

Research, Innovation & Global Collaboration

Questions, evidence and responsible knowledge exchange.

Academic information edition | 2026-2027

Subject and learning information; not an admissions offer.



A research ecosystem designed around evidence

Public IEU pages describe developing initiatives—not a verified active research portfolio.

- Research direction — Frame answerable institutional and societal questions.
- Knowledge creation — Build defensible methods and evidence products.
- International collaboration — Verify every relationship and role.
- Digital research systems — Protect data, provenance, rights and learning assets.
- Quality and integrity — Make approval, review and corrections visible.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 **Research direction — Frame answerable institutional and societal...**
- 02 **Knowledge creation — Build defensible methods and evidence...**
- 03 **Digital research systems — Protect data, provenance, rights and...**

The IEU research proposition

From emerging research themes to defined methods, responsible partnerships and decision-ready evidence.

Education & research

Link learning questions to applied inquiry.

Applied knowledge

Work from evidence rather than assertions.

Institutional value

Design reproducible tools and reviewable reports.

International network

Exchange expertise within evidenced relationships.

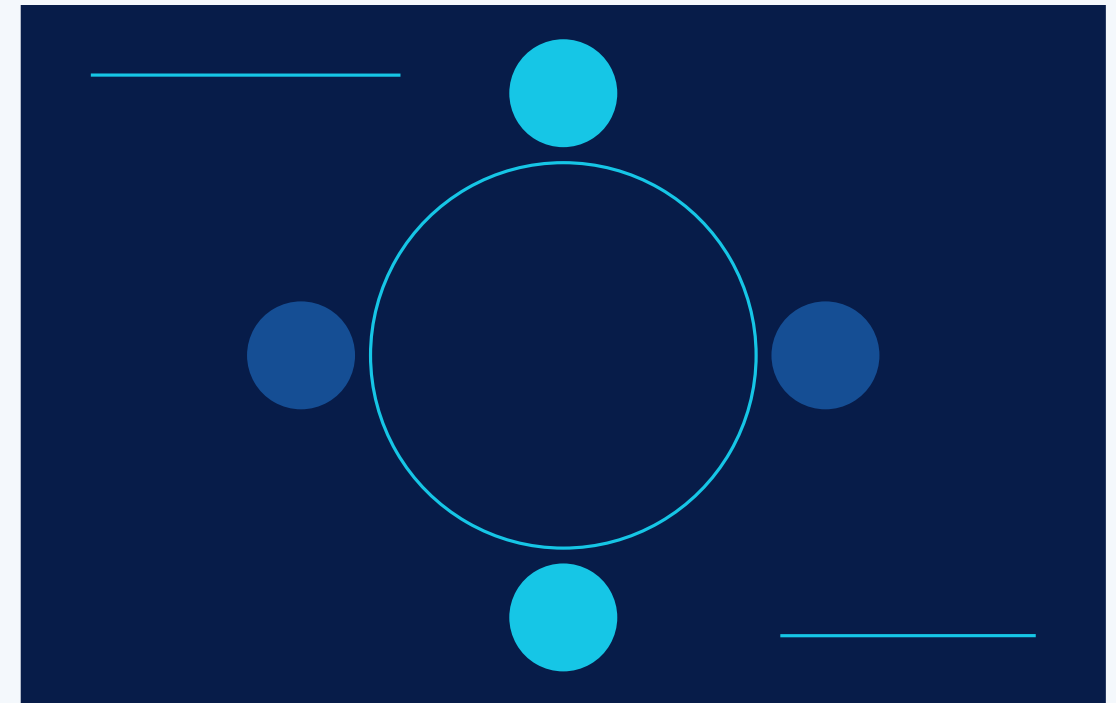
Impact

Measure what a project actually delivered.

What is publicly available today

Carefully distinguish a published page, a developed framework and a genuinely operating service.

- IEU lists 18 center themes across four published groups.
- The research page does not assert funded projects or an active research portfolio.
- The academic network currently lists no institution-specific verified public partner records.
- A published framework page is not proof of staff, data, research ethics approval or delivery.
- Commercial engagements need scope, permissions, capacity and authorized terms.



Four strategic research workstreams

A reusable architecture across the IEU knowledge ecosystem.

01

Research strategy

Priorities, questions and quality standards.

02

Productized research

Diagnostic, study, toolkit and evidence brief.

03

International collaboration

Partner evidence and delivery agreements.

04

Digital knowledge

Data, publishing, rights and accessible dissemination.

The public evidence rule

A principle for every IEU presentation, web page, PDF and research discussion.

Clearly label outlined work as outlined.

Framework component and output expectations

Name a partner only when the approved evidence supports the exact claim.

Framework component and output expectations

No claim of completed projects, operational laboratories, grants or awards without records.

Framework component and output expectations

Differentiate IEU academic activities from independent GRS projects and systems.

Framework component and output expectations

Maintain an owner, version and source link for each public asset.

Framework component and output expectations

IEU research audience

Different audiences require different evidence products.

Universities

Academic methods, quality evidence and structured collaboration.

Public bodies

Transparent evidence summaries and options for policy decisions.

Organizations

Scoped research diagnostics, indicators and capability studies.

Researchers

Research governance, methods tools and editorial guidance.

Learners

Responsible research-literacy resources and project learning.

The institutional research journey

A coherent sequence from request to validated knowledge output.

- Frame and qualify the underlying research question.
- Document feasibility, ethics, capability and intended use.
- Approve methods, resources and a clear statement of work.
- Conduct evidence gathering, verification and peer challenge.
- Publish or hand over outputs with transparent limitations.



THEMATIC EDUCATION IMAGERY

The five IEU knowledge pillars

Research, learning, quality, technology and institutional relationships form a connected model.

Education

Learning and dissemination pathways.

Research & knowledge

Evidence, methods and studies.

Institutional networks

Governance of academic relationships.

Innovation & technology

Responsible solutions and experiments.

Continuing & executive education

Advanced learning and dissemination.

Navigate the source ecosystem

Official content and external research integrity references appear in notes throughout this deck.

- IEU Research — www.ie.edu.eu/research/
- IEU Centers — www.ie.edu.eu/centers/
- IEU Academic Network — www.ie.edu.eu/academic-network/
- IEU Quality Assurance — www.ie.edu.eu/quality-assurance/
- ALLEA, UNESCO and COPE provide external guidance—not IEU accreditations.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 IEU Research —
www.ie.edu.eu/research/
- 02 IEU Centers —
www.ie.edu.eu/centers/
- 03 IEU Quality Assurance —
www.ie.edu.eu/quality-assurance/

SECTION / 01

Centers & Enterprise

Eighteen published center themes, organized in four the

IN THIS SECTION

01 Learning & education themes

02 Enterprise & government themes

03 Research and global networks

The four-group portfolio

All 18 themes are published as informational pages; delivery readiness requires verification.

01

Learning Enterprise

4 framework areas

02

Enterprise & Government Solutions

5 framework areas

03

Research, Knowledge & IP

5 framework areas

04

Global Networks & Ventures

4 framework areas

Learning Enterprise

Learning development themes, advanced learning, digital credentials and study readiness.

- Portfolio scope — 4 framework areas.
- User need — Identify the decision or learning problem before selecting a center framework.
- Delivery status — A published page does not establish an active service.
- Evidence gate — Confirm people, rights, methods, data and signed terms.
- Output logic — Design a bounded diagnostic or research brief first.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 **Portfolio scope — 4 framework areas.**
- 02 **User need — Identify the decision or learning problem before...**
- 03 **Evidence gate — Confirm people, rights, methods, data and signed...**

Enterprise & Government Solutions

Scoping institutional capability, policy, technology, education and workforce needs.

- Portfolio scope — 5 framework areas.
- User need — Identify the decision or learning problem before selecting a center framework.
- Delivery status — A published page does not establish an active service.
- Evidence gate — Confirm people, rights, methods, data and signed terms.
- Output logic — Design a bounded diagnostic or research brief first.



THEMATIC EDUCATION IMAGERY

Research, Knowledge & IP

Research, evidence, observatory themes, content, publishing and rights.

- Portfolio scope — 5 framework areas.
- User need — Identify the decision or learning problem before selecting a center framework.
- Delivery status — A published page does not establish an active service.
- Evidence gate — Confirm people, rights, methods, data and signed terms.
- Output logic — Design a bounded diagnostic or research brief first.



THEMATIC EDUCATION IMAGERY

Global Networks & Ventures

Alliance, academic pathways, innovation and graduate-engagement themes.

- Portfolio scope — 4 framework areas.
- User need — Identify the decision or learning problem before selecting a center framework.
- Delivery status — A published page does not establish an active service.
- Evidence gate — Confirm people, rights, methods, data and signed terms.
- Output logic — Design a bounded diagnostic or research brief first.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 **Portfolio scope — 4 framework areas.**
- 02 **User need — Identify the decision or learning problem before...**
- 03 **Evidence gate — Confirm people, rights, methods, data and signed...**

01 IEU Continuing & Executive Education

Focused advanced and executive learning

POTENTIAL SCOPE

Define audience, learning need, format, ownership and content rights before any learning offer.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

A scoped learning brief; a outlined pathway map; evidence needed for a future cohort.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 Define audience, learning need, format, ownership and content...
- 02 A scoped learning brief; a outlined pathway map; evidence needed...
- 03 Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

02 Lifelong Learning & IEU for Life

A structure for future lifelong learning

POTENTIAL SCOPE

Map evolving learning needs across career changes and life stages; separate themes from member entitlements.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

A lifelong learning framework brief and future engagement journey.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 Map evolving learning needs across career changes and life...
- 02 A lifelong learning framework brief and future engagement journey.
- 03 Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

03 Skills Assessment & Digital Credentials

Competency architecture before credentials

POTENTIAL SCOPE

Document skill definitions, suitable evidence, fairness, assessor capability and data-use controls.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

A competence taxonomy and prepare evaluation blueprint; not a current certificate offer.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.



04 Languages & Academic Preparation

Readiness and academic communication themes

POTENTIAL SCOPE

Map foundation skills, language needs and digital study readiness by audience and format.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

A preparatory learning design with explicit outcomes and evidence requirements.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.



05 Corporate & Government Academies

Institutional capability-building frameworks

POTENTIAL SCOPE

Diagnose workforce needs, design capability pathways, document delivery responsibilities.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

Academy blueprint, competency matrix and outlined pilot roadmap.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 Diagnose workforce needs, design capability pathways, document...
- 02 Academy blueprint, competency matrix and outlined pilot roadmap.
- 03 Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

06 Education Systems & Institutional Solutions

Education architecture and systems review

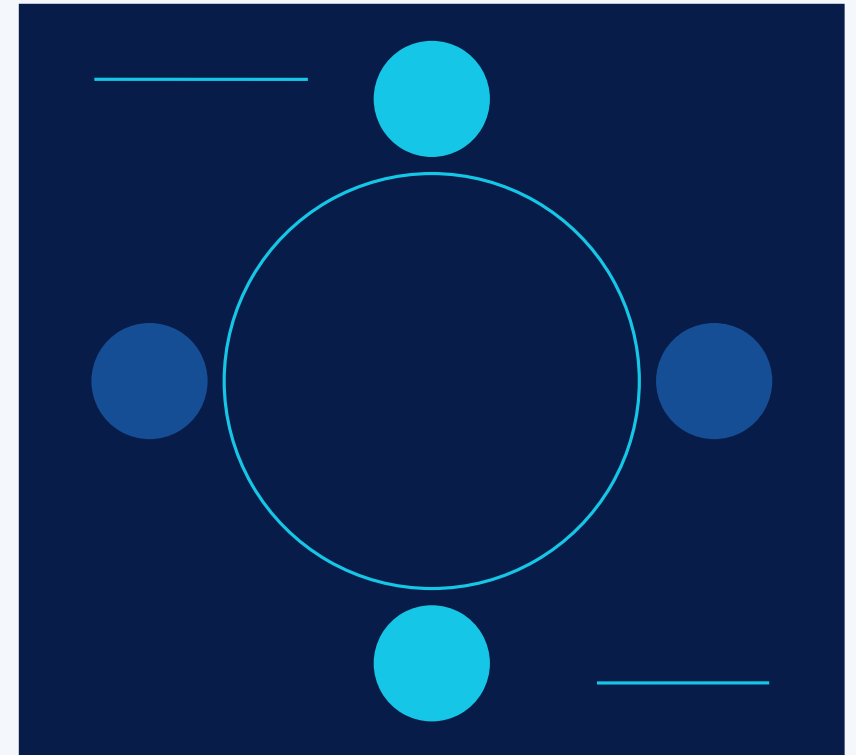
POTENTIAL SCOPE

Define institutional challenges in curricula, assessment, digital provision and operations.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

Current-state review, options paper and implementation dependencies.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.



07 Institutional Excellence & Quality

Evidence-based institutional improvement

POTENTIAL SCOPE

Map governance, institutional indicators, review cycles and responsibility for corrective actions.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

Internal improvement framework and documented assessment plan.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 Map governance, institutional indicators, review cycles and...
- 02 Internal improvement framework and documented assessment plan.
- 03 Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

08 AI & Digital Transformation

Responsible digital change and AI adoption

POTENTIAL SCOPE

Identify process opportunities; screen privacy, security and human-oversight risks.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

AI opportunity map, bounded-pilot brief and evaluation protocol.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 Identify process opportunities; screen privacy, security and...
- 02 AI opportunity map, bounded-pilot brief and evaluation protocol.
- 03 Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

09 Talent Assessment & Workforce Development

Workforce skills and future capability planning

POTENTIAL SCOPE

Specify talent needs, role requirements and evidence for strengths and gaps.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

Skills-gap assessment brief, workforce pathway and metrics.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 Specify talent needs, role requirements and evidence for...
- 02 Skills-gap assessment brief, workforce pathway and metrics.
- 03 Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

10 Applied Research & Policy Solutions

Research design for decisions and policy

POTENTIAL SCOPE

Translate a decision challenge into research questions, evidence requirements and suitable methods.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

Feasibility note, study protocol, evidence synthesis or options report.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 Translate a decision challenge into research questions, evidence...
- 02 Feasibility note, study protocol, evidence synthesis or options...
- 03 Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

11 Global Observatories & Intelligence

Evidence intelligence and research monitoring models

POTENTIAL SCOPE

Define indicator themes, reference sources, refresh cycles and limitations before building a tracker.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

Observatory design, indicator dictionary and evidence provenance log.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.



12 Intellectual Property & Licensing Office

Knowledge assets and licensing due diligence

POTENTIAL SCOPE

Identify source ownership, use permissions, licenses, territories, limitations and third-party rights.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

Rights audit worksheet and outlined licensing requirements.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.



13 Digital Publishing & Case Studies

Editorial products and academic knowledge design

POTENTIAL SCOPE

Document authorship, sources, editorial review, correction and publishing permissions.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

Case-study brief, manuscript checklist, editorial workflow and version log.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 Document authorship, sources, editorial review, correction and...
- 02 Case-study brief, manuscript checklist, editorial workflow and...
- 03 Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

14 Digital Learning Production Studio

Research-to-learning production workflows

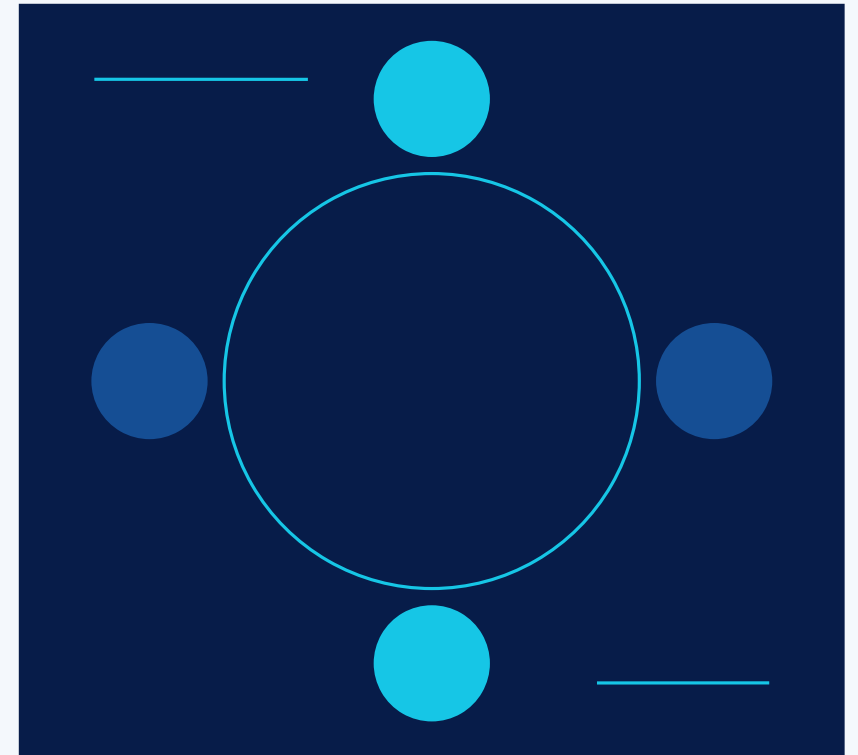
POTENTIAL SCOPE

Structure authorised knowledge into media scripts, slides, activities and assessment themes.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

Course specification, content map, media script and QA checklist.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.



15 Industry & Institutional Alliance Network

Defined institutional relationship themes

POTENTIAL SCOPE

Separate cooperation conversations from signed arrangements; map governance and permissions.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

Alliance feasibility note, due-diligence record and prepare cooperation scope.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 **Separate cooperation conversations from signed arrangements; map...**
- 02 **Alliance feasibility note, due-diligence record and prepare...**
- 03 **Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.**

16 Global Academic Pathways & Partnerships

Potential inter-institutional academic pathways

POTENTIAL SCOPE

Define awarding authority, quality, delivery, credit decisions and student protections.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

Partner-readiness matrix and academic-pathway feasibility report.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 Define awarding authority, quality, delivery, credit decisions...
- 02 Partner-readiness matrix and academic-pathway feasibility report.
- 03 Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

17 Innovation & Venture Studio

Evidence-first innovation framework testing

POTENTIAL SCOPE

Qualify the problem, user need, risks, intellectual property and bounded pilot criteria.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

Venture hypothesis canvas, experiment design and pilot decision memo.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 Qualify the problem, user need, risks, intellectual property and...
- 02 Venture hypothesis canvas, experiment design and pilot decision...
- 03 Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

18 Alumni, Careers & Global Opportunities

Potential graduate engagement and opportunity resources

POTENTIAL SCOPE

Explore future career-readiness and graduate-communications resources with verified operators.

EXAMPLE OUTPUT

Opportunity resource map and outlined user-safeguarding framework.

Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 Explore future career-readiness and graduate-communications...
- 02 Opportunity resource map and outlined user-safeguarding framework.
- 03 Status: framework page; operational readiness not established.

Portfolio decision rules

Use a stage-gate approach before positioning a center externally.

Explore

Page exists and defines possible scope.

Validate

Capabilities, operators and source claims can be documented.

Pilot

Limited authorized activity with safeguards and evidence.

Operate

Service capacity, controls and recordkeeping are demonstrated.

Publish

Public claims match verified current operating status.

SECTION / 02

Research Agenda & Themes

Ten outlined research directions; every question is a scoping framework, not an active study.



THEMATIC EDUCATION IMAGERY

01 Responsible AI in Education

Sample research priority • thematic research agenda

KEY QUESTION

How can institutions implement human oversight and fair learning assessment?

POSSIBLE METHOD

Process audits + comparative reviews

EXAMPLE DELIVERABLE

AI governance and learning quality brief



02 Digital Access & Student Success

Sample research priority • thematic research agenda

KEY QUESTION

Which design choices improve access and meaningful learner support?

POSSIBLE METHOD

Accessibility and student journey evidence

EXAMPLE DELIVERABLE

Digital participation framework

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 Which design choices improve access and meaningful learner...
- 02 Accessibility and student journey evidence
- 03 Digital participation framework

03 Higher Education Quality

Sample research priority • thematic research agenda

KEY QUESTION

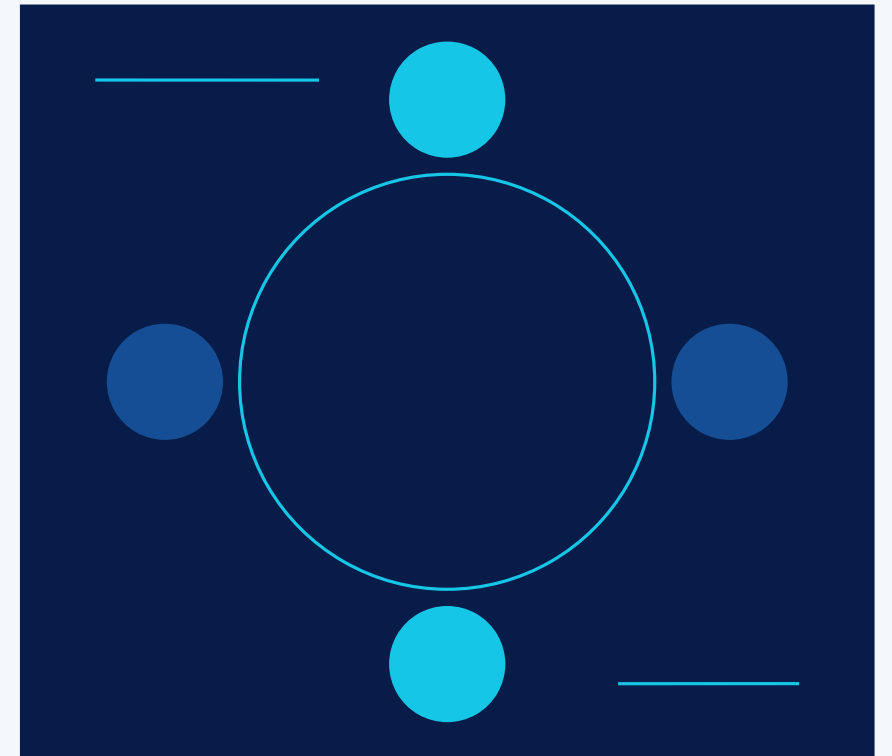
How can programme evidence lead to verifiable improvement actions?

POSSIBLE METHOD

ESG-aligned gap mapping + policy review

EXAMPLE DELIVERABLE

Quality maturity rubric



04 Leadership & Future Work

Sample research priority • thematic research agenda

KEY QUESTION

What capabilities support ethical decision-making during technology change?

POSSIBLE METHOD

Qualitative interviews + competency review

EXAMPLE DELIVERABLE

Executive capability framework



THEMATIC EDUCATION IMAGERY

05 Research Integrity & Open Science

Sample research priority • thematic research agenda

KEY QUESTION

How do research teams document reproducibility and responsible disclosure?

POSSIBLE METHOD

Protocol reviews + data stewardship templates

EXAMPLE DELIVERABLE

Research integrity toolkit

WHAT THIS COVERS

01 How do research teams document reproducibility and responsible...

02 Protocol reviews + data stewardship templates

03 Research integrity toolkit

06 Public Policy & Evidence Use

Sample research priority • thematic research agenda

KEY QUESTION

How do policy teams select evidence and acknowledge uncertainty?

POSSIBLE METHOD

Evidence synthesis + decision maps

EXAMPLE DELIVERABLE

Policy options memo

WHAT THIS COVERS

01 How do policy teams select evidence and acknowledge uncertainty?

02 Evidence synthesis + decision maps

03 Policy options memo

07 Health Systems & Digital Learning

Sample research priority • thematic research agenda

KEY QUESTION

How can digital training improve evidence literacy in health organizations?

POSSIBLE METHOD

Needs analysis + literature mapping

EXAMPLE DELIVERABLE

Learning and evaluation design

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 How can digital training improve evidence literacy in health...
- 02 Needs analysis + literature mapping
- 03 Learning and evaluation design

08 Sustainable Cities & Systems

Sample research priority • thematic research agenda

KEY QUESTION

Which institution-level indicators can support sustainable decisions?

POSSIBLE METHOD

Indicator scan + scenario comparison

EXAMPLE DELIVERABLE

Observatory feasibility note

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 Which institution-level indicators can support sustainable...
- 02 Indicator scan + scenario comparison
- 03 Observatory feasibility note

09 Innovation & Venture Governance

Sample research priority • thematic research agenda

KEY QUESTION

How can low-cost pilots test impact before scaling?

POSSIBLE METHOD

Hypotheses + bounded experiments

EXAMPLE DELIVERABLE

Pilot evaluation memo

WHAT THIS COVERS

01 How can low-cost pilots test impact before scaling?

02 Hypotheses + bounded experiments

03 Pilot evaluation memo

10 International Knowledge Networks

Sample research priority • thematic research agenda

KEY QUESTION

What makes equitable cross-border research collaboration credible?

POSSIBLE METHOD

Partnership governance comparative study

EXAMPLE DELIVERABLE

International collaboration playbook

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 What makes equitable cross-border research collaboration credible?
- 02 Partnership governance comparative study
- 03 International collaboration playbook

Agenda selection methodology

Select a topic because the evidence and decision need justify it.

Importance

Who will use the findings and why?

Feasibility

Are sources, data, methods and capacity available?

Integrity

Are conflicts, participant risks and limitations clear?

Comparability

Can lessons transfer between contexts?

Publication potential

Is dissemination permitted and useful?

SECTION / 03

Research Operating System

A complete end-to-end blueprint for scoping, designing, v reporting research.

IN THIS SECTION

01 Research design

02 Evidence and analysis

03 Reviewable conclusions

Eight essential research gates

Move from a decision problem to defensible evidence and publication.

01

Decision need

Define why the study matters and to whom.

02

Research question

Write an answerable, bounded research question.

03

Evidence scan

Identify prior studies and evidence gaps.

04

Protocol

Specify method, sample, instruments and limits.

05

Ethics review

Assess human, privacy and safety implications.

06

Data plan

Document sources, access, retention and reuse.

07

Analysis

Apply transparent, appropriate methods.

08

Reporting

State findings, uncertainty and limitations.

01 Problem framing

Research operating standard • planning and delivery checks

- Purpose — Define the decision, audience, time horizon and intended use.
- Core output — Problem statement + scope exclusions.
- Review question — What evidence would prove this step was completed?
- Decision owner — Define who approves assumptions and any changes.
- Recordkeeping — Preserve versions, permissions and documented limitations.



THEMATIC EDUCATION IMAGERY

02 Evidence mapping

Research operating standard • planning and delivery checks

Purpose

Search and categorize peer-reviewed and high-quality grey literature.

Core output

Evidence matrix, inclusion and exclusion rules.

Review question

What evidence would prove this step was completed?

Decision owner

Define who approves assumptions and any changes.

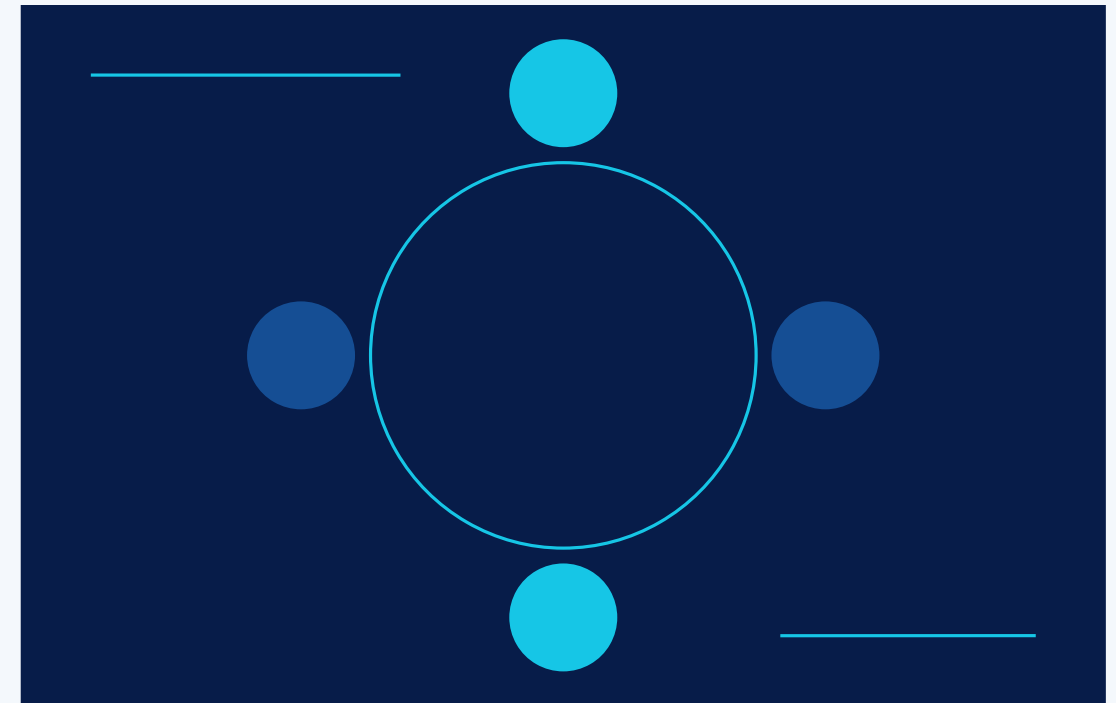
Recordkeeping

Preserve versions, permissions and documented limitations.

03 Comparative study

Research operating standard • planning and delivery checks

- Purpose — Benchmark jurisdictions, organizations or learning approaches with common criteria.
- Core output — Comparison framework and context caveats.
- Review question — What evidence would prove this step was completed?
- Decision owner — Define who approves assumptions and any changes.
- Recordkeeping — Preserve versions, permissions and documented limitations.



04 Qualitative research

Research operating standard • planning and delivery checks

- Purpose — Plan interview guides, recruitment and thematic analysis with consent.
- Core output — Interview protocol and coding plan.
- Review question — What evidence would prove this step was completed?
- Decision owner — Define who approves assumptions and any changes.
- Recordkeeping — Preserve versions, permissions and documented limitations.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 **Purpose — Plan interview guides, recruitment and thematic...**
- 02 **Core output — Interview protocol and coding plan.**
- 03 **Decision owner — Define who approves assumptions and any changes.**

05 Survey research

Research operating standard • planning and delivery checks

Purpose

Define constructs, sampling, question fairness and response controls.

Core output

Questionnaire specification and analysis plan.

Review question

What evidence would prove this step was completed?

Decision owner

Define who approves assumptions and any changes.

Recordkeeping

Preserve versions, permissions and documented limitations.

06 Mixed methods

Research operating standard • planning and delivery checks

- Purpose — Connect qualitative insights with quantitative evidence in one protocol.
- Core output — Integration and triangulation plan.
- Review question — What evidence would prove this step was completed?
- Decision owner — Define who approves assumptions and any changes.
- Recordkeeping — Preserve versions, permissions and documented limitations.

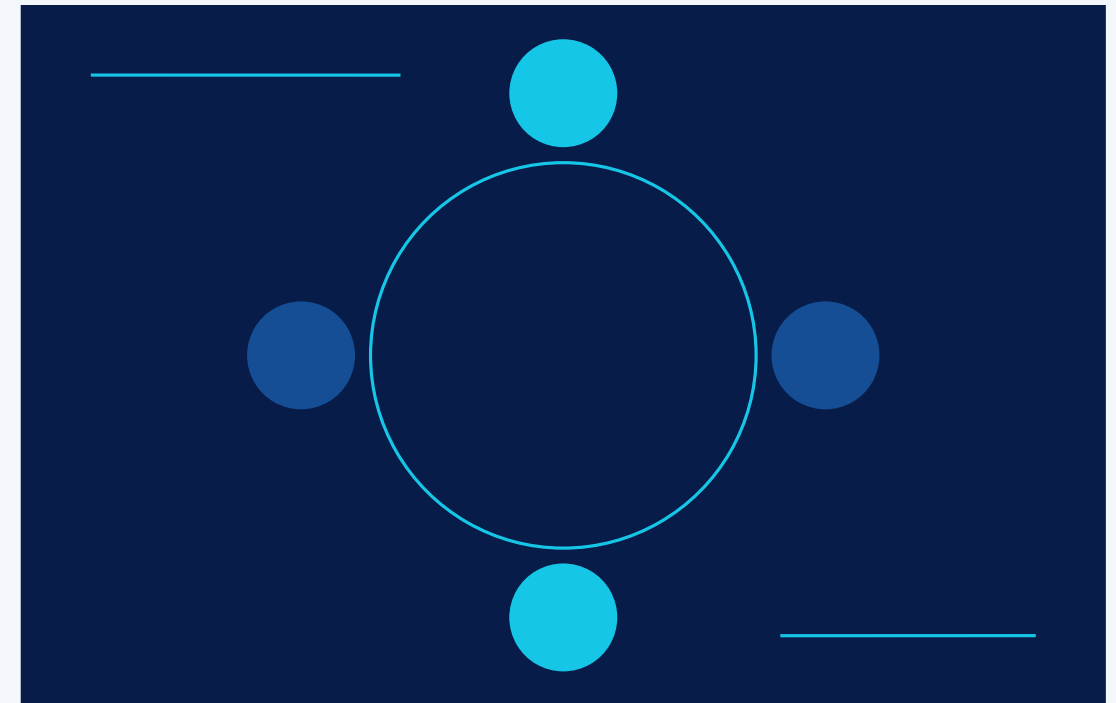
WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 **Purpose — Connect qualitative insights with quantitative evidence...**
- 02 **Core output — Integration and triangulation plan.**
- 03 **Decision owner — Define who approves assumptions and any changes.**

07 Data quality

Research operating standard • planning and delivery checks

- Purpose — Check provenance, missingness, definitions and permissible use.
- Core output — Data dictionary and source traceability.
- Review question — What evidence would prove this step was completed?
- Decision owner — Define who approves assumptions and any changes.
- Recordkeeping — Preserve versions, permissions and documented limitations.



08 Ethics and consent

Research operating standard • planning and delivery checks

Purpose

Identify rights, harms, consent, safeguarding and review authority.

Core output

Ethics risk register and submission route.

Review question

What evidence would prove this step was completed?

Decision owner

Define who approves assumptions and any changes.

Recordkeeping

Preserve versions, permissions and documented limitations.

09 Privacy and governance

Research operating standard • planning and delivery checks

- Purpose — Specify purpose limitation, access roles, storage and retention.
- Core output — Data protection plan and access matrix.
- Review question — What evidence would prove this step was completed?
- Decision owner — Define who approves assumptions and any changes.
- Recordkeeping — Preserve versions, permissions and documented limitations.



THEMATIC EDUCATION IMAGERY

10 Research integrity

Research operating standard • planning and delivery checks

- Purpose — Implement authorship, conflict, disclosure and misconduct processes.
- Core output — Integrity checklist and escalation path.
- Review question — What evidence would prove this step was completed?
- Decision owner — Define who approves assumptions and any changes.
- Recordkeeping — Preserve versions, permissions and documented limitations.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 **Purpose — Implement authorship, conflict, disclosure and...**
- 02 **Core output — Integrity checklist and escalation path.**
- 03 **Decision owner — Define who approves assumptions and any changes.**

11 Reproducible analysis

Research operating standard • planning and delivery checks

Purpose

Plan codebooks, version control, analytic logs and independent checks.

Core output

Reproduction package and methods appendix.

Review question

What evidence would prove this step was completed?

Decision owner

Define who approves assumptions and any changes.

Recordkeeping

Preserve versions, permissions and documented limitations.

12 Quality assurance

Research operating standard • planning and delivery checks

- Purpose — Review protocols, deviations, peer challenges and correction needs.
- Core output — Quality review minutes and actions log.
- Review question — What evidence would prove this step was completed?
- Decision owner — Define who approves assumptions and any changes.
- Recordkeeping — Preserve versions, permissions and documented limitations.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 **Purpose — Review protocols, deviations, peer challenges and...**
- 02 **Core output — Quality review minutes and actions log.**
- 03 **Decision owner — Define who approves assumptions and any changes.**

13 Uncertainty and limitations

Research operating standard • planning and delivery checks

- Purpose — State bias, design boundaries and competing interpretations.
- Core output — Limitations section and sensitivity notes.
- Review question — What evidence would prove this step was completed?
- Decision owner — Define who approves assumptions and any changes.
- Recordkeeping — Preserve versions, permissions and documented limitations.



THEMATIC EDUCATION IMAGERY

14 Publication and dissemination

Research operating standard • planning and delivery checks

Purpose

Identify audience, publication format, reviewer roles and permissions.

Core output

Editorial plan and research impact route.

Review question

What evidence would prove this step was completed?

Decision owner

Define who approves assumptions and any changes.

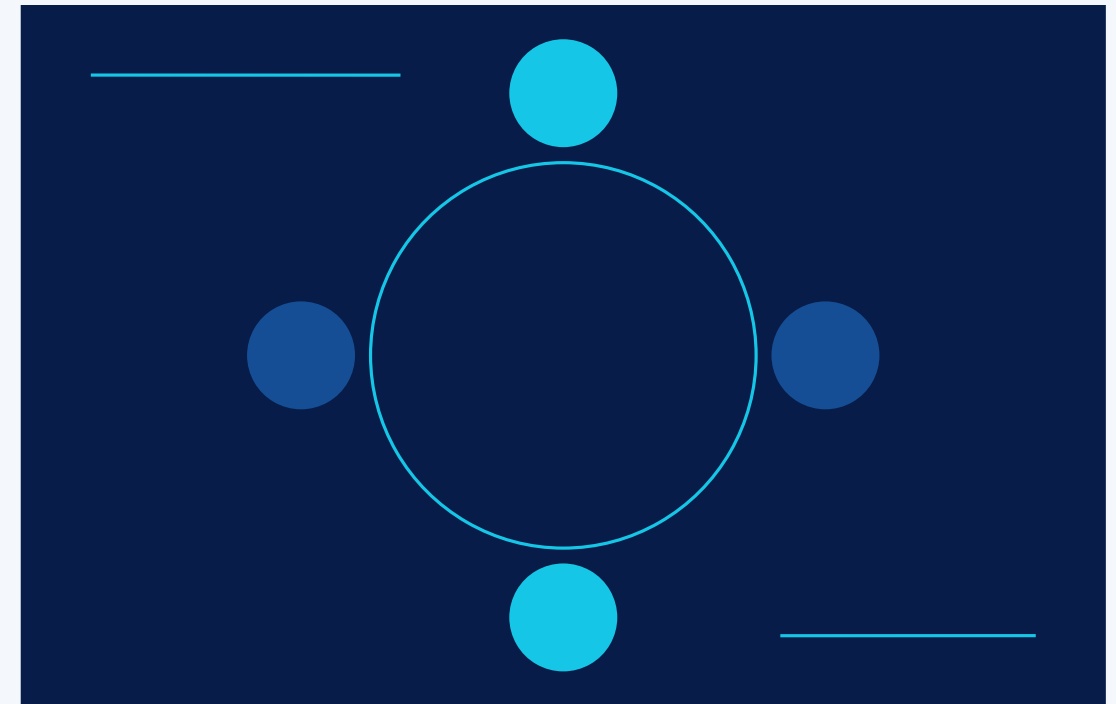
Recordkeeping

Preserve versions, permissions and documented limitations.

15 Monitoring and evaluation

Research operating standard • planning and delivery checks

- Purpose — Link questions to indicators, baselines, suitable collection frequency.
- Core output — Indicator guide and evaluation framework.
- Review question — What evidence would prove this step was completed?
- Decision owner — Define who approves assumptions and any changes.
- Recordkeeping — Preserve versions, permissions and documented limitations.



16 Project closure and archive

Research operating standard • planning and delivery checks

- Purpose — Close permissions, retain approved records and plan safe reuse.
- Core output — Final dataset inventory and closure report.
- Review question — What evidence would prove this step was completed?
- Decision owner — Define who approves assumptions and any changes.
- Recordkeeping — Preserve versions, permissions and documented limitations.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 **Purpose — Close permissions, retain approved records and plan...**
- 02 **Core output — Final dataset inventory and closure report.**
- 03 **Decision owner — Define who approves assumptions and any changes.**

Quality by design: research control cycle

The project workflow should record not only outputs, but quality decisions.



SECTION / 04

Research Products & Services

Ten scoped research product themes for institutions and organizations.



THEMATIC EDUCATION IMAGERY

01 Research Feasibility Diagnostic

Example product design • agreement and capacity required

SCOPE

Define a decision question, evidence inventory, technical constraints and next-stage options.

CANDIDATE OUTPUT

Scoping report and investment decision matrix.



THEMATIC EDUCATION IMAGERY

02 Rapid Evidence Review

Example product design • agreement and capacity required

SCOPE

Provide a transparent, bounded synthesis of existing evidence without inventing primary research.

CANDIDATE OUTPUT

Evidence brief, source map and confidence limitations.



THEMATIC EDUCATION IMAGERY

03 Policy Options & Foresight

Example product design • agreement and capacity required

SCOPE

Compare options, stakeholder tradeoffs, scenarios and decision consequences.

CANDIDATE OUTPUT

Options paper, stakeholder map and risk notes.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 Compare options, stakeholder tradeoffs, scenarios and decision...
- 02 Options paper, stakeholder map and risk notes.
- 03 Document feasible options and tradeoffs

04 University Quality Evidence Review

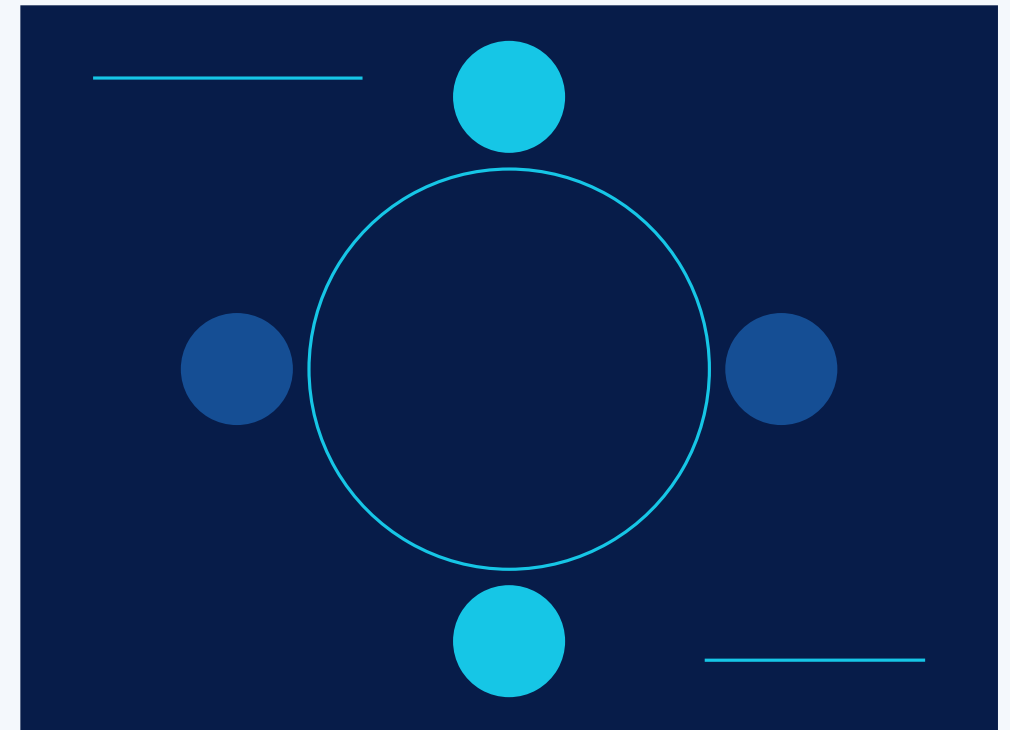
Example product design • agreement and capacity required

SCOPE

Map documented curriculum, assessment and student-support evidence to a review rubric.

CANDIDATE OUTPUT

Internal maturity findings and action backlog.



05 Data & Indicator Blueprint

Example product design • agreement and capacity required

SCOPE

Specify definitions, lineage, access controls and reporting ownership before dashboards.

CANDIDATE OUTPUT

Indicator dictionary and validation protocol.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 Specify definitions, lineage, access controls and reporting...
- 02 Indicator dictionary and validation protocol.
- 03 Record source lineage and validation rules

06 Observatory Feasibility Design

Example product design • agreement and capacity required

SCOPE

Test whether reliable periodic monitoring is achievable with available sources.

CANDIDATE OUTPUT

Coverage plan, refresh logic and sample report.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 Test whether reliable periodic monitoring is achievable with...
- 02 Coverage plan, refresh logic and sample report.
- 03 Define a realistic reporting schedule

07 Digital Research Workflow Blueprint

Example product design • agreement and capacity required

SCOPE

Design end-to-end intake, ethics, data, analysis and publication handoffs.

CANDIDATE OUTPUT

Workflow map, controls and responsibility matrix.



THEMATIC EDUCATION IMAGERY

08 Research Partnership Feasibility

Example product design • agreement and capacity required

SCOPE

Define scope, researchers, approvals, rights and methods in cross-institution projects.

CANDIDATE OUTPUT

Partner due-diligence dossier and outlined MoU scope.



THEMATIC EDUCATION IMAGERY

09 Publishing & Case Study Design

Example product design • agreement and capacity required

SCOPE

Specify editorial stages, authorship, citations, licenses and correction procedures.

CANDIDATE OUTPUT

Publication brief, editorial checklist and asset register.

WHAT THIS COVERS

01 Specify editorial stages, authorship, citations, licenses and...

02 Publication brief, editorial checklist and asset register.

03 Set clear editorial and licensing controls

10 Learning Impact Evaluation

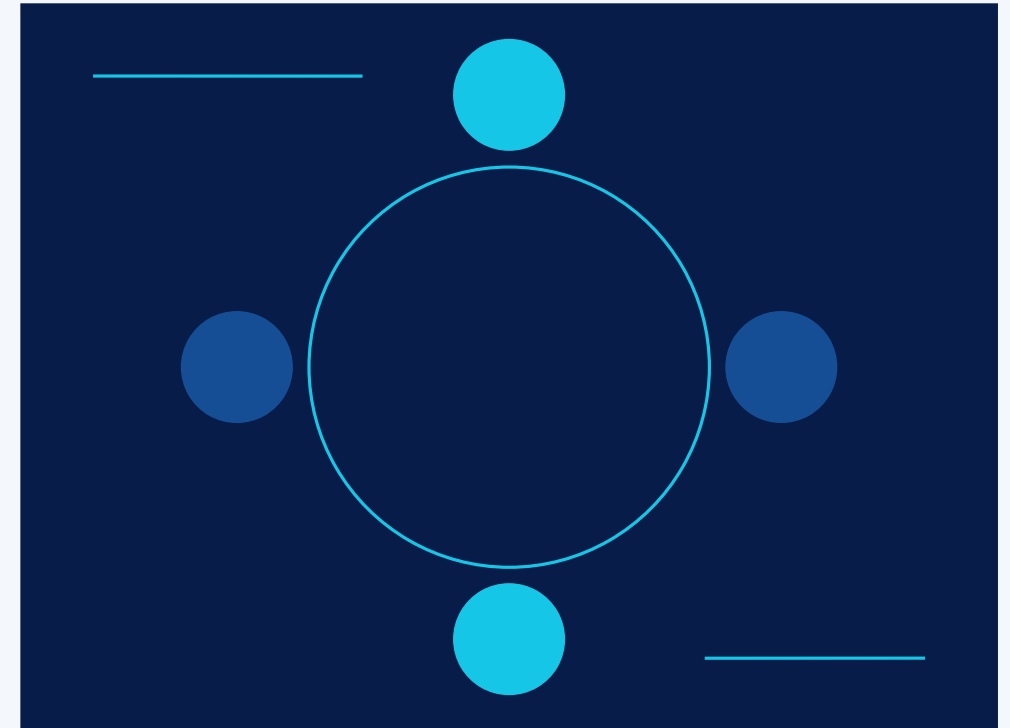
Example product design • agreement and capacity required

SCOPE

Determine what outcomes can actually be measured and how to avoid unsupported claims.

CANDIDATE OUTPUT

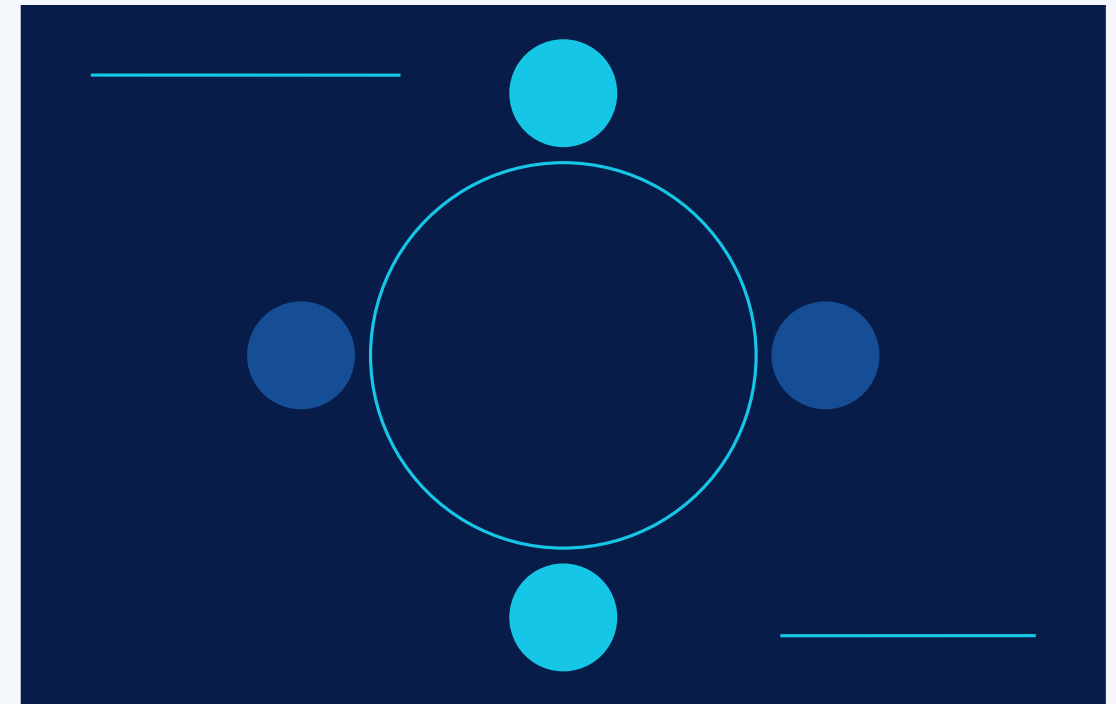
Evaluation design, measurement logic and reporting template.



Design the research statement of work

A clear SOW reduces ambiguity and protects both academic and institutional partners.

- Background — Decision need, audience, context and source material.
- Research tasks — Named methods, review stages and assumptions.
- Outputs — Format, language, rights, acceptance criteria and revisions.
- Inputs — Client data, access, decisions, approvals and secure methods.
- Commercial terms — Approved pricing, scope changes and authorized signatories.



SECTION / 05

International Collaboration

Evidence-backed relationships, transparent roles and safe border work.

IN THIS SECTION

01 Review current arrangements

02 Specify partner roles

03 Document collaboration scope

01 Understanding relationship types

Partnership design and control • publication only after verification

- Working principle — Exploratory conversation; scoped service; signed academic agreement; research collaboration.
- Control — Public labels should match evidence held for each exact relationship.
- Due diligence — Verify relevant people, organizations and authorization.
- Statements — Public relationship wording must match signed scope.
- Review — Record responsibility, progress, issues and outcome evidence.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 **Working principle — Exploratory conversation; scoped service;...**
- 02 **Control — Public labels should match evidence held for each exact...**
- 03 **Statements — Public relationship wording must match signed scope.**

02 Partner qualification

Partnership design and control • publication only after verification

Working principle

Validate organization, authorized contact, capabilities and relevant approvals.

Control

No name/logo publication before permission and evidence checks.

Due diligence

Verify relevant people, organizations and authorization.

Statements

Public relationship wording must match signed scope.

Review

Record responsibility, progress, issues and outcome evidence.

03 Research collaboration memorandum

Partnership design and control • publication only after verification

Working principle

Define objectives, methods, contributions, data, outputs and dispute handling.

Control

Treat an MoU as non-operational until parties sign and capacity is confirmed.

Due diligence

Verify relevant people, organizations and authorization.

Statements

Public relationship wording must match signed scope.

Review

Record responsibility, progress, issues and outcome evidence.

04 Academic pathway feasibility

Partnership design and control • publication only after verification

- Working principle — Assign awards, teaching, assessment, admissions, credit and student protections.
- Control — Do not infer any degree authority from research partnerships.
- Due diligence — Verify relevant people, organizations and authorization.
- Statements — Public relationship wording must match signed scope.
- Review — Record responsibility, progress, issues and outcome evidence.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 **Working principle — Assign awards, teaching, assessment,...**
- 02 **Control — Do not infer any degree authority from research...**
- 03 **Statements — Public relationship wording must match signed scope.**

05 Cross-border ethics

Partnership design and control • publication only after verification

Working principle

Identify applicable ethical review, privacy, local laws and vulnerable participants.

Control

Document independent decisions before recruitment or transfer.

Due diligence

Verify relevant people, organizations and authorization.

Statements

Public relationship wording must match signed scope.

Review

Record responsibility, progress, issues and outcome evidence.

06 Shared data governance

Partnership design and control • publication only after verification

Working principle

Specify controller/processor roles, lawful basis, transfer safeguards, retention.

Control

No dataset exchange without approval and the proper contract.

Due diligence

Verify relevant people, organizations and authorization.

Statements

Public relationship wording must match signed scope.

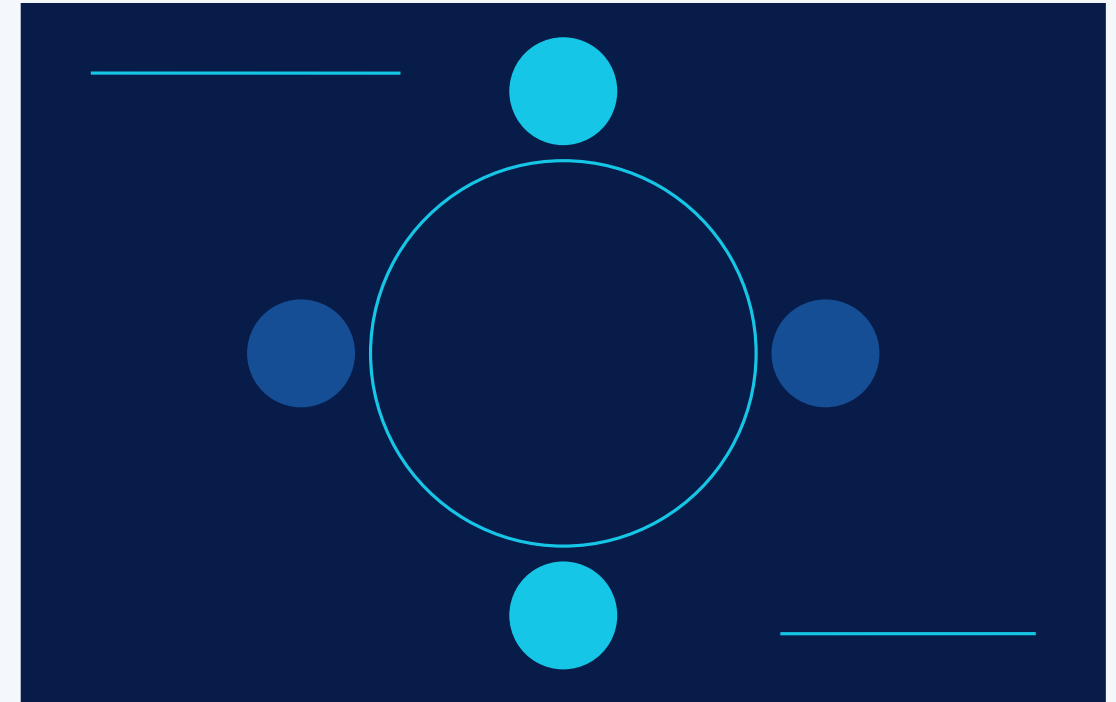
Review

Record responsibility, progress, issues and outcome evidence.

07 Intellectual property in partnerships

Partnership design and control • publication only after verification

- Working principle — Define background IP, newly created IP, publication rights and licenses.
- Control — Do not assume IEU owns third-party or GRS material.
- Due diligence — Verify relevant people, organizations and authorization.
- Statements — Public relationship wording must match signed scope.
- Review — Record responsibility, progress, issues and outcome evidence.



08 Capacity and delivery proof

Partnership design and control • publication only after verification

Working principle

Assess personnel, methods, systems, funding and timelines.

Control

Only publish service readiness when evidence is verified.

Due diligence

Verify relevant people, organizations and authorization.

Statements

Public relationship wording must match signed scope.

Review

Record responsibility, progress, issues and outcome evidence.

09 Partner onboarding

Partnership design and control • publication only after verification

Working principle

Use a formal intake dossier and a short risk/compliance checklist.

Control

Keep named counterparties and permissions traceable.

Due diligence

Verify relevant people, organizations and authorization.

Statements

Public relationship wording must match signed scope.

Review

Record responsibility, progress, issues and outcome evidence.

10 International network governance

Partnership design and control • publication only after verification

- Working principle — Distinguish information directories, research networks and membership bodies.
- Control — A web page is not evidence of a verified live alliance.
- Due diligence — Verify relevant people, organizations and authorization.
- Statements — Public relationship wording must match signed scope.
- Review — Record responsibility, progress, issues and outcome evidence.



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11 Cross-border research timeline

Partnership design and control • publication only after verification

Working principle

Discovery → protocol → permissions →
evidence → review → dissemination.

Control

Each gate needs a responsible decision-
maker.

Due diligence

Verify relevant people, organizations and
authorization.

Statements

Public relationship wording must match
signed scope.

Review

Record responsibility, progress, issues and
outcome evidence.

12 Transparent partnership narratives

Partnership design and control • publication only after verification

Working principle

Publish scope and roles, current status, agreed language and responsible contacts.

Control

Avoid banners of partner logos before authorized written approval.

Due diligence

Verify relevant people, organizations and authorization.

Statements

Public relationship wording must match signed scope.

Review

Record responsibility, progress, issues and outcome evidence.

13 Managing international disputes

Partnership design and control • publication only after verification

- Working principle — Define escalation, quality concerns, competing interests and corrections.
- Control — Protect research participants and limit reputational claims.
- Due diligence — Verify relevant people, organizations and authorization.
- Statements — Public relationship wording must match signed scope.
- Review — Record responsibility, progress, issues and outcome evidence.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 **Working principle — Define escalation, quality concerns,...**
- 02 **Control — Protect research participants and limit reputational...**
- 03 **Statements — Public relationship wording must match signed scope.**

14 Sustainable collaboration metrics

Partnership design and control • publication only after verification

Working principle

Report verified outputs, co-created materials, decisions informed, documented improvements.

Control

Avoid fabricated grants, students, or partnerships.

Due diligence

Verify relevant people, organizations and authorization.

Statements

Public relationship wording must match signed scope.

Review

Record responsibility, progress, issues and outcome evidence.

Cross-border relationship stage gates

No academic, award or delivery role should be implied from an exploratory contact.

01

Discovery

Qualified institution and intended value.

02

Evidence

Verify rights, decision-makers, current status.

03

Proposal

Define work, academic roles, research protocol.

04

Approvals

Obtain institution-specific authorization and terms.

05

Delivery

Perform only the signed and resourced scope.

06

Public record

Publish verified results and correction route.

SECTION / 06

Knowledge, Publishing & IP

Govern research records, open-science choices, publication rights.

IN THIS SECTION

- 01 Review institutional information
- 02 Clarify each proposal
- 03 Use official IEU contact routes

01 Open science principles

UNESCO 2021 Recommendation on Open Science

- Framework overview — Consider accessibility, fairness, quality, reusability and responsible limits.
- Document outputs and decisions in a version-controlled register.
- Apply independent review when methods, participants or rights require it.
- Avoid treating an external guideline as institutional accreditation.
- Publish only outputs supported by authorized rights and evidence.



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02 Research integrity

ALLEA 2023 code

Framework overview

Apply reliability, honesty, respect and accountability to project methods.

Document outputs and decisions in a version-controlled register.

Framework component and output expectations

Apply independent review when methods, participants or rights require it.

Framework component and output expectations

Avoid treating an external guideline as institutional accreditation.

Framework component and output expectations

Publish only outputs supported by authorized rights and evidence.

Framework component and output expectations

03 Data management plan

EU Open Science guidance

- Framework overview — Plan data lifecycle, retention, permitted publication and reuse conditions.
- Document outputs and decisions in a version-controlled register.
- Apply independent review when methods, participants or rights require it.
- Avoid treating an external guideline as institutional accreditation.
- Publish only outputs supported by authorized rights and evidence.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 **Framework overview — Plan data lifecycle, retention, permitted...**
- 02 **Document outputs and decisions in a version-controlled register.**
- 03 **Avoid treating an external guideline as institutional...**

04 FAIR-aligned planning

Research data plan practice

Framework overview

Define identifiers, metadata, access conditions and interoperable formats.

Document outputs and decisions in a version-controlled register.

Framework component and output expectations

Apply independent review when methods, participants or rights require it.

Framework component and output expectations

Avoid treating an external guideline as institutional accreditation.

Framework component and output expectations

Publish only outputs supported by authorized rights and evidence.

Framework component and output expectations

05 Preprints and working papers

Research dissemination controls

- Framework overview — Distinguish versioned preprints from peer-reviewed or accepted journal articles.
- Document outputs and decisions in a version-controlled register.
- Apply independent review when methods, participants or rights require it.
- Avoid treating an external guideline as institutional accreditation.
- Publish only outputs supported by authorized rights and evidence.



THEMATIC EDUCATION IMAGERY

06 Editorial integrity

COPE principles

Framework overview

Define authorship, competing interests, ethics and corrections before publication.

Document outputs and decisions in a version-controlled register.

Framework component and output expectations

Apply independent review when methods, participants or rights require it.

Framework component and output expectations

Avoid treating an external guideline as institutional accreditation.

Framework component and output expectations

Publish only outputs supported by authorized rights and evidence.

Framework component and output expectations

07 Attribution and IP

Rights verification gate

- Framework overview — Track rights, third-party permissions, quotations and license conditions.
- Document outputs and decisions in a version-controlled register.
- Apply independent review when methods, participants or rights require it.
- Avoid treating an external guideline as institutional accreditation.
- Publish only outputs supported by authorized rights and evidence.

WHAT THIS COVERS

- 01 **Framework overview — Track rights, third-party permissions,...**
- 02 **Document outputs and decisions in a version-controlled register.**
- 03 **Avoid treating an external guideline as institutional...**

08 Archiving and provenance

Project source traceability

Framework overview

Maintain protocols, codebook versions, outputs, change logs and access trail.

Document outputs and decisions in a version-controlled register.

Framework component and output expectations

Apply independent review when methods, participants or rights require it.

Framework component and output expectations

Avoid treating an external guideline as institutional accreditation.

Framework component and output expectations

Publish only outputs supported by authorized rights and evidence.

Framework component and output expectations

09 Digital security

Privacy/security review

- Framework overview — Set access roles, encryption, retention and incident handling before data transfer.
- Document outputs and decisions in a version-controlled register.
- Apply independent review when methods, participants or rights require it.
- Avoid treating an external guideline as institutional accreditation.
- Publish only outputs supported by authorized rights and evidence.



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10 Public research registry

IEU website statements

Framework overview

Publish project claims only with verified identifier, authors, stage and scope.

Document outputs and decisions in a version-controlled register.

Framework component and output expectations

Apply independent review when methods, participants or rights require it.

Framework component and output expectations

Avoid treating an external guideline as institutional accreditation.

Framework component and output expectations

Publish only outputs supported by authorized rights and evidence.

Framework component and output expectations

The research-to-publication chain

Separate editorial production from claims of peer review or journal acceptance.

01

Source dossier

Protocol, material and contributor rights.

02

Prepare

Transparent authorship and version identifiers.

03

Quality review

Methods and attribution checks.

04

Permissions

Data, image, copyright and approval gates.

05

Release

Correct metadata and clear publication status.

**Research with evidence.
Innovation with integrity.
Collaboration with clarity.**

Research with evidence

WHAT THIS COVERS

01 Research with evidence

02 Innovation with integrity

03 Collaboration with clarity