

# A COLLABORATIVE NETWORK TO ENHANCE WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN TROPICAL VIRUS RESEARCH (ASIA - PACIFIC)

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## CONTEXT

Tropical mosquito-borne diseases negatively impact public health in the Asia-Pacific, likely exacerbated in the future by climate change. These transborder diseases require collaborative, regional solutions and a highly skilled scientific workforce. Enhancing the research capacity, leadership capabilities and professional networks of women in our region lifts participation of under-represented groups and aids the development of multilateral, rapid solutions to shared disease threats.

## OBJECTIVES

- Nucleate a sustainable and collaborative research network of women scientists from the Asia-Pacific
- Capture diverse expertise in medical entomology, arbovirology, clinical tropical medicine and public health
- Include ECRs, MCRs and senior researchers and professionals
- Countries represented: Australia, Indonesia, New Caledonia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Vanuatu and Vietnam

## ACTIVITIES

- Participate in a Women in Leadership course
- Present and participate in the HEAL 2023 conference
- Network with Brisbane researchers in biomedical sciences and public health during symposia, conference and site visits to research institutes
- Upskill via a systematic review and meta-analysis course

## OUTPUTS

- Poster for HEAL 2023 outlining the project
- Collect and synthesize data and perspectives on key challenges for addressing mosquito-borne diseases under climate change
- Jointly prepare a publication for submission to a peer-reviewed, international journal
- Communicate Fellowship learnings to colleagues upon return to home countries via seminar presentations, newsletters, scientific papers and mentoring activities



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