



Case Study



What matters to CSIRO is making climate action easy

Do what matters

Australia's science, engineering and technology innovation agency, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO), got busier as climate challenges intensified. Private and public CSIRO clients now get insights quicker since CSIRO and Avanade built the Climate Intelligence Platform (CIP) to inform commercial decisions and climate change adaptations.

CSIRO leaders are confident that the new CIP will help realize their mission to make climate action easy, using science-backed data, powerful, flexible technology and a clear vision for a greener, more sustainable future. "It goes to the heart of making Australia and the world a better place," says David Newth, CSIRO's CIP product owner.

Business Situation: Barriers in understanding to climate-related risks

Responsible businesses need reliable, easily sourced data to make ethical decisions that protect the environment and their investments. In Australia, these companies use CSIRO resources to understand climate change impacts and manage climate risks.

CSIRO employees spent months manually compiling data for clients. There was no convenient place to access relevant data from disparate sources, and analysis required an expert at data interrogation and manipulation. CSIRO envisioned a primary, cloud-based source where clients could access trusted climate data products. It wanted the best available local and global climate, policy and industry data and analytics for self-service solution-matching and industry-specific insights.

"We realized we had to pivot from the perspective of a monolithic science organization with 100 years of doing things the old way to take a client-centered view."

– David Newth
CIP Product Owner, CSIRO

He participated in an Avanade program, and "I was absolutely blown away," he says. CSIRO engaged Avanade to design the climate data aggregation, classification and analysis CIP that reinvented CSIRO business, operations and go-to-market models.

Company Name: CSIRO (Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization)

Country: Australia

Industry: Government & Public Services

Solution: AI model, Microsoft Azure

Solution: Change in the way CSIRO employees work and think

CSIRO's historic solution development model had a long delivery cycle. Typically, it would receive five years of funding to explore and deliver a product concept. Then it would spend the next 10 years developing the product and bringing it to market. "Everyone we spoke to said we needed to deliver faster," Newth says.

In introducing an agile methodology, Avanade helped CSIRO **shrink its solution development cycle from 15 years to six months** and deliver insights on the most relevant data to the Southern Hemisphere for every project.

"From the moment we engaged Avanade, literally in weeks we had something to show people. Avanade was able to whip disarticulated ideas into a coherent solution architecture."

– David Newth
CIP Product Owner, CSIRO

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Demonstrated value from the first viable iteration of the CIP attracted the money to allow CSIRO to bring it to life. Using human-centered design, we ensured every CIP feature in **Microsoft Azure** was underpinned by market research and improved by feedback. Key CIP features include:

- Sophisticated interactions, such as geospatial and time series **data visualization**
- A data and analytics product search engine
- Agriculture, stress, heat, flood and fire data products and subscription services
- New product development and launch functionality
- Custom emissions scenarios

Results: Financial services today, the public good tomorrow

Financial services companies in Australia have been first to use CIP and its verified data and climate models. The tourism industry is anticipated to follow. Climate-related sea level rise and snowfall redefine tourism seasons at beach and ski destinations, respectively. International construction companies have expressed interest in CIP for things like sourcing raw materials or building electricity infrastructure that can withstand extraordinary temperatures. Real estate, agriculture and mining are likely adopters, too. Newth expects even small businesses may someday use CIP. Avanade will help CSIRO scale to meet demand.

CIP isn't stopping at the borders of Australia. Availability is planned to move outside of Aussie borders to New Zealand, then Indonesia and Southeast Asia.

About CSIRO

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) is an Australian government agency that has a deep understanding of Australian climate thanks to its research, data science and modeling expertise. CSIRO helps businesses and government agencies explore scenarios and identify opportunities to adapt and transform their climate actions and investments.



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About Avanade

Avanade is the leading provider of innovative digital, cloud and advisory services, industry solutions and design-led experiences across the Microsoft ecosystem. Every day, our 60,000 professionals in 26 countries make a genuine human impact for our clients, their employees and their customers. Avanade was founded in 2000 by Accenture LLP and Microsoft Corporation. Learn more at www.avanade.com

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