

POSITION DESCRIPTION

DIRECTOR

About the Research for Development Impact Network

The Research for Development Impact (RDI) Network is a leading Australian-based network of more than 2,000+ professionals, including practitioners, researchers, and evaluators working in international development. As the peak body for Australia's development research community, we connect expertise and amplify diverse voices to undertake and use research, learning, and evidence for impact in the Indo-Pacific region. Our mission is to foster a vibrant community that drives effective and equitable international development, achieving sustainable futures for people and the planet.

Since 2009, the RDI Network has evolved from a committee within ACFID to an independent Australian charity. We broker connections and knowledge exchange between researchers, practitioners, and policymakers in government, NGOs, and the private sector, both in Australia and the Indo-Pacific. We convene collaboration spaces, build skills and capabilities, and promote locally-led development, valuing Global South knowledge and expertise.

Vision: Effective and equitable international development in the Indo-Pacific achieving sustainable futures for people and planet.

Mission: To foster a vibrant community of development researchers and practitioners across the Indo-Pacific, connecting expertise and amplifying diverse voices to undertake and use research, learning, and evidence for impact.

Strategic Objectives:

1. Broker connections and knowledge exchange between researchers, practitioners, and policymakers.
2. Influence development practice through enhanced research and evaluation capacity.
3. Promote locally-led and inclusive development research and knowledge integration.
4. Ensure organisational sustainability and effectiveness, delivering unique value for members.

See for Reference

[The RDI Network Strategic Plan \(Overview\)](#) | [The RDI Network Constitution](#)

The Role of Director

The Board of Directors plays a vital role in determining the strategic direction of the Network, ensuring the Network's sustainability, and advancing our mission and strategic objectives. Directors will contribute to a respected cross-sector voice, influencing policy and practice dialogues.

Expected Commitment and Responsibilities

Directors will:

- Represent expertise on research, evaluation, policy, and practice related to

international development.

- Provide advisory and advocacy support to the RDI Network, its members, and stakeholders.
- Advance partnership discussions and engage with government and other stakeholders.
- Advise the RDI Network secretariat on emerging issues and remain abreast of Network activities.
- Understand and fulfill the duties and obligations of a responsible board member, including declaring and monitoring conflicts of interest.
- Govern and oversee the RDI Network's operations and performance.
- Contribute up to three (3) days every three (3 months) / per quarter year.

To Nominate for the Role, We Request You Have:

- The full support of your organisation.
- Previous or current engagement with the RDI Network or other relevant national or international networks.
- Deep technical knowledge of, and commitment to, high-quality, ethical development research, as well as capacity building and knowledge sharing.
- Interest or experience in research, programming, monitoring and evaluation, training, or a commitment to evidence-based development policy and practice.
- Ability to advocate and influence change and engage effectively with key stakeholders.
- Demonstrated excellence in managing finance, accounting, budgeting, and reporting.
- Previous or current experience in business development, not-for-profit, and small business management.
- Previous or current experience in sustainable finance.
- Extensive experience in stakeholder management and partnerships.

A graduate of the AICD "Company Directors Course" or equivalent is highly desirable.

Strong Encouragement for Regional Candidates

The RDI Network strongly encourages expressions of interest from candidates based in the Pacific, Indonesia and the broader region. We highly value the diverse perspectives and expertise that regional representatives bring to our Board.

For a confidential conversation please reach out to Directors@rdinetwork.org.au and we will respond.

To Apply

Please submit your CV and a covering letter explaining your interest in the position and why you are a good fit to fulfill this role via [Ethical Jobs](#) by 15 August, 2025.

The RDI Network embraces the benefits of having a diverse Board and encourages candidates from diverse backgrounds to apply.

Useful Resources

- [Governance for good: The ACNC's guide for charity board members | ACNC](#)
- [Responsible Persons - board or committee members | ACNC](#)
- [Commissioner's Interpretation Statement: Public Benevolent Institutions | ACNC](#)
- [Constitution for a charitable company limited by guarantee | ACNC](#)