

Science Network Partnerships Principles

These are the principles the UCS Science Network will bring to external partnerships with other science organizations. We hold ourselves accountable to these principles, and ask that our partners uphold these principles and hold us accountable as well. You can [read more about the mission and values](#) of the Union of Concerned Scientists on our website.

- **Equity:** We believe that science should be a means—and not an obstacle—to reducing racial and economic inequity and ensuring that science-based policy decisions benefit all.
- **Diversity:** We value the skills, talents, and experiences that people of different races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, genders, and economic classes bring. We recognize that expertise and knowledge come in multiple forms, and not just that which is legitimized by Western science.
- **Inclusion:** We share the responsibility to create a culture of partnership that invites the participation of all committed groups who support our mission. We respect and seek out the voices of impacted communities and marginalized scientists, recognizing we can learn from each other.
- **Antiracism:** We recognize and seek to dismantle the structural systems of oppression that are built on white supremacy, so that we can help rebuild the science community as an antiracist space that embraces science for justice. We acknowledge that science is inherently political, and that decisions about research, funding, data, and scientific institutions have broad social and political implications. Rather than deny these implications, we strive to be aware of them, bring in a diversity of voices to decision-making processes, and work to break down the structural and institutional barriers that have harmed marginalized groups.
- **Community-based:** We believe that research and advocacy should be informed by and conducted in partnership with communities that have a stake in the outcome.
- **Redistribution of power:** We lead with an acknowledgement that in science, power is based in research, funding, data, and institutions, and power rests with a privileged group who gets to make decisions about their distribution and access. Impacted communities and marginalized voices both inside and outside of the scientific community must play a role in the distribution of these assets, and we seek to engage others with privilege to join us in this work.
- **Respect:** We will take the time and intention to build relationships based on trust and mutual respect with organizations and individuals who share our values and will hold us accountable to them.
- **Transparency:** We commit to setting clear expectations and goals for partnerships from the very beginning, with buy-in from all partners.
- **Evolution:** We seek to continue learning about the historical marginalization that stems from and within the field of science in order to not perpetuate it, and continue to place equity and justice at the forefront of our collaboration efforts with partners. We recognize we will fail and make mistakes but will continue to push ourselves to do better and be a stronger ally.