The Research Enhancement Strategy Office (RESO) was established in 2013 to manage the NIBB action plans proposed by the Director and the Advisory Committee for Programming and Management as an Inter-University Research Institute: (1) promoting internationally top-notch research and (2) providing opportunities for cutting-edge researchers throughout Japan to gather and engage in activities aimed at exploring future academic fields and creating new principles. RESO is composed of six groups with the following missions: (1) planning and evaluation, (2) joint utilization of NIBB facilities and joint research between NIBB members and researchers throughout the world, (3) domestic and international cooperation, (4) promotion of the diversity and education of young researchers, (5) dissemination of information and enhancement of public relations, and (6) collaboration between academia and industry. RESO is mainly managed by University Research Administrators who hold PhDs and have experience in both research and management. RESO cooperates with the mother institute NINS’s Research Enhancement Promotion Headquarters. The activities of this office are partly supported by the Program for Promoting the Enhancement of Research Universities of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.

This group compiles reports describing NIBB activities for evaluation and budget proposals.

The group’s main activities in 2021 were as follows:
1) Prepared reports on 2020 NIBB activities for MEXT.
2) Prepared reports for 3rd medium-term objectives for the evaluation of education and research.
3) Prepared application forms for the MEXT FY2022 budget demands.
4) Prepared reports for the NINS auditors.
5) Conducted follow-up investigation of the activity of the Research University Strengthening Promotion project.
6) Summarized 2020 and 2021 NIBB activities for the annual external reviewer meeting on 8 March 2022, managed the meeting, and prepared the report.
7) Prepared the proposal on mid-term objectives and plans from 2022 to 2027.
8) Published the Annual Report 2020.

This group actively facilitates communication between NIBB and the public, school teachers, and scientific research communities and describes the activities of NIBB to a wider audience.

The group’s main activities in 2021 were as follows:
1) Press releases
The group issued press releases concerning NIBB’s scientific achievements to newspaper and magazine reporters via leaflets, e-mails and web pages. We also arranged press conferences.

2) Updated and maintained the NIBB web page

3) Edited publications, produced posters and leaflets
The group published “NIBB News” (an intra-institutional newsletter in Japanese) and brochures introducing NIBB. We also designed and distributed posters about NIBB events.

4) Managed social media
The group operated Twitter and Facebook accounts to communicate the activities of NIBB to the public. We also created videos introducing NIBB’s research that are posted on YouTube.

5) Public relations activities to recruit graduate students
The group organized four graduate school information sessions for prospective students during the year.

6) Organized scientific outreach programs
The group organized online outreach events for the public and coordinated science classes for middle and high school students.
This group supports and coordinates NIBB’s activities related to research collaborations and cooperation with universities and research institutes in Japan and abroad.

The main activities performed by this group from April 2021 to March 2022 were as follows:

1) Coordinated the following conferences/symposia:
   • The 2nd meeting for NIBB-Center for Organismal Studies (COS) Heidelberg International Collaborations Lecture series #2 “Stem Cell”. Zoom online, June 25, 2021 (p. 112)
   • NIBB-Institute of Advanced Medical Sciences (IAMS), Tokushima University, joint seminar “Toward Strengthening Collaboration and Cooperation”. Zoom online, October 22, 2021 (p. 113)
   • Cryopreservation Conference 2021. Zoom online, November 11–12, 2021 (p. 104)
   • The 3rd Chubu University-NIPS-NIBB joint seminar “AI to Life System”. Okazaki Conference Center together with Zoom online (Hybrid), Okazaki, Japan. March 28, 2022 (p. 114)
   • The 3rd meeting for NIBB-COS Heidelberg International Collaborations Lecture series #3 “Cell Signaling / Cell Biology”. Zoom online, March 31, 2021 (p. 112)

2) Supported the acceptance of researchers to NIBB from abroad related to the following events:
   • Family of a specially appointed assistant professor from Poland (September 2021)

3) Supported the following education-related programs:
   • NIBB Internship Program 2021 (p. 118)
This group is responsible for activities that bridge the gap between NIBB researchers and the business community.

The group’s main activities in 2021 were as follows:

1) Supported the application for JST’s A-step, a research grant for practical use.

2) Supported participation in Innovation Japan, a trade fair for university seeds.

3) Held a seminar on the support system for industry-university collaboration.

4) Negotiated a license agreement with a company.

5) Provided support for joint research agreements between NIBB researchers and companies.