

Under the Patronage of His Excellency **Eng. Abdulrahman bin Abdulmohsen AlFadley**
Minister of Environment, Water & Agriculture

منتدى المياه السعودي

saudi water forum **SWF 2024**

The Future of Partnerships between Research and Innovation Centers and Executive Entities Research Collaboration Realities

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Ministry of Environment Water & Agriculture



المؤسسة العامة لتحلية المياه المالحة
Saline Water Conversion Corporation (SWCC)



شركة المياه الوطنية
National Water Company



الشركة السعودية لشركات المياه
Saudi Water Partnership Company



المؤسسة العامة للتقنية
National Water Research Center
المركز الوطني للمياه



منظم المياه
Water Regulator



المركز الوطني لكفاءة وترشيد المياه
National Water Efficiency and Conservation Center
NAECC



Review of R&D literature indicated 3 possible structures for the partnership model

- Academic member
- Industry/government member

Single Partner

Dyadic

- Partnership is between two entities
- Suitable for focused, narrow, well-defined scope
- Born out of top-down relationships of institutional leadership

Description

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Recommended for small, focused-scope research initiatives

Multi-partner

Hub-and-Spoke

- Partnership is centered around one strong player (e.g., large company or a large research organization)
- Hub acts as the main driver of the consortium
- Aimed at working on issues that require alignment of entire ecosystem

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Recommended for high-impact, wide-scope research initiatives that require multiple partners and diverse set of competencies

Multi-Polar

- Multiple strong players of equal or comparable size collaborating to serve a common purpose
- Members of the partnership can be a group of companies, universities, or research centers, or a combination of all
- Aimed at working on issues that require alignment of entire ecosystem

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RDI partnership model led by key University can bring together the right mix of members to solve common problems in a win-win formula

Benefits

Acceleration of research

De-risking of investment

Pooling of resources and complimentary capabilities

Alignment of interests and goals

Industrial End Users

Government/
Regulatory
Entities

Technology
Developers/
Providers

Academic/
Research
Institutions



The multi-polar partnership will provide a collaborative ecosystem...

A collaboration focused on bridging the gap between early research and technology commercialization

Government Entities,
catalyzing partnerships for driving national research agendas

1

Academic and Research Orgs,
augmenting research talent and capabilities

2

Technology Providers,
bringing prototyping, commercialization and marketing expertise

3

Industries (End-Users),
defining challenges and funding research projects

4

Each of the members will gain profound benefits from being a part of the partnership

Value Proposition

Primary Beneficiary:

Academia

Government/ Industry

1 AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING

Increased access to funding for conducting R&D activities

5 RESEARCH FACILITIES ACCESS

Enhanced access to cutting-edge research facilities, equipment and tools that could be shared

2 TALENT ACCESS

Localized dedication, focus and access to the best “brains”, in-kingdom and beyond, that can solve problems for end users

6 AMPLIFIED IMPACT

Increased speed of research and amplified impact due to collaboration and knowledge sharing

3 STRATEGIC OVERSIGHT

Oversight of priorities and ability to shape research agenda

7 INDUSTRY EXPOSURE

Improved access to industry exposure and jobs for graduates

4 DERISKING OF INVESTMENT

Higher returns on investment due to the collaboration of experts with diverse knowledge and experiences

8 ALIGNMENT

Improved alignment between collaboration members, driven by common goals, clear governance, and shared benefits

5 key factors for the success of the R&D partnerships

Success Factors

Clear Charter

Charter detailing partnership vision, objectives, scientific challenges addressed, rationale and nature of members' involvement, expected roles and contributions, benefits and costs of membership and strategy to avoid potential collisions among members

Experienced and Committed Management

Strongly committed leadership with risk appetite and ability to work towards the stated vision and mission

Effective Funding Strategy

Well-defined and effective funding strategy resulting in ample capital generation required for R&D activities

Operational Technology Transfer Process

Effective management of the IPs resulting from consortium research by using multiple transfer mechanisms

Robust Management Processes and Decision Controls

Presence of robust management controls to expedite important strategic issues and avoid biased decision making



THANK YOU

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