

# OUTREACH NETWORK FOR GENE DRIVE RESEARCH

## MISSION & PRINCIPLES STATEMENT

**Our mission:** The Network's members' mission is to raise awareness of the value of gene drive research for public good uses.

**How we work:** The Network supports information sharing and coordination among members and member's engagement with key stakeholders, in order to raise awareness of the value of gene drive research for the public good and of the need for continuous responsible efforts in its advancement. It is dedicated to dialogue with all stakeholders, including policymakers, civil society and other experts, to contribute to an evidence-based and informed assessment of possible future gene-drive based technologies.

**Our principles:** The work of the Network and of its Members is led by these principles:

- **Our members are committed to the intrinsic value of research** as an important way of exploring the potential benefits and risks of new solutions and tools. Gene drive based technologies could help to address some of the world's most serious and intractable challenges, and it is important to use scientific research to investigate both the potential benefits and risks.
- **Our members are committed to supporting responsible research** related to gene drives. Participants in the Network support good governance, accountability, and the conduct of research with respect for the broader ecosystem in which humans live, and encourage good stewardship of gene drive research. Members endorse the use of existing standards and best practices in research, and support the development of further practices and guidelines, where necessary, to ensure gene drive research is carried out safely and responsibly.
- **Our members are committed to supporting research towards the public interest.** The activities undertaken by the Network aim to support research motivated by, and aiming to promote, the public good and societal benefits, in areas such as public health and conservation. We recognise that the decision as to whether these uses are acceptable or desirable will require case-by-case decisions by potential beneficiary communities and regulatory authorities.
- **Our members are committed to transparency and evidence-based engagement** to build and sustain public understanding and confidence in the research. The Network will engage with stakeholders interested in constructive discussions of gene drive research, in a manner that is transparent, respectful, and informed by science.

These principles are in alignment with "*The Guiding Principles for the Sponsors and Supporters of Gene Drive Research*" endorsed by several public health organizations, and were developed using them as a reference point.