



Annual Report 2020/21



RAID Network is a program of the **Crawford Fund** and is supported with funding from the **Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)**

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Executive Summary

The RAID Network is an active group of early to mid-career researchers (EMCRs) with an interest in agriculture and international development. Over the 2020/21 period, we have continued to share knowledge and opportunities, build research capacity, and communicate the value of agricultural research.

RAID continues to curate new partnerships and strengthen existing partnerships alongside the Crawford Fund to engage, connect and support the international agricultural community. The key achievements for 20/21 are highlighted below.

Strategy and Management

- RAID developed and presented a concept note and discussion paper to ACIAR proposing new opportunities for ACIAR to support early- and mid-career researchers (EMCRs) to better engage with ACIAR projects.
- Initial planning and progress made for the next iteration of the RAID Network 5-year strategy (2022-2027).
- A ZOOM platform membership was purchased to assist in RAID's online presence and reach.

Partnerships

- RAID partnered with the University of Melbourne, Vietnam National University of Agriculture and the Australian Volunteers Programme to run a five-week workshop with six Australian Volunteers and five Vietnamese participants working in agriculture for development.

Events and Representatives

- While COVID-19 continued to prevent, postpone and cancel in-person events, many virtual events continued; with 19 events held, and a total audience of 395.
- Highlight events included the RAID in Retrospect Competition, Earth Month and the Annual Rep of the Year Awards Night.

Capacity Building

- RAID ran a five-week online workshop on Cross-Cultural Collaboration with 31 RAID members, in collaboration with Tanya Jakimov, ACIAR Country Network, Bisnis Asia, Crawford Fund and the Syngenta Foundation
- In partnership with Visibility co and Climate Wise Agriculture, RAID sponsored 17 members to participate in a bespoke Climate Activation workshop following RAID's Earth Month.

Communications

- RAID has increased its presence and following on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook
- The RAID website continues to house opportunities, events and blogs to increase benefits to RAID members and provide a central hub for information regarding agriculture for research in international development.

About RAID

RAID is a program of the Crawford Fund Ltd and was established in December 2013 with the support of the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR).

Mission

To connect, engage and support early to mid-career researchers with an interest in agriculture and international development.

Vision

RAID is an active network of early to mid-career researchers with an interest in agriculture and international development, through which knowledge and opportunities are shared, research capacity is built, and the value of agricultural research is communicated.

Objectives

1. Connect researchers involved in international agricultural research for development by facilitating networking and knowledge sharing.
2. Engage more people in agriculture by raising public awareness about career pathways into, and the importance of, international agricultural research for development.
3. Support career development of early to mid-career researchers through targeted capacity building initiatives.



Figure 1. National Annual State Representative Meeting and awards night on October 8th, 2020

Strategy and Management

The RAID Network is managed by a central committee with a team of regionally based representatives. The central committee oversees the implementation of RAID's strategic plan and manages day-to-day business. RAID regional representatives report to the Events Directors and are responsible for organising regional events and raising awareness at a local level. The RAID central committee and network of representatives operate on a voluntary basis, supported by the part-time Administrative Officer, Sue Faulkner, based in the Crawford Fund Canberra office.

In February 2020, the Crawford Fund and the RAID Network submitted complimentary contributions to the DFAT New International Development Policy process. RAID's submission emphasised the importance for strategic and long-term support for Australian agricultural research capability. Following this, in July of 2020 RAID presented ACIAR with a concept note, followed by a discussion paper (November) proposing new opportunities for ACIAR to support early- and mid-career researchers (EMCRs) to better engage with ACIAR projects. This led to a dialogue between RAID and the Research Program Managers at ACAIR regarding the importance of, and opportunities to support early and mid-career researchers in ACIAR projects, in particular in a post-COVID environment.

In 2017, RAID launched a five-year Strategic Plan (2017-22) to guide the network as it continued to grow. The process for the next iteration of the RAID network strategy has begun. The next iteration (2022-2027) is due for implementation at the end of next financial year.

In recognition of the considerable effort of committee members, Shanice was awarded the RAID Committee Member of the Year during the RAID annual meeting in August 2020, which due to COVID-19 restrictions was held via Zoom. Shanice played a crucial role in supporting the Events team and the RAID representatives. Due to the Crawford Fund Masterclass also being postponed, Shanice was awarded with a \$500 voucher to go towards a career-benefitting opportunity of her choice.

Central Committee

Executive

President: Rebecca Cotton: raid.president@crowfordfund.org

Vice President: Tamaya Peressini, January 2021

Secretary: Bianca Das: raid.secretary@crowfordfund.org

Treasurer: Tamaya Peressini: raid.treasurer@crowfordfund.org

Core portfolios

Communications: raid.comms@crowfordfund.org

- Harry Campbell-Ross
- Ebony Ackland

Events: raid.events@crowfordfund.org

- Jessica Fearnley
- Kayla Lochner
- Belinda Nielsen

Capacity Building: raid.capacity@crowfordfund.org

- Ruby Annand-Jones
- Megan Williams
- Elya Steel
- Josh Breen

Partnerships: raid.partnerships@crowfordfund.org

- Mia Dunphy
- Shanice Van Haeften

Administrative officer: Sue Faulkner: raid.network@crowfordfund.org

Partnerships

In 2020/21, RAID has strengthened its existing key partnerships, as well as developing new and innovative partnerships. RAID has continued to build relationships with key agricultural research agencies, funding bodies, volunteer organisations, and other networks and research enterprises.

Volunteering Initiative

In October 2020, RAID undertook its first short-term assignment in partnership with the Australian Volunteers Programme (AVP) and VNUA, funded by the Crawford Fund. This assignment saw six Australian volunteers and five Vietnamese early-to-mid career researchers undertake a five-week assignment to strengthen research, leadership and management skills in agricultural research and development. Through this program, the Australian volunteers were partnered with a research counterpart in Vietnam to explore various scenarios and research problems. This engaging and interactive workshop worked through the core research steps required within agriculture and development including designing surveys, tools for data collection, managing community engagement, and data visualisation. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, this assignment was unable to be undertaken in-person as planned and was instead undertaken online with participants undertaking an online workshop each week and spending additional time working with their research partner online via zoom. Feedback from these workshops highlighted the success of the project. The partnering, peer-to-peer focus of the workshop was a significant element that participants expressed to be highly effective at breaking down information and building strong working relationships. Feedback also highlighted the issues of remote/online workshops, with time management being a key challenge. A link to a video summarising the workshop can be found [here](#).

A second short-term assignment is currently being planned for the next financial year, with discussions of this assignment being undertaken at a university in the Pacific. Further details regarding this second assignment are still being confirmed.

These short-term assignments are being supported further by ACIAR, which had approved a Launch Funding proposal for \$29,770 (GST exclusive) for funding in 2019-2022. This fund covered the costs of the organising and developing material for the 2020 workshops and will be also used for the future workshops in the Pacific.



Figure 2. Final session of the VNUA and RAID short-term remote workshop

Capacity Building

Enhancing the skills of agricultural researchers and professionals in the agricultural development sector is an important priority for RAID.

Online Workshops

Earth Month Activation Program

As a part of the RAID Network’s Earth Month, Capacity Building ran a final workshop acting as a program to reflect on the learnings from the month and ‘activate’ individuals. RAID partnered with Visibility Co and Climate Wise Agriculture (Anika Molesworth) to support select participants to convert their professional aspirations and learning from RAID Network’s Earth Month into a clearly articulated leadership vision and strategic action plan within the Climate and Agriculture space. This was delivered to participants in a two-part program in early May which covered tools and strategies, helping participants to build mindset, skills and community to mobilise collective action, combining climate and agricultural science with strategic leadership, development and visibility.

RAID members were selected and sponsored to participate in the workshop based on a video or written application outlining their passion for the intersection of climate action and their area within the AgR4D space. 17 participants were selected from a competitive process and completed the two-part program, as well as a 30-day challenge following on from the workshops, in which they submitted action plans. Each participant wrote a reflective blog for publishing on RAID’s website on how they will apply lessons learnt from Earth Month on climate change in agriculture and how they will action these lessons within their own diverse fields, ‘activated’ by the Visibility co. x Climate Wise Agriculture program.

Table 1. Earth Month Activation Program

	Objectives
Networking Session	17 Participants were given the chance to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduce themselves to each other ● Share
Workshop Day 1	Key Principles + Leadership Vision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Intro to visibility methodology ● Leadership vision
Workshop Day 2	Strategic Visibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Strategic visibility, influence + communication framework ● Implementation challenge
30 Days Following Workshop	30-day implementation challenge period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Supported by the three facilitators Anika Molesworth, Sarah Anderson and Julia May to implement lessons learned and plan for future

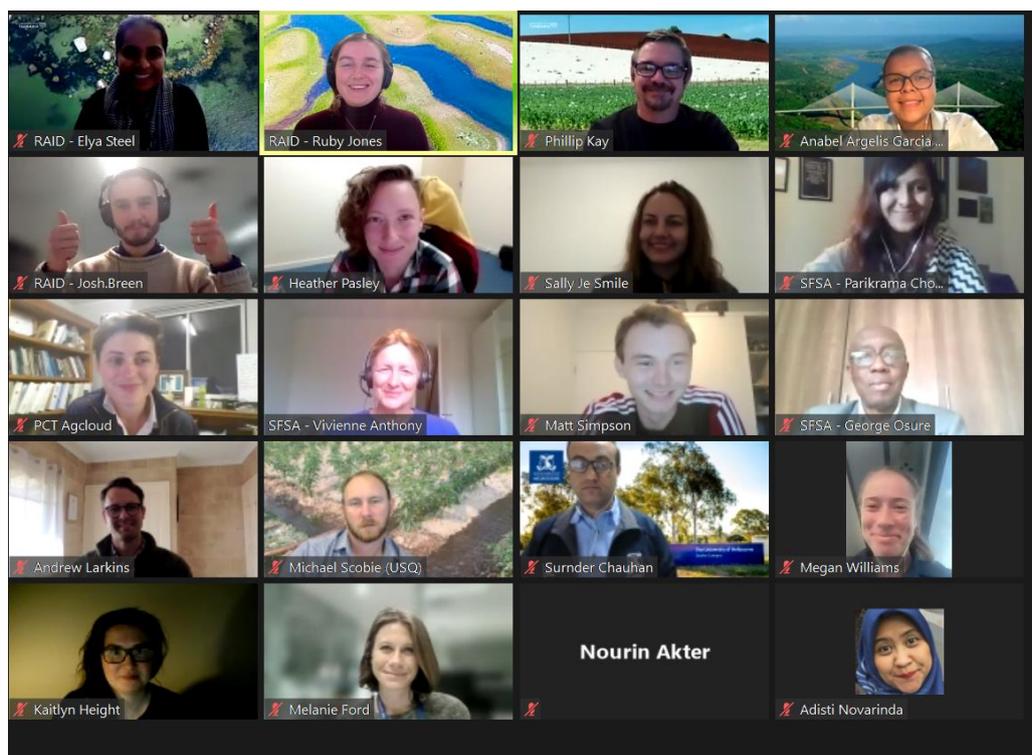


Figure 3: Participants in Session 5 of the Cross-Cultural Collaboration Workshop series. This session was run by Vivienne Anthony, Parikrama Chowdry and George Osure from the Syngenta Foundation.

Cross Cultural Collaboration Workshop



Working in different contexts with people from different backgrounds demands awareness and sensitivity from those working in the AgR4D space. RAID ran the *Cross Cultural Collaboration* workshop online over 5 weeks in May and June in 2021.

The workshop wove together the themes of:

- Positionality & Reflexivity - hosted by Associate Prof. Tanya Jakimow
- Understanding Cultural Differences - with ACIAR Country Network
- Communication - with Brett McGuire from Bisnis Asia
- Collaboration - with Shaun Coffey

And a final session hosted by members from The Syngenta Foundation that brought everything together with active application to case studies.

Each session consisted of a helpful mix of presentation and group work. RAID also produced a workbook for the participants that detailed key questions and prompted weekly application to a case study with which the participant was either actively involved or familiar. This was prompted by deliberation prior to the course on how to make the workshop as engaging as possible, and what would facilitate traction and deeper integration with the topics.

There were 31 participants in the workshop who joined in from different backgrounds and continents.

Events and representatives

Network Events

RAID networking events provide EMCRs with an opportunity to connect with their peers, as well as interact with more experienced researchers in an informal setting. During these events, knowledge and information is shared and career pathways in international agricultural research are discussed. During the 2020 – 2021 FY, RAID hosted 17 events including a combination of networking events, conference sponsorships and webinars.

Due to continuing COVID-19 restrictions, many events continue to be held in an online format, with some events held in a hybrid format (in person and streamed online). As a result of the pandemic the Earth Month event in WA was cancelled due to a 3-day lockdown in Perth. These events opened the opportunity to bring together virtually researchers from all career stages and from across the world. The Reps have shown incredible resilience and willingness to upskill in running virtual events.

Table 2: Summary of RAID Networking Events in 2020/2021

Month	Events	Hosted by	Attendees
July	RAID Social Hour Speed Networking Event	Reps based in Regional NSW & QLD	10
		Reps based in Tasmania	12
August	RAID Social Hour Webinar – Life for smallholders during COVID-19	Reps based in WA	8
		Reps based in SA	30
September	RAID Social hour	Reps based in NT	8
October	RAID Rep Awards	RAID Events Team	16
December	RAID in Retrospect photo competition	Reps based in VIC	
	RAID Christmas Networking Lunch	Reps based in NSW	8
February	AARES Conference Networking Events (via sponsorship) Social Hour	RAID Network & Reps based in WA	13
		Reps based in Victoria	2
March	Social Hour - RAID Africa Network Meet up #1	Reps based in Queensland, Victoria, and NSW	15
	Networking event at Crawford Fund/ACIAR Dialogue on GHG Emissions (via sponsorship)	Reps based in ACT	50
April	Earth Month Movie Night #1	Reps based in Queensland	38
	Earth Month Movie Night #2	Reps based in Queensland	10
	Earth Month Research Symposium: 'The intersection of ag, environment and people: Towards mitigation and adaptation to climate change' Social Hour	Reps based in Armidale Reps based in Sydney	6
May	Young Farmers Networking Event (via sponsorship)	Reps based in Northern Territory	100
	RAID Africa Network Meet up #2	Reps based in Queensland, Victoria and Tasmania	10
	Growing Up Rural Networking Event	Reps based in Queensland, Victoria, Tasmania and Armidale	12
June	Soil Science Conference Networking Event (via sponsorship)		60

RAID in Retrospect Photo Competition

In 2020 RAID announced their first ever “RAID in Retrospect” national photo competition, which aimed to celebrate and foster appreciation through photos for the wonderful Research for Development work our RAID members are a part of both globally and within Australia.

You can view all of the entries and the awards ceremony [here](#).

RAID Representatives

The Events team would like to recognise the hard work of our representative base this year, particularly their patience as new Events team members, Jess Fearnley, Belinda Nielsen and Kayla Lochner transition into their roles. We thank Bianca Das, Shanice Van Haeftan and Maddison Clonan for their excellent work leading RAID events. To reach its growing member-base, RAID has a network of representatives (reps) to host events in their local areas. Reps, as with the central committee, contribute their time voluntarily. Currently RAID has 40 reps based across Australia (Table 2). The Events team has onboarded 13 new reps in 2020/21 and has seen the departure of several invaluable reps in this time. The number of reps and activities of the reps will be streamlined and restructured in the 2021-2022 financial year to reduce the amount of time spent onboarding and training new reps.

Rep of the year was awarded to Elya Steel. Elya is a PhD Candidate at the University of Tasmania where her research investigates Primary School Programs as an Intergenerational Extension Activity in Rural Development. It’s been a challenging shift from her undergrad Agricultural Science degree, but she counts it a real privilege to travel to NW Vietnam and hear people’s stories. Elya is passionate about community-based intergenerational learning and is excited to see what the future holds for school based agricultural extension. As a Tasmanian RAID state rep since 2017, she has enjoyed contributing to the RAID community and connecting with like-minded international Ag enthusiasts along the way. Congratulations Elya!



Table 3: 2020 Rep Awards winners and categories

Category	Value	Award Type	Justification	Winner
National Rep Award	\$200	Goods or services for professional development	This person has been a long-standing Rep who has consistently organised events every year. She has brought new reps under her wing. She has attended social hours and been a strong advocate for RAID which has made a significant contribution to the culture of RAID.	Elya Steel
Most Innovative Rep	\$100	Kathmandu, Macpac	This rep has challenged themselves to add new ideas and processes to organising events. She has made herself available to contribute to several events including the first RAID event to charge a door fee of \$5 for a stellar trivia show and the first RAID webinar on international research in lockdown. She has contributed to RAID culture by writing blogs, helping other reps run their trivia and being a strong advocate on social media.	Elizabeth Worrall

Largest Event	\$100	Kathmandu, Macpac	This rep had a challenging task to mediate with event organisers, to run a lunchtime networking event at the Plant Pathology Conference. The venue had awkward spacing and uncertainty on capacity, but her persistence in communication paid off! This rep successfully organised to have 96 attendees which was RAID's largest event for the 19/20 financial year.	Sophia Callaghan
Most Creative Event	\$150	Kathmandu, Macpac (50 each)	This team of Reps had the idea to run a 'pitch your research' style event and pursued it creatively. They collaborated with the Ag Institute of Australia and sourced funding effectively. They also run RAID events consistently and actively reach out to wider audiences throughout Australia.	WA reps (Ana, Rodrigo, Alicea)
Most engaging online event	\$50	Kathmandu, Macpac	This rep confidently hosted RAID's second online webinar; had 30 participants attend and has since then had an amazing 864 views. This event explored gender and climate change and the complexities of considering a whole farm system for increasing resilience and efficiency bringing two important global issues together. The event fostered an engaging and interesting discussion among the international audience and panellists.	Anika Molesworth "Women and Climate Change" webinar.
Up and coming Rep	\$50	Kathmandu, Macpac	Despite only joining the RAID Rep team this year, this Rep has shown enthusiasm and motivation in her role. She consistently attends the RAID social hours and has already made a huge contribution to organising the upcoming RAID in retrospect Photo Competition.	Bethany Grace Donker

Outstanding contributions have seen ongoing events being held (and some postponed due to COVID-19). Of particular note are events held around Earth Month (also see Capacity Building pg. 10), including two successful movie nights hosted by reps in Queensland and an excellent research symposium held by reps in Armidale. Also, during Earth Month, RAID produced 3 short-form interview videos with researchers from different research areas across two universities. These interviews aimed to gain insight on what research is being conducted within the *agriculture for development and climate change* space. These videos in total had 73 views on YouTube. Queensland Rep, Shanice Van Haefan, and Melbourne Rep, Mia Dunphy, demonstrate great initiative in designing and hosting Earth Month activities. Similarly, reps Bianca Das (Queensland), Zelalem Moti (New South Wales), John Otto (Tasmania) and Bethany Donker (Victoria) managed two online networking events for the RAID Africa Network, a network aimed at fostering relationships and partnerships with agricultural researchers working in Africa.

Monthly social hours have continued, but pace has slowed on this. As the Events team plans for the 2021 – 2022 financial year, thoughtful consideration will include engagement of RAID representatives. We hope to have new engagement initiatives launched towards the end of 2021. Belinda Nielsen is bringing together new initiatives that will allow the events team to provide better engagement and social activities for the reps, with a focus on giving the reps value to be a part of the RAID network.

Table 4: RAID representatives as of 30 June 2021

State	Reps		Recruitment
NSW	<i>Sydney</i> Franny Earp Jess Fearnley Kayla Lochner Indi Dunn	<i>Regional</i> Anika Molesworth Matt Champness Emma Hand Sophie Lountain Zelalem Lema Moti Jori Bremer	2 new Sydney reps
VIC	Mia Dunphy Sally Moleno Bethany Donker Camilla Humphries Tim Luke Scott Essam		3 new VIC reps
QLD	Heather Pasley Shanice Van Haeften John Otto Tarni Cooper Bianca Das Tara McKenzie		2 new QLD reps
TAS	Lucy Cooper Elya Steel Beth Penrose Anna Mackintosh Phillip Kay		2 new TAS reps
NT	Maddison Clonan		2 new NT reps
SA	Jack Hetherington Greta Stark		1 new SA rep
WA	Alicea Garcia Ana Manero Rodrigo Pires Daniel Waterhouse Yueqi Zhang		1 new WA rep
ACT	Dave Gale Emily Lamberton Harry Campbell-Ross		

Communications

Website project

Finalisation of the initial scope and extra membership forum platform was completed during the 2019/20 financial year. The number of registered users of the RAID website was reset with the development of the new website so that the number of active users could be captured and users with multiple accounts struck from the system. As at September 2020, the number of users registered through the new website stands at 189. The members database under the previous website has been archived and members continue to be contacted for official communications.

Membership

RAID's primary modus operandi is via its website and social media platforms. RAID's website (<https://raidnetwork.crawfordfund.org/>) is the central location of all stories, jobs, opportunities and events. These are then pushed through the various communication channels, primarily Facebook and Twitter however, RAID also publishes material to Instagram and YouTube.

Social Media

RAID has increased its following across all platforms, including by 205 new followers on Twitter, and 121 new members on RAID's Facebook Group. See Table 3 for membership and followers across all of RAID's online platforms. Formal membership on RAID's website was reset with the development of the new website. This was pursued as it afforded the communications team an opportunity to measure the number of active RAID members and rid the membership list of double/triple account holders. Communications guidelines have been developed and continue to be maintained and updated to optimise engagement. A focus within the comms team has been to increase engagement with other likeminded agencies by connecting and sharing online content on platforms such as Instagram and twitter. This has assisted in broadening RAID's connections and awareness of opportunities in the agriculture for development space.

The sharing, communication and hosting of events online due to COID-19 has enhanced our online capacity, with the majority of our interactions with RAID members occurring through twitter, Instagram and Zoom platforms. This has greatly increased collaboration between the events and communications team, leading to the potential development of an additional integrated role in the coming year.

Merch

RAID introduced the 'RAID gift pack' as a way of thanking contributors for their input into webinars and workshops. An honorarium was offered in some circumstances but for those that declined or went above and beyond, a gift pack was sent. The gift pack included a RAID cap, RAID stickers, RAID/Crawford Fund stubby cooler, Crawford USB pen and ACIAR pen.

RAID polo shirts were sent out to new state reps as they came on board.

Table 5. Number of people engaged with RAID across platforms

Platform	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Increase from the previous 12 months
RAID website	214	384	561	827	1080	189*		
Facebook group	282	386	519	686	921	1249	1370	121
Facebook page	NA	726	868	1036	1180	1578	1575	-3
Twitter	141	310	619	947	1363	1850	2055	205
Instagram	NA	NA	95	113	143	177	278	101

*Reflects memberships under the new website. An annual renewal process will help keep updated information about active memberships.

Blog Competition

In 2020, RAID hosted the annual blog competition, with thanks to John Sampson (Communications consultant for judging). The competition was held as a month-long campaign, which will be published in the second half of 2020. A shortlist of blogs was selected by the RAID communication committee members and finalists were sent to RAID’s blog judge, John Sampson. The winners were chosen based on their readability, engagement with the RAID community, and the novelty of the topic. Winners are as follows:

1st Place: Dr Elizabeth Worrall: “What is Ag Research for Development for me?”



It’s Sustainability and breaking the ‘Grass-Ceiling’. Dr Elizabeth Worrall’s elegant and insightful piece about what Agricultural Research for Development means to her has been awarded first place in this year’s RAID Network blog competition. Addressing the theme ‘This is what ag R4D is for me’ Dr Worrall avoids number crunching the issues and instead focuses on the wider implications of agricultural research for development. It is an uplifting piece that unabashedly cheers on the work of strong female role models – those working at the coalface of agricultural issues such as climate

change and nutrition deficiencies. Dr Worrall clearly articulates why women are increasingly the face and the future of agricultural research, bringing compassion and strength to a field vital for a sustainable future for planet Earth. These women are farmers, agronomists and a voice for science and agriculture, and they are breaking through the ‘grass ceiling’.

2nd Place: Rebekah Ash: “Four hours in”



Rebekah Ash reminds us there is so much more to agricultural research for development than pipettes and bunsen burners. The field involves a deeply personal human connection that links us all. For that she has been awarded second prize in this year’s RAID Network blog competition. Rebekah takes us on a journey to Laos, where the creation of a gaudy, guitar-shaped thermometer is a major accomplishment, and allows the precise recording of a temperature-controlled growing tunnel for cassava, one of the world’s most important food staples. Rebekah’s piece reminds us again and again that agricultural research for development is

about empowering others and that the best successes always come with a smile: “...it was not the success of the procedure, it was the smile I was met with and knowledge that a young local researcher could now test for disease at a molecular level rather than purely off visual leaf symptoms, that brought me overwhelming fulfillment.”

3rd Place: Belinda Nielsen, “From the lecture hall to experiencing it all”



Belinda Nielsen has been awarded third place in this year's RAID Network blog competition for her insights into the importance of listening and learning from the people who are critical to the success of any research for development project – the people who grow food and feed some of the poorest populations on the planet. Hands-on field work. Listening to the people on the ground. Without these tools in your kit bag there is just too much room for research for development to go horribly wrong. Belinda takes us to Fiji where Cyclone Gita brings a small field trial to its knees and delivers a hard-won lesson on the vicissitudes of establishing fragile new crops on a tropical island. Experiencing weather

that turned walking tracks into quagmires and made access to the trial farm plot almost impossible, Belinda emphasises the importance of understanding local conditions and challenges, and having empathy for the people who will ultimately implement successful agricultural research for development projects.

Newsletters and Email Alerts to RAID Network Members

We kept our members updated on news and events by way of Mailchimp email alerts and newsletters. Here is a list of Mailchimp correspondence:

- [RAID Network Zoom Online Event - Volunteering in International R4D during COVID and beyond](#) - 27 July 2020
- [Science Week goes NextGen!](#) - 4 August 2020
- [RAID Network Online Event - Life for Smallholders During COVID-19](#) - 25 August 2020
- [RAID in Retrospect Photo Competition](#) - 1 October 2020
- [RAID wants to hear from you... Chance to win a trendy RAID cap!](#) - 14 October 2020
- [RAID in Retrospect Photo Competition - judging panel announced](#) - 19 October 2020
- [Last chance to win a trendy RAID cap ... RAID wants to hear from you!](#) - 28 October 2020
- [RAID in Retrospect Photo Competition - deadline extended!](#) - 2 November 2020
- [People's Choice Award - RAID in Retrospect Photo Competition](#) - 16 November 2020
- [Join us as we announce the winners of the RAID in Retrospect Photo Competition](#) - 26 November 2020
- [RAID Network want your input](#) – 7 December 2020
- [LAST CHANCE to have your say!](#) - 14 December 2020
- [International Women's Day 2021 Event](#) - 4 March 2021
- [RAID Earth Month activation program](#) - 19 April 2021
- [LAST CHANCE to apply - RAID Earth Month activation program](#) - 22 April 2021
- [Deadline extended to 25 April 2021 - RAID Earth Month activation program](#) - 23 April 2021
- [RAID Network's Cross Cultural Collaboration Workshop](#) - 13 May 2021
- [New workshop alert: Cross-cultural Collaboration. Tickets still available](#) - 18 May 2021
- [NextGen Opportunities](#) - 22 June 2021

RAID news and events were also featured in the Crawford Fund's quarterly newsletter that is sent out to Crawford Fund subscribers.

Crawford Fund

Next-Gen Initiative

RAID has continued to partner alongside ACIAR and the Crawford Fund with the Next-Gen initiative driven by the Crawford Fund. RAID members contributed (either through co-hosting or participation) to the following NextGen events.

Table 6. Next-Gen activities 2020-202.

Date	Activity
August 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Science Week events (Tas focus) National Science Week events (NSW focus) National Science Week events (ACT focus) Qld DPI Ag Science event for schools (Qld Focus)
September 2020	CSU/Graham Ag Careers Fair – Approaching Ag
Oct 2020	NextGen Crawford Fund/RAID Networking event at UWA
November 2020	Australian Volunteers Program event on The R4D challenge – anticipating every step
December 2020	WA Science Teachers Conference “Future Science 2020”
January 2021	CSIRO Undergraduate Vacation Scholarship Program panel
February 2021	“Virtual Excursions” for high school students and teachers around Australia
March 2021	Reception for "What can farmers do? Farmer-led, science-based greenhouse gas mitigation strategies for Australia and abroad"
June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RDI Conference NextGen Panel - NextGen Research Impact for Food Security RDI/RAID/Crawford Networking Event (postponed due to COVID-issues)

RAID members were also invited to be interviewed for 3 NextGen podcasts including:

1. February 2021 first podcast in Career Pathways series featuring Kayla Lochner - anthropology.
2. March 2021 second podcast in Career Pathways series featuring Anneliese Austin - environmental science.
3. May 2021 fourth podcast in Career Pathways series featuring Maree Bouterakos - nutrition.

RAID members were also invited be part of the NextGen videos:

- Career Pathways 1 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kCpht3ZFBys&t=7s>
- Career Pathways 2 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=60-HXBsad_Y&t=2s

RAID were also mentioned in the 30 or so blogs as part of the NextGen series.

State/Territory Committees

RAID representatives continue their involvement with Crawford State/Territory Committees. RAID committee members are also part of the Crawford State/Territory Committees in Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, New South Wales and ACT which strengthens our connections at a State level providing opportunities for co-branding and funding of events.

Parliamentary Conference

Previously, RAID was heavily involved with the Crawford Fund Parliamentary Conference through the development and delivery of the Young Scholars' days, and as Keynote Listeners delivering the Crawford Fund Parliamentary Report. This is one of the central activities delivered by RAID as a program of the Crawford Fund and is a prime example of the ongoing partnership between Crawford Fund and RAID. It has long been a significant calendar event of the Crawford Fund and increasingly RAID has had greater input. However, due to the current environment of COVID-19, the 2020/21 conference has been postponed until December of 2021. Planning for the conference has commenced, including the scholars' day activities and the RAID Networking event.

ACIAR

ACIAR continues to provide the majority of RAID's funding and will again for the coming financial year. A contract variation was approved to roll over to the next financial year, the awarded Launch funding. We have continued to work closely with ACIAR to maintain a strong relationship with shared goals. As a tangible measure of this, ACIAR graduate officers have continued to hold positions on our committee with new graduates starting at ACIAR eager to be involved in RAID. Additionally, the close proximity of the ACIAR Outreach team has assisted with communicating the important stories of RAIDers in the field.

Other Partnerships

We have partnered with numerous organisations in organising networking events across Australia. These have included:

- State and Territory Crawford Fund Committees
- The Australian Volunteers Program (as a program of Australian Volunteers International (AVI))
- Vietnam National University of Agriculture (VNUA)
- Australian Association of Animal Production (AAAS)
- Australasian Plant Pathological Society (APPS)
- Visibility Co. and Climate Wise Agriculture (Visibility workshop)
- Agriculture and Food, CSIRO (Event support)
- Australasian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (AARES)
- The Agriculture Institute of Australia, Western Australia branch.
- Charles Sturt University, Graham Centre for Agricultural Innovation
- The University of Queensland / Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, QAAFI (Event and Funding Support)
- The University of New England (Event support)
- The University of Adelaide (Event support)
- The University of Tasmania / Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture (Event support)
- The University of Sydney (Event support)

Financial Summary

RAID's revenue and expenditure for financial year 2020-2021 is outlined in Table 7.

The primary source of RAID's budget for 2020/21 was core funding from ACIAR, along with additional funds from the ACIAR launch fund for workshops with Australian Volunteers International.

In the absence of international travel and the cancellation of the Crawford Fund RAID's expenditure was significantly impacted in 20-22. The use of RAID launch funds for a workshop in Vietnam has been extended until October 20-22 to deliver workshop remotely or in Pacific.

Total expenditure for the fiscal year was \$22,483.97. The remaining balance was \$72,628.81, of which \$29,770 is of ACIAR launch funding. Net profit excluding this funding is \$42,858.81. Planned spending of this surplus will go towards additional HR support and web infrastructure for FY21-22.

Table 7 RAID Network expenditure for financial year 2020-2021

<u>REVENUE</u>	
Reserves Brought forward	\$15,342.780
C/O-Interest Recorded +Dividends	\$46.06
Fed Government Distribution	\$50,000.00
Workshop income	\$1,357.45
ACIAR project	\$29,770.00
Total Revenue	\$96,516.29
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Capacity Building	\$3,604.00
Communications	\$3,045.38
Events	\$2,630.81
Committee operational costs	\$13,195.60
Total Expenditure	\$22,475.79
Net profit (loss)	\$74,040.50