



Australian Government

Geoscience Australia

Shaping Our Future

Geoscience Australia Strategy

2026–2036

Acknowledgement of Country

Geoscience Australia values the lands, water and sky as we work to deepen a shared understanding of Country and Earth.

We respect First Nations peoples and their enduring connection, contribution and obligations to Country. Reflecting on our shared history, we are committed to listen and learn.

Accessing this report

The Shaping Our Future: Geoscience Australia Strategy 2026–2036 can be accessed at ga.gov.au/our-strategy.

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Australian Government

Geoscience Australia

Shaping Our Future

Geoscience Australia Strategy
2026–2036





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**Ensuring our work continues
to benefit the nation for
generations to come**



Melissa Harris PSM
Chief Executive Officer

Introduction from the Chief Executive Officer

Australia's land and marine estate is like no other – vast, diverse and continually changing. It is defined by ancient landscapes, rich resources and dynamic environments. Understanding our unique land and seas has always been essential to our nation's story.

For over 115 years, Geoscience Australia and our predecessors have played a central role in this journey, leading applied geoscience knowledge that underpins the safety, resilience and prosperity of our nation.

Applied geoscience supports around \$124 billion in value to the economy each year.¹ This includes \$76 billion added value through our precompetitive geoscience and 80,000 full-time equivalent jobs (2021–22).²

As we look towards the next decade, I am proud to share our Geoscience Australia Strategy 2026–2036. At its heart is our vision: **“Shaping Australia's future through geoscience insights.”**

This vision reflects our ambition to bring together the best of our science, data and technology to inform decision-making in government and industry, drive innovation, and create opportunities for all Australians.

The strategy sets a clear path grounded in long-term government and national science and research priorities to ensure our work continues to benefit the nation for generations to come. Our geoscience insights will help Australia navigate our biggest challenges and opportunities like the transition to net zero, resource security, sustainable development, protection and

restoration of Australia's environment and the digital revolution. We will contribute to outcomes for First Nations peoples. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have thousands of years of continued connection to Country. We will learn from Indigenous knowledge systems so we can support First Nations self-determination and continued responsible management of Land and Sea Country.

Our science is more critical than ever and has been recognised in multi-decadal funding for key government initiatives. This includes Resourcing Australia's Prosperity mapping Australia's critical minerals and other strategic resources, Landsat Next providing a new phase in our space-based record of Earth's land surface, SouthPAN delivering precise positioning to as little as 10 cm level accuracy and the Digital Atlas of Australia making the benefits of trusted location information accessible to all. These programs extend across the breadth of our geoscience capability focus areas: Resource potential, Positioning and navigation services, Earth analysis, National land, marine and coastal mapping and Hazards and impacts.

While these scientific foundations are enduring strengths, our strategy is more than sustaining what we do well. It highlights shifts to the way we work and how we deliver, so our applied geoscience can make the greatest impact. We are putting users at the centre, ensuring our efforts are shaped by the needs of government, industry and communities. We will be focused on building partnerships

so we can move along the data value chain with purpose to deliver actionable insights, in useful and easy-to-understand formats. This means using modern enterprise systems that are efficient, cost-effective and scalable. We will take an enterprise approach, optimising for shared success and sustainability. These strategic shifts will allow us to be agile, resilient and impactful in a rapidly changing world.

Just as importantly, we will continue to build a safe and empowered workplace culture that values adaptability, diversity, leaders at all levels and good governance. We are also committed to preparing future generations with the skills and knowledge to sustain and advance our science. Our work in education, capability development and outreach play an important role in the science ecosystem that is building the next generation of geoscience leaders.

None of this will be possible without the passion and incredible expertise of our people. The Geoscience Australia team is made up of dedicated professionals whose curiosity, integrity and drive are the foundation of our success and the key to delivering our ambitious programs.

Realising our 10-year vision will take collective effort. We look forward to ongoing engagement with our Geoscience Australia people, partners and stakeholders across government, academia and industry. Your expertise, ideas and commitment will inform the way we deliver integrated geoscience insights. Together, we can help shape a safe, prosperous and sustainable future for our nation.

Inside our strategy

Our strategy is focused on strengthening Geoscience Australia’s enduring national leadership role, and our unique value as Australia’s trusted stewards of applied geoscience delivering the national-scale data, services and infrastructure that government, industry and communities rely on.





Focus areas

Shaping Our Future: Geoscience Australia Strategy 2026–2036

Resource potential

Unlocking Australia's minerals, energy and groundwater resource potential through expert geoscience knowledge and analysis.

Positioning and navigation services

Measuring Australia's land movement and delivering accurate, reliable and resilient positioning and navigation across Australia's land and maritime areas.

Earth analysis

Transforming Earth observation data into Earth insights by monitoring, analysing and predicting change across Australia's dynamic land, water and coastal environment over time.

National land, marine and coastal mapping

Providing trusted national information and insights about the land, marine and coastal geography of Australia including its external territories.

Hazards and impacts

Monitoring and modelling natural and human-induced disaster risks and assessing impacts on Australia's communities and infrastructure.



Key enablers

Thriving people and culture

Building a safe, resilient and inclusive workforce that drives excellence, delivers long-term impact and reflects the diversity of the Australian community.

Financial sustainability and good governance

Aligning decision-making, funding and delivery to our evolving priorities and circumstances, flexibly, transparently and sustainably.

Science integrity and quality

Providing quality-assured, applied geoscience and conducting our science with integrity.

Future-ready data and digital

Driving geoscience excellence and innovation through modern, secure data and digital capabilities across the enterprise.

Education and engagement

Engaging with our stakeholders to inform, inspire and involve them in our programs and in geoscience.



Strategic shifts and values

Users at the centre

We collaborate to understand stakeholders' needs and leverage our full range of capabilities to meet them.

Integrated geoscience

We integrate our ways of working, systems and outputs to maximise impact.

Decision-ready insights

We use our unique capabilities to transform data into actionable insights.

Enterprise approach

We optimise our approach for shared success and sustainability.

Our values

- Impartial in every decision
- Committed to service through collaboration and excellence
- Accountable to foster trust and openness
- Respectful in each interaction
- Ethical in all we do, upholding integrity
- Stewardship with purpose

Our vision

Shaping Australia's future through geoscience insights

Who we are

We are the nation's trusted leaders in applied geoscience and integrated insights that drive resilience, innovation and prosperity for Australians.

From space down to the Earth's core, our national infrastructure and expertise in geoscience data, services and technology spans our unique continent, maritime jurisdiction and external territories including the Australian Antarctic Territory.



Government priorities

- Future Made in Australia
- Productivity Agenda
- National Adaptation Plan
- National Agreement on Closing the Gap



Key government initiatives we deliver

- Resourcing Australia's Prosperity
- Landsat Next
- SouthPAN
- Digital Atlas of Australia



Commitment to First Nations peoples

We build strong and lasting relationships with First Nations peoples to create collaborative opportunities and support self-determination.





Our strategic context

Net zero and critical minerals

Demand for critical minerals for renewable energy sources is expected to triple by 2030.³

Economic security and sovereign capability

The government is committed to building domestic capability, strengthening supply chain resilience, attracting investment and positioning Australia as a resilient player in global markets.

Climate change adaptation and resilience

Extreme weather events are intensifying and Australia is exposed to the impacts of a changing climate.

Water and food security

Climate change is amplifying drought and flood risks. Understanding our water access is linked to food, energy and national security.

STEM skills demand

Three-quarters of fast-growing occupations require STEM skills, creating increased workforce pressures.⁴

The digital revolution

The shift to artificial intelligence and cloud computing is reshaping how geoscience data is collected, interpreted and applied, making our role in providing trusted national datasets more critical than ever.

Understanding global trends keeps our strategy future-focused





Australian Government priorities drive our strategic direction

Future Made in Australia

This initiative drives investment in the energy transition and economic security. Our applied geoscience insights guide exploration and support value-adding across the resource sector. Our products and services accelerate innovation, automation, resilience and productivity gains across the country.

Net Zero Plan

The transition to net zero depends on critical minerals and clean energy technologies. Our satellite-based services are embedded in critical technologies delivering efficiencies across key sectors of the economy. Our mapping and assessment of mineral and clean energy resources helps Australia achieve a sustainable and prosperous future.

Critical Minerals Strategy

Our scientific research, precompetitive data, technical advice and tools help grow the critical minerals sector and position Australia as a secure, reliable and ethical supplier.

Future Gas Strategy

Our scientific data, resource assessments and technical expertise support decisions on gas supply, energy security and the transition to net zero.

Productivity Agenda

The productivity agenda drives our focus on geoscience that directly supports national economic growth, resource development and the transition to net zero.

National AI Plan

Artificial intelligence is transforming how we deliver trusted geoscience for the nation, helping unlock opportunities for productivity and innovation across the economy. Our national datasets and services—supported by standards and digital infrastructure—provide a foundation for effective and responsible use of AI. Through our delivery of key government initiatives, national leadership and international engagement, we will support the success of the National AI Plan.

Data and Digital Government Strategy

The Data and Digital Government Strategy sets a vision for simple, secure and connected public services. This drives our delivery of national geospatial infrastructure, contribution to data maturity uplift across the APS and innovation in scientific digital service delivery.

National Adaptation Plan

Australia's response to climate change is supported by geoscience through our hazard data, exposure information and impact analysis. This work is essential for assessing climate risks from bushfires, floods, droughts, storms, higher temperatures and coastal hazards that affect communities and the environment.

Australian Government Crisis Management Framework

Our work in hazard monitoring and modelling, our geospatial data and platforms and international satellite data services support the Australian Government's all-hazards approach for preparing, responding to and recovering from crises, including natural disasters.

National Science and Research Priorities

The National Science and Research Priorities act as a compass, ensuring our applied geoscience insights directly contribute to government outcomes.

And more...

Through our work with other government agencies, we also contribute to a range of national priorities and place-based policies across areas including the environment, national security, local procurement and community safety.

National Agreement on Closing the Gap

The National Agreement on Closing the Gap drives our shared commitments to achieving positive outcomes for First Nations peoples.



Our strategic context

Our unique value

As Australia’s trusted stewards of applied geoscience, we deliver the national-scale data, services and infrastructure that government, industry and communities rely on.

We work in a range of engagement, partnership and co-design models. This includes leading collaborative initiatives and partnering in cooperative projects across all levels of government, industry and academia.

As the Australian Government’s national geoscience entity, we work closely with states and territories to integrate data and enable national-scale insights.

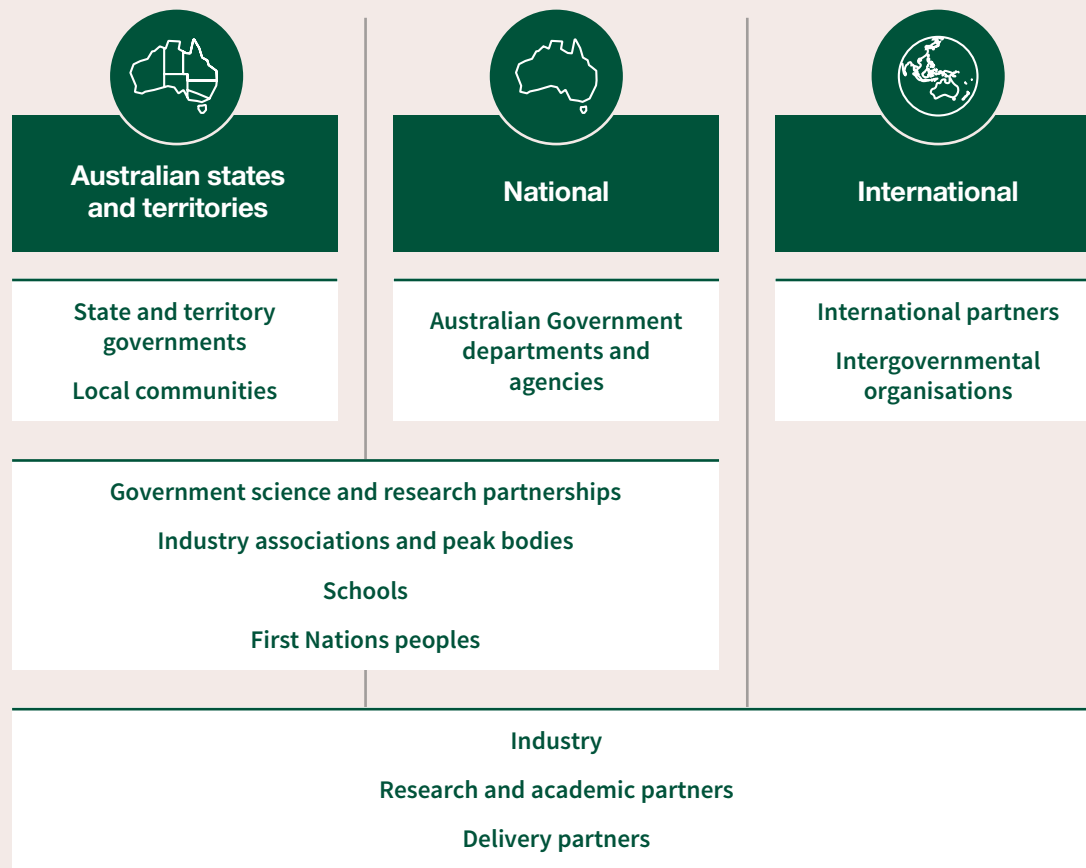
Our free and open data insights complement the work of our partners in early-stage research and the commercial sector to apply science for national benefit.

In the global context, our collaborative and adaptable approach to engagement with international stakeholders supports Australia's interests in a changing geopolitical context.

Who we work with

Our external stakeholders include users of our geoscience data, services and insights; and project, research and delivery partners.

Our strategic shifts will support closer engagement and position Geoscience Australia to maximise value for our stakeholders and streamline ways of working with us.



Who we are

We are the nation's trusted leaders in applied geoscience and integrated insights that drive resilience, innovation and prosperity for Australians.

From space down to the Earth's core, our national infrastructure and expertise in geoscience data, services and technology spans our unique continent, maritime jurisdiction and external territories, including the Australian Antarctic Territory.

over
115
years

**Mapping
Australia**

Geoscience Australia
and our predecessors

25
years

**Geoscience
Australia**

Bringing together national
geoscience: geology + geophysics
+ geography + geospatial

Supporting
more than
\$124bn
in value to the
Australian economy
each year⁵

Supporting
170
government
programs
with access to
satellite data⁶

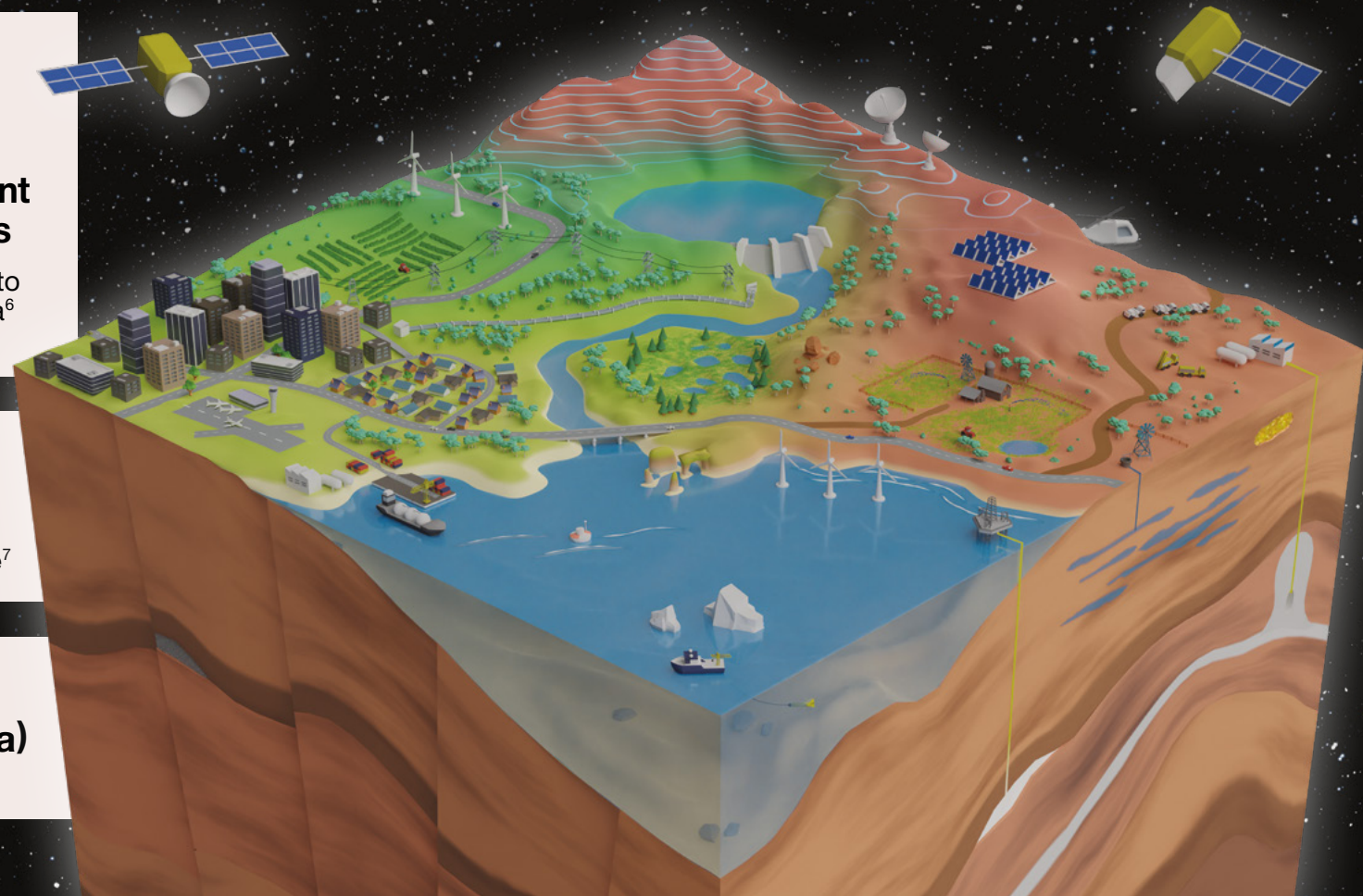
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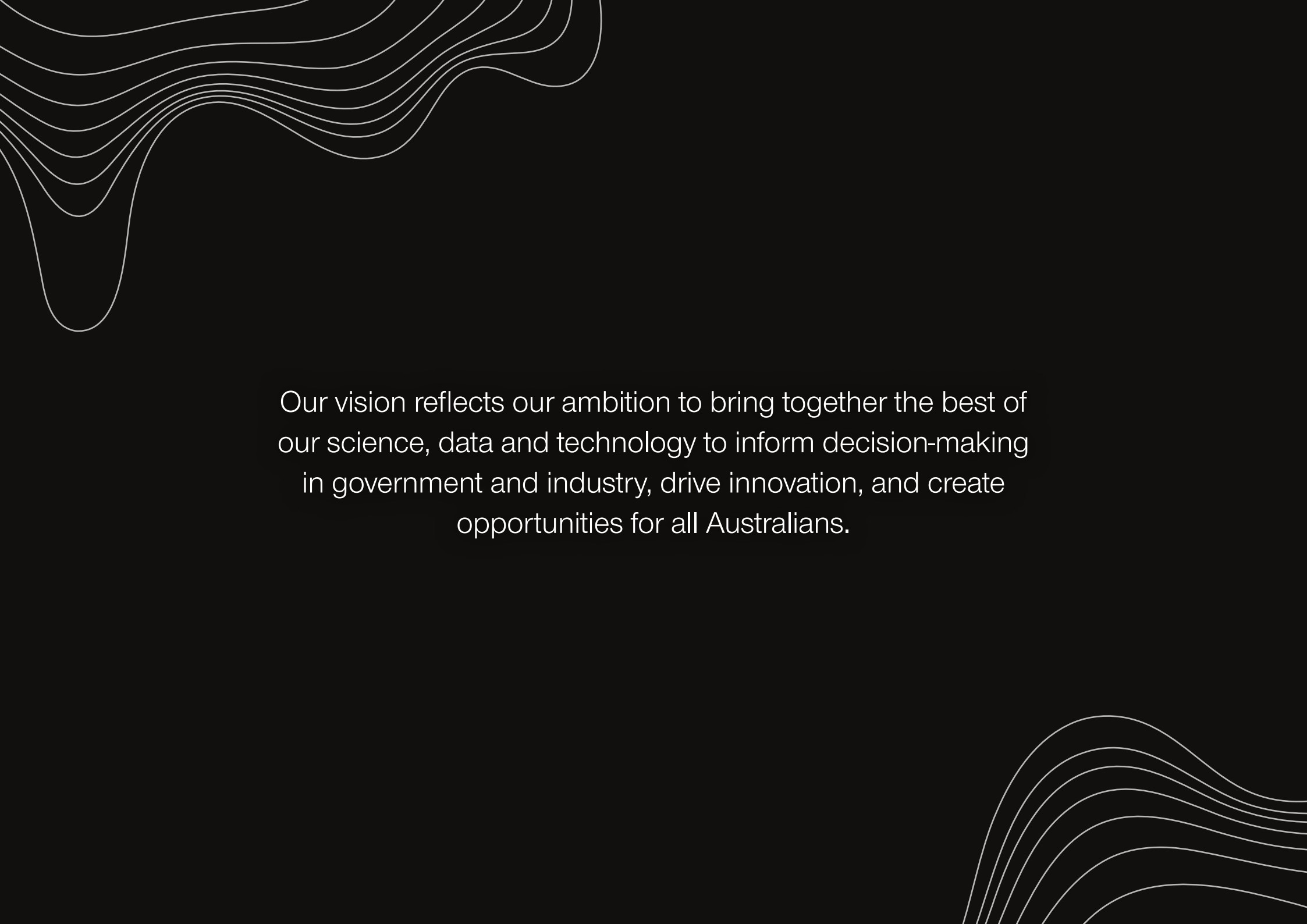
of Australia's
world-class resource
discoveries sparked by our
precompetitive geoscience⁷

Monitoring
100
earthquakes



over
3.0 (MLa)
each year





Our vision reflects our ambition to bring together the best of our science, data and technology to inform decision-making in government and industry, drive innovation, and create opportunities for all Australians.

Our vision

Shaping Australia's future through geoscience insights

Informing critical decisions on Australia's greatest challenges and opportunities for a resilient, innovative and prosperous nation.

Integrating national data, expert scientific knowledge and advanced analytics to generate decision-ready products and services.



Shifting the dial

We're shifting the way we operate across our focus areas and enablers to meet future challenges.

Our strategic shifts



Strategic shifts capture the key changes we are making to our culture and ways of working to ensure that we remain high-performing. These changes will help us be future-ready, outcomes focused and aligned on the right values and behaviours to work as one organisation.



Users at the centre

We collaborate to understand stakeholders' needs and leverage our full range of capabilities to meet them.

- **Working in partnership seamlessly**
We partner with our key stakeholders (internally and externally), ensuring that we properly understand their needs and co-design effective solutions to achieve shared goals.
- **Maximising value for our users**
By bringing together our diverse capabilities around the needs of key stakeholders, we make our world-class applied geoscience more impactful and easier to access and use.



Integrated geoscience

We integrate our ways of working, systems and outputs to maximise impact.

- **Addressing Australia's challenges and opportunities**
By taking cross-functional, inter-disciplinary and integrated approaches, we bring together the best of our expertise (including scientific and other specialist knowledge), data and technology to help address Australia's complex challenges and opportunities.
- **Maximising the impact of our applied science**
Scientific advances increasingly come from integrating different inputs and perspectives. We are leaders in applied geoscience insights through cross-disciplinary collaboration that drives innovation.



Decision-ready insights

We use our unique capabilities to transform data into actionable insights.

- **Enabling better and faster decision-making**
By transforming data into actionable insights, we will support accelerated, evidence-based decision-making in a complex and rapidly changing environment.
- **Extending our unique capabilities along the data value chain**
By extending our offerings along the data value chain where we can make the biggest difference, we leverage our combination of expertise, technology and data to deliver unique products and services that benefit stakeholders and advance our strategic priorities.



Enterprise approach

We optimise our approach for shared success and sustainability.

- **Delivering sustainably**
We continue to be effective stewards of public resources and ensure our delivery is sustainable over the long term for the benefit of all Australians.
- **Operating with agility and resilience**
We thrive in an increasingly complex and dynamic environment through whole-of-enterprise approaches, robust systems and efficient operations.

Our values-driven leadership

Our values align with Australian Public Service frameworks and are the foundation of how we work, lead and serve the Australian community. They underpin every decision and action we take and are essential to our success in delivering our strategy.

Our values

- **Impartial** in every decision
- **Committed** to service through collaboration and excellence
- **Accountable** to foster trust and openness
- **Respectful** in each interaction
- **Ethical** in all we do, upholding integrity
- **Stewardship** with purpose



Geoscience Australia: A Journey of Connection, Artwork by Lani Balzan



Our commitment to First Nations peoples

We are committed to strengthening our cultural capability and deepening engagement with First Nations peoples to share knowledge and perspectives on geoscience.

Through respectful and meaningful engagement, we will learn from First Nations knowledge systems and foster understanding of geoscience to support informed decision-making.

Our approach to engagement includes partnership and co-design models and knowledge-building across our geoscience and geospatial programs and activities.

Our goals contribute to the Priority Reforms under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap and Australia's National Science and Research Priorities, including elevating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge systems.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have thousands of years of continued connection to Country, bringing unique perspectives, knowledge and skills to Western scientific frameworks.

National Agreement on Closing the Gap priority reforms

1. Formal partnerships and shared decision-making

2. Building the community-controlled sector

3. Transforming government organisations

4. Shared access to data and information at a regional level

Our goals

Strengthen engagement and ways of working that support empowerment of First Nations peoples' self-determination and continued responsible management of Land and Sea Country through opportunities in shared decision-making and formal partnerships.

Work with First Nations community-controlled organisations to build geoscience and geospatial expertise and deliver services that contribute to social and economic outcomes.

Transform Geoscience Australia to work better with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Improve access to geoscience and geospatial data, information and technology to empower First Nations communities to make informed decisions.

With First Nations peoples and communities

- Ensure our priority projects and programs deliver purposeful and effective outcomes for First Nations communities.
- Engage transparently and collaboratively, respecting governance and decision-making processes.
- Implement the Framework for Governance of Indigenous Data.
- Partner with First Nations-led organisations and education and training providers, to create career pathways.

Within our organisation

- Advance culturally safe and responsive strategies and coordination for enterprise commitments, engagement and partnerships.
- Uplift organisational cultural awareness and competence to develop and sustain cultural safety.
- Equip our leaders and staff to engage in genuine and respectful partnerships.
- Deliver on our enterprise commitments to reconciliation.
- Support career pathways for First Nations peoples.

- We will create opportunities through our governance forums, such as the First Nations Advisory Group, to provide culturally-informed perspectives and advice to support impactful delivery of our geoscience and geospatial activities.

Respectful and meaningful engagement with First Nations peoples in everything we do.



Strategic shifts



Focus areas



Key enablers



Applied geoscience in focus

We will deliver geoscience insights by bringing together the best of our science, data and technology across five focus areas.

Our focus areas



Resource potential

Unlocking Australia's minerals, energy and groundwater resource potential through expert geoscience knowledge and analysis.

CMS FGS FMA NACTG NSRP
NZZ PA



Positioning and navigation services

Measuring Australia's land movement and delivering accurate, reliable and resilient positioning and navigation across Australia's land and maritime areas.

DDGS NACTG NSRP NZP PA



Earth analysis

Transforming Earth observation data into Earth insights by monitoring, analysing and predicting change across Australia's dynamic land, water and coastal environment over time.

AGCMF FMA NAP NAIP
NACTG NSRP NZP PA



National land, marine and coastal mapping

Providing trusted national information and insights about the land, marine and coastal geography of Australia including its external territories.

AGCMF DDGS NAP NACTG
NSRP NZP PA





Hazards and impacts

Monitoring and modelling natural and human-induced disaster risks and assessing impacts on Australia's communities and infrastructure.


AGCMF NAP NACTG NSRP PA

Our 10-year goals

G1.1 Deliver expert geoscience knowledge and analysis to support Australia's transition to net zero and enhance Australia's sovereign capabilities through the Resourcing Australia's Prosperity initiative, in line with the 10-year roadmap. 


G1.2 Provide trusted geoscience data and insights to support the sustainable use and management of Australia's groundwater resources to enhance our economic, water and food security, resource development and protect environmental assets and cultural values. 

G1.3 Provide national leadership and trusted advice to inform policy responses to existing and emerging national priorities that benefit from geoscience solutions.

G2.1 Deliver Satellite-Based Augmentation System positioning and navigation services, underpinning national prosperity and safety through the Southern Positioning Augmentation Network. 

G2.2 Deliver accurate, high-quality and reliable positioning monitoring and geodetic services enabling productivity, resilience and innovation through the Positioning Australia program.

G2.3 Provide national leadership of government civilian positioning and navigation to ensure accessible, reliable and resilient national positioning, navigation and timing capabilities, informed by international engagement.

G3.1 Deliver integrated Earth observation data, analysis and insights that integrate time-series land, water and environment data to meet national priorities, through Landsat Next and the next-generation of Sentinel satellites. 

G3.2 Deliver resilient Earth observation data supply chains to ensure high-quality data that delivers on national priorities.

G3.3 Provide national leadership of government civilian Earth observation to ensure accessible and resilient national capabilities, including through engagement and science diplomacy.

G4.1 Deliver sustainable, trusted and comprehensive national mapping and location data, information, products and services that drive national priorities, including through an updated and expanded Digital Atlas of Australia, our whole-of-government integrated geospatial infrastructure implementation. 


G4.2 Provide national and international leadership ensuring Australia's national mapping and location information is dynamic, authoritative and integrated to unlock insights and innovation.












G4.3 Deliver a marine cadastre to provide authoritative information to support administration of Australia's maritime jurisdiction and strengthen marine planning, ocean policy and maritime security.

G5.1 Deliver fully automated, high-availability, timely and reliable earthquake monitoring and alerting services through the National Earthquake Alerts Centre.

G5.2 Deliver hazard impact services, including through the Digital Atlas of Australia, to provide advanced modelling and insights into the impacts of all hazards on buildings and infrastructure.

G5.3 Uplift the national geohazards science program that advances understanding of geophysical risks and consequences.

 Key government initiatives we deliver

Policy and strategy alignment: Australian Government Crisis Management Framework  | Critical Minerals Strategy  | Data and Digital Government Strategy  | Future Gas Strategy  | Future Made in Australia  | National Adaptation Plan  | National AI Plan  | National Agreement on Closing the Gap  | National Science and Research Priorities  | Net Zero Plan  | Productivity Agenda 



Supporting net zero

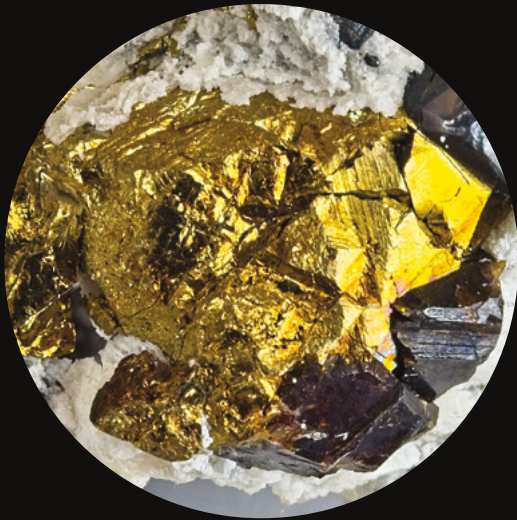
Critical minerals and clean energy technologies are supporting the transition to net zero.



Resource potential

Unlocking Australia’s minerals, energy and groundwater resource potential through expert geoscience knowledge and analysis.


- CMS
- FGS
- FMA
- NACTG
- NSRP
- NZP
- PA




Copper is a strategic element critical for the energy transition and technology innovation. Shown above contained in chalcopyrite, a primary copper ore.

Our 10-year goals

G1.1 Deliver expert geoscience knowledge and analysis to support Australia’s transition to net zero and enhance Australia’s sovereign capabilities through the Resourcing Australia’s Prosperity initiative, in line with the 10-year roadmap.⁹



G1.2 Provide trusted geoscience data and insights to support the sustainable use and management of Australia’s groundwater resources to enhance our economic, water and food security, resource development and protect environmental assets and cultural values.



G1.3 Provide national leadership and trusted advice to inform policy responses to existing and emerging national priorities that benefit from geoscience solutions.

4-year initiatives

I1i Deliver national-scale precompetitive geoscience data and information on Australia’s potential for minerals, energy and groundwater resources.

I1ii Deliver deep dive studies of multi-commodity resource assessments in 2 onshore regions.

I1iii Promote Australia’s precompetitive geoscience data and information to industry to attract domestic and international investment into Australia’s resource sector.

I1iv Ensure effective curation and delivery of geological digital data and physical samples on behalf of the Australian Government.


I1v Provide targeted geoscience advice that informs government policy addressing Australia’s key national priorities.


Our measures

M1a Usage and satisfaction with our digital products.

M1b Stakeholder decisions demonstrably informed by our products and advice.

M1c Economic impact to Australia of the decisions and investments made using our products and advice.

 Key government initiatives we deliver

 See page 34 for government priorities index and tag details



Knowing where you are and where you're going

Satellite positioning technologies pinpoint your location anywhere in Australia at the touch of a button, from smartphones to autonomous vehicles.



Positioning and navigation services

Measuring Australia's land movement and delivering accurate, reliable and resilient positioning and navigation across Australia's land and maritime areas.

DDGS NACTG NSRP NZP PA



Through the National Positioning Infrastructure Capability (NPIC), Geoscience Australia is opening access to Australia's positioning infrastructure.

Our 10-year goals

G2.1 Deliver Satellite-Based Augmentation System positioning and navigation services underpinning national prosperity and safety through the Southern Positioning Augmentation Network (SouthPAN).



G2.2 Deliver accurate, high-quality and reliable positioning, monitoring and geodetic services, enabling productivity, resilience and innovation through the Positioning Australia program.

G2.3 Provide national leadership of government civilian positioning and navigation to ensure accessible, reliable and resilient national positioning, navigation and timing (PNT) capabilities, informed by international engagement.

4-year initiatives

I2i Deliver SouthPAN positioning services, including Safety of Life certified aviation services, Dual-Frequency Multi-Constellation services, and next-generation Precise Point Positioning.

I2ii Deliver a co-designed Commonwealth PNT roadmap.

I2iii Lead whole-of-government coordination on civilian PNT, including through advice and international representation on positioning and geodesy.

I2iv Deliver accurate, reliable and high-quality geodetic and positioning services to domestic users and the global geodetic supply chain by modernising, maintaining and operating the national positioning infrastructure.

Our measures

M2a Performance of geodetic and positioning services.

M2b Progress on initiatives that improve Positioning, Navigation and Timing (PNT) outcomes for Australia across national infrastructure, services and systems.

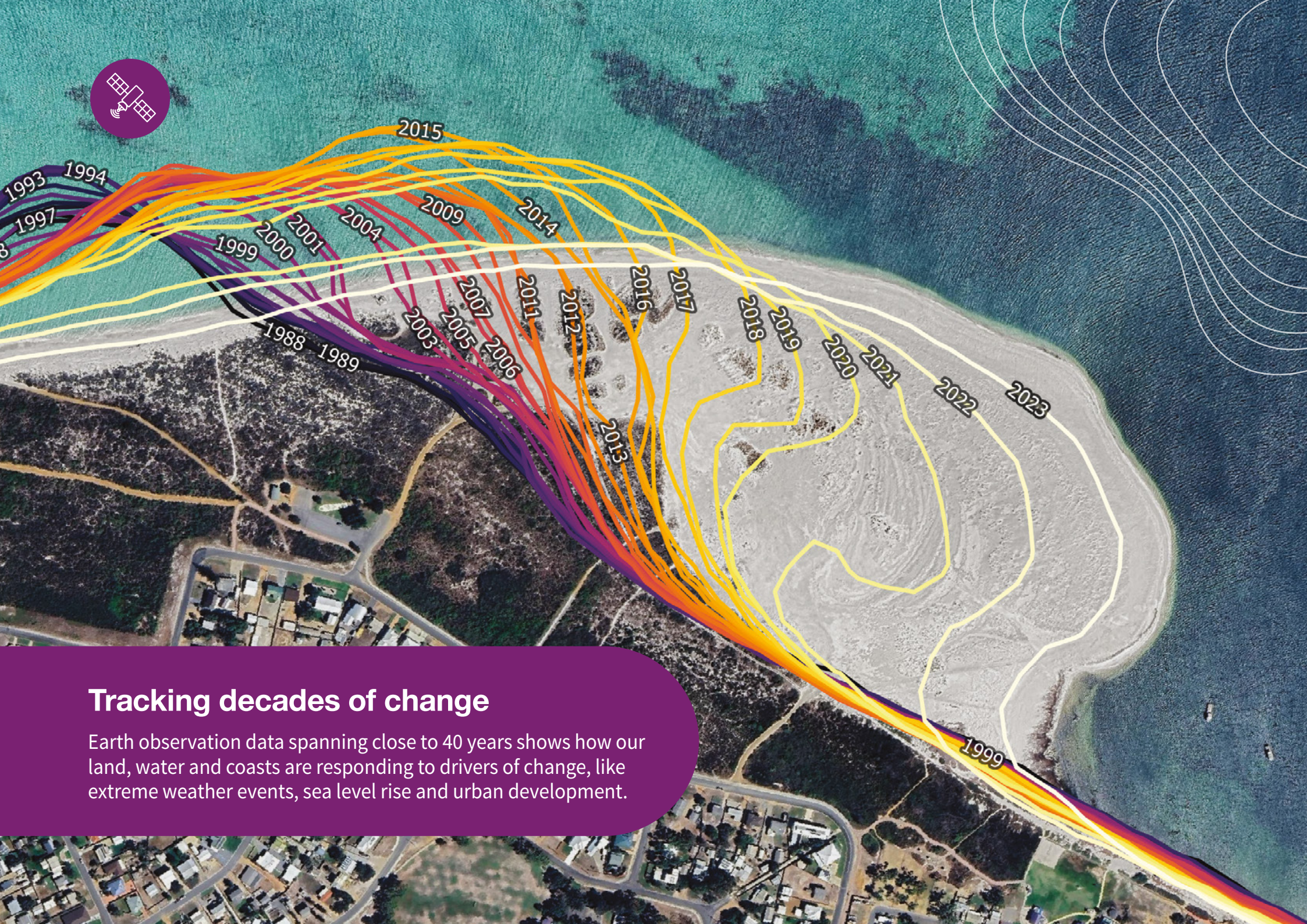
M2c Economic impact to Australia of the decisions and investments made using our products and advice.



Key government initiatives we deliver



See page 34 for government priorities index and tag details



Tracking decades of change

Earth observation data spanning close to 40 years shows how our land, water and coasts are responding to drivers of change, like extreme weather events, sea level rise and urban development.



Earth analysis

Transforming Earth observation data into Earth insights by monitoring, analysing and predicting change across Australia’s dynamic land, water and coastal environment over time.

- AGCMF
- FMA
- NAP
- NAIP
- NACTG
- NSRP
- NZP
- PA



Geoscience Australia’s Land Cover product translates over 35 years of satellite imagery into evidence of land, vegetation and waterbodies change over time.

Our 10-year goals

G3.1 Deliver integrated Earth observation (EO) data, analysis and insights that integrate time-series land, water and environment data to meet national priorities, including through Landsat Next and next-generation Sentinel satellites.



G3.2 Deliver resilient EO data supply chains to ensure high-quality data that delivers on national priorities.

G3.3 Provide national leadership of government civilian Earth observation to ensure accessible and resilient national capabilities, including through engagement and science diplomacy.

4-year initiatives

I3i Deliver an optimised EO data and digital architecture that meets current and future end-user requirements and accounts for new science, new data processing and storage capabilities, and expanded geographical coverage in readiness for Landsat Next.

I3ii Enhance EO data collection through delivery of a new Alice Springs ground station, ground calibration network, interoperability standards, and integrity monitoring.

I3iii Deliver the Australia-United States Partnership in Landsat Next.

Our measures

M3a Usage and satisfaction with our digital products.

M3b Stakeholder decisions demonstrably informed by our products and advice.

M3c Progress on initiatives that improve Earth Observation (EO) outcomes for Australia across national infrastructure, services and systems.

M3d Economic impact to Australia of the decisions and investments made using our products and advice.



Key government initiatives we deliver



See page 34 for government priorities index and tag details



Mapping for a thriving future

We map and analyse our unique land, ocean and coasts to inform sustainable development, stewardship of our environment, and community wellbeing.





National land, marine and coastal mapping

Providing trusted national information and insights about the land, marine and coastal geography of Australia including its external territories.

- AGCMF
- DDGS
- NAP
- NACTG
- NSRP
- NZP
- PA



Geoscience Australia integrates topographic and bathymetric data to join land and sea. This foundational data helps address challenges in Australia’s coastal zone.

Our 10-year goals

G4.1 Deliver sustainable, trusted and comprehensive national mapping and location data, information, products and services that drive national priorities, including through an updated and expanded Digital Atlas of Australia, our whole-of-government integrated geospatial infrastructure implementation.



G4.2 Provide national and international leadership ensuring Australia’s national mapping and location information is dynamic, authoritative and integrated to unlock insights and innovation.

G4.3 Deliver a marine cadastre to provide authoritative information to support administration of Australia’s maritime jurisdiction and strengthen marine planning, ocean policy and maritime security.

4-year initiatives

I4i Lead development of a government geospatial strategy and infrastructure that demonstrates the significant value of curated location information, including the role of our data and insights in supporting national priorities and outcomes.

I4ii Integrate and deliver national land, water, hazard, coastal, and marine datasets – including through the Digital Atlas of Australia – providing the trusted source for multi-layered analysis and modelling, to generate new insights supporting informed decision-making across Australia’s continent, maritime jurisdiction and external territories including the Australian Antarctic Territory.

I4iii Transform our national land, marine and coastal mapping data to support machine integration and advanced analytics, enabling new insights and innovative applications.

I4iv Uplift national capability through whole-of-government integrated geospatial infrastructure (Digital Atlas of Australia).

Our measures

M4a Usage and satisfaction with our digital products.

M4b Stakeholder decisions demonstrably informed by our products and advice.

M4c Economic impact to Australia of the decisions and investments made using our products and advice.



Key government initiatives we deliver



See page 34 for government priorities index and tag details



Supporting our nation's response to natural hazards

We monitor and model natural hazards to assess risk and support emergency management, infrastructure resilience and safer communities.



Hazards and impacts

Monitoring and modelling natural and human-induced disaster risks and assessing impacts on Australia's communities and infrastructure.

AGCMF NAP NACTG NSRP PA



Our National Earthquake Alerts Centre operates around the clock to provide rapid alerts of significant earthquakes in Australia and overseas.

Our 10-year goals

G5.1 Deliver fully automated, high-availability, timely and reliable earthquake monitoring and alerting services through the National Earthquake Alerts Centre.

G5.2 Deliver hazard impact services, including through the Digital Atlas of Australia, to provide advanced modelling and insights into the impacts of all hazards on buildings and infrastructure.

G5.3 Uplift the national geohazards science program that advances understanding of geophysical risks and consequences.

4-year initiatives

I5i Uplift our digital capability for advanced modelling to deliver digital hazard impact services to users.

I5ii Establish a national building exposure registry to underpin building and infrastructure disaster impact services.

I5iii Develop a financially sustainable geohazard science program to address capability gaps.

Our measures

M5a Usage and satisfaction with our digital products.

M5b Stakeholder decisions demonstrably informed by our products and advice.

M5c Performance of the National Earthquake Alerts Centre (NEAC).

See page 34 for government priorities index and tag details

Highly-skilled and thriving workforce

We support a culture where people feel safe, inspired and deliver impact with integrity.





Our key enablers

Thriving people and culture

Building a safe, resilient and inclusive workforce that drives excellence, delivers long-term impact and reflects the diversity of the Australian community.

Science integrity and quality

Providing quality-assured, applied geoscience and conducting our science with integrity.

Financial sustainability and good governance

Aligning decision-making, funding and delivery to our evolving priorities and circumstances, flexibly, transparently and sustainably.

Future-ready data and digital

Driving geoscience excellence and innovation through modern, secure data and digital capabilities across the enterprise.

Engagement and education

Engaging with our stakeholders to inform, inspire and involve them in our programs and in geoscience.

Our 10-year goals

EG1.1 A future-ready workforce with adaptive skills, strong leadership, and opportunities for growth and career development that support resilience and responsiveness to change.

EG2.1 Our world-class geoscience continues to be known for its trustworthiness, accuracy, reliability and integrity, underpinned by quality assurance and data standards.

EG3.1 Strategic, multi-year prioritisation, planning and monitoring processes to align budget and resourcing with priorities and provide assurance over delivery.

EG4.1 Data and digital capabilities across the enterprise are modern and fit-for-purpose to enable innovation and high-quality science outcomes along the full data value chain.

EG5.1 Strategic communications and engagement drive increased awareness and usage of our products and services by key stakeholders and increased public understanding of the relevance of our work to Australian life.

EG1.2 A culture where people feel safe, inspired, and empowered to contribute meaningfully, and deliver impact with integrity, fostering a positive employee experience.

EG2.2 National and international leadership of applied geoscience prioritisation, collaboration and innovation, supporting the development of science aligned to our national priorities.

EG3.2 Sustainable operations through optimised overhead costs and reduced duplication, supported by increased efficiency of administrative processes, to maximise our delivery potential.

EG4.2 Governance and delivery of data and digital products and services balance user needs, enterprise value, security and innovation to maximise strategic outcomes and sustainability.

EG5.2 High-quality, curriculum-aligned education products and services foster a pipeline of future geoscience leaders.

Endnotes

1. Deloitte Access Economics, *The economic value of government precompetitive geoscience data and analysis for Australia's resources industry*, DAE website, 2023, accessed 20 February 2026, p. 3; Acil Allen, *Economic impact of geospatial services in Australia*, Acil Allen website, 2024, accessed 20 February 2026, p. xiii; Deloitte Access Economics, *The value of Australian seabed mapping data to the blue economy*, DAE website, 2021, accessed 20 February 2026, p. 32.
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9. Geoscience Australia, *Resourcing Australia's Prosperity roadmap (2024–34)*.

Government priorities index

AGCMF	Australian Government Crisis Management Framework
CMS	Critical Minerals Strategy
DDGS	Data and Digital Government Strategy
FGS	Future Gas Strategy
FMA	Future Made in Australia
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NAIP	National AI Plan
NACTG	National Agreement on Closing the Gap
NSRP	National Science and Research Priorities
NZP	Net Zero Plan
PA	Productivity Agenda

Glossary

EO	Earth Observation
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
NPIC	National Positioning Infrastructure Capability
PNT	Positioning, Navigation and Timing
SouthPAN	Southern Positioning Augmentation Network
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics



Visit our references and image index for accessible links

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Geoscience Australia: A Journey of Connection, artwork by Lani Balzan. Credit: Lani Balzan.

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National Earthquake Alerts Centre. Location: Canberra, Australian Capital Territory. Credit: Geoscience Australia.

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Geoscience Australia staff photograph. Location: Canberra, Australian Capital Territory. Credit: Geoscience Australia.


Geoscience Australia: A Journey of Connection (page 18)

About the artwork

Geoscience Australia: A Journey of Connection. Since the earliest times, the land, sky, waters, and space have guided First Nations peoples, shaping their knowledge and stories. This artwork embodies the deep connections Geoscience Australia shares with Country, honouring the layers of history, exploration, and the continuous mapping of the land. Through vibrant symbolism, the story weaves the journey of understanding Earth's vast and intricate systems while recognising the enduring relationship between First Nations peoples and the land, waters and skies.

About the artist


Meet Lani Balzan, a proud Aboriginal woman from the Wiradjuri people of the three-river tribe. Though her family roots lie in Mudgee, she grew up traversing various regions of Australia, finally finding her home in Queensland, Australia. Lani Balzan is a nationally acclaimed Aboriginal artist and graphic designer, celebrated for her vibrant works that honor her Wiradjuri heritage. Her art seamlessly blends traditional Aboriginal techniques with contemporary design, serving as a bridge between cultures and fostering reconciliation.

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