VIVO is member-supported, open source software and an ontology for representing scholarship.  VIVO supports recording, editing, searching, browsing, and visualizing scholarly activity. VIVO encourages showcasing the scholarly record, research discovery, expert finding, network analysis, and assessment of research impact.  VIVO is easily extended to support additional domains of scholarly activity.

When installed and populated with researcher interests, activities, and accomplishments by an institution, VIVO enables the discovery of research and scholarship across disciplines at that institution and beyond. VIVO supports browsing and a search function which returns faceted results for rapid retrieval of desired information. Content in a VIVO installation may be maintained manually,  brought into VIVO in automated ways from local systems of record, such as HR, grants, course, and faculty activity databases, or from database providers such as publication aggregators and funding agencies.

There are diverse activities associated with the VIVO project, across federal agencies, academic institutions, professional societies, for-profit publishers, and data providers, as well as a variety of efforts with the semantic web and ontology development communities. Significant partners include [CASRAI](http://casrai.org/) (Consortium Advancing Standards in Research Administration Information), [EuroCRIS](http://www.eurocris.org/) (Current Research Information Systems) and the [ORCID](http://orcid.org/) (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) Initiative.  Adopters of the VIVO platform include: the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the American Psychological Association and the Publish Trust Project, the Australian-based ANDS VIVO project, and a growing number of universities around the world. Producers of VIVO-compliant data include: Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) Consortium institutions, Harvard Profiles, Elements from Symplectic Limited, Clarivate Analytics’ Web of Science, InCites, and Converis, and Elsevier’s SciVal Experts and Pure.

There are a number of efforts that have been extending the VIVO-ISF ontology to represent research contributions, research resources, ranging from datasets to spacecraft, to agriculture, cell lines, and research impact. VIVO is a network in which more than 140 institutions and agencies in more than 25 countries are implementing VIVO or producing VIVO-compatible data. See the [VIVO site registry](http://duraspace.org/registry/vivo) for a list.