



Australian Government

Department of Industry, Innovation and Science

Australian Trade and Investment Commission

Vision

Australia is a world leader in the exploration, extraction, production and processing of critical minerals

Goals

To enable the development of Australia's critical minerals sector, including downstream processing and manufacturing opportunities, by attracting investment, supporting innovation and connecting opportunities with infrastructure

Actions

Investment	
Australian Critical Minerals Prospectus	Austrade, with support from Geoscience Australia, has developed a report of Australia's potential for critical minerals mining projects and investment.
Investment roadshows	Austrade delivers international roadshows promoting investment in critical minerals and the potential for more lithium-ion battery manufacturing in Australia.
Export Credit Agency (Efic)	Efic helps finance the expansion by Australian businesses into international markets.
Exploring for the Future	The \$100.5 million <i>Exploring for the Future</i> initiative (2016-2020) helps explorers target new mineralisation by imaging the deepest roots of mineral systems all the way through to the surface, and is employing many world-first techniques.
MinEx Cooperative Research Centre	The \$218 million MinEx Cooperative Research Centre is the world's largest mineral exploration collaboration bringing together industry, government and research organisations. Its 10-year research program will develop and deploy the next generation of drilling technology.
Australia Minerals	<i>Australia Minerals</i> is increasing investment in exploration, especially in greenfield areas. This group is unique world-wide, as it brings together all of the country's Chief Geologists. This group regularly visits major investors.
Major Projects Facilitation Agency	The Major Projects Facilitation Agency provides a single entry point for major project proponents seeking tailored information and facilitation of their regulatory approval requirements.
Innovation	
Cooperative Research Centre Projects	The Government has prioritised \$20 million of funding in Round 7 of the Cooperative Research Centre Projects program for projects with a specific focus on critical minerals.
Cooperative Research Centre for Optimising Resource Extraction	The CRC for Optimising Resource Extraction will receive \$34.45 million from 2016-2021 to develop energy-saving and resource-expanding technology that will allow lower-grade ores to be economically and eco-efficiently mined.
Infrastructure	
Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility	The \$5 billion Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility provides concessional loans to eligible infrastructure projects in Northern Australia.
Other Commonwealth infrastructure investment	Investment in transport infrastructure through the Infrastructure Investment Program, including the \$3.5 billion Roads of Strategic Importance initiative.