

Issues Paper Consultation Survey - public and attributed responses

Topic 1 - NRI Definition

This document includes public and attributed responses to the following questions of the Issues Paper Consultation Survey

- Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
- If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

Summary of quantitative responses to “should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 Roadmap be modified”

- 94 respondents (52%) “yes”
- 87 respondents (48%) “no”

Please note

- Where necessary, text answers to the above questions have been redacted to remove contact details and third-party personal information
- blank submissions have been removed
- respondents who wished to remain anonymous are contained in the document “Anonymous responses to Issues Paper Consultation Survey”

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Fri, Dec 19, 2025, 12:40 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm39ca5c82480a48d32ad6d]

Title

Ms

First Name

Erin

Last Name

Vest

Organisation

Northern Australia Indigenous Reference Group

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

The definition should explicitly recognise NRI as part of a long-term infrastructure legacy portfolio rather than solely as a research support service. National Research Infrastructure comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities, data resources and highly skilled personnel that provide services supporting leading-edge research, innovation and capability-building over the long term. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally, may be single-sited, virtual or distributed, and is governed in ways that:

(a) contribute to Net Zero and other national priorities; (b) build enduring productive capacity, stable earned incomes and locally held assets, particularly in regional and remote Australia; and (c) uphold appropriate Indigenous data governance at the framework level while enabling low-friction data flows for clearly defined system purposes.

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Thu, Dec 18, 2025, 10:19 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm39c4b57be092eff95521e]

Title

Mr

First Name

Richard

Last Name

Brinkman

Organisation

AIMS

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

No

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Tue, Dec 16, 2025, 04:41 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm39bbc62f6232d3e8641e3]

Title

Dr

First Name

Rebecca

Last Name

Farrington

Organisation

AuScope Ltd

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

Yes, the definition could be strengthened by including what 'nationally significant' means; however, the inclusion of a figure similar to e.g. Figure 3. Australian research infrastructure 'layers' from the 2021 roadmap would provide additional context to this definition by placing NRI between Institutional and Landmark facilities.

Further clarification of the 'leading-edge' modifier would be beneficial, as it is currently undefined and open to interpretation. An inclusion stating that Australia's NRI system aims to be 'world-class' (e.g., of international best practice, agreed-upon discipline and technical standards, etc.) would improve clarity. Should we aim for, e.g., 'world-class NRI to support leading-edge research and innovation'?

Referencing "NRI Roadmaps have been developed every 5 years since 2006 to ensure Australian research is supported by world-class infrastructure which is aligned to Australia's priorities' (4th sentence, 1st paragraph of Introduction to NRI Roadmap Issues paper).

Noting the UK and ESFRI definitions include 'essential to achieve excellence'.

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Mon, Dec 15, 2025, 11:25 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm3990e6ae8ee5be5d2df39]

Title

Ms

First Name

Laura

Last Name

Regan

Organisation

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS)

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

No

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Fri, Dec 12, 2025, 04:55 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm39a6ef424bcc5a3c2e4ab]

Title

Prof

First Name

Michael

Last Name

Dobbie

Organisation

Phenomix Australia

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

"NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities and all highly-skilled personnel providing services that together support leading-edge research and innovation. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally."

Although not specifically included in the concise definition, the term "nationally significant" should be defined more precisely. For instance, it should refer to NRI that is genuinely national (not restricted to serving a single institution or jurisdiction); permits research that addresses national priorities; permits excellent quality research that would otherwise be limited or impossible due to complexity, high cost, or insufficient expertise; and is delivered in an adaptable manner that can support multiple disciplines or domains.

NRI requires both technology and expertise. As a result, the NRI definition must place a strong emphasis on the highly qualified workers who are necessary for a successful and efficient NRI environment.

Emphasis should be on "all" personnel, be they technical, scientific, managerial, or other associated roles. All personnel should be highly skilled in accordance with the role and responsibilities. Thus, "highly-skilled" may not be necessary in the primary definition.

Likewise, while NRI "may be single-sited, virtual or distributed", these characteristics are unnecessary inclusions in the primary definition.

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Fri, Dec 12, 2025, 04:29 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm39a721e970b78419e5cc4]

Title

Dr

First Name

Sarah

Last Name

Tynan

Organisation

Science & Technology Australia

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

In refining the definition:

- It must be acknowledged that NRI cannot deliver value for government investments without the highly trained personnel integral to their effective operations, and they are part of - not separate to - each and every RI.
- We should move away from the artificial distinctions of national, landmark and global, as these are issues of geography and cost scale, not national need.
- It is important to keep the definition as clear and concise as possible.

Proposed wording for NRI definition:

NRI is the nationally significant assets, facilities and services - including the highly skilled personnel that operate them - needed to support leading-edge Australian research and innovation and areas of Australian globally-competitive research strength. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and may be single-sited, virtual, distributed or offered to Australia by other jurisdictions to optimise the use of resources to create scale, reduce duplication and increase nationally significant, priority and collaborative research.

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Fri, Dec 12, 2025, 02:02 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm39a69b1bc7e160bfaf76b]

Title

Mr

First Name

Ross

Last Name

Latham

Organisation

GLAM Peak

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

To be absolutely clear about the scope of Australia's NRI, we suggest the creation of more detailed definition:

NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities and highly-skilled personnel providing services that together support leading-edge research and innovation. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally. Our significant research assets range from major scientific equipment, cultural collections, scientific data, data and computing systems and communication networks, and any other tools that are essential to achieve excellence in research and innovation .

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Thu, Dec 11, 2025, 10:21 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm39a0aa2c95b73041fc8a6]

Title

Ms

First Name

Alethia

Last Name

Barceinas

Organisation

Cooperative Research Australia

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

CRA supports the proposed updated definition but recommends clarifying "nationally significant" to ensure consistency and alignment in future investment cycles.

CRA Recommended Definition.

National research infrastructure (NRI) comprises nationally significant assets, facilities, platforms, and highly skilled personnel that enable research excellence and applied innovation. Infrastructure is nationally significant when it:

1. Enables research aligned with national missions and priorities;
2. Supports equitable access across sectors (universities, industry, government, community);
3. Underpins translation, commercialisation and sovereign capability; and
4. Is strategically coordinated and provides long-term, reliable service delivery.

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Tue, Dec 9, 2025, 04:06 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm39975be5d17c1c9e159d5]

Title

Mr

First Name

Andrew

Last Name

Outhwaite

Organisation

WA coastal RD&I survey respondents - this response is an aggregation and summary of the relevant responses from a coastal RD&I survey we conducted which received 42 responses from WA-based coastal researchers, innovators and managers.

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

Amend the definition to say "...that together support leading-edge research, innovation, translation and application of those technologies and capabilities to achieve our national objectives."

That, or a similar amendment is recommended because the NRI is described as being "essential to breakthrough research discoveries, adapting to new technologies, and addressing global challenges". There is evidence from multiple sources that the translation of 'research' and even 'R&D' in Australia is not translating into innovation, application and commercialisation.

The SERD is one source supporting this change. In brief, SERD suggests "...should enable the entire innovation pipeline, from discovery to commercialisation - at scale."

Feedback from 60 stakeholders in a recent coastal R&D consultation meetings and surveys supports this shift in scope and emphasis to better enable collaboration and funding throughout the whole pipeline of innovation, lifecycle of projects and range of stakeholders engagement in coastal ecosystems.

Those consultations and surveys also show that a small change in scope and emphasis could unlock significant additional capital to match NRI funding i.e. from other government, industry, offset funds, philanthropy and private capital providers.

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Tue, Dec 9, 2025, 02:54 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm3993693f8e87b5764ba43]

Title

Mrs

First Name

Blagica

Last Name

Penova-Veselinovic

Organisation

University of Western Australia, (SPGH) The Raine Study

In what capacity are you responding?

An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

Cohorts and longitudinal cohort studies meet this definition but are missing from the current NRI Map. These cohorts provide decades of curated health, environmental, and social data, supported by highly skilled personnel and accessible nationally and internationally. They are virtual and distributed infrastructures that underpin leading-edge research in precision medicine, public health, and evidence based. Their omission risks undervaluing a resource essential for Australia's research competitiveness and evidence-based decision-making.

Inclusion of cohorts in the 2026 NRI Roadmap would ensure recognition, sustainability, and integration of these irreplaceable resources into Australia's research ecosystem.

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Tue, Dec 9, 2025, 12:35 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm3996d7fd699f477fc7935]

Title

Mr

First Name

Warwick

Last Name

Dawson

Organisation

University of Newcastle

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

When describing what qualifies as nationally significant, consider highlighting:

Scale & Reach

- Does the initiative serve multiple institutions, sectors, or regions?
- Is there broad accessibility and uptake across the research community?

Impact

- Does it enable research that addresses national priorities, particularly in our regions?
- Does it strengthen Australia's global competitiveness in science, innovation, and industry?

Consider including a reference to emerging needs

- Digital and Data: Does it enhance digital infrastructure, data sharing, or advanced analytics?
- Interdisciplinary Capability: Does it foster collaboration across disciplines to tackle complex challenges?
- Sustainability and Resilience: Does it build capacity to respond to environmental, social, or economic pressures?

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Tue, Dec 9, 2025, 09:06 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm399619162787ecd113cff]

Title

Ms

First Name

Chanel

Last Name

Beynon

Organisation

Children's Cancer Institute

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

National Research Infrastructure (NRI) comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities, data systems, and highly skilled personnel that collectively enable world-class research, innovation, and translation. It includes physical, digital, and human capabilities that support the generation and application of knowledge across priority research domains. To be nationally significant, infrastructure must deliver demonstrable, broad-based benefit to Australia's research and innovation system, underpin collaboration across jurisdictions, and address strategic national challenges.

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Tue, Dec 9, 2025, 08:17 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm399160d29fcce63c4a102]

Title

Dr

First Name

Esther

Last Name

Pronker

Organisation

Non-Animal Technologies Network

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

No

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Tue, Dec 9, 2025, 01:00 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm399339e3937cce80af176]

Title

Ms

First Name

Erika

Last Name

Slavin

Organisation

University of Western Australia

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

NRI comprises nationally significant assets, facilities, and highly skilled personnel that provide services enabling research and innovation at a scale and quality beyond the capacity of individual institutions. It demonstrably underpins areas of strategic national priority, supports world-class research with broad economic, environmental, and societal impact, and is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally. NRI may be single-sited, virtual, or distributed.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 09:16 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm39938f34b887b80a9f65e]

Title

A/Prof

First Name

Robyn

Last Name

Schofield

Organisation

The University of Melbourne

In what capacity are you responding?

An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

I agree that the proposed wording above recognizing highly-skilled personnel is an important update.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 07:07 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm39931874e89f247a53eae]

Title

Dr

First Name

Benjamin

Last Name

Padman

Organisation

The Kids Institute

In what capacity are you responding?

An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

NRI comprises the nationally significant RESEARCH CAPABILITIES that support leading-edge research and innovation.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 06:44 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm39930401337c20d6a6bfc]

Title

Dr

First Name

Callum

Last Name

Shakespeare

Organisation

The Australian National University

In what capacity are you responding?

An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

of broad use to the scientific community; supporting sovereign capacity; required to support national security (be that food, fuel, defence, etc).

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 06:08 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm399170cccde5bb3b45a6e]

Title

Ms

First Name

Janet

Last Name

Catterall

Organisation

Open Access Australasia/Council of Australasian University Librarians (OAA/CAUL) joint submission

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

No

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 05:32 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm3992c1fa2b9f3e4b11de0]

Title

Mr

First Name

Benjy

Last Name

Lee

Organisation

HILT CRC

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

HILT CRC supports the Issues Paper's proposed update to the NRI definition which maintains the importance of national significance and accessibility:

"NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities and highly-skilled personnel providing services that together support leading-edge research and innovation. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed."

Greater clarity regarding the meaning of 'nationally significant' would also be welcomed by HILT CRC. Whilst it is not in our remit to define 'nationally significant', we encourage the DOE to consider alignment to relevant aspects of the Future Made in Australia National Interest Framework (FMI NIF), including priority sectors such as green metals, renewable hydrogen and low carbon liquid fuels.

The FMIA NIF notes that Australia already has a significant metals industry, with the iron, steel, aluminium and alumina industries accounting for around 11 per cent of Australia's emissions. Australia is also the world's largest producer of iron ore and second largest producer of bauxite - producing 39 per cent of global iron ore and 26 per cent of global bauxite in 2023.

The importance of nationally significant assets, facilities and highly-skilled personnel to support leading-edge research and innovation was identified by HILT CRC at its bid stage and has been discussed extensively with its Partners, including the development of a national RD&D Facility Plan. HILT CRC's submission to last year's FMIA green metals

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consultation is a useful reference for understanding the national significance of research and facilities to support Australia's activities in green metals and complementary industries.

Sources:

<https://treasury.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-05/p2024-526942-fmia-nif.pdf>

<https://arena.gov.au/about/arena-strategic-priorities/strategic-priorities-support-the-transition-to-low-emissions-metals/>

<https://www.industry.gov.au/publications/resources-and-energy-quarterly-march-2024>

<https://hiltcrc.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/HILT-Response-DISR-Green-Metals-Consultation-Final-web.pdf>

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 05:28 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39841f5d9e50e7f06c289]

Title
Ms

First Name
Jo

Last Name
Webb

Organisation
Animals Australia

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

The NRI definition should specifically reference human-relevant scientific research, environmental sustainability and methodological responsibility. These inclusions would facilitate fit-for-purpose research infrastructure in Australia by:

- Reflecting the scientific and societal momentum towards more robust and species-relevant research methods and outcomes such as New Approach Methodologies (NAMs).
- Integrating national community expectations and international trends towards more ethical, translatable and sustainable research methods.
- Aligning with international sustainability frameworks such as the United Kingdom's Research and Innovation Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2023 and the European Strategic Forum for Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) Roadmap 2026.

The inclusion of the term "leading-edge" research in the definition is superfluous without adequate prioritisation and funding of national infrastructure to support the development of NAMs. Unless it is aspirational, it could be removed.

Therefore, suggested changes to the definition:

"NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities and highly-skilled personnel providing services that together support human-relevant leading-edge (i.e. non-animal) research and innovation that is environmentally sustainable and methodologically robust. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed."

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The term ‘nationally significant’ should be elaborated to guide NRI investment initiatives. Nationally significant infrastructure should support the delivery of ethical and responsible research; conserve resources and responsibly mitigate waste; enable improved efficacy, predictive value and translatability for human outcomes; and foster economic opportunities such as industry growth, competitiveness and international collaboration and investment.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 05:26 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3992bbf69e9f6ddb69ea2]

Title
Dr

First Name
Talía

Last Name
Avrahamzon

Organisation
Research Australia

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 05:24 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3992ba627d878d0ff938a]

Title
Dr

First Name
Stuart

Last Name
Glover

Organisation
Australian Publishers Association

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
Yes. The definition should clarify "nationally significant" and explicitly recognise data and digital research infrastructure.
For the APA, nationally significant NRI should include:

- **demonstrable usage across multiple institutions, jurisdictions and sectors
- **clear contribution to Australia's research, policy and innovation priorities
- **robust governance and sustainable funding models.

We suggest adding:

"Nationally significant NRI includes collections, datasets, and digital platforms (including e-infrastructure and metadata systems) that provide enduring, shared capability for research, innovation and evidence-based policy across multiple institutions, sectors and regions."

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 05:15 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3992b187229f78ce6ded8]

Title
Dr

First Name
Brian

Last Name
Tse

Organisation
Translational Research Institute

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 05:14 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3992b184818772cae5941]

Title
Prof

First Name
Richard

Last Name
McDermid

Organisation
AAO Research Data & Software, Macquarie University

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 05:13 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3992b0c3337c7c17ab9d4]

Title
Dr

First Name
Simon

Last Name
O'Toole

Organisation
AAO Research Data & Software

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 05:09 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm399147a8eee16457387fd]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
Nicola

Last Name
Smith

Organisation
Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 05:03 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3992a7c4567c4b5088a27]

Title

Other: "Distinguished Professor"

First Name

Calum

Last Name

Drummond

Organisation

RMIT University

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

No

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244

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:57 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39821cde8b8012ffd6281]

Title
Dr

First Name
Janet

Last Name
Yeo

Organisation
ATN Universities

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

ATN Universities supports the proposed definition and welcomes recognition of highly skilled personnel and distributed or virtual models. We also support recognising digital infrastructure and data capabilities as core elements of modern NRI, given their centrality to leading-edge research. We recommend clarifying national significance to ensure it captures the full range of infrastructure needed for leading-edge research. This includes knowledge-based resources such as human capability, digital infrastructure, data access and interoperability, as well as physical facilities that enable translation, including pilot plants, testbeds and mid-TRL facilities. National significance should also extend to infrastructure that supports industry access and precinct-based engagement.

A clearer, more inclusive definition will strengthen the national research system by ensuring future NRI investments support both discovery and translation. It will improve industry collaboration, create more consistent access across sectors and regions, and enable long-term planning for infrastructure that underpins Australia's innovation and sovereign capability priorities. Clarifying these elements will also help avoid fragmentation across the system and ensure alignment with national priority areas.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:55 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39929fca549fbc3816b8]

Title
Mr

First Name
Fabrice

Last Name
Marre

Organisation
SmartSat CRC

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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241

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:48 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3992635109cc268517344]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
Elizabeth

Last Name
Williams

Organisation
Australian Nuclear Research and Education Network

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

The Australian Nuclear Research and Education Network (ANREN) is a community of academics engaged in nuclear or radiation science and engineering research and education. Our membership includes representatives from 11 universities across Australia. The following members of the ANREN community have collaboratively contributed to this survey response: Elizabeth Williams (Australian National University), Pejman Rowshan Farzad (University of Western Australia), Geoff Currie (Charles Sturt University), Tony Hooker (Adelaide University), Igor Bray (Curtin University) and Nigel Spooner (Adelaide University).

We support the intent of the revised definition—particularly its recognition that highly skilled personnel are integral to national research infrastructure and its explicit inclusion of accessibility across sectors and delivery modes. These are essential elements for ensuring that NRI continues to underpin sovereign capability, innovation, and research excellence.

However, the current proposed definition omits a critical category of national research infrastructure: the educational and training infrastructure required to develop, sustain, and renew the highly skilled workforce on which all NRI depends.

For domains such as nuclear science, nuclear engineering, medical radiation science, and advanced radiation technologies—where sovereign capability is essential and where Australia currently has severe workforce constraints—the educational and research-training ecosystem is not ancillary. It is nationally significant infrastructure. Without this

infrastructure, Australia cannot meaningfully leverage, operate, or expand its physical NRI assets.

ANREN therefore recommends that the proposed definition be modified to explicitly recognise:

1. Education and training infrastructure—including coursework programs, professional training, research supervision, specialised short courses, and the academic expertise required to deliver them—as essential components of NRI where they are necessary to sustain sovereign capability.
2. The role of research-active educators and academic experts as a form of “highly skilled personnel” without which NRI cannot function, evolve, or maintain quality. In nuclear fields, for example, Australia’s sovereign expertise base is critically small, self-organised, and already stretched beyond capacity. The definition should acknowledge that such expertise constitutes nationally significant infrastructure in its own right.
3. The national significance of infrastructures that maintain safety, regulatory understanding, social licence, and public trust, particularly in specialised domains such as nuclear technology, where responsible operation requires a pipeline of graduates who are technically competent, security-cleared, ethically trained, and capable of engaging external stakeholders.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:47 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39917fe4b0e16b9dda5ba]

Title

Other: " "

First Name

Nuria

Last Name

Lorente

Organisation

Australian Astronomical Optics (AAO), Macquarie University

In what capacity are you responding?

An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

No

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239

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:38 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3992907a2487bb504e518]

Title
Mrs

First Name
Rosie

Last Name
Hicks

Organisation
Australian Research Data Commons

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
ARDC supports the proposed definition, including the explicit inclusion of skilled personnel as an essential component of NRI.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:36 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39928f12e487f43459169]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
Graeme

Last Name
Hart

Organisation
ARDC / University of Melbourne / Austin Hospital

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
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237

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:34 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39928c854b87432431d2a]

Title

Mr

First Name

Sam

Last Name

Perkins

Organisation

Cellular Agriculture Australia (co-signed by Eclipse Ingredients)

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

A key structural issue in Australia's system is the persistent separation between research, innovation, and commercialisation. As currently framed, NRI primarily operates as a research enabler, which limits the ability of NCRIS funding to address current bottlenecks between foundational research and research translation to create new commercial opportunities. Strengthening this connection is critical to de-risking early commercialisation and unlocking the full economic and societal value of research investments.

Accordingly, we propose the following revised definition: "NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities and highly-skilled personnel providing services that together support the development and translation of leading-edge research and innovation to create new commercial opportunities. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed."

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:31 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39928a43167cd24b77883]

Title

Mr

First Name

Jarrold

Last Name

Ross

Organisation

Universities Australia

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

No

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235

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:31 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39928a00c18781563c360]

Title
Prof

First Name
Julian

Last Name
Thomas

Organisation
Australian Internet Observatory

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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234

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:22 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm399281fb72874b1789f7c]

Title
Prof

First Name
Bradley John

Last Name
Evans

Organisation
The University of New England

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

Yes. The definition should clarify that "nationally significant" infrastructure delivers capabilities at scale with continuity and uniqueness that cannot be achieved by individual organisations and that directly addresses agreed national priorities (e.g. climate resilience, biosecurity, Indigenous data sovereignty, sustainable land and water). The definition should explicitly encompass data, code (github algorithm publications), governance and workforce, not just physical assets, and acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge systems and data governance where relevant.

Under such a definition, proposed initiatives like UNE ASPIRE - National Airborne Hyperspectral and LiDAR Research Facility, filling critical nationally significant gaps as an NCRIS capability, bridging remote sensing between UAV and satellite Earth observation Thus enabling Australia to strengthen connections with international space agencies on climate, carbon, agriculture, biosecurity, water and Indigenous led landscape monitoring.

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231

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:17 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39927d773b875a8460ca6]

Title
Prof

First Name
Devanshi

Last Name
Seth

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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229

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:14 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39927a2c339fdf12aa016]

Title
Dr

First Name
Markus

Last Name
Herderich

Organisation
The Australian Wine Research Institute (AWRI)

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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228

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:07 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39927460d3cc363a0a2ad]

Title
Dr

First Name
Michael

Last Name
Banazis

Organisation
Western Australian Department of Energy and Economic Diversification

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

Both the suggested UK and EU definitions provide more clarity on what is meant by infrastructure in this context and would be more accessible to a broader (non-technical) audience. The definition could also be updated to reflect interconnected nature of facilities, workforce and assets in research and innovation is also a positive inclusion. Agree "nationally significant" could be further defined and would presumably link to priorities of related strategies mentioned in issues paper. However, it is noted that tying the definition to current strategic priorities is risky given the changeable nature of strategies and the long lifespan of most infrastructure.

Acknowledging that strategic alignment is an important consideration, an alternative approach would be to incorporate current strategic priorities operationally, when Facilities apply for funding, or when new infrastructure or step changes are being considered rather than in the NRI definition.

An alternate NRI definition (partly taken directly from ESFRI, so would need re-wording) which does not include 'nationally significant' is provided below:

"NRI comprises the major equipment or sets of instruments, knowledge-related facilities such as collections, archives or scientific data infrastructures, computing systems, communication networks, highly-skilled personnel and any other infrastructure that support leading-edge research and innovation and are in demand by, and accessible to, users across Australian and internationally. NRI may be single-sited, virtual or distributed."

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227

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:06 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm399272f4ecccc1fa4219d]

Title
Prof

First Name
Wojtek

Last Name
Tomaszewski

Organisation
Social Science Research Infrastructure Network

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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226

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:06 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm399272e09ee1968fa05e4]

Title
Prof

First Name
Richard

Last Name
McDermid

Organisation
Astronomical Society of Australia

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

We very much agree with the expanded text to include mention of the highly-skilled personnel that are intrinsic to running a successful NRI system. We would further expand this to include not just the provision of 'services', but also the access to specialist expertise and capabilities that facilitate optimal usage of NRI investments. There is a valuable human capital asset that resides within many, if not all, NRI capabilities that is absolutely essential to delivering the full value of that capability while also providing a critical resource to the research community. For example, highly-skilled staff are required to run high-power compute (HPC) facilities; but access to skilled software engineers are also required to enable domain-expert researchers to make optimal usage of such facilities. Major infrastructure facilities such as astronomical observatories require highly-skilled personnel to operate; but we also require access to professional engineers to develop new instrumentation capabilities that will meet the demands of national research priorities and maintain global leadership. This expands the provision of services and support to become an enabling capability for research.

We therefore propose a revision to:

"NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities and highly-skilled personnel providing services and expertise that together support, facilitate and enable leading-edge research and innovation."

We also appreciate the mention of distributed NRI. Australia has the rare advantage of being a continent-sized country. So distributed infrastructure, particularly for monitoring (e.g. earth, sky, ecosystems) would by construction make a major global contribution.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:02 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39926f9294cc1e4748597]

Title

Dr

First Name

Wayne

Last Name

Ng

Organisation

Victorian Cancer Biobank Consortium

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

No

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224

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:00 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm399137434dccd866a3d5c]

Title
Dr

First Name
Luke

Last Name
Hendrickson

Organisation
Australian Bureau of Statistics

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The definition would be improved by explicitly acknowledging data and the platforms that supports its processing and use as infrastructure.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 03:30 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3992520404e102ba14a8d]

Title
Prof

First Name
Janeen

Last Name
Baxter

Organisation
ARC Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 03:11 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm399240c2b2e106923210d]

Title
Prof

First Name
Christopher

Last Name
Armstrong

Organisation
University of New England

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The definition should clarify that “nationally significant” infrastructure delivers capabilities at a scale, cost, quality, continuity or uniqueness that cannot be achieved by individual organisations and that directly addresses agreed national priorities (e.g. climate resilience, biosecurity, Indigenous data sovereignty, sustainable land and water). The definition should explicitly encompass data, code (github algorithm publications), governance and workforce, access support for remote users from smaller institutions, not just physical assets, and acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge systems and data governance where relevant.

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217

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 02:54 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3991171cf5e581238031a]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
Christopher

Last Name
Marquis

Organisation
University of NSW

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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216

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 02:51 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3991de5a00e58eeea07ea]

Title
Prof

First Name
Melanie

Last Name
Swalwell

Organisation
The Australian Emulation Network

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The proposed definition covers the type of infrastructure I've been involved with building, which entails working collaboratively to upskill professionals in GLAM institutions with born digital holdings. However, clarification as to what 'nationally significant' means would be welcome. Is such significance only attained by infrastructure being open to any researchers to use, for instance?

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 02:48 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398fca2558f052661b15a]

Title
Prof

First Name
Marcia

Last Name
Langton

Organisation
The University of Melbourne

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities and highly-skilled personnel providing services that together support leading-edge research and innovation relevant to ensuring a secure and resilient Australian nation, and to the well-being of its peoples, cultures, histories, languages, environments and institutions. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed.

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214

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 02:38 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm399222e7fce577fa5e340]

Title
Ms

First Name
Julie

Last Name
Rothacker

Organisation
ACU

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities, highly-skilled personnel, and systems that together support leading-edge research, innovation, and societal advancement. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally, and may be single-sited, virtual, distributed, or embedded within communities.”

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212

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 02:26 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3991b0a4cbe5f9b022797]

Title

Mr

First Name

Heath

Last Name

Marks

Organisation

Australian Access Federation

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

The definition should be updated to add 'highly-skilled personnel providing services.'

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210

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 02:19 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3992119adee1d90ac0ea1]

Title
Prof

First Name
Pascal

Last Name
Perez

Organisation
AURIN

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

Although we acknowledge that the concept of 'nationally significant' is rather subjective and opened to interpretation, we consider that the terminology offers a welcomed flexibility in the current environment characterised by technological and societal disruptions. Any attempt to define too narrowly the concept would create a significant lock-in risk for NRI and the inability to eventual pivot over the next five years. Similarly, 'highly skilled' offers a welcomed flexibility that allows for context-dependent description of technical and non-technical skills (see workforce section below). As a broad definition, it encompasses NRI's ability and need to attract, retain, upskill and recognise its workforce.

However, we question the need to include the need for (all) NRI services to be 'internationally' available. Why is that seen as important enough to add here? Will it remain true if we can't comply with international legislation, such as the EU privacy legislation that prohibits having a firewall around open data?

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205

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 12:38 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3990946b81f094c008450]

Title
Ms

First Name
Julie

Last Name
Ellmers

Organisation
Australian Museum Research Institute

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
We suggest explicitly including collections as a category of infrastructure: "NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities, collections, and highly-skilled personnel providing services that together support leading-edge research and innovation. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed."

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203

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 12:29 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3991368327cc65c7cda5c]

Title
Mrs

First Name
Emily

Last Name
Duggan

Organisation
Translational Research Institute

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Department of Education

202

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 12:26 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3991a9a801e5a8d6cc3dc]

Title
Dr

First Name
Mike

Last Name
Hodda

Organisation
Reference Collections Strategy Implementation Working Group of The Subcommittee for Plant Health Diagnostics (SPHD)

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
NRI comprises the nationally significant assets (physical, virtual, networks, information- and knowledge-based), facilities and highly-skilled personnel providing services that together support leading-edge research and innovation. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed.

Clearer examples of assets added in the suggested definition. Assets are often assumed to include only physical assets such as equipment. Both the UK and European definitions of infrastructure explicitly include knowledge-based resources such as collections, archives and scientific data infrastructures, computing systems, communication networks...essential to achieve excellence in research and innovation. These less obvious assets are rightly identified as essential. They provide the basis for other forms of infrastructure to work on. Assets may also be a mixture of types: collections for example include all of physical, virtual, networks, information-based and knowledge-based assets. Archives too are important as infrastructure to ensure research and innovation can extend temporally as well as spatially (i.e. using the past but extending into the future).

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 11:58 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398909815c8051a41eccf]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
Maggie

Last Name
Nolan

Organisation
AustLit

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The existing definition is strong, but it can still be difficult to assess if a specific piece of infrastructure is "nationally significant". Enhanced definitions could include, among other measures, maturity, usage statistics and the number and quality of research partnerships.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 11:55 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39913672e3cc976b3c560]

Title
Prof

First Name
Melodie

Last Name
McGeoch

Organisation
Monash University

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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192

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 11:44 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3991835109e1f22c2f818]

Title
Prof

First Name
Simon

Last Name
Ringer

Organisation
The University of Sydney

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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191

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 11:42 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm399181b0e6cc91d7d78f6]

Title
Prof

First Name
Neena

Last Name
Mitter

Organisation
Charles Sturt University

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

The proposed NRI definition still leaves "nationally significant" underspecified. A helpful addition would be a requirement that, to be national significant, NRI should align to at least one of the National Science and Research Priorities.

To avoid defaulting to "large metropolitan facility", it should explicitly recognise:

- place-based infrastructure located in regions, where nationally significant challenges are experienced; and
- distributed/virtual infrastructure (networks, data commons, platforms, protocols) as potentially nationally significant in their own right.

To avoid privileging the continuation of colonial research principles, 'nationally significant' must also include reference to respecting matters of significance for First Nations Australians, including First Nations knowledge systems.

NRI has at its core highly skilled personnel supported by physical assets, digital platforms, networks, and data commons that collectively enable leading-edge, human-centred research and innovation that builds Australia's competitive advantage.

NRI may be single-site, metropolitan or regionally anchored, distributed, or virtual, and must be accessible to publicly and privately funded users nationally and internationally.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 11:38 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39917d5b57e5cbf48ec6c]

Title
Prof

First Name
Sharon

Last Name
Goldfeld

Organisation
Murdoch Children's Research Institute

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
Nationally significant are those assets, facilities and highly skilled personnel that enable delivery of Australia's National Science and Research Priorities by providing services only possible through large size and scale that together support leading-edge research and innovation with real world impact.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 11:31 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm397d1f74f081103d31e33]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
Melanie

Last Name
Rug

Organisation
Centre for Advanced Microscopy-ANU

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

The Centre for Advanced Microscopy (CAM) is delighted to see the increased prominence of the highly-skilled personnel in the definition. Working across industry and academia, CAM staff and management know how important a skilled workforce is for government, industry, medical research institutes and university partners to access knowledge and results from our facilities.

Despite the fact that NRI defines the NATIONAL research infrastructure landscape, it is important to realise that the majority of highest impact outcomes are enabled by workhorse instruments which support nationally and internationally significant research. Therefore, we propose that 'national significance' does not necessarily sit with the instrumentation but rather the research topics that are enabled by essential instruments, analytical tools and the highly skilled workforce that is mentioned here. Coordination between NRI funding bodies (e.g. ARC LIEF LIEF (or its successor for RI funding), MRFF Infrastructure, NCRIS) needs to be undertaken to identify which types of instruments will be which program. So far, replacing workhorse instruments that support highest impact research has been neglected and needs to be included in funding schemes to guarantee continuity in world-class research support.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 11:31 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm399177758be17ce51a318]

Title
Prof

First Name
Michael

Last Name
Haugh

Organisation
Language Data Commons of Australia (LDaCA)

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

The proposed definition is appropriate but the term 'nationally significant' requires elaboration.

The Language Data Commons of Australia is developing nationally significant research infrastructure to secure 'nationally significant' language materials/data for research and translational use. We define 'nationally significant' in the following ways:

Nationally significant research infrastructure refers to capabilities, facilities, datasets, or services whose value, impact, or strategic importance extends across the entire national research system, and which are essential to enabling research that individual institutions cannot deliver on their own.

Nationally significant data refers to data assets that underpin priority national research areas, inform whole-of-country policy or planning, or represent irreplaceable cultural, environmental, social, or economic information requiring long-term protection, coordinated governance, and sustained national investment.

In the LDaCA Collections Strategy the term "Nationally Significant Language Data" refers to collections of language data that hold cultural, historical or practical importance at a national level for linguistic and humanities work. LDaCA's mission is to ensure that these valuable resources are preserved, accessible and usable for research, education and community purposes. This includes adhering to the FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) and CARE (Collective Benefit, Authority to Control,

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Responsibility, Ethics) principles to manage and share data in a culturally and ethically appropriate manner.

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187

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 11:25 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm399171bf4accf9bb10033]

Title
Dr

First Name
Nian

Last Name
Jiang

Organisation
Astralis

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

Astralis supports the inclusion of highly skilled personnel within the updated definition of NRI. This acknowledgement reflects the reality that infrastructure impact is inseparable from the expertise that designs, operates, maintains and evolves it. The addition strengthens the definition, acknowledges the critical role professional staff play in national capabilities, and aligns Australia with global peers who are increasingly recognising workforce as core infrastructure capacity.

As a case study, although workforce is not explicitly referenced in UKRI's Infrastructure: Opportunities to Grow our Capability Report (2023), the UK has addressed this through the UK Technician Commitment, a dedicated national program to recognise, develop and retain research technical talent. The ESFRI Roadmap 2026 Public Guide similarly embeds human capability within its definition of research infrastructure, affirming that equipment and facilities alone are not sufficient to deliver excellence. Australia's revised definition should reflect this same principle clearly and deliberately.

Finally, a refined definition must be paired with implementation strategies and protocols to ensure clarity and consistency across NRI investment.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 11:23 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm399136e2b1e140a7d663d]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
Melanie

Last Name
Rug

Organisation
Australian Microscopy and Microanalysis Society

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

The Australian Microscopy and Microanalysis Society (AMMS) welcomes the increased prominence of the highly-skilled personnel in the definition. Working across industry and academia, the Society frequently hears how important expertise is in accessing knowledge and results from the facilities that are located across government, industry, medical research institutes and university partners.

As the National Research Infrastructure roadmap is developed, it is important to improve clarity regarding various funding sources that comprise NRI, which could include ARC LIEF (or its successor for RI funding), MRFF Infrastructure, NCRIS, CSIRO, ANSTO, Trailblazers, Australian Economic Accelerators, CRCs, and medical research institutes. The NRI Roadmap goes beyond the NCRIS capabilities.

Despite the fact that NRI defines the NATIONAL research infrastructure landscape, it is important to realise that the majority of highest impact outcomes are enabled by 'workhorse' instruments which support nationally and internationally significant research. Hence, we propose a description closer to the one that UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) put forward of "major tools...., facilities and highly-skilled personnel that are essential to achieve excellence in research and innovation'. Microscopy Australia recently advised AMMS that from their participating institutions, close to 80% of electron microscopes will reach end of life within the next five years. There needs to be a clear coordination of which types of instruments will be supported by which funding schemes. So far, replacing workhorse instruments that support highest impact research has been neglected and needs to move to 'centre stage'.

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When considering support for distributed NRIs, travel and access support should be part of the NRI programs to ensure that researchers can access the cutting-edge nationally significant capabilities and expertise across the various sites.

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185

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 11:23 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm399170315ee119491fd00]

Title
Mr

First Name
Dale

Last Name
Holland

Organisation
The Australian National University

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The definition is sufficient as drafted and further elaboration may reduce clarity.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 11:16 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm399168a9b1e57492267b5]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
Ron

Last Name
Hackney

Organisation
Australian and New Zealand International Scientific Drilling Consortium (an AuScope project)

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
In recognising that some research infrastructure accessed by Australians is not located within Australia, it would be appropriate to adjust the definition to capture the opportunity for access to international research infrastructure. An example of this kind of international research infrastructure is access to scientific drilling capabilities for sub-surface sampling provided by Australian membership in international programs such as the International Ocean Drilling program and International Continental Scientific Drilling Program.

Suggested edit:
"NRI comprises the nationally significant assets and facilities, including those accessed internationally, and highly-skilled personnel providing services that together support leading-edge research and innovation. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 11:07 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3991613a7de541176e92f]

Title
Ms

First Name
Toni

Last Name
Moate

Organisation
Marine National Facility - CSIRO

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The Marine National Facility (MNF) supports the proposed change to the definition of National Research Infrastructure (NRI) in the 2026 Roadmap because it better reflects the realities of modern research infrastructure delivery. Including highly skilled personnel alongside assets and facilities acknowledges that expertise is fundamental to operating and innovating infrastructure, ensuring its full value is realised. The clarification that NRI may be single-sited, virtual, or distributed is critical in an era of digital platforms and interconnected systems, while maintaining accessibility and national significance as core principles.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 10:39 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398da85188f03df1b7905]

Title
Prof

First Name
Alastair

Last Name
Stewart

Organisation
ARC Industry training Centre for Micropysiological Systems Technology

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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180

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 10:36 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3991453864cc4e7706f33]

Title
Prof

First Name
Jenny

Last Name
Fisher

Organisation
James Cook University

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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179

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 10:30 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39913f1a31ccd6b84653c]

Title
Dr

First Name
Judith

Last Name
Bishop

Organisation
La Trobe University - School of Humanities and Social Sciences

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
Absolutely, it is essential to define 'nationally significant'. The European definition is far better than the UK one in many respects, including that it does not begin with the mention of scientific infrastructure as though it were the default kind, and in the way that it does foreground the importance of human resources to manage and run infrastructure effectively.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 10:26 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39913b9869cc85c02017d]

Title
Dr

First Name
Gillian

Last Name
Brown

Organisation
Council Heads of Australasian Herbaria

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities, biological collections with historical, cultural, and scientific significance, and highly-skilled personnel providing services that together support leading-edge research and innovation. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 10:22 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3991384dd5e58028804c5]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
Roger

Last Name
Osborne

Organisation
Association for the Study of Australian Literature

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
Yes, there should be a definition of nationally significant NRI. This could include longevity, investment, and use-values, including usage statistics that indicate advances in pedagogy and research.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 10:10 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm397264aefcbbc4e2b08d]

Title
Prof

First Name
Daniel

Last Name
Angus

Organisation
ARC Centre of Excellence for Automated Decision Making & Society

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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175

Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 10:04 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm399126fb91e52e229ab14]

Title
Dr

First Name
Tom

Last Name
McGoram

Organisation
Heavy Ion Accelerators

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities and highly-skilled personnel providing services that together support leading-edge research and innovation. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed.

'Nationally significant' NRI means infrastructure which:

- Serves researchers across the whole country, not just one institution or state.
- Addresses priorities of national importance, such as scientific capability, health, environment, energy, or industry innovation.
- Enables research excellence that would otherwise be impossible due to cost, complexity, or required expertise.
- Supports multiple disciplines or sectors, rather than a single research project.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 09:49 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39911a1ff7e15a45fd1fb]

Title

Mr

First Name

Anupam

Last Name

Pilli

Organisation

The Australian National University Institute for Space

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

Yes. The definition should more clearly articulate what constitutes national significance and explicitly recognise standards-aligned, industry-facing, and translation-enabling capabilities as part of NRI.

Infrastructure may be nationally significant when it:

- supports priorities of national importance;
- provides standards-aligned and interoperable services; and
- is accessible to researchers, industry, and government across Australia, and internationally.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 09:34 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39910c60c1e11e10b2b57]

Title

Dr

First Name

Xiujuan

Last Name

Yang

Organisation

Adelaide University

In what capacity are you responding?

An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

No

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 08:55 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3990e87efacccc0aad251]

Title
Prof

First Name
Coral

Last Name
Warr

Organisation
La Trobe University

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 08:50 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3990e4457ee562298dc0b]

Title
Dr

First Name
Lisa

Last Name
Yen

Organisation
Microscopy Australia

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

“NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities and highly-skilled personnel providing services that together support leading-edge research and innovation. It is openly accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally. NRI is collaborative and strategically delivered for national benefit, and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed.”

Microscopy Australia supports the revised definition. However, clarity between the scope of the 2026 NRI Roadmap and the scope of NCRIS is critical. In considering the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS), it's essential that two principles of the name are upheld: collaborative (not individual or project-based) and strategy (not competitive grants). The purpose of NCRIS is to support national (both in scale and significance) research infrastructure with lasting legacy and impact. The national collaborative strategy of NCRIS must be preserved.

The additions to the definition are helpful to encompass the variety of NRI models, such as single-site and distributed, as well as virtual infrastructures. It is noted that this definition doesn't readily map onto previous NRI categories: institutional, national, landmark and global. For distributed NRIs, travel and access support should be part of the NRI programs to ensure that researchers can access the cutting-edge nationally significant capabilities and expertise across the various sites.

Further clarification regarding the definition of nationally significant, in terms of capacity, uniqueness, sovereign capability, and impact may assist in the identification and

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prioritisation of NRI. It's critical that nationally significant investments demonstrate national need, purpose and outcomes, and the requirement to support collaborative strategic outcomes.

The use of 'openly accessible' is encouraged in the second sentence, as this captures the spirit of the NCRIS program, which aims to deliver NRI for all, rather than the more passive 'accessible' as currently written.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 04:17 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398ef443d9f07b3c19411]

Title
Dr

First Name
Beryl

Last Name
Morris

Organisation
TERN Australia

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

TERN supports the proposed definition's emphasis on highly-skilled personnel and national accessibility. However, we recommend strengthening the definition to explicitly recognise the unique public good nature of certain national research infrastructures, particularly those operating at continental scale over extended timeframes.

Recommended enhancement:

We suggest adding clarifying language that recognises national significance includes infrastructure providing non-excludable public goods where:

- The infrastructure serves fundamental national interests in environmental sustainability, biosecurity, or sovereign capability
- Benefits accrue broadly across research, industry, policy, and international communities
- No single commercial entity has incentive to fund operations due to non-excludable benefits to competitors
- Long-term continuity and continental-scale operations are essential to the infrastructure's utility
- Government investment is the only viable mechanism to sustain operations

Rationale:

Continental-scale, long-term ecosystem observatories exemplify this category of NRI. TERN's multi-decadal, continent-wide environmental monitoring generates data and insights that benefit all Australians—researchers, policy makers, industries, and international partners alike. Because these benefits are non-excludable, no individual business or industry sector will invest in maintaining such capability, as competitors

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(including international ones) would equally benefit. This creates a classic market failure that only government investment can address.

The current definition's reference to "accessible to publicly and privately funded users" captures the accessibility principle but does not adequately convey why certain infrastructure requires ongoing public investment despite serving industry needs. Clarifying this aspect will strengthen strategic decision-making about which capabilities constitute genuine NRI requiring sustained Commonwealth support.

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Mon, Dec 8, 2025, 01:07 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398f3bd937a6b79f69d8f]

Title
Dr

First Name
Nicholas

Last Name
Condon

Organisation
The University of Queensland

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Sun, Dec 7, 2025, 11:41 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398e90209751585595b03]

Title
Prof

First Name
Roslyn

Last Name
Francis

Organisation
Australasian Radiopharmaceutical Trials Network

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The addition of 'personnel providing services' is a key capability for research infrastructure, and the emphasis on 'together' highlights the importance of collaboration to achieve high impact in research and innovation.

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Sun, Dec 7, 2025, 10:32 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398ea9b0b1a60df4b6d38]

Title
Mr

First Name
Mark

Last Name
Stickells

Organisation
Pawsey Supercomputing Research Centre (Pawsey) and the National Compute Infrastructure (NCI) through Prof Andrew Rohl

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The additional bold text is supported. The inclusion of “highly-skilled personnel” is important as it reflects the extensive expertise across NRI who enable and enhance the impact NRI is able to achieve. The expansion of the definition to include “single-sited, virtual or distributed” is reflective of the changed and expanded nature of NRI in the five years since the original definition was established.

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Sun, Dec 7, 2025, 09:48 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398e8628bff06300fd5a4]

Title
Dr

First Name
Tom

Last Name
May

Organisation
Taxonomy Australia

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Sun, Dec 7, 2025, 07:23 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398e0183e751ea6b08ed2]

Title
Dr

First Name
Louise

Last Name
Ludlow

Organisation
Australasian Biospecimen Network Association (ABNA)

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Sun, Dec 7, 2025, 07:03 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398deed948518d4fe8bf4]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
Jennie

Last Name
Hui

Organisation
Busselton Population Medical Research Institute Inc

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
Elaborate on the meaning of "nationally significant" assets, facilities etc. Suggest including major equipment and instrument suites, population cohorts, computing systems, communication networks, and knowledge-based assets such as biobanks (both physical and virtual) and scientific data platforms, supported by specialised human expertise.

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Sun, Dec 7, 2025, 06:55 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398de79a7d51500e5acc6]

Title
Prof

First Name
Alan

Last Name
James

Organisation
The Busselton Population Medical Research Institute

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

NRI comprises the nationally significant assets including major scientific equipment (or sets of instruments), knowledge-based resources | |such as biobanks, longitudinal population studies, archives and scientific data| |, e-infrastructures such as data and computing systems and communication networks, facilities and highly-skilled personnel providing services that together support leading-edge research and innovation. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed.

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Sun, Dec 7, 2025, 05:24 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398d948feda617e0fb91e]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
Branka

Last Name
Miljevic

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

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155

Sun, Dec 7, 2025, 05:21 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398d913dc0f004ca459dc]

Title
Dr

First Name
Kieran

Last Name
O'Brien

Organisation
Siemens Healthcare Pty Ltd

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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154

Sun, Dec 7, 2025, 03:24 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398d2652075171501e502]

Title
Prof

First Name
Wojtek

Last Name
Goscinski

Organisation
National Imaging Facility

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The National Imaging Facility (NIF) is supportive of the proposed definition.

The explicit recognition of highly skilled personnel as a core component of research infrastructure appropriately reflects the critical role of expertise in delivering and sustaining national capability.

The inclusion of single-sited, virtual and distributed forms of infrastructure acknowledges the diversity of models through which national-scale research capability is delivered, and the increasing importance of digitally enabled and distributed approaches.

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152

Sun, Dec 7, 2025, 10:20 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398c1064965170f3eef56]

Title
Dr

First Name
Scientific Services

Last Name
at QIMR Berghofer

Organisation
QIMR Berghofer

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Issues Paper Consultation Survey
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150

Sat, Dec 6, 2025, 07:38 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3988e87ee350e3b8a9029]

Title
Dr

First Name
Manodeep

Last Name
Sinha

Organisation
RSE-AUNZ

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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149

Sat, Dec 6, 2025, 02:16 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3987c15f4550a58897c39]

Title
Prof

First Name
Nicole

Last Name
Pratt

Organisation
University of South Australia

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Issues Paper Consultation Survey
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148

Fri, Dec 5, 2025, 05:07 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398336db57e6c0ddb4fe3]

Title
Mr

First Name
Ralph

Last Name
Marszalek

Organisation
The University of Queensland

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 Roadmap is broadly appropriate. However, we note further that:

- Highly skilled personnel are the single most important component of the NRI, and may be better recognised at the front of the list of components, i.e., "NRI comprises the highly-skilled personnel providing services, nationally significant assets, and facilities that together..."
- The NRI also consists of unique and/or well-curated pipelines and workflows that create important synergies from individual investments. There may be some virtue in integrating this into the definition in some way.

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147

Fri, Dec 5, 2025, 04:59 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398330b328e6155558489]

Title
Dr

First Name
Chris

Last Name
Hatherly

Organisation
Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia supports the updated definition of NRI, particularly the emphasis on highly skilled personnel and distributed infrastructures. However, we recommend elaborating "nationally significant" to explicitly include infrastructures that enable equitable access, that embed where relevant Indigenous Data Governance principles, and that enable interdisciplinary collaboration by design. This would ensure that NRI encompasses both technical assets and governance frameworks that safeguard culturally sensitive data, promote diversity, and deliver broad societal benefit.

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146

Fri, Dec 5, 2025, 04:52 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398329e070806c00062d7]

Title
Dr

First Name
Jane

Last Name
Fitzpatrick

Organisation
Australian National Fabrication Facility Ltd

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The proposed definition is good. We support the expanded reference to the workforce. However, the extension to mention single, sited, virtual or distributed seems overkill and does not really add much to the definition or the understanding of NRI. That said it is also not detrimental to the definition.

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143

Fri, Dec 5, 2025, 03:35 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3982e3666a50d97ac5c10]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
James

Last Name
Riches

Organisation
Queensland University of Technology

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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142

Fri, Dec 5, 2025, 02:50 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3981f31cd0e67e95889dc]

Title
Dr

First Name
Alexander

Last Name
Cooke

Organisation
Astronomy Australia Ltd

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
We agree the definition should be modified along the lines of what is proposed.

We particularly support the inclusion in the term 'NRI' the personnel that support NRI, not just the assets, facilities and services.

We would also suggest that, accompanying the definition of NRI, the Roadmap be clear about the scope of what is supported and considered through the NRI Roadmap versus other mechanisms. Historically, NCRIS/NRI Roadmaps have excluded Landmark-scale and Global facilities, which has assumed that consideration of investments in these areas will take place through separate processes. This has led to fragmentation of investment across portfolios when synergies would have delivered stronger outcomes.

We suggest that the understanding of NRI be framed in line with the Brisbane Statement, agreed between the European Commission and Australia and endorsed at the 2024 International Conference on Research Infrastructures (ICRI), which says "Research Infrastructures (RIs) constitute major strategic assets across all scientific disciplines, research fields and national, regional, and global scales".

In other words, RI can be landmark or global in scale while still being "nationally significant". In the case of astronomy assets, Australia's astronomy science needs are met by access to more international scale facilities.

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Finally, we suggest clarifying in the Roadmap that these assets are ‘nationally significant’ because they don’t just support research needs but often underpin critical national priorities and capabilities beyond research. To take one example, a number of radio astronomy assets such as the Long Baseline Array provide geodetic data that are crucial for positioning, navigation and timing (PNT) that are critical for earth observation, geospatial references and other activity that the Australian economy relies on. The NRI Roadmap could reference these activities in expanding on the notion of ‘significant’.

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141

Fri, Dec 5, 2025, 02:48 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3982b8b8a3e68b43e908b]

Title
Ms

First Name
Molly

Last Name
Ireland

Organisation
CSIRO

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The definition could be modified to explicitly include digital assets, to assist in ensuring that digital scientific and research infrastructure is at top of mind in future infrastructure discussions. A suggestion is to say: NRI comprises the nationally significant digital and physical assets, facilities, and ...

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Fri, Dec 5, 2025, 02:47 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3982b803db50713b345cc]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
Heath

Last Name
Pardoe

Organisation
Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
Suggest removing terms like "nationally significant", "highly skilled", "leading edge". They are subjective and and non-specific.

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Fri, Dec 5, 2025, 01:10 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39825e8f3950d1094bd31]

Title
Prof

First Name
Pieter

Last Name
Eichhorn

Organisation
Curtin University

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
Curtin University supports the proposed definition of National Research Infrastructure (NRI) and particularly welcomes the explicit recognition that NRI encompasses not only physical facilities. We recommend changing the text to indicate that single site, distributed or virtual refers to platforms or capabilities, "... and comprise national shared platforms that are single site, distributed at multiple sites, or virtual in form. " Greater clarification of the term national significance may also be required, "Clarifying national significance is essential to ensure the definition captures the full breadth of infrastructure needed to drive Australia's research and innovation system. Nationally significant infrastructure should be defined by its contribution to sovereign capability, translational pathways, industry collaboration and broad economic, community and societal benefit, whether delivered as single-site, multi-site or virtual platforms."

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Fri, Dec 5, 2025, 12:20 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398231003850a8f169472]

Title
Mr

First Name
Andrew

Last Name
Gilbert

Organisation
Bioplatforms Australia

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

- National research infrastructure includes nationally significant assets, facilities, data systems, digital platforms and skilled personnel that enable research and innovation at a scale, quality or cost that most individual organisations cannot sustain alone.
- NRI is broadly accessible to the breadth of the innovation system, ranging from research focused on development of fundamental knowledge through to industry and commerce.
- NRI is strategically deployable to opportunities and challenges of national significance in a manner that transcends individual institutions interests and remits.
- It is nationally significant when it serves many users, multiple sectors over the long term, requiring long term planning, coordination and stewardship.

Why this definition helps

- It makes 'nationally significant' clearer by pointing to scale, shared need and public value.
- It recognises data infrastructure and digital systems as core components.
- It keeps skilled personnel visible as a core part of NRI.
- It highlights long-term stewardship and coordination.
- It notes the need for standards and interoperability.

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135

Fri, Dec 5, 2025, 12:10 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398228310d80ed703cc9b]

Title
Dr

First Name
Andre

Last Name
Zerger

Organisation
Atlas of Living Australia

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

The Atlas of Living Australia supports the proposed change to the definition of National Research Infrastructure (NRI) in the 2026 Roadmap because it better reflects the realities of modern research infrastructure delivery. Including highly skilled personnel alongside assets and facilities acknowledges that expertise is fundamental to operating and innovating infrastructure, ensuring its full value is realised. The clarification that NRI may be single-sited, virtual, or distributed is critical in an era of digital platforms and interconnected systems, while maintaining accessibility and national significance as core principles.

It is helpful that the definition recognises the importance of distributed infrastructure. For example, in the biological collections sector, smaller, targeted infrastructure investments (e.g., digitisation equipment for herbaria and museums) combined with investment in skills can deliver significant benefits for many years, with minimal further capital outlay. Such sectors are well-suited to providing national capability, coordinated through a federated model.

This updated definition strengthens Australia's ability to deliver leading-edge research, supports workforce sustainability, and positions our NRI system to remain globally competitive and responsive to emerging needs.

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134

Fri, Dec 5, 2025, 11:56 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm396f5493c5167e1dc815f]

Title
Dr

First Name
Liisa

Last Name
Hirvonen

Organisation
The University of Western Australia

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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133

Fri, Dec 5, 2025, 11:33 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm398206314de66e6752381]

Title
Prof

First Name
Jacek

Last Name
Jasieniak

Organisation
Monash University

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

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131

Fri, Dec 5, 2025, 11:01 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3981e88586e696a318624]

Title
Dr

First Name
Adam

Last Name
Chrimes

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
Nationally significant should align with the National Science and Research Priorities in order to create a cohesive ecosystem with a shared mission and vision.

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128

Fri, Dec 5, 2025, 09:39 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39819d7979e62fb03bec2]

Title
Ms

First Name
Louise

Last Name
Soroka

Organisation
Geoscience Australia

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

NRI comprises nationally significant capabilities, assets, facilities and highly-skilled personnel providing services that collectively support leading-edge research and innovation. NRI includes major scientific equipment, knowledge-based resources such as collections, archives and scientific data, e-infrastructure such as data and computing systems and communication networks, and other essential research tools. National significance is demonstrated by infrastructure's contribution to national priorities, international leadership, and accessibility to public and private users.

Rationale for the addition: this extra sentence more explicitly acknowledges the value of 'legacy' physical and data collections as a foundation for research, as well as instruments and e-technologies. This addition also aligns with the UK and EU definitions of NRI.

Addition of "capabilities" (e.g., AuScope, Pawsey, NCI not exclusively assets or facilities) to strengthen definition

Provide clarity on eligibility, particularly for publicly-funded users (e.g. are non-Corporate Commonwealth entities eligible?).

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Thu, Dec 4, 2025, 07:25 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm397e8fc6db814b4e540f9]

Title
Prof

First Name
Ricardo

Last Name
Ruiz Baier

Organisation
MoCaO (Mathematics of Computation and Optimisation)

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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125

Thu, Dec 4, 2025, 04:30 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm397def758f81209358393]

Title
Dr

First Name
Felicity

Last Name
Flack

Organisation
Population Health Research Network

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The terms "assets, facilities and highly-skilled personnel" might undersell knowledge-based and digital infrastructures – e.g., collections, archives, data repositories, and software platforms, which are all central to contemporary research ecosystems.

While national significance is implied, it may benefit from a short phrase specifying that significance is tied to the scale, uniqueness, or strategic importance of the infrastructure. This would reinforce the rationale for inclusion in the national roadmap.

Proposed refined version:
NRI comprises facilities, assets, knowledge-based and digital resources, and highly skilled personnel of national significance, meaning they are of strategic importance, provide unique or high-impact capabilities not otherwise available in Australia, and serve research and innovation communities nationally. Together, they provide services that support leading-edge research and innovation. NRI is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed.

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124

Thu, Dec 4, 2025, 04:29 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm397def151f95da3caaf8d]

Title
Ms

First Name
Annette

Last Name
Wittmann

Organisation
EMBL Australia

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
NRI comprises the nationally significant physical or digital capability, international partnerships and highly-skilled personnel providing services that together support leading-edge research and innovation in Australia. NRI is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed.

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Thu, Dec 4, 2025, 03:02 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm396e4ae605224424c4aef]

Title
Prof

First Name
Janet

Last Name
McCalman

Organisation
University of Melbourne

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Department of Education

120

Thu, Dec 4, 2025, 01:50 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm397d5da32699f95714685]

Title
Mr

First Name
Ezra

Last Name
Fass

Organisation
Royal Children's Hospital / MCRI

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Department of Education

119

Thu, Dec 4, 2025, 01:46 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm397d59dbba99256c42aab]

Title
Prof

First Name
Clare

Last Name
Murphy

Organisation
University of Wollongong

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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118

Thu, Dec 4, 2025, 12:28 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm397d11e27599585149734]

Title

Other: "-"

First Name

Anthony

Last Name

Pisani

Organisation

School of Mathematics, Monash University

In what capacity are you responding?

An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

No

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117

Thu, Dec 4, 2025, 11:43 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm397ce8df6e998dff2a643]

Title
Dr

First Name
Tara

Last Name
Martin

Organisation
Tasmanian Department of State Growth

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
We suggest modifications to the definition of NRI.

We support the proposed updated definition, however in line with the UKRI definition, suggest that there is an opportunity to draw out the importance of collections to our national research.

Collections are a key source of raw data and information used in Australian R&D. The Council of Australian Museum Directors (CAMD) represents 24 major museums in Australia and New Zealand. CAMD's collections total 75 million items (2021-22), with the majority items representing natural science (geology, flora and fauna). The diversity of these collections goes much further.

It is critical that Australia's museum and herbarium collections are recognised for their value to research in the science and the humanities and that they are addressed directly as a significant element of Australia's National Research Infrastructure.

We propose the wording:
NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities, collections and highly skilled personnel providing services that together support leading-edge research and innovation. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed.

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116

Thu, Dec 4, 2025, 11:25 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm397cd8bed8953348ddf10]

Title
Dr

First Name
Michelle

Last Name
Heupel

Organisation
Integrated Marine Observing System

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

The modified definition of NRI has the important inclusion of highly-skilled personnel which is an essential element of successful infrastructure programs. We feel this is a strong and important addition to the definition. In contrast, the addition of "single-sited, virtual or distributed" seems unnecessarily descriptive and not required. The important point is that the NRI is leading research and innovation and is available, the delivery mechanism is far less relevant and doesn't need to be included here.

Finally, the definition would benefit from the inclusion of a descriptor related to duration or sustainability. One of the things that sets NRI apart from other research projects/initiatives is that it is stable, secure, mature and trusted. Other projects are typically funded for 3-4 years and can be ephemeral. NRI must be stable and sustainable to facilitate partnership and buy-in from industry, governments, and others- noting that sustained does not mean permanent.

Suggested modifications:

NRI comprises sustained nationally significant assets, facilities and highly-skilled personnel providing services that together support leading-edge research and innovation. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally.

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115

Thu, Dec 4, 2025, 09:29 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm397c6dd2e195d3774a130]

Title
Dr

First Name
Alec

Last Name
Jamieson

Organisation
The University of Melbourne

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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114

Thu, Dec 4, 2025, 04:02 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm397b428cb099d2fcc66bd]

Title
Prof

First Name
Aidan

Last Name
Sims

Organisation
Australian Mathematical Society

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Department of Education

113

Wed, Dec 3, 2025, 06:25 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39792905569936aa08e5b]

Title
Mr

First Name
Stephen

Last Name
Forbes

Organisation
Council of Australasian Museum Directors

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Department of Education

112

Wed, Dec 3, 2025, 02:24 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm397856217199ab8358a19]

Title
Prof

First Name
Frank

Last Name
Bongiorno

Organisation
Council for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Department of Education

111

Wed, Dec 3, 2025, 01:57 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39783d862595ce06811cb]

Title
Prof

First Name
Rufus

Last Name
Black

Organisation
University of Tasmania

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

The University of Tasmania supports the proposed definition of National Research Infrastructure (NRI) and welcomes the inclusion of "highly skilled personnel" as a critical enabler. Personnel expertise is foundational to the productivity, relevance, and impact of NRI and should be clearly recognised.

We also support the clarification that NRI may be single-sited, virtual, or distributed. We recommend replacing "virtual" with "digital" to align with terminology used throughout the consultation paper and the National Digital Research Infrastructure Strategy. "Digital" better reflects contemporary platforms, including trusted data environments, virtual research environments, and AI-enabled systems.

To strengthen clarity, we recommend elaborating on "nationally significant" to include infrastructure that:

- Enables research aligned with national priorities and challenges (e.g., climate, health, Indigenous knowledge systems, productivity, defence, biodiversity), or leverages Australia's unique geography (e.g., proximity to Antarctica and the Southern Ocean as a globally significant research frontier).
- Demonstrates scale, uniqueness, or essential regional coverage not achievable at local or institutional levels.
- Supports research excellence and innovation with demonstrable impact across disciplines and sectors.
- Is accessible to publicly and privately funded users and promotes equitable access across regions, communities, and underrepresented groups.

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- Embeds principles of responsible research, including Indigenous Data Sovereignty, ethical governance, and environmental sustainability.

Suggested revised definition: National Research Infrastructure comprises nationally significant assets, facilities, trusted digital and data environments, and highly skilled personnel that together enable leading-edge research and innovation. National significance is demonstrated through alignment with national priorities, unique capability, essential regional coverage, or contribution to key research communities. Infrastructure may be physical, digital, or distributed, and must be accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally.

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110

Wed, Dec 3, 2025, 01:52 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3978388a2095c264d967e]

Title
Prof

First Name
Grainne

Last Name
Moran

Organisation
University of New South Wales

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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109

Wed, Dec 3, 2025, 10:31 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm397780f30c953d91f361f]

Title
Dr

First Name
Georgina

Last Name
Kennedy

Organisation
SPHERE Cancer Clinical Academic Group

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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108

Wed, Dec 3, 2025, 10:28 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39777d87af95d6f30425d]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
Linda

Last Name
Pfeiffer

Organisation
CQ University - School of Education and Arts

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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107

Tue, Dec 2, 2025, 06:04 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3973f8f892cb649f3e99b]

Title
Dr

First Name
Beth

Last Name
Caruana

Organisation
NSW Health Statewide Biobank

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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106

Tue, Dec 2, 2025, 05:27 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3973d7488b433b848c2ca]

Title
Dr

First Name
Jeff

Last Name
Christiansen

Organisation
Australian BioCommons

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

Australian BioCommons supports the proposal to vary the definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap to explicitly include the HIGHLY SKILLED PERSONNEL who provide services that TOGETHER support leading edge research. Our team members are all highly skilled professionals and without them, the hard infrastructure would not be able to function in a usable state, nor would researchers be able to harness the infrastructure appropriately or to full advantage. Further commentary is provided in the Research Infrastructure Workforce question below.

As an example of virtual, distributed infrastructure, Australian BioCommons also welcomes the inclusion that explicitly acknowledges NRI can be VIRTUAL OR DISTRIBUTED, as well as single-sited.

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104

Tue, Dec 2, 2025, 12:29 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3972c63b27166591059df]

Title
Ms

First Name
Kim

Last Name
Mintern-Lane

Organisation
Stawell Underground Physics Laboratory (SUPL)

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
SUPL supports the proposed definition though recommends that reference to underpinning sovereign capability is introduced.

For example:
NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities and highly-skilled personnel providing services that together support leading-edge research and innovation which underpin sovereign capability. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed.

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Tue, Dec 2, 2025, 11:14 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm397281531343b45484cab]

Title
Dr

First Name
Tony

Last Name
Willis

Organisation
Australian Council of Deans of Science

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
ACDS considers the proposed definition broadly appropriate but believes it requires further clarity.

Key points:

- "National significance" should be defined by scale, uniqueness, researcher demand and the inefficiency of duplication.
- The definition should explicitly include single site, distributed, virtual, and digital forms of NRI.
- ACDS urges stronger emphasis on equitable (as distinct from equal) access, ensuring that regional and smaller institutions can meaningfully participate.
- NRI must support both long-term foundational research and strategic national priorities.
- The explicit inclusion of skilled personnel is welcome and should remain.
- Some research infrastructure is of global significance in the sense that Australia as a nation is uniquely placed to host the infrastructure by virtue of Australia's unique location, continental scale, and diversity of local environments. We have a global responsibility alongside national priorities, particularly as our own researchers are often required to visit overseas facilities to access infrastructure and associated expertise necessary to progress Australian research.

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101

Mon, Dec 1, 2025, 06:01 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm396ed0576b16ce2ba1504]

Title
Dr

First Name
Olga

Last Name
Shimoni

Organisation
RNA Innovation Foundry at The University of Western Australia

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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100

Mon, Dec 1, 2025, 05:59 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm396ecdef181648253b818]

Title
Prof

First Name
Paul

Last Name
Roe

Organisation
James Cook University

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
National research infrastructure comprises nationally significant assets, facilities, data systems, platforms and highly skilled personnel required to operate, curate and govern them, that enable research and innovation of strategic importance to Australia's future. National significance includes infrastructure that supports research challenges unique to Australia's environment, population, geographies or industries; infrastructure that cannot reasonably be delivered by a single institution; and infrastructure that enables equitable participation across metropolitan, regional and remote settings. National research infrastructure is governed in ways that uphold Indigenous data sovereignty and contribute to Australia's national priorities, including sustainability, resilience and long-term capability building.

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99

Mon, Dec 1, 2025, 05:26 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm396eb0266116b672c4d40]

Title
Prof

First Name
Simone

Last Name
Warner

Organisation
Agriculture Victoria Research, Agriculture Victoria, Department of Energy, Environment
and Climate Action

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by
elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
Agriculture Victoria considers the NRI definition of nationally significant assets, facilities,
and skilled personnel aligns well with Victoria's agriculture research infrastructure model
comprising a research and innovation ecosystem, including AgriBio and five place-based
SmartFarms, and Agriculture Victoria's emphasis on scientific capability as a strategic
asset.

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Mon, Dec 1, 2025, 02:07 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm396df9a29622af60383fa]

Title
Prof

First Name
Keitha

Last Name
Dunstan

Organisation
Bond University

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

Bond University strongly supports a disciplined definition of National Research Infrastructure (NRI) focused on the physical and digital assets, facilities, and services that underpin Australia's research capability.

However, infrastructure delivers value only through the expertise of the people who design, operate, and sustain it. While highly skilled personnel are essential to the functionality, accessibility, and impact of NRI, embedding workforce considerations within the infrastructure definition itself risks diluting conceptual clarity. A dedicated workforce strategy offers a more targeted and sustainable approach.

Accordingly, Bond recommends that the Roadmap:

1. Retain a precise definition of NRI centred on assets, facilities, and services.
2. Acknowledge in supporting commentary the contribution of personnel in enabling the effective delivery and utilisation of infrastructure.
3. Develop a separate National Workforce Strategy that focuses on recruiting, retaining, and developing the specialist workforce that underpins NRI. This should establish sustainable career pathways, foster talent mobility across the national system, and ensure long term workforce resilience.

This approach provides clarity for infrastructure investment while ensuring Australia builds and retains the skilled workforce that powers its research future infrastructure is, fundamentally, powered by people.

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Mon, Dec 1, 2025, 01:21 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm396dcf486622686d9ef7a]

Title
Prof

First Name
Ivan

Last Name
Marusic

Organisation
The University of Melbourne

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
Yes. We recommend a minor refinement to improve clarity and reduce ambiguity:

Proposed definition
NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities and highly skilled personnel providing services that together support impactful research and innovation. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed.

We suggest replacing “leading-edge” with “impactful” because the term “leading-edge” is vague and subjective and can be interpreted differently across disciplines and infrastructure types. Without a clear and shared meaning, it may inadvertently create uncertainty about which capabilities qualify as NRI. “Impactful” better captures the intent: that infrastructure should enable high-quality research outcomes of national value, whether those outcomes arise from fundamental, enabling or frontier-level research.

We do not recommend defining “nationally significant” within the definition itself. Trying to specify it at this level risks narrowing the scope and reducing flexibility. It is more appropriate for “national significance” to be articulated through the Roadmap’s assessment criteria, operating principles and review cycles, where its meaning can adapt to evolving national priorities and research needs.

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Mon, Dec 1, 2025, 12:23 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm396d9ad72f6b34faff4af]

Title
Mr

First Name
Anthony

Last Name
Curro

Organisation
CRC for Developing NA

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

Northern Australia stands at the centre of several of Australia's most important national priorities: the net zero transition, emerging critical minerals and energy industries, regional security, food and bio-based manufacturing, and First Nations economic participation. These opportunities converge in a region characterised by vast distances, high operating costs, complex tenure, diverse ecologies and high proportions of First Nations land and sea ownership.

Since 2017, the CRCNA has served as northern Australia's dedicated research, innovation and industry development partner, delivering more than 100 collaborative R&D projects across agriculture, aquaculture, biosecurity, workforce capability, First Nations enterprise development, Defence support and enabling infrastructure. This body of work has provided the evidence base, partnerships and de-risking frameworks needed to catalyse new and emerging industries across the north.

The CRCNA strongly supports the IRG's submission to the NRI Roadmap consultation and agrees that NRI should be positioned as the measurement, coordination and learning backbone for long-term, place-based development in northern Australia. In particular, the CRCNA endorses the IRG's proposed establishment of the Northern Australia Indigenous Futures Observatory and Learning Infrastructure (NAIFOLI), a distributed capability designed to track production, incomes, assets, capability and resilience over generational timeframes.

This submission outlines how NRI investment can strengthen national capability in northern Australia by building on the CRCNA's proven model, supporting the IRG's proposed legacy metrics, and enabling emerging industries, First Nations economic development and regional resilience.

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Northern Australia requires coordinated, long-term research infrastructure due to structural market failures—limited data availability, high cost of service delivery, thin markets, climate extremes, fragmented regulatory environments and distance from major research institutions. The CRCNA has demonstrated that dedicated, place-based research capability is essential to unlock commercial opportunities, improve planning and biosecurity systems, and support First Nations-led development.

NRI can amplify and institutionalise this capability by:

- Supporting integrated, cross-sector, cross-jurisdictional data flows covering land, water, environment, education, training, employment, enterprise and infrastructure.
- Providing the technical backbone needed for long-horizon tracking of production, incomes, assets and capability, consistent with the IRG legacy framework.
- Lowering development risk through regional observatories, scenario tools, digital twins and integrated planning platforms.
- Enabling First Nations governance over data, evidence and local priorities.
- Strengthening sovereignty, supply chain resilience and strategic capability across Defence-relevant locations.

The CRCNA and proposed CNA support the updated definition of NRI but recommend clarifying what is meant by “nationally significant.” For regions such as northern Australia, where Net Zero, critical minerals, sovereign capability, environmental resilience and First Nations economic participation intersect, national significance must be defined not only by scientific excellence but by contribution to long-term national missions, regional productivity and Indigenous futures.

NRI should also reflect Australia’s shift toward long-horizon, mission-based planning by embedding intergenerational evidence requirements, capability-building and Indigenous data governance within the definition. This ensures NRI continues to support national priorities identified across broader policy reforms, including digital, AI, environmental and workforce strategies.

The definition should explicitly recognise that national significance may be achieved through single-sited, virtual or distributed infrastructures. For northern Australia, distributed capability is essential to support sovereign resilience, enable Indigenous-led governance and sustain evidence for national priorities operating across vast geographies. This approach keeps the definition fit for purpose and responsive to the national importance of regions like northern Australia.

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Mon, Dec 1, 2025, 12:19 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm396d96961c6b43a1e31ed]

Title
Mr

First Name
Nick

Last Name
Jenkins

Organisation
ARDC

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The second sentence is redundant since it encompasses every possible combination.
Nationally significant as a term of art should be replaced by "of national interest" allowing NCRIS facilities broader discretion to support significant research that is not necessarily funded by national grants, the current defacto test.

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Mon, Dec 1, 2025, 11:53 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm396d7f376122baf039725]

Title
Dr

First Name
Meredith

Last Name
Ross

Organisation
WEHI (Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research)

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

The revised definition is a significant improvement, especially with recognition of the highly skilled NRI workforce. We have three main suggestions to further refine the definition:

- The phrase “the nationally significant assets” implies that there is a clear definition of what these are. We suggest removing “the” and, rather than elaborating in on what the assets are currently, we believe it is more important to define (elsewhere) the process of how assets are designated as nationally significant during this review. A definition of this process is essential for good governance of the overall NRI scheme and would be a welcome outcome from this consultation.
- Reference to knowledge and intellectual property (IP) would better reflect the activities that this scheme aims to enable. The current definition mentions services, but we suggest that this is expanded to “services, knowledge and intellectual property”.
- Reference to long-term vision with infrastructure investment would set clearer intentions and timelines for the NRI scheme. We suggest including the phrase “operated for long-term public benefit” to set an intention that NRIs should focus on long-term societal impact and building capability in the sector.

We also note that, while the current definition is very inclusive, but it does not distinguish NRI from other more general research infrastructure. It also does not currently reference the National Research Priorities, which could be a guiding light for the process of deciding if an entity is a “nationally significant asset”.

Our suggested definition is therefore:

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NRI comprises nationally significant assets, facilities and highly-skilled personnel providing services, knowledge and intellectual property that together support leading-edge research and innovation. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally, operated for long-term public benefit and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed.

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Mon, Dec 1, 2025, 09:48 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm396d0c8e9d22fc1f44995]

Title
Dr

First Name
Owen

Last Name
Myles

Organisation
Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
ATSE supports the proposed updated definition of National Research Infrastructure, particularly noting the inclusion of virtual and distributed assets which are becoming increasingly relevant and impactful across science, research and innovation. Complex and interdisciplinary work means that data systems, shared and collaborative resources and the governance structures and rules that underlie these are vital infrastructure systems for many researchers. An example of such an approach is the National Energy Analysis Centre that operates a Systems Science Toolbox - a collection of datasets and analytical software based on a multi-energy framework - amongst other accessible research facilities. Simultaneously, the rise of artificial intelligence could have long-lasting benefits across multiple research fields. The inclusion of virtual and distributed resources in the new definition therefore makes NRI more responsive to the research ecosystem. A more detailed definition will also help create clarity in funding decisions, particularly for infrastructure that is considered landmark infrastructure with their own budget lines such as ANSTO. It may be helpful to define the difference between landmark infrastructure and national infrastructure.

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87

Mon, Dec 1, 2025, 09:08 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm396ce7c13522a99c08227]

Title
Dr

First Name
Bryan

Last Name
Lessard

Organisation
Society of Australian Systematic Biologists

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

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85

Sun, Nov 30, 2025, 07:09 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3969e6291affb16052315]

Title
Dr

First Name
Louise

Last Name
Winteringham

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
.....facilities and highly-skilled personnel providing services and access to resources such as collections and scientific data.....

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83

Sat, Nov 29, 2025, 06:05 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm396375f5554afdc3565fc]

Title
Dr

First Name
Tom

Last Name
Honeyman

Organisation
UNSW, Sydney

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities, highly skilled personnel as domain-specific or cross-cutting services that together support leading-edge research and innovation. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed.

This clarification ensures the definition explicitly encompasses foundational digital, computational and methodological capabilities as well as discipline-anchored infrastructures, without being overly prescriptive. Other considerations such as alignment with national priorities, competitive positioning and flexibility for proposers are more appropriately captured in guidance rather than in the core definition.

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80

Fri, Nov 28, 2025, 06:11 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm395f3ba815a967eab5982]

Title
Prof

First Name
Markus

Last Name
Barth

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Fri, Nov 28, 2025, 05:10 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm395f2e6aa5fff726ed524]

Title

Other: "Emeritus Professor"

First Name

Gottfried

Last Name

Otting

Organisation

The Australian National University

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

NMR spectrometers are a critical resource for chemical, biological and pharmaceutical research and very clearly 'nationally significant'. Their cost goes beyond the capacity of university or ARC grants to fund adequately. The difficulty of funding continued operation is a national concern. Recognition as national infrastructure is the only reasonable way of ensuring adequate support.

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77

Fri, Nov 28, 2025, 03:48 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm395ee3812ca9a123e303a]

Title
Dr

First Name
Louise

Last Name
Rabbitt

Organisation
Garvan Institute of Medical Research

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Fri, Nov 28, 2025, 01:09 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm395e51f0c8b3ceec5b763]

Title
Ms

First Name
Lucía

Last Name
Gamarra Cuba

Organisation
ARC Centre of Excellence for the Weather of the 21st Century

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities and highly skilled personnel that provide services that together support leading-edge research and innovation and enable world-leading research of high societal relevance across fields. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally who enjoy a coordinated and consolidated approach to infrastructure that fosters collaboration. It may be single-sited, virtual or distributed.

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Fri, Nov 28, 2025, 12:52 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm395e41c6755ec154d7fae]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
Kate

Last Name
Michie

Organisation
Australian Structural Biology Computing

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
National research infrastructure consists of nationally significant facilities, computing, governed data resources, software platforms and skilled personnel that work together as a coherent service across disciplines. It supports end-to-end workflows, from observation and data collection through analysis and validated models to application, and it provides transparent access to publicly and privately funded users. It may be single-site, virtual or distributed. Services operate to documented standards for quality, reproducibility, interoperability, security and environmental sustainability. It should support whole workflows that move from observation and data to validated models and designs, and then into practical use.

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Fri, Nov 28, 2025, 09:19 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm395d7e870c5e2bdd154e9]

Title

Other: "Coordinated response"

First Name

International Environment, Reef and Ocean Division

Last Name

DCCEEW

Organisation

DCCEEW - International Environment, Reef and Ocean Division

In what capacity are you responding?

A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

The updated definition would benefit from inclusion of a term that reflects the longer-term nature of NRI, as opposed to short-term investments in research assets, facilities and personnel, as this is one of the key benefits of strategic NRI funding.

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72

Thu, Nov 27, 2025, 03:16 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39599fa8483e73291aa89]

Title
Dr

First Name
Christopher

Last Name
Adda

Organisation
La Trobe University

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

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Thu, Nov 27, 2025, 01:53 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3959538c530f3d25ea13e]

Title
Dr

First Name
Edoardo

Last Name
Tescari

Organisation
Melbourne Data Analytics Platform (MDAP), The University of Melbourne

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

- It is not clear why the emphasis on “single-sited, virtual or distributed” is the element chosen to be carried across from the ESFRI definition? We think the elaboration on what constitutes NRI is more informative - particularly the explicit inclusion of collections/archives/data alongside physical infrastructure and workforce.
- Is there an opportunity to link the definition more explicitly to Australia’s National Science Statement (<https://www.industry.gov.au/publications/national-science-statement-2024>) in terms of explaining national significance?

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70

Thu, Nov 27, 2025, 01:36 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3959444d1b0ff1507c636]

Title
Prof

First Name
Michelle

Last Name
Arrow

Organisation
Australian Historical Association

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The AHA supports the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 Roadmap, but would emphasise that the inclusion of "skilled personnel" rightly recognises that people are an essential component of research infrastructure in Australia.

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67

Wed, Nov 26, 2025, 04:23 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3954b6d2071a5dbc40149]

Title
Prof

First Name
Kim

Last Name
Wilkins

Organisation
Faculty of HASS, University of Queensland

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
Issues Paper Consultation Survey
Department of Education

65

Wed, Nov 26, 2025, 10:13 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm395363c07d9c3527e7099]

Title
Prof

First Name
Kathryn

Last Name
McGrath

Organisation
The University of Technology Sydney

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The definition of "infrastructure" should be broadened, and should recognise that social, ethical and cultural infrastructures are equally essential to high-impact research alongside physical and technical infrastructure as they enable collaboration, trust and reciprocity.

An example definition may include the phrasing "NRI includes physical, digital and knowledge-based facilities and resources, including human resources". This phrasing would also align with existing UK and EU definitions regarding "physical and knowledge based resources".

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64

Tue, Nov 25, 2025, 05:22 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm394fc5ac0babda6537b60]

Title
Prof

First Name
Tim

Last Name
Marchant

Organisation
Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
Issues Paper Consultation Survey
Department of Education

63

Tue, Nov 25, 2025, 04:43 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm394fa29c4fabb33225d50]

Title
Dr

First Name
Trevor

Last Name
Steward

Organisation
University of Melbourne

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
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60

Tue, Nov 25, 2025, 02:30 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm394f28aa2199066df3466]

Title
Dr

First Name
Elena

Last Name
Schaller

Organisation
Animal-Free Science Advocacy

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

"NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities and highly skilled personnel providing services that together support leading-edge research and innovation that is environmentally sustainable and methodologically robust. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed."

The definition should explicitly incorporate environmental sustainability and responsible research practices as core criteria for NRI. International frameworks including the ESFRI Roadmap 2026 and the UKRI Environmental Sustainability Strategy now embed environmental and methodological responsibility into infrastructure planning. Australia should align with this global shift toward sustainable, evidence-based research.

'Nationally significant' should encompass infrastructure that:

- Demonstrates superior predictive value for human outcomes
- Supports Australia's economic competitiveness and sovereign capability
- Aligns with international best practice in responsible research
- Reduces resource intensity while improving research translation

This clarification would ensure NRI investment prioritises capabilities such as non-animal methods, which offer sustainability advantages through lower energy use and reduced resource requirements (Treherne & Langley 2021), while improving translational outcomes documented in CSIRO (Non-animal models 2023) and the WA Inquiry (Education and Health Standing Committee 2024).

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Department of Education

59

Tue, Nov 25, 2025, 12:01 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm394bf4e5ecb79b1d7cde6]

Title
Prof

First Name
Aidan

Last Name
Sims

Organisation
University of New South Wales

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
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58

Mon, Nov 24, 2025, 11:40 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm394bf9f867cafe81b2390]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
Brailey

Last Name
Sims

Organisation
University of Newcastle

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
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Department of Education

57

Mon, Nov 24, 2025, 07:34 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm394b18f288ca48e699a7a]

Title
Mr

First Name
Steven

Last Name
Tingay

Organisation
Murchison Widefield Array

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
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53

Mon, Nov 24, 2025, 01:28 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3949c9d9c4fb4628ece6c]

Title
Dr

First Name
Thomas

Last Name
Quella

Organisation
The University of Melbourne

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
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50

Mon, Nov 24, 2025, 11:59 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm394977df63fbac4c0f363]

Title
Prof

First Name
Ben

Last Name
Harrison

Organisation
Department of Psychiatry, The University of Melbourne

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
Issues Paper Consultation Survey
Department of Education

41

Fri, Nov 21, 2025, 12:56 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm393a3917387157b62298e]

Title
Prof

First Name
Jeremy

Last Name
Mould

Organisation
Swinburne

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
Issues Paper Consultation Survey
Department of Education

40

Fri, Nov 21, 2025, 12:40 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm393a2ac774ce84b63b415]

Title
Dr

First Name
Saraid

Last Name
Billiards

Organisation
Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes (AAMRI)

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
The definition should clarify what "nationally significant" means and explicitly include the people, data systems, and translational facilities that enable impact.

Suggested definition:
National Research Infrastructure (NRI) comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities, data systems and highly skilled personnel that enable leading-edge research, innovation, and translation to national benefit. National significance is demonstrated where infrastructure underpins capability that cannot be efficiently replicated, supports collaboration across sectors, or addresses strategic national priorities. NRI may be single-sited, distributed, virtual or embedded within clinical and industry environments.

Rationale:
This wording captures the human and translational dimensions of infrastructure and aligns with national priorities across health, industry, and sovereign capability.

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Thu, Nov 20, 2025, 06:01 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm393629a66a1a0e94e8cf1]

Title
Prof

First Name
Brendan

Last Name
Kennedy

Organisation
The University of Sydney

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
NRI comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities and highly-skilled personnel providing services that together support leading-edge research and innovation by Australians. It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally and may be single-sited, virtual or distributed. Infrastructure includes major scientific equipment (or sets of instruments), knowledge-based resources such as collections, archives and scientific data, computing systems and communication networks.

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35

Thu, Nov 20, 2025, 02:42 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm393573ca8628aa3ae6f2f]

Title
Prof

First Name
Mark

Last Name
Paskevicius

Organisation
Curtin University

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

Yes - the definition of NRI should explicitly recognise widely-used, mature technologies like NMR spectroscopy as "nationally significant" infrastructure. NMR facilities are ubiquitous and essential tools across Australia's universities and institutes, collectively enabling research in diverse priority areas - from drug discovery and biotechnology to advanced materials, agriculture, and quantum science. Even though individual NMR instruments are hosted at separate institutions, together they form a critical national resource that underpins innovation and keeps Australia globally competitive. Explicitly acknowledging such distributed capabilities as national infrastructure will ensure they receive the coordinated support needed to continue delivering broad benefits.

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Department of Education

32

Wed, Nov 19, 2025, 06:24 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm393118c8da349e9729696]

Title
Prof

First Name
Luke

Last Name
Henderson

Organisation
MBIU

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
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Department of Education

31

Wed, Nov 19, 2025, 03:32 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm392fcaee033095fdeb4a3]

Title
Prof

First Name
tony

Last Name
bacic

Organisation
La Trobe Institute for Sustainable Agriculture & Food, La Trobe University

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
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26

Tue, Nov 18, 2025, 09:33 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm392a020bc921759faf5b5]

Title
Prof

First Name
Mehdi

Last Name
Mobli

Organisation
Magnetic Resonance Australia

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

Yes - the definition of NRI should explicitly recognise widely-used, mature technologies like NMR spectroscopy as "nationally significant" infrastructure. NMR facilities are ubiquitous and essential tools across Australia's universities and institutes, collectively enabling research in diverse priority areas - from drug discovery and biotechnology to advanced materials, agriculture, and quantum science. Even though individual NMR instruments are hosted at separate institutions, together they form a critical national resource that underpins innovation and keeps Australia globally competitive. Explicitly acknowledging such distributed capabilities as national infrastructure will ensure they receive the coordinated support needed to continue delivering broad benefits.

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
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Department of Education

24

Mon, Nov 17, 2025, 07:28 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39270699720238e6fd4e9]

Title
Prof

First Name
Michael

Last Name
Giudici

Organisation
Department of Mathematics and Statistics, The University of Western Australia

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
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Department of Education

21

Mon, Nov 17, 2025, 03:40 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3926359a769d1d3f73cb0]

Title
Prof

First Name
Matt

Last Name
King

Organisation
The Australian Centre for Excellence in Antarctic Science

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
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Department of Education

19

Sat, Nov 15, 2025, 07:37 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm391cc284bd9ddfa59de22]

Title
Prof

First Name
Cheryl

Last Name
Praeger

Organisation
University of Western Australia

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
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Department of Education

18

Thu, Nov 13, 2025, 02:25 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm391157562375f5660dd07]

Title
Prof

First Name
Warwick

Last Name
Tucker

Organisation
The Australian Council of Heads of Mathematical Sciences

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
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Department of Education

17

Wed, Nov 12, 2025, 03:00 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm390c51113a3cd06ebd167]

Title

Dr

First Name

Giovanni

Last Name

Di Virgilio

Organisation

NSW DCCEEW

In what capacity are you responding?

An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
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Department of Education

16

Tue, Nov 11, 2025, 09:26 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm39088c650c75a7ff001fa]

Title
Prof

First Name
Andy

Last Name
Hogg

Organisation
ACCESS-NRI

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
Issues Paper Consultation Survey
Department of Education

14

Mon, Nov 10, 2025, 01:20 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm3901a8b390ab2e712dce3]

Title
Prof

First Name
Catherine

Last Name
Greenhill

Organisation
UNSW Sydney

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
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Department of Education

13

Sat, Nov 8, 2025, 12:11 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm38f48a672c8832d7a9565]

Title
Prof

First Name
Jan

Last Name
de Gier

Organisation
MATRIX, The University of Melbourne

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
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Department of Education

12

Fri, Nov 7, 2025, 04:16 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm38f2d70b3aca194d21544]

Title
Prof

First Name
David

Last Name
Wood

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
By answering "no", I assume that "assets" and "facilities" includes a residential research institute.

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11

Thu, Nov 6, 2025, 10:50 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm38ec860c09acc44860c56]

Title
Dr

First Name
Mitra

Last Name
Jazayeri

Organisation
La Trobe University

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

The definition of NRI should be expanded to recognise not only scientific and economic importance but also cultural, environmental, and social significance.

Proposed definition:

National Research Infrastructure (NRI) comprises the coordinated facilities, systems, resources, and expertise that enable research and innovation of national significance, advancing Australia's scientific, cultural, environmental, and social wellbeing. NRI should uphold inclusivity, sustainability, and Indigenous leadership as essential dimensions of national significance.

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9

Thu, Nov 6, 2025, 08:06 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm38ebf07751ca113f4acc5]

Title
Mr

First Name
Stuart

Last Name
Milburn

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
No strong view

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
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Department of Education

8

Wed, Nov 5, 2025, 07:24 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm38e9364f14ca2a6069778]

Title
Dr

First Name
Sahani

Last Name
Pathiraja

Organisation
UNSW Sydney

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
Issues Paper Consultation Survey
Department of Education

7

6

Tue, Nov 4, 2025, 05:37 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[ID: sbm38e3aeb8c4ac65ee79940]

Title
Prof

First Name
Sach

Last Name
Jayasinghe

Organisation
QCIF Digital Research

In what capacity are you responding?
A representative of an organisation or group

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?

Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
I would remove the word 'services' and replace with 'capabilities'.

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5

Mon, Nov 3, 2025, 04:04 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm38ddd61ca3f9b76568a90]

Title
Prof

First Name
Drew

Last Name
Evans

Organisation
Adelaide University

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
Issues Paper Consultation Survey
Department of Education

4

Fri, Oct 31, 2025, 06:12 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm38cf347e64f81cebcf422]

Title
Prof

First Name
Victor

Last Name
Calo

Organisation
Curtin University

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).

National Research Infrastructure (NRI) includes strategically significant facilities, digital platforms, data resources, interaction hubs, and expert personnel that enable research and innovation of national and international importance. NRI supports projects whose scale and complexity exceed the capacity of individual institutions. NRI should ensure open, equitable access for publicly and privately funded users, fostering interdisciplinary research and technological advancement.

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Issues Paper Consultation Survey
Department of Education

3

Fri, Oct 31, 2025, 01:42 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm38ce3d6100f8d3b86cdcc]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
Vera

Last Name
Roshchina

Organisation
UNSW Sydney

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
Issues Paper Consultation Survey
Department of Education

2

Fri, Oct 31, 2025, 11:45 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm38cdd221bff81abe6d178]

Title
Dr

First Name
Scott

Last Name
Lindstrom

Organisation
Centre for Optimisation and Decision Science, Curtin University

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
No

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
No opinion.

2026 National Research Infrastructure (NRI) Roadmap Issues Paper Consultation
Issues Paper Consultation Survey
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1

Mon, Oct 27, 2025, 11:39 AM Australian Eastern Daylight Time
[ID: sbm38b933a67166ffe17f291]

Title
A/Prof

First Name
Nick

Last Name
Thieberger

Organisation
UNiversity of Melbourne

In what capacity are you responding?
An individual

Q1. Should the proposed definition of NRI in the 2026 NRI Roadmap be modified - such as by elaborating what is meant by 'nationally significant', or by other changes?
Yes

If 'yes', please contribute a potential definition (or definitions).
Does NRI include analog assets? I suspect not, and so it is beholden on the NRI to support a targeted digitisation programme to ensure that at-risk collections of primary research are preserved and can be re-used for new research. So, a new definition must acknowledge that distributed research requires digitised research assets.