

# INDIA RISE FELLOWSHIP



## Women scientists leading India's Research & Innovation STEMM Empowerment (RISE)

### OUR GOAL



The India RISE Fellowship strengthens the research, leadership, and mentorship capacity of early-career women scientists in India by advocating for supportive peer ecosystems that multiply impact through intergenerational learning and systems-level gains in women's empowerment and global health.

### Our Approach:

India RISE Fellowship (Research & Innovation STEMM Empowerment) is a 12-month program designed to empower the next generation of women leaders in science. Through advanced research training, dedicated mentorship, and leadership development, the fellowship helps participants build the skills, networks, and confidence to thrive in their scientific careers.

#### Background

Conceptualized under the [U.S.-India Alliance for Women's Economic Empowerment](#) by [Gupta-Klinsky India Institute \(GKII\)](#) at [Johns Hopkins University](#), the program is co-chaired by distinguished scientists from the [Indian Institute of Science \(IISc\)](#), the [Indian Council of Medical Research \(ICMR\)](#), [Government of India](#), and [Johns Hopkins University](#).



**“Transforming research ecosystems means rethinking how institutions support women, not to enter but grow to the fullest potential and lead.”**

**Dr. Prabhdeep Kaur**, India RISE Steering Committee Co-chair;  
Professor and Chair, Isaac Centre for Public Health Indian Institute of  
Science, Bengaluru

**In India, structural gender inequities and limited access to mentorship constrain the advancement and retention of talented women scientists, undermining both scientific innovation and equitable health outcomes.**

**What would support women’s career progression and leadership in STEMM research?**

- 01 Mentorship and life coaching in early stages of career
- 02 Access to information on grants, fellowships, and career pathways
- 03 Continued education and training in research administration
- 04 Leadership development to lead projects, collaborate in global teams & advance within institutions
- 05 Peer networks for mentorship, shared learning, and collaboration
- 06 Supportive institutional norms and inter-institutional and industry networks
- 07 ‘Pay it forward’ models promoting intergenerational, sustained mentorship across career stages

**“With India continuing to push the boundaries of scientific and technological advancement, it must ensure the full participation of women in this journey”**



**Dr. Kamini Walia**  
 India RISE Steering Committee Co-Chair;  
 Senior Scientist,  
 Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR)

**Research Skills**  
 Enhance research skills through specialized education and training programs

**Leadership**  
 Develop leadership competencies to help overcome barriers to success in research

**Mentorship**  
 Provide personalized group and peer mentorship and life coaching for career growth.

**Access**  
 Offer access to networks & resources for collaborations and exposure

**Advocacy**  
 Create space to build awareness & advocate for supportive workplaces

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The India RISE Fellowship is a 12-month, part-time, hybrid program designed for professionals who continue working in their institutional roles. Fellows will participate in continuous engagement consisting of **hands-on applied training sessions**, online **self-paced learning** and **professional development workshops**.

 **40**  
Fellows

 **12**  
Months

## INDIA RISE FELLOWSHIP COMPONENTS

- **8 modules of online core curriculum** for learner-centered, outcomes-driven competency-based education
- **4 hands-on training workshops** for Experiential learning and real-world application
- **8 group mentorship sessions, 2 one-on-one** sessions for individualized career guidance
- **2 in-person networking events** with leadership and career-development sessions
- **500+ curated resources** including grants, fellowships, conferences and networking opportunities
- **USD 50,000 research grant** competitive challenge upon completion of Fellowship.

### Structured Research Curriculum

Experts from Hopkins & India have designed curriculum in proposal development, project management, research ethics, grant writing, scientific communications & presentations. Fellows apply this learning directly through a year-long Capstone project aligned with national STEMM priorities.

### Leadership Masterclass / Workshops

Experts from Hopkins and India provide engaging leadership panels, interactive workshops with integrated leadership curriculum to inspire and develop confidence in next generation of researchers.

### Individual Development Plans

Each fellow creates an individual development plan (IDP) to chart personalised goals in research, leadership and career advancement. This IDP is a roadmap to track progress and outcomes.

### The Clifton StrengthsFinder assessment by Gallup

A validated tool used to support self-awareness and leadership growth explored throughout the fellowship's dedicated module on Global Women in Leadership, revisited during the Capstone and IDPs to reflect on fellows' personal development throughout the curriculum.

### Supportive Peer Network

Fellows engage in regular peer learning sessions, cross-cohort collaborations, and network-building activities with researchers, mentors, and leaders across disciplines.



**“Lasting change arises not from individual successes, but from pathways where women scientists lead and cultivate the next generation.”**

**Dr. Anita Shet**, India RISE Steering Committee Co-Chair and Program Director; Professor, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

# PROGRAM LEARNING GOALS

## 01 Build Advanced Research Skills

Develop technical expertise to design, conduct, & analyze impactful research using hands-on, project-based learning.

## 02 Master Research Project Management

Gain skills to efficiently plan, budget, and manage research projects from concept to completion.

## 03 Enhance Grant Writing & Proposal Development

Craft competitive, fundable research proposals aligned with global funding priorities.

## 04 Deepen Ethical & Regulatory Knowledge

Understand research ethics and compliance standards relevant to both Indian and international contexts.

## 05 Improve Scientific & Public Communication

Strengthen writing, presentation, and data visualization skills to effectively share research and communicate publicly.

## 06 Advance Research Evaluation & Translation

Evaluate outcomes and translate research into practice and policy for broader societal impact.

## 07 Develop Strategic Leadership

Build confidence, resilience, and leadership capabilities to influence teams and institutions.

## 08 Foster Collaboration & Networking

Engage in interdisciplinary teamwork and build lasting professional networks.

## 09 Support Individual Career Growth

Use Individual Development Plans (IDPs) to set and achieve personalized career goals.

## 10 Prepare For Mentorship Roles







Train to mentor peers and future cohorts, creating a multiplier effect through institutional mentorship.

# FELLOW ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Eligible applicants will be women-identifying individuals with a PhD degree or a postgraduate professional degree (such as MTech, MD, MS, DNB or equivalent) from government-recognized research and educational institutions (completed within the last 7 years), and conducting research focused on health/medicine in India. The fellow will be an early career researcher in STEMM with a demonstrated commitment to advancing women's roles in STEMM fields in India through work or mentorship and will have identified a technical Research Advisor at their institution or organization to pursue innovative research projects throughout the 12-month fellowship experience.

\* The total cumulative work experience does not have to be consecutive, allowing for career breaks and career changes.

# FELLOWSHIP BENEFITS

 <b>JHU Fellowship Certificate</b>	 <b>Travel Funding Support</b>	 <b>Access to USD 50k Competitive Grant Challenge upon Completion</b>	 <b>Premium LinkedIn Courses</b>	 <b>Access to JHU's Online Learning Content</b>	 <b>Membership to India Rise Network</b>
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# GET INVOLVED

- Provide free professional development opportunities, including career & leadership development resources and webinars, access to lab space or international exchanges.
- Host site visits and networking events at industry research and development (R&D) facilities across India
- Contribute thought leadership through blogs, op-eds, and commentary on advancing women in STEMM in India

**SCAN** to learn more about Gupta-Klinsky India Institute at JHU and India RISE Fellowship



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