



## Mission Area: Future Industries

We have been working with collaborators from across industry, research and government to co-design this mission. This summary reflects the mission in development and will continue to evolve.

### *Powering SME growth by improving access to Australian R&D*

The mission aims to lower barriers for small-medium sized enterprises (SMEs) to access Australian research & development expertise to support their growth. The mission's goal is to double the number of SMEs that engage with publicly-funded R&D by 2025.

#### Opportunity

Small-medium sized enterprises (SMEs) are the backbone of Australia's economy. They make up 99.8% of all our businesses, contribute to more than half our GDP and employ 68% of our people. But, now more than ever, they are also the most vulnerable.

Science and innovation are key enablers for businesses to adapt, reinvent and grow through times of disruption. Developing new products and services, accessing new markets, and linking with existing complementary businesses can create new market opportunities; however, many SMEs lack the resources and knowledge to pursue these.

#### Impact

- Growth: New products and services. Creation of high-skill, high-value jobs. An internationally competitive SME sector. A growing Australian economy.
- Resilience: Build sustainable and self-sufficient businesses and industries. Strengthen our sovereign capabilities.

#### Proposed mission focus

- Amplify High Impact Initiatives
- Simplify a Complex Ecosystem
- Develop & Upskill (Businesses & Researchers)

#### Collaborators

The mission invites others to join the initial alliance of:

- Department of Industry, Science, Energy & Resources
- NSW Treasury
- NSW Regional Growth Development Corporation
- QLD Department of State Development, Tourism & Innovation
- Defence Science & Technology Group
- University of South Australia
- Flinders University
- University of Adelaide
- RMIT University
- Swinburne University
- University of Technology Sydney
- Practera

For further information contact Dr George Feast via [CSIROEnquiries@csiro.au](mailto:CSIROEnquiries@csiro.au)