

Australian Regional Immunisation Alliance Membership Code

Version 1.0

Summary This document outlines benefits, expectations, and requirements of all ARIA members. Individuals need to read and sign this document as part of ARIA membership.

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Audience All current and potential ARIA members

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1. Introduction to the ARIA membership code

The Australian Regional Immunisation Alliance (ARIA) membership code has been written to outline the purpose, expectations, and requirements of all ARIA members. Individuals need to read and sign this document as part of ARIA membership. Individuals should consider the ARIA membership code in conjunction with the [ARIA guidelines](#). This document has been endorsed by the ARIA Steering Committee.

2. Purpose of the ARIA membership code

ARIA members are recognised for their regional and/or international experience and expertise related to immunisation and vaccine preventable diseases (VPDs). The work we do is often complex and challenging; how we do things is just as important as what we do.

The ARIA membership code provides a clear and shared understanding of our guiding principles which we all, as ARIA members, commit to upholding, and to which we hold ourselves and other members accountable. It guides how we do things; it determines how each of us should behave as individuals, towards each other, and towards the people and organisations with which we work. The ARIA membership code guides behaviour in the context of our ARIA goal and guiding principles, which are drawn from a long history of evolving internationally accepted principles of good development cooperation¹.

The ARIA member membership code should be implemented in addition to respective member's own organisational requirements such as their institutions code of conduct, policies, procedures and frameworks. For various programs of work implemented under ARIA, there will also be additional codes of conduct, policies and frameworks to adhere to e.g. Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) Preventing Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment Policy².

3. Applying the ARIA membership code

We all have a role in helping ARIA reach its full potential. All ARIA members agree to behave in ways that support our goal and demonstrate our guiding principles (Table 1).





Our goal: Our goal is to work collaboratively with governments, global immunisation partners, non-government organisations and other partners to strengthen and expand immunisation service delivery and coverage to reduce the impact of VPDs in our region.

Our guiding principles: The work of ARIA is based on the four shared guiding principles, which were agreed in 2019 by over 20 founding individual members.

¹ For example <http://effectivecooperation.org/> and <https://acfid.asn.au/content/read-code>

² <https://dfat.gov.au/international-relations/themes/preventing-sexual-exploitation-abuse-and-harassment/Documents/pseah-policy.pdf>

Table 1. Examples of practical ways to instil the ARIA guiding principles in our internal and external work

Guiding principle	Overview	Practical examples
Harmonisation 	Harmonise efforts with and supportive of the regional work and normative standards of global immunisation partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I make myself aware of what national governments and global immunisation partners are already striving to achieve. • I work to advance, or respectfully critique, global, regional and national strategies for immunisation. • I commit to avoiding duplication of the efforts of other stakeholders.
Sustainability 	Apply capacity building and systems strengthening principles to all our work for sustainability at institutional, organisational and individual levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I seek to work in a way that achieves long term positive outcomes. • I work with a spirit of respect and a focus on empowerment. • My behaviour will uphold the good standing of ARIA with partners.
Collaboration 	Prioritise inter-country learning and networks for mutual support, including recognition of the special needs of small island states	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I actively promote inclusion and diversity to enable equitable participation. • I avoid any actual or perceived conflict of interest. • I acknowledge and prioritise in-country expertise, networks and government structures. • I work to promote peer-to-peer learning of those living in resource limited settings or small island states.
Results-focused 	Commit to measuring results, including metrics for immunisation and VPD control policy and practice improvement, and increased strength of partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I seek to ensure that the outputs and outcomes of my collaborative work are clear and directed towards the ARIA goal. • I commit to seeking the views of those who will benefit from immunisation programs, and of those working at the front-line.

4. Expectations of members

1. Australian-based or formally linked to an Australian institution;
2. Recognised for their regional and/or international experience and expertise related to immunisation and VPD relevant to ARIA objectives;
3. Signatory to the ARIA membership code; and
4. Supportive of the ARIA guidelines.

5. Breaches of the ARIA membership code

All ARIA members are responsible for reporting suspected breaches of our membership code. If you are concerned about behaviour that may not align with our membership code you are encouraged to raise your concerns or issues openly and transparently within ARIA, to enable them to be explored and resolved. If you feel able to do so, you should raise your

concern with the person directly. Alternatively you can speak to members of the Steering Committee, the ARIA Chair or Secretariat.

6. Minimising conflicts of interest

To avoid any perceived or actual undue influence, ARIA does not accept funding from pharmaceutical companies or from industries that draw profits from activities that are inherently inimical to public health e.g. tobacco or other related. All ARIA members undertaking ARIA work are expected to comply with this.

7. My commitment to the ARIA membership code

Please sign the following to acknowledge your commitment to behave in accordance with the ARIA membership code.

Title: _____

Full name: _____

Primary affiliation: _____

Other affiliation(s): _____

I agree to abide by the ARIA membership code

Signature

Date