

AURIN

High Impact Projects

2021

Guidelines



Building first-class research infrastructure
Enabling leading-edge research

Overview and program objectives

The primary objectives of the AURIN High Impact Projects program are to:

- ✓ Extend the existing AURIN infrastructure with new datasets, tools, services, and methodologies; and
- ✓ Demonstrate the value and potential of AURIN and its infrastructure; and
- ✓ Improve our understanding of complex urban and regional planning issues in Australia.

To achieve these objectives, AURIN will engage with Australian urban and regional planning communities, including researchers, planners and policy makers from academic, government, NGO/NFP and private sector organisations, through collaboration and co-investment in high-quality, high-priority, *high impact* projects.

Project funding opportunity

Projects will run for up to one year.

AURIN will contribute a maximum of \$150,000.00 to each funded project.

This level of commitment is aimed at contributing significant new resources for new projects by allowing for the employment of at least one dedicated new resource.

In consideration of the impacts of COVID-19, there is no requirement to secure matched funding to participate in the AURIN High Impact Projects 2021 program. It is expected that, in future years, AURIN funding will be leveraged in cash co-contributions and in-kind co-investment.

AURIN will fund up to eight (8) projects for the 2021 program.

Eligibility – who should apply

It is an important objective of the HIP program to support early career researchers.

We are seeking proposals for projects where the project lead is an early to mid-career researcher (within 15 years of PhD conferral, considering parental leave or other leave) from an Australian University, Publicly-Funded Research Organisation or not for profit organisation.

Project Leads must have an employment contract valid until at least 30 April 2023

Application process

Applicants must complete the AURIN High Impact Project 2021 Proposal Form and submit it by the date shown in AURIN High Impact Projects 2021 schedule (p4).

The information provided in the Proposal Form will be evaluated as described in the Project Funding Criteria, and the proposals will inform development of subsequent funding agreements for the projects AURIN agrees to support.

Version no:	2.1
Version date:	27 August 2021
Status	Approved

Project funding criteria

Project proposals will be first assessed by AURIN's High Impact Projects team. The team will confirm that each of the criteria is satisfactorily addressed and that the proposed project appears to be technically feasible. Complete proposals will be forwarded to AURIN's independent, expert, Scientific Advisory Committee with any recommendations for further consideration the team may deem appropriate.

The Scientific Advisory Committee will evaluate the proposals, on the information provided in each Project Proposal form, against the criteria detailed below and developed to meet the objectives of the program. The Committee will rank the proposals according to the degree to which each meets the criteria. The Scientific Advisory Committee will then make a recommendation to the AURIN Management Board (the Board) as to which, if any, projects should be funded by AURIN, based on the highest order of ranking. The Committee will not provide feedback beyond its recommendation.

The AURIN Board will consider the recommendation of the Scientific Advisory Committee. The Board will make a final determination as to which, if any, projects will be funded by AURIN. The Board's decision will be final and there is no provision for applicants to dispute the Board's decision.

The High Impact Projects team and/or the Scientific Advisory Committee may contact the Project Lead for additional information during the evaluation process. See AURIN High Impact Projects 2021 schedule (p4) for the timeframe of evaluations.

Evaluation criteria

1. **Outputs:** This criterion relates directly to the first objective of the program: Extend the existing AURIN infrastructure with new datasets, tools, services, and methodologies. It is a measure of the extent to which the project will expand and enhance AURIN with high-quality new datasets, derived datasets, or new tools/services/methodologies that will be shared with and re-used by the AURIN Community.

New datasets will be required to be creative commons (CC) licensed.

New tools will be required to be available via an open-source license.

It is the responsibility of the Project Lead to ensure inputs, such as existing datasets and software libraries, are appropriately licensed to enable the results to be openly shared.

2. **Relevance to AURIN community:** This criterion relates directly to the second objective of the program: Demonstrate the value and potential of AURIN and its infrastructure. It is a measure of the extent to which the project is aligned with AURIN strategy, such as alignment with AURIN's Key Thematic priority areas for sustainable Cities and Regions (Housing, Transport, Industry, Employment, Population Health, Liveability, etc); and/or technology focus areas (Digital Twins/real-time data); and/or projects currently supported by AURIN.

You should be able to clearly articulate who the future users of your project's outputs will be.

You should consider AURIN's Strategic Plan and how your proposal is aligned with it:

<https://aurin.org.au/about-aurin/strategy/>.

Version no:	2.1
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3. **Impact:** This criterion relates directly to the third objective of the program: Improve our understanding of complex urban and regional planning issues in Australia. It is a measure of the extent to which the project will have impact beyond its scope and completion. For example:
 - Impact beyond research, such as economic, societal wellbeing, or policy impact (you should consider who will benefit (e.g. Which populations/organisations))
 - The adoption of novel, innovative approaches to reveal new insights and outputs (e.g., new indicators, datasets, models).
 - Impact on future research and the extent to which the project will enable future research by the AURIN community to investigate significant challenges, such as National or State/Territory research priorities.

Projects will be required to generate at least one novel, high-impact case study and related media and communications content.

4. **Feasibility:** the project proposal must demonstrate that the project approach is technically feasible, including with respect to intellectual property, and that available resources and team expertise is sufficient to ensure that the project can be completed, and deliverables met, within the proposed budget and timeframe.
5. **Collaboration:** the extent to which the project or its outcomes will enhance collaboration between the project participants, AURIN and/or other organisations in research, government or industry, both within Australia and internationally.
6. **Scalability and Extensibility:** the ability of the project to be applied to larger datasets, greater spatio-temporal extents or to other regions across Australia or nationally; and the potential for the project to lead to a larger project proposal to be funded by the ARC, NHMRC, ARDC, CRC, State or Commonwealth Governments or other funding programs.

Projects must comply with the 2018 NCRIS Funding Guidelines: [NCRIS 2018 Guidelines - Department of Education, Skills and Employment, Australian Government \(dese.gov.au\)](https://www.dese.gov.au/ncris-2018-guidelines).

AURIN High Impact Projects 2021 schedule

Proposed schedule subject to change.

From	To	Item
01 Sep 2021		Call for proposals open
23 Sep 2021		HIP information webinar
13 Oct 2021		Call for proposals closes, 5.00 PM AEDT
14 Oct 2021	03 Nov 2021	AURIN High Impacts Projects team process proposals
04 Nov 2021	03 Dec 2021	AURIN Scientific Advisory Committee evaluation of proposals
04 Dec 2021	17 Dec 2021	AURIN Management Board review of SAC recommendations
18 Dec 2021		Announcement of projects to be funded by AURIN
03 Apr 2022		Project contracts finalised
04 Apr 2022		Project implementation begins

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