The Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation (DSITI) analysed the impact of the Australian Access Federation (AAF) on their users' experience for implementation within the Scientific Information for Land Owners (SILO) project.

Development Process

1. Register on the AAF test federation which can be used in development environments

2. Implement AAF integration against the test federation (including unit tests)
   a. Add AAF login button to login page
   b. Set up callback endpoint which receives user identity information via HTTP POST
   c. Implement local session management for users that authenticate with AAF

3. Register on the AAF production federation and update the SILO configuration

The integration of AAF is expected to be fairly straightforward and should not have a substantial impact on the project delivery date.

User Experience

AAF integration will provide users with an additional way to login. It will still be possible to register an account through SILO without the need to use AAF.

Example login form:

The integration will have a positive impact on SILO, as users in the research community will be able to access the service without needing to create another account.

Development

AAF integration will complement the existing project systems and processes which can be completed at any point during development. The work that has already been done on authentication (registration, login, and logout) can still be used.

It is recommended that SILO integrates with the AAF service called Rapid Connect, which provides the following benefits:

- No need to install a Shibboleth Service Provider on our web server
- Natively integrates into commonly used development languages
- Attributes are already defined in logical sets, there is no approval process for attributes
- Integration code is minimal, simple to write and easy to test.
AAF Subscription
There are both upfront and ongoing costs involved with using AAF. Pricing information can be found at: aaf.edu.au/price

Support
AAF support is available Monday to Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm (AEST) via email or online request at: support.aaf.edu.au

Support is included in the subscription fee there is no additional cost.

AAF provides a range of services to fast track development. Rapid Connect will greatly simplify the development process, so it is not anticipated that these services will be required. Enquiries can be directed to enquiries@aaf.edu.au

Pricing information for these services is not available on the AAF website.

Summary
AAF integration will have a positive impact on SILO. It will allow people in the research community to easily access the system. It should not have a significant impact on the development of SILO, and it can be completed at any time. There are upfront and ongoing fees. There is no additional fee for support.

Information:
For more information regarding the SILO project visit: www.longpaddock.qld.gov.au/silo/about.html

Contact the Australian Access Federation:
To discuss federated identity management contact: enquiries@aaf.edu.au | aaf.edu.au