

Joint Call to Action: Open Science and Research for Sustainable Communities^{1,2}

GRC Participating Organizations are encouraged to:

- Position the GRC as a hub for harmonizing AI and Open Science standards, to encourage cross-country cooperation to align data systems, and sharing of best practices.
- Seek alignment with global standards and best practices, thereby linking research directly to environmental, equality, social and economic goals, whilst fostering STI integration, inclusive participatory models, co-governance, and multilingual digital tools in alignment with UNESCO's 2021 Recommendation on Open Science.
- Embed social, ethical, and environmental principles into everyday practices, meetings and conferences of research organizations so that the values they promote are lived out in their own operations.
- Ensure access through sovereign and public infrastructures, prioritizing non-commercial, regionally relevant Open Access models that foster access and opportunity for all as research is translated from labs to industry to citizens.
- Develop flexible grant schemes that recognize the timeframes required to build trust and relationships in grant cycles, pilot programs that test transdisciplinary and accessible methodologies across regions, cater to emergency funding needs, and support community-based research.
- Adopt a more comprehensive understanding of research excellence so that under-recognized outputs and the impacts of community transformation processes are recognized alongside established metrics of academic publications and bibliometric citations. Align evaluation with [DORA](#) and [CoARA](#), the GRC Statements of Principles on [Recognizing & Rewarding Researchers](#), the [Dimensions of Responsible Research Assessment](#) and the [Practical Guide to Implementing Responsible Research Assessment at Research Funding Organizations](#), and use the [Leiden Manifesto](#) and [Hong Kong Principles](#) to diversify what "counts."
- Establish AI standards that embed ethics, security, environmental sustainability, and quality into open data management and research funding criteria.
- Resource transdisciplinary projects that connect communities with each other as well as with industry, and cover the costs associated with OS practices and community-engaged research.
- Respect data privacy, governance, ownership, and self-determination by establishing frameworks for ethical data collection and sharing, and supporting models that respect community and individual rights. Integrate local knowledge systems through ethical engagement practices and inclusion of Indigenous metrics in impact evaluations. This includes respect for Indigenous knowledge systems and Indigenous data sovereignty, following Indigenous-led frameworks such as the [CARE Principles for Indigenous Data Governance](#) and the [First Nations Principles of OCAP](#).

¹ The Global Research Council is a voluntary, participant-based organization that recognizes the different missions, mandates and remits of its participant organizations within their respective national research eco-systems. Its positions, decisions or statements are non-binding on participant organizations. Endorsement of such reflects that participant organizations may adopt statements in ways that are consistent with national policies and priorities.

² While the U.S. National Science Foundation remains committed to the GRC as an organization dedicated to collaboration and cooperation among research funding agencies, NSF is not in a position to endorse the 2026 Statements of Principles and Call to Action, as their content is not consistent with agency and U.S. administration priorities.