

# Guide for Global Research Partnerships

6 Principles for more effective and equitable research

## **Principle 1: Set the agenda together**

**to ensure relevance and shared ownership.**

- Identify and involve stakeholders and project partners from the outset.
- Define the common goal and research approach jointly.
- Clarify and manage different objectives and expectations.

## **Principle 2: Manage power dynamics**

**to promote equity and diversity.**

- Acknowledge different contexts and positions.
- Address power imbalances.
- Co-chair decision-making processes.

## **Principle 3: Specify roles and responsibilities**

**to ensure alignment, transparency, and accountability.**

- Understand roles and assign responsibilities jointly.
- Share resources and merits transparently and fairly.
- Adapt collaboration to changing circumstances.

## **Principle 4: Promote mutual learning**

**to strengthen competences and advance knowledge.**

- Respect and engage with different forms of knowledge.
- Promote peer learning and career development.
- Acknowledge the contributions of all partners.

## **Principle 5: Share and apply results**

**to create impact.**

- Collaborate with the relevant actors in an inter- and transdisciplinary way.
- Plan context-specific, scalable, and academic outputs proactively.
- Publish results accessibly and tailored to the target audience.

## **Principle 6: Build long-term partnerships**

**to grow an active community of knowledge and practice.**

- Consolidate partnerships through continuous and trust-based collaboration.
- Establish new partnerships and networks across boundaries.
- Interact regularly and engage in joint activities.

## What are global research partnerships?

Global research partnerships are collaborations across geographical and academic boundaries that build bridges for advancing knowledge and sustainable development.

## Why do we need global research partnerships?

Global research partnerships enhance the quality and impact of sciences in a globally connected and rapidly transforming world. Equitable partnerships enable the combination of varied perspectives and priorities as well as the pooling of competences and resources.

## Why do we need this guide?

This guide supports research partners in developing effective, equitable, and impactful partnerships. It presents six principles specifically designed to enhance collaboration across different contexts. It also stimulates reflection on how to address a range of challenges when working in such research partnerships.

## How do we use the guide?

The guide provides a flexible framework for orientation. It contains elements that can be applied and adapted according to the specific context and form of collaboration. All principles are interconnected and can be addressed in any order. While the guide specifically aims to strengthen global research partnerships, the principles can also be applied to global teaching partnerships.

This guide was developed by the Swiss Alliance for Global Research Partnerships (GRP Alliance) of SCNAT with the support of 200 researchers and practitioners from around the world. The GRP Alliance is a coalition of leading Swiss institutions involved in global research and teaching partnerships.

Visit our website for more information on each principle and guidance on how to implement them.



[grp-guide.ch](https://grp-guide.ch)

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