

Innovate to Grow:

Plastic Waste to Wealth

Applications are open for a free 10-week program for small to medium enterprises (SMEs) to identify R&D opportunities and help achieve the goal of ending plastic waste.

Register today

Innovate to Grow: Plastic Waste to Wealth starts at the end of May 2021.

Applications close 14 May 2021

csiro.au/InnovatetoGrow

The Innovate to Grow program is a self-paced and virtually-delivered program to boost innovation performance of SMEs in high priority sectors.

The course is open to established SMEs who are either interested in investigating new R&D opportunities or are in the early decision-making stages about engaging with a research organisation.

SMEs will be connected to innovation facilitators and mentors, as well as research and industry experts from across the plastics and waste sector. Participants will develop actionable business plans and strategies through a structured, time-efficient development program, tailored to business needs.

The program will be delivered with Edtech partner, Practera.

Benefits to participants

- **High-quality outcomes:** Develop actionable collaboration and funding plans with expert help.
- Fresh insights and ideas: Tap into insights from CSIRO researchers and like-minded SMEs.
- **Contacts:** Build relationships with researchers, domain experts and funding professionals. You will also be paired with a CSIRO mentor to help guide you through the program.

Commitment

One half-day workshop and 1–2 hours per week self-paced work over 10 weeks (plus optional fortnightly webinars) from May – July 2021.

"The perfect solution in the current times. Innovation can provide a path out of the current COVID induced slump and reposition Australia as a smart nation into the future. Nobody knows their product/markets and how to improve them like SMEs, they just don't have the resources to develop them. This course taps that knowledge rich base and links with the resources."

- Hamish Shaw, GM, Former I2G participant
- "Significant benefits of being part of the 'ecosystem' from which associations and opportunities flow."
- Amanda Falconer, Founder and CEO, Former I2G participant

Pre-workshop			Virtual workshop		Post-workshop		
SME senior leaders	Competency baseline	Content review		al > shop	Growth project plan	Growth project delivery	 Practical deliverables / outputs Technology challenge statement Technology value and funding options Impact business case for high value option(s) Funding proposal draft / abstract
Sector and tech experts		Expert panels, feedback on deliverables, peer engagement					Competency and impact evaluation
Mentors		Guidance and facilitated connections to relevant researchers					

Take-home deliverables

- **Innovation Value Template** to define innovation opportunities and assess their business value.
- **Business Case Template** to assess and compare innovation opportunities for your business.
- **Funding Plan Template** to understand key data and prepare for a funding application.
- Detailed Project Budgeting and ROI Calculation Templates feeding the other deliverables.

This is a supported, experiential program delivered in three phases:

Phase 1 | Preparing for the program (~2 hours)

Pre-workshop videos, materials and questionnaires.

Phase 2 | Workshop (5 hours)

Concepts and experiences overview. Three live panels with CSIRO, industry and funding experts and experienced SMEs from your industry.

Phase 3 | 60-day self-paced innovation program

(1–2 hours per week)

Participants explore opportunities to grow their business through innovation and research. Supported by a CSIRO mentor and experienced facilitators, five webinars covering industry, research and funding topics, and participant networking events.

As Australia's national science agency and innovation catalyst, CSIRO is solving the greatest challenges through

innovative science and technology.

CSIRO. Unlocking a better future for everyone.

For further information

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