



Dutch Research  
Agenda

# Dutch Research Agenda

Transition to a sustainable food system

## Call for proposals

2019



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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Background

The Dutch National Research Agenda (NWA) describes broad, societal challenges which require a national approach whereby the Dutch (and global) knowledge economy as well as society at large can benefit from research performed in The Netherlands. The NWA was created by an innovative process with input from citizens and scientists: every Dutch resident was given the opportunity to submit questions online. The national knowledge community, under the guidance of the Knowledge Coalition, compiled the resulting questions into 140 scientific challenges, which have been translated into 25 pathways, i.e. routes.

The NWA programme above all aims to build bridges: between different scientific fields, between different forms of research (fundamental, applied, practice-oriented) and between diverse national and international knowledge agendas. Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary in the broadest sense, an approach spanning the entire knowledge chain and cooperation with societal partners including Ministries, corporates, start-ups and NGOs are therefore crucial features of the consortia involved in NWA projects and programmes.

The overarching ambition of the NWA programme is to make a positive, structural contribution to the global knowledge society of tomorrow, in which new knowledge flows easily from researcher to user and new questions arising from practice and society lead quickly and naturally to new research. This can only be achieved by building bridges today in order to address the scientific and societal challenges together, both locally and globally.

The call for proposals on the theme 'Transition to a sustainable food system' is part of action line 2 of the NWA programme. In this action line, NWO is working with relevant ministries. The initiator of this call is the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality.

The NWO [Green III](#) call, entitled 'A circular agricultural economy in the Netherlands: from dream to reality', contributes integrated fundamental research to the NWA programme. The interim results of Green III will be shared with the NWA programme wherever possible in order to allow the two programmes to complement and reinforce each other. The Green III programme is being implemented for the Agri & Food and Horticulture & Raw Materials Top Sectors and is closely linked to two NWA pathways: 'Sustainable production of healthy and safe food' and 'Environmental quality'. The deadline for proposals for this programme is 4 July 2019.

A focus on knowledge transfer, knowledge utilization and application of results throughout the duration of the projects is of vital importance for this call: Transition to a sustainable food system. All parties within a consortium must be prepared to participate if requested. This will ensure optimal social embedding of the call and foster support, so ensuring outcomes that can be applied in policy and implementation.

The decision-making body for this NWA call is the NWO executive board. This also means that the NWO Grant Rules 2017 apply to this call.

## 1.2 Available budget

The budget available for this call for proposals is €2.77 million for 3 years. Two applications of €1.385 million or one application of €2.77 million will be granted. Applications will be submitted by broad, transdisciplinary consortia that will be formed during the Sandpit workshop that forms part of this call (see 3.2).

## 1.3 Validity of the call for proposals

The deadline for interested parties to submit a motivation form is 12 September 2019 at 2 p.m. CE(S)T.

The deadline for the consortia (formed during the Sandpit workshop from 21 to 24 January 2020) to submit their full proposals is 24 March 2020 at 2 p.m. CE(S)T.

## 2 Aim

### 2.1 Aim of the programme

This call for proposals invites all interested parties to submit a motivation form to participate in the Sandpit procedure. In the motivation form they can describe how they intend to contribute to the transition. One or two broad consortia comprising various parties will be formed during a Sandpit procedure. The consortia will work in transdisciplinary teams representing the entire knowledge chain in which they will develop research and implementation projects on the theme of the Transition to a sustainable food system. The programme is committed to attracting the involvement of a wide range of participating organizations with expertise in sustainable food production or in the field of agri-food and related disciplines, such as health and the bio-based economy. Researchers with expertise in the field of transitions, sociological change, and the role of science in these processes will also be welcomed.

#### Threefold objective

The NWA programme Transition to a sustainable food system is a collaboration between the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality and the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO). The objective of this NWA programme is threefold:

1. To bring together existing knowledge and further develop this knowledge according to priority in the subsequent steps of the food transition (see 2.2).
2. To cooperate in research, both within the entire public knowledge chain (national and international) and between the knowledge and social partners (both public and private).
3. Knowledge sharing, knowledge utilization, application of the results and maintenance of the knowledge network.

#### Transdisciplinary cooperation in the knowledge chain

Cooperation is required throughout the entire knowledge chain to achieve the desired breakthrough (2.2), whereby a wide range of different backgrounds will be sought. It is also important to involve fundamental and applied research expertise from various, relevant disciplines, with a preference for responsive and circular research.

### 2.2 Specific framework

The framework of the programme is described below. A broad framework has been applied to enable as many parties as possible to become involved. The framework of the programme can be more closely defined based on the themes presented in the motivation forms.

#### What food production methods are desirable?

We need to strive for an integrated food production system with less waste, better protection of natural resources, more robust soil ecology and more biodiversity.

In the Netherlands, the production of food and non-food is not yet climate-neutral nor sufficiently circular, and the diet of the average Dutch person is detrimental to health and to the environment, nature and the climate of the Netherlands and other parts of the world.

### What is needed to develop a sustainable cropping system?

Achieving sustainable crops will require major changes, among others to limit greenhouse gas emissions, improve the management and use of natural resources and raw materials, facilitate the long-term availability of healthy food and, above all, encourage a different mindset: away from the continuous reduction of product costs and towards the continuous reduction of raw materials consumption by using these resources more efficiently as part of a circular food system.

This transition will require a combination of organizational, social and technological innovations and an integrated approach aimed at developing a sustainable and circular food system, with a sound business model and greater appreciation of the value of food.

### What knowledge is required?

Much knowledge is already available and much research is and has already being carried out into sustainable, healthy and safe food. However, in the global context, the transition of the Dutch food system is still in its infancy. Answering this challenge will require a transdisciplinary approach involving expertise from the life sciences, social/economic sciences and the humanities too. Therefore, instead of developing new knowledge, the focus will be on further development of existing knowledge.

### What are the key questions?

The key question is: 'How does a net positive food system work and how can the current food system be redesigned to meet the requirements of such a system?'

The following sub-questions are proposed:

- How can we ensure that circular agriculture and ecologically and economically viable and vital production processes become standard practice?
- How can we decrease the distance between consumers, young people and urban citizens on the one hand and food producers on the other?
- How can we revalue food by calculating the actual price of products (true pricing) and developing new earning models?

### What is the desired content of the research programme?

The following research is proposed:

- Develop knowledge of the functions of the food system, the outcomes and impacts, the relevant actors, mutual interactions, lock-ins and feedback loops and accelerators.
- Develop reliable insights into the relationships between the components of the system and the effects of interventions (e.g. policy interventions) on other aspects of the food system, both in the wider food chain and at the regional level.
- Flesh out the most promising opportunities and remove obstacles.

Remove obstacles by:

- developing legislation that does not impede the transition,
- developing insight into the relationship between nutrition and behavior,
- conducting transdisciplinary research into ways to encourage adoption of the desired system,
- establishing pilot projects,
- developing insight into behavioural change;

Stimulate opportunities by developing knowledge of:

- systems and integrated thinking in innovation,
- environment-focussed innovation,
- a sustainable protein supply,
- true pricing,
- new metrics to transition from quantity-focussed to quality-focussed food production.

The content of the research programme will be determined together with the participating organizations during the Sandpit procedure.

The consortia are not expected to tackle all of the above assignments, but rather to broadly focus on a number of the themes, with as common denominator the facilitation of a system change.

#### Added value

It is important that a proposal offers clear added value on top of current activities. The proposal should clearly describe what current initiatives exist in this area and how the proposal distinguishes itself from these initiatives or develops them further to provide added value.

## 3 Guidelines for applicants

### 3.1 Who can apply

The NWA programme is intended for fundamental and applied research.

The application procedure will comprise three phases:

1. Registration of interested parties followed by the selection of participants for the Sandpit workshop;
2. Sandpit workshop;
3. Development of proposals by the selected consortia.

#### 1. Registration and selection of interested parties

This NWA call for proposals will start with a selection round during which all parties can express their interest in participating in the Sandpit workshop by submitting a motivation form. These parties may be researchers, knowledge institutes, schools, businesses, government agencies, farmers, consultancy firms, technologists, etc. Parties must be available to participate in the Sandpit workshop (21-24 January 2020).

The selection procedure is described in chapter 4. Other parties may still join a consortium after the selection phase and the Sandpit workshop as 'cooperation partner' (3.1.4), with the exception of the coordinating party, applicants or co-funding organizations as described in 3.1.1, 3.1.2 and 3.1.3.

An exception will only be made if the assessment committee has established that specific and necessary expertise is lacking in a consortium. In this case, the assessment committee may also submit a request in writing to the consortium to include a party with that specific expertise. This party must submit a motivation form and, if approved by the Executive Board of NWO, it may join the consortium as cooperation partner. Parties that were rejected on the basis of the motivation form of September 2019 are not eligible for this exception.

#### 2. Sandpit workshop

After the selection of parties based on the motivation forms, a Sandpit workshop will be held. The Sandpit workshop will be conducted in Dutch. A Sandpit is an intensive and interactive workshop during which a group of participants representing various disciplines and backgrounds, a team of experts, and independent stakeholders all come together for several days to conceive innovative and transdisciplinary research proposals together. Sandpits comprise a highly multidisciplinary mix of active researchers, stakeholders and potential users of research results, who jointly apply lateral thinking to come up with new approaches to address research challenges on a specific theme. A Sandpit is an innovative method of generating research programmes and projects (see also 3.4.3).

#### 3. Development of proposals by the selected consortia

After the Sandpit workshop, the resultant, broad consortia will flesh out a research proposal. Proposals must be submitted by a consortium representing the broad knowledge chain as described in Chapter 2.1.

#### Categories of participants

Four categories of participants are differentiated within a consortium:

1. Main applicant
2. Applicant(s)
3. Co-funding organizations
4. Cooperation partners

The coordinating party and applicants can apply for funding from NWO.

A proposal must define the members of the consortium, the role of each partner and its contribution to the proposed project.

### 3.1.1 Main applicant

The main applicant submits the proposal on behalf of the consortium and is the point of contact for NWO. The main applicant receives the funding on behalf of the consortium and is responsible for the scientific coherency, the results and the financial accountability. Researchers from the following knowledge institutions can act as the main applicant:

- Universities located in the Kingdom of the Netherlands;
- University medical centres located in the Kingdom of the Netherlands;
- KNAW and NWO institutes;
- Universities of applied sciences, as referred to in Article 1.8 of the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek, WHW);
- TO2-institutes;
- the Netherlands Cancer Institute;
- the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics in Nijmegen;
- the DUBBLE Beamline at the ESRF in Grenoble;
- NCB Naturalis;
- Advanced Research Center for NanoLithography (ARCNL);
- Princess Máxima Center for Paediatric Oncology.

The main applicant should:

- be in the possession of a PhD degree or have a lector/senior researcher appointment, and;
- have a permanent employment contract or a tenure track appointment with one of the above mentioned knowledge institutes.

A coordinating party may only submit one proposal for this call in the capacity of coordinating party. A coordinating party may also participate in one other consortium as an applicant.

### 3.1.2 Applicant(s)

An applicant participates in the consortium and receives funding via the main applicant. A party may participate as an applicant in a maximum of two consortia.

Organisations listed under 3.1.1 can participate as applicants. Applicants who are affiliated with organizations that are not mentioned in paragraph 3.1.1 must meet the following cumulative criteria:

- it must be located in the Netherlands;
- it must have a public task;
- it must carry out research independently;
- it must have a non-profit status, other than for the purpose of further research.

**Note:** These conditions will be assessed by NWO prior to submission of the application. To this end, the applicant's organization must submit at least the following documents by e-mail no later than 10 working days before the deadline for submission:

- a recent extract from the Chamber of Commerce;
- the articles of association or statutes or other formal document proving the public service mission of the organization and the absence of a profit motive;
- an audit report based on the latest available annual accounts.

If the applicants have not been assessed by NWO in advance, NWO will not be able to process their motivation form.

### 3.1.3 Co-funding organizations

Co-funding is not mandatory for this call. Co-funding organizations are organizations that participate in the consortium and contribute to the project in cash and/or in kind. Co-funding organizations are never applicable for an NWO grant. The conditions for co-funding are specified in paragraph 3.5.

Knowledge institutes that are permitted to participate in applications in accordance with the description provided in 3.1.1 are not permitted to participate in this call for proposals as co-funding organizations.

### 3.1.4 Cooperation partner(s)

Cooperation partners are parties closely involved in carrying out the research and/or knowledge utilisation. Cooperation partners do not receive funding. These could be parties involved through participation in an advisory, supervisory or user committee, or parties that are unable to capitalise their contribution in advance. These may be public and private partners such as: schools, businesses, government agencies, farmers, consultancy firms, technologists, etc.

Applicants may also nominate external parties they wish to involve in knowledge utilisation.

## 3.2 What can be applied for

### 3.2.1 Available amount

A budget of €2.77 million is available for this call for proposals. Two grants of €1.385 million or one grant of €2.77 million will be awarded.

### 3.2.2 Budget

The budget is built up using the NWO-wide standardised building blocks, the so-called modules (chapter 6). In the budget, applicants choose the combination of modules needed to answer the research question, and how often each module will be used.

In this call for proposals, the following modules are available:

1. Personnel costs
2. Material costs
3. Knowledge utilisation
4. Internationalisation and Money follows Cooperation

In this call, all modules can be used as often as is needed for the proposed research, except those for Research leave (1e). Module 1e can only be included once in the budget.

When the budget for the full proposal is drawn up, applicants should explain how the proposed expenditure on the various items will contribute to the proposal. NWO will provide a budget form which must be submitted as a compulsory annex to the full proposal. Funding should be compliant or compatible with European legislation on state aid and public procurement<sup>1</sup>.

### 3.3 When can applications be submitted

Applications for this call for proposals must be submitted with a [motivation form](#). The deadline for the submission of motivation forms is **12 September 2019 at 2 p.m. CE(S)T**.

One or two broad consortia will be formed and will prepare and submit a proposal during a Sandpit procedure (21-24 January 2020). The deadline for the submission of the [full proposals](#) is **24 March 2020 at 2 p.m. CE(S)T**.

### 3.4 Preparing an application

The call procedure is based on a Sandpit workshop and comprises the following three phases:

	What	How	When
Phase 1	Selection of Sandpit participants	Based on motivation form; assessment by assessment committee	Deadline for submitting motivation form: 12 September 2019 at 2 p.m. CET
Phase 2	Sandpit workshop	Multi-day workshop to form broad consortia who will develop a proposal	21-24 January 2020
Phase 3	Full proposal	Development of the proposals from the Sandpit workshop; assessment by assessment committee	Deadline for full proposals: 24 March 2020 at 2 p.m. CET

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<sup>1</sup> zie Verordening EU 1407/2013 van 18/12/2013, de EU 651/2014 van 17/06/2014 en de mededeling van de Europese Commissie 2014/C 198/01 om te controleren of er sprake is van verenigbaarheid met deze steunregelingen. Voor aanbestedingsregels verwijzen we naar: <http://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBR0032203/2016-07-01>

### 3.4.1 Submitting an application or proposal through ISAAC

A motivation form or full proposal can be submitted using ISAAC's online application system, whereby additional information will also be requested. If you do not yet have an ISAAC account, please create one at least five working days before the deadline. Once you have an account, it is advisable to begin the submission process for your motivation form or full proposal at least one day before the closing date of this call for proposals. Application forms or full proposals that are submitted after the closing date will not be taken into consideration.

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

### 3.4.2 Applying using a motivation form

Parties can express their interest in participating by completing a motivation form. No research proposal or action plan is required at this stage.

Important information:

- Applicants whose motivation form has been approved by the Executive Board of NWO are required to participate in the Sandpit workshop (21-24 January 2020).
- Failure to participate in the Sandpit workshop will exclude a party from participating in a consortium (with the exception of cooperation partners, see 3.1).
- Parties are required to confirm in the motivation form that they will participate in the Sandpit (if their application is approved).
- Selected parties are required to participate in the Sandpit workshop in their personal capacity. Participants may not delegate a colleague.
- The motivation form must be submitted in the compulsory format.
- Interested parties submit the motivation form independently, i.e. not in cooperation with other parties.
- Interested parties may refer to other knowledge institutes/parties they cooperate with (or would like to cooperate with) in the motivation form, but these parties must submit their own motivation form if they wish to be selected for participation.
- Knowledge institutes who are interested in taking on the role of coordinating party of a consortium can indicate this in their motivation form.

#### Application forms for coordinating parties/applicants

The motivation form uses a standard font and contains the following points:

1. Motivation to participate in the Sandpit workshop.
2. A research proposal that fits the theme and a substantiation of the proposal.
3. Explanation why the party has the quality and expertise required to carry out this research.
4. The portfolio of the coordinating party/applicant (quality of the available knowledge/experience: is the coordinating party/applicant a leader in this field?).
5. The researcher's CV (e.g. experience cooperating in teams and consortia) and a character description.

#### Application forms of potential cooperation partners

The motivation form of a potential cooperation partner must provide insight into the knowledge, experience and competencies that makes them eligible to participate in a consortium. The cooperation partner must also describe what they can contribute to the theme.

### 3.4.3 Sandpit workshop

The Sandpit workshop will take place from 21 to 24 January 2020. A Sandpit is an intensive, interactive workshop in which parties aim to develop highly innovative research proposals.

All parties whose motivation form has been approved by the Executive Board of NWO are required to participate in the Sandpit workshop. Invited participants who are unable to attend the Sandpit will be excluded from the further procedure. The participants will represent a broad and diverse range of disciplines and will come together to participate in a creative, free-thinking environment. The workshop will remove them from their everyday routines and responsibilities. They will immerse themselves in a cooperative process on an important theme which will be identified during the Sandpit. The theme of this Sandpit workshop will be the Transition to a sustainable food system.

The Sandpit will be led by a moderator and the supervisory committee will be present to ensure the proposals do not stray from the theme of the call.

The selected parties will present themselves and learn about each other's expertise both before and during the Sandpit workshop. The theme, Transition to a sustainable food system, is broad, so one or two consortia with a broad reach will be formed. During the Sandpit, these consortia will define and start developing a research proposal. They will continue to write the research proposal after the Sandpit workshop and submit it to NWO no later than 24 March 2020.

Parties will not be reimbursed for participating in the Sandpit with the exception of regular travel and accommodation expenses.

#### 3.4.4 Full application

A broad consortium will develop a research proposal. The full proposal must be submitted in the compulsory format.

The proposal must include the following elements:

Summary, Problem Definition, Relevance, Knowledge Sharing, Implementation and Perpetuation, Objective, and Action Plan.

The proposal must also include (among others):

1. Action plans for several research projects/project components, together with a description of the contributions of the various parties.
2. Consortium information: a description and organization chart, division of tasks, vision, and plan for the future.
3. A budget.
4. A clear timeline which has been worked out as concretely as possible for the entire term of the project.
5. A description of the added value of the consortium for the research and how cooperation is assured within the broader knowledge chain (including social partners in public and semi-public sectors and/or the business community). The research proposals must therefore be submitted by consortia in which both public and private knowledge organizations are represented, such as universities, colleges, university medical centres, KNAW and NWO institutes, TO2 institutes and national knowledge institutes, but also schools, businesses, government agencies, farmers, consultancy firms, technologists, etc. The proposal must also set out what the consortium stands for, what it wants to achieve and what the roles of various members of the consortium are in the research.

A consortium may decide (or be advised by the assessment committee) to involve other cooperation partners in the project during the preparation phase of the proposal. The choice to do so must be clearly substantiated in the full proposal. For example, a cooperation partner party could be involved to take responsibility for knowledge sharing and application in practice (see also paragraph 3.1). These participants will not receive an NWO grant.

### How is society involved?

Each consortium will be asked to describe how the broader society is involved in the design and implementation of the proposed research project. In order to further increase the impact of the proposed research, it is also important for the consortium to describe how knowledge sharing between the consortium and end users such as ministries, social stakeholders and businesses is encouraged, and how this aspect is safeguarded throughout the entire period of research.

## 3.5 Conditions on granting

The NWO Grant Rules 2017 and the Agreement on the Payment of Costs for Scientific Research apply to all applications.

### Duration

Proposals for this NWA call, Transition to a sustainable food system, are for projects with a maximum duration of three years. Proposals for projects with longer durations will not be taken into consideration.

### Co-funding organizations

Co-funding is not mandatory for this call, but is permitted. NWO distinguishes between in-cash co-funding, whereby an organization contributes to the project budget described in the proposal, and in-kind co-funding, which involves the deployment of an organization's own resources.

NWO will invoice the private or public party that has committed an in-cash contribution to the project after the proposal has been approved. The contribution will be designated to the relevant project.

### Conditions for in-kind co-funding

In-kind co-funding will be valued monetarily, i.e. the value of the in-kind contribution will be calculated (comprising an x number of units at a cost price per unit or an x number of hours at an hourly rate) and will be included as a budget item.

The co-funding organization must substantiate and justify the prices and rates applied. NWO will decide if a price or rate is acceptable or needs to be adjusted.

### Valuing in-kind co-funding

The hourly rate is based on the maximum cost-covering rate including any applicable surcharges. The hourly rate is calculated based on the standard productive hours applied by the relevant organization. A cost-covering hourly rate may comprise the following elements:

- the average gross salary for the relevant position (the position of the employee who will be involved in the project);
- holiday allowance and year-end bonus (if included in the relevant collective labour agreement), proportionate to FTEs;
- social insurance premiums;
- pension costs;

Co-funding organizations must justify the structure and amount of the stated hourly rates in the supporting letter. Hourly rates for in-kind contributions by co-funding organizations' employees will be capped at €125 per hour, regardless of any applicable tax laws and regulations that apply to the co-funding organization.

NWO may request substantiation and justification of the rates applied and may request an adjustment of these rates.

A maximum of €25 per hour will be applied for students deployed in the project.

#### Permitted forms of in-kind co-funding:

- Co-funding in the form of staff and material contributions will be accepted provided these contributions are valued monetarily and are solely deployed for the project. These contributions must be clearly described in the research proposal and schedule. The current market value will be applied for any equipment deployed in the project.
- Part of the research may be carried out by third parties. Third-party staff may be deployed on condition that the expertise (in the form of man hours) is not already available in the participating research institutes and hence is specifically deployed for this project. The deployment of third-party staff will be valued monetarily as described under ‘Valuing in-kind co-funding’.
- Material contributions in the form of services are subject to the condition that they can be identified as a new service, i.e. the service is not already available in the participating research institutes. Additional conditions apply to the approval of services claimed retroactively as in-kind co-funding (e.g. the provision of a database or software). In this case, the coordinating party must contact NWO before the claim is submitted. NWO will determine whether a monetary value can be applied to this service.

#### Justification of in-kind co-funding

Private and public parties are required to justify their in-kind contributions to NWO in the form of a schedule of costs incurred, which must be submitted to the coordinating party within three months of conclusion of the relevant research project. The coordinating party must submit the co-funding organization’s justification together with the financial account to NWO for the purposes of grant settlement. If the in-kind contribution exceeds €125,000, the co-funding organization must also supply an auditor's report. In all other cases, a written statement provided by the coordinating party, in which they declare that the stated in-kind contributions will be used for the project, will suffice.

In the event of failure to justify the amount of the co-funding or failure to provide said co-funding, NWO will have the right to withdraw the full grant.

#### Non-permitted forms of co-funding (both in-cash and in-kind):

- funds granted by NWO;
- PPP premiums;
- co-funding provided by organizations for which the coordinating party or any applicants work;
- discounts on commercial rates, including for materials, equipment and services;
- costs of overheads, supervision, consultancy services and/or participation in the supervisory committee;
- costs for conditional services (no conditions may be imposed on the provision of the co-funding, and nor may the co-funding be bound to any part of the research plan (e.g. a go/no-go moment);
- costs which have been excluded in the call for proposals;
- costs of equipment if one of the objectives of the application is to improve this equipment or create added value using it.

#### Supporting letter provided by participating co-funding organizations

The co-funding organization must confirm its support for the project and the specified amount of co-funding in a supporting letter. The supporting letters of all co-funding organizations must be included with the full proposal. The supporting letters must be signed by an authorized signatory on behalf of the co-funding organization and printed on the co-funding organization’s letterhead. If the co-funding is approved, NWO will ask the co-funding organization to confirm the amounts (e.g. for invoicing purposes). NWO will provide a standard template for the supporting letter.

#### Letter of commitment from cooperation partners

Cooperation partners (see paragraph 3.1.4) cannot provide a supporting letter because they do not contribute co-funding to the project. Cooperation partners may be asked to provide a letter of commitment in which the partner describes their reasons for participating in the research and what their role in the project will be. Letters of commitment can only be submitted prior to the full proposal phase and are not mandatory.

#### Start of the project

The project can start as soon as the data management plan has been approved by NWO and it has received a signed cooperation agreement from the consortium in which at least the intellectual property and publication agreements are established.

The deadline for the start of the research is six months from the date of receipt of the decision to award the grant. The research has a maximum duration of three years.

#### Consortium agreement

The consortium partners must sign a consortium agreement before the start of a project which has been awarded funding. This agreement contains provisions on rights (for example copyrights, publications, intellectual property, etc. on products or services that are developed within the project), knowledge transfer and other matters such as payments, progress reports, final reports and confidentiality. In addition, it contains agreements on the governance of the consortium (which must provide sufficient guarantees for effective collaboration), finance, basic knowledge to be contributed (where applicable), liability, resolution of disputes and the provision of information between consortium members. The initiative for producing these agreements lies with the main applicant. NWO will assess the agreements made for compliance with the NWO Grant Rules 2017.

#### Intellectual Property & Publications (IP&P)

To increase the likelihood of new inventions and innovations, the acquisition, maintenance and use of intellectual property rights (patents and copyrights) by knowledge institutions is encouraged. To this end, the NWA asks consortia to pay attention to intellectual property rights. It is important that research results are treated responsibly with a view to contributing to science and applying the knowledge concerned. The aim is both to ensure that the research results can be exploited and published as widely as possible, and to encourage collaboration between the knowledge chain and (semi-)public partners and industry. The NWO Grant Rules 2017 provide possibilities for the applicants to acquire intellectual property (IP) rights and possibly to transfer or license these to co-funding organizations. For the IP rights, the provisions as stated in Chapter 4 of the NWO Grant Rules 2017 are applicable, in which the IP rights to the results are awarded to the knowledge institution whose employee has generated the results concerned (ownership follows inventorship).

#### Content monitoring with the aid of a supervisory committee

NWO will take care of the content monitoring of proposals that have been awarded funding. To reinforce this and to increase support for implementation of the projects, NWO will set up a supervisory committee. This committee will include members of the financing bodies (Ministry LNV and NWO). The committee will monitor the progress of projects and the results achieved, focusing on knowledge transfer, knowledge utilisation and application of results. Regular meetings and, optionally, site visits will be organized. Representatives of all consortia will be invited to attend and contribute to the supervisory committee meetings. Experts will be invited as required.

#### Accountability during the project

During the project, the coordinating party will be responsible for providing project reports (mid-term and final reports). NWO may request interim financial and progress reports to monitor the project.

### Project completion

On completion of a project, NWO will request final project and financial reports. NWO will then establish the amount of the grant.

### 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](http://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 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 categorised 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 their later storage and dissemination possible. 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 data management plan is a concrete elaboration of the data management section. In the plan the researcher describes whether use will be made of existing data or a new data collection and how the data collection will be made **FAIR**: Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable. 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 <http://www.nwo.nl/datamanagement-en>.

### 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](http://www.absfocalpoint.nl)). NWO assumes that researchers will take all necessary actions with respect to the Nagoya Protocol.

## 3.6 Submitting an application

A motivation form/application can only be submitted to NWO via the online application system ISAAC. Motivation forms/applications not submitted via ISAAC will not be taken into consideration.

A principal applicant must submit his/her motivation form/application via his/her own ISAAC account. If the

principal applicant does not have an ISAAC account yet, then this should be created at least five days before the application is submitted to ensure that any registration problems can be resolved on time. If the principal applicant already has an NWO-account, then he/she does not need to create a new account to submit a motivation form/application.

An application can only be submitted by a participant of the Sandpit workshop. In addition to the completed forms, when you submit your proposal to ISAAC you will also need to enter details online. You should therefore start submitting your application at least three working days before the deadline of this call so that any problems with your account or data entry can be resolved. 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

The ‘[Code for Dealing with Personal Interests](#)’ applies to all persons and NWO staff involved in the assessment and/or decision-making process.

#### 4.1.1 Assessment committee

NWO will appoint a supervisory committee to monitor this call for proposals. The supervisory committee will establish an assessment committee. In addition to scientific expertise, the assessment committee must also comprise people with practical expertise. The composition of the assessment committee will be published on the NWO website.

The assessment committee assesses the motivation forms of interested parties and will offer recommendations to the Executive Board of the NWO Domain Science. The Executive Board of the NWO Domain Science in turn advises the Executive Board of NWO on the selection of parties to participate in the Sandpit workshop and potentially in the resultant consortium that will draw up the research proposal (4.1.3).

The full proposal must comply with the criteria set out in paragraph 4.2. The assessment committee assesses the full proposals, conducts interviews with consortium representatives, and will submit recommendations to the Executive Board of the NWO Domain Science. The Executive Board of the NWO Domain Science advises the Executive Board of NWO based on the assessment committee’s recommendations.

#### 4.1.2 Procedure for assessing motivation forms

##### Admissibility of the motivation forms

The first step in the assessment procedure is to test whether an application is admissible. This is done on the basis of the following conditions:

- the motivation form was submitted through ISAAC before the deadline.
- the motivation form is written in Dutch.
- the motivation form was submitted by an interested party that meets the conditions set out in 3.1.
- the applicant has confirmed they can attend the Sandpit workshop (21-24 January 2020).

Only motivation forms that meet these conditions will be taken into consideration.

If the motivation form needs to be corrected to meet the conditions, the applicant will be given the opportunity to do so within 48 hours. If the corrected motivation form is not received within this time, NWO will not process the motivation form. If approved, the corrected motivation form will be included in the procedure.

##### Motivation form assessment

The assessment committee assesses the quality and relevance of the motivation forms. The criteria described for the motivation forms are given equal weight in the assessment and prioritization (4.2).

The parties to the consortium described in the motivation form must each submit a separate motivation form.

### Motivation form decision

Following the assessment, the Executive Board of the NWO Domain Science advises the Executive Board of NWO based on the assessment committee's recommendations. The Executive Board of NWO will discuss the selection of participants for the Sandpit workshop in late November 2019. This will amount to a definitive decision for the selected coordinating parties and applicants. The Executive Board of NWO will only advise on the selection of co-funding organizations and cooperation partners in order to ensure the broadest possible societal representation. This will be non-binding advice.

### Consortia

The selected knowledge institutes, other parties and cooperation partners will ideally represent an optimal mix of complementary experience and expertise.

The Executive Board of the NWO Domain Science will advise the Executive Board of NWO, based on the assessment committee's recommendations, whether to form a single consortium or, if the complexity of the theme demands it, two complementary consortia. The available budget will then be divided equally between the two consortia. The Executive Board of NWO may also advise parties to decide on the number of consortia depending on the results of the Sandpit workshop. If two consortia are formed during the Sandpit workshop, it is essential that they cooperate closely during the project. One of the tasks of the supervisory committee is to ensure this is the case.

## 4.1.3 Procedure for assessing full proposals

### Admissibility of full proposals

The first step in the assessment procedure is to test whether the proposal is eligible for consideration. This is done on the basis of the following conditions:

- the full proposal was submitted through ISAAC before the deadline.
- the full proposal is written in Dutch.
- the full proposal provides information on the participants in the consortium, including all mandatory details of the members.
- the full proposal includes an action plan for each project component.
- the full proposal includes a budget for all individual project components and an overall budget (using the prescribed format).
- the full proposal complies with the conditions set out in chapter 3.4.4.

Only proposals that meet these conditions will be taken into consideration.

If the proposal needs to be corrected to meet the conditions, the coordinating party will be given the opportunity to do so within 48 hours. If the corrected proposal is not received within this time, NWO will not process the motivation form. If approved, the corrected proposal will be included in the procedure.

### Improving the full proposals

When two consortia are preparing full proposals, they will plan a meeting midway through this process in order to share and discuss their plans and provide each other with advice on how to improve their proposals. The aim of this meeting is to improve the quality of the proposals and enable the consortia to coordinate their activities.

### Assessment of full proposals

The assessment committee assesses the quality and relevance of the full proposals and their potential for achieving societal breakthroughs. The composition of the consortium will be assessed for its contribution to the quality and feasibility of the proposal. The full proposal must meet the criteria set out in this call. A proposal may be rejected if its quality is inadequate (see the 'NWO qualification' below).

The coordinating party will receive a copy of the assessment committee's preliminary assessment and the consortium can respond to this orally during a meeting scheduled in April 2020.

If a full proposal does not meet the criteria, the assessment committee will provide the consortium concerned one opportunity to submit a revised proposal. The consortium will have three weeks to make the changes. The assessment committee will submit all recommendations and instructions in writing. A second meeting will be scheduled to discuss the changes made by the consortium. If the revised proposal still does not meet the conditions and quality criteria then no grant will be awarded.

#### Decision-making process

The Executive Board of the NWO Domain Science advises the Executive Board of NWO based on the assessment committee's recommendations. The Executive Board of NWO will decide on the grant in June 2020. If a proposal has to be revised, the decision will be postponed until September 2020.

#### Data management

The data management section in the application is not evaluated and therefore not included in the decision about whether to award funding. However, both the referees and the committee can issue advice with respect to the data management section. After a proposal has been awarded funding, the researcher should elaborate the data management section into a data management plan. Applicants can use the advice from the referees and the committee when writing the data management plan. A project awarded funding can only start after NWO has approved the consortium agreement.

#### Qualification

NWO will award a qualification to all full proposals and will make this known to the researcher with the decision about whether or not the application has been awarded funding.

Only applications that receive the qualification "excellent", "very good" or "good" will be eligible for funding. For more information about the qualifications please visit the website.

### 4.1.4 Indicative timetable

12 September 2019	Deadline for submitting motivation form
Oktober 2019	Meeting of assessment committee
7 November 2019	Executive Board of the NWO Domain Science recommendation to the Executive Board of NWO
27 November 2019	Decision or advice of the Executive Board of NWO
December 2019	Invitations to participate in Sandpit workshop
21 – 24 Januari 2020	Sandpit workshop
24 March 2020	Deadline for submitting full proposal
April 2020	Meeting assessment committee/interviews
May 2020	Executive Board of the NWO Domain Science recommendation to the Executive Board of NWO
June 2020	Decision of the Executive Board of NWO
September 2020	Project start

## 4.2 Criteria

### Motivation forms

The assessment of the motivation forms submitted by applicants (3.1.1 and 3.1.2) is based on the following two criteria:

#### Relevance and appropriateness

- The relevance of the research proposal for the theme Transition to a sustainable food system.
- Appropriateness of the composition of the prospective consortium as evidenced in the motivation forms.
- Persuasiveness of the form.

#### Contribution of expertise to the consortium

- The quality of the applicant's portfolio (available knowledge and experience: is the applicant a leader in this field?).
- The quality of the projects (leading in this field?).
- The quality of the researcher's CV (e.g. experience cooperating in teams and consortia) and a character description.

The parties to the consortium described in the motivation form must each submit a separate motivation form.

The first criterion is assessed for relevance, the second criterion is assessed for quality.

The assessment of the motivation forms submitted by *co-funders* and *cooperation partners* (3.1.3 and 3.1.4) is based on the following two criteria:

#### Relevance and appropriateness

- The relevance of the research proposal for the theme Transition to a sustainable food system.
- Appropriateness of the composition of the prospective consortium as evidenced in the motivation forms.
- Persuasiveness of the form.

#### Contribution of expertise to the consortium

- knowledge, experience and competences relevant to the theme Transition to a sustainable food system.
- co-funding organization or cooperation partner's contribution to the research and/or knowledge utilization.

The criteria described for the motivation forms are given equal weight in the assessment and prioritization.

### Full proposals

The full proposals are assessed on the basis of the following three criteria:

- I. Quality of the research proposal;
- II. Quality of the consortium;
- III. Potential scientific and/or societal breakthroughs.

The three criteria are given equal weight in the overall assessment. Other assessment criteria that may apply:

- I. Kwaliteit van het onderzoeksvoorstel
  1. Appropriateness to the theme of Sustainable Food Quality.
  2. Scientific interest of the proposed research.
  3. Existing knowledge identified and demonstrably built on.
  4. Problem definition and research questions are clearly formulated and harmonize with the programme objective.
  5. Suitability of the research method and approach is demonstrated in the proposal.
  6. Clearly transdisciplinary consortium, or the disciplines required to conduct the research are described in the proposal.
  7. Budget appropriate to the research, the various budget items have been justified.
  8. Feasibility of the planned activities has been substantiated.
  9. Risks of damage identified and adequately addressed.
  10. Clear plan for the perpetuation of the results (after completion of the projects).
  11. Appropriate activities planned to translate the knowledge into practical applications.
  
- II. Quality of the consortium
  1. Transdisciplinary: does the proposal involve all the disciplines required to address the problem adequately and is their role convincingly described?
  2. Knowledge chain representation: does the proposal convincingly demonstrate that the required partners in the knowledge chain have been involved and is their role convincingly described? Will knowledge sharing and expertise building be promoted through cooperation in the knowledge chain?
  3. Have the cooperation partners required for the research been included in the consortium?
  4. Is the coherence, complementarity and diversity of the consortium clearly described?
  5. Is the potential of the consortium to share knowledge with end users convincingly described?
  6. Are end users demonstrably included in the consortium?
  7. Is the extent to which the consortium will contribute to the development of a sustainable research infrastructure convincingly described?
  8. Is the complete chain, from fundamental research to application of the results, addressed by the proposed research (insofar as relevant for the key objective of the proposal)?
  9. Organization and embedding of the research: is the project supported by an effective project organization and is the research adequately embedded in the relevant organizations?
  10. Are junior researchers actively involved in the consortium?
  
- III. Potential scientific and/or societal breakthroughs
  1. Extent to which the proposal aims to make scientific and/or societal breakthroughs.
  2. Degree of involvement and commitment of public and private parties.
  3. Manner in which society/the broader public/specific target groups are involved in the proposal and their role in the implementation of the project.
  4. Ambition and feasibility of the knowledge utilization plan (including knowledge sharing, utilization of results and valorization).
  5. Appropriateness to the described content of the research.
  6. Potential of the project to have a lasting impact in the Netherlands (and possibly also globally).
  7. Potential of the project to contribute towards a sustainable research infrastructure in the Netherlands.

## 5 Contact details and other information

### 5.1 Contact

#### 5.1.1 Specific questions

For specific questions about NWA-programme Transition to a sustainable food system and this call for proposals please contact:

Mirjam van het Groenewoud (programme manager)

tel. +31(0)70 344 06 26

E-mail: [nwa-voedseltransitie@nwo.nl](mailto:nwa-voedseltransitie@nwo.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.

## 6 Annexe(s)

The budget is built up using the NWO-wide standardised building blocks, the so-called modules. These modules are described below. The applicants decide what combination of modules is required to conduct the research and how often each module will be deployed in the overall budget.

In this call the following modules are available:

1. Personnel costs
2. Material costs
3. Knowledge utilisation
4. Internationalization and Money follows Cooperation

The different modules and accompanying budget items are further specified below.

### 1. Module Staffing costs

- a) Postdoc;
- b) Non-scientific personnel;
- c) Personnel HBO;
- d) Other scientific personnel;
- e) Research leave

Note: Grants for PhD candidates/fellows of a Dutch university are not eligible for an NWO grant.

#### Module 1a) Postdoc

According to the duration of the programme a postdoc between 12 and 36 months can be applied for. The minimum size of the appointment is 0.5 fte for 12 months. This deployment can be spread over a longer or shorter period, for example across the entire duration of the project. The maximum appointment is 36 full-time months.

If the applicants wish to deploy expertise for a shorter period of time, then the material credit can be used for this.

The salary costs will be remunerated according to the 'Agreement for Funding Scientific Research' made with the Association of Universities in the Netherlands (for ZonMw, the costs are based on the collective labour agreement of the Netherlands Federation of University Medical Centres).

In addition to the salary costs, NWO-funded project staff members will receive a one-off personal bench fee (€5000) to further their academic career. The agreements and the maximum amounts for staff costs can be found at ['Approval of funding for scientific research 2008'](#) and ['Salary tables'](#) respectively.

#### Module 1b) Non-scientific personnel

For the appointment of non-scientific personnel, specifically needed for the research project which funding is applied for, a maximum of € 100,000 can be requested with this module. This can concern personnel such as student assistants, programmers, technical assistants, analysts, et cetera. This module can only be applied for in combination with modules 1a.

The minimum size of the appointment is 0.5 fte for 12 months. The minimum appointment can be spread over a longer period of time. If the applicants wish to deploy expertise for a shorter period of time, then the material credit can be used for this.

Salary costs are dependent on the level and are remunerated in accordance with the agreements in the most recent 'Agreement for Funding Scientific Research' made with the Association of Universities in the Netherlands and are based on the collective labour agreement of the Dutch universities. The agreement and the maximum amounts for personnel costs can be found at '[Approval of funding for scientific research 2008](#)' and '[Salary tables](#)' respectively.

#### Module 1c) Personnel of other institutes

Funding for the appointment of personnel employed at a university of applied science, TO2 institute, government knowledge institutions and other non-academic organisations in the category applicants (see paragraph 3.1.2) can be requested by means of using the maximum rates (hour/day) mentioned in the table below (based on the Handleiding Overheidstarieven 2017). The rate used is based on the salary scale of the employee concerned according to the collective labour agreement of the respective organisation.

Rates per position	Scale	Rate
Students	-	€ 25
Supporting staff NWP MBO	7	€ 59
Supporting staff NWP HBO	10	€ 72
Junior-researcher	10	€ 72
School teacher	10	€ 72
Supporting staff NWP Academic	11	€ 79
Medior researcher *	11	€ 79
Medior researcher *	12	€ 87
MD PhD researcher	12	€ 87
Teacher researcher	12	€ 87
Senior researcher	13	€ 95
Management/lector	16	€ 119

\* The first medior researcher scale is the same as PhD level, the second medior researcher scale the same as postdoc level.

The maximum rates described are based on the cost-covering rate including any applicable surcharges. The hourly rate is calculated based on the standard productive hours applied by the relevant organization. The cost-covering rate must be substantiated and include:

- average gross salary of the position of the employee that will contribute to the project;
- holiday allowance and (if included in the relevant collective labour agreement) year-end bonus, proportionate to FTEs;
- Social insurance premiums;
- Pension costs.

#### Module 1d) Other academic personnel

Budget for other scientific personnel such as university graduates, graduate physicians and graduate physicians training to be specialists that are needed for the research project that funding is requested for. This module can only be applied for in combination with module 1a. The maximum period of appointment is 36 months for 1fte. The minimum size of the appointment is 0.5 fte for 12 months. This deployment can be spread over a longer or shorter period, for example across the entire duration of the project.

### Module 1e) Vervanging

In this module, the replacement costs for the main applicant and/or co-applicants can be applied for, so that they can be released from educational, administrative and management tasks. The research leave grant can only be used in combination with and for the purposes of the projects or programmes applied for. For the research leave grant, a maximum size of 5 months per project applies based on 1 fte at the level of the postdoc employee as described in module 1b, with the hourly rates according to the agreement with the Association of Universities in the Netherlands. This budget is intended for the release of the applicants from educational and supervisory tasks so that they can work on the research for which funding has been requested. The employer can use the research leave grant to cover the costs of the replacement for the non-research tasks of the applicant(s) such as education, administrative and management tasks. These tasks must be specified in the proposal.

## 2. Module Material costs

A maximum of € 15,000 per year per full-time scientific position (modules 1a, and/or 1c) can be applied for, specified according to the three categories stated below:

### Project related goods/services

- Consumables (glassware, chemicals, cryogenic fluids, etc.);
- Equipment and/or software (e.g. lasers, specialist computers or computer programs, etc.). For these small items of equipment and/or software, the amount may not amount to more than € 160,000 per application;
- Measurement and calculation time (e.g. supercomputer access, etc.);
- Costs for acquiring or using data collections (e.g. from Statistics Netherlands);
- Access to large national and international facilities (e.g. cleanrooms, synchrotrons, datasets, etc.);
- Work by third parties (e.g. laboratory analyses, data collection, etc.);
- Personnel costs smaller in size than those offered in the module 1.

### Travel and accommodation costs (for the employees for which a personnel grant was requested in modules 1a)

- Travel and accommodation costs (national and international)
- Congress visits (maximum 2 per year)
- Fieldwork
- Work visits

### Implementation costs

- National symposium/conference/workshop organised by the consortium
- Costs of open access publishing
- Data management costs
- recruitment costs (incl. advertising costs)
- Costs involved in applying for licences (e.g. for animal experiments)

Costs that cannot be applied for are:

- Basic facilities within the institution (e.g. laptops, desks, et cetera);
- Maintenance and insurance costs.

If the maximum amount of €15,000 per year per fte scientific position is not sufficient for realising the research, then it may be deviated from if a clear justification is provided in the proposal. The only exception to this is the maximum amount (€160,000) for small equipment.

## 3. Knowledge utilisation

The aim of this module is to facilitate the use of the knowledge that emerges from the research. The contribution requested may be no more than € 25,000 and must be specified.

As knowledge utilisation can assume very different forms in the various scientific disciplines, it is up to the applicant to specify which costs are needed, for example for producing an educational package or realising a feasibility study into application possibilities, or the costs of submitting a patent application. The requested budget needs to be adequately specified and motivated in the proposal.

#### 4. Module Internationalisering: a) Internationalisering; b) Money follows Cooperation

##### Module 4a) Internationalisation

The aim of this module is to encourage international collaboration. The requested contribution may not exceed €25,000. The requested budget must be adequately specified in the proposal. An exception may be possible if the maximum amount is not sufficient to conduct the research, provided it is duly justified in the proposal.

Funding can be requested for:

- Travel and accommodation costs insofar as these are direct research costs that emerge from the international collaboration and for additional costs that are not covered in a different manner, for example from the bench fee;
- Travel and accommodation costs for foreign guest researchers;
- Costs for the organisation of international workshops/symposia/scientific meetings.

##### Module 4b) Money follows Cooperation (MfC)

The aim of this module is to encourage international collaboration via the principle of Money follows Cooperation (MfC), for which the national research budget is used for cross-border collaboration that offers the possibility to create added value for individual research projects by including expertise from abroad which is not available in the Netherlands at the desired level for the project. This concerns expertise from organisations outside of the Netherlands that have a public task and carry out research independently. In the proposal, the applicant must convincingly demonstrate that the expertise concerned is not available in the Netherlands. This will be assessed by the selection committee. If the arguments are not sufficiently convincing, then the funds for this module cannot be made available.

Furthermore, the applicant needs to state the necessary amount for this module in the budget. In principle, there is no limit to the amount that can be requested.

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