



AusIndustry product summary

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AusIndustry:

- is the Australian Government's business program delivery division
- delivers a range of more than 30 business products, including
 - innovation grants
 - tax and duty concessions
 - venture capital
 - small business services
 - and support for industry competitiveness, and
- Delivers about \$2 billion in benefits each year to about \$10,000 businesses and 60,000 individuals every year.

To find out more about each product, please **call the hotline 13 28 46, or visit the website www.ausindustry.gov.au** You can also subscribe to AusIndustry's e-bulletin or subscribe to email updates from the website to receive regular information about AusIndustry products.

AusIndustry offers both entitlement and competitive-based products. For an entitlement-based product, such as a tax concession, a customer self-assesses whether to claim the tax break. For a competitive grant, successful customers are selected on merit, based on their application which competes against others for limited funds.

To help customers with its product and eligibility information, AusIndustry has customer service managers located in 27 offices across Australia, a national hotline and website, plus more than 65 small business field officers in regional areas.

Innovation – grant products

<p>Commercialising Emerging Technologies (COMET)</p> <p>This is a competitive, merit-based grants program that supports the commercialisation of innovative products, processes and services.</p> <p>Applications are invited on an ongoing basis and <i>COMET</i> offers grants from \$5,000 to \$120,000, for projects ranging up to two years.</p>	<p>Who Early-growth stage companies, spin off companies and individuals.</p> <p><i>COMET</i> applicants generally have to demonstrate they have a working prototype to be eligible for assistance.</p> <p>Estimated customer base 2007-08: 531.</p> <p>Length and value Started 1999. Total program funding is \$170 million until June 2011.</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: \$14 million.</p>	<p>Benefits The program encourages small businesses and individuals to learn new skills—and to commercialise their innovation. The program prompts customers to take stock of their skills, and address any skill shortages.</p> <p>Successful applicants can access a network of private sector business advisers who guide customers through a tailored assistance plan and help customers' access specialists and attract capital.</p> <p>Outcomes In 2007-08, <i>COMET</i> approved funding of \$11.08 million for 174 projects. A total of 118 companies raised capital of \$69 million.</p>
<p>Commercial Ready</p> <p>There are two parts to the program. <i>Commercial Ready</i> (large) grants of \$250,001 to \$5 million are available for projects up to three years duration.</p> <p><i>Commercial Ready Plus</i> (small) grants range from \$50,000 to \$250,000 for projects up to 18 months.</p> <p>Applications are invited at any time, and the program offers funding of up to 50 per cent of a customer's project costs.</p> <p>Successful applications are selected on merit and compete for limited funds.</p>	<p>Who Australian small and medium sized businesses undertaking research and development, proof of concept and early-stage commercialisation can apply for either element.</p> <p>Also, companies controlled by Australian universities and public sector research organisations can apply for <i>Commercial Ready Plus</i>.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08 as at 30 June 2007: 424.</p> <p>Length and value Started October 2004. The program will provide up to \$200 million per year. Estimated value for 2007-08: \$210.23 million.</p>	<p>Benefits The program aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · encourage growth and successful innovation in Australian companies by increasing the level of research and development, proof of concept and early-stage commercialisation by Australian businesses · foster greater collaboration with industry and between industry and research institutions, and · generate national benefit for the Australian economy. <p>Outcomes As at 30 June 2007, the <i>Commercial Ready</i> program had considered 553 applications, with 357 projects receiving funding of \$373.48 million.</p>
<p>Industry Cooperative Innovation Program</p> <p>This is a \$25 million competitive grants program offering grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$3 million.</p> <p>The program provides up to 50 per cent of the eligible expenditure costs to support projects focused on meeting a strategic industry sector need.</p> <p>Applications are called for in publicly announced funding rounds.</p> <p>Successful applications are selected on merit and compete for limited funds.</p> <p>Round three was announced on 22 March, and applications closed on June 12 2007.</p>	<p>Who A minimum of three consortium members to cooperatively conduct a project on behalf of and of benefit to the development of an industry sector.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08: 29.</p> <p>Length and value Started June 2005. The program provides funding of \$25 million until 2011.</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: \$6.32 million</p>	<p>Benefits To support projects which encourage industry to develop and/or meet strategic industry sector needs, including those identified through an Australian Government and industry action agenda.</p> <p>Action Agendas are a key part of the Australian Government's policy and place particular emphasis on identifying the actions within industry itself to realise its full potential.</p> <p>The program supports business-to-business cooperation on innovation projects both within Australia and internationally that enhance the productivity, growth and international competitiveness of Australian industry sectors.</p> <p>Outcomes Under rounds one, two and three, 41 projects were offered \$21.47 million in funding.</p>

<p>Intermediary Access Program</p> <p>Successful applicants will be entitled to receive financial support of up to 50 per cent of the cost of intermediary service provider up to a cap of \$50,000.</p> <p>Current intermediary providers engaged by the program are Innovation Xchange Australia Ltd and the Australian Institute for Commercialisation, with others to yet be appointed.</p>	<p>Who Small and medium-sized businesses which will benefit from accessing the skills, technology or knowledge needed to innovate and sustain business growth.</p> <p>Estimated Customer base for 2007-08: 2.</p> <p>Length and value The \$4 million pilot program started on 31 December 2006 and will conclude on 30 June 2008. The 2007 Industry Statement announced a further \$20.1 million over five years. Estimated value for 2007-08: \$3.04 million.</p>	<p>Benefits Benefits from the program will include productivity mapping, licensing and technology transfer agreements.</p> <p>The program will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increase the availability of intermediary services to companies • reduce the cost to companies of accessing intermediary services • encourage and assist company to company and company to researcher cooperation and collaboration.
<p>Pharmaceuticals Partnerships Program (P³)</p> <p>Merit-based grants to increase pharmaceutical research and development in Australia.</p> <p>In round three, companies receive a grant of 50 per cent of their eligible research and development expenditure above a base level. The base is an average of the previous three years' expenditure. There is a \$10 million cap, which includes any grants awarded across all three rounds.</p> <p>Round three was the final round and closed on 20 November 2006.</p>	<p>Who Accessible to all Australian businesses throughout the pharmaceuticals value chain, including biotechnology, originator and generic medicine companies with a three-year track record that are part of or contribute to the Australian pharmaceutical industry.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08: 18.</p> <p>Length and value Started in July 2004. \$150 million over five years. Estimated value for 2006-07: up to \$50.03 million.</p>	<p>Benefits The program encourages customers to increase their R&D expenditure and to establish partnerships, and collaborations with multinational firms and local companies.</p> <p>Customers receive support for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conducting additional high-quality pharmaceuticals R&D in Australia • the development of registered medicines for Australian and international markets, and • maintaining partnerships and collaborations with multinational firms and local companies. <p>Outcomes There are 22 participants from rounds one, two and three of the program. \$87 million in grants were awarded in round one, \$36.8 million in grants were awarded in round two and \$28.2 million were awarded in round three. The participants include 14 biotechnology companies, six multinational companies and two generic manufacturers.</p>
<p>Renewable Energy Development Initiative</p> <p>Applications are invited on an ongoing basis and customers can apply for grants from \$50,000 to \$5 million, on a fifty-fifty matched funding basis.</p>	<p>Who Australian businesses involved in research and development, proof of concept, and early-stage commercialisation activities involving renewable energy technologies.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08: 30.</p> <p>Length and value Started June 2005.</p> <p>The program aims to provide \$100 million until 2010-11.</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: \$25.25 million.</p>	<p>Benefits The program supports Australian renewable energy innovation projects which have strong commercial and emissions reduction potential.</p> <p>The program aims to stimulate investment in renewable energy research and development by helping businesses to commercialise the outcomes of successful renewable energy technology projects.</p> <p>Outcomes The <i>Renewable Energy Development Initiative</i> has supported 24 projects funded to a total of \$54.91 million.</p>

Innovation – tax concession products

<p>R&D Tax Concession</p> <p>The program enables Australian companies to deduct up to 125 per cent of their research and development expenditure when lodging their tax returns.</p> <p>An <i>Incremental Tax Concession (175% Premium)</i> and <i>R&D Tax Offset</i> are also available in certain circumstances.</p> <p>Companies need to register with AusIndustry to claim a concession.</p>	<p>Who</p> <p>Companies incorporated in Australia undertaking R&D</p> <p>Length and value</p> <p>Commencing on 1 July 1985 the <i>R&D Tax Concession</i> is the principal Government initiative to increase the amount of research and development undertaken in Australia.</p> <p>A record number of 5,976 firms registered for the <i>R&D Tax Concession</i> program in 2004-05, an increase of 5 per cent over the previous year. These companies reported \$8 billion in R&D expenditure.</p> <p>R&D Tax Offset</p> <p>For the income year 2004-05, as at 30 June 2006, 2,496 companies intended to claim <i>the R&D Tax Offset</i>, reporting \$710 million in R&D expenditure. Started in 2001.</p> <p>Incremental Tax Concession (175% Premium)</p> <p>For the income year 2004-05, as at 30 June 2006, 1,152 companies intended to claim this tax concession, reporting \$3,709 million in R&D expenditure. Started in 2001.</p>	<p>Program benefits</p> <p>The concession has four elements:</p> <p>125% Concession</p> <p>The basic concession provides a 125% deduction for R&D expenditure.</p> <p>R&D Tax Offset</p> <p>Small companies can cash out their deductions as an offset. This aims to assist small companies in tax loss.</p> <p>Incremental Tax Concession (175% Premium)</p> <p>A 175% deduction is available to companies increasing their R&D above their three year rolling average. This is also available as an offset for small companies.</p> <p>Incremental (175% International Premium) Tax Concession</p> <p>This targets companies belonging to a multinational enterprise group, where the R&D is on behalf of a grouped foreign company. This provides a 175% deduction for additional R&D expenditure above a rolling three-year average. The base expenditure is generally eligible at 100%. Commences for whole years from 1 July 2007.</p>
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Innovation - venture capital products

<p>Early Stage Venture Capital Limited Partnerships Program</p> <p>This is an entitlement program that provides new venture capital funds and their investors (both domestic and foreign) with a tax exemption on returns from eligible investments.</p> <p>Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis.</p> <p>Australian businesses looking to fund their growth may be able to access capital from funds registered under this program if their total assets are no more than \$50m and their primary activity is not finance or property development.</p>	<p>Who</p> <p>Fund managers seeking to raise a new venture capital fund to make investments in Australian businesses with total assets of not more than \$50m.</p> <p>A fund must have an approved investment plan and be structured as a limited partnership with capital of at least \$10m and not more than \$100m.</p>	<p>Benefits</p> <p>The program aims to stimulate Australia's venture capital sector by making available to fund managers a world class investment vehicle.</p> <p>Registration as an Early Stage Venture Capital Limited Partnership entitles a fund to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flow-through tax treatment—that is, a fund is not a taxing point. • Limited partners are exempt from tax. <p>The general partner is entitled to have its carried interest taxed on capital account rather than revenue account, if structured as a Venture Capital Management Partnership.</p>
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<p>Innovation Investment Fund</p> <p>Competitive investment program consisting of nine venture capital funds which provide venture capital to small, high-tech businesses at the seed, start up or early expansion stages of their development.</p> <p>Customers can apply to licensed fund managers who have between \$30 million and \$50 million.</p> <p>Each fund will have a 10-year life.</p>	<p>Who This fund is open to eligible early-stage technology companies seeking commercialisation funding.</p> <p>Estimated customer base (total individual investee companies) for 2007-08: 87. Estimated value for 2007-08: \$24.5 million.</p> <p>Length and value Started 1998. Total government funding for round one and two of the program is \$220 million over 10 years. With the addition of private sector capital up to a 2:1 basis, total funding available is \$358 million.</p> <p>Round three of the program started in 2007 with the Government committing \$200million to license ten fund managers over a period of five years. Government funding will be matched as a minimum of 1:1 basis with private sector capital.</p>	<p>Benefits This program encourages the development of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • new-technology businesses that can commercialise research and development • a self-sustaining, early-stage Australian venture capital market, and • fund managers with experience in the early-stage venture capital industry. <p>Outcomes To 30 June 2007, the fund had provided money to 80 individual companies, the majority of which are involved in the commercialisation of information, communication or life science technologies.</p>
<p>Pooled Development Funds</p> <p>This program is <u>closed</u> to new registrations (it has been superseded by the Early Stage Venture Capital Limited Partnerships program) but existing registrants can continue to operate</p> <p>This is an entitlement program that provides new venture capital funds and their investors (both domestic and foreign) with a tax exemption on returns from eligible investments.</p> <p>Australian businesses looking to fund their growth may be able to access capital from funds registered under this program if their total assets are no more than \$50m and their primary activity is not retail or property development.</p>	<p>Who Fund managers seeking to raise a new venture capital fund to make investments in Australian businesses with total assets of not more than \$50m. (Note: the program is now closed to new registrations.)</p> <p>A fund must have an approved investment plan and be structured as a company. There is no limit on the fund's size.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08: 69.</p> <p>Length and value. Started July 1992.</p> <p>Estimated cost to revenue for 2007-08: \$12 million.</p>	<p>Benefits The program was aimed at stimulating the Australian venture capital sector.</p> <p>Registration as a Pooled Development Fund entitles the fund to be taxed at 15% on the income and gains derived from eligible investment. Its shareholders are exempt from tax on the income and gains derived from holding and disposing of Pooled Development Fund shares.</p> <p>Outcomes As 30 June 2006*, Pooled Development Funds had invested \$750 million in 546 Australian businesses.</p> <p><i>* Figures for 06-07 financial year not yet available</i></p>
<p>Pre-Seed Fund</p> <p>The Pre-Seed Fund (PSF) Program became operational in 2002.</p> <p>The program encourages the private sector to take a more active role in funding and managing the commercialisation of research from universities and Australian Government research agencies such as CSIRO, the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation, the Australian Institute of Marine Science, the Defence Science and Technology Organisation and Cooperative Research Centres.</p>	<p>Who Subject to specific PSF conditions, investments can be made into projects or companies which have been established to commercialise research.</p> <p>The Pre-Seed Fund will have over \$100 million in capital, of which the Australian Government is providing \$72.7 million. Private sector investors, universities and public sector research agencies will provide the balance.</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: \$16.107million.</p>	<p>Benefits The program encourages the commercialisation of and private sector investment in public sector research.</p> <p>Outcomes The PSF program established four venture capital funds with ten year licences to invest in companies or projects, and provide management and technical advice to develop the commercial potential of the technology being developed.</p> <p>As at 30 June 2007, the four fund managers had drawn down capital of \$55.42 million, of which \$36.78 was for investment into 59 companies and projects.</p>

<p>Venture Capital Limited Partnerships Program</p> <p>This is an entitlement program that provides new venture capital funds and their foreign investors with an exemption from capital gains tax on eligible investments.</p> <p>Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis.</p> <p>Australian businesses looking to fund their growth may be able to access capital from funds registered under this program if their total assets are no more than \$250m and their primary activity is not finance or property development.</p>	<p>Who Fund managers seeking to raise a new venture capital fund to make investments in Australian businesses with total assets of not more than \$250m.</p> <p>A fund must be structured as a limited partnership with capital of at least \$10m.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08: 35.</p> <p>Length and value Started December 2002.</p> <p>Estimated cost to revenue for 2007-08: \$10 million.</p>	<p>Benefits The program is aimed at stimulating the Australian venture capital sector by attracting foreign investors.</p> <p>A venture capital fund registered as a Venture Capital Limited Partnership is entitled to flow through taxation treatment. Its foreign limited partners receive a capital gains tax exemption for gains made on eligible investments.</p> <p>The general partner is entitled to have its carried interest taxed on capital account rather than revenue account, if structured as a Venture Capital Management Partnership</p> <p>Outcomes At 30 June 2007, the Venture Capital Limited Partnerships Program had invested \$536 million in 23 businesses.</p>
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Manufacturing industry programs

<p>Automotive Competitiveness and Investment Scheme</p> <p>An entitlement program providing quarterly issue of import duty credits to registered Australian businesses within the automotive industry.</p> <p>There are three stages of the scheme each lasting five years. A total of approximately \$7 billion will be distributed during 15 years of the scheme.</p>	<p>Who</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motor vehicle producers. • Automotive component producers. • Automotive machine tool and tooling producers. • Automotive service providers. <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08: 240.</p> <p>Length and value</p> <p>Stage one started January 2001 and closed on 31 December 2005. Stage two started January 2006. Stage three will start in January 2011.</p> <p>In stage two of the scheme, the \$150 million MVP R&D scheme was introduced specifically for motor vehicle producers (MVPs).</p>	<p>Benefits</p> <p>The scheme aims to encourage new investment and innovation in the automotive industry.</p> <p>It provides import duty credits to registrants actively involved in motor vehicle manufacturing and the original equipment supply chain.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Stages two and three of the scheme will provide approximately \$4.2 billion worth of assistance to the Australian automotive industry.</p>
<p>Stage 2 Motor Vehicle Provider Research & Development Scheme 2004 (MVP R&D Scheme)</p> <p>A competitively based scheme providing quarterly issue of import duty credits to motor vehicle producers that have approved projects under the scheme.</p> <p>This scheme rewards successful projects up to 45c for each dollar spent on eligible R&D. This offers up to \$150 million in R&D assistance from 2006 to 2010</p>	<p>Who</p> <p>The scheme is accessible to all motor vehicle producers registered under ACIS.</p> <p>Current customer base for 2007-08: 3</p> <p>Length and value</p> <p>The scheme, totalling \$150 million over a minimum of two application rounds, started on 1 January 2006 and will end on 31 December 2010.</p>	<p>Benefits</p> <p>The scheme aims to increase the amount of research and development undertaken by motor vehicle producers in Australia.</p> <p>No further rounds are anticipated.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Two rounds have been held and 12 projects worth \$142.8 million have been contracted.</p>

<p>Textile, Clothing and Footwear Corporate Wear Scheme</p> <p>Allows employers to register non-compulsory occupational clothing, thereby allowing employees to claim the cost of purchasing and maintaining such clothing as a tax deduction, and exempting employers from any related FBT liability.</p>	<p>Who Employees of Australian businesses and organisations.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08: 15,583 businesses and organisations.</p> <p>Length Started 1993.</p>	<p>Benefits The register aims to encourage retention of Australian uniform manufacturing and design capabilities.</p> <p>Outcomes Projected tax concessions for 2007-08: \$62.1 million.</p>
<p>TCF Expanded Overseas Assembly Provisions Scheme</p> <p>Provides duty concessions to firms who assemble garments and footwear overseas from predominantly Australian fabric and/or leather and who then import them back into Australia for local consumption.</p> <p>To be part of this scheme, companies register with AusIndustry.</p> <p>Then the concessions are calculated by the Australian Customs Service when the goods are imported.</p>	<p>Who Registered Australian TCF manufacturing and/or design firms.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08: 42.</p> <p>Length and value Started June 1999. The scheme is expected to provide \$34 million in concessions to 2005 and a further \$27 million to 2010.</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: \$5 million.</p>	<p>Benefits</p> <p>The scheme aims to provide a viable strategy for the Australian TCF industry to counter international competitive pressures.</p> <p>It does this through a combination of domestic sourcing and cost-competitive off shore assembly of finished apparel and footwear.</p> <p>Outcomes Duty forgone for the 2006-07 financial year was \$3 million.</p>
<p>TCF Product Diversification Scheme</p> <p>This is an entitlement program which provides duty credits to eligible clothing and finished textile firms.</p> <p>The scheme will provide \$5 million a year in duty credits. Applicants must be an eligible clothing or finished textile company as defined under the <i>TCF Post-2005 (SIP) Scheme</i>.</p> <p>This is an annual program with applications closing in the financial year 2013-14.</p> <p>Entities can submit a request for duty credit along with their claim for the relevant program year.</p>	<p>Who Clothing and finished textile firms, eligible to be paid a grant under the <i>TCF Post-2005 (SIP) Scheme</i>.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08: 28.</p> <p>Length and value The value of the scheme is \$50 million over 10 years, from 2006-07 to 2015-16.</p> <p>Estimated value per annum: \$5 million (including 2007-08).</p>	<p>Benefits</p> <p>The scheme helps eligible clothing and finished textile entities located in Australia to internationalise their sourcing arrangements and complement their product range.</p> <p>It does this by providing duty credit that can be used to offset duty payable on qualifying finished clothing or finished textile articles that are imported.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>The scheme is providing additional assistance for clothing and finished textile producers and designers registered under the <i>TCF Post-2005 (SIP) Scheme</i>, assisting them to diversify the range of goods that they can offer in the domestic market.</p>

<p>TCF Small Business Program</p> <p>This is a competitive, merit-based grants program.</p> <p>It provides grants to certain textile, clothing and footwear small businesses which do not qualify for assistance under the <i>TCF (SIP)</i> or <i>TCF Post-2005 (SIP) Schemes</i>. The grants, up to \$50,000 each, are for projects that will improve the business enterprise culture of TCF small businesses.</p> <p>AusIndustry publicly calls for applications for grants once a year. Round two opened on 15 January 2007, and closed on 2 March 2007.</p>	<p>Who The program is open to any eligible <i>TCF small business</i> or a consortium which includes an eligible <i>TCF small business</i>.</p> <p>A <i>TCF small business</i> has less than 20 employees, and undertakes eligible TCF activities as defined by the <i>TCF Post-2005 (SIP) Scheme</i>.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08: 85-100.</p> <p>Length and value Program funding commenced in July 2006 and ends in June 2016. \$2.5 million is available for grants in each year of the program.</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: \$ 2.5 million.</p>	<p>Benefits The program is targeted at textile, clothing and footwear small businesses unable to receive assistance under the <i>TCF (SIP)</i> or <i>TCF Post-2005 (SIP) Schemes</i>.</p> <p>Successful projects must improve the nature and style of the decision-making and production processes that occur within an eligible small business.</p> <p>The program is targeted at <i>TCF small businesses</i> that have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the capacity to plan beyond the short term • a willingness to take risks • a growth orientation • creativity, and • a strategic approach, including identifying new business opportunities. <p>Outcomes Two rounds have been held and 133 projects worth \$4.95 million have been funded.</p>
<p>TCF Strategic Investment Program Scheme - Post-2005</p> <p>This is an entitlement program, with grants paid annually to registered textile, clothing and footwear firms.</p> <p>The grants reimburse a proportion of expenditure the firms have already undertaken.</p> <p>Applications are accepted between 1 July and 28 February each financial year.</p>	<p>Who Textile, clothing and footwear businesses.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08: 533</p> <p>Length and value Started July 2005 and will end in June 2015.</p> <p>Final five years of the program available for clothing and finished textile activities only.</p> <p>\$575 million over 10 years.</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: \$97.5 million.</p>	<p>Benefits The scheme aims to develop a sustainable and internationally competitive textile, clothing and footwear manufacturing and design industry in Australia.</p> <p>It does this by providing incentives to promote investment and innovation.</p>

Resources and energy products

<p>Biofuels Capital Grants</p> <p>Provides competitive grants from \$800,000 – \$10 million to fund one-off capital projects that provide new or expanded biofuels production capacity.</p> <p>Grants subsidise the construction of new or additional plant at a rate of 16c per litre.</p> <p>This program has now closed and AusIndustry is managing contracts with six successful applicants.</p>	<p>Who Australian biofuel businesses which can produce at least 5 million litres of biofuel a year.</p> <p>The biofuel is produced from biomass feedstock in either a new or expanded biofuels production facility.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2006-07: 6.</p> <p>Length and value The program was announced by the Government on 25 July 2003. The total program value is capped at \$37.6 million.</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: \$ 8 million.</p>	<p>Benefits The program aims to increase the availability of biofuels for the domestic transport market.</p> <p>Outcomes Two rounds have been funded and have provided grants of \$1.3 to \$9.6 million to program customers.</p>
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<p>Ethanol Distribution Program</p> <p>This is an entitlement program that provides grants of up to \$20,000 to retail service stations that upgrade to supply 10 per cent ethanol blended fuel (E10). There are two types of grants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Infrastructure Upgrade Grant of up to \$10,000 for retail service stations that upgrade existing equipment or install new equipment to supply E10 before 31 March 2008. • The Sales Target Grant of up to \$10,000 for service stations that reach a specific E10 sales target within 12 months of completing the upgrade. 	<p>Who</p> <p>Retail service station operators.</p> <p>The Sales Target Grant is only available to service stations that have received the Infrastructure Upgrade Grant.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08: 700.</p> <p>Length and value</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: \$6 to 8 million.</p>	<p>Benefits</p> <p>The program provides an incentive to service station operators to upgrade its equipment for the sale of E10 at a discounted price.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>It is anticipated that 700 service stations will participate during the life of the program.</p>
<p>Ethanol Production Grants</p> <p>Ethanol grants are paid for the production of ethanol in Australia from biomass feedstock that is blended into or used as transport fuel in Australia. Grants are paid at 38.143c per litre of eligible ethanol.</p> <p>Applications are invited at any time throughout the life of the program and are considered on a case by case basis.</p>	<p>Who</p> <p>Ethanol producers.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2006-07: 4.</p> <p>Length and value</p> <p>Started September 2002. Total value of the program is \$231 million until June 2011.</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: \$63.4 million.</p>	<p>Benefits</p> <p>The grants encourage the Australian transport industry to increase their use of biofuels.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>The program has supported production of ethanol in Australia.</p>
<p>Low Emissions Technology Demonstration Fund</p> <p>This merit-based competitive grants program provides minimum grant of \$20 million. Customers need to match the grant with at least two private sector dollars for every dollar provided under the Fund.</p> <p>The first funding round was held in 2006. Future rounds will be publicly announced.</p>	<p>Who</p> <p>Customer base for 2006-07: 6.</p> <p>Length and value</p> <p>This \$500 million program was announced in June 2004 as part of the Energy White paper. The estimated value for 2007-08: \$100 million.</p> <p>Projects can include renewable and fossil fuel supply technologies as well as energy efficiency, and can be for either stationary or transport energy.</p>	<p>Benefits</p> <p>The program supports the commercial demonstration of technologies with the potential to deliver long-term and large-scale greenhouse emission reductions in the energy sector.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>In round one, six projects were selected for \$410 million in funding to demonstrate low emissions technologies.</p>
<p>LPG Vehicle Scheme</p> <p>A grant of \$2,000 will be paid to private vehicle owners following the LPG conversion of a new or used petrol or diesel motor vehicle for private use. A grant of \$1,000 will be paid following the purchase of a new motor vehicle, for private use, with an LPG unit fitted at the time of manufacture of the vehicle.</p> <p>To apply customers need to lodge an application form with supporting documents (vehicle registration papers and proof of payment for the new car or LPG system installation) at any Centrelink Customer Service Centre or Medicare Office by hand or by post.</p>	<p>Who</p> <p>The grants are available to individuals who buy a new LPG vehicle or who have a new or used petrol or diesel vehicle converted to LPG on or after 14 August 2006.</p> <p>The estimated number of customer claims for 2007-08 is 87,000</p> <p>Length and value</p> <p>The program started on 14 August 2006 and will run until 2014.</p> <p>The estimated value for 2007-08 is \$165m</p>	<p>Benefits</p> <p>The scheme encourages Australians to use LPG as a transport fuel.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>As at 30 September 2007, 81,726 customers have been supported by the program.</p>

<p>Renewable Energy Equity Fund</p> <p>This is a specialist venture capital fund for the commercialisation of renewable energy technologies.</p> <p>All investment decisions are made by the licensed fund manager. An investee company can receive up to a maximum total of \$3 million.</p> <p>The Australian Government funding is matched by private sector capital at a 2:1 ratio.</p>	<p>Who</p> <p>This fund is open to eligible early-stage companies commercialising renewable energy technology.</p> <p>Estimated total customers (investee businesses) for 2007-08: 15.</p> <p>Length and value Started October 2000.</p> <p>\$17.7 million to be matched on a 2:1 basis with private-sector capital. Total capital approx \$26.6 million.</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: \$1.9 million.</p>	<p>Benefits</p> <p>This program encourages the development of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> companies and other incorporated bodies which are commercialising research and development in renewable energy technologies, by addressing capital and management constraints, and fund managers with experience in the renewable energy industry. <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Returns have been made, and paid to the Australian Government and the fund's private investors.</p>
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Import/export programs

<p>Certain Inputs to Manufacture Scheme</p> <p>Provides duty free entry for eligible goods used in activities directed towards export enhancement or import replacement.</p> <p>Broadly, the eligibility of goods is restricted to chemical, plastic and paper raw materials and intermediate goods and certain food packaging that have a substantial and demonstrable performance advantage over those produced in Australia.</p>	<p>Who</p> <p>Manufacturers that rely on the regular import of eligible materials for use in production that is exported or replaces imports.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08 (users of the concession): 10.</p> <p>Length and value Started 1998.</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: \$2 million.</p>	<p>Benefits</p> <p>The scheme helps to improve the competitiveness of Australian manufacturers that must use imported materials.</p> <p>The program also encourages the involvement of Australian industry in supplying materials and services.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Revenue forgone over the past two years is \$4.9 million.</p>
<p>Enhanced Project By-law Scheme</p> <p>Provides duty free entry on eligible goods for major investment projects in the mining, resource processing, food processing, food packaging, manufacturing, agriculture, water supply, power supply and gas supply industries.</p> <p>Customers should contact AusIndustry at the earliest possible stage of a project as the application process has two stages, project acceptance and the implementation report.</p>	<p>Who</p> <p>Proponents of eligible projects. Australian suppliers to these projects also benefit from the scheme.</p> <p>To apply, fill in the online form on the AusIndustry website, or we can post you the form on CD.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08 (new customers): 53.</p> <p>Length and value Started 1 July 2002.</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: \$45 million.</p>	<p>Benefits</p> <p>To encourage the development in specific industries of major opportunities for local businesses to participate.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>The scheme has received 364 applications and 247 have been approved. Total duty forgone to date for the scheme is over \$228 million.</p>
<p>Space Concession Program</p> <p>Provides duty free entry of certain goods imported into Australia for use in authorised space projects.</p> <p>A project must be authorised as a 'space project' by AusIndustry before an eligible good will be assessed.</p>	<p>Who</p> <p>Customers: 1.</p> <p>Length and value</p> <p>The guidelines for the program were approved by the Minister on 20 March 2003.</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: Nil.</p>	<p>Benefits</p> <p>To increase the competitiveness of the space industry in Australia and to help Australia develop sophisticated space-related technology and technical expertise.</p>

<p>Tradex</p> <p>Provides financial relief to exporting businesses through an up-front exemption from customs duty and GST.</p> <p>The exemption is on imported goods which are to be re-exported or to be used as inputs to exports.</p> <p>Businesses must apply for this program before importing their goods. Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis.</p>	<p>Who Australian exporting businesses.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08: 1530.</p> <p>Length and value Started 23 June 2000.</p> <p>Estimated cost to revenue for 2007-08: Duty foregone: \$80 million, GST exempted: \$140 million, Estimate of customer benefit from GST exemption: \$10.8 million.</p>	<p>Benefits The program aims to help Australian companies strengthen their international competitiveness.</p> <p>Because the exemption is provided up-front, <i>Tradex</i> can provide significant cash-flow benefits for importers and exporters.</p> <p>Outcomes New applications for <i>Tradex</i> are being approved at a rate of 10 to 12 each month.</p>
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Small business services products

<p>Building Entrepreneurship in Small Business</p> <p>Applications are encouraged from experienced skills development, mentoring and succession planning providers to bid for grants typically ranging from \$100,000 to \$300,000.</p> <p>Successful applicants will provide training and skills development to small business operators through one of the following program components - training and mentoring projects, succession planning, incubators, and a network of small business field officers.</p> <p>Funding rounds are publicly announced and it is a highly competitive merit-based grant program.</p>	<p>Who Australian businesses and organisations that deliver services to small businesses may apply for assistance under the program.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08: 255.</p> <p>Length and value BESB started in 2005 and is currently funded until 30 June 2010.</p> <p>Predecessor programs commenced: Incubators : 1995 Small Business Enterprise Culture Program: 1999 Small Business Answers Officers : 2002</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: \$14.7 million.</p>	<p>Benefits This program encourages a new culture of entrepreneurship by providing grants focussed on the ongoing improvement of Australia's small business operating skills.</p> <p>Outcomes In round one, grants worth \$11.84 million were offered to 59 successful applicants.</p> <p>In round two, 39 projects have been offered about \$8 million in funding. This leaves about \$7 million for round three.</p> <p>Funding increased a further \$14.3m in the 2007-08 budget .</p> <p>In round three, grants worth \$10.8 million were offered to 44 successful applicants.</p> <p>69 Small Business Field Officers are also funded in this program.</p>
<p>Regulation Reduction Incentive Fund</p> <p>The competitive grants component of the fund aims to provide local government authorities with incentives to reduce the impact of regulation and associated compliance costs for small business, and in particular, home-based businesses.</p> <p>This program has now closed and AusIndustry is managing the contracts with the 31 successful applicants.</p>	<p>Who Local government authorities. In 2005, 31 projects were funded for an amount totalling \$40.6 million.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2006-07: 31.</p> <p>Length and value Started July 2005 and was finalised on 30 June 2007.</p> <p>The program provided \$50 million over three years.</p>	<p>Benefits To support small business growth and sustainability by removing or reducing compliance and regulatory impediments – red tape – at local government level.</p> <p>Outcomes The program is expected to deliver \$450 million savings in time and money for small business.</p>

Tourism sector products

<p>Australian Tourism Development Program</p> <p>The <i>Australian Tourism Development Program</i> is a highly competitive merit-based grants program that aims to assist in the development of a continuous tourism experience throughout Australia by supporting initiatives that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote tourism development in regional and rural Australia • contribute to long-term economic growth • increase visitation and yield throughout Australia • enhance visitor dispersal and tourism expenditure throughout Australia, and • increase Australia's competitiveness as a tourism destination. <p>It offers grants in two categories.</p> <p>Category 1: Tourism projects – grants of \$50,000 to a maximum of \$100,000, on a matched funding basis for successful applicants whose projects focus on providing or enhancing tourism products and/or services.</p> <p>Category 2: Integrated tourism development projects – grants of \$100,000 to a maximum of \$500,000 for approved projects. They should be large-scale, multi-faceted, cross-regional activities that involve collaboration in the development or implementation of effective strategies for tourism market development.</p> <p>This is a rounds-based program. Round four, offering \$4 million worth of grants, opened on 2 March 2007 and closed on 27 April 2007.</p>	<p>Who</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private sector businesses. • Businesses specialising in Indigenous tourism. • Non-profit organisations. • Regional tourism or regional economic development organisations. • Peak or national tourism industry associations. • Local government agencies (only if the agency can demonstrate that the project is additional to activity that local government would normally be expected to undertake). <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08: 155.</p> <p>Length and value Started 2004-05.</p> <p>\$31.5 million over four years from 2004-05 to 2007-08. This includes an additional \$7.5 million announced as part of the 2006 Federal Budget.</p> <p>An additional \$34.9 million was allocated to the ATDP as part of the 2007-08 Federal Budget</p> <p>The total funding for the program is \$65.95 million (2004-05 to 2010-11).</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: \$10.9 million.</p>	<p>Benefits The program aims to increase visitors and expenditure throughout Australia.</p> <p>It provides real benefits by supporting initiatives which, for example, encourage tourism in regional and rural Australia, and contribute to long-term economic growth.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>To date, over \$31.1 million has been allocated to 191 projects across Australia.</p> <p>In Round 1, grants worth \$5.9 million were offered to 37 successful applicants.</p> <p>In Round 2, grants worth \$7.4 million were offered to 47 successful applicants.</p> <p>In Round 3, grants worth \$8.3 million were offered to 45 successful applicants.</p> <p>In Round 4, grants worth \$4.6 million were offered to 27 successful applicants.</p> <p>In Round 5, grants worth \$4.9 million were offered to 35 successful applicants.</p>
<p>Business Ready Program for Indigenous Tourism</p> <p>Provides funding to business mentors to work directly with a portfolio of Indigenous tourism businesses to train them on all aspects of small business and the tourism industry.</p>	<p>Who Existing and start-up Indigenous tourism businesses.</p> <p>Estimated customer base for 2007-08: 6 business mentors and 23 Indigenous tourism businesses.</p> <p>Length and value \$3.83 million over four years from 2004-05 to 2007-08.</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: \$0.95 million (administered funding).</p>	<p>Benefits Designed to assist existing and start-up Indigenous tourism businesses to develop the business skills and knowledge required to establish and run a commercially viable tourism operation.</p> <p>Outcomes This pilot program has had two phases. Under phase one, six business mentors were appointed to provide mentoring services to 56 businesses. Under phase two, 23 of these businesses were retained for extended mentoring. The mentors are working towards meeting the four key performance indicators: business skills transfer, ongoing concern (sustainability), employment and profitability.</p>

Others

<p>Beaconsfield Community Fund</p> <p>This is a merit-based grants program announced by the Australian Government on 29 May 2006 in response to the extraordinary events at the Beaconsfield Gold Mine in Tasmania.</p> <p>The fund will be a partnership involving the Australian Government and the West Tamar Council. Funding is available for a period of up to 24 months.</p> <p>This program has now closed and AusIndustry is managing the contracts with the 17 successful applicants.</p>	<p>Who Estimated customer base for 2007-08: 17.</p> <p>Length and value Started 2006.</p> <p>Estimated value for 2007-08: \$8 million.</p>	<p>Benefits The purpose of the fund is to provide financial support for a range of development initiatives for the benefit of the Beaconsfield community.</p> <p>The initiatives will be aimed at maintaining, and where possible, enhancing employment, economic, cultural and social opportunities for the Beaconsfield community, including the miners of the Beaconsfield mine and their families.</p> <p>Outcomes The program has funded 17 projects worth \$8 million to benefit the Beaconsfield community.</p>
<p>Port Kembla Industry Facilitation Fund</p> <p>This is a competitive grants program, where applicants compete for limited funds.</p> <p>Minimum value of projects will be \$100,000 and funding can meet up to 50 per cent of the cost of the project.</p> <p>Preference will be given to projects that demonstrate benefits to the Port Kembla area, particularly in job creation projects.</p>	<p>Who Australian businesses with job creation projects in the Wollongong or Shellharbour local government areas.</p> <p>Customer base for 2007-08: 9.</p> <p>Length and value Program started: 11 August 2006 and closes on 30 June 2008.</p> <p>Total value of program: \$5 million.</p>	<p>Benefits The purpose of the fund is to support investment that will create sustainable new jobs in the Port Kembla area, in response to the decision of BlueScope Steel to close its tin mill operations.</p> <p>Outcomes Nine projects have been approved for funding totalling \$5 million.</p>
<p>Scottsdale Industry and Community Development Fund</p> <p>Businesses in Tasmania's Dorset region with a project to create or retain long-term employment opportunities can apply for grants under the fund.</p> <p>This is a competitive grants program, where applicants compete for limited funds.</p> <p>The minimum grant is \$25,000 and there is no maximum grant amount.</p> <p>Grants will fund up to 100 per cent of approved project grants.</p>	<p>Who Customer base for 2007-08: 11</p> <p>Length and value Program was announced on 13 April 2007 and applications close on 25 May 2007.</p> <p>Total value of the program: \$6 million</p>	<p>Benefits This fund will help businesses in the Dorset region in Tasmania develop job-creation initiatives.</p> <p>Outcomes 11 projects have been approved for funding totalling \$6 million</p>