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## NWO Responsible Innovation Update December 2013



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## News

### Captains of industry support Responsible Innovation

A recommendation committee consisting of research directors from large Dutch companies has come forward to support the objectives of NWO's Responsible Innovation research programme. The committee emphasises that all innovations should take the wishes of society and moral issues into account. Only then can new products and services in the long run be an effective answer to the grand societal challenges.

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## Interview

### Bertrand van Ee: 'It's a no-brainer'

cyber  
security  
research

>'Killer  
robots'  
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Bertrand van Ee is one of the most prominent Dutch captains of industry. He is chairman of Dutch engineering firm Royal Haskoning DHV until January 2014 and chairman of the Netherlands Academy of Technology and Innovation. Van Ee is a driving force behind the recommendation committee that recently stepped forward to publicly announce their support for the Responsible Innovation research programme. Here, he explains why.



*What made you decide to support NWO's Responsible Innovation programme?*

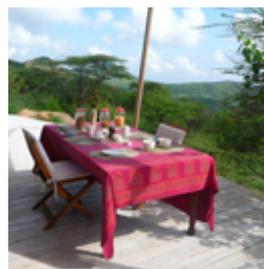
'I very much believe that innovation driven and demanded by society is our future. In a way we may have been doing it all along, but unconsciously. Now it has been branded as responsible innovation. I find that branding very smart and very powerful. It makes it much easier to explain things to clients. There is considerable enthusiasm for the term within my company.'

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## Research results

### Nature conservation meets market in Eastern Africa

Protect wildlife, let tourists enjoy the wildlife and improve living conditions for local communities. These three aims can be successfully combined, conclude Jakomijn van Wijk (Maastricht School of Management) and her fellow researchers Machiel Lamers and René van der Duim (Wageningen University) in a NWO Sustainable Innovation study. They explored an innovative market approach to nature conservation by the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) in Kenya.



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## Research in

# progress

## How to trust a truck

Automated systems in cars and trucks enable drivers to perform better. Such systems can therefore save energy, facilitate safer driving and prevent traffic jams. In the Responsible Innovation study [Persuasive Technology, Allocation of Control and Social Values](#) engineers, psychologists and philosophers are working together with partners like DAF Trucks to enable applications of this technology that are both effective and morally acceptable.

Watch the video:



## Calls and grants

### New Responsible Innovation call in 2014

In the spring of 2014 NWO will launch a broad follow-up call for Responsible Innovation research proposals in six fields of technology, so-called 'top sectors':

- energy
- life sciences and health

- agriculture and food
- chemistry
- high tech systems and materials
- water technology

This call is a follow-up to the pilot launched in 2012 in three of the top sectors. A total of 7 million euros will be available for research. Projects are based on partnerships between academic researchers and private partners. The call is open to senior researchers at Dutch universities. They may hire PhD students and postdoctoral researchers from the Netherlands or abroad to work on the project. NWO will launch the call through this Update in 2014. It will also be announced on the [Responsible Innovation website](#). After the call, NWO will host match making events so that potential partners may get in touch.

## Call for cyber security research

NWO has launched a second funding round for cyber security research. This research should contribute to the realisation of the following objectives:

- increase the security of and confidence in ICT infrastructure and services
- prepare the Netherlands for the security challenges in the time frame 2014 to 2016
- boost the Dutch cyber security economy
- increase the cyber security of our vital sectors (energy, water, etc.)
- strengthen and expand knowledge and innovation in the area of cyber security
- connect research initiatives in the area of cyber security.

The research round is collectively funded by NWO and four Dutch ministries. A total of 6.4 million euros is available.

[More information >](#)

## In the media

### 'Killer robots' under discussion

In October both Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch published reports on drones. This motivated Delft University of Technology researchers Thomas Baar and Alexander Leveringhaus to publish an opinion article in the Dutch national newspaper De Volkskrant on 28 October. The article was based on their Responsible Innovation study currently in progress.



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# Events

## Third annual conference

In April 2014, NWO will host the Third Annual International Conference on Responsible Innovation. It will be held in The Hague. Very soon a call for papers will be published on the [Responsible Innovation website](#). We encourage submissions from an interdisciplinary spectrum. This includes, but is not limited to, philosophers, engineers, natural scientists, social scientists and those involved in public or private policymaking. You will be asked to submit short abstracts for a paper or a poster session using the online submission form.

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### ***Responsible Innovation***

*Technological developments may fail if their ethical and social consequences are not considered in time. NWO's*

*Responsible Innovation programme funds and encourages research that considers the ethical and social aspects of new technology from the design phase onwards. Researchers from different scientific disciplines collaborate in this programme, such as ethicists, behavioural scientists, economists, psychologists and engineers.*

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