- A video animation titled [The value of gas research in south east South Australia](#)
- A video titled [Characterising air, water and soils during hydraulic fracturing of CSG wells in the Surat Basin, Queensland](#)
- A video animation titled [Onshore unconventional emissions, explained](#)
- A factsheet called [Community wellbeing and local attitudes to conventional gas development in south east South Australia](#)
- A factsheet called [Mitigating fugitive gas emissions from well casings](#)
- A factsheet called [Air, water and soil impacts of hydraulic fracturing \(HF\) in the Surat Basin, Queensland](#)
- A factsheet called [Characterising stygofauna and microbial assemblages in the Beetaloo Sub-basin](#)
- A factsheet called [Scenarios for the role of conventional gas in south east South Australia](#)
- A factsheet called [Microbial degradation of chemicals used in onshore gas production \(South Australia\)](#)

- A factsheet called [Monitoring microbial communities in aquifers and soils of the Beetaloo Sub-basin](#)
- A factsheet called [Natural gas: impacts and opportunities on primary industries in south east South Australia](#)
- A factsheet called [Groundwater characteristics in the Beetaloo Sub-basin](#)
- A factsheet called [Methane emissions in the Northern Territory's Beetaloo Sub-basin](#)
- An updated factsheet called [Fugitive emissions from unconventional gas: What that latest scientific research is telling us about fugitive methane emissions from unconventional gas](#)
- An updated factsheet called [About us](#) which provides an overview of CSIRO GISERA's aims, partners, communication and governance processes;
- An updated brochure called [Summary of research projects](#) which provides a progress summary of research by GISERA.

CSIRO GISERA's reputation as a provider of trusted advice to community has been enhanced by the past year's engagements with landowners, farmers and the local communities at a range of community and industry forums and rural shows, including:

- Community feedback sessions where held in Mount Gambier discussing the research findings from [Community wellbeing and attitudes to conventional gas in the south east of South Australia](#) project in December 2019;
- Community feedback sessions where held in Mount Gambier discussing the research findings from [Assessing the value of locally produced conventional gas in SA's South East](#) project in December 2019;
- Community feedback sessions where held in Mount Gambier discussing the research findings from [Gas impacts and opportunities on primary industries](#) project in December 2019.

Increased understanding of research results occurred through GISERA's knowledge transfer sessions for:

- Greenhouse project 5 [Baseline measurement and monitoring of methane emissions in the Beetaloo sub-basin](#), Darwin August 2019;
- Water project 16 [Baseline assessment of groundwater characteristics in the Beetaloo Sub-basin, NT](#), Darwin August 2019;
- Water project 15 [Microbial degradation of chemical compounds used in onshore gas production](#), Adelaide November 2019;
- Socio economic project 12 [Assessing the value of locally produced conventional gas in South Eastern SA](#), Adelaide November 2019;
- Agriculture project 8 [Gas impacts and opportunities on primary industries](#), Adelaide November 2019;
- Water project 12 [Air, water and soil impacts of hydraulic fracturing: Phase 2](#), Brisbane December 2019;
- Water project 14 [Groundwater balance in the development regions of SE of SA](#), via Webex March 2020;
- Water project 13 [Onshore gas and water contamination: causes, pathways and risks](#), via Webex March 2020;
- Socio economic project 11 [Community Wellbeing and attitudes to conventional gas development in the SE of SA](#), via Webex March 2020.

Media interviews with lead CSIRO GISERA scientists discussed topics including:

- GISERA's overall research
- Air, water and soil impacts of hydraulic fracturing in the Surat Basin project
- Whole of Life Greenhouse Gas Emissions Assessment of a Coal Seam Gas to Liquefied Natural Gas in the Surat Basin project
- Emissions and Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS)
- Methane and groundwater baseline studies in the Northern Territory
- Three-part series on Can Australia's Top End tackle climate change? – Episode 3 discussions emissions and the onshore gas industry

**Table 10.1 Scientific presentations, poster presentations and interactions promoting GISERA research in 2019-20**

EVENT	NAME OF PRESENTATION	PRESENTER(S)	LOCATION	DATE
South Australia Department of Energy and Mining and SA Department of Premier and Cabinet briefing	Presentation on GISERA's social research in South Australia	Tom Measham	Adelaide	Jul-19
Northern Territory Onshore Shale Gas Community and Business Reference Group	Presentation on <a href="#">Baseline measurement and monitoring of methane emissions in the Beetaloo Sub-basin</a> and <a href="#">Baseline monitoring of groundwater properties in the Beetaloo Sub-basin, NT</a> studies	Damian Barrett	Darwin	Aug-19
Confederation of Indian Industry Water Innovation Summit  Groundwater Master Class on Managed Aquifer Recharge to participants from industry and regulators who are stakeholders in managed aquifer recharge	Demonstration of CSIRO/GISERA research on reinjection/MAR and how it enabled the industry to design and implement scientifically supported managed aquifer recharge accounting for water quantity and quality effects.	Sreekanth Janardhanan	New Delhi	Sept-19
Ministerial Resources Community Roundtable	Ministerial briefing on Whole of Life Greenhouse Gas Emissions Assessment of a Coal Seam Gas to Liquefied Natural Gas in the Surat Basin project	Damian Barrett	Brisbane	Sept-19
2019 APPEA Taxation & Commercial Conference	Plenary speaker for session on The role of science and engagement in strengthening community understanding	Damian Barrett	Canberra	Oct-19
The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual GISERA Stakeholder Group Roundtable	Presentation on GISERA's GHG research - <a href="#">Regional fluxes of methane in the Surat Basin (QLD)</a>	David Etheridge	Canberra	Nov-19
The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual GISERA Stakeholder Group Roundtable	Presentation on GISERA's GHG research - <a href="#">Whole of life CSG greenhouse emissions: Multi-Regional Input Output Analysis (QLD)</a>	Tim Baynes	Canberra	Nov-19
The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual GISERA Stakeholder Group Roundtable	Presentation on GISERA's GHG research - <a href="#">Fine scale measurements of methane from ground sources (QLD, NSW and NT)</a>	Cindy Ong	Canberra	Nov-19
Regional stakeholder and community feedback session	Provide feedback to community on research findings from <a href="#">Community wellbeing and attitudes to conventional gas in the south east of South Australia</a> project.	Andrea Walton/ Rod McCrea	Mt Gambier	Dec-19

EVENT	NAME OF PRESENTATION	PRESENTER(S)	LOCATION	DATE
Regional stakeholder and community feedback session	Provide feedback to community on research findings from <a href="#">Assessing the value of locally produced conventional gas in SA's South East</a> project.	Tom Measham/ Lavinia Poruschi	Mt Gambier	Dec-19
Regional stakeholder and community feedback session	Provide feedback to community on research findings from <a href="#">Gas impacts and opportunities on primary industries</a> project.	Rick Llewellyn	Mt Gambier	Dec-19
South Australia Department of Energy and Mining workshop	Briefing on findings from <a href="#">Community wellbeing and attitudes to conventional gas in the south east of South Australia</a> project.	Andrea Walton/ Rod McCrea	Adelaide	Dec-19
South Australia Department of Energy and Mining workshop	Briefing on findings from <a href="#">Assessing the value of locally produced conventional gas in SA's South East</a> project.	Tom Measham/ Lavinia Poruschi	Adelaide	Dec-19
Queensland Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy briefing	Presented findings from <a href="#">Air, water and oil impacts of hydraulic fracturing in the Surat Basin</a> project	Damian Barrett	Brisbane	Jan-20
APPEA 2020 Journal  (published in journal as Conference and Exhibition was postponed)	Lessons from 5 years of GISERA economics research	Tom Measham, Raymundo Marcos-Martinez, Lavinia Poruschi and David Fleming	Online	May-20

## 10.2 Communication outputs

A suite of communication tools have been used to ensure effective and meaningful communication of research outcomes. Table 10.2 shows a range of communication outputs GISERA has achieved over the last 8 years.

**Table 10.2 Summary of multi-media communication outputs – Newsletters & Videos/Animations**

COMMUNICATION TOOL	NAME OF COMMUNICATION PRODUCT	DATE FIRST PUBLISHED	LATEST EDITION	NUMBER OF VIEWS
Newsletter	<a href="#">GISERA e-newsletter</a> (for both external and internal stakeholders)	December 2013 (bi-annual publication)	February 2020	328 subscribers
Videos (CSIRO)	<a href="#">Unearthing shale gas</a>	October 2014	-	7,130
	<a href="#">Unearthing coal seam gas</a>	September 2014	-	24,733
Videos/ Animations (GISERA)	<a href="#">The value of gas research in south east South Australia</a>	May 2020	-	27
	<a href="#">Characterising air, water and soils during hydraulic fracturing of CSG wells in the Surat Basin, Queensland</a>	April 2020	-	330
	<a href="#">Onshore unconventional emissions, explained</a>	July 2019	-	Total 2,902  LinkedIn: 1,752 Twitter: 973 Website: 177
	<a href="#">Unearthing conventional gas</a>	October 2018	-	225
	<a href="#">Investigating the potential health impacts of coal seam gas</a>	September 2018	-	141
	<a href="#">Update on air quality assessment in the Surat Basin</a>	September 2018	-	93
	<a href="#">Investigating the impacts of coal seam gas infrastructure on animals and pastures</a>	September 2018	-	82
	<a href="#">Air, water and soil impacts of hydraulic fracturing of CSG wells</a>	March 2018	-	354
	<a href="#">Gas Industry Social and Environmental Research Alliance: an overview</a>	January 2018	-	886
	<a href="#">Looking to the Future: Job forecasts for the Surat Basin, 2014 to 2034</a>	March 2017	-	336
	<a href="#">Assessing the air quality in the Surat Basin</a>	August 2016	-	527
	<a href="#">Telling the story</a>	August 2016	-	173
	<a href="#">Methane seeps in the Surat Basin</a>	September 2014	-	708
	<a href="#">Understanding groundwater movement</a>	January 2014	-	688
	<a href="#">Collecting ants in coal seam gas development regions</a>	June 2013	-	248
	<a href="#">Tagging turtles in Gladstone Harbour</a>	May 2013	-	196
	<a href="#">Overview of surface and groundwater projects</a>	March 2013	-	393
	<a href="#">Overview of agricultural land management projects</a>	March 2013	-	546
	<a href="#">Overview of terrestrial biodiversity projects</a>	March 2013	-	374
	<a href="#">Overview of marine environment projects</a>	March 2013	-	220
	<a href="#">Overview of social and economic projects</a>	March 2013	-	360

**Table 10.3 Summary of multi-media communication outputs – Brochures and Factsheets**

COMMUNICATION TOOL	NAME OF COMMUNICATION PRODUCT	NATIONAL OR REGIONAL	DATE FIRST PUBLISHED	LATEST EDITION
Brochures / info-graphics	<a href="#">Looking to the Future: Job forecasts for the Surat Basin 2014 to 2034</a>	National	March 2017	-
	<a href="#">Community wellbeing and adapting to coal seam gas: Survey highlights and key messages</a>	QLD	March 2017	-
	<a href="#">Research Progress Infographic</a>	National	August 2013 (updates are ongoing)	June 2020
	<a href="#">Summary of research projects</a>	National	May 2012 (updated as required)	May 2019
	<a href="#">Air quality assessment in the Surat Basin</a>	QLD	May 2018	
Fact sheets	<a href="#">Community wellbeing and local attitudes to conventional gas development in south east South Australia</a>	SA	June 2020	
	<a href="#">Mitigating fugitive gas emissions from well casings</a>	NT	June 2020	
	<a href="#">Air, water and soil impacts of hydraulic fracturing (HF) in the Surat Basin, Queensland</a>	QLD	March 2020	
	<a href="#">Microbial degradation of chemicals used in onshore gas production (South Australia)</a>	SA	November 2019	
	<a href="#">Scenarios for the role of conventional gas in south east South Australia</a>	SA	November 2019	-
	<a href="#">Characterising stygofauna and microbial assemblages in the Beetaloo Sub-basin</a>	NT	October 2019	-
	<a href="#">Monitoring microbial communities in aquifers and soils of the Beetaloo Sub-basin</a>	NT	October 2019	-
	<a href="#">Natural gas: impacts and opportunities on primary industries in south east South Australia</a>	SA	November 2019	-
	<a href="#">Methane emissions in the Northern Territory's Beetaloo Sub-basin</a>	NT	October 2018	August 2019
	<a href="#">Groundwater characteristics in the Beetaloo Sub-basin</a>	NT	October 2018	August 2019
	<a href="#">What does science tell us about fugitive methane emissions from unconventional gas?</a>	QLD	May 2017	July 2019
	<a href="#">Local attitudes and perceptions of CSG development: 2014 – 2018</a>	QLD	March 2019	-
	<a href="#">Community resilience and adapting during CSG development: 2014 – 2018</a>	QLD	March 2019	-
	<a href="#">Trends in community wellbeing during CSG development: 2014 – 2018</a>	QLD	March 2019	-
	<a href="#">Research on conventional gas in South East Australia</a>	SA	February 2019	
	<a href="#">Investigating the environmental, social and economic impacts of conventional gas development in South East South Australia</a>	SA	October 2018	-
	<a href="#">Cattle, pastures and coal seam gas – a case study</a>	QLD	September 2018	-
	<a href="#">Assessing the ambient air quality in the Surat Basin</a>	QLD	September 2018	-
	<a href="#">Decommissioning coal seam gas wells</a>	NSW	August 2018	-
	<a href="#">Potential water impacts of coal seam gas in the Pilliga Sandstone</a>	NSW	August 2018	-



COMMUNICATION TOOL	NAME OF COMMUNICATION PRODUCT	NATIONAL OR REGIONAL	DATE FIRST PUBLISHED	LATEST EDITION
	<a href="#">Groundwater contamination risk assessment</a>	NSW and QLD	August 2018	-
	<a href="#">Attitudes to CSG development in the Narrabri shire - Factsheet</a>	NSW	April 2018	-
	<a href="#">GISERA and the Otway: Fast facts</a>	National	March 2018	-
	<a href="#">Community wellbeing and adapting to coal seam gas: Survey highlights and key messages</a>	QLD	March 2017	-
	<a href="#">Human health and CSG development: a framework to investigate possible health effects</a>	NSW	February 2018	-
	<a href="#">Potential impacts of coal seam gas development on water flows to the Great Artesian Basin</a>	NSW	October 2017	-
	<a href="#">New South Wales coal seam gas research projects: Update summary</a>	NSW	September 2017	-
	<a href="#">About Us</a>	National	April 2017	June 2020
	<a href="#">Methane Seeps in the Condamine River</a>	QLD	March 2017	-
	<a href="#">Groundwater flows in the Hutton Sandstone and Precipice Sandstone aquifers</a>	QLD	March 2017	-
	<a href="#">Surat Basin regional air quality, Queensland</a>	QLD	February 2017	-
	<a href="#">Soil Compaction</a>	QLD	May 2016	December 2016
	<a href="#">Understanding the way farmers see their farm</a>	QLD	May 2016	December 2016
	<a href="#">Access tracks and soil erosion.</a>	QLD	May 2016	December 2016
	<a href="#">Community Wellbeing in the Western Downs: 2014 and 2016</a>	QLD	May 2016	April 2017
	<a href="#">Community attitudes towards CSG development: 2014 and 2016</a>	QLD	May 2016	April 2017
	<a href="#">Ensuring biodiversity offset success: the right kind of seed for a rare daisy (Rutidosia lanata)</a>	QLD	January 2016	May 2016
	<a href="#">Characteristics of methane seeps</a>	National	April 2015	April 2017
	<a href="#">Coal seam gas regions reverse rural decline trend</a>	National	January 2014	-
	<a href="#">Community resilience</a>	National	July 2013	-
	<a href="#">Rural change as a result of CSG developments and the associated economic impacts</a>	National	July 2013	-
	<a href="#">Social licence to operate</a>	National	May 2013	-
	Five fact sheets on coal seam gas extraction and some potential environmental impacts. <a href="#">Now incorporated on the FAQs page</a>	National	April 2012 (updated as required)	April 2017

**Table 10.4 Summary of multi-media communication outputs – Media releases, Presentations and Articles**

COMMUNICATION TOOL	NAME OF COMMUNICATION PRODUCT	NATIONAL OR REGIONAL	DATE FIRST PUBLISHED	LATEST EDITION
Media Releases / Statements	<a href="#">Australian first research by CSIRO'S GISERA examines hydraulic fracturing impacts on air quality, soils, groundwater and waterways</a>	QLD	April 2020	-
	<a href="#">CSIRO's GISERA completes baseline studies in Northern Territory's Beetaloo Sub-basin</a>	NT	September 2019	-
	<a href="#">Whole of life greenhouse gas assessment final report released</a>	QLD	July 2019	-
	<a href="#">Pangaea Resources Pty Ltd joins GISERA</a>	National	March 2019	-
	<a href="#">CSIRO research shows good ambient air quality in the Surat Basin coal seam gas region</a>	QLD	September 2018	-
	<a href="#">Coal seam gas is divisive, how can science help?</a>	National	June 2018	-
	<a href="#">South Australian Government partners with CSIRO on South East Gas study</a>	National	February 2018	-
	<a href="#">New NSW study to understand economic impact of gas in regional communities</a>	NSW	November 2017	-
	<a href="#">Community wellbeing and attitudes to CSG around Narrabri, NSW</a>	NSW	November 2017	-
	<a href="#">Australia Institute "discussion paper"</a>	National	October 2016	-
	<a href="#">Live stream air quality data from coal seam gas regions</a>	QLD	August 2016	-
	<a href="#">CSIRO research alliance expands into New South Wales</a>	NSW	March 2016	-
	<a href="#">CSIRO conducting world's best practice methane emissions research</a>	National	May 2015	-
	<a href="#">Landmark report reveals how regional communities really feel about coal seam gas</a>	QLD	September 2014	-
	<a href="#">First ever coal seam gas scientific research alliance established</a>	National	July 2011	-
Presentations	Briefings, seminars, workshop forums and conference <a href="#">presentations</a> on unconventional gas have been given to scientists, students, teachers, the general public, government departments and members of parliament	National	Published as required	-
Articles	188 media articles have been published on GISERA and its research projects in the print media and online media portals. These have included The Australian, The Financial Review, Reuters, AAP, Brisbane's Courier Mail, The Narrabri Courier, the Northern Leader (Tamworth), The Land, Australian Mining, Chinchilla News, Dalby Herald, Stock Journal, Rural Press, ECOS, Conversation, ABC Science, GasFields Commission e-newsletter, Australian Oil and Gas Review, AusIMM Bulletin, Australian Resources Magazine, Investment and Resourceful Magazine and Energy Magazine.	National	Ongoing	Ongoing

## 10.3 Stakeholder Engagement

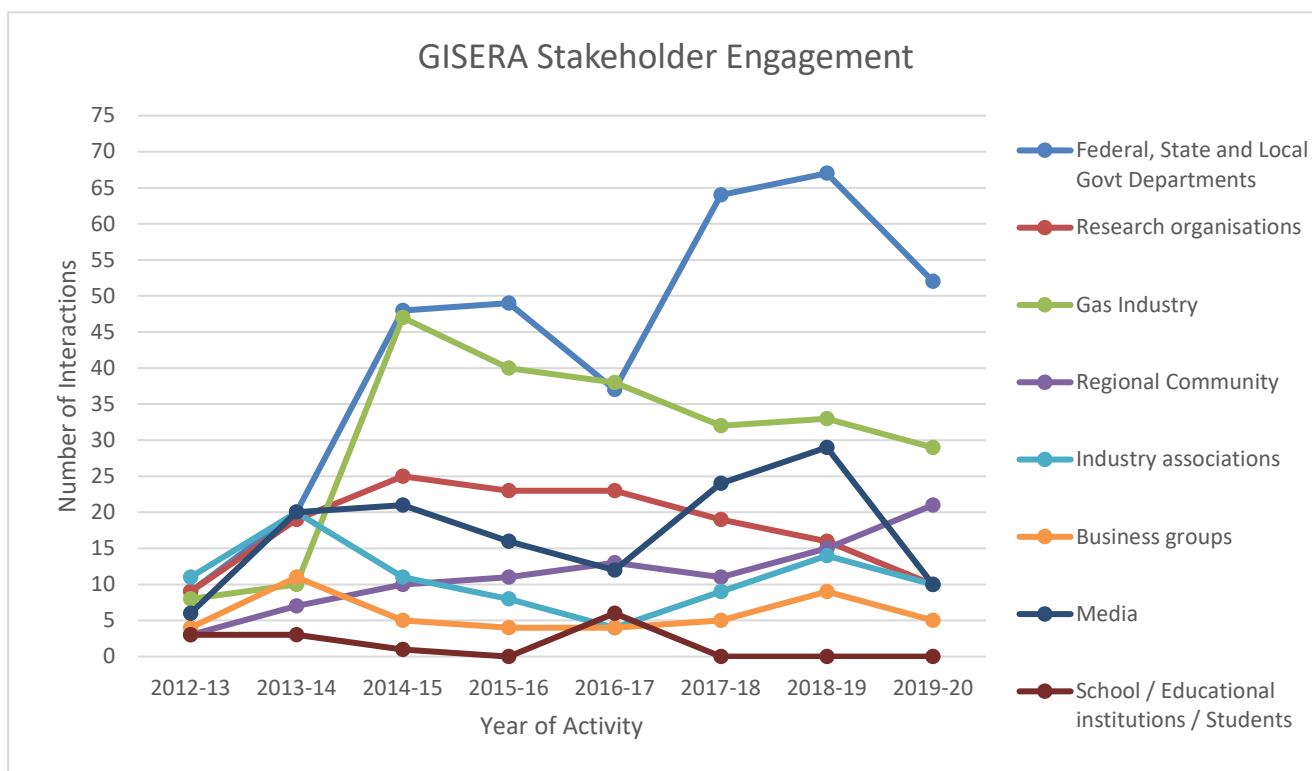
GISERA aims to achieve credibility, trust and respect from all stakeholders through the open and transparent conduct and communication of its research and synthesis activities. Table 10.5 outlines the engagements for 2019-20 and Figure 10.1 shows stakeholder interactions over the last 10 years.

**Table 10.5 Summary of GISERA engagements for 2019-20**

STAKEHOLDER	NUMBER OF ENGAGEMENTS FOR 2019-20
Regional community	21
Gas Industry	29
Federal, State and Local Departments and Agencies	52
Media (includes print, TV and radio)	10
School/Educational institutions/Students	0
Research organisations	10
Industry associations	10
Business groups	5
Total	137 <sup>41</sup>

---

<sup>41</sup> It is important to note here that these numbers of interactions do not take into account the number of individuals engaged in that interaction. For example, regional community group interactions can range from 20-360 participants and a gas industry interaction can be a technical meeting with only 1-10 participants



**Figure 10.1 Stakeholder interactions from 2011/12 to 2019/20 - These numbers do not take into account the number of individuals engaged in that interaction. Regional community group interactions can range from 20-360 participants and a gas industry interaction only 1-10 participants.**

# 11 Performance against KPIs

## 11.1 Overall KPIs

GISERA's key performance indicators are:

- Impact
- Capacity building
- Leverage
- Management.

Table 11.1 illustrates GISERA's performance against each KPIs specific assessment criteria from 2011/12-2019/20.

**Table 11.1 GISERA's performance against its overall KPIs**

KPIs	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	PERFORMANCE (OVER LIFE OF GISERA)
Impact	Formal government, industry and community request for technical advice	GISERA's communication goals and KPIs tie in with this objective. GISERA has made significant impact in this area as detailed in Section 11.2
	Industry and institutional awards for innovative research	The 2015 Agriculture Director's Awards in CSIRO recognise the achievements of individuals and teams across 11 different categories. The GISERA Agricultural Land Management Team were nominated for and received the Collaboration Award. Team members included staff from CSIRO and USQ/NCEA.
	Publication of papers	Journal – 26 Conference – 36
	Citation of publications	746
	Conference invitations and presentations	265
Capacity building	Total number of research studentships	3
	Number of research studentships for residents of CSG and LNG operational areas	2
	Number of Masters and PhD theses awarded	1
	Number of Publication authorships by industry staff	Nil
Leverage	Participation from industry developers	Australia Pacific LNG, QGC, Origin, AGL, Santos, Pangaea through membership to GISERA and Arrow Energy (through Industry Leader's Group, APPEA)
	Participation from government departments and agencies	QLD Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy; QLD Department of Environment and Science; NSW Environment Protection Authority; NSW Health; North West Local Land Services; NSW Department of Industry, Planning and Environment; NSW Department of Primary Industries; Department of Industry, Science Energy and Resources; SA

KPIS	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	PERFORMANCE (OVER LIFE OF GISERA)
		Department of the Premier and Cabinet, SA Department for Energy and Mining; SA Department for Environment and Water; NT Department of Chief Minister; SA Environment Protection Authority; Primary Industry and Regions South Australia; NT Department of Primary Industry and Resources, NT Department of Trade, Business and Innovation; WA Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Katherine Town Council and CSIRO
	Participation from non-government organisations	AgForce, Basin Sustainability Alliance, Australian National University, University of Queensland, University of Southern Queensland, University of New England, Lower Namoi Growers' Association, Country Women's Association of NSW, Livestock SA, South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association, Nature Foundation SA, Limestone Coast Grape and Wine Council Inc., Central Land Council, Northern Land Council, Kimberly Land Council, NT Chamber of Commerce, Kathrine Town Council, NT Farmers Association, NT Cattlemen's Association, Western Australian Farmers Federation, Charles Darwin University, The Ethics Centre, National Farmers Federation, The Grattan Institute, The Australia Institute
	Number of universities, particularly those local to CSG and LNG activity, participating in research projects	Macquarie University, University of Queensland, University of Southern Queensland, Queensland University of Technology, University of Sydney, University of New South Wales, University of Heidelberg, University of Newcastle, University of New England, University of Tasmania, University of Colorado, University of Western Australia, Charles Darwin University.
	Financial leverage, or the ability to multiply the research value of contributions	<a href="#">See section 3.1.1</a>
Management	Percentage of research projects achieving target deliverables	<p>70% of projects are complete and have achieved deliverables (47 projects)</p> <p>10% of projects are currently meeting or exceeding target deliverables (7 projects)</p> <p>18% of projects have only just commenced with milestones not yet due (12 projects)</p> <p>2% of projects are not meeting target deliverables due to delays associated with COVID-19 Pandemic restrictions (1 project). It is anticipated that this will be resolved before September 2020.</p>
	Percentage of research projects meeting schedule	<p>70% of projects are complete (47 projects)</p> <p>10% of projects are currently meeting schedule (7 projects)</p> <p>18% of projects have only just commenced with milestones not yet due (12 projects)</p> <p>2% of projects currently have an amber light against a milestone (1 project). It is expected that these milestones will be completed before September 2020.</p> <p>2% of projects are not meeting research schedule due to delays associated with COVID-19 Pandemic restrictions (1 project). It is anticipated that this will be resolved before September 2020.</p>

KPIs	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	PERFORMANCE (OVER LIFE OF GISERA)
	Percentage of research project meeting budget	<p>63% of projects were completed within 5% of budget (based on aggregate average across the 42 projects).</p> <p>9% of current projects are within budget (6 projects)</p> <p>7% of projects were completed over budget (5 projects).</p> <p>3% of projects are currently overspent due to phasing issues (2 projects). This issue is expected to be rectified by the end of project.<sup>42</sup></p> <p>18% of projects are new (12 projects) with expenditure expected to commence in early 2020/21.</p>

## 11.2 Communication goals and KPIs

GISERA works to achieve credibility, trust and respect from all stakeholders through the open and transparent conduct and communication of its research and synthesis activities.

The strategic communication and engagement goals for GISERA are to:

- Engage with and build landholder, community, government and industry understanding of the impacts, risks, challenges and opportunities associated with onshore gas development
- Communicate information in plain English that helps to address knowledge gaps in environmental, social and economic impacts from onshore gas development, whether that is through original research or synthesis of existing independent and peer reviewed knowledge
- Raise awareness of CSIRO's public good research and its outcomes to inform public discourse, government policy development and gas industry best practice through GISERA
- Ensure GISERA's website is a trusted and citable source of information on gas development, social and environmental impacts, and opportunities.

A separate Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Plan guides GISERA communication and engagement outputs. Engagement plans are developed for new states where research is being undertaken, such as South Australia, as required. Effective government engagement also assists in identifying relevant processes and channels for communication, to promote adoption of research outcomes and positive impact from GISERA science.

Table 11.2 provides an overview of the performance to date in achieving GISERA's strategic communication goals.

<sup>42</sup> CSIRO is responsible for any budget overspend at completion of project.

**Table 11.2 Performance against key communication goals**

STAKEHOLDER	KPI (TARGET)	PERFORMANCE OVER LIFE OF GISERA
Government	<p>Advice provided to senior bureaucrats / ministers / policy makers</p> <p>Requests by policy makers for advice</p>	<p>Since July 2011, 266 invitations to provide advice, briefings and presentations were received from senior ministers and policy makers.</p> <p>These include Prime Minister and Cabinet Office, Queensland Premiers Office, NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet, and ministerial departments, the Independent Expert Scientific Committee on CSG and Large Coal Mining Development, state expert panels, Qld Agriculture Resources and Environment Committee, and a range of briefings to Queensland, NSW, South Australia, Northern Territory and federal parliamentarians, departments and agencies.</p> <p>GISERA input has been acknowledged in reports from inquiries, including the specific citing of GISERA publications in the Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing in the Northern Territory Final Report, April 2018 and Interim Report, June 2017, and the Independent review of the national electricity market by Australian Chief Scientist Dr Alan Finkel, June 2017.</p> <p>GISERA input has previously been sought by a range of governments and policy makers, including: During development of the Commonwealth's Government Domestic Gas Strategy</p> <p>GISERA and University of Queensland provided a briefing to Queensland Parliamentarians on 'The Science of GSG and Onshore Gas'.</p> <p>The Bureau of Resources and Energy Economics' (BREE) 2014 Gas Market report drew strongly on GISERA research, in particular the research on employment effects, household income and demographic change. Three GISERA publication outputs were specifically cited.</p> <p>Briefings on results from GISERA's community wellbeing and responding to change survey were provided to local government in the Surat Basin region, Chambers of Commerce, State members of Parliament and Queensland Resources.</p> <p>Stakeholder workshop involving SA Government bureaucrats and policy makers held in April 2018, instigating ongoing communications and relationship building with key government contacts.</p>
Community	<p>GISERA seen as trusted source of information by community</p>	<p>GISERA has had over 1267 engagements with a wide range of stakeholders over the last seven years (See Figure 10.1 and Table 11.3). As the onshore gas industry increases its exploration activities in Australia, this demand from GISERA is expected to increase.</p> <p>Continued requests from local and national media outlets on the science around potential social, economic and environmental impacts associated with onshore gas development (for example SBS Insight and ABC regional radios).</p> <p>CSIRO researchers through GISERA have engaged with landowners, farmers and the local communities at a range of community and industry forums and rural shows, including:</p>



STAKEHOLDER	KPI (TARGET)	PERFORMANCE OVER LIFE OF GISERA
		<p>Showcasing GISERA's agricultural research to CSIRO AgCatalyst, CSIRO's premier showcase of the latest innovations and technologies in agriculture and food, Sydney, December 2017 and December 2016;</p> <p>Presentations from GISERA Director Damian Barrett at several Northern Territory presentations, meetings, and community information sessions across NT, including Kalkaringji, Maningridge, Darwin, and Alice Springs, from July 2016 to March 2017;</p> <p>Groundwater research presentation on 'Innovative solutions to water challenges in WA', Perth, October 2016;</p> <p>Presentation of research finding on 'Community wellbeing and attitudes to conventional gas in the south east of South Australia' project to community members from Mount Gambier in December 2019;</p> <p>Presentation of research finding on 'Assessing the value of locally produced conventional gas in SA's South East' project to community members from Mount Gambier in December 2019;</p> <p>Presentation of research finding on 'Gas impacts and opportunities on primary industries' project to community members from Mount Gambier in December 2019;</p> <p>Presentation of research findings from 'Ambient Air Quality' project to community members from Weiambilla Estates in August 2018;</p> <p>Presentation of research findings from 2018 CSIRO Community Wellbeing third survey at community session in Chinchilla and Roma;</p> <p>Presentation of research findings from 2016 CSIRO Community Wellbeing to a range of forums, including the AgForce – UQCCSG Community Forum, to the Western Downs and Maranoa regions including local government, GasFields Commission Qld, special interest groups interested in CSG issues, and other community representatives, throughout 2016-17;</p> <p>GasFields Commission Queensland Community Leaders Breakfast: Dan O'Sullivan, Roma, June 2016;</p> <p>Stakeholder workshops on biological traits and ecological aspects for plant population viability, Health and CSG, Brisbane, May 2017;</p> <p>CSG well decommissioning workshop; and</p> <p>Expert workshop on health impacts of CSG scoping study, Brisbane, May 2017.</p> <p>Previously, CSIRO researchers through GISERA engaged with landowners, farmers and the local communities at the Miles Show (May 2016) and CRT Farmfest (June 2016) in Toowoomba.</p> <p>GISERA is sought as trusted source of advice to community on hydraulic fracturing at the Katherine Food Futures Roadshow (NT Farmers Roadshow), in July 2017.</p> <p>GISERA is sought as trusted source of advice on hydraulic fracturing and shale gas development at the Central Land Council</p>

STAKEHOLDER	KPI (TARGET)	PERFORMANCE OVER LIFE OF GISERA
		<p>Information Session in April 2016 (CLC represents the indigenous communities of the southern half of the Northern Territory).</p> <p>GISERA sought as a trusted source of advice on the drilling and proposed development of the deep gas project nearby (Warro Gasfield) managed by Latent Petroleum during the Badgingarra Community Forum in September 2015.</p> <p>GISERA sought as a trusted source of advice on impacts of gas development by KRED and Yamatji Marlpa (representatives of 33 Traditional Owner groups in WA) – community workshops for Yamatji were undertaken in July 2014.</p> <p>The Social and economic CSG research forum was held on November 2014 in Chinchilla and attracted stakeholders from state government departments, local government, service providers, local businesses, gas companies and community groups.</p> <p>The GHG and Agricultural CSG research forum was held on 22 April 2015 in Chinchilla and attracted 48 stakeholders from government departments, industry, Council, service providers, research organisations, landowners and community groups.</p> <p>The Marine environment CSG research forums were held in Brisbane and Gladstone on 11 and 12 August 2015 with 70 stakeholders from community groups, Council, service providers, research organisations, government and industry.</p>
	Demand for GISERA's engagement is maintained as development progresses	<p>GISERA has had over 1267 engagements with a wide range of stakeholders over the last seven years (See Figure 10.1 and Table 11.3). As the onshore gas industry increases its exploration activities in Australia, this demand from GISERA is expected to increase.</p> <p>Community members willing to participate in GISERA's Regional Research Advisory Committees across Australia.</p> <p>Local community members willing to be involved in GISERA research projects, for example Potential health impacts from CSG.</p> <p>Katherine Food Futures Roadshow (NT Farmers Roadshow), Damian Barrett hosted a long discussion about GISERA and fracking in the Katherine region, Katherine, July 2017;</p> <p>Presentation on GISERA's NSW research preliminary results to key community stakeholders within the Narrabri Community including representatives from EPA, NW Courier, North West Local Land Services, Narrabri Shire Council, Lower Namoi Cotton Growers Association, CFI Namoi Aviation, Member for Barwon, Yes2Gas, NSW Farmers, Narrabri CCC, Narrabri and District Chamber of Commerce, ABC Media, People for the Plains, Narrabri. September 2017;</p> <p>Presentation to Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association on NT fracking inquiry draft recommendations and potential research questions;</p> <p>GISERA continues to be a trusted source of advice on issues related to onshore gas development, including:</p> <p>Supplying management guidelines for biodiversity offset processes through knowledge transfer sessions for a translocation</p>

STAKEHOLDER	KPI (TARGET)	PERFORMANCE OVER LIFE OF GISERA
		<p>research project providing recommendations for rare daisy <i>Rutidosia lantana</i>, Brisbane, September 2016 and guidelines for population offset, July 2018.</p> <p>Advice to the agricultural sector regarding managing changes in rural areas brought on by the introduction of a CSG industry, through "Telling the story" project knowledge transfer session, Toowoomba, December 2016.</p> <p>Socialising outcomes of GISERA research on community functioning and wellbeing 3 to regional community groups in Roma and Chinchilla, November 2018.</p> <p>Socialising outcomes of GISERA research on community functioning and wellbeing 2, various meetings across councils and regional community groups in Toowoomba, Chinchilla, Tara, throughout November 2016, and Brisbane, February 2017.</p> <p>Knowledge transfer sessions on economical assessment and forecasting research to community and government groups in Toowoomba, December 2016, and Brisbane, February 2017.</p> <p>Previously, GISERA advice has been sought on issues such as the drilling process, well integrity, water safety and fracking by Badgingarra Community Association - community forum held on 2 September 2015.</p> <p>The Social and economic CSG research forum, held on November 2014 in Chinchilla, attracted stakeholders from state government departments, local government, service providers, local businesses, gas companies and community groups.</p> <p>The Greenhouse Gas and Agricultural CSG research forum was held on 22 April 2015 in Chinchilla and attracted 48 stakeholders from government departments, industry, Council, service providers, research organisations, landowners and community groups.</p> <p>The Marine environment CSG research forums were held in Brisbane and Gladstone on 11 and 12 August 2015 and attracted 70 stakeholders from community groups, Council, service providers, research organisations, government and industry.</p>
Industry	<p>GISERA members adopt practice change</p> <p>Industry adopts methods for improving community engagement</p>	<p>CSIRO through GISERA has provided policy related advice to industry on a range of topics including groundwater reinjection strategies, agricultural engagement, socioeconomic advice and information for stakeholders of Gladstone Harbour. Furthermore, advice to Queensland and Federal governments has been incorporated into development of the regulatory environment towards improved industry best practice.</p> <p>The NT Government has utilised research outcomes and information in the development the Strategic Regional Environment and Baseline Assessment in the Northern Territory (SREBA).</p> <p>Geochemical response to re-injection project work informed GISERA members and regulators about the required level of injectant pre-treatment to minimise adverse impacts on groundwater quality by reinjection</p>

STAKEHOLDER	KPI (TARGET)	PERFORMANCE OVER LIFE OF GISERA
		<p>In September 2018, industry representatives at the Knowledge Transfer Session for Inside the herd, discussed how they could change/improve engagement with landholders when discussing gas infrastructure design by using GISERA's water flow model results.</p> <p>In mid-2017, industry members indicated the implementation of new policies relating to management of farm gate closures in gasfield operations, following feedback emanating from research outcomes.</p> <p>In July 2016, researchers from the Community Wellbeing project met with Origin's Manager for Public Policy to discuss indicators of community wellbeing, resilience and social licence to operate. Origin were planning to conduct their own survey to monitor the community 'pulse'. After discussing findings, methods and measures from the CSIRO community wellbeing surveys, Origin planned to use 5 or 6 of the same items in their own survey to allow for comparison with CSIRO's 2014 and 2016 research findings. In this way, the community wellbeing research is feeding into industry benchmarks, standards and policies.</p>

Continued demand for information and advice from GISERA shows that GISERA is meeting the needs of a range of stakeholders (see Table 11.3) and that it is seen as a source of trusted information and advice.

**Table 11.3 Summary of engagements over life of GISERA**

STAKEHOLDER	NUMBER OF ENGAGEMENTS OVER LIFE OF GISERA
Regional community	96
Gas Industry	257
Federal, State and Local Departments and Agencies	379
Media (includes print, TV and radio)	166
School/Educational institutions/Students	17
Research organisations	171
Industry associations	122
Business groups	59
Total	1267 <sup>43</sup>

---

<sup>43</sup> It is important to note here that these numbers of interactions do not take into account the number of individuals engaged in that interaction. For example, regional community group interactions can range from 20-360 participants and a gas industry interaction can be a technical meeting with only 1-10 participants



# GISERA

Gas Industry Social and  
Environmental Research Alliance

## Contact us

Jizelle Khoury

Email: [jizelle.khoury@csiro.au](mailto:jizelle.khoury@csiro.au)

[www.gisera.csiro.au](http://www.gisera.csiro.au)

