To realise its vision, the government will act in three leadership roles:

- supporting science by providing funding and other resources for the spectrum of basic to applied scientific research, critical scientific infrastructure and equipment, and science and mathematics education, directly investing in Australia’s future
- participating in science by producing, using and sharing research, data and information, operating scientific research infrastructure and engaging with science internationally
- enabling science by setting institutional arrangements that shape the science system and its interactions with business and the community, including the translation of research into economic and other benefits.