

One Basin CRC Principles for Collaborative Research

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Context: The One Basin CRC undertakes collaborative research, development, training and commercialisation activities with diverse partnership from varied disciplines, sectors and cultural backgrounds. Collaboration is central to the purpose and strategy of all Cooperative Research Centres but also presents specific challenges. This document recognises that there are diverse interests, professional standards and behavioural norms across the One Basin CRC partnership. It provides principles to gain the benefits of these diverse perspectives in the national interest and promote a safe and constructive partnership for all participants. These guidelines apply to all participants in the One Basin CRC. Additional attention is provided to collaborative work involving First Nations and Traditional Owner Groups in separate policy material.

CONSTRUCTIVE COLLABORATION

Principles

- The One Basin CRC recognises and respects diverse views and values across the One Basin CRC. Respectful research and knowledge-based arguments and discussion are to be valued, and it is everyone's responsibility to ensure that debate and discussion remains civil and respectful particularly when debating with individuals or groups holding differing knowledges and perspectives.
- The One Basin CRC expects participants to comply with professional standards and acknowledges that these standards will vary across the different professions involved in the 1BCRC. For researchers, this is the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research and university and institutional codes of conduct. Other participants will have different professional obligations.
- It is everyone's responsibility to develop awareness of and seek clarification on the ownership of intellectual property used for their work in the 1BCRC, and comply with obligations to these owners.
- When representing the work and/or perspectives of others necessary for research, participants should take reasonable efforts to understand their work and/or perspectives and to represent it accurately and fairly.

TRANSPARENCY IN COMMUNICATION

Principles

- Conflicts of interest will be avoided wherever possible, or declared and appropriately managed when they are unavoidable. This applies to presenting project results, allocating resources, or any other activity in the One Basin CRC where there may be a concern of a conflict-of-interest.
- Any internal review of scientific and technical publications will have clear parameters, which are publicly transparent, and support academic freedom.
- The One Basin CRC encourages all participants to communicate the work of the 1BCRC widely, including for science communications, knowledge transfer and advocacy, with the expectation that such communications will:
 - actively avoid any risk that individual views are misinterpreted as representing the view of others or the One Basin CRC;
 - take reasonable steps to acknowledge the support of the One Basin CRC and the intellectual contributions of others; and

- respect confidentiality, cultural and other professional obligations.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND ASSOCIATION

Principles

- The One Basin CRC seeks to support researchers, partners and community members to express their knowledge and research freely and openly without a sense of coercion or control by others.
- Researchers and partners should be free to choose, and make explicit in their publications and other outputs, the engagement practices used throughout the research process, and the common products they want to be associated with. Conflicts or undue pressure exertions may be signalled via the support mechanisms outlined below.
- Freedom of expression and association should not extend to practices that would contradict other principles in this document, such as contravening professional standards or Australian law.

INDEPENDENT REVIEW AND DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES

Principles

- Good practice for ensuring quality and trust in scientific findings is through publication in quality peer reviewed journals. Non-traditional research outputs will also be subject to equivalent peer review processes to ensure quality.
- Science benefits from dissent and a range of views within and beyond the scientific community. The One Basin CRC welcomes open dialogue and encourages researchers and others to speak freely, and respectfully debate the work and findings of the CRC.
- The 1BCRC includes multiple organisations with diverse interests and knowledges in the formation and delivery of projects to promote holistic benefits across landscapes and communities.

SUPPORT AND REVIEW OF PRACTICE

- We support individuals from within the One Basin CRC partnership who wish to raise concerns about divergence from these principles and any situations they may find problematic or troubling. This includes providing clear access to designated individuals from across the CRC who will provide confidential support and advice. At the request of anyone with concerns, these designated individuals can report directly to the Chair with their concerns. University staff also have the possibility of consulting with the university academic integrity units or other university support services. External confidential points of contact, including for culturally sensitive matters will also be provided. Contact points can then advise on protocols and support for escalation and resolution where required.
- The One Basin CRC will undertake reviews of these principles and their implementation at least every three years.