



NCRIS Funding Announcement

NCRIS 2025 Step Change Round

The step change funding is for new capability in identified priority areas. The department has also set aside a further \$15 million for First Nations Data Capability, and will work through the Roadmap and other policy work to develop this.

- National Digital Research Infrastructure (step-change) by NDRI Strategy Outcome
 - NDRI Outcome 1 – Underpinned by training frameworks for researchers and NRI Workforce
 - NDRI Outcome 2 – Responsive to technological and societal shifts
 - NDRI Outcome 3 – Consistent in its standards for data collection, curation and access
 - NDRI Outcome 4 – Integrated across levels of computing and data infrastructure
 - NDRI Outcome 5 – Cybersecure, particularly for national-scale data and computing
 - NDRI Outcome 6 – Maximised by openly available researcher software tools
- Environment and Climate Research Infrastructure (ECRI)
- Translation Research Infrastructure (TRI)
- NRI Workforce (workforce)

	Application Name	NCRIS Project	Step Change Area Addressed	Amount
1	Optimising Australian Research with National Open Digital Engineering Support (NODES)	Astronomy Australia Limited (AAL)	NDRI Outcome 1 NDRI Outcome 2 NDRI Outcome 6	\$4,594,938
2	Australia's Next-Generation Earth System Model	Australian Community Climate and Earth System Simulator (ACCESS-NRI)	NDRI Outcome 3 NDRI Outcome 6	\$14,746,373

	Application Name	NCRIS Project	Step Change Area Addressed	Amount
3	Precision Machining for Industry - Technology Readiness Accelerator (TRAX)	Australian National Fabrication Facility (ANFF)	TRI	\$2,000,000
4	Infrared technology integration capability for industry translation	Australian National Fabrication Facility (ANFF)	TRI	\$1,500,000
5	APPN Data Engineering Capability	Australian Plant Phenomics Network (APPN)	TRI NDRI Outcome 1 NDRI Outcome 2 NDRI Outcome 3 NDRI Outcome 6	\$7,342,258
6	National UAV Research Image Repository (NUAVRIR)	Australian Plant Phenomics Network (APPN)	ECRI NDRI Outcome 2 NDRI Outcome 3 NDRI Outcome 6	\$5,265,471
7	Open Science at the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS): a FAIR and free Accessibility Program	Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC)	NDRI Outcome 1 NDRI Outcome 2 NDRI Outcome 3	\$2,496,358
8	A Connected, Ethical and AI-Ready Data Ecosystem for Australian Research Excellence	Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC)	NDRI Outcome 3	\$19,550,000
9	GUARDIANS: Expanding human omics infrastructure capability and national participation	Bioplatforms Australia	NDRI Outcome 2 NDRI Outcome 3 NDRI Outcome 5	\$4,000,000
10	Framework Initiatives: Molecular Blueprints for Australia's Future	Bioplatforms Australia	TRI ECRI NDRI Outcome 2 NDRI Outcome 3 NDRI Outcome 6	\$5,820,000
11	CoastRI	Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS)	ECRI NDRI Outcome 2 NDRI Outcome 3 NDRI Outcome 6	\$58,817,167
12	Advancing Australia's Research Infrastructure Workforce	Microscopy Australia (MicroAU)	Workforce	\$4,993,341
13	Secure and Trusted Research Access to Australian Clinical Imaging Data	National Imaging Facility (NIF)	TRI NDRI Outcome 1 NDRI Outcome 2 NDRI Outcome 3 NDRI Outcome 4 NDRI Outcome 5 NDRI Outcome 6	\$2,421,795
14	Uplifting national data linkage capabilities: National Health Data Hub & National Master Linkage Key	Population Health Research Network (PHRN)	NDRI Outcome 1 NDRI Outcome 2 NDRI Outcome 3 NDRI Outcome 5	\$10,059,464
15	Pipeline Accelerator: Expanding SCOPE and Enabling SCALE to Boost Australia's Productivity	Therapeutic Innovation Australia (TIA)	TRI	\$2,068,750



	Application Name	NCRIS Project	Step Change Area Addressed	Amount
16	Next Generation Biodiversity Data Platform	Atlas of Living Australia (ALA)	NDRI Outcome 2 NDRI Outcome 3 NDRI Outcome 5 NDRI Outcome 6	\$5,077,947
17	Sovereign National Trust and Identity Capability	Australian Access Federation (AAF)	NDRI Outcome 5	\$17,906,320
18	Australian Urban Climate Research Initiative (AUCRI)	Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network (AURIN)	ECRI NDRI Outcome 2 NDRI Outcome 3 NDRI Outcome 6	\$10,797,077
19	Community Data Lab (CDL) Expansion to Increase GLAM Data Use	Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC)	NDRI Outcome 2	\$5,000,000
20	National Indigenous Precision Medicine Platform	Align (ANU)	NDRI Outcome 1 NDRI Outcome 2 NDRI Outcome 3 NDRI Outcome 4 NDRI Outcome 5 NDRI Outcome 6	\$1,871,153
21	Building NDRI Capabilities with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Rangers and Knowledge Holders	Atlas of Living Australia (ALA)	NDRI Outcome 1 NDRI Outcome 3	\$4,000,000
22	AusRISE - Australia's first Research Infrastructure Training and Fellowship Program	European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) Australia	Workforce NDRI Outcome 1 NDRI Outcome 2	\$2,000,000
23	AgPathways to a low carbon, nature-positive future for the agricultural and land sectors	Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network (TERN)	ECRI Workforce TRI NDRI Outcome 1 NDRI Outcome 2 NDRI Outcome 3 NDRI Outcome 6	\$7,000,000
24	Digital Research Skills for the NCRIS Workforce	Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC)	NDRI Outcome 1	\$8,007,142
25	Research Infrastructure Connected	Pawsey Supercomputing Centre (Pawsey)	TRI	\$2,246,212
26	The Australian Federated Data Infrastructure (AFDI)	Pawsey Supercomputing Centre (Pawsey)	NDRI Outcome 3	\$30,347,163
27	A National AI/ML Compute Capability	National Computational Infrastructure (NCI)	NDRI Outcome 2 NDRI Outcome 3 NDRI Outcome 4	\$32,159,441
28	Indigenous Research Data Commons	Indigenous Data Network	NDRI Outcome 1 NDRI Outcome 2 NDRI Outcome 3 NDRI Outcome 4 NDRI Outcome 5	\$2,000,000
Total:				\$274,088,370



NCRIS 2026 Capability Gap Round

The purpose of the capability gap round is to identify where additional funding is necessary to meet the objectives of an established NCRIS project. These are typically in response to unexpected circumstances, changes in researcher needs, and new technologies.

Application Name		NCRIS Project	2021 Roadmap Recommendation 3: Challenge Framework	Amount
1	ASKAP: Surveying the Southern Sky in Preparation for SKA-Mid	Astronomy Australia (AAL)	6. Space 8. Frontier Technologies & Modern Manufacturing	\$430,000
2	Securing the Future of the MWA to Enable a Smooth Transition to SKA-Low	Astronomy Australia (AAL)	6. Space 8. Frontier Technologies & Modern Manufacturing	\$800,000
3	Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) - Australian Membership Fees	Atlas of Living Australia (ALA)	7. Environment & Climate	\$387,000
4	Software Transformation, Data and Compute	Australian Community Climate and Earth System Simulator (ACCESS-NRI)	7. Environment & Climate	\$2,636,617
5	ANFF Core Infrastructure	Australian National Fabrication Facility (ANFF)	3. Medical Products 4. Recycling & Clean Energy 8. Frontier Technologies & Modern Manufacturing	\$2,632,400
6	Deep Science: Upgrading the National Root and Soil Health Rhizolysimeter Facility	Australian Plant Phenomics Network (APPN)	2. Food & Beverage 7. Environment & Climate	\$400,000
7	Planet Research Data Commons	Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC)	2. Food & Beverage 7. Environment & Climate 8. Frontier Technologies & Modern Manufacturing	\$3,736,000
8	HIAF High Voltage Functional Safety System	Heavy Ion Accelerators (HIA)	2. Food & Beverage 6. Space 7. Environment & Climate 8. Frontier Technologies & Modern Manufacturing	\$800,000
9	Observing Infrastructure Sustainment	Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS)	2. Food & Beverage 5. Defence 7. Environment & Climate	\$6,434,177
10	Advancing National Capability: Next Generation Detectors for CryoEM	Microscopy Australia (MicroAU)	2. Food & Beverage 3. Medical Products 4. Recycling & Clean Energy 7. Environment & Climate 8. Frontier Technologies & Modern Manufacturing	\$2,662,000



11	Insights for All: Accessibility and Reliability	Microscopy Australia (MicroAU)	1. Resources Technology & Critical Minerals Processing 3. Medical Products 4. Recycling & Clean Energy 8. Frontier Technologies & Modern Manufacturing	\$1,295,000
12	NCI Operational IT Infrastructure Continuity	National Computational Infrastructure (NCI)	8. Frontier Technologies & Modern Manufacturing	\$2,000,000
13	Securing Access to Heavy Water (D ₂ O) for Sustained National Deuteration Facility Operations	National Deuteration Facility (NDF)	3. Medical Products 8. Frontier Technologies & Modern Manufacturing	\$400,000
14	Sustaining Safe and Full-Capacity Operation of the National Deuteration Facility Synthesis Laboratories	National Deuteration Facility (NDF)	3. Medical Products 8. Frontier Technologies & Modern Manufacturing	\$600,000
15	Sustaining National Imaging Infrastructure Expertise in FY27/28	National Imaging Facility (NIF)	3. Medical Products 8. Frontier Technologies & Modern Manufacturing	\$3,550,000
16	National Sea Simulator Operations	National Sea Simulator (SeaSim)	2. Food & Beverage 7. Environment & Climate	\$2,000,000
17	Escalating Liquid Helium & Heavy Water Costs	Nuclear Science Facilities (NSF)	8. Frontier Technologies & Modern Manufacturing	\$434,481
18	Essential Operational Requirements	Pawsey Supercomputing Centre (Pawsey)	2. Food & Beverage 4. Recycling & Clean Energy 7. Environment & Climate 8. Frontier Technologies & Modern Manufacturing	\$5,000,000
19	Quantum Extension	Pawsey Supercomputing Centre (Pawsey)	8. Frontier Technologies & Modern Manufacturing	\$1,500,000
20	PHRN – Maintain Critical Data Linkage Infrastructure	Population Health Research Network (PHRN)	3. Medical Products 5. Defence	\$1,829,000
21	Engage Technical Advisor	Southern Coastal Research Vessel Fleet (Coastal Vessels)	7. Climate & Environment	\$1,693,120
22	Securing TERN's Operational Workforce and Governance Capability to 2028	Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network (TERN)	7. Climate & Environment	\$2,000,000
23	Sustaining TERN's National Observation Capability – Acoustic Biodiversity Monitoring and Alpine Ecosystem Monitoring	Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network (TERN)	1. Resources Technology & Critical Minerals Processing 6. Space 7. Climate & Environment	\$442,000
24	Cell and Gene Therapies Capability	Therapeutic Innovation Australia (TIA)	3. Medical Products 8. Frontier Technologies & Modern Manufacturing	\$3,000,000



25	RNA Products Capability	Therapeutic Innovation Australia (TIA)	3. Medical Products 8. Frontier Technologies & Modern Manufacturing	\$3,000,000
			Total:	\$49,661,795

