

# Australia Awards Recipients at the RDI Conference 2021

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)



### The 2021 RDI Conference

The theme for 2021 is ***Pathways through disruption – the future of sustainable development and recovery in the Pacific and Southeast Asia***. The Conference is to be held on the 1-2<sup>nd</sup> July, with the student forum to be the day before on the 30<sup>th</sup> June. The 2021 conference will be the 8th conference supported by DFAT. The [previous conferences](#) have brought together more than 3,500 participants over the years and included speakers such as Helen Clark (her first speaking engagement after leaving the UN), Hon Fiame Naomi Mata’afa, Martin Ravallion, Robert Chambers, Uma Kothari and Gita Sen.

This time the conference will be an online conference, with the ability for people to join online via Zoom and Whova. More information on the conference focus themes is available on the RDI Conference [website](#).

### Frequently asked questions

#### 1) Options for participation for Australia Awards scholars at the conference

Australia Awards Scholars can choose to:

- a) Express their interest in attending the conference via the Expression of Interest for Attendance form and/or
- b) submit a paper/proposal to present at the conference via the Australia Awards Call for Abstracts form
- c) Host an online workshop for other students at the Student Forum

## **2) What will be included for Australia Awards scholars?**

For selected attendees:

- Up to 130 online registrations will be offered for Australia Awards scholars to attend the Student Forum, and the 2-day conference online

For presenters:

- Up to 10 scholarships for presenters to present and attend the Student Forum, and the 2-day conference online

Australia Awards recipients are encouraged to apply to present at the conference. From the submissions received, DFAT will select a small number of presenters to award conference scholarships. This scholarship will include:

- a) Conference Registration fees (online)

Presenters will not receive a per diem.

## **3) What are the Eligibility requirements?**

Expressions of interest to attend and submission of proposals are open to Australia-based Australia Awards scholars who are currently enrolled at Australian tertiary institutions. The expression of interest form requires scholars to provide a brief statement on why they wish to attend the conference. Those who wish to present will need to have a paper/event proposal that aligns with the conference objectives and themes.

*This opportunity is open to all scholars in Australia currently on-award, including those who will graduate up to and/or on 30 June 2021.*

## **4) Is attending or presenting at this conference included in the existing Supplementary Academic Support entitlements for Australia Awards recipients?**

This conference is separate to the professional development opportunities provided to Australia Awards recipients within their Supplementary Academic support package. The application process to attend or present at the conference will be submitted directly by the Australia Awards recipient to the conference organisers, who will forward this on to DFAT for selection, and then conference organisers will notify successful recipients and make arrangements with them directly.

## **5) Is this conference part of any other professional development activities being discussed regarding Australia Awards scholars who have completed their studies but are unable to travel home due to COVID-19?**

No. This opportunity is separate to any professional development activities that may be being discussed for scholars who have finished their studies but have been unable to travel home due to COVID-19.

Group registration discounts are available for alumni who wish to attend the Student Forum, and the 2-day conference online. Please contact [rdiconference2021@uq.edu.au](mailto:rdiconference2021@uq.edu.au) for more information regarding this option.

## **6) Call to action and Key Dates**

[Expressions of Interest to Attend:](#) Open Now – closing 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021

[Call for Abstracts for Australia Awards recipients:](#) Open Now – closing 22 February 2021