

# THE ORBIT PROJECT: AN OVERVIEW

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**O**RCID  
**R**educing  
**B**urden and  
**I**mproving  
**T**ransparency



ORCID is a hub for research information.

We make connections using persistent identifiers.



Funders are hubs of activity and information.

Researchers, organisations, and agencies all interact with funders.



The ORBIT project rests on a simple idea:

By pooling our know-how and influence, we can deliver a huge step forward for the openness and reliability of research information.



# WHAT WILL ORBIT DO?



# ORBIT: AN OVERVIEW

The project has many parts. To manage these we have broken out plan down into four linked areas of activity.

- A wider Funder Working Group
- Data source analysis
- Building connections
- Improving Persistent Identifier coverage

# ORBIT: AN OVERVIEW

The initial focus is on:

- Automatically populating funding applications with CV and career information
- Sharing grant funding information via the ORCID registry
- Extending the availability of research information, and making it easier to re-use



# 1: FUNDER WORKING GROUP

We will draw on the expertise and experience of a range of funders. The group will:

- bring in other infrastructures, service-, platform- and system-providers.
- validate our work, and ensure that it is globally relevant.
- tackle wider challenges for research infrastructure for funders.

# WHO IS IN THE FWG?

- Australian Research Council
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research
- CAPES (Brazil)
- CNPq (Brazil)
- CONCYTEC (Peru)
- FCT (Portugal)
- Howard Hughes Medical Institute (USA)
- Japan Science and Technology Agency
- Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (New Zealand)
- National Humanities Alliance (USA)
- National Research Foundation (South Africa)
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada
- NIH (USA)
- Science and Technology Development Fund (Egypt)
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (Canada)
- Swiss National Science Fund
- United Kingdom Research and Innovation
- Wellcome Trust (UK)

## 2: SHARING RESEARCH INFORMATION

We will identify four kinds of information, with sources:

- Available and connected (e.g. Crossref)
- Available, not connected (supported by the registry, but with no source connections)
- Unavailable (not yet in the registry, or need adjustment)
- Other source needed (e.g. private information)

# 3: AUTOMATE COLLECTION AND RE-USE

With machine-to-machine connections to data sources and funder systems we can:

- Reduce errors and improve reliability
- Ensure that data flows into systems when it is required
- Enable easier reporting and tracking of outcomes and impact

These automatic exchanges will be tested in the ORBIT pilot projects.

## 4: INCREASE ADOPTION OF PIDS

Open science needs open connections. PIDs can:

- Help to connect people and outputs to organisations, funding and more
- Provide a more complete picture of research activities, including reviews, training, dataset curation and more

We will bring the global research community together to ensure that these PIDs are adopted and used.



Funders wield the power to improve the value and openness of research information.

Unique researcher identifiers have the potential to bring efficiency and transparency to the creation and re-use of that information.



**This project represents a real chance  
to change the way research  
information is shared for the better.**

