

International Networks Statement

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International Network of RNs

The international family of Reproducibility Networks is a strategic community effort to promote transparent and trustworthy research practices in the academic research system.

We recognize the need to constantly evaluate and improve research practices – at the level of researchers, institutions and other organisations that form part of the academic research ecosystem – so that the research we conduct is of the highest quality and embedded within a collaborative and transparent research culture.

We also recognize the need to work with all elements of the research system in a pragmatic and positive way to coordinate and harmonise efforts to improve research quality. However, we also recognize the need for flexibility; different disciplines, institutions and countries will face different challenges and have different needs.

Reproducibility Networks are all structured along broadly similar lines to facilitate this coordination function, whilst allowing for national and local flexibility in delivery. We bring together local networks (or nodes) including grassroots groups of researchers and institutions, supported by external stakeholders such as funders and publishers.

Our aim is to grow the family of Reproducibility Networks – both within and across countries – in order to more effectively coordinate efforts to evaluate and improve the research ecosystem, supported by researchers themselves across a range of disciplines.

Our specific objectives include to:

1. Work with researchers, institutions and other sectoral organisations to ensure efforts to improve research quality are coordinated;
2. Explore common approaches across disciplinary boundaries, and identify opportunities for learning and sharing effective practice;
3. Promote open research practices, to ensure transparency throughout the research lifecycle and recognize granular contributions to the research process.
4. Encourage key stakeholders (e.g., institutions, funders) to support and incentivise these research practices (e.g., in promotion and hiring criteria).
5. Develop training and materials that can be shared across the international family of Reproducibility Networks and more widely;
6. Build an international Community of Practice that is constantly reflecting on ways to improve, and is comfortable with positive and constructive criticism and challenge.
7. Actively promote interactions among participants of the RNs that stimulate equality, diversity and inclusiveness, as well as dignity and respectfulness.