

Accelerating Sovereign Industrial Capabilities (ASIC) Program

Industry Information Session

Wednesday 5 June 2024

Please note that this session is being recorded

A COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN



THE UNIVERSITY
of ADELAIDE



UNSW

Supported by



Australian Government
Department of Education

In the spirit of reconciliation the Defence Trailblazer for Concept to Sovereign Capability acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community.

We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

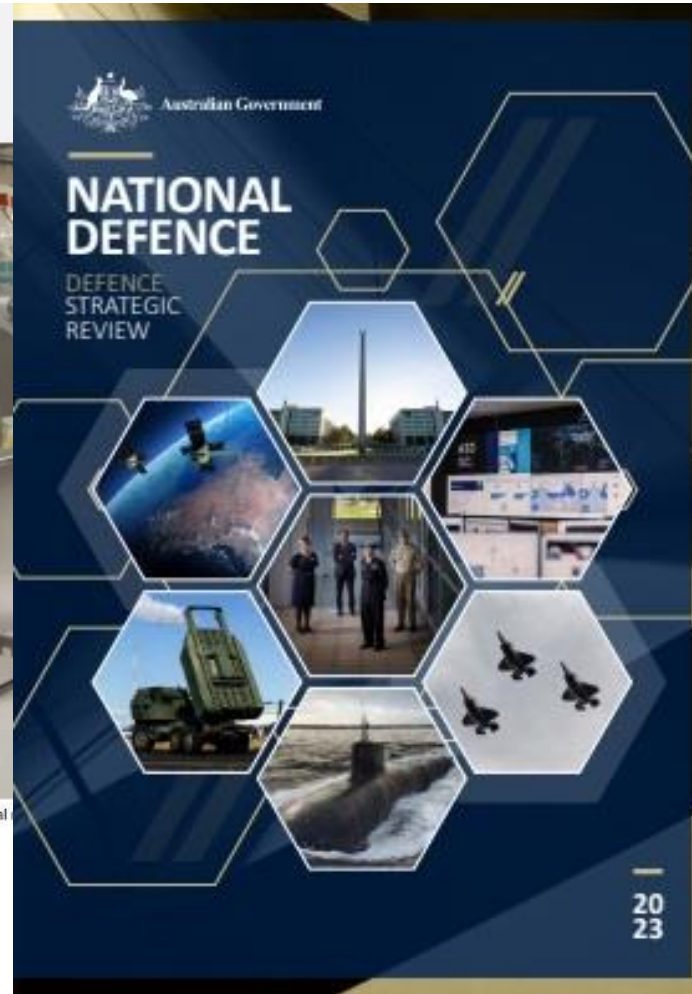
Strategic Context



A tax incentive coupled with a new fund to support research translation could go a long way toward closing that gap in funding imbalances between medical and non-medical

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Australia can benefit much more than it does currently from the world-leading research in our universities. It ranks near the top of the OECD for research excellence but is less effective at collaboration between industry and researchers to drive the economic benefits of research. I suggest two important measures that could go a long way to achieving more translation of research to achieve



*“The Defence Strategic Review makes clear that Australia **must invest in the transition to new and innovative technologies** for our Defence Force”*

Deputy Prime Minister Marles,
Defence Minister

Agenda

- **Introduction & Acknowledgment to Country**
- **Overview**
 - About the Defence Trailblazer
 - Our Priorities
 - Why UoA & UNSW
 - Current programs
- **ASIC Program**
 - What is the ASIC program?
 - Alignment with SDIPs
 - Requirements
- **Q & A**

About Us

In partnership with industry, the University of Adelaide (UoA) and UNSW, the Defence Trailblazer is accelerating the commercialisation of research to strengthen Australia's defence sovereign capabilities.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- Accelerate the commercialisation of research at speed and scale for the Australian Defence Force (ADF)
- Develop education training pathways to address skills gaps and defence sector's workforce needs now and in the future
- Fast-track entrepreneurs and innovators' ideas to commercialisation
- Enhance collaboration between industry, government and academia.

\$200M+

investment to accelerate innovation to support
Australian defence sovereign capability

70+

industry-academia
projects underway

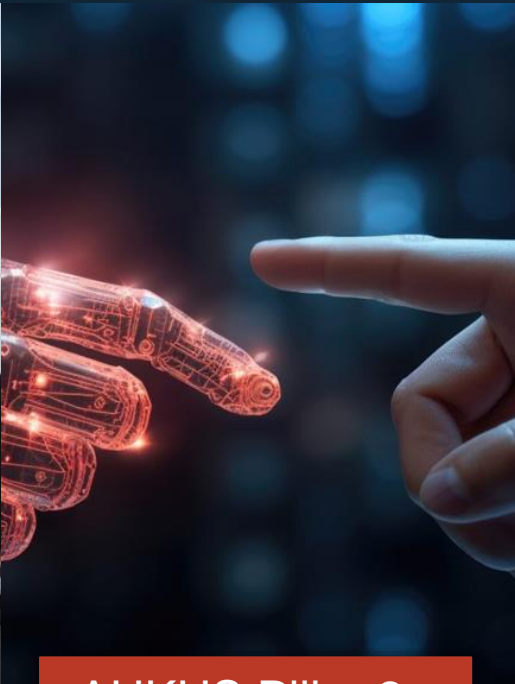
50+

industry partners,
including start-ups, SMEs
and defence primes

Our Priorities



Workforce
upskilling &
attraction



AUKUS Pillar 2 -
advanced
technology



Sovereign
Defence Industrial
Priorities (SDIPs)



Fostering defence
Innovation



Enhancing
industry-academia
collaborations

Why UoA and UNSW for Defence R&D?



University of Adelaide:

250+ cleared staff

UNSW:

50+ cleared staff



University of Adelaide:

Governance (L3)

Personnel (L3)

Physical (L1)

Cyber (EL->L1)

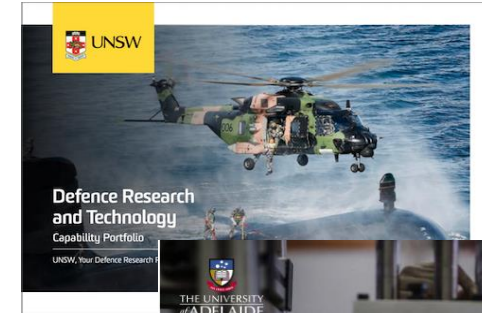
UNSW:

Governance (EL->L3)

Personnel (EL->L3)

Physical (EL->L1)

Cyber (EL->L1)



Strong pedigree of working
with Defence

Workforce Upskilling & Attraction Programs



**Student Placements
and Projects**



**Staff Mobility
Program**



**Proto-Lab
Network**

Technology Development and Acceleration

- Project nominated by the Industry
- Shaped by Defence (end-users and DSTG)
- Identified role for both academic and industry
- Build upon a proven concept
- Funding Leverage Model:
\$2 Industry Cash / \$1 Grant Cash
- Funds can be spent in Industry or University
- Will fund equipment, salaries and facilities



A ccelerating **S** overeign **I** ndustrial **C** apabilities (ASIC) Program

Objectives

- Enable larger scale research, development, and innovation with a drive for rapid translation into minimum viable capabilities.
- Leverage existing and/or build new sovereign defence industrial strengths in areas of strategic priority for Defence's needs.
- Establish new collaborative partnerships with leading researchers and industry partners.
- Attract new industry partners to the Defence Trailblazer.

Research Priorities



Defence Sovereign Industrial Priorities (SDIPs):

- i. Maintenance, repair, overhaul and upgrade of Australian Defence Force aircraft.
- ii. Continuous naval shipbuilding and sustainment.
- iii. Sustainment and enhancement of the combined-arms land system.
- iv. Domestic manufacture of guided weapons, explosive ordnance and munitions.
- v. Development and integration of autonomous systems.
- vi. Integration and enhancement of battlespace awareness and management systems.
- vii. Test and evaluation, certification and systems assurance.

Funding Arrangements

- 1:1 matched (cash) funding.
- No minimum amount, but preference will be given to proposals that demonstrate ability to build scale in research and development.
- Proposals which include substantial in-kind contributions from industry parties will be prioritised.
- Project funds must be spent with at least one of the Defence Trailblazer universities (University of Adelaide and/or UNSW) to undertake research and innovation activities required by the project. Relevant university in-kind will also be contributed to the project.

ASIC PROJECT FUNDING

University Staff

ASIC funding will be used to fund university research and development staff. This contribution is valued as the proportion of a university employee's time spent on the project's activities with respect to their salary.



University Students

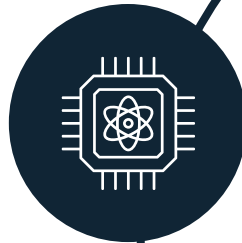
Individual students or student project teams can be engaged through a work project, industry placement or internship to help deliver outcomes for your organisation, help grow your talent pipeline and help prepare students for the future work in Australia's defence industry.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT DEFENCE TRAILBLAZER'S STUDENT PLACEMENTS & PROJECTS PROGRAM ON OUR WEBSITE



University Facilities

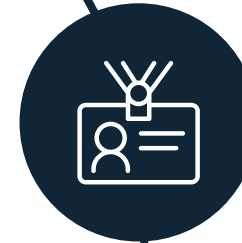
As the project must be undertaken at one or both of Defence Trailblazer's partner universities, University of Adelaide, or UNSW, the ASIC funding can be put towards the fees to use facilities needed for the project.



Staff Mobility

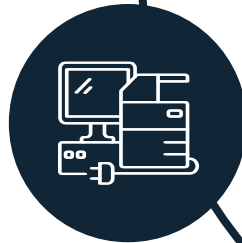
ASIC funding can be used to enable industry staff placements and exchanges to work on your project at the university sharing knowledge, expertise, facilities and capabilities

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT DEFENCE TRAILBLAZER'S STAFF MOBILITY PROGRAM ON OUR WEBSITE



University Equipment

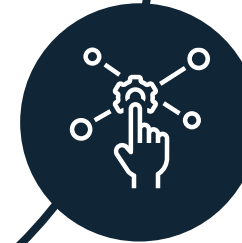
If University equipment needs to be taken off-site for test and evaluation, ASIC funding can be used for the University equipment hire fees and for the reasonable travel costs to get the equipment to the test site.



Proto-Lab Network

Access the Defence Trailblazer's Proto-Lab Network. This network provides access to university, government and industry facilities, equipment, infrastructure and know-how to support design, prototyping, test & evaluation, and low-volume manufacturing activities.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT DEFENCE TRAILBLAZER'S PROTO-LAB NETWORK ON OUR WEBSITE



New Equipment Purchase

If new or specific equipment is required for your project, ASIC funding can be used to purchase and retain equipment at the University.



In-Kind Contributions

In-kind contributions will be considered in the evaluation criteria assessment. Prospective partners are encouraged to contribute significant in-kind. In-kind can include but is not limited to software licenses, equipment, facilities, labour etc.



MATCHED 1:1 FUNDING FOR PROJECTS

There is a requirement for minimum 1:1 matched (cash) funding for the amount that is requested from the ASIC program.



Requirements

- Projects must be closely aligned with the SDIPs.
- Demonstrate a strong collaborative team to deliver a larger scale project.
- Will develop a minimum viable product demonstrator/proof-of-concept (e.g., laboratory validation or early-stage prototype).
- Funds must be spent with at least one of the Defence Trailblazer universities (University of Adelaide and/or UNSW) to undertake research and innovation activities required by the project. Relevant university in-kind will also be contributed to the project.
- Projects will be assessed on merit based on a set evaluation criteria.
- Projects need to be completed December 2026.

KEY UNIVERSITY RESEARCHERS



Professor
Andre Luiten

Quantum Materials,
Technologies and
Computing



Professor
Miftar Ganija

Defensive
Hypersonics &
Countermeasures



Associate
Professor
Hung Nguyen

Information Warfare
& Advanced Cyber
Technologies



Associate
Professor
Claudia Szabo

Robotics, Autonomous
Systems and Artificial
Intelligence



Professor
**Tat-Jun (TJ)
Chin**

Defence Space
Technologies



Scientia
Professor
Sven Rogge



Professor
Andrew Neely



Professor
Salil Kanhere



Professor
Matt Garratt



Melrose Brown

Evaluation Criteria

1. Strategic Alignment
2. Impacts
3. Utilisation
4. Research
5. Project Management

Summary

- A competitive grant program with up to \$12m funding available
- Projects aligned to SDIPs
- 1-1 cash matching
- Collaborative projects between industry and either/both UoA & UNSW
- R&D must be undertaken within universities
- EOIs close on
- Projects commence in Q4 2024.

**EOI DEADLINE EXTENDED
UNTIL 24 JULY 2024**



Visit our website for more information:
dtb.solutions/asic

Contact our Partnerships team:
partnerships@dtb.solutions



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