



# CHECKLIST OF PRINCIPLES FOR IP SHARING AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IN UNIVERSITY-INDUSTRY COLLABORATION

This checklist provides practical guidance for Australian and Indian universities and industry partners to manage intellectual property (IP) sharing and technology transfer in collaborative research and innovation.

## 1. SHARED PRINCIPLES

- Transparency – Clearly identify what knowledge, technologies, or materials each partner brings (Background IP) and how new outcomes (Project IP) will be shared.
- Fairness – Ensure that *all* members of the joint research team, including doctoral students and early-career researchers (ECRs) on both sides, benefit from shared research outcomes in proportion to their contributions.
- Respect for innovation – Protect intellectual contributions through appropriate recognition, confidentiality, and attribution.
- Mutual benefit – Design agreements and processes that promote benefits for both research advancement and industry application.
- Capacity building – Strengthen skills, knowledge exchange, and innovation ecosystems in both countries.
- Sustainability – Create lasting partnerships that continue beyond a single project through trust and shared goals.

## 2. BEFORE THE COLLABORATION

- Discuss shared goals early – Identify what the collaboration aims to achieve, such as joint research, product development, or training.
- Establish a Joint Technology Transfer Unit that makes patenting decisions and provides information on licensing practices.
- Administration of IP policy – Develop basic guidelines for the administration of IP Policy. Decide what data or materials can be shared and how they should be protected and define rules of benefit sharing if the commercialisation of IP generates income.
- Clarify ownership and recognition – Jointly work out ownership of new ideas, patents, or prototypes and how contributors will be acknowledged.
- Agree on how results will be used – Define how research outcomes, reports, and technologies will be applied or commercialised.
- Establish an IP and Technology Transfer Agreement – A clear Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) or collaboration agreement that defines the rights, responsibilities and obligations of all stakeholders. Refer to the Department of Education's [HERC IP Framework](#) (p.21) and WIPO's [Technology Transfer Agreements](#).
- Ensure understanding of national laws – Both parties should be aware of and in compliance with IP laws and university policies in Australia and India.
- Address jurisdictional differences – Explicitly discuss how Australian and Indian IP filing processes, patent timelines, revenuesharing norms and compliance requirements will be managed across both systems.

### 3. DURING THE COLLABORATION

- Share information responsibly – Exchange knowledge while maintaining confidentiality for sensitive data.
- Encourage open communication – Hold regular meetings to review progress, identify potential innovations, and resolve concerns.
- Document new ideas and results – Keep clear records of contributions to support shared ownership and fair recognition.
- Support researcher and student mobility – Encourage exchange visits and joint supervision to strengthen collaboration.
- Promote inclusive participation – Ensure ECRs and PhD students have opportunities to engage in joint innovation.

### 4. AFTER THE COLLABORATION

- Disseminate research contributions – Publish jointly where possible and acknowledge all contributors in outputs and IP filings.
- Initiate technology transfer – prototype development at contract manufacturing facilities, market testing for commercial production or community benefit.
- Maintain relationships and manage conflicts of interest – Continue collaboration through new projects, shared infrastructure, or alumni networks.
- Share success stories – Highlight outcomes in both countries to inspire more university-industry cooperation.

### GUIDING FRAMEWORKS AND GOOD PRACTICES

- Existing national policy frameworks – Australia's [HERC IP Framework](#) and [IP Australia](#) resources, and India's [National IPR Policy](#) and [IP India](#) resources for basic templates and awareness-building about mutual IP, patents and technology transfer legislation.
- [WIPO Strategy on Standard Essential Patents 2024-2026](#)
- [Term Sheet Template: Speeding the Way for Startups](#): For higher education institutions and investors to effectively commercialise research
- AUTM's [Sample License Agreement for Technology Transfer](#)
- AUTM's [Guiding Principles of Technology Transfer](#)
- University of Maryland's [Borderless Research Administration Knowledge Exchange \(BREAK\)](#)