

Terms of Reference:

Tech Policy Design Fund

TPDi's Mission

To shape technology for the benefit of humanity.

Purpose of the Fund

The Purpose of the Tech Policy Design Fund (the Fund) is to support TPDi core activities aligned with our Mission, including to:

- foster mature public debate on tech policy issues in Australia and the Indo-Pacific
- conduct world-leading research to inform the design of best practice tech policy
- grow the art of tech policy as a professional discipline through innovative education
- support Australian leadership in international tech policy debates
- build capacity to design effective tech policy, particularly in Australia and our region
- convene constructive multi stakeholder communities (government, industry, civil society, and academia) to bridge perspectives and codesign solutions.

The Outcome: fit-for-purpose tech policy frameworks that reward innovation, drive economic growth, strengthen democracy, enhance national security, and shape an environment (online and offline) in which individuals and communities can thrive.

Activities supported by the Fund

The Fund will be used to support the following TPDi activities:

1. Sustainably support TPDi **research, education, and engagement activities** that align with TPDi's Mission and the Purpose of the Fund, as well as the efficient administration of the same.
2. Deliver **four Tech Policy Spotlights** annually, each focused on a priority tech policy issue and comprising a:
 - a. workshop or roundtable;
 - b. policy paper;
 - c. podcast; and
 - d. launch event.



3. Support **diverse participation** in TPDi research, education, and engagement activities, including funding travel for civil society organisations and voices less heard to participate in TPDi activities.
4. Establish **scholarships** to foster participation in TPDi's education program by underrepresented groups, including women, indigenous, culturally and linguistically diverse, and neurodivergent people.

Conditions of the Fund

The Fund only accepts contributions from entities that commit to:

1. Support TPDi's Mission.
2. Endorse the Purpose of the Fund.
3. Understand that contributions to the Fund do not equate to payment for specific services but rather support for TPDi activities in pursuit of TPDi's Mission and the Fund's Purpose.
4. Acknowledge that TPDi's priorities, products, and positions are not determined by the interests and views of Sponsors.
5. Respect and uphold TPDi's independence and the independence of all TPDi outputs.
6. Sustain TPDi's reputation as a credible, independent, evidence-based, non-partisan research organisation.
7. Agree that all outputs related to the fund will be published under Creative Commons Licence CC BY-NC-ND
 - a. This license enables reusers to copy and distribute the material in any medium or format in unadapted form only, for non commercial purposes only, and only so long as attribution is given to the creator.
8. Agree that all Sponsors to the Fund will be transparently disclosed publicly.

Administrative Details

1. TPDi will only accept Sponsors who agree to the Conditions for the Fund (above).
2. If the Fund is oversubscribed, TPDi prioritises Australian Sponsors.
3. TPDi prioritises diversity in multi-stakeholder contributions to the Fund (that is, funding from industry, government and philanthropy), provided that doing so does not contradict point 2 above.
4. TPDi prioritises sustaining contributions, provided that doing so does not contradict point 2 above.
5. Sponsors can join the Fund at any point, provided the Fund is not oversubscribed.
6. Contributions are annual, and subject to change yearly.

