

Revised EViR Guiding Principles

Intro

These guiding principles set out EViR members' aspirations. Each funder has their own context, remit, and resources in which they operate. Therefore, the way in which the principles are brought to life will differ also between funders.

We see the principles as interconnected, each playing a crucial role in reinforcing the others to create a comprehensive and robust framework for research funding.

The guiding principles reflect a point in time. This is the second iteration, and we expect to review and update them again in due course.

It is up to each funder to decide how they reflect on their implementation of the guiding principles. To support this process, the self-audit tool will be updated to reflect this second version and members will be invited to use it.

Meaningful involvement

To ensure high-quality and relevant research, funders should ensure the meaningful involvement and engagement of those affected by research and its outcomes, from prioritisation to implementation.

Dissemination, knowledge mobilisation and impact

To promote research impact, funders should use the whole research cycle from study design to dissemination, knowledge mobilisation and implementation, to ensure research is relevant to and appropriately shared with research users.

High-quality research

To fund research that is high-quality and addresses unmet needs, funders should require that there is an evidence gap demonstrated by a review done systematically. Research methods should be appropriate and robust with ability to replicate findings.

Equality, diversity and inclusion

To make research outcomes applicable to everybody, equality, diversity, and inclusion should be integral to the whole research cycle, including funding decisions, design and conduct of studies, accessible dissemination and researcher development.

Sustainable research practices and outcomes

To contribute to environmental, social, and economic sustainability, funders should actively work to improve their own practices, consider expectations and requirements of researchers and consider sustainability in the topics they fund.

Research management and regulation

To ensure the safe and effective conduct of research, the selection and oversight of research should be actively managed in a risk proportionate way, consistent with responsible research assessment, applicable laws, regulations, and ethical guidance.

Open Science

To facilitate Open Science and reporting, funders should incentivise that study methods, data and findings are made publicly available as appropriate throughout the research cycle, from inception to outcomes. This applies irrespective of the nature of the findings and whether the study completed as planned.

Transparency of funding process

To be equitable whilst ensuring appropriate governance, funders should strive to be as transparent as possible about their processes and decision making.

Evidence-informed learning and improvement

To continuously improve every aspect of their work, funders should undertake effective monitoring, evaluation, and evidence-informed learning from their own activities, alongside sharing with and learning from other funders. Where possible, funders should undertake research on research funding practice to further inform and improve practice.