

Please note: the substantive content of the 2026 NRI Roadmap Survey begins at Question 20 (with prior questions dealing with administrative and other information).

As such all submissions that are published include the responses submitted from Question 20 onwards only.

Q20.

Part 2: Research themes

2.1 NRI comprises the assets, facilities and associated expertise to support leading-edge research and innovation in Australia and is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia and internationally. We are seeking your input on possible directions for future national-level investment - i.e., where the requirements are of such scale and importance that national-level collaboration and coordination are essential.

The [2021 Roadmap](#) used a challenge framework to support NRI planning and investment. With this in mind, consider likely future research trends in the next 5 - 10 years, and with respect to one or more of the 8 challenge areas identified in the 2021 Roadmap as listed below:

- describe emerging research directions and the associated critical research infrastructure requirements that are either not currently available at all, or not at sufficient scale and
- describe current national infrastructure requirements that you anticipate will no longer fit the definition of NRI in 5-10 years.

Do not limit your commentary to NCRIS funded capabilities.

Q21.

Resources Technology and Critical Minerals Processing

Q22.

Food and Beverage

The role played by biosecurity in protecting valued assets will become better appreciated. An example of a key asset to which biosecurity is germane is the international network of supply chains for food growth, processing, and delivery. Food supply undergirds food security, which in turn affects border fidelity and consequently the further spread of biosecurity threats. Biosecurity Commons is developing in to a mechanism that will improve adoption, implementation and ultimately the impact of research that CEBRA and other organisations do. National coordination of biosecurity activities is key to eliminating wasteful duplication and identifying and closing key gaps. Infrastructure such as Biosecurity Commons is essential to this effort as it provides a resilient, trusted, and (eventually, if appropriately supported and developed) secure platform that permits collaboration across immiscible and sometimes contested administrative boundaries and diverse stakeholders with oftentimes conflicting agendas. Further investment in and development of a sustainable funding model for this infrastructure will greatly assist biosecurity risk management activities by federal, state, and local governments as well as industry and the general population. Furthermore, the service will be of use to regional neighbours, in turn strengthening regional biosecurity and therefore reducing the net risk of incursion to Australia.

Q23.
Medical Products

Q24.
Defence

Q25.
Recycling and Clean Energy

Q26.
Space

Q27.
Environment and Climate

Q28.

Frontier Technologies and Modern Manufacturing

Q29.

2.2 The 2024 statement of National Science and Research Priorities (NSRPs) includes outcomes linked to each priority to assist in identifying critical research needed in the next 5 to 10 years.

Consider the priority statements and, with respect to one or more of the 5 priority areas as listed below:

- describe emerging research directions and the associated critical research infrastructure requirements that are either not currently available at all, or
- not at sufficient scale and describe current national infrastructure requirements that you anticipate will no longer fit the definition of NRI in 5-10 years.

Do not limit your commentary to NCRIS funded capabilities, and where relevant, refer to the underpinning outcomes and research identified in the NSRPs document.

Q30.

Transitioning to a net zero future

Q31.

Supporting healthy and thriving communities

At the risk of seeming single minded, I note that economic stability is essential to healthy and thriving communities, and biosecurity is a mission critical component of resilient agriculturally focused communities. As noted earlier, Biosecurity Commons is a key piece of infrastructure that is developing into a trusted tool for carrying out essential aspects of biosecurity risk management and planning. Supporting, developing and sustaining this infrastructure serves multiple purposes, including: improving outcomes of biosecurity risk management exercises in fraught settings, and bringing together stakeholders with a wide diversity of interests, skill sets, and information to get substantially better cooperation and therefore outcomes.

Q32.

Elevating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders knowledge systems

Q33.

Protecting and restoring Australia's environment

The IUCN assesses invasive species as being one of the top two risks to threatened and endangered species (the other being climate change!) and biosecurity risk management works to reduce the arrival rate of invasive species, reduce their spread if they arrive, reduce their survival, and reduce their harm, all of which centre on protecting Australia's environment. As noted earlier, Biosecurity Commons is a key piece of infrastructure that is developing into a trusted tool for carrying out essential aspects of biosecurity risk management and planning.

Q34.

Building a secure and resilient nation

Q35.

2.3 The case for a new NRI capability, or enhancements to existing capabilities, typically emerges through advocacy from research communities clustering around rigorously identified needs and goals. Such a concept could respond to a requirement for novel or expanded capacity within a domain, or across domains, and must be such that it could only be made available with national-level investment. If you have identified such a requirement, briefly describe the need, the proposed infrastructure capability, the medium-term goals, impacted research communities, and the timeframe over which you advocate its establishment. Your response can include links to relevant existing reports.

Q36.

Part 3: Industry perspectives

This section is seeking input specifically from industry-based respondents. Other respondents can skip this section. Recommendation 6 of the [2021 Roadmap](#) related to improvements in industry engagement with NRI. To complement work on this topic that has occurred since then, we are seeking additional advice on NRI requirements as perceived by current or potential industry-based users.

Q37.

3.1 Have you (or your organisation) interreacted with or used Australia's NRI?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q38.

3.2 If so, please briefly outline the NRI capabilities you (or your organisation) have interacted with or used. Do not limit your response to NCRIS capabilities.

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q39.

3.3 Please indicate your (one or more) primary reasons for interacting with NRI:

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q40.

3.4 If you answered no, please indicate your (one or more) primary reasons:

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q41.

Part 4: Other comments

4.1 Please elaborate on any of your above responses or add any other comments relevant to the development of the 2026 Roadmap. Your response can include reference or links to existing reports that you recommend be considered during the 2026 Roadmap development process.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on this incredibly important infrastructure.