

# Queensland Chief Entrepreneur Action Plan 2023-2025



Accelerating Queensland through innovation and entrepreneurship



# Resilience and Transition

Build a sustainable and resilient innovation ecosystem where communities, people and planet are supported, protected and prosperous

## Aligns to Innovation for a Future Economy Roadmap 2022-2032 priority outcomes 1 & 4

Greater investment attraction and more innovative businesses starting, growing and staying in Queensland

Queensland's big challenges and events are supported through innovative and sustainable solutions



### RESILIENCE PROGRAM

Support businesses and the people behind them to grow and scale at a sustainable rate.

Protect and nurture the health and wellbeing of Queensland's innovation community.



### COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Support communities in transition through co-designed innovative strategies that foster system strength.

Explore opportunities to fund innovation leads in the regions using a place-based approach.



### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Collaborate with industry and government to develop innovative strategies to decarbonise the economy.

Accelerate Queensland's unique natural capital market and explore how Queensland can lead in the climate tech space and positively impact the environment.



### REGIONAL INVESTMENT

Explore how existing wealth in the regions can be unlocked and utilised to grow Queensland regions for future sustainability.

Raise awareness and understanding of the different investment options available and provide investors with opportunities to invest regionally.





## Impact

Advocate for innovation and entrepreneurship in Queensland, showcasing success stories to the world and driving positive economic and social impact for Queenslanders

**Aligns to Innovation for a Future Economy Roadmap 2022-2032 priority outcome 4**  
Queensland's big challenges and events are supported through innovative and sustainable solutions



### POLICY

Oversee the Innovation Advisory Council as a conduit between industry and government, providing thought leadership and policy recommendations to accelerate innovation. Proactive collaboration with key national stakeholders on critical innovation challenges and opportunities. Explore opportunities to grow entrepreneurship in the life sciences sector.



### SOCIAL

Actively grow support for Queensland's social impact industry and the businesses solving Queensland's biggest social challenges. Bring focus, understanding and action to address challenges and promote opportunities to advance the economic participation of women through entrepreneurship and investment.



### STORYTELLING

Showcase the diversity of innovation across Queensland to create awareness, inspiration and opportunities.

Continue to grow the OQCE's social media presence and two-way engagement.



### PUBLIC SECTOR TRANSFORMATION

Work collaboratively with government agencies to identify innovation projects and embed best practice innovation.

Deliver innovation education, resources and events to build public sector capacity and capability for innovation.



# Connections

Foster a connected and thriving Queensland innovation ecosystem ensuring inclusive and equitable access for all

## Aligns to Innovation for a Future Economy Roadmap 2022-2032 priority outcome 6

Queensland has a well-connected, inclusive and thriving innovation ecosystem



### MAJOR EVENTS & PARTNERSHIPS

Partner with existing major ecosystem events across Australia to enable the Queensland Government to maximise opportunities and drive participation by regional innovators and ecosystem builders. Partnerships provide a platform for high-quality content and programming that promotes Queensland as a global innovation hotspot.



### INNOVATION CULTURE

Deliver an ecosystem support strategy to create broader connections, networks and equitable access to opportunities. Measure the culture of innovation and belongingness in Queensland to identify strengths and opportunities for new programs and initiatives. Seek opportunities to celebrate Queensland's brightest innovation achievers.



### MISSIONS

Explore opportunities to send high potential startups and scaleups to interstate and international forums, missions, conferences and events to raise their profile, build connections, acquire new customers and investors and increase export readiness.



### ENGAGEMENTS & ACTIVATIONS

Deliver a series of targeted engagement opportunities for the ecosystem such as Regional ConnectX, Chief check ins, events, regional roadshows and monthly Chief video diaries.



# Innovation for a Future Economy

- **Investment** – for companies to start, stay and grow in Queensland
- **Research and development collaboration** – focusing on commercialisation and industry collaboration
- **Being a part of a global economy** – for talent and new industries
- **Harnessing innovators** to solve community, industry and government challenges
- **Infrastructure** – the digital and precincts/places and the support to maximise their use
- **Being connected and inclusive** – for females, Indigenous and regional innovators.



# Critical Ingredients

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- **Collaboration** – strong networks & active connections across the system
- **Culture** – story telling/promoting, reputation
- **Infrastructure** – high speed internet, hubs and precincts, equipment/facilities
- **Growth support** – accelerators, networks, professional services, events, training
- **Money** – early stage (angel, challenges); venture capital, private equity, crowd funding, social bonds, banks
- **Talent** – smart and creative people, CEOs, wannabes
- **Skills** – entrepreneurial, mentors, students, business management
- **Market access** – exports, corporate purchasing, procurement
- **Ideas** – R&D, innovating companies, open data, hackathons, diversity
- **Regulation** settings



# Advance Queensland

Investing in our Innovation Economy to drive economic growth and create jobs in our regions

Supporting inclusivity and diversity and involving all stakeholders across the innovation ecosystem

Key Advance Queensland funded programs under the Advance Queensland Roadmap include:

- ✿ Ignite Ideas Fund
- ✿ Industry Research Fellowships
- ✿ Industry Research Projects
- ✿ Regional Futures
- ✿ Deadly Innovation
- ✿ Backing Female Founders



DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, INNOVATION AND SPORT



### **Ignite Spark Program**

Supports Queensland innovation driven enterprises to progress their new and innovative product or service from the functional prototype stage through testing, validation and customer endorsement towards market readiness. **Pilot round closed 31 Oct.**

### **Ignite Ideas Fund**

Supports Queensland-based small to medium businesses that have high-growth potential to commercialise highly innovative and new products or services that are at minimum viable product stage or beyond. **Next round by mid 2024**

### **AQ Industry Research Projects program**

Supports collaborations between researchers and industry to address a significant issue or problem identified by industry partners. Grants of \$250K to \$1.5M for applicants located in regional Qld (outside SEQ) **Applications close 28 November 2023**

### **Regional Futures Collaborative Projects Program**

Supports regional innovation leaders to collaborate with partners to unlock Queensland's economic potential, by solving a problem or creating an opportunity for regions. Grants up to \$200K for applicants located in regional Qld (outside Brisbane). **Next round by mid 2024**

### **Female Founders Co-Investment Fund**

A pilot fund that aims to support eligible businesses to leverage funding and secure new investment to build business capacity. **Open**

### **Innovation Precincts and Places Fund**

Supports Innovation precincts & places where new world-leading products and solutions are concentrated for long-term economic growth and jobs for Queensland. The \$10 million Regional Precincts & Places Infrastructure & Technology program provides grants up to \$1M for smart infrastructure, technology & upgrades that support future industry collaborative projects. **Applications close 6 December 2023**





## Deadly Innovation is a portfolio of activities within the AQ initiative delivering on the intent of the Deadly Innovation Strategy

The Deadly Innovation Strategy was co-designed with First Nations stakeholders



The Deadly Innovation Strategy outlines a culturally responsive approach to supporting First Nations innovation through three actions:



Activities in the Deadly Innovation portfolio aimed to:

1. Back change agents
2. Build capability
3. Influence others

# Queensland Innovation Hubs & Investment Opportunities



- Engage with research capability & expertise in advanced manufacturing technologies & processes
- Develop and access platform technologies across disciplines & industries
- Explore deep tech & automation.

- Work directly with Agricultural industry & innovators to solve industry challenges
- Validate and fast-track the deployment of innovative solutions
- Engage with core activities such as: open innovation challenges, accelerators & concierge services.



**Agtech and  
Logistics Hub**



- Engage with Queensland's AI ecosystem, to solve problems & improve business processes through AI algorithms, machine learning & deep learning.

- Engage with immersive technologies that combine the real and the virtual worlds, with human-machine interactions, using computer technologies & wearables
- XR (including Augmented & Virtual Reality) can be implemented across most industries and is currently being predominately used in WHS, asset maintenance & management training simulations.



**QUEENSLAND  
XR HUB**





# AQ Private Sector Pathways Program:

Solving corporate challenges with solutions generated by proven innovative Queensland businesses

