

Cicada Innovations — Australia's Longest-Running Deep-Tech Incubator

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Quality score: 67/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Backed by four Sydney universities since 2000, Cicada Innovations estimates its 25-year economic contribution at AUD 8 billion, built on AUD 6.5 billion raised by portfolio ventures from an initial AUD 20 million public investment — about AUD 400 generated per public dollar.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	2/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Scalability	2/3
Sustainability / continuity	3/3
Innovation	2/3
Inclusiveness / equity	0/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	3/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-20

[Cicada Innovations \(backed by University of Sydney, UNSW, UTS and ANU\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-20

[cfotech.com.au](#) — [Cicada's AUD 8 billion impact](#) — accessed 2026-07-20

[InnovationAus](#) — [Deep tech incubator's \\$8 billion innovation dividend](#) — accessed 2026-07-20

[Startup Daily](#) — [Why Cicada Innovations is the \\$8 billion deep tech pioneer](#) — accessed 2026-07-20

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