



Australia's National
Science Agency

GISERA | Gas Industry Social and Environmental Research Alliance

Progress report

Medium-term socio-economic impacts in Southern Queensland



Progress against project milestones

Progress against milestones/tasks are approved by the GISERA Director, acting with authority in accordance with the [GISERA Alliance Agreement](#).

Progress against project milestones/tasks is indicated by two methods: [Traffic light reports](#) and descriptive [Project schedule reports](#).

1. Traffic light reports in the Project Schedule Table below show progress using a simple colour code:

- **Green:**

- Milestone fully met according to schedule.
- Project is expected to continue to deliver according to plan.
- Milestone payment is approved.

- **Amber:**

- Milestone largely met according to schedule.
- Project has experienced delays or difficulties that will be overcome by next milestone, enabling project to return to delivery according to plan by next milestone.
- Milestone payment is withheld.
- Milestone payment withheld for second of two successive amber lights; project review initiated and undertaken by GISERA Director.

- **Red:**

- Milestone not met according to schedule.
- Problems in meeting milestone are likely to impact subsequent project delivery, such that revisions to project timing, scope or budget must be considered.
- Milestone payment is withheld.
- Project review initiated by GISERA Director.

2. Progress Schedule Reports outline task objectives and outputs and describe, in the 'progress report' section, the means and extent to which progress towards tasks has been made.

Project schedule table

| TASK NUMBER | TASK DESCRIPTION | SCHEDULED START | SCHEDULED FINISH | COMMENT |
|-------------|--|--------------------------|------------------|---|
| 1 | Initial project management (e.g., research data plan, initial project factsheet) | 01 Feb 23 | 31 Mar 23 | Completed. |
| 2 | Literature review and data collection | 15 Feb 23 | 23 Jun 2023 | Completed. |
| 3 | Analysis and drafting of working papers | 01 Jun 23 | 28 Mar 2024 | Completed. |
| 4 | Preliminary communication of findings | 01 Oct 23 | 24 Jun 2024 | Completed. |
| 5 | Communications | Full duration of project | | This task will be completed December 2024 |

Project schedule report

TASK 1: Initial project management (e.g., research data plan, initial project factsheet)

BACKGROUND

Conducting research within CSIRO's guidelines for data management is important to the overall trust in science, and institutions such as CSIRO and GISERA. In addition, an initial fact sheet showcasing project objectives and goals is important to communicate to and engage with stakeholders.

TASK OBJECTIVES

Data management plan in place, obtain ethics approval and factsheet development

TASK OUTPUTS AND SPECIFIC DELIVERABLES

- 1) Initial project factsheet
- 2) Research data plan
- 3) Obtain Ethics approval

PROGRESS REPORT

This milestone is completed.

Initially, the project team focused on developing the research data plan and ethical research framework, to harmonise the approach and benefit from these initiatives for data privacy and management. We attach copies:

- The research data plan (in-confidence) is a living plan, to be consulted and updated throughout the project as required.
- The ethics review form and related approval (in-confidence) which outlines the privacy and ethical boundaries that will be upheld during data access, management, analysis, and presentation. This form has been approved by the Ethics committee.

TASK 2: Literature review and data collection

BACKGROUND

Although research of the impacts of resource developments on regions and over time is scarce, it is prudent to ensure any relevant publications, including those that may have cited the impactful publications from the foundation project, are reviewed and used to inform the current research. It is also key to secure relevant data, including from the foundation project (2001 to 2011) and from the ABS for recent periods.

TASK OBJECTIVES

- 1) Identify relevant advances and/or gaps in literature and implications for existing project, such as the research design, analysis methods and discussion
- 2) Compile master data file in suitable format(s) for analyses

TASK OUTPUTS AND SPECIFIC DELIVERABLES

Literature review and data description report. This report will review scientific literature published since the foundation project, identifying relevant contributions and gaps, and implications for data sourcing, analysis, and discussion. It will also describe the data presenting descriptive statistics and empirical caveats.

PROGRESS REPORT

This milestone is completed.

We provided a report consisting of the review of literature and description of data to be used for analysis.

TASK 3: Analysis and drafting of working papers

BACKGROUND

Two scientific working papers have been drafted outlining the last decade of socio-economic outcomes of onshore gas in the regions of Bowen and Surat Basins. This involved the project team identifying relevant insights from previous research and data available from the last decade. Analyses were conducted, then results were compared with previously published results about the socio-economic outcomes of the first decade of industry activity (an early GISERA project).

TASK OBJECTIVES

Utilise the most appropriate methods of analysis, data visualisation and reporting, and seek CSIRO peer review.

TASK OUTPUTS AND SPECIFIC DELIVERABLES

3.1 Drafts of scientific working papers based on theme(s) of results.

3.2 Internal CSIRO peer review.

PROGRESS REPORT

Milestone completed. We have provided two scientific working papers and commenced the CSIRO peer review process.

TASK 4: Preliminary communication of findings

BACKGROUND

The draft working paper(s), both in manuscript and presentation format, have been shared across select stakeholders to gain further critique in preparation for making the science widely available.

TASK OBJECTIVES

Deliver credible and trustworthy science.

TASK OUTPUTS AND SPECIFIC DELIVERABLES

Select stakeholders (CSIRO GISERA colleagues, other CSIRO proponents; other key stakeholders; and applied economics conference) informed of findings and leading themes to be reported in scientific papers

PROGRESS REPORT

Milestone completed.

Following on from Task 3, we have received and addressed feedback from internal CSIRO ePublish reviewers.

Specific to Task 4:

- The preliminary results were presented (and feedback received) at two conferences:
 - North American Regional Science Council (NARSC) Annual Conference 2023 (in San Diego, CA). See: www.narsc.org/newsite/conference/past-and-future-conferences/
 - Australian New Zealand Regional Science Association International (ANZRSAI)/Regional Studies Association (RSA) joint Conference 2023 (in Melbourne, VIC). See <https://www.anzrsai.org/>
- Submitted and received feedback from CSIRO colleagues, specifically: GISERA Director, GISERA Queensland Leader, and CSIRO Group Leader.

TASK 5: Communicate project and findings more broadly

BACKGROUND

Communications of GISERA research are an important component of outreach and dissemination of findings to diverse audiences.

TASK OBJECTIVES

Communicate project objectives, progress, and findings to stakeholders through meetings, knowledge transfer session, factsheet and working papers, in collaboration with GISERA Communications advisors.

TASK OUTPUTS AND SPECIFIC DELIVERABLES

Communicate project objectives, progress, and results to stakeholders according to standard GISERA project procedures which may include, but not limited to:

- 1) Submission to scientific journal(s)
- 2) Factsheet to include results and potentially animated content
- 3) Knowledge transfer session with Government/Gas Industry
- 4) Presentation of findings to local community stakeholders
- 5) Preparation of article for GISERA newsletter and other media outlets
- 6) Brief project completion report

PROGRESS REPORT

The substantive work for this milestone has been completed but not finalised, details are:

- **Complete – Submission to scientific journal(s):** As previously reported, the two journal articles have been submitted. We have sought updates from editors, which is they are still being considered and going through the process of the journals.
 - Fleming-Muñoz, D.A. and Poruschi L. (under review) Local economic impacts of an unconventional energy boom: A long-term evaluation. Australasian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics. Note: CSIRO has an open access agreement with this journal.
 - Felton S, Fleming-Muñoz D.A. and Measham T.G. (under review) Beyond the initial boom: Energy transitions can mitigate rural decline. Journal of Rural Studies. Submitted 20th June 2024. Note: CSIRO has an open access agreement with this journal
- **Practical completion – Fact sheet:** The fact sheet has been through CSIRO Brand and now with ePublish reviewers. Feedback has already been integrated from GISERA team and ePublish reviewers and approver will likely include senior social science researchers.
- **Complete – Knowledge transfer session with government/gas industry:**
 - Felton, S (presenter), Fleming- Muñoz, D and Poruschi, L (2024) 2024 Study: Medium-term socio-economic impacts of onshore gas in Southern Queensland. Presented at CSIRO's GISERA Knowledge Transfer Session for Project S.19, 20th June 2024, online.

- **Complete – Presentation of findings to local community stakeholders:**
Felton, S (presenter) (2024) Project S19: Evaluating medium-term socio-economic impacts. Presented at CSIRO’s GISERA Presenting Southern Queensland Research, 22nd April 2024, in Chinchilla, Queensland.
- **Complete – Preparation of article for GISERA newsletter and other media outlets:**
 - Article developed by project leader and communications team. Published on 26 August 2024 CSIRO study identifies long-term demographic shifts during onshore gas operations in Queensland.
- **Drafted and will be submitted in due course – Brief project completion report for CSIRO social and interdisciplinary science human research ethics committee (CSSHREC):**
 - CSIRO ethics committee report drafted.
 - Not intended to be a public communication/release.

This milestone will be completed in December 2024.

Variations to Project Order

Changes to research Project Orders are approved by the GISERA Director, acting with authority, in accordance with the GISERA Alliance Agreement. Any variations above the GISERA Director’s delegation require the approval of the relevant GISERA Research Advisory Committee.

The table below details variations to research Project Order.

Register of changes to Research Project Order

| DATE | ISSUE | ACTION | AUTHORISATION |
|------|-------|--------|---------------|
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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 including: groundwater and surface water, greenhouse gas emissions, biodiversity, land management, the marine environment, and socio-economic impacts. The governance structure for GISERA is designed to provide for and protect research independence and transparency of research.