ARC Linkage Schemes:
LP & Industrial Transformation Research Program round 2
Fostering Research Partnerships

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Australian Research Council
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Presentation Overview

- Overview of ARC and Linkage Program
- The context of why the Industrial Transformation Research Program (ITRP) came into being
- Details of the new schemes
- Round priority areas
- Who can apply and how to do it
ARC Strategic Objectives

- To *support* excellence in *research*
- To *build* Australia’s research *capacity*
- To *provide* informed high quality *policy advice* to government
- To *enhance* research outcomes through effective *evaluation*
- To *raise the profile* of Australia’s research effort and *be an effective advocate* for its benefits
Detail of Government Investment in R&D 2012-13

- NHMRC: 9.3%
- ARC: 9.8%
- Block Funding to Higher Ed.: 21.3%
- Industry R&D Tax Measures (estimated): 20.5%
- Other Science Support: 4.8%
- CSIRO: 8.2%
- DSTO: 4.9%
- Govt R&D Activities: 6.7%
- Higher Ed R&D Support: 0.7%
- Other Business R&D Support: 0.2%
- Other Innovation Support: 4.6%
- CRCs: 1.7%
- Other Health: 1.3%
- Rural: 2.9%
National Competitive Grants Program

**Discovery Projects**
- Australian Laureate Fellowships
- Future Fellowships
- Discovery Indigenous
- Discovery Early Career Researcher Award

**Linkage Projects**
- Centres of Excellence
- Co-funded Centres and Special Research Initiatives
- Industrial Transformation Research Hubs
- Industrial Transformation Training Centres

Web: arc.gov.au | Email: info@arc.gov.au
Modern History of the Linkage Scheme

- Ongoing Feedback from sector
- 2010 KPMG Review of Linkage schemes
- Policy context and strategies for the future
- Split of Linkage (LP) into LP + ITRP
  - Provides a continuum in size, focus and timing
The Money!

Linkage 2013; must include at least one Australian Partner Organisation.

The Partner Organisation must make a significant contribution in cash and/or in kind, to the project that is equal to, or greater than, the ARC funding.
ARC Linkage Program

Summary of Significant Changes to the Linkage Projects Scheme:

The Linkage Program has two major changes:

1. The establishment of the Industrial Transformation Research Program (i.e. Industrial Transformation Research Hubs and Industrial Transformation Training Centres).

ITRP
ARC Linkage Program

Summary of Proposed Significant Changes to the Linkage Projects Scheme:

2. Revision of the Linkage Projects scheme to complement the introduction of the Industrial Transformation Research Program, and to incorporate feedback from ARC consultation and the formal evaluation of the scheme.
ARC Linkage Program

In Detail:

• the minimum funding request from the ARC has been increased from $30,000 to $50,000 per annum,

and the maximum has been decreased from $500,000 to $300,000 per annum.
Partner Investigators

- **A PI must:**
  - take significant intellectual responsibility for the conduct of the Project and for any strategic decisions called for in its pursuit and the communication of results; **and/or**
  - have the experience and capacity to provide effective supervision, support and mentoring of research personnel associated with the Project; **and/or**
  - have the relevant skills and experiences to effectively manage a similar scale research Project.

- A PI must have the capacity to make a commitment to carrying out the Project and cannot assume the role of a supplier of resources for work that will largely be placed in the hands of others.
ARC Linkage Program

In Detail:

- The maximum length of a Linkage Project has been decreased from five years to three years.

- The new ITRP hubs allow projects up to five years.
Why was the Industrial Transformation Research Program established?

- Building on the success of ARC schemes and other Government programs
- Investing for Innovation – more research partnerships between universities and industry
- Training researchers for tomorrow - with strong links to industry
Details of the Industrial Transformation Research Program – the Schemes

Overall objectives:
- foster important partnerships between business and universities;
- support researchers (higher degree by research & post doctoral fellows) to gain ‘hands-on’, practical skills and experience in important priority areas.

Consists of two schemes:

*Industrial Transformation Research Hubs*

*Industrial Transformation Training Centres*
Industry Innovation Precincts, CRCs and ITRP

• Industry Innovation Precincts:
  To strengthen the capability and capacity of Australian industries and firms so they can win more business abroad and take advantage of economic opportunities emerging from growing demand internationally.

• CRCs:
  To support end-user driven research partnerships between publicly funded researchers and end-users to address clearly articulated, major challenges that require medium to long term collaborative efforts.

• ITRP:
  To develop new research partnerships between academia and industry and support Higher Degree by Research students and postdoctoral researchers in gaining real-world practical skills and experience through placement in industry.
Which Program is relevant for me?

**ITRP:**
- You want to collaborate with one or more institutions of the Australian higher education sector in a R&D project to address challenging industry issues directly related to the priority research areas identified by Precincts.
- You want to provide innovative industrial training for Higher Degree by Research candidates and postdoctoral fellows with one or more institutions of the Australian higher education sector in an area directly related to the priority research areas identified by Precincts.

Industrial Transformation Research Hubs – Objectives

- encourage collaborative R&D projects to address challenging industry issues solved through innovative research relevant to the Industrial Transformation Priorities;
- attract investment from the global and international business community by underpinning internationally-recognised excellence of Australian universities and their industry partners; and
- leverage private and international investment in targeted industry sectors.
Industrial Transformation Research Hubs

Opportunities for universities and industrial partners to focus on significant collaborative R&D projects with outcomes beyond their independent endeavours.

- The ARC will invest up to $1 million per year in each Research Hub with matching investment by industry partners up to a maximum of five years
Industrial Transformation Training Centres – Objectives

- foster opportunities for Higher Degree by Research candidates and postdoctoral fellows to pursue industrial training and to enhance competitive research in collaboration between universities and organisations outside the Australian higher education sector; and

- Strengthen Australia’s Industrial Transformation Priorities to supplement the capabilities of industries and other research end-users.
Industrial Transformation Training Centres (ITTC)

To foster close partnerships between university-based researchers and industry to provide innovative training for early career researchers vital to Australia’s future industry.

Over the life of the five year program the ARC will:

- establish up to 50 Training Centres nationwide
- support Higher Degree by Research candidates and postdoctoral researchers in gaining real-world practical skills through placement in industry
- provide a minimum of $600,000 and a maximum of $1 million per year for three years for each Training Centre.
Industrial Transformation Priorities 1

- Industrial Transformation Priorities for round one addressed challenges in all areas of Australia’s food industry:
  - future food storage
  - food processing
  - manufacturing capabilities
  - product opportunities, and
  - other food related research
- Research priorities - flexibility in each round to meet identified priorities
Industrial Transformation Priorities 2

- Industrial Transformation Priorities for round two also address challenges in areas of Australia’s manufacturing and defence manufacturing:
  - product design and development
  - manufacturing techniques
  - defence manufacturing, and
  - firm organisation and management.

- Information on current round priorities are available on the ARC website www.arc.gov.au
How can I apply and how to do it

- The organisation
  - Administering organisations
  - Other eligible organisations
  - Partner organisations

- The people
  - Hub/Centre Director;
  - Chief Investigator (CI)
  - Partner Investigator (PI)
Hubs – Partner Organisation Contributions

- A Proposal must include at least one Australian Partner Organisation.
- The Proposal must demonstrate that the combined Partner Organisation(s) contributions (i.e. the total of the cash and in-kind contributions of the Partner Organisations) must at least match the total funding requested from the ARC.
- The combined Partner Organisation(s) Cash Contribution where any Partner Organisation(s) has more than 100 employees must be at least 75 per cent of the total funding requested from the ARC.
- Where the Partner Organisation or the largest Partner Organisation in a consortium in the proposal has 100 employees or less, there is no minimum combined Partner Organisation(s) Cash Contribution.
Hubs – Partner Organisation Contributions

- Cash Contributions cannot be sourced from funds awarded or appropriated by the Commonwealth or an Australian State or Territory for the purposes of research nor from funds previously used to leverage government research funding.

- There is no limit on the combined Partner Organisation(s) In-kind Contributions.
Training Centres – Partner Organisation Contributions

- Cash and In-kind contribution must be sufficient to support research projects of 10 Higher Degree by Research candidates and 3 postdoctoral researchers.

- The ARC may provide funding for Project costs to match eligible Cash Contributions from Partner Organisation(s) such that the total funds (including Higher Degree by Research stipends and postdoctoral fellow salaries) awarded by the ARC will not exceed $1 million per year.

- The ARC may provide funding for Project costs to match eligible In-kind contributions where the Partner Organisation(s) are:
  - a registered charity;
  - a not-for-profit community organisation;
  - Start-Up Company; or
  - a museum or herbarium.
Training Centres – Industry Contributions

- ARC funding between $600,000 to $1 M for three years
- No minimum or maximum cash requirements for industry
- Cash and In-kind contributions must support the research projects of Higher Degree by Research candidates and postdoctoral fellows
How to Apply?

- Work with the proposed Administering Organisation – Research Office
- Applications opened in the ARC’s Research Management System (RMS) on 24 May and closes on 7 August.
- The ARC will undertake an assessment process:
  - Proposals for both Research Hubs and Training Centres will be assessed by external expert assessors and members of an ARC Industry Advisory Panel (IAP).
  - Applicants will be given the opportunity for rejoinder.
Significant changes from round 1- funding rules

- Priorities
- The term *invention* has been added to the definition of research (Hubs - Subsection 4.1.5, Training Centres – subsection 4.1.4).
- The *objectives* (Section 4.2) and *selection criteria* (Section 4.3) for both schemes have been updated following feedback from the research sector and the Industry Advisory Panel on Round 1.
- Clarification on the provision of *travel costs* has been included for Hubs at subsection 5.2.1.
- Clarification on the *limit of number of proposals* for Hub Directors (subsection 8.1.2) and Training Centre Directors (subsection 9.1.2) across the Industrial Transformation Research Program has been included.
Significant changes cont.

- Rules regarding the withdrawal of Proposals have been revised. Upon receipt of a written request from the Administering Organisation the ARC may approve the withdrawal of a Proposal. (Hubs - subsection 9.3.3, Training Centres – 10.3.3); and

- Subsection 13.6.2 for Hubs and subsection 14.6.2 for Training Centres have been added to reflect the ARC’s recent policy development regarding the publication and dissemination of research outputs. The ARC requires that any publications arising from a Project must be deposited into an open access institutional repository within a twelve month period from the date of publication, as per the ARC Open Access policy available on the ARC website.
Proposal form changes

- The additional Industrial Transformation Research/Training priorities have been added to the form. A full list of priorities is also available on the ITRP home page.
- The Research Opportunity and Performance Evidence (ROPE) required as a part of the Personnel section has been cut down from a maximum of 55 pages to 10 pages (Hubs) and 11 pages (Training Centres).
Proposal form changes

- The Administrative Summary has an added question (A7) about research impact which reflects the ARC’s recently developed policy on this issue.
- Available on the arc web site.
# ITRP2 – Next Steps/Timeline

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<th>Industrial Transformation Training Centres</th>
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<tr>
<td>Proposals open</td>
<td>24 May 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proposals close</td>
<td>7 August 2013</td>
<td>7 August 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rejoinders open and close</td>
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Outcomes announced December 2013 TBC