

SAAFE Limited Publication Policy

1. Scope

SAAFE Ltd requires the responsible publication and dissemination of research outputs as a core function of its mission.

This Publication Policy applies to all researchers, project partners, participants, and their respective staff or volunteers affiliated with SAAFE Ltd (**the Company**), as well as employees, officers, and contractors of SAAFE Ltd who are engaged in the preparation, review, and dissemination of publications as part of the CRC SAAFE Research Program.

For the avoidance of doubt, this includes all activities that form part of the CRC SAAFE Research Program, where such activities result in the creation of 'Publishable Material' (Refer to Clause 3 of this Policy: Publishable Material).

This Policy does not:

- a) provide guidance on statements to the media or public communications.
- b) provide guidance on SAAFE Ltd media releases, correspondence or corporate publications, such as the Company's Annual Report.
- c) provide guidance on SAAFE Ltd reporting and submissions (e.g. Commonwealth Annual Reporting).
- d) cover scientific peer review processes, where such services are provided by independent journals.

2. Purpose and Objective

The purpose of this Publication Policy is to ensure that all outputs from the CRC SAAFE Research Program are published in a consistent, high-quality manner that advances knowledge, supports stakeholder engagement, and aligns with the interests of the CRC SAAFE Research Program, its partners, and the broader community.

This Policy supports the protection of commercially valuable intellectual property and confidential information, promotes ethical and accurate authorship, and ensures that CRC SAAFE Research Program contributions are properly acknowledged. All approved outputs must be registered, stored centrally, and shared with approved participants and partners.

3. Publishable Material

For the purposes of this Policy, SAAFE Ltd defines 'Publishable Material' as any content, documentation, or output that:

- Originates from CRC SAAFE Activities: It is developed directly through and/or funded by the CRC SAAFE Research Program, and is not derived from separate, unrelated initiatives; and
- Is intended for dissemination: It is designed for external publication or public distribution, including (but not limited to) Final Project Reports / Interim Technical Reports, Journal

Publications, PhD Theses, External Presentations, and Other Publications (all of which are defined in the SAAFE Ltd Publications Approval Procedure).

4. Roles and Responsibilities

5 This section outlines the key roles responsible for ensuring the integrity, quality, and compliance of CRC SAAFE publications. Further guidance in relation to publication submission and approval is provided in the SAAFE Ltd Publications Approval Procedure.

Role	Responsibility Summary
Project Lead	The Project Lead acts as the custodian of the publication's content and integrity and is responsible for ensuring appropriate authorship, ethical compliance, and adherence to CRC SAAFE standards.
Contact Author	The individual who liaises with SAAFE Ltd to manage the approval and submission process. In some circumstances this may be the Project Lead.
SAAFE Ltd Management and Review Committees	Nominated subject-matter experts authorised to review publications for quality, intellectual property (IP) protection, confidentiality, and policy compliance prior to approval. Ensure publication systems are in place and workflows are well understood across the consortium by all stakeholders. Provide oversight and governance approval for publications with strategic, reputational, or legal implications.
Communications Office	Maintain publication templates and ensures alignment with SAAFE Ltd branding and ethical standards. Support authors approvals for public-facing content and media releases.

5. Use of AI-Assisted Technologies in Publishable Material

10 The use of artificial intelligence (AI), including generative AI tools in the preparation of publishable material arising from CRC SAAFE activities must comply with the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research and meet obligations and requirements relating to authorship, intellectual property and use of confidential information and ethics and legal considerations arising from SAAFE Ltd's partner and project agreements, this and other SAAFE Ltd policies and guidance documents.

15 References to relevant external and SAAFE Ltd policies, guidance and procedures are provided at the end of this Policy document.

6. Authorship and Contributions to Publishable Material

20 SAAFE Ltd is committed to ensuring authorship across all publishable material arising from CRC SAAFE research activities is attributed fairly, transparently, and in accordance with national and international best practice. This position is underpinned by the principles outlined in the *Authorship: A guide supporting the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research*.

The SAAFE Ltd Publications Approval Procedure provides further detail in relation to roles, authorship arrangements, and author contribution statements.

At a Policy level, the following expectations apply:

- Authorship must reflect a significant intellectual or scholarly contribution by a human author, not merely provision of funding, data, infrastructure, or technical assistance.
- All named authors must have agreed to be listed and have approved both the content (including vetting and verification of AI-generated content) and submission of the publication to SAAFE Ltd for approval.
- Authorship agreements must be in place early in the drafting process, including confirmation of individual contributions and corresponding author responsibilities.
- All co-authors must be appropriately acknowledged, and their roles transparently described, in line with disciplinary norms and journal requirements.
- Contributions that do not meet authorship thresholds must be acknowledged, where appropriate, with the contributor's consent.
- Supervisory roles do not automatically qualify for authorship. Students and junior researchers who meet authorship criteria must be included.
- Improper authorship practices—including gift authorship, ghost authorship, or authorship without consent—are considered breaches of the Australian Code and may trigger institutional investigation.
- Indigenous knowledge, ethics and attributions are appropriately adhered to using the Code of Ethics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research.
- Authors must disclose the actual or intended use of generative artificial intelligence (genAI) tools in the preparation of publishable material at the time of submission for approval.

Further guidance on Policy expectations, including contribution thresholds, use of AI tools, methodology and authorship documentation is provided in the SAAFE Ltd Publications Approval Procedure and supporting templates.

7. Acknowledgment of CRC program funding

As per Company policy, and commitment to the Commonwealth, SAAFE Ltd is committed to ensuring that its involvement in research and publications is accurately and consistently acknowledged. All publications must also include the CRC Program acknowledgment in the approved format, provided both in the SAAFE Ltd Publications Approval Procedure, and below:

*“This work has been supported by the Solving Antimicrobial Resistance in Agribusiness, Food, and Environments Cooperative Research Centre whose activities are funded by the Australian Government’s Cooperative Research Centre Programme. This is SAAFE CRC Publication P***_PB***”*

8. Publication Approvals, and Timelines

All Publishable Material must be reviewed and approved prior to dissemination.

Authors are expected to initiate requests for publication approvals in line with the timeframes set out in the SAAFE Publications Approval Procedure. These are intended to enable timely review of proposed publications as appropriate to the intended publication channel, while upholding the purpose and objective of this and related policies and maintaining compliance with SAAFE Ltd partner and project agreements.

Procedures for the submission and approval of publications are described in guidance documents attached to this Policy. Other guidance documents produced by SAAFE Ltd may also reference this Policy and the attached procedures. Examples include but are not limited to the SAAFE Scholar's Handbook and project induction documentation.

5 9. Intellectual Property, Open Access and Research Data Sharing

As discussed in the Company's IP Management Principles, the protection and management of IP generated through the CRC SAAFE Research Program is critical to delivering impact and honouring contractual obligations.

10 SAAFE Ltd supports open access publishing and research data sharing where it aligns with these obligations. All outputs must be assessed for IP sensitivity, confidentiality constraints, and third-party ownership before being submitted for publication or released to the public.

15 Any use of AI tools in preparing or releasing outputs must not disclose IP, Confidential Information, or third-party owned material in breach of SAAFE Ltd's IP Management Principles, the Project Agreement, or relevant partner agreements. AI tools may only be used where their data handling terms are compatible with these obligations, and unpublished or restricted material must not be uploaded without the rights holder's consent.

10. Ethical and Legal Considerations

10.1 Research Integrity and Ethics

20 Maintaining research integrity is the responsibility of the Project Lead and guidance as it relates to publishable material may be found within this Policy and applicable approval procedures and reference materials, including the Committee on Publication Ethics position on Authorship and Artificial Intelligence.

25 SAAFE Ltd expects that any and all activities that form part of the CRC Research Program will comply with all applicable laws, including with respect to defamation, anti-discrimination and privacy, and will be conducted in accordance with the core principles of responsible research, as described in SAAFE Ltd's Ethics and Research Conduct Policy.

10.2 Student Theses

30 Where PhD students are involved in CRC SAAFE research projects, specific provisions apply to protect commercially sensitive information, respect partner contributions, and preserve the integrity of the academic examination process.

Procedural guidance for the approval of PhD theses is described in the SAAFE Ltd Publications Approval Procedure.

Key obligations regarding student involvement reflects the CRC SAAFE Project Agreement standard terms:

- 35 • A draft of the student's thesis must be submitted to SAAFE Ltd no later than 30 days prior to the intended examination submission date, to allow sufficient time for review of content, authorship, acknowledgements, and any confidentiality or IP-related considerations.
- If a thesis includes confidential information or partner-owned existing material, CRC SAAFE will coordinate a review by the relevant partner(s) in confidence.
- 40 • CRC SAAFE or a project partner may, acting reasonably, require:
 - A delay in public release of the thesis for up to 18 months; or

- That confidential content be included in an annexure to remain confidential indefinitely.
- These requirements will not inhibit the student's right to submit or examine their thesis, however, in some cases, examiners may be asked to sign a confidentiality agreement to protect sensitive material.
- After the first publication of the thesis, the student may be asked to grant a royalty-free licence to SAAFE Ltd to publish the thesis for CRC-related purposes.
- Prior to involvement in a CRC SAAFE project, each student and their supervising institution must enter into an agreement in a form approved by SAAFE Ltd, formalising these obligations as well as any other applicable terms of the relevant Project Agreement.
- All student theses must also comply with the principles and expectations outlined in the SAAFE Ltd Ethics and Research Conduct Policy.

10.3 Partner and Affiliate Communication Obligations

Project Partners and Affiliates must comply with the publication and communication obligations set out in their respective agreements with SAAFE Ltd. These obligations include, but are not limited to:

- Not using the name, logo, or branding of SAAFE Ltd or CRC SAAFE without the Company's express written consent;
- Ceasing use of CRC SAAFE branding upon withdrawal, termination, or completion of their agreement, except where required for statutory or contractual reporting;
- Cooperating with CRC SAAFE in the confidential review of student theses.
- Not disclosing Confidential Information, Activity Material, or other protected information in breach of the Project Agreement, partner agreements, or SAAFE Ltd's confidentiality obligations. AI tools may only be used where their data handling terms are compatible with these obligations, and restricted material must not be uploaded without the rights holder's consent.

All publications that may lead to commercial outputs must align with the standards set out in the SAAFE Ltd IP Management Principles.

11. Attachments and references

Related documents referenced in this Policy include:

- [Authorship: A Guide Supporting the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research \(NHMRC, ARC, UA\)](#)
- [AIATSIS Code of Ethics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research](#)
- [Committee on Publication Ethics: COPE Position on Authorship and AI tools](#)
- [SAAFE Publications Approval Procedure](#)
- SAAFE Scholars Handbook
- [SAAFE Ltd IP Management Principles](#)
- [SAAFE Ltd Ethics and Research Conduct Policy](#)

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