

The NWO logo is displayed in white on a red background. It features the letters 'NWO' in a stylized font, with a red swoosh above the 'O'.

**Call for joint proposals**

# **Indo-Dutch Joint Research Programme for ICT**

November 2017



Ministry of Electronics and  
Information Technology  
Government of India



Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek



The Hague, November 2017

Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Background	1
1.2	Available budget	2
1.3	Validity of the call for proposals	2
<b>2</b>	<b>Aim</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Guidelines for applicants</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	Who can apply	5
3.2	What can be applied for	6
3.3	When can applications be submitted	9
3.4	Preparing an application	10
3.5	Conditions on granting	11
3.6	Submitting an application	13
<b>4</b>	<b>Assessment procedure</b>	<b>14</b>
4.1	Procedure	14
4.2	Criteria	15
<b>5</b>	<b>Contact details and other information</b>	<b>17</b>
5.1	Contact	17
<b>6</b>	<b>Annexes</b>	<b>18</b>
6.1	MeitY/NWO/SIA regulation IPR and Knowledge transfer	18
6.2	Arrangement for contributions by consortium partners	20
6.3	Model consortium agreement	22
6.4	SIA financial and administrative provisions for Dutch Universities of Applied Sciences	26

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Background

**The Indian Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), including the NWO Taskforce for Applied Research (SIA), invite researchers in India and The Netherlands together with public and private partners to participate in the Indo-Dutch Joint Research Programme for ICT.**

An agreement for “Collaborative R&D Projects in Pervasive Communications & Computing” was established by NWO and MeitY in 2013. The agreement aims to promote closer co-operation and the exchange of knowledge. In the context of this agreement, MeitY, NWO and SIA have issued this Call for Joint Proposals on ICT Research aiming to support innovative projects that bring together researchers from India and The Netherlands. At the same time, it provides incentives for public-private partnerships in ICT research. This Call for Joint Proposals on ICT Research focuses on the technology areas Internet of Things and Data Science.

MeitY, NWO and SIA finance, facilitate and stimulate scientific research which is ‘curiosity-driven’ and/or ‘demand-inspired’. Demand-inspired research aims at innovation that is inspired by the strategic agendas of industry and societal organisations. This call links both scientific research and public and private needs.

The Call for Joint Proposals on ICT Research will catalyze excellence in science and technology. This unique and promising combination of the high potential of the Dutch and Indian research communities, the strong focus on development of new ICT solutions and the excellent ICT knowledge base in both countries will lead to innovations in multiple economic and societal sectors and creates valuable new solutions, services, products or technologies.

### **From Indian perspective:**

MeitY has been promoting research and development in the area of Convergence, Communication and Broadband Technology as one of its major activities. India expects to see an explosion in Big Data Analytics and Internet of Things (IoT) as it is predicted that by 2020 there will be 30x connected devices to connected people.

IoT and Big Data along with Broadband-enabled Internet applications are being seen to have huge potential in contributing to all sectors of the economy and particularly in e-governance, e-health, e-learning, e-commerce and e-entertainment sectors. It is with this intent that MeitY is keen to foray into Research & Development and Applications & Services development in IoT & Big Data.

### **From Dutch perspective:**

The Dutch government has appointed nine economic top sectors for growth in its current economic and innovation approach. These top sectors describe a number of themes, ranging from High Tech Systems and Materials to Creative Industry, Logistics and Life Sciences & Health. In order to bundle the need for research and innovation in ICT, the Dutch government has requested the development of a research and innovation agenda for ICT, related to the nine top sectors. This resulted in the Dutch national Knowledge and Innovation Agenda ICT (KIA ICT) 2018-2021<sup>1</sup>. Big Data and IoT are important focus areas of the KIA ICT.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.dutchdigitaldelta.nl/uploads/pdf/KIA-ICT-2018-2021-1-oktober-1.0.pdf>

## **1.2 Available budget**

The total budget available from the Dutch part for this call is M€ 1,2 compiled of maximum k€ 950 from NWO and maximum k€250 from SIA. From the Indian side MeitY will contribute up to k€ 950.

Another M€ 0,5 is minimally made available by industry and societal organizations (20% of the project expenses is matched by these parties) in case the whole MeitY, NWO and SIA budget is spent.

Only applications that have been assessed as excellent or very good are eligible for funding. Proposals of insufficient quality are not eligible for funding, even if the budget is available.

The budget request must follow the norms and regulations of MeitY and NWO, and SIA if applicable. The budget to be approved for each selected proposal will be subject to the rules and restrictions of each funding agency, as specified in this call for proposals.

## **1.3 Validity of the call for proposals**

This call for proposals is valid until the closing date March 6th, 2018, 14:00 hours CET/ 18:30 hours (IST).

## 2 Aim

The aim of the Indo-Dutch Joint Research Programme is to accelerate innovation in science and technology in India as well as in The Netherlands through:

1. Fostering excellence in research projects and at the same time enhancing the research quality in India and The Netherlands. The research is precompetitive and can be of a more fundamental or a more applied nature, depending on the needs of the project partners;
2. Strengthening interaction and scientific cooperation between the research institutes in India and The Netherlands and industrial partners, including SME's, and/or societal organizations;
3. Promoting the development and deployment of innovative research (techniques) to be used in industry, including SME's, and/or societal organizations.

Public and private partners, e.g. ICT users and/or developers, are invited to collaborate with academic researchers in formulating research questions and addressing the challenging key issues. The aim of this collaboration is working towards practical and innovative solutions. The research questions can be driven by fundamental and/or applied scientific approaches. This program aims at strengthening the already existing and emerging ties between fundamental and applied science, e.g. through the cooperation with applied sciences, and at stimulating co-creation and application of knowledge with public (societal) and private (industrial) organizations, including SME's. There is therefore room for projects with foci ranging from shorter term applied research aimed at the development of solutions for current demands to longer term curiosity-driven cutting-edge fundamental research aimed at future needs.

Research topics are targeted at needs of Indian and Dutch inhabitants and the Indian and Dutch economy. Investments in this collaboration should be justifiable for the Indian and Dutch government on top of this prerequisite; it is mandatory that research topics fit in the Dutch KIA ICT.

MeitY, NWO and SIA identified the following research topics where major technology trends will start to scale and shape business models, innovation and affect everyday life: Big Data and Internet of Things (IoT). These topics are especially relevant for the following application domains: mobility, health, safety&security, energy and smart citizenship.

### Big Data

Big Data research or Data Science is the extraction of knowledge from data. Data Science employs techniques and theories drawn from many fields, including data and process mining, statistics, text- and image analysis, information retrieval, machine learning and visual analytics. The scientific world is changing rapidly due to the availability of more and more data and computing power. Data science is multidisciplinary in nature as the object of investigation, the data, is always found in a certain scientific, industrial or societal context. Big Data is one of the key themes of the Dutch KIA ICT, in which the large-scale initiative COMMIT2DATA<sup>2</sup> forms an important catalyst for Big Data research.

### Internet of Things

IoT is the internet of physical devices, vehicles (also referred to as "connected devices" and "smart devices"), buildings and other items-embedded with electronics, software, sensors, actuators, and network connectivity that enable these objects to collect and exchange data. IoT is seen as "the infrastructure of the information society." IoT allows objects to be sensed and/or controlled remotely across existing network infrastructure, creating opportunities for more direct integration of the

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.dutchdigitaldelta.nl/commit2data>

Aim

physical world into computer-based systems, and resulting in improved efficiency, accuracy and economic benefit. The relevance to this research theme can also be found in the KIA ICT 2018-2021.

## 3 Guidelines for applicants

### 3.1 Who can apply

Project proposals are expected to be prepared by a consortium of private and/or public partners. It is obligatory to have the following categories of participants in the consortium:

- at least one Indian research department from a research or R&D institute recognized by MeitY;
- at least one Dutch research department from a research institute recognized by NWO<sup>3</sup>;
- at least one public or private partner that alone, or together with multiple private partners, including SME's, and public partners, meets the private/public matching criteria (see section 3.2.2).

Collaboration with departments of Dutch Universities of Applied Sciences is optional.

#### Private parties

Private parties are defined as businesses. MeitY, NWO and SIA understand a business to be: an organisational association unit or person focused on sustained participation in the economic system with the aid of labour and capital and with a profit motive.

#### Public parties

Public partners are defined as knowledge or other institutes such as public institutes, municipalities, intermediary organisations or foundations, that are not one of the research institutes recognised by MeitY, NWO and SIA, and which do not belong to the category private parties or the categories below:

- Dutch Universities of Applied Sciences, TO2 federation organizations (including TNO), Dutch national institutes (Rijksinstituten), and the non-university part of the Wageningen University Research (WUR);
- Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO);
- The NWO Taskforce for Applied Research (SIA);
- Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW);
- Indian Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY).

Researchers from Dutch Universities of Applied Sciences, TO2 federation organizations (including TNO), Dutch national institutes (Rijksinstituten), and the non-university part of WUR may act as co-applicants and be a member of a consortium. In this way, they can contribute to a project and have access to the generated knowledge and the network. However, they are not considered to be a public partner and cannot meet the in kind or in cash matching criteria of the project budget for which funding is being requested (see section 3.2.2). Researchers from Dutch Universities of Applied Sciences do qualify for funding from SIA.

Private and public partners can be listed as co-applicants. Private and public partners are not eligible to receive MeitY, NWO or SIA funding, but contribute in cash or in kind to the research (see section 3.2.2). Upon submission of the application, the involvement of all participating partners must be clearly indicated.

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<sup>3</sup> See NWO regulation on granting at <https://www.nwo.nl/en/documents/nwo/legal/nwo-grant-rules-1-may-2017>

Applications contain two principal Investigators (PI's). One PI is appointed at an Indian research or R&D institute recognized by MeitY and one PI is appointed at a Dutch research institute recognized by NWO. The PI's are responsible for the academic consistency and results of the research as well as the financial and administrative accountability following the national regulations of the country in which the institute is located.

One of those PI's is to be designated as Project Leader. The Project Leader submits the application on behalf of the entire project consortium. The Project Leader is responsible for meeting the terms and conditions of the grant and for representing the project to the funding partners.

The project team includes both PI's, at least one senior supervisor representing the public and/or private partner(s) and the (to be) appointed researchers. PI's and other academic co-applicants are experienced researchers with a PhD (a professor, assistant professor, or a researcher with a similar appointment) who have a tenured or temporary appointment at a research or R&D institute recognized by NWO or MeitY for the duration of the application process and the project. Co-applicants from Dutch universities of applied sciences must be experienced researchers (a professor, assistant professor, or a researcher with a similar appointment) with an appointment at a Dutch University of Applied Sciences funded by the Dutch Ministry of Education (funded in accordance with Article 1.8 of the law on higher education and scientific research; see also 1.1.2. of the NWO regulation on granting).

A researcher may only submit two applications in this round, only one of which as PI. This means that he/she can be the principal investigator for one application and a co-applicant for another application, or a co-applicant for two different applications.

The representation and career progression of women in science lags considerably behind that of men. Women are therefore encouraged to submit proposals.

### **3.2 What can be applied for**

The grants are to be used primarily to create temporary research positions (PhDs or postdoc researchers). The temporary personnel to be assigned at the project should comprise of at least two researchers (PhD or postdoc), at least one in India and at least one in The Netherlands, e.g. one postdoc in The Netherlands and two PhD's in India. Symmetry on scientific personnel assigned to the project within the project composition between The Netherlands and India is encouraged, but not mandatory. The size of the project has to be determined within the team and has to reflect the team's ambitions.

Funding is available for researchers appointed at research institutes that are recognized by MeitY or NWO and for researchers appointed at Dutch Universities of Applied Sciences that are funded by the Dutch Ministry of Education.

The project budget can be used for:

- PhDs and/or postdocs;
- an individual bench fee (€ 5000) will be allocated to each Dutch PhD or postdoc to partly cover expenses such as travel costs and the costs of printing a thesis (the bench fee is not part of the additional funding);
- the temporary appointment of academic staff and non-academic support staff for the project at the research institute such as software developers, lab technicians, etc.;
- equipment/software for the project as long as the costs are above € 5000. The equipment must be specifically intended for the project described in the proposal. The relationship with the project and the need for the equipment should be clearly justified. Cheaper equipment/software is considered to belong to the infrastructure of the research institution and cannot be applied for;

- travel costs for the purpose of the requested research positions in so far as these are not covered by the bench fee. The need to travel for the project, in particular for the research positions requested, should be clearly justified. There is supposed to be substantial exchange and travel between India and The Netherlands, e.g. the costs of participating in the team meetings and conferences related to the Joint Programme (travel and accommodation);
  - other activities in the framework of the project, such as travel and accommodation costs for guest researchers, valorisation and outreach activities. These should also be clearly justified.
- The maximum eligible amount for project-specific non-staff costs is set at a maximum of 30% of the total project budget.

In addition, a separate budget is made available by SIA for the employment of professors and/or senior researchers of Dutch Universities of Applied Sciences and the execution of their applied research activities within the project proposal. The professor or senior researcher (with a similar position) should have an appointment at a Dutch University of Applied Sciences funded by the Dutch Ministry of Education for the duration of the application process and the project. Participation by a University of Applied Sciences in a project is subject to the financial rules and provisions of SIA.

Funding cannot be requested for staff of the public or private partners, tenured and permanent staff, student assistants, general laboratory equipment, maintenance and insurance costs and publication costs. Overhead costs such as for computers and laptops, regular software, and other costs that are part of the standard facilities of universities, research institutes, or workshops/labs are not eligible for funding. The general costs for project management and coordination, and non-specified costs such as a provisional sum for 'unforeseen' items, are not eligible for funding.

#### NWO funding

Staff costs for personnel appointed at NWO-recognized research institutes are eligible for a grant in accordance with the most recent Agreement on Funding Academic Research, which has been signed by NWO, VSNU, NFU, ZonMW, KNAW, and VFI. The agreement and the maximum amounts for staff costs can be found at <http://www.nwo.nl/akkoordbekostiging> (available in Dutch only) and <http://www.nwo.nl/en/funding/funding+process+explained/salary+tables>.

Each PhD candidate or postdoc researcher appointed in the Netherland receives an individual bench fee of €5,000 to cover the costs of travel, printing a thesis, etc.

The basic principle for the final grant allocation by NWO is in compliance with the guidelines laid down in the audit protocol of the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture, and Science and the universities for the auditing of NWO projects.

#### SIA funding

SIA awards a maximum of € 50.000 per project proposal for participation by Universities of Applied Sciences; this is awarded as part of the entire project. More information on the rules and regulations for the funding from SIA can be found in annex 6.4 of this call for proposals.

#### MeitY funding

Costs borne by MeitY will be governed by the guidelines of MeitY<sup>4,5</sup>.

### **3.2.2 Co-funding**

In every project consortium, at least one public or private partner with a direct need for knowledge and/or innovation is to participate with a cash and an in kind contribution (see section 3.1 for the

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<sup>4</sup> [http://MeitY.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/dit/files/guidelines\\_final\\_vers3%20\(1\).pdf](http://MeitY.gov.in/sites/upload_files/dit/files/guidelines_final_vers3%20(1).pdf)

<sup>5</sup> <http://MeitY.gov.in/writereaddata/files/Terms%26conditions.pdf>

definition of public and private parties and see annex 6.2 for the *Arrangement for contributions by consortium partners*).

SME's are of great importance for applied sciences and are therefore encouraged to participate in project proposals.

Private and public contributions can only be included in the mandatory co-funding in the total project budget if they are not - directly or indirectly – supplied by:

- a research or R&D institute recognized by MeitY;
- a research institute recognized by NWO (see section 3.1), Dutch Universities of Applied Sciences, TO2 federation organizations (including TNO), Dutch national institutes (Rijksinstituten), and the non-university part of WUR;
- Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO);
- The NWO Taskforce for Applied Research (SIA);
- Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW);
- Indian Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY).

The minimum amount of total co-funding (in cash plus in kind) is 20% of the total project budget, with a minimum cash contribution of 10% of the total project budget. The maximum amount of total co-funding (in cash plus in kind) is 50% of the total project budget thus the sum of the cash and in kind contributions of the public and private partners may not exceed 50% of the total project budget.

Public and/or private partners are not eligible for funding from MeitY, NWO and SIA, but will contribute to the research in cash and in kind. Already upon submission of the full proposal, the participating public and private partners are to confirm their commitment towards MeitY and NWO, and SIA if applicable, by means of a letter of commitment (see section 3.4). Once the proposal is awarded, all consortium partners must sign a project agreement in which agreement is reached about the contribution to the project (see section 3.5 and annex 6.3).

All in cash and in kind contributions are to be capitalised as an integral component of the project plan and must be justified in the budget of the Full Proposal for research grant. For further information about the regulation on in cash and in kind contribution see section 6.2.

### **3.2.3 Budget**

For each project proposal, a grant of k€ 200 to k€ 500 can be applied for from NWO and MeitY of which circa 50% to be covered by NWO and circa 50% by MeitY. In addition, a maximum of k€ 50 per project proposal can be applied for from SIA. The total contribution (in cash plus in kind) of the public and private partner(s) amounts to a minimum of 20% of the total project costs with a maximum of 50%. The in cash contribution of the private and public partner(s) amounts to 10% or more of the total project costs.

	Project costs						
	Funding and matching						
	Co-funding private/public partner(s)			MeitY grant	NWO grant	SIA grant	Total project budget
	<i>Cash</i>	<i>In kind</i>	Total				
Example minimum option	k€ 25 (10%)	k€ 25 (10%)	k€ 50	k€ 100	k€ 100	-	k€ 250
Example maximum option with minimal co-funding	k€ 69 (10%)	k€ 68,5 (10%)	k€ 137.5	k€ 250	k€ 250	k€ 50	k€ 687.5
Example maximum option with maximal co-funding	k€ 275 (25%)	k€ 275 (25%)	k€ 550	k€ 250	k€ 250	k€ 50	k€ 1100

Schematic representation of the minimum and maximum variants in contributions of the project costs in euro's.

When a project is selected for funding, the Dutch team will receive funding from NWO and optionally from SIA and the Indian team will receive funding from MeitY. The total project budget is composed of expenses in India and in The Netherlands. In the total budget overview the MeitY, NWO and SIA expenses are to be split into three separate compartments. The grant requested to NWO must be comparable to the grant requested from MeitY, a difference of up to 10% of the total sum (NWO + MeitY grant) is allowed.

All contributions from the public and private partners, either in cash or in kind, must be clear from the project description, the planning and the total budget overview in the proposal. Budgets should be prepared according to the table(s) provided by NWO, MeitY and SIA. Please note that if your project is selected for funding, you may be asked to provide additional funding documentation to clarify items in the budget.

The Indian part of the public and private co-funding budget will be transferred directly to the participating Indian research institute of the Indian PI. The Dutch part of the public and private co-funding budget will be transferred directly to the participating Dutch research institute of the Dutch PI. A receipt of these transfers must be copied to MeitY and NWO. The Indian PI is responsible for the financial management of the Indian side of the project and the Dutch PI is responsible for the financial management of the Dutch side of the project.

Once selected for funding, grants will be distributed to each awardee according to respective national laws and each funder's internal policies and procedures

### 3.3 When can applications be submitted

Proposals for research grants must be received at the latest **March 6th 2018, 14:00 hours (CET) / 18:30 hours (IST)**

### 3.4 Preparing an application

The full application consists of two parts: a factsheet and the application form. The fact sheet can be completed directly in ISAAC, the electronic application system of NWO. When you fill in the fact sheet you can only make use of the ASCII symbols ('plain text'). Therefore (structural) formulas, illustrations, italics et cetera cannot be used in the fact sheet. These can of course be used in the proposal. Aside from the letters of commitment, additional information in the form of annexes may not be added to the preliminary application (for example, extra results, manuscripts, additional support letters, etc.).

For all applications it is compulsory to fill out the main research field that corresponds to the subject of your research proposal. If applicable you can also select other relevant fields of research. You can only refer to the descriptions and codes from the NWO research field list. The list of research fields is available at [www.nwo.nl/researchfields](http://www.nwo.nl/researchfields).

PLEASE NOTE: all consortium partners must be entered in the 'co-applicants' tab in ISAAC to ensure they are registered correctly in the system. It is important to enter as many of the required details of the consortium partners as possible in ISAAC.

Applications can be prepared and submitted in the electronic application system ISAAC.

1. Download the application form from the electronic application system ISAAC or from NWO's website (on the grant page for this programme);
2. Complete the application form;
3. Save the application form as a pdf file and upload it in ISAAC.

#### Knowledge utilisation

MeitY, NWO and SIA invest jointly in (academic) research. Such research may be anywhere on the scale from fundamental to applied research and may be either curiosity-driven or demand-inspired. Use of the results of scientific research by the public and private sector, including SMEs, can increase the prosperity and well-being of the nation, as well as helping The Netherlands and India to achieve their mutual ambition of becoming knowledge societies. For this reason, MeitY, NWO and SIA ask all grant applicants to provide information on the potential for the wider utilisation of knowledge resulting from their proposed research. This information will be taken into account when assessing the proposals. More information can be found at <http://www.nwo.nl/en/policies/knowledge+utilisation>.

#### Letter of commitment

When submitting the application, each partner must confirm the financial commitment in a letter of commitment. This letter consists of an explicit statement of the agreed financial and/or capitalised staff and/or material contribution, an explanation of how the financing will be used and an explanation of how the results of the research will contribute to developing policy or practice. The amounts stated in the letter must correspond to the amounts in the application budget. Each letter of commitment must be uploaded as a separate attachment in ISAAC. Each partner must declare in the letter of commitment that, should the research proposal be awarded a grant, they are prepared to record such further agreements in the consortium agreement.

### 3.5 Conditions on granting

#### Project conditions

The *NWO Regulations on Granting 2017*<sup>6</sup> and the *Agreement on Funding of Scientific Personnel*<sup>7</sup> and the *MeitY/NWO/SIA Regulation on IPR and Knowledge transfer* (see section 6.1) apply to this Call for Proposals.

The projects have been formulated according to the rules for public-private partnerships for the programming and implementation of fundamental and applied research presented to the House of Representatives of The Netherlands in 2013<sup>8</sup>.

In a project there is cooperation between at least one public or private partner, at least one Dutch knowledge institution and at least one Indian knowledge institution (see sections 3.1 and 3.2 for the requirements for participation). The public and private partners contribute at least 20% and at most 50% of the total project costs (at least 10% in cash). Collaboration with departments of Dutch Universities of Applied Sciences is optional.

Projects must comply with the following conditions:

- The duration of a grant is at least two years and not more than five years;
- The project must start within twelve months after the project is awarded;
- The in cash and in kind contributions as described in the budget correspond to the matching statements in which the contribution by public and/or private partners is promised;
- Private and public partners may finance part of their contribution to the project costs in kind;
- In kind contributions are essential for the project and are incorporated in the proposal's budget calculations for research costs;
- Researchers apply the FAIR principles with respect to sharing of data<sup>9</sup>.

If these conditions aren't met, MeitY, NWO and SIA reserve the right to take appropriate measures.

The commitment of participating of research institutes in a project must be confirmed in a Letter of Commitment. If this party's commitment is withdrawn after the application is granted, the other consortium members are expected to seek ways to compensate for this contribution.

Once the proposal is awarded, all consortium partners must sign a project agreement in which agreement is reached about the Intellectual Property Rights and knowledge transfer as well as matters such as payments, progress and final reports and confidentiality in accordance with the MeitY, NWO and SIA policies. A model project agreement is attached as Annex 6.3.

#### Open Access

All scientific publications resulting from research that is funded by grants derived from this call for proposals are to be freely accessible worldwide through Open Access at the time of publication. There are several ways for researchers to publish Open Access. A detailed explanation regarding Open Access can be found on <https://www.nwo.nl/en/policies/open+science>.

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.nwo.nl/en/documents/nwo/legal/nwo-grant-rules-1-may-2017>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.nwo.nl/en/documents/nwo/salary-tables/approval-of-funding-for-scientific-research-2008>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/rapporten/2013/06/21/spelregels-voor-privaat-publieke-samenwerking-bij-programmering-en-uitvoering-van-fundamenteel-en-toegepast-onderzoek>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.dtls.nl/fair-data/>

## Data management

Responsible data management is part of good research. MeitY, NWO and SIA want research data that emerges from publicly funded research to become freely and sustainably available, as much as possible, for reuse by other researchers. Furthermore, MeitY, NOW and SIA wish to raise awareness among researchers about the importance of responsible data management. Proposals should therefore satisfy the data management protocol. This protocol consists of two steps:

### 1. Data management section

The data management section is part of the research proposal. Researchers should answer four questions about data management within their intended research project. Therefore, before the research starts, the researcher will be asked to think about how the data collected must be ordered and categorized, so that it can be made freely available. Measures will often need to be taken during the production and analysis of the data to make sure the data can be stored and disseminated later. Researchers can state which research data they consider to be relevant for storage and reuse.

### 2. Data management plan

After a proposal has been awarded funding, the researcher should elaborate the data management section into a data management plan. The plan should be submitted to NWO via ISAAC within a maximum of four months after the proposal has been awarded funding. MeitY and NWO, and SIA if applicable, will approve the plan as quickly as possible. Approval of the data management plan 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 <http://www.nwo.nl/en/policies/open+science/data+management>.

## 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 for their research should familiarize themselves with the Nagoya Protocol<sup>10</sup>. MeitY, NWO and SIA assume that researchers will take all necessary actions with respect to the Nagoya Protocol.

### 3.5.1 Applicable for NWO funding

The NWO Regulation on Granting<sup>11</sup> and the Agreement on the Payment of Costs for Scientific Research apply to all applications.

In accordance with the agreement between NWO and the VSNU, applicants should inform the institution about the submission. The applicant should send a copy of the application to the scientific director or dean of the institution or faculty. For each proposal submitted, NWO Domain Science will assume that the applicant has informed the institution and that the university or the institute accepts the granting conditions of this programme.

Co-applicants from Dutch Universities of Applied Sciences must inform the Governing Board of the respective University of Applied Sciences about the submission. For each proposal submitted in the framework of this call SIA will assume that this proposal is approved by the Governing Board and that the University of Applied Sciences accepts the granting conditions of this program.

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<sup>10</sup> <http://www.absfocalpoint.nl/en/absfocalpoint.htm>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.nwo.nl/en/documents/nwo/legal/nwo-grant-rules-1-may-2017>

NWO has stipulated in its Regulation on granting, that applies to this call, that all NWO-funded research must be carried out in accordance with internationally accepted standards of academic conduct as laid down in the Dutch Academic Integrity Code 2012 (VSNU). More information on the NWO policy on academic integrity can be found on: [www.nwo.nl/en/policies/scientific+integrity+policy](http://www.nwo.nl/en/policies/scientific+integrity+policy).

### **Ethical aspects**

Research proposals that can elicit ethical questions must be considered carefully before the research starts. For certain research projects, a statement of approval is needed from a recognized medical ethics review committee (MERC) or animal experiments committee (DEC). In addition, for certain research proposals a licence is needed in accordance with the Population Screening Act (WBO). Further information about the MERC is available from the Central Committee on Research Involving Human Subjects (CCMO). Information about the DECs can be obtained from the Dutch Association of Animal Experiment Committees and information about the WBO can be obtained from the Health Council of The Netherlands.

An applicant is responsible for checking whether their research proposal can elicit ethical questions and, if applicable, for obtaining a statement of approval from the appropriate ethics committee and obtaining a licence in accordance with the WBO. NWO endorses the Animal Experiments Openness Code and the Biosecurity Code of Conduct. A research project can only start if NWO (if applicable) have received a copy of the ethical statement of approval and/or WBO licence. For complex questions about ethical issues, NWO reserves the right to consult an external advisor. If, after consulting with the applicant, NWO is of the opinion that an ethical assessment is needed for an application, then the applicant is still required to take measures for an assessment by an ethics committee. If the necessary statement of approval from the ethics committee is not obtained, then the funding will be withdrawn.

#### **3.5.2 Applicable for MeitY funding**

Please check the funding guidelines under the following link:

[http://MeitY.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/dit/files/guidelines\\_final\\_vers3%20\(1\).pdf](http://MeitY.gov.in/sites/upload_files/dit/files/guidelines_final_vers3%20(1).pdf)

### **3.6 Submitting an application**

An application can only be submitted via the NWO online application system ISAAC. Applications not submitted via ISAAC will not be taken into consideration.

A Project Leader must submit his/her application via his/her own ISAAC account. If the Project Leader does not have an ISAAC account yet, then this should be created at least one day before the application is submitted to ensure that any registration problems can be resolved in time. If the Project Leader already has an NWO-account, then he/she does not need to create a new account to submit an application.

When one submits an application to ISAAC one will also need to enter additional details online. One should therefore start submitting the application at least one day before the deadline of this call for proposals. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be taken into consideration.

For technical questions please contact the ISAAC helpdesk, see section 5.1.2.

## 4 Assessment procedure

### 4.1 Procedure

#### General

The NWO Code of Conduct on Conflicts of Interest applies to all persons and NWO and SIA staff involved in the assessment and/or decision-making process.<sup>12</sup>

MeitY, NWO and SIA give all full proposals a qualification<sup>13</sup>. The applicant is informed of this qualification when the decision on whether or not to award funding is announced.

Only applications that have been assessed as excellent or very good are eligible for funding.

NWO has stipulated in its Regulations on Granting applying to this call that all NWO-funded research must be carried out in accordance with internationally accepted standards of academic conduct as laid down in the Dutch Academic Integrity Code 2012 (VSNU).<sup>14</sup>

The call requires a one stage assessment procedure, which is started by the submission of the proposal by the Project Leader, either from India or The Netherlands, on behalf of the consortium.

#### Admissibility

MeitY and NWO, and SIA if applicable, will assess whether the application satisfies the formal requirements (see Chapter 2 and 3). Only applications that satisfy the formal requirements are admissible and will be considered by MeitY, NWO and SIA. If an application does not satisfy the admissibility conditions then the applicant will be informed of this in writing.

#### Referees

All full (admissible) proposals will be submitted to external referees for assessment. Referees are experts in the subject discipline of the applicant and/or have expertise in applied sciences and /or practice. They will write a referee's report in which they state the strong and weak aspects of the proposal. The anonymised referees' reports will be sent to the applicant who then subsequently writes a written response (the rebuttal). The applicant can make up to five suggestions in ISAAC for possible foreign referees who could be consulted. The list with suggestions for referees may not contain any names of researchers that the applicant has worked with during the past three years or is working with, or intends to work with. This concerns not only co-authors but other forms of collaboration as well. Only referees who are not involved with the applying research team and the proposal may be used. The referees suggested may not be working in The Netherlands or India. The assessment committee may also be asked to provide suggestions. Several independent referees taken from the list of possible experts will be asked to submit a report. Besides the suggestions from the applicant other experts will also be used as referees.

#### Non-referees

The applicant may also state the names of up to five individuals who they do NOT want to act as a referee. This is not compulsory.

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<sup>12</sup> <http://www.nwo.nl/en/documents/nwo/legal/nwo-code-of-conduct-on-conflicts-of-interest>

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.nwo.nl/qualifications>

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.nwo.nl/en/policies/scientific+integrity+policy>

Assessment committee

For this Call an international assessment committee will be established, consisting of 5-10 members. The committee's task is to make an independent evaluation based on the application, the referees' reports and the rebuttal. Although the referees' reports have a strong bearing on the final assessment they will not be unquestioningly adopted by the assessment committee. The assessment committee will consider the arguments of the referees (also between referees) and will examine whether a good response to the critical comments from the referees' reports has been formulated in the rebuttal. Furthermore, unlike the referees, the selection committee can see the quality of the other proposals submitted and the rebuttals. The committee qualifies the proposals (as Excellent, Very Good, Good or Insufficient) and prioritises the proposals, after which it draws up a recommendation on granting the applications. Only applications qualified as Excellent or Very Good on all 4 criteria are eligible for funding. An Excellent or Very Good qualification, however, is no guarantee for receiving funding. The exact dates of the rebuttal stage will be communicated to the applicants after the submission deadline.

Advice to the accredited boards

The assessment committee's prioritisation and recommendation is presented to the accredited boards of MeitY, NWO (Domain Science) and SIA, who make the decision. The accredited boards will decide which proposals to award funding based on this advice and the funds available.

Decision

The accredited boards may, for reasons of policy, deviate from the prioritisation recommended by the assessment committee. The following policy aspects could play a role in this decision:

- improvement of the participation of female researchers;
- optimisation of the distribution of funds.

The advice of the assessment committee will be subject to approval by each of the funding agencies, MeitY, NWO and SIA. Please note that proposals can only be funded if both MeitY and NWO, and SIA if applicable, agree.

The accredited boards within MeitY, NWO and SIA give all full proposals a qualification based on the advice of the assessment committee. The applicant is informed of this qualification when the decision about whether or not to award funding is announced.

Indicative timetable

March 6 <sup>th</sup> 2018	Deadline submission of project proposals
Mid May 2018	Obtaining rebuttals from applicants. On average, researchers are given 5 working days to give a response
July / August 2018	MeitY and NWO inform the applicants about the decision

**4.2 Criteria**

The admissible full applications will first be assessed by referees and subsequently by the independent assessment committee, based on the criteria below.

Full Proposals for a research grant that receive the qualification 'very good' or 'excellent' will be eligible for funding respective to the position in the prioritization and provided there is sufficient funding.

For the Full Proposal for research grant the following assessment criteria apply:

**Scientific quality of the proposed research**

- a. Innovation in the area of Big Data and IoT;
- b. Scientific approach, relevance and innovative aspects;

- c. Contribution to new theories or innovations in the field of Big Data and IoT;
- d. Clarity of focus and objectives and feasibility;
- e. Balance between aims and available resources (budget, staff and material costs).

**International cooperation**

- a. Added value of Indo-Dutch cooperation to the research project, including complementarity of the Dutch and Indian research teams, urgency and strategic importance;
- b. Degree of knowledge exchange between The Netherlands and India - degree of inter-institutional co-operation between the project partners, including the balanced contribution to the research project;
- c. Perspective for long-term sustainable collaboration.

**Knowledge utilisation: co-creation and networking**

- a. Impact of knowledge utilisation and/or application on economic, technological and societal fields;
- b. Quality of the knowledge utilisation and application plan - actions planned to ensure that the results of the research benefit potential users, such as SME's;
- c. Involvement of and interaction with private (such as SME's) and public partners in the project;
- d. Importance and urgency of the proposed project for the application domain.

**Quality of the consortium**

- a. Track records of the PI's and co-applicants; competence and expertise of the research team;
- b. Synergy, complementarity and added value of cooperation in the consortium;
- c. Competence of the private and public project partners to execute the research.

In assessing the full project proposals, the criteria are weighted as follows: scientific quality of the proposal (50%), International cooperation (10%), Knowledge utilization (30%) and Quality of the consortium (10%).

## 5 Contact details and other information

### 5.1 Contact

#### 5.1.1 Specific questions

For specific questions about the call for proposals please contact:

NWO

Astrid Zuurbier

Email: [indodutch@nwo.nl](mailto:indodutch@nwo.nl)

MeitY

Sangita Arora

Email: [sarora@MeitY.gov.in](mailto:sarora@MeitY.gov.in)

SIA:

Arjan Koeslag

Email: [arjankoeslag@regieorgaan-sia.nl](mailto:arjankoeslag@regieorgaan-sia.nl)

#### 5.1.2 Technical questions about the electronic application system ISAAC

For technical questions about the use of ISAAC please contact the ISAAC helpdesk. Please read the manual first before consulting the helpdesk. The ISAAC helpdesk can be contacted from Monday to Friday between 10:00 and 17:00 hours CE(S)T on +31 (0)20 346 71 79. However, you can also submit your question by e-mail to [isaac.helpdesk@nwo.nl](mailto:isaac.helpdesk@nwo.nl). You will then receive an answer within two working days.

#### 5.1.3 NWO Objections Committee

There is an appeals procedure for the submission of formal objections against decisions taken within the framework of this programme. After the submission of an appeal the candidate is invited to a hearing of the NWO Objections Committee. Further information about the appeal and objection procedure can be obtained from the secretariat of the NWO Objections Committee, C. Hansildaar, +31 70 344 0807, e-mail: [c.hansildaar@nwo.nl](mailto:c.hansildaar@nwo.nl).

## 6 Annexes

### 6.1 MeitY/NWO/SIA regulation IPR and Knowledge transfer

- *General*

When submitting a project proposal within the scope of this Call for Proposals, the project parties shall confirm that they have taken note of the IP and knowledge transfer arrangement described in this document. Before a granted project commences, the project parties will enter into a Project Agreement with MeitY and NWO, and SIA if applicable, regarding IP and knowledge transfer, as well as regarding other matters such as finance, progress reviews and confidentiality (see annex 6.3 for the *model Project Agreement*). The framework for all IPR emanating out of the projects will be governed by the MeitY NWO agreement dated September 17, 2013.

The conclusion of a Project Agreement between MeitY and NWO, and SIA if applicable, and the project parties is one of the conditions to which the grant of a subsidy for the relevant project is subject.

- *Background Information*

The parties participating together in a research project shall provide MeitY and NWO, and SIA if applicable, with a written statement of the background knowledge they wish to make available for use in a project before the project commences. MeitY and NWO, and SIA if applicable, will include the statements obtained from the parties in an annex to the Project Agreement to be concluded. During the project, additional background knowledge may be contributed in an analogous manner.

Any contributed background knowledge remains the property of the contributing party (hereinafter: the Provider) and may be used by the receiving party or parties solely for the purposes of the project within the context of the objectives of the research. Upon written request, the Provider shall make the necessary background knowledge available to the requesting party at no cost by means of a non-transferable, non-exclusive license for the duration of the project. In this respect, the Provider shall in good faith provide the receiving party/parties with all relevant information on the background knowledge in question, including a statement that the knowledge is free of third-party claims, or, if such claims exist, what restrictions apply to the use of the knowledge and any further exploitation of such knowledge.

- *Foreground Knowledge - Results*

Initially, the results within a research project accrue to MeitY and NWO, and SIA if applicable. In this process, MeitY, NWO and SIA act as intermediaries and do not aim for a patent portfolio itself. If an invention is made within a project, the participating project parties shall have the first right of refusal to (cause to) protect this invention in their name and at their expense and subsequently obtain a patent on said invention in consideration of fair market compensation to MeitY, NWO and SIA. The guideline for the maximum amount of compensation is formed by the project costs or sub-project costs incurred that led to the invention in question, minus the relative private contribution to said costs. The parties shall negotiate with MeitY, NWO and SIA about the definitive amount of compensation and the stages, if any, of payment, and reach agreement on these issues within four months after the negotiations commenced, after which a patent application can be filed. SME parties may obtain a discount on the compensation payable by setting off the costs for obtaining IP against the compensation to be agreed. The compensation will be routed, via MeitY and NWO, to the project party concerned where the invention was made for further research for the purposes of the subject/program.

If multiple project parties are interested in (causing) the protection of the same invention and obtaining a patent, they will mutually agree, if possible even before the project commences, which party or parties will be the ultimate proprietor(s). If no agreement is reached in this respect, NWO MeitY and NWO, and SIA if applicable, will decide with regard to the right to patent the invention after separate consultation with the project parties involved.

- *Publication of Results*

The project parties shall not publish or otherwise disclose results, other than with the other project parties' consent. The parties involved shall respond in writing within 4 weeks after the request for publication. If the parties have not responded in writing within this period, this may be considered consent. Within two months after the publication request, the parties may require changes in order to protect their interests with regard to the patentability of the results, however without jeopardising the scientific integrity of the publishing party. If the results give rise to a specific possibility for a patent application, the publication may be suspended for no more than nine months after the request for publication in order to give the opportunity to protect the results.

## 6.2 Arrangement for contributions by consortium partners

### Definitions

#### Private parties

Private parties are defined as businesses. MeitY, NWO and SIA understand a business to be: an organisational association unit or person focused on sustained participation in the economic system with the aid of labour and capital and with a profit motive.

#### Public parties

Public partners are defined as knowledge or other institutes that are not one of the research institutes recognised by MeitY, NWO and SIA, such as public institutes, municipalities, intermediary organisations or foundations, and which do not belong to the category private parties or the categories below:

- Dutch Universities of Applied Sciences, TO2 federation organizations (including TNO), Dutch national institutes (Rijksinstituten), and the non-university part of the Wageningen University Research (WUR);
- Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO);
- The NWO Taskforce for Applied Research (SIA);
- Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW);
- Indian Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY).

### Provisions

#### 1. Possibility of participation in research projects by private and/or public parties with in kind and in cash contributions

Private parties and public parties can participate in this Joint Programme by means of a financial contribution to the project budget which MeitY, NWO, and SIA if applicable, allocates to research groups of research institutes to carry out an approved research proposal.

Private parties and/or public parties can participate in the Joint Programme under the following conditions:

- a. The total public/private contribution to a research project in the Joint Programme should be at least 20% of the total project budget with a maximum of 50% of the total project budget;
- b. The cash contribution by private and/or public parties should at least be 10% of the total project budget;
- c. In kind support / efforts must:
  - be essential to the project;
  - be included in the approved budget of the research costs of the project application in which the private party participates (see provision 3 for permitted in kind contributions) and must fall within one of the cost categories referred to under 3 a through c.
- d. Changes to the budget that occur whilst the project is running must always be approved in advance by MeitY, NWO and/or SIA.

#### 2. Commitment

If a private party or public party participates in the research project with a partial in kind support as described above, this party will commit itself to MeitY and NWO, and SIA if applicable, for the in kind support as well as the financial (in cash) support as described in the proposal.

#### 3. Permitted in kind contributions

The following costs, directly attributable to the research project and incurred by the private party or public party, may be contributed by private party or public party as in kind contributions (see also provision 1):

- a. Hours worked within the scope of the project:
  - wage costs, it being understood that these are based on an hourly wage, calculated on the basis of the annual wage at full employment according to the column *income for income tax*

of the wage statement, plus the surcharges for social contributions payable by law or under individual contract or collective bargaining agreement, and based on 1.650 productive hours per year. This amount may be increased with a surcharge for other general costs, subject to a maximum of 50% of the wage costs referred to above. The ensuing hourly rate to be attributed to the project, including said 50% surcharge for general costs, is capped the tariff as mentioned in section 3.2 in the call for proposals. Contribution of costs for supervision or for project management is possible in the event of active participation of the intended supervisor or project manager in the research project (cf. under 1c of this annex).

- b. Costs of material and resources to be used, based on the original purchase prices, distinguishing between products owned by the co-funder (list price) and products from other companies, bought by the co-funder (purchase price).
- c. Use of equipment and machines
  - Costs associated with the purchase and use of machines and equipment, it being understood that these are based on the depreciation costs to be attributed to the project, calculated on the basis of the original purchase prices and a depreciation period of at least five years; costs of consumables and maintenance during the period of use;
  - Costs of purchase and use of machines and equipment that were not purchased solely for the project will only be considered project contributions pro rata based on the foregoing if there is a time log for each machine or for the equipment that conclusively establishes the operating hours;
  - In kind contributions in the form of a discount on the regular purchase price in economic transactions (list price) of machines and equipment. The discount must be at least 25% of the list price. The costs charged to the project's equipment budget will then amount to the list price less said discount. When there is no list price, a discount is not accepted.

#### 4. Accounting of in kind contributions

Private parties and public parties must render account of their in kind contributions to NWO and MeitY by means of a statement of the contributed costs, to be provided to NWO and MeitY within three months after the end of the research project to which the in kind contribution was made. The application for approval of the in kind contribution must be submitted simultaneously with the application for approval of the subsidy amount by the university partner(s), accompanied by a collective final report. If the in kind contribution for which account must be rendered exceeds € 125,000, an auditor's report must be submitted; in other cases, a written statement by the holder of a power of attorney stating that the contributed in kind efforts can actually be attributed to the project will suffice.

If the private party or public party that committed itself to a research project with an in kind contribution, ultimately fails to make such in kind contribution in full or in part, or cannot render account of the same, NWO or MeitY will invoice this private party for such part or the full in kind contribution, so that the total contribution as undertaken is honored.

All contributions from the public and private partners, either in cash or in kind, must be clear from the project description, the planning and the total budget overview in the proposal. Budgets should be prepared according to the table(s) provided by NWO, MeitY and SIA. Please note that if a project is selected for funding, one may be asked to provide additional funding documentation to clarify items in the budget.

The Indian part of the public and private co-funding budget will be transferred directly to the participating Indian research institute of the Indian PI. The Dutch part of the public and private co-funding budget will be transferred directly to the participating Dutch research institute of the Dutch PI. A receipt of these transfers must be copied to MeitY and NWO. The Indian PI is responsible for the financial management of the Indian side of the project and the Dutch PI is responsible for the financial management of the Dutch side of the project.

## 6.3 Model consortium agreement

**IN THE FRAMEWORK OF  
INDO-DUTCH JOINT RESEARCH PROGRAMME FOR ICT  
IN RELATION TO PROJECT “[PROJECT TITLE]” (NR.)**

**AN AGREEMENT made between the Parties:**

**The Netherlands Organisation For Scientific Research (NWO)**, having its office at Laan van Nieuw Oost-Indië 300, 2593 CE, The Hague, The Netherlands, hereinafter referred to as “NWO”;

**Ministry Of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), Government Of India**, having its office at Electronics Niketan, 6, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi: 110003, India, hereinafter referred to as “MeitY”

**The Taskforce for Applied Research (SIA)**, having its office at the Van Vollenhovenlaan 661, 3527 JP Utrecht, The Netherlands, hereinafter referred to as “SIA”

**[Academic Party],**

having its office at [address];

Hereinafter together referred to as “Academic Parties”

**[Private or Public Party]**

having its office at [address];

(together with the Academic Parties and the Private and Public Parties hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”, and individually as “Party”

**Whereas:**

Within the Call Indo –Dutch Join Research Programme for ICT [call reference 2017 abc ] NWO and MeitY approved the project entitled [.....] (hereafter: the Project) by decision of <DATE> (hereafter: the Award letter).

This agreement sets out the additional conditions and agreement between the Parties, signature of this agreement is a prerequisite for receiving the grant.

**Agree as follows:**

**Article 1 The Project**

The Academic Parties will execute the Project as approved by MeitY and NWO, and SIA if applicable.

The NWO funding conditions (NWO Regulation on Granting, May 2017), <https://www.nwo.nl/en/documents/nwo/legal/nwo-grant-rules-1-may-2017> are applicable to the Project to be conducted by the Dutch Academic Parties.

The Terms & Conditions governing Grants-In-Aid for funding R&D projects, [http://MeitY.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/dit/files/guidelines\\_final\\_vers3%20\(1\).pdf](http://MeitY.gov.in/sites/upload_files/dit/files/guidelines_final_vers3%20(1).pdf) are applicable to the Project to be conducted by the Indian Academic Parties.

**Article 2 The Contribution**

**1. Funding by MeitY and NWO, and SIA if applicable**

Funding of the project by NWO/SIA and MeitY shall take place as is stated in their respective Award letters based on the jointly taken decision and under the conditions as stated therein.

**(Cash contribution by the Private and Public Parties**

The financial contribution by the private and public parties to this Project is as follows:

<b>Name Private or Public Party</b>	<b>Contribution in cash</b>
	€ or INR
	€ or INR
	€ or INR

The Private and Public Parties will pay the Indian part of their Cash Contribution directly to the Academic Parties from India as stated in the Award letter from MeitY. The Private and Public Parties will pay the Dutch part of their Cash Contribution directly to the Academic Parties from The Netherlands as stated in the Award letter from NWO and SIA if applicable.

**1. Payment**

The Academic Parties from India and The Netherlands shall send invoices to the Private and Public Parties as follows:

**Name Private or Public Party:**

*(if desired please insert here the payment schedule)*

The Private and Public Parties shall pay the invoices within 45 days of the invoice date.

**2. Contribution in Kind.**

The Private and Public Parties shall make their contributions in kind as follows:

<b>Name Private or Public Party</b>	<b>Item(s)</b>	<b>Value</b>
		€ or INR

**Article 3 The Results****1. Background Information**

The description of the Background Information is attached to this agreement as Annex 1 (hereafter: Background Information). Parties grant each other the rights to use the Background information at no cost for the execution of the Project.

Except to the extent required to perform the Project neither party receives any right, title, or interest, including any patent, copyright trade secret or other proprietary rights in relation to any information provided to it by the other party or any technology, works or inventions of the other party that are not Results of the Project.

**2. Results**

Each Party shall be the owner of the results and the intellectual property rights to such Results it generates in the Project (hereafter: Results). In the event two or more Parties generate Results jointly, those Parties are joint owners of the Results. The owning Party or Parties shall seek

appropriate protection of the Results if that is necessary or helpful for the utilisation of the Results.

In the event Parties wish to obtain exclusive or non-exclusive rights to Results, and the owning Parties are willing to grant such rights, such Parties shall pay an appropriate market price to the owning Parties in accordance with the applicable State Aid rules<sup>15</sup>.

**Article 4 Publication of Results**

The Parties may agree among themselves on a procedure for consent for scientific publication. Such procedure shall:

- not absolutely prevent scientific publications;
- state that postponement is only possible if necessary for (patent) protection;
- state that the publication can only be adapted to prevent that confidential information of another party is disclosed, however without compromising to scientific value of the project results;
- shall not contain any rule that postpones publication for more than 9 months.

**Article 5 Further agreement**

The academic Parties and the Private and Public Parties are free to conclude further arrangements among themselves in a consortium agreement. Any such agreement however shall not conflict with this agreement or with the conditions in the Award letter.

**Article 6 Term and Termination**

This Agreement shall come into force on the date that all Parties have signed this Agreement and shall remain in force until termination or conclusion of the Project. In the event NWO/SIA or MeitY prematurely terminates the Award letter, this agreement shall terminate on the date of termination of the Award letter. Article 3 shall survive this Agreement.

**Article 7 Applicable law**

On the relationship between NWO and/or SIA and the Parties established in The Netherlands, Dutch law is applicable. On the relationship between MeitY and/or between the Parties established in India, Indian law is applicable. Disputes arisen either in India or The Netherlands that cannot be solved amicably shall be brought exclusively before the court in the respective country.

In case of incompatibility of this law with any mandatory governmental rules, the Party of the Country imposing such mandatory rules, will strive to find/offer a reasonable compensation for/to the partner(s) that suffer(s) the disadvantages of those mandatory rules.

Drawn up in ---- fold and signed

**The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO)**

Date                      Place

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<sup>15</sup> <https://www.nwo.nl/en/funding/funding+process+explained/nwo+grant+rules+2017>

Name:  
Title:

**Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India**

Date                      Place

---

Name:  
Title:

**The Taskforce for Applied Research (SIA)**

**Date                      Place**

---

**Name:**  
**Title:**

**Academic Partner**

Date                      Place

---

Name:  
Title:

**Private or Public Partner**

Date                      Place

---

Name:  
Title:

## 6.4 SIA financial and administrative provisions for Dutch Universities of Applied Sciences

1. The project costs that can be funded by the Taskforce for Applied Research are the necessary direct costs for the realisation of a project that have been incurred or will be incurred, based on the cost price, including any non-deductible Dutch VAT.  
The following cost categories are distinguished:
  - a. *Salary costs University of Applied Sciences*
    - i. The manual "Overheidstarieven" is applied by the Taskforce for Applied Research regarding the allocation of subsidies in order to reduce the administrative burden at the Dutch Universities of Applied Sciences. The hourly rate based on the gross salary of the employee concerned may not exceed the cost-covering rate per hour belonging to the salary scale of the employee as indicated in table 2 of the manual "Overheidstarieven". This manual "Overheidstarieven" formulated by the Dutch Ministry of Finance is yearly updated and can be found on the website of the Taskforce for Applied Research.
  - b. *Costs students*
    - i. Students registered at the University of Applied Sciences may be deployed for the project and the costs of this may be budgeted within the project. If the deployment of the students is part of the educational programme (in that case the students should also receive study credits for the activities) then only the internship allowance that is usually paid within the institution can be declared. In this case there is a maximum hourly rate of € 25 and 1.650 hours per project year;
    - ii. If the students are deployed within the project on an extracurricular basis then they can be budgeted within the project for a maximum of 250 hours per person per project year. Only the actual amounts paid to the students can be budgeted as costs for the deployment of students within the project. In all cases a maximum hourly rate of € 25 applies. Hours and hourly rates above the maximum amounts stated cannot be budgeted as project costs. There is no limit to the number of students that can be deployed within the project.
  - c. *Material costs*
    - i. Costs associated with the realisation of the project such as consumables, tools, prototypes, test set-ups and other costs such as travel and subsistence costs and the costs of publications. The acquisition of machines and equipment cannot be budgeted as project costs. For machines and equipment only the depreciation costs or leasing costs can be budgeted as project costs. Depreciation costs should be calculated on the basis of the historical purchase price excluding financing costs, a linear depreciation method and a lifespan of five years. Therefore costs for the use of equipment more than five years old cannot be budgeted to the project.
2. The budget submitted should itemise the costs for each Dutch University of Applied Sciences, the own contribution and the percentage of the grant requested split up into salary costs and other costs. The amount that will subsequently be awarded is a maximum amount per University of Applied Sciences, based on the budget information submitted.
3. The use of the grant within the approved project cannot take place until after the granting decision has been received from the Taskforce for Applied Research. The grant may only be used within the duration of the project. The amount awarded will be transferred to the responsible University of Applied Sciences in instalments after the agreement has been signed.

4. For each substantial change to the project proposal awarded funding, written approval is required from the Taskforce for Applied Research. Substantial changes are understood to include at least, but not exclusively, the following:
  - a. every change to the duration of the project;
  - b. budgetary changes larger than € 20,000;
  - c. the admission and/or resignation of consortium members;
  - d. change of project leader;
  - e. change of professor (lector) at a University of Applied Sciences or a senior researcher;
  - f. changes to the content of the research compared to the project proposal awarded funding.

Any possible changes stated above should be agreed upon in consultation with the Taskforce for Applied Research.

For more information, please contact Mr. Arjan Koeslag: [arjan.koeslag@regieorgaan-sia.nl](mailto:arjan.koeslag@regieorgaan-sia.nl)

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