



GISERA | Gas Industry Social and Environmental Research Alliance

About us

CSIRO's GISERA combines the research capabilities of Australia's leading science agency with a governance structure that allows integrated research on the social and economic impacts and opportunities arising from gas development, nationally.

GISERA is a national collaboration between CSIRO; commonwealth, state and territory governments; and industry. The Alliance was established to undertake publicly-reported, peer-reviewed social and environmental research.

The purpose of GISERA is to provide high quality, independent scientific research and information to communities living in gas development regions. The research focuses on environmental and socio-economic topics including:

- Ground and surface waters
- Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity
- Agriculture and land management
- Regional socio-economic impacts
- Human health and wellbeing
- Greenhouse gas emissions and air quality
- Land and infrastructure.

Aims

CSIRO is Australia's premier science research agency and has for many years worked with industries, governments, communities and landscapes engaged in and impacted by gas development.

CSIRO's GISERA has carried out independent, peer-reviewed research in this area for over a decade and, through this research, provides scientific information for the benefit of Australian communities impacted by onshore gas exploration and development.

GISERA's aims are to inform governments, policy makers, industry and communities of key research outcomes around the environmental and socio-economic impacts of the gas industry.

The knowledge generated by CSIRO and GISERA are made widely available and aim to support government, industry and communities to make decisions about natural gas developments that can help manage their effects on society, the economy and the environment.

Governance

The GISERA governance model is central to ensuring independence and transparency in the research undertaken by CSIRO. State and Territory-based Research Advisory Committees are critical to GISERA's values and value proposition.

With a majority of members who are not affiliated with the gas industry, the committees oversee and approve all research projects within GISERA to ensure CSIRO's independence.

Details about GISERA's governance arrangements, Regional Advisory Committees and the Alliance Agreement can be found at gisera.csiro.au/governance



GISERA partners

GISERA was launched in July 2011 and initial research focused on the potential social and environmental impacts of Queensland's coal seam gas-liquefied natural gas (CSG-LNG) industry. Based on the success of these research projects in Queensland, GISERA has expanded research activities into regional New South Wales, South Australia, the Northern Territory and Western Australia.

Members of GISERA now include Australia Pacific LNG, QGC, Santos, Origin Energy and CSIRO. GISERA also receives funding from the Australian Government, and the Governments of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

The Australian Government has extended support for GISERA with a decision to commit \$13.7 million for new research into impacts of onshore gas development across Australia, which took effect from 1 July 2021.

This will allow CSIRO's GISERA to continue impartial and integrated research across those areas of most concern to communities impacted by gas development. The research will inform industry, regulators and the wider Australian community of any impacts and opportunities.



CSIRO researcher measuring methane emissions from termite mounds in the Northern Territory



Golden-tailed gecko (*Strophurus taenicauda*) at Lake Broadwater, Queensland. Biodiversity is a key research focus area for CSIRO research conducted through GISERA.

Communication

Communities around Australia want trusted information about coal seam and shale gas, the techniques used in the extraction processes, the environmental risks, and social and economic impacts associated with these developments.

GISERA research and related activities are undertaken and communicated in an open and transparent way. Since GISERA began in 2011, over 1000 engagements with a wide range of stakeholders through forums such as workshops, seminars, conferences and technical briefings have been provided across mainland Australia.

GISERA is inclusive in its science communication and engagement with advocates and opponents of CSG and shale gas development. Its communication program is based on providing trusted, accessible and effective communication in situations where the community has little to no shared values and high uncertainty about desirable outcomes.

An outline of the GISERA communication objectives and protocol and all GISERA research and outcomes are publicly available at gisera.csiro.au. General fact sheets and short animated videos on coal seam gas, shale and conventional gas can also be found on the GISERA website.

Further information | 1300 363 400 | gisera@csiro.au | gisera.csiro.au

GISERA is a collaboration between CSIRO, Commonwealth and state governments and industry established to undertake publicly-reported independent research. The purpose of GISERA is to provide quality assured scientific research and information to communities living in gas development regions focusing on social and environmental topics. These topics include: ground and surface waters, terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity, agriculture and land management, regional socio-economic impacts, human health and wellbeing, greenhouse gas emissions and air quality. The governance structure for GISERA is designed to provide for and protect research independence and transparency of research.