

Nestlé Policy on Public-Private Science & Research Partnerships



Issuing department

Research & Development

Author/issuing department

Regulatory and Scientific Affairs

Target audience

This policy applies to all Nestlé R&D employees
engaging with third parties

**Related Group Principles / Policies,
Standards or Guidelines**

Nestlé Policy on Transparent Interactions with Authorities and Organisations

The Nestlé Corporate Business Principles

Anti-Trust Policy

Nestlé Code of Business Conduct

Nestlé Claims Policy

Repository

All Nestlé Principles and Policies, Standards and
Guidelines can be found in the Centre online repository at:
<http://intranet.nestle.com/nestledocs>

Approver

Nestlé Executive Board

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Preamble

This policy applies to all Public Private Partnerships by Nestlé R&D worldwide. It is part of Nestlé's ambition to become a major partner in solving key societal challenges and of its strong commitment to support Public Health through the Nestlé Nutrition, Health and Wellness strategy. This includes building meaningful science platforms and spreading knowledge in the field of nutrition while simultaneously evolving our food and beverage portfolio.

General Principles

Nestlé's approach to interaction with academic institutions and public organizations is based on creating value for our consumers, shareholders and society at large. This approach is the foundation for how we conduct business. We call this Creating Shared Value, which means that we build a successful long term business through building value for society (see Nestlé Corporate Business Principles).

Nestlé strives to address societal challenges in the areas of Nutrition, Water & Rural development. We believe Nestlé can play a catalyst role by leveraging research, know-how, consumer insight and marketing power to inspire change. We engage in partnerships driving benefits for society and Nestlé alike. We demand trustworthy and transparent rules of engagement with organizations as it is fundamental to our Creating Shared Value vision.

Nestlé supports Public-Private Partnerships that comply with all applicable laws and meet the following criteria:

Neutrality in research

- When Nestlé is sponsoring research in academic institutions *e.g.* to further knowledge in the field of nutrition or improve our products, it is imperative to ensure investigators are free to conduct their research, reach scientific conclusions and publish them according to best practices in academic research that promote academic freedom, ethics and integrity. Our research agreements embody this principle.

- Internal R&D guidelines ensure implementation of neutrality in research by specifying obligations to use accurate methodology and demonstration of reproducibility of results. It is also linked to a communication standard guaranteeing research-based claims are truthful and not misleading consumers.

Openness and Effectiveness

- Nestlé invests in long term relationships, establishes strong engagement platforms and builds broad awareness of its partnerships together with the collaborating organizations and with external stakeholders.

Transparency

- Nestlé commits to making public the list of key research priorities, platforms as well as related partnerships and financial contributions within a reasonable time following their creation.
- We will request all our partners to disclose their collaboration with Nestlé once study results are published.
- Nestlé R&D employees are required, when interacting with a public official or other relevant body, to disclose their identity and relationship with Nestlé and the purpose of the representation and the position or standpoint. The same is true if a third party is acting on behalf of the company.

