

# THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN AND BENEFIT FROM SCIENCE



The International Science Council believes that there is a **universal human right to participate in and enjoy the benefits of science**, and that it is a responsibility of governments to create and sustain the opportunities of citizens to use this right.

## A RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN SCIENCE

this right presumes a right to **basic scientific literacy**, and a right to **scientific education**, training and mentoring.



1

A right to **participate in generating diverse forms of knowledge** through the study of natural and social phenomena using theoretical, observational, experimental, and analytical approaches to introduce and test existing and new models, conjectures, hypotheses and ideas **unconstrained by political agendas or belief systems**.

2

A right to **challenge established knowledge** about natural and social phenomena when generating and communicating new models, conjectures, hypotheses and ideas, and the uses to which this knowledge has been or may be put.

3

A right to **collaborate** and **engage in scientific dialogue** and research across national, political, regional and other boundaries.



4

A right to communicate both **positive** and **negative** findings.

5

A right to **form** professional societies and **associations**.

6

A right to **advocate** for the **responsible use of science**.



## A RIGHT TO ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF SCIENCE

1

A right **not to be excluded** from the benefits of science on the basis of **unjust discrimination** based on race, nationality, ethnic origin, language, sex, gender identity, reproductive ability, sexual orientation, age, disability, political opinion, or religious belief.

2

A right to **equitably access information**, data, and other resources necessary to enhance scientific knowledge, teaching and research.

3

A right to **apply scientific knowledge** for technological developments for the **good of humanity and the planet**.

**If you would like to learn more about the free and responsible practice of science, please visit:**  
[council.science/the-right-to-science](https://council.science/the-right-to-science)

