

**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

Q23.

## Medical Products

Q24.

## Defence

Q25.

## Recycling and Clean Energy

Q26.

## Space

Q27.

## Environment and Climate

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia have been custodians of Country (land, water and sky) for over 60,000 years and have continuing cultural connections to land and waters. The connection goes deeper than just existing on the driest inhabited continent on earth, the people the Country are all connected through knowledge systems, stories, observation, impacts and solutions. However, European settlement has led to drastic changes in landscape management and disenfranchised Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples from fulfilling their customary obligations and responsibilities for caring for Country. There is growing evidence to indicate that conservation (water, climate and ecosystem) outcomes improve, and well-being is enhanced, when legislative and policy settings are equitable, supportive and designed to recognise knowledge by empowering environmental stewardship of Indigenous peoples and local communities. The experiences and impacts of Indigenous people in Australia directly relate to SDG 6 (Water), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 15 (Life on Land), how will Australia report correctly? How to influence IPCC scholarship, governments and IPCC assessment reports?

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**

Q32.

**Elevating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders knowledge systems**

There are no mechanisms for Indigenous scholars to attract research funding outside of ARC processes, NESP is a closed shop, philanthropic dollars are rare and government fails to fund Indigenous led research. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia have been custodians of Country (land, water and sky) for over 60,000 years and have continuing cultural connections to land and waters. The connection goes deeper than just existing on the driest inhabited continent on earth, the people the Country are all connected through knowledge systems, stories, observation, impacts and solutions. However, European settlement has led to drastic changes in landscape management and disenfranchised Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples from fulfilling their customary obligations and responsibilities for caring for Country. There is growing evidence to indicate that conservation (water, climate and ecosystem) outcomes improve, and well-being is enhanced, when legislative and policy settings are equitable, supportive and designed to recognise knowledge by empowering environmental stewardship of Indigenous peoples and local communities.

Q33.

**Protecting and restoring Australia’s environment**

Q34.

## Building a secure and resilient nation

There is growing evidence to indicate that conservation (water, climate and ecosystem) outcomes improve, and well-being is enhanced, when legislative and policy settings are equitable, supportive and designed to recognise knowledge by empowering environmental stewardship of Indigenous peoples and local communities.

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.

There is growing evidence to indicate that conservation (water, climate and ecosystem) outcomes improve, and well-being is enhanced, when legislative and policy settings are equitable, supportive and designed to recognise knowledge by empowering environmental stewardship of Indigenous peoples and local communities. <https://public-health.uq.edu.au/ipcc-voices>

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:

Q40.

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

- ☒ I did not know about it
- ☐ Other facilities suit my needs better
- ☐ I would like to, but cannot get access due to geographical location
- ☐ I would like to, but believed that access was only available to academic researchers
- ☐ I am not aware of any capability that meets my needs
- ☐ Other (please specify)

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.

Q49.

4.2 Optional Document Attachment.

Note: Our strong preference is that answers are provided against the relevant questions in the survey. However, this file upload option is available for submissions in file format, where needed. Please ensure the document includes your name or organisation.