Co-funded Centres

The Australian Research Council (ARC) works collaboratively with other agencies to jointly fund high-quality research through Co-funded Centres. These Co-funded Centres are established when the Australian Government identifies an area for investment by the ARC along with another Government agency. The Co-funded Centres currently funded are:

**Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics**
The Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics (ACPFG) was established in 2002 as a joint funding initiative of the ARC and the Grains Research and Development Corporation. Its main goal is to be a key driver and catalyst for Australia’s continuing development of world-class capability in plant genomic research and its application for economic and social benefit to Australia.

The ACPFG uses genomic technologies to develop techniques for improving the resistance of cereals to hostile abiotic environmental conditions such as drought, salinity, and mineral imbalances. The Centre is based at the University of Adelaide, with nodes at the University of Melbourne, the University of Queensland and University of South Australia.

The ACPFG will receive a total of $47.8 million in funding from the ARC and the Grains Research and Development Corporation between 2002 and 2014.

**National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training**
The National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training (NCGRT) was established in 2009 as a joint funding initiative of the ARC and the National Water Commission. The funding for this Centre will support future policy and management decision-making for groundwater in line with the objectives of the National Water Initiative.

The NCGRT also explores the social and economic consequences of differing groundwater allocation models which could be applied to industrial, agricultural and urban stakeholders. The Centre is based at Flinders University, with partners and collaborating organisations across Australia.

The NCGRT will receive a total of $29.5 million in funding from the ARC and the National Water Commission between 2009 and 2014.

**National ICT Australia**
National ICT Australia (NICTA) was established in 2002 as a joint initiative of the ARC and the Department of Communications.

NICTA was established to build capacity and strengthen investment in strategic information and communications technology research. NICTA has established key ICT research infrastructure at five laboratories located in Sydney (two), Canberra, Melbourne and Brisbane; supporting research programs in software systems, networks, machine learning, computer vision, control and signal processing, optimisation, optics and nanoelectronics.

NICTA will receive a total of $606.5 million in funding from the ARC and the Department of Communications between 2002 and 2016.

**Further information:**
Website: www.arc.gov.au > National Competitive Grants Program > Co-funded Centres
Email: ARC-co-funded@arc.gov.au
Telephone: +61 2 6287 6600