

Collaboration in Action: Advancing Geoscience through Government, Research and Industry Partnerships

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Collaboration is integral to the Geological Survey of Queensland's (GSQ) operations, supporting a range of projects across geoscience and related fields. GSQ partners with universities, government organisations, and industry stakeholders to combine expertise and resources, enabling the generation of insights that would not be achievable independently. Many projects are closely aligned with industry needs, ensuring that outputs are targeted and fit for purpose. For example, the deposit characterisation project has over the last 7 years produced extensive data and knowledge on Queensland's mineral deposits, offering new insight into how these deposits formed and how to target for them.

Collaborations with government-funded organisations facilitate standardisation of data and workflows, and enable participation in national programs, such as those led by Geoscience Australia. This approach has been particularly impactful in geophysics, where consistent data quality, technical requirements and formats improve accessibility for industry users. University partnerships provide access to specialised knowledge, equipment, and research capacity. These collaborations also support student and early-career researcher development, fostering long-term workforce development.

The Collaborative Exploration Initiative (CEI) and Collaborative Development Program (CDP) are the most direct means of support for industry offered by GSQ. These programs also allow us to incentivise novel, innovative and collaborative projects being undertaken by companies, especially in the upstream exploration space. The recent addition of CDP allows us to incentivise companies further down the value chain to consider whether it is worth taking a second look at materials previously considered waste through a new lens.

In addition to traditional geoscience, GSQ participates in non-traditional research collaborations, including work on circular economy principles. These initiatives focus on improving resource efficiency and quality, aligning with broader goals of sustainable resource development. GSQ's collaborative efforts aim to address key scientific and industry challenges, contributing to the responsible management and development of Queensland's resources.