Cost allocation policy



Executive Director's authorisation:

Effective date: 22 January 2016

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1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the FRDC has established controls and procedures for ensuring that RD&E funds are not spent on marketing.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

Responsibility for this policy resides with Manager Corporate Services who will maintain the *Cost allocation policy, the Cost allocation procedure,* and the *Cost allocation model* (currently and Excel spreadsheet), ensuring the documents adhere to the requirements of the Funding Agreement.

3. DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

Definitions - follow link to <u>Definitions</u>
Acronyms - follow link to <u>Acronyms</u>

4. RISK CATEGORY

Strategic	Operational	Financial	ICT	People
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5. RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION

Primary procedure	Document location or web address		
Cost allocation procedure	TBA		

Other	Document location or web address
Public Governance, Performance and	PGPA Act
Accountability (PGPA) Act 2013	
Funding Agreement with the Commonwealth	
Code of conduct	<u>NEMO-29-1899</u>
Risk policy	NEMO-29-1807
Risk register	NEMO-29-1806

6. PUBLICATION

This policy is to be made available on the FRDC website.

This policy is not to be made available on the directors' website.

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7. BACKGROUND

The FRDC is a statutory authority under the *Primary Industries Research and Development Act 1989* (PIRD Act) and is a *corporate commonwealth entity* under the PGPA Act.

The board, as the accountable authority, is required by the PGPA Act to establish and maintain systems of risk and control to create an operating environment that promotes the proper use and management of public resources, in pursuit of both the public good and the purposes of the entity for which it is responsible.

The Funding Agreement established under the PIRD Act requires establishment of necessary accounting systems, procedures and controls in accordance with the PGPA Act and the Funding Agreement, including a Cost Allocation Policy.

The Funding Agreement established under the PIRD Act defines "Cost Allocation Policy" as FRDC's policy for allocating direct and indirect costs across its Research and Development and Marketing programs. (Noting that the FRDC's Marketing program is yet to be established, but will be, once industry marketing levies or voluntary contributions start being collected.)

FRDC has the following types of expenditure:

Туре	Description
Direct research and	External spend that is directly attributable and can be
development program	associated with RD&E in a particular project and/or
costs	program(s).
Direct research and	Internal spend that can be directly attributable to a RD&E
development employment	project and/or program(s)
and other costs	
Direct marketing program	External spend that is directly attributable and can be
costs	associated with marketing in a particular project and/or
	program(s) (currently zero)
Direct marketing	Internal spend that can be directly attributable to a
employment costs	marketing project and/or program (currently zero)
Corporate costs	Core services spend to support operations, including non-
	research and development direct employment costs, e.g.
	corporate employees.
Expenditure that is	Some expenses are not allocated to either the RD&E or
ineligible for	marketing programs as they are not eligible expenses for the
Commonwealth	Government Matching Payments claim. They include:
Government matching	1. prior year project funds
	2. levy collection fees and associated legal costs

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8. POLICY

The FRDC will ensure that RD&E funds are not spent on marketing and conversely marketing funds are not spent on RD&E.

Costs will be allocated as follows:

- Direct research, development and extension (RD&E) project costs will be allocated to RD&E
- Direct marketing *project costs* will be allocated to marketing
- Employee costs will allocated individually to RD&E and marketing based on the
 percentage of time they spend on each. Where this is not practical to measure (e.g.
 "corporate" staff members) their costs will be allocated on the basis of RD&E and
 marketing's share of total project expenditure
- Corporate costs (both Supplier costs and Depreciation and amortisation costs) will be allocated on the basis of RD&E and marketing's share of total project expenditure.
 [For example, if direct RD&E expenditure is 70% of total project expenditure (RD&E plus Marketing project expenditure); then 70% of corporate costs will be allocated to RD&E program expenditure.]

The Cost allocation policy, the Cost allocation procedure, and the Cost allocation model will be reviewed when there are changes to the Funding Agreement to ensure that the documents remain relevant and in line with the Funding Agreement.

9. ATTACHMENTS

#	Description
1	Nil