

A Tool for Fair Science Collaboration

The FRC online tool suggests steps to improve negotiations in research collaborations with emphasis on practical action, rather than technical advice.

FRC is managed by COHRED, an international non-governmental organisation based in Geneva, Switzerland. Since 1993, we support national capacity for research and innovation in low- and middle-income countries to improve health, equity and development.



“Strengthening the research capacities of LMIC institutions is a crucial part of sustainable development.”



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Who Should be Using the FRC?

Any individual or organisation who intends to engage in a research partnership, e.g.:

- Researchers
- Investigators
- Research organisations
- Research managers
- Technology transfer offices
- Ethics committee members
- Community stakeholders

with little or no access to legal expertise or support

The FRC website development has been achieved in collaboration with TRUST: www.trust-project.eu



FRC

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Fair Research Contracting



What is the FRC?

Fair Research Contracting (FRC) is a practical resource providing guidance to improve contracting for researchers or community groups considering participating in research partnerships. The FRC toolkit is designed to facilitate and support the ability of populations with no or little access to legal advice to participate in equitable research and innovation projects.

The FRC System Provides:

- **Guidance tools** – information on research contracting, technical aspects, negotiating research contracting (freely available)
- **Technical consultancy** – Advice to research managers on specialized areas such as intellectual property and data sharing/ownership, and overhead cost recovery (via the online tool)
- **Workshops and Training** – basic and intensive learning on fair research contracting (planned for the future)



Where there is no lawyer...

The FRC Online Toolkit

is easy to access and use from anywhere in the world, and provides up-to-date information on the basic know-how of research contracting.



Negotiation Strategies

Key definitions to understanding the various aspects of negotiations



Research Contracting

Basic understanding of contracts and contracting for a research partner



Research Data

Essential principles concerning rights, responsibilities, including accountability and access to data



Intellectual Property

Introduction to some of the key general principles that require consideration



Research Costing

basic understanding of cost considerations for a full cost research budget



Capacity & Technology

Ways in which a research partner can maximise what works while building capacity for long-term development

The toolkit has been structured into six themes (toolboxes) which represent six critical areas that are important for effective and equitable research partnerships.

Each toolbox expands into five components:
Keywords, Key Questions, Tips, Case Studies, Additional Resources

FRC - A Useful Tool for Everybody

FRC aims to provide guidance in negotiation, interpretation and implementation of fair collaborative research contracts.

While the guidance is not intended to give a comprehensive coverage of contracting, it provides a snapshot of the legal insight that participants should keep in mind while engaging in research activities.

The FRC is designed to work hand-in-hand with the Research Fairness Initiative (RFI).



Benefits of FRC

- **Collaborations** with both sides of the partnership having skilled contractors
- **Facilitation** of more efficient contracting arrangements
- **Decreased complications** during and after research
- **Better contracts** for improved intra-mural management of research
- **Enhanced access** to more resources to fund institution infrastructure such as buildings, research equipment, scholarships, staff, etc.