The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

100 Parliament Street

London

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**Future RAN Competition Participation Agreement**

In December 2020 the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (**DCMS**) published the [Diversification Strategy](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/5g-supply-chain-diversification-strategy/5g-supply-chain-diversification-strategy) which identified R&D as a barrier to entry for new suppliers in the 5G telecoms supply chain . This contained recommendations to commit to allocate grant funding to testbeds and trials of Open RAN technologies as part of a wide-ranging government response to the challenge of diversifying the UK’s supply market for radio equipment set out in the Diversification Strategy.

An important success factor for the Future RAN Competition will be how members of the UK ecosystem collaborate, share knowledge and join up. For this reason, DCMS has developed a series of principles called the "**Future RAN Competition Participation Principles**” that embody the expectations on participants in the ecosystem. The principles are as follows:

Principle 1: Knowledge and outcomes are measured and shared

Principle 2: Collaboration takes place between projects and across the 5G supply chain diversification ecosystem

Principle 3: Interoperability

Principle 4: Secure by design

Principle 5: Promoting the UK as a world leader in 5G supply chain diversification

The full text of the principles is attached to this document.

This Participation Agreement (governed by the laws of England and Wales) is not itself a binding document. However, by becoming a signatory to this Participation Agreement, you are showing your commitment to the UK 5G supply chain diversification ecosystem and to the principles.

As the competition evolves, so may the expectations of the ecosystem participants, so we may need to amend the principles from time to time. DCMS intends on consulting with signatories before making changes to the principles.

Please sign this document where indicated over the page and return a signed original to DCMS. Your signed version of the Participation Agreement may be published online and DCMS (and its delivery partners) may include your name and logo in promotional materials.

Yours sincerely

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| --- | --- |
|  |  |

[DCMS to insert name of signatory]  
[DCMS to insert title of signatory]

**Acknowledgement and agreement to the Future RAN Competition Participation Agreement**

By signing below, you acknowledge and agree (either individually, if applicable, or on behalf of the organisation stated below) that you agree to the terms set out in the Future RAN Competition Participation Agreement. If you are signing on behalf of an organisation, you warrant that you are an authorised signatory for the organisation stated.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name of organisation / individual |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Signature: |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Name:  *(Only if signing on behalf of an organisation; if not, leave blank)* |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Position:  *(Only if signing on behalf of an organisation; if not, leave blank)* |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Date of signature: |  |  |

**FUTURE RAN COMPETITION PARTICIPATION PRINCIPLES**

**Principle 1: Knowledge and outcomes are measured and shared**

* Signatories to the Participation Agreement (**Participants**) are expected to collect and share knowledge regarding their activities and experiences, including lessons learned, case studies and other knowledge gained in the testbeds and trials.
* Participants are expected to monitor and evaluate the progress and success of their testbeds and trials and to share that information with other projects within the competition.
* The aim of this activity is to inform the ecosystem, seek feedback and dialogue, build a pool of knowledge and expertise, surface common challenges, boost efficiency in other projects, and reach a wider audience than if knowledge and outcomes are shared by the Government alone.

**Principle 2: Collaboration takes place between projects and across the 5G supply chain diversification ecosystem**

* Participants are expected to work with Government and other projects and initiatives in an open and collaborative manner, to leverage the work of the competition and encourage increased inward investment and the timely deployment and take up of Open RAN in the UK.

**Principle 3: Interoperability**

* Activities under the competition, including testbeds and trials, are expected to build on and apply emerging international standards and also standards, protocols and ways of working adopted by the ecosystem in the UK, with the aim of achieving interoperability.
* The aim of this activity is to work towards a model leading to increased functionality and learnings for the competition and its participants.

**Principle 4: Secure by design**

* A crucial feature of all activities under the competition, including testbeds and trials, is maintaining the security and integrity of the technology and facilities being funded. We are partnering with the National Cyber Security Centre to help provide guidance on standards and cyber security.
* The aim of this activity is to enshrine security in the deployment of telecoms products and services in the UK, and to ensure that future networks are secure in support of the Government's aim to make the UK the safest place to live and do business online.

**Principle 5: Promoting the**  **UK as a world leader in 5G supply chain diversification**

* Participants are expected to be advocates for 5G supply chain diversification (at home and abroad). Working together to put the UK and UK businesses in the best position possible to enjoy the efficiency and productivity benefits of Open RAN and to be world leaders.
* This may involve providing case studies, and participation in events or publicity activities, to support and promote the outcomes of the Future RAN Competition .