

The Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance

The India Research Management Initiative (IRMI)

Strategy 2019–2024

This document sets out the strategy framework of India Alliance's India Research Management Initiative (IRMI), its vision, mission, and strategic plan for the period 2019–2024. This is an evolving draft subject to change per the changes in strategic framework of the organization.

The India Research Management Initiative

Towards creating robust research ecosystems in India to address global challenges

Established in February 2018 as a pilot programme, the India Research Management Initiative (IRMI) began with a simple mission—to create awareness about research management in India, engage in dialogue with Indian institutions, and build a baseline of information to guide future developments in the research management space. Learnings from the IRMI pilot have shaped the vision and mission of IRMI. Today, IRMI aims to strengthen research ecosystems in India by building capacity for research management and creating a community of practice that support knowledge creation and innovation for addressing global challenges.

Vision

Robust research ecosystems in India that support knowledge creation and innovation for addressing global challenges.

Mission

To strengthen research ecosystems in India by building capacity for research management and creating a community of practice.

Mandate

IRMI will engage with all stakeholders to facilitate development of a community of professionals associated with research management *inter-alia* engaged in international relations, grant management, program management, research uptake management, and research ethics in India.

Strategic Framework

To achieve its vision of creating robust research ecosystems in India, IRMI will employ a strategic plan (2019-2024) with four intersecting themes of equal importance:

I. Strengthen research management support services

To support research centres in India in strengthening research management services available to their researchers, IRMI will:

- a. help create new research offices at institutes through RM Fellowships and Grants
- b. provide RM grants to research institutions to create novel research management solutions
- c. engage in advisory conversations with institutions, regarding RM roles and structures
- d. steer outreach at institutions/scientific conferences

II. Facilitate opportunities for career development

To enhance uptake and development of research management careers in India by facilitating opportunities of career development, including training and networking, IRMI will:

- a. engage in advisory conversations with RM aspirants and staff, regarding RM roles and structures
- b. disseminate information on emerging RM roles in India
- c. provide training through RM Fellowships, theme-based webinars, and workshops
- d. administer international travel awards
- e. offer international exchange opportunities for RMAs
- f. create structured learning opportunities for RMAs in IRMI network

III. Build national and international partnerships

To encourage the participation of diverse stakeholders in building RM capacity in India for knowledge and resource exchange, IRMI will:

- a. anchor a NCURA-India Alliance collaboration to create Global RM Fellowship opportunities in India
- b. develop joint RM workshops, events and opportunities in India with other national and international stakeholders
- c. facilitate structured participation of Indian RMAs in international RM activities, such as the [RAAAP](#) survey

IV. Create a community of practice

To ensure sustained, meaningful interactions between Indian RMAs and peers by creating a community of practice, IRMI will:

- a. create and manage an IRMI membership network
- b. drive an annual conference series, with participation from IRMI institutions, RMAs and other stakeholders
- c. engage with other important stakeholders, such as funders and the national academies, over RM and the IRMI initiative, with potential collaborations in IRMI activities
- d. leverage the RM community worldwide to share best practice, learning and opportunities with the IRMI member network

Crosscutting activities

In addition to our above-mentioned central themes, our strategic priorities are underpinned by two sets of crosscutting activities:

- I. Collection of data and evidence to aid continued gap analysis of the research management enterprise in India, primarily to inform development of the IRMI initiative and guide future directions
- II. Communications about IRMI and its activities to national and international audiences