

2017: REPORT CARD

REPORTING ON THE GROWTH ROADMAP FOR THE AUSTRALIAN SPATIAL SECTOR

About the 2026 Agenda

The 2026 Spatial Industry Transformation and Growth Agenda (2026Agenda) is a whole-of-sector initiative encompassing businesses, government, academia and spatial-user organisations, that emerges as a transformational opportunity for the spatial sector to jointly design its best future.

Released at Locate17, the 2026Agenda represents a step change for the industry, and aims to act as a catalyst to maximise the innovation, productivity and competitiveness of the industry across Australia. The 10-year Action Plan is structured through 6 pillars of activity, and underpinned by 34 transformational initiatives.

About this document

This document presents a high level report card on the first 12 months of the 2026Agenda's progress. Progress is indicated for all initiatives.

A subset of initiatives have been identified by the 2026 Agenda Leadership Group as "priority initiatives", which have been actively monitored over the first year of the Agenda. Each of these initiatives has an identified lead organisation(s) and is colour-highlighted in the report card.

2017 Overview - Pillar Detailed Reports

Pillar A. Public Infrastructure and Analytics

Objective: Nation-wide coordinated open access to public spatial information and to analytic tools

Initiatives	Lead organisations	Progress
A1. Location infrastructure roadmap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ PM&C ■ ANZLIC Secretariat 	 In progress-on track
A2. Public datasets prioritisation		 In progress-on track
A3. Dynamic datum including 3D		 In progress-delay
A4. National Elevation Data Framework Plan		 Pending
A5. National Spatial Analytics Capability (NSAC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Data61 ■ CRCSI 	 In progress-delay

Highlights and achievements for 2017

- Creation of **Roadmap** coordinating all infrastructure activities is underway and lead by PM&C
- **Location Infrastructure Knowledge Platform** released by PM&C and Geoscience Australia early 2017
- \$14 Million funding allocated to **SBAS**, progressing the National Positioning Infrastructure, including significant funding for private sector demonstration projects
- \$15 Million funding allocated to **Digital Earth Australia** led by Geoscience Australia, including a dedicated private sector engagement and innovation strategy
- \$130 Million allocated to projects within the Federal **Data Integration Partnership for Australia (DIPA)**, PM&C playing a lead role
- Integration of the Productivity Commission Data Availability and Use Inquiry

(Note: the 2026Agenda plays the role of integrating these initiatives. The credit for their conception and funding goes to the individual agencies)

Pillar B. Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Objective: Developing creative business models to open up new markets

Initiatives	Lead organisations	Progress
B1. Analysis of growth sectors ■ High priority: transport, agriculture, health, defence and security, energy, mining, built and natural environment.	■ SIBA GITA	 In progress-on track
B2. Nationwide location innovation ecosystem	■ Data61	 In progress-delay
B3. Venture capital relationships		 Pending
B4. Publish export opportunities		 Pending
B5. Procurement showcase		 In progress-on track
B6. EO sensors and satellites program		 Pending
B7. International sponsorship program		 Pending
B8. Digital location information in legislation		 Pending
B9. Space and Spatial Growth Centre		 Under review

Highlights and achievements for 2017

- SIBA | GITA undertaking a landscape scan of growth sectors to determine existing and prioritise future work opportunities
- Livestock Spatial Innovation Strategy ready for publication with Meat and Livestock Australia
- Health roundtable held in Canberra on Oct 17 producing Location Matters, resulting in action to activate location data for people centred policy
- Strong progress with the Minerals sector to create partnership investigating value chain opportunities
- Completion of the Queensland Living Learning Laboratory as a collaborative innovation space

Pillar C. Outreach

Objective: Raise the profile of the spatial sector

Initiatives	Lead organisations	Progress
C1. Grow relationships with other peak bodies	■ SIBA GITA, SSSI	 In progress-on track
C2. Target external conferences		 Pending
C3. Public-focused Location Awareness Campaign		 Pending
C4. Spatial size and impact study	■ CRCSI ■ SIBA GITA	 In progress-on track
C5. Young Professionals Engagement Program		 Pending
C6. Refocus Locate Conference	■ Locate Conferences Australia	 Complete

Highlights and achievements for 2017

- Locate Conference Board has adopted the recommendations of the 2026 Agenda, and has changed the target audience and structure at Locate 18/GeoSmart Asia
- Value of spatial information to NSW economy published
- Value of Spatial to red meat industry to be published as part of Livestock Innovation Strategy
- SBAS economic analysis started by Ernst and Young
- Digital Earth Australia funding an economic baselining activity for Earth Observations in Australia

Pillar D. Research and Development

Objective: Create a nation-wide, coordinated, collaborative and focused spatial R&D agenda

Initiatives	Lead organisations	Progress
D1. Nation-building spatial research agenda	■ 2026 Agenda Team	 In progress-on track
D2. Transformative initiatives for growth sectors		 Pending
D3. PhD incentive scheme		 Pending
D4. Mechanisms for private sector engagement		 Pending

Highlights and achievements for 2017

- Conversations with national research entities to examine their participation/involvement in a national R&D Agenda lead by 2026 Agenda team.
- CRCSI has developed with its partners and is circulating a working draft research program* that will make a significant contribution to the national research agenda. The plan will be delivered through the FrontierSI (evolution from CRCSI) from July 2018 to June 2023. This plan brings together inputs from (40+ organisations, 100+ individuals) across:
 - Universities
 - Government departments (including CSIRO)
 - Private companies
- Research summaries available at: <https://frontiersi.com.au/>

Pillar E. Education, Training and Building Capacity

Objective: Provision of location-related training at all education levels

Initiatives	Lead organisations	Progress
E1. Strategic framework for spatial education (K1-12, TAFE and universities)	■ SSSI	 In progress-on track
E2. Management and technical upskilling program		 Pending
E3. Spatial Professionals Exchange Program		 Pending
E4. Regional capacity building programs		 In progress-on track
E5. Action plan to address skills shortage	■ SSSI	 In progress-on track
E6. Workplace diversity initiatives		 In progress-on track

Highlights and achievements for 2017

- Education pillar coordinated by SSSI
 - SSSI took the initiative to bring as many education players together to discuss all of Pillar E in December 2017, including:
 - SSSI, IS NSW VIC and WA, Destination Spatial, The Surveying Taskforce, GTAV/ AGTA, Tasmanian Agricultural Education Network, Esri Australia, SIBA, CSN, CRCSI, RDA, ASIERA, CRSBANZ, ANZLIC, and UniSA
 - Face to face facilitated workshop scheduled for late April 2018
 - Unprecedented level of coordination to examine requirements along the entire education pipeline, from primary school through to post graduate and business education.
- Diversity focused initiatives underway
 - 2026Agenda Leadership Group as an example (work in progress)
 - "Spatial Leaders Diversity Initiative" led by SIBA|GITA

Pillar F. Representation

Objective: Spatial bodies that speak with one voice

Initiatives	Lead organisations	Progress
F1. SSSI and SIBA to form one spatial organisation	■ SIBA GITA, SSSI	 Under review
F2. Align strategic roadmaps	■ 2026 Agenda Team	 In progress-on track
F3. Explain roles of each peak body	■ 2026 Agenda Team	 No progress
F4. 2026Agenda Leadership Group	■ 2026 Agenda Team	 Complete

Highlights and achievements for 2017

- The 2026 Leadership Group expanded to include senior representatives from Agriculture, Transport, Energy, and Health and Welfare sectors
- Commitment to support the 2026 Agenda implementation across CRCSI, SIBA|GITA and SSSI, forming a strong collaborative team to accelerate the implementation of initiatives
- ANZLIC considered and responded to 2026 Agenda paper to define their alignment (and that of its representative organisations) and involvement in the implementation of 2026 Agenda initiatives

The Year Ahead: Forward Planning for 2018

In progress by responsible organisations:

- Transform short term national spatial infrastructure funding into long term commitments (eg NPI, DEA)
- Substantially progress the National Spatial Data Infrastructure
- Formal connection to the innovation ecosystem, guided by Australia's 2030 Innovation & Science Roadmap
- Delivery of a nation building research plan aided by the launch of FrontierSI in July 2018
- Engagement with the new Space Agency to properly integrate downstream applications and end users

2026Agenda industry growth focus:

- Significantly expand the impact in high priority growth sectors
- Growth sector economic profiles of the value of positioning, earth observation data and services
- Delivery of strategic roadmap to build education and skills across the entire spatial education lifecycle
- Promotion and strategic engagement with external industry conferences

How to get involved

Many initiatives still need organisations and individuals to take a lead role in bringing them forward. If you or your organisation want to help drive this transformation:

- Get involved in leading the implementation of initiatives by contacting us at info@2026agenda.com
- For more details and to consult the supporting documentation, please visit the 2026Agenda website: www.2026agenda.com

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Contacts

Please don't hesitate to reach out to the 2026Agenda team or the chairs to discuss this plan in more detail.

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