



Exact and Natural Sciences

Requirements for Dutch applicants

ERA-net SURPLUS

Call 2017 Small scale biorefineries

Introduction and purpose

As part of the FACCE-JPI related activities, the ERA-net SURPLUS (Sustainable and resilient agriculture for food and non-food systems) is organizing a European joint call for research proposals on small-scale biorefineries. Dutch scientists can participate as part of international consortia. Applications are handled by the joint call secretariat of SURPLUS.

The Joint Programming Initiative on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change (FACCE-JPI) brings together 23 countries who are committed to building an integrated European Research Area addressing the interconnected challenges of sustainable agriculture, food security and impacts of climate change. FACCE-JPI provides and steers research to support sustainable agricultural production and economic growth. It aims to contribute to a European bio-based economy, while maintaining and restoring ecosystem services under current and future climate change.

FACCE-JPI regularly organises calls for proposals for pan-European research projects. The current call is organised as part of the ERA-net SURPLUS under Horizon 2020 and aims at sustainable intensification of food and non-food biomass production and decentralised transformation systems, in particular small scale multi-input, multi-product biorefinery concepts.

Who can apply

Funding can be applied for by associate, assistant and full professors or researchers with a comparable position who hold an appointment at a Dutch university or a research institute recognised by NWO (cf. Open Programme NWO Earth and Life Sciences). For this specific call, this includes TO2 and HBO institutes.

Specifically:

- Applicants must hold a doctorate and/or be professor.
- Applicants must have a paid appointment for at least the duration of the application process and the research for which the grant is requested.
- Employees who have a 'zero-hours' contract (0-aanstelling) or a contract as an unpaid guest researcher cannot apply.
- Applicants may not apply for a position for themselves (if required with the exception of medior researchers at TO2/HBO).

TO2 institutes are defined as TNO, Wageningen Research (research institutes of Wageningen UR), the National Aerospace Laboratory (NLR), Energy research Centre of the Netherlands (ECN), Deltares and the Maritime Research Institute Netherlands (Marin). HBO institutes are defined as government funded HBO institutes as included in article 1.8 of the ['Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek](#) (WHW).

The Dutch applicant submits his/her application as part of an international consortium. An individual Dutch applicant may only request funding for one project (part of a consortium) in this call.

What can be applied for

Applicants can apply for a grant to cover research costs such as the appointment of personnel (post-doc/medior researcher) and material and networking costs (consumables, fieldwork, consortium meetings etc.). Each cost category should be explained separately in the application.

A single Dutch partner may request a maximum of 250.000 euro for personnel costs and material and networking costs according to the specifications below.

The maximum number of Dutch participants (applicable for funding) per consortium is one. Leading to a maximum funding of 250.000 euro per consortium.

The maximum project duration is 3 years.

Personnel costs

- For the salary costs at Universities and research institutes recognized by NWO the VSNU contract '[Akkoord bekostiging wetenschappelijk onderzoek](#)' applies. For the Dutch Individual Project a grant can be requested for a postdoc researcher (maximum 3 years full time, per 1 July 2016: 212.117 euro). This amount includes a bench fee of 5,000 euro for individual costs for the purposes of the research of the post-doc (e.g. publication costs, congress visits, etc.).
- For the salary costs at TO2 and HBO institutes the VSNU contract '[Akkoord bekostiging wetenschappelijk onderzoek](#)' applies. In this specific call, TO2 and HBO institutes may request funding for a medior researcher (cf. post-doc salary scale 11 BBRA). The minimum appointment for a medior researcher on a project is 12 months 0,5 fte. A maximum of three different medior researchers may be appointed on a project.

Material and networking costs

For material costs (consumables, fieldwork, travel costs) and networking costs (consortium meetings, travel costs, communication) a maximum of 50,000 euro for the entire funding period can be applied for. Material and networking costs may not exceed 20% of the total budget requested.

Non-eligible costs

The NWO funding in this call does not cover costs for sub-contracting or overheads (other than included in the salary costs for TO2 and HBO institutes). Applicants cannot apply for a grant to cover the costs of tenured staff (with the exception of medior researchers at TO2 or HBO institutes), student assistants, analysts or technicians, general laboratory equipment and the costs for maintenance, insurance, congress visits and publications.

When can applications be submitted

The deadline for the submission of preproposals (obligatory) is **March 7, 2017**, 14:00 hours (Central European time).

The deadline for the submission of full proposals is **July 17, 2017**, 14:00 hours (Central European time).

Proposals can be submitted electronically via the FACCE-JPI Submission Tool (www.submission-faccejpi.com).

Conditions on granting

The [NWO Regulation on Granting](#) and the [Agreement on the Payment of Costs for Scientific Research](#) apply to all applications.

Open Access

All scientific publications resulting from research that is funded by grants derived from this call for proposals are to be immediately (at the time of publication) freely

accessible worldwide (Open Access). There are several ways for researchers to publish Open Access. A detailed explanation regarding Open Access can be found on www.nwo.nl/openscience-en.

Data management

Responsible data management is part of good research. NWO wants research data that emerge from publicly funded research to become freely and sustainably available, as much as possible, for reuse by other researchers. Furthermore NWO wants to raise awareness among researchers about the importance of responsible data management. Proposals should therefore satisfy the data management protocol of NWO. This protocol consists of one step for this European call:

1. Data management plan

After a proposal has been awarded funding the researcher should provide a data management *plan*. The plan should be submitted to NWO via ISAAC within a maximum of 4 months after the proposal has been awarded funding. NWO will approve the plan as quickly as possible. Approval of the data management plan by NWO is a condition for disbursement of the funding. The plan can be adjusted during the research.

Further information about the data management protocol of NWO can be found at www.nwo.nl/datamanagement.

Nagoya Protocol

The Nagoya Protocol became effective on 12 October 2014 and ensures an honest and reasonable distribution of benefits emerging from the use of genetic resources (Access and Benefit Sharing; ABS). Researchers who make use of genetic sources from the Netherlands or abroad for their research should familiarise themselves with the Nagoya Protocol (www.absfocalpoint.nl). NWO assumes that researchers will take all necessary actions with respect to the Nagoya Protocol.

Submitting an application

- The pre-proposal and the full proposal must be submitted correctly and completely before the respective deadlines via the FACCE-JPI Submission Tool (www.submission-faccejpi.com) according to the Application procedure and the guidance provided in the submission tool. Applicants should note that failure to comply with the submission rules will cause ineligibility of the project and therefore exclusion from the application process.
- The proposal must be written in English.

Each pre-proposal submitted correctly and on time will be checked for eligibility as a whole. This means that failure of one partner within the consortium to meet the criteria could cause the entire project to be rejected.

The above criteria apply to all partners. These represent the minimal requirements and do not exclude more specific criteria. Partners from countries/regions participating in the call must also meet the national/organisational criteria as outlined in the National Regulations. Details can be requested from the NCP.

Procedure

The review process is carried out under responsibility of the ERA-net SURPLUS. Eventually the accredited board within NWO will decide which Dutch proposals are to be awarded. This decision will be based on the ranking established by the ERA-net SURPLUS.

Further information about the review process can be found in the call announcement available on the SURPLUS website (<http://www.facceturplus.org>).

Criteria

Proposals, included in a consortium, can only be submitted to the joint call secretariat of SURPLUS, according to the instructions in the call announcement and using the application form issued by SURPLUS.

Dutch participation should be in line with the knowledge and innovation agendas of the economic priority areas Agri&Food and Horticulture & Propagation Materials.

The assessment criteria for pre-proposals and full proposals are available in the call announcement.

All call documents are available on the SURPLUS website (<http://www.facceturplus.org>)

Contact details

For specific questions about FACCE-JPI ERA-net SURPLUS and this call for proposals please contact:

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Other information

Before submitting a pre-proposal, it is obligatory to contact the National Contact Point to discuss eligibility criteria and possible relevance to the economic priority areas Agri&Food and Horticulture & Propagation Materials.

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