



ISC Due Diligence Policy

Applying to sponsorships and partnerships with private sector or non-public organizations (businesses, foundations and other)

The role of the International Science Council (ISC) is to be the global voice for science and to advance science as a global public good. The values that the Council upholds in its work, its governance and its partnerships include: professionalism; inclusivity and diversity; transparency, integrity and respect; collaborativeness; and sustainability. The ISC also defends and advances the principles of free and responsible practice of science, as a fundamental condition to scientific advancement and human and environmental well-being.

The ISC strives to ensure that it engages and does business only with organizations and bodies that share ISC values and respect the highest standards of social, environmental and corporate responsibility. Accordingly, the ISC asks prospective sponsors or partners (including businesses, foundations or other private sector or non-public organizations) to provide information and make a formal declaration regarding their social, environmental and corporate responsibility. The ISC undertakes its own research to satisfy itself as to the integrity of potential sponsors and partners. The policy applies to any non-public organization that is contemplating sponsoring or partnering with the ISC.

For the purposes of this policy, 'sponsorship' involves a relationship whereby the ISC is the beneficiary or direct recipient of funds or other resources from the other party to support or subsidize its own activities or outputs, in return for acknowledgement of support; whereas 'partnership' describes a collaborative relationship in an activity or programme of activities which may not involve any transfer of funds or resources between the two parties.

The ISC will only enter into sponsorship or partnership arrangements with such organizations following an assessment of the potential benefits and risks of engagement to the ISC, its vision and mission, and society at large.

Furthermore, the ISC will not knowingly enter into sponsorship or partnership arrangements with any organization (extending to any parent, subsidiary or affiliate) that is involved in or complicit with, or that has been sanctioned or convicted in the past ten years for having been involved in or complicit with:

- Fraud, bribery or corruption
- Financing of terrorism or paramilitary activities
- Slavery, child labour, trafficking and other human rights abuses
- Manufacture of or trade in weapons, illegal or not
- Manufacture of or trade in any product or activity deemed illegal under French or international law.

The ISC reserves the right to terminate an agreement with a sponsor or partner at any time should any instance of the above come to light.

Conversely, the ISC values the following attributes in prospective sponsors and partners:

- Alignment with international principles and guidelines regarding working conditions, human rights, and responsibilities of the business sector
- Commitment to social, environmental and corporate responsibility
- Commitment to gender equity as well as to non-discrimination and inclusivity.

The case of organizations or consultants in countries under economic sanctions

The ISC, with its legal domicile in France, respects restrictions on financial transactions imposed by French and international authorities and is obliged to observe embargoes and sanctions imposed by third parties that inhibit all or certain financial transactions and dealings between France and particular countries.

Due diligence process

Prospective sponsors and partners will be asked to complete the Declaration for Prospective Sponsors or Partners (Annex A).

The ISC Secretariat will make an initial harm–benefit assessment based on the declaration and additional research. All assessments will be reviewed by the Operations Director, and any prospective engagement considered to present a risk will additionally be reviewed by the CEO and Vice-President for Finance. Together, they will decide whether the assessment needs to be reviewed by the Committee for Finance, Compliance and Risk and ultimately by the Governing Board.

Independent consultants will be asked to make a declaration of their integrity in any contract signed with the ISC and to declare any interests that might constitute a real or apparent conflict of interest or present a risk to the ISC.



Annex A: Declaration for prospective ISC sponsors or partners

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

Full legal name of the organization
and place of incorporation:

Full legal name of the parent
organization, if applicable:

Business registration number:

Type of organization/industry,
sector and countries/regions of
operation:

Mission and financial basis:

Website of the organization:

Social media accounts of the
organization:

Contact details of a person
authorized to represent the
organization

Name:

Position:

Email:

Phone:

List of the organization's managing
director(s), including their full
names and official positions:

SECTION 2: MOTIVATION, ROLES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

1. What is the motivation for the organization to sponsor or partner with the ISC? What will the respective roles and contributions of the parties be, including financial?

Please give details.

SECTION 3: CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY

Note that all questions apply to the organization and to any parent, subsidiary or affiliate thereof.

1. Has the organization been involved in any partnerships or initiatives with international organizations (UN organizations, programmes, agencies, etc.) or NGOs in the past ten years? If yes, please specify.

Please give details.

2. Is the organization a signatory to the Principles for Responsible Investment or a member of the UN Global Compact, the Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change, or any other such alliance?

Please give details.

3. Has the organization ever been sanctioned by a UN organization (including the World Bank)?

Please give details.

4. Has the organization ever been convicted of, sanctioned for, involved in or complicit with any of the following? If yes, please give details.

- Fraud, bribery or corruption (see the [ISC Anti-Corruption and Anti-Money-Laundering Policy](#))
- Financing of terrorism or paramilitary activities
- Slavery, child labour, trafficking and other human rights abuses
- Manufacture of or trade in weapons, illegal or not
- Manufacture of or trade in any product or activity deemed illegal under French or international law

Please give details.

5. Does the organization have an audit mechanism?

Please give details.

6. Does the organization have a risk register?

Please provide or give details.

7. Does the organization comply with International Labour Organization standards?

Please give details.

8. Does the organization have policies, strategies and monitoring/evaluation systems regarding:
- a. Financial and governance responsibility (such as an anti-corruption policy)
 - b. Social responsibility (such as a code of conduct, conflict of interest policy, health and safety policy, accident register, anti-discrimination policy, equality, diversity and inclusion policy, data privacy and security policy)

- c. Environmental responsibility (such as a sustainability policy and a sustainable procurement policy)?

Please provide the policies or give details.

By submitting this completed document, you (the authorized representative) declare that the details provided are true and correct to the best of your knowledge. You agree to inform the ISC about any changes that may arise in the information provided. If any information provided above is subsequently found to be misleading or false, the agreement can be terminated unilaterally by the ISC.

Authorized representative

Name and position	Signature	Date