In the Project Description, researchers are to outline plans for communicating research results to other researchers and the broader community, including scholarly and public communication and dissemination.

The selection criteria for Project Research Environment (DP17 Funding Rules, pg. 31), worth 15%, references communication of results: “Are there adequate strategies to encourage dissemination, commercialisation, if appropriate; and promotion of research outcomes?”

The method of communication should be relevant to the applicants discipline area. Methods of communication could include:

- publication in journals
- community and public engagement
- general promotion of research outcomes
- commercialisation
- outreach activities
- workshops/seminars
- professional memberships/networks
- presentation at domestic and international conferences
- newspaper and other related media
- policy documents
- websites
- informing curriculum

Information specifically for journal publication:

Communication of Results plans should provide some indication as to the journals or publishers to be targeted in a manner that aligns with the planned experiments and the applicant track record. These should also clarify what will happen if these are not open-access.

For Example:

“Research results arising from the project will be published in the leading discipline journals such as X, Y, Z. All of the Investigators have established track records of publishing in these leading journals. In particular, it is expected that the fundamental aspects of AA and BB would appeal to the readership of journals such as X and Y. Where such journals are not open-access, the journal articles will be made available through the institutional repository UNSWorks, in accordance with Discovery Program Funding Rule A11.5.1 and in compliance with the ARC’s Open Access Policy.”

Budgeting for communication of results:

A number of communication strategies incur cost, and should be budgeted for appropriately in the Project Cost section, under “Other”, categorised as publication and dissemination costs.

There is no limit on the amount that may be requested for publication and dissemination of project outputs and outreach activity. These costs should then be discussed and fully justified in your Budget Justification, ensuring there is a correlation to what is detailed in the Project Description.

It is important to also ensure that any other budget items in your Project Cost that may be related to Communication of Results is discussed in the appropriate section of the Project Description – for example, if requesting conference travel, ensure conference attendance is clearly indicated under your ‘Communication of Results’ section.