

# YEAR IN REVIEW

International Alliance of  
Mental Health Research Funders



## LIVED EXPERIENCE ON THE IAMHRF STEERING COMMITTEE

People with lived experience of mental ill-health now have a say in the priorities and activities of the IAMHRF as members of our Steering Committee.

Over 75 applicants applied for the Experts by Experience role, leading to the selection of [two talented experts](#).

This complements the work of our Lived Experience Working Group, which launched a new effort to unite funders in a shared commitment on the involvement of people with lived experience at a workshop hosted in April 2021.

[Read the call for applications](#)

## EXPANSION OF THE IAMHRF

In line with our commitment to equitable research funding, we have stepped up our engagement of key funders in geographies around the world. We are delighted to welcome the newest member of the IAMHRF: [The African Academy of Sciences](#). In addition, a new [online application portal](#) has been launched to formalize the process of applying to join the IAMHRF.

70 *Organizations have attended our webinars in 2021*

*With headquarters in over*

20 *different countries*

## NEW VIDEO

We recently released a video explaining the role of the IAMHRF in the mental health ecosystem. The clip premiered at an event organized by ZonMW, the Netherlands Organization for Health Research and Development

[Watch now](#)



## THE COMMON MEASURES INITIATIVE MOVES FORWARD

This year, the IAMHRF Common Measures Initiative took huge strides forward in its aim to identify robust and globally accessible mental health outcome measures. In February, 13 data measurement experts were selected from an international group of more than 150 applicants who applied to join the IAMHRF Common Measures Advisory Group. The group has been consulted on a monthly basis to assess the strengths and limitations of a first set of common measures.

The initiative's ultimate aim is to take pragmatic action to make mental health research easier to compare, communicate and interpret to ensure that it leads to tangible improvements in the lives of people who experience mental ill-health.

[Find out more](#)

## ONLINE EVENTS

The IAMHRF hosted four online events in 2021, sparking new collaborations between mental health research funders.

In June 2021, our webinar '*Global Allies for Equitable Research Funding*' brought together the global health experts and research funders to discuss how to make funding practices more sustainable and equitable with an emphasis on local excellence.

The next event, entitled *Pathways to Common Measures*, will take place on February 16th 2022.

[See previous events](#)

## INEQUITIES STUDY IMPACTS POLICY AND STRATEGY

Our landmark study 'The Inequities of Mental Health Research Funding' continues to have a high impact across the mental health sector, both on policy and funding strategy. The report's findings have been utilized in multiple national strategy documents including the Australian government's ten year [research and translational strategy](#) for eating disorders, as well as a UK [mental health strategy](#) and [parliamentary inquiry](#).

The IAMHRF has started to engage key partners for future iterations of the 'Inequities' study, with a particular focus on the enhancement of mental health definitions and data analysis and coverage.

