Terms and Conditions of use

Framework for Research and Publications Standards for Human-Machine Collaboration

[23] April 2025

These Terms and Conditions of use ("**T&Cs**") apply to the use of the Research and Publications Standards for Human-Machine Collaboration classification system as created by Dubai Future Foundation "**DFF HMC Classification System**". These T&Cs together with the DFF HMC Classification User Licence, govern the use of the DFF HMC Classification System.

If there is any conflict or inconsistency between these T&Cs and the DFF HMC Classification User Licence, these T&C's shall prevail.

By accessing and or making any use of the DFF HMC Classification System, you agree to be fully and unconditionally bound by these T&Cs and the DFF HMC Classification User Licence, any amendments to them, and the decisions of Dubai Future Foundation ("**DFF**"), which are final and binding in all respects.

A. The purpose

DFF is using the term "Human-Machine Collaboration" ("**HMC**"), to demonstrate that the use of emerging technologies in the research field is more than just "artificial intelligence", but also takes into account other elements, from machine learning and big data to neural networks and deep learning, to help produce outputs which inform decisions. This also covers the wider role of automation and robots in research. In framing HMC in this way, DFF aims to make the DFF HMC Classification System inclusive of future possibilities, and future technologies.

The DFF HMC Classification System has been created to support transparency in research and provide, at a glance, a visual standard classification through the "HMC Icons", which allows readers, researchers and decision makers to see the extent to which research outputs have been shaped through the use of machines by the authors/ research team of the research and publications.

The DFF HMC Classification System is intended to be used in research and publications, namely, all intellectual and creative work carried out during the research process, content creation, publication design and related outputs. This includes but is not limited to:

- academic papers
- research articles and reports
- data visualisations
- books
- articles
- visual content
- art
- educational materials, and
- technical documentation.

The DFF HMC Classification System has been developed as a self-certification system to allow for authors/researchers and other such entities to categorise their work by the level of HMC in their works.

B. Eligibility

The DFF HMC Classification Licence provides a way for researchers, research teams, academics and other eligible users, to use the HMC Icons, which are protected under copyright laws, trademark laws and other relevant laws, and for which usage is provided under a licence from DFF (details of which are set out in the DFF HMC Classification User Licence).

The DFF HMC Classification User Licence is available to individuals and/or entities that have acknowledged and accepted these T&C's and the User License, including but not limited to:

- Individual researchers
- Research teams
- Academic Institutions
- Writer

(the "**Eligible User(s)**").

DFF reserves the right to terminate any DFF HMC Classification User Licence by an Eligible User if, in DFF's sole judgement, the Eligible User has not complied with these T&Cs and/or the DFF HMC Classification User Licence, has tampered with and/or abused the operation of the DFF HMC Classification System, and/or has engaged in any conduct that is detrimental or unfair to DFF, its Affiliates, the DFF HMC Classification System, and/or any other Eligible User(s) and/or the works of any other Eligible User(s).

DFF reserve the right, in its sole discretion, to maintain the integrity of the DFF HMC Classification System for any reason. Any attempt by an Eligible User to deliberately damage any website or undermine the legitimate operation of the DFF HMC Classification System may be a violation of criminal and civil laws. Should such an attempt be made, DFF fully reserves the right to seek damages to the fullest extent permitted by law and report to the relevant authorities as appropriate.

DFF accepts no responsibility for any misuse, mis-categorisation or other abuse of the DFF HMC Classification System by an Eligible User. In the event that DFF becomes aware of any misuse, deliberate mis-categorisation or other abuse of the DFF HMC Classification System, DFF reserves the right to terminate the Eligible User's DFF HMC Classification User Licence, as well as reserving the right to report to the relevant authorities as may be appropriate.

C. The HMC Icons

The following table depicts the five categories in the human-machine collaboration framework for research and publications. The HMC Icons have been developed around these categories. The Intellectual Property Rights (as defined herein) relating to the HMC Icons and the Functionality Icons are owned and shall remain vested in DFF. The Eligible User herby acknowledges that any rights accumulating from their use of the DFF HMC Classification System and/or DFF HMC Icons shall accrue solely and exclusively to the benefit of, and at all times vest in, DFF. The Eligible User shall have no accrued rights or interests in the DFF HMC Classification System and/or DFF HMC Icons whatsoever.

Human-Machine Collaboration in Research			
Human role	**Overall**	**Machine role**	**HMC Icons**
All human	**All human**	None	HUMAN — All human
Human Led	**Humans led** Machines conduct checks, highlight and correct errors, enhance output.	Machine Oversight	HUMAN MACHINE — Leader
Collaborator	**Machine assisted** Machines and humans work together.	Collaborator	HUMAN MACHINE — Collaborator
Human Oversight	**Machine led** Humans conduct checks, highlight and correct errors, enhance output.	Machine Led	HUMAN MACHINE — Oversight
None	**All machine**	All machine	MACHINE — None

An Eligible User (researcher, designer, writer, etc) can, using the DFF HMC Classification User Licence, match the respective research and publication function, with the respective HMC Icon for human-machine collaboration. In using the HMC Icons, an Eligible User would display on

their works, the HMC Icon together with the appropriate Functionality Icon(s) (as defined herein).

Using icons for the extent of human-machine collaboration, and the functions, will help provide transparency to decisions-makers on the extent to which machine intelligence was involved in the research and publication processes and outputs.

The Functionality Icons ("**Functionality Icon(s)**") for areas commonly addressed in research and publications are as follows:

Functionality Icons - icons for common research and publication functions

The HMC Icons and Functionality Icons are jointly referred to as the "**DFF HMC Icons**".

An Eligible User will be entitled to use the DFF HMC Icons under the DFF HMC Classification User Licence, which sets out the terms of use. The DFF HMC Icons must be downloaded directly from the DFF website [*https://www.dubaifuture.ae/hmc*]. Alternatively, the DFF HMC Icons may be used through a software which incorporates the Icons In Unicode. In accordance with the terms of the DFF HMC Classification User Licence, Eligible Users must note that they shall not modify, adapt, amend or distort any of the DFF HMC Icons in use, that they must not incorporate the DFF HMC Icons into other brands or Intellectual Property Rights, and that they must not insinuate or attempt to insinuate, whether directly or indirectly, a partnership or direct association of any kind between the DFF HMC Icons and the Eligible User's brand or any other brand.

The DFF HMC Icons cannot be used for any other purpose, or by any other party, other than as specifically provided for in the DFF HMC Classification User Licence.

Any misuse of the DFF HMC Icons may lead to termination of any DFF HMC Classification User Licence and DFF taking further action as it deems necessary to protect its rights and interests.

D.   User Requirements

The DFF HMC Classification is a self-certification process. DFF does not, and will not, process submissions for categorisation of works.

Where it is brought to DFF's attention that the self-certification process is being deliberately abused, for example, fully machine generated works, being categorised as fully human created works, DFF reserves the right to terminate the DFF HMC Classification User Licence In accordance with these T&Cs.

DFF fully reserves the right to immediately terminate licenses without any explanation or prior notice.

Each Eligible User, agrees that no aspect of their works which will be categorised under the DFF HMC Classification System, will:

(i) infringe the Intellectual Property Rights (as defined below) of DFF, It's affiliates, or any third party;

(ii) defame others, or include any content which is obscene, abusive, discriminatory, offensive, hateful or inflammatory;

(iii) promotes or incites violence or illegal activities; and/or

(iv) lead to any detriment to the goodwill associated with DFF's name or to the Government of Dubai or create unfavourable publicity or bring disrepute to Dubai, DFF, any of it's affiliates or to the Government of Dubai at any time.

For the purposes of these T&Cs and the DFF HMC Classification User Licence, "Intellectual Property Rights" means:

(i) all intellectual property rights, including all forms of copyright and authors rights (including any and all rights that may be considered financial rights provided under United Arab Emirates Federal Law No. 7 of 2002), computer and software code, scripts,

patents, design elements, graphics, logos, interactive features, artwork, text communication, brand names, trademarks, service marks, rights in trade dress or get-up, goodwill, domain names, URLs, know-how, trade secret, rights to sue for passing off, unfair competition rights and moral rights;

(ii) applications and the right to apply for registration, renewals or extensions for any of these rights; and

(iii) all other intellectual property rights or rights of a corresponding nature or similar forms of protection, whether registered or unregistered, existing anywhere in the world.

E.   Licence to DFF for promotional purposes

Subject to the licenses described below, any applicable Intellectual Property Rights to a work which is classified under the DFF HMC Classification User Licence will remain with the licensor. However, in signing up to the DFF HMC Classification User Licence, the Eligible User hereby grants DFF and its affiliates and their successors, and assigns of each of the foregoing, a non-exclusive, assignable, sublicensable, worldwide, perpetual license to display publicly and use for promotional purposes your use of the DFF HMC Classification System. This license includes, but not limited to, posting or referencing your use of the DFF HMC Classification System on our marketing collateral (whether online or offline), our website, social media accounts and on any other media, worldwide.

Without limitation of any of DFF's rights pursuant to these T&Cs, the following components may be displayed to the public: name, brief description, images, website URL, team members, and your logos ("**Eligible User Information**"), as a user of the DFF HMC Classification System.

Participants represent and warrant that DFF is free to use the Eligible User Information in the manner described above, as provided or as modified by DFF, without obtaining permission or license from any third party and without any compensation to the Eligible User or other third parties. The Eligible User shall indemnify DFF against all liabilities, costs (whether internal or paid to third parties), expenses, damages and losses (including but not limited to any and all interest, penalties and legal costs (calculated on a full indemnity basis) and all other reasonable

professional costs and expenses) suffered or incurred by DFF arising out of or in connection with:

a) any breach of the warranties or covenants of the Eligible User under these T&C's and/or the DFF HMC Classification User Licence;

b) the Eligible User's misuse, deliberate mis-categorisation or other abuse of the DFF HMC Classification System; and/or

c) any claim made against DFF for actual or alleged infringement of a third party's intellectual property rights arising out of or in connection with the DFF's use of the Eligible User Information and/or research/publications as outlined above.

E.   Conditions and Release

By entering the DFF HMC Classification System, you (and, if you are entering on behalf of a team, each participating member - **"Participant(s)"**) agree(s) to the following:

(i)   The relationship between you, the other Participant(s), and DFF, is not a confidential, fiduciary, or other special relationship.

(ii)   You will be bound by and comply with these T&Cs and the terms of the DFF HMC Classification User Licence and DFF's decisions are binding and final in all matters relating to the DFF HMC Classification System, and the DFF HMC Classification User Licence.

(iii)   You release, indemnify, defend and hold harmless each of DFF, It's affiliates and any other organizations responsible for administering, operating, managing, advertising or promoting the DFF HMC Classification System, and all of their respective past and present officers, directors, employees, agents and representatives (hereafter the "**Indemnified Parties**") from and against any and all claims, expenses, and liabilities (including reasonable attorneys' fees), including but not limited to negligence and damages of any kind to persons and property, defamation, slander, libel, violation of right of publicity, infringement of any third parties Intellectual Property Rights, property damage, or death or personal injury, arising out of or relating to the DFF HMC Classification System, any Participant's participation in the DFF HMC Classification System, acceptance or use or misuse of the DFF HMC Classification User Licence, or exploitation or use of the DFF HMC Icons.

(iv) We may collect non-identifiable, anonymous information about your use of the DFF HMC Classification User Licence and HMC Icons, such as your sector, country, or general area of use. This information is collected solely for statistical and analytical purposes to better understand adoption and usage trends. No personal data is collected, stored, or linked to individual users.

F.   Events outside DFF's control

DFF will not be liable or responsible for any failure to perform, or delay in performance of, any of our obligations under the T&Cs and/or the DFF HMC Classification System and/or the DFF HMC Classification User Licence that is caused by events outside our reasonable control ("**Force Majeure Event**"). A Force Majeure Event includes any act, event, non-happening, omission or accident beyond our reasonable control and includes in particular (without limitation) the following:

a) Strikes, lock-outs or other industrial action;

b) Civil commotion, riot, invasion, terrorist attack or threat of terrorist attack, war (whether declared or not) or threat or preparation for war;

c) Fire, explosion, storm, flood, earthquake, subsidence, epidemic or other natural disaster;

d) Impossibility of the use of railways, shipping, aircraft, motor transport or other means of public or private transport;

e) Impossibility of the use of public or private telecommunications networks;

f) The acts, decrees, legislation, regulations or restrictions of any government or regulator; and/or

g) Failure of any telecommunications system.

Our performance of the DFF HMC Classification System, and any related DFF HMC Classification User Licence is deemed to be suspended for the period that the Force Majeure Event continues. We will use our reasonable endeavours to bring the Force Majeure Event to a close or to find a solution by which our obligations under the T&Cs, the DFF HMC Classification System, and any related DFF HMC Classification User Licence may be performed despite the Force Majeure Event.

G.   General Conditions

(i)   We reserve the right, in our sole discretion, to change these T&Cs and/or the DFF HMC Classification System, and/or the DFF HMC Classification User Licence, or to cancel, suspend and/or modify the DFF HMC Classification System, these T&Cs and/or the DFF HMC Classification User Licence at any time, including but not limited to, any of the Eligible User(s) rights and/or obligations.

(ii)   We reserve the right, in our sole discretion, to terminate the DFF HMC Classification User Licence of any Eligible User we find to be acting in violation of these T&Cs and/or the DFF HMC Classification System and/or the DFF HMC Classification User Licence, or a violation of any applicable law or regulation.

(iii)   Any attempt by any person to undermine the proper conduct of the DFF HMC Classification System may be a violation of criminal and civil law. Should we suspect that such an attempt has been made or is threatened, we reserve the right to take appropriate action including but not limited to requiring an Eligible User(s) to cooperate with an investigation and referral to criminal and civil law enforcement authorities.

(vi)   DFF's failure to enforce any terms of these T&Cs and/or the DFF HMC Classification System, and/or the DFF HMC Classification User Licence shall not constitute a waiver of that provision. Should any provision of these T&Cs and/or the DFF HMC Classification System, and/or the DFF HMC Classification User Licence be or become illegal or unenforceable in the United Arab Emirates, such illegality or unenforceability shall leave the remainder of these T&Cs and/or the DFF HMC Classification System, and/or the DFF HMC Classification User Licence, including the term or condition affected, to the fullest extent permitted by law, unaffected and valid. The illegal or unenforceable provision shall be replaced by a valid and enforceable provision that comes closest and best reflects our intention in a legal and enforceable manner with respect to the invalid or unenforceable provision.

(vii)   Excluding the Eligible User's works, all Intellectual Property Rights related to the DFF HMC Classification System, including but not limited to the HMC Icons, are owned or used under license by DFF and its affiliates. All rights are reserved. Unauthorized

copying, adaptation, translation, derivative works or use of any copyrighted material or DFF's Intellectual Property Rights without the express written consent of its owners is strictly prohibited.

(viii)   By using the DFF HMC Classification System, the Eligible User represents and warrants that Eligible User's work against which the HMC Icons will be used, is an original work of authorship, and does not violate any third party's proprietary or Intellectual Property Rights. If the Eligible User's work infringes upon the Intellectual Property Rights or other right of a third party, the Eligible User's DFF HMC Classification User Licence and use of the DFF HMC Classification System will be terminated at DFF's sole discretion. If the content of the Eligible User's works is claimed to constitute infringement of any proprietary or Intellectual Property Rights of any third party, the Eligible User shall at their sole expense, defend or settle against such claims. The Eligible User shall indemnify, defend and hold DFF harmless from and against any suit, proceeding, claims, liability, loss, damage, costs or expense, which we may incur, suffer or be required to pay arising out of such infringement or suspected infringement of any third party rights.

H.   Limitations of Liability

By using the DFF HMC Classification System, all Eligible Users (including, in the case of a team, all Participant(s)) agree to be bound by these T&Cs and the applicable DFF HMC Classification User Licence and hereby release the Indemnified Parties from any and all liability in connection with the Eligible User's use of the DFF HMC Classification System. Provided, however, that any liability limitation regarding gross negligence or intentional acts, or events of death or body injury shall not be applicable in jurisdictions where such limitation is not legal.

I.   Whistleblowing

i.   As a fundamental aspect of DFF's commitment to transparency, integrity, and ethical business practices, DFF maintains a robust Whistleblowing Policy (the Policy). DFF reserves the right to update and modify the Whistleblowing Policy as deemed necessary, and such updated Policy will be published on DFF's website at www.dubaifuture.gov.ae.

ii. The Eligible User agrees to familiarize itself with the contents of the Policy.

iii. The Policy outlines the reporting mechanisms available to all stakeholders, including but not limited to employees, vendors, and third parties.

iv. DFF is committed to providing protection to individuals who, in good faith, report concerns or suspected wrongdoing. Protections may include confidentiality, non-retaliation, and other safeguards as outlined in this Policy.

v. In the event that DFF initiates an investigation based on a whistleblower report, the Eligible User agrees to fully cooperate with any such investigation, providing all necessary information and assistance.

vi. The Eligible User agrees to comply with all relevant laws and regulations pertaining to whistleblowing and protection of whistleblowers.

J. Anti-bribery

i. The parties undertake to act in a way to uphold their good name and reputation at all times and not to do or attempt to do any act or thing which is intended or which in fact causes any damage to or brings discredit upon the party.

ii. The Eligible User represents, warrants and undertakes to DFF that:

   a) it has not done (or agreed to do) nor will do (or agree to do) anything which constitutes an offence or breach by either party of any applicable Bribery Legislation;

   b) it shall report in writing to DFF any suspicion of any breach or alleged breach of any Bribery Legislation and will cooperate with any further steps or processes which are undertaken or required to be undertaken regarding such breach.

K. Anti-corruption

i. The Eligible User must not engage or attempt to engage in corrupt or fraudulent practices, including:

   a) offering, giving, receiving or soliciting of anything of value, or exerting undue interference to influence the action of any of DFF's personnel; or

   b) engaging in any collusive practice with DFF's other current or potential suppliers.

ii.   If DFF believes on reasonable grounds that Eligible User has breached clause K(i)(a) then:

   a) such breach will constitute a material breach of these T&C's and DFF HMC Classification User Licence; and

   b) without prejudice to DFF's other rights and remedies DFF may require the Eligible User to rectify that breach.

L.   Miscellaneous

a)   Privacy Notice: All information submitted in connection with the DFF HMC Classification System will be treated in accordance with our Privacy Policy found here: https://www.dubaifuture.ae/privacy-policy/.

b)   Entire Agreement: Participation in the DFF HMC Classification System constitute the Eligible Users full and unconditional agreement to these T&Cs and/or the DFF HMC Classification System, and/or the DFF HMC Classification User Licence. By using the DMCC HMC Classification System, all Eligible Users agree that all decisions related to the T&Cs and/or the DFF HMC Classification System, and/or the DFF HMC Classification User Licence are final and binding, and that all such decisions are at DFF's sole discretion.

c)   WAIVER OF LIABILITY: NEITHER DFF NOR IT'S AFFILIATES (AS APPLICABLE) WILL BE RESPONSIBLE OR LIABLE FOR: (I) ANY FAILURE IN THE OPERATION OF THE DFF HMC CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM OR OTHER CONDITIONS BEYOND THEIR REASONABLE CONTROL; (II) ANY DISRUPTIONS, LOSSES OR DAMAGES CAUSED BY EVENTS BEYOND THEIR REASONABLE CONTROL; OR (III) ANY ERRORS IN ANY MATERIALS ASSOCIATED WITH THE DFF HMC CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM.

d)   This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Dubai and the federal laws of the United Arab Emirates. Disputes arising in connection with these T&C's and/or the DFF HMC Classification User Licence shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Dubai Courts.