

# GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR RESEARCH

### Roles and responsibilities of researchers

- Researchers are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest professional, scientific, and ethical standards.
- They are expected to adhere to both the letter and the spirit of IARD's Dublin Principles and, where these are applicable, to ethical codes of their own institutions.
- Intellectual integrity and freedom of inquiry will guide the work of all researchers collaborating with IARD. They will be free to publish and otherwise disseminate any results of their work.
- Researchers shall fully disclose the nature of their relationship with IARD, including research funding. Any participation by IARD staff in the execution of research should be fully acknowledged.
- It should be clearly stated that all research, interpretation, and views expressed are those of the researchers and not necessarily those of IARD or its sponsor companies.
- Researchers are expected to publish the results of their research in peer-reviewed journals and make them available through scientific conferences and other forums.
- In the event of a breach of ethical standards or misconduct, IARD reserves the right to terminate any agreement or relationship with researchers.
- Collaborating researchers shall be free to develop their own research projects and methodologies in accordance with general parameters agreed to with IARD staff.

### Roles and responsibilities of the Research Advisory Group (RAG)

- The RAG is an expert panel whose key responsibility is to help shape IARD's research program through input on priority research areas.
- The RAG will assist in maintaining high quality and relevance in IARD's research program.
- RAG members shall advise on ethical aspects of IARD research so as to ensure that work is of the highest ethical standard and conducted in accordance with ethical standards for research.
- Input will be sought from the RAG on any policy recommendations emerging from research supported by IARD in order to make sure these are based on robust science and a balanced evidence base that takes into account the full range of perspectives.
- As a group, or as individuals, RAG members may provide advice during the development of particular projects, suggest specific research topics, and be involved in their implementation.
- RAG members may recommend suitable country-based or regional experts to work in specific project areas based on their areas of expertise.
- The RAG will provide advice on publication and dissemination of IARD supported research and on plans for specific projects as appropriate.



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### Roles and responsibilities of IARD Board of Directors

- Sponsor companies may provide input into identifying and guiding general areas for research. IARD sponsor companies are responsible for approving funding for the research program.
- The IARD Board will be kept informed of research and its progress by IARD Staff.
  Members of the IARD Board will not have any direct involvement in the execution of specific IARD research projects.
- All IARD sponsor companies shall abide by the IARD Sponsor Company Statement of Principles.

#### Roles and responsibilities of IARD staff

- Priority areas for the IARD research program will be identified by IARD staff with input from the RAG and the IARD Board of Directors.
- Management and oversight of individual projects will be undertaken by IARD staff, working together with external research teams.
- Where appropriate, IARD Staff may engage as active collaborators in particular research projects. IARD Staff involved in the execution of research and interpretation of findings shall be openly acknowledged as authors in any resulting publications.

- IARD Staff are responsible for reporting on the progress of research projects to the RAG and the IARD Board of Directors.
- IARD Staff are expected to adhere to IARD's Dublin Principles and the General Principles.

#### **Ethical Issues**

- Any significant procedural and ethical issues should be brought to the attention of IARD staff, who will communicate them to all relevant parties, including with the IARD Board of Directors and RAG.
- IARD funding must be disclosed by researchers in any publication or presentation, even where the disclosure of funding is not explicitly required.
- Any involvement of IARD staff in research, whether as collaborators, co-authors, or in providing advice and comment will be fully disclosed in any publications or other disseminated materials.
- Researchers working with IARD are required to disclose any potential conflicts of interest or other potential relationships that might compromise the integrity of the research or the reputation of IARD in accordance with the Dublin Principles.