



Dutch Research
Agenda

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Theme: Transition to a sustainable food system

Frequently asked questions

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1. General NWA thematic programmes

How did the NWA programme start?

On behalf of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW), NWO has funded research in the context of the Dutch National Research Agenda (Dutch acronym: NWA) since 2018, including research via thematic programming that is realised in collaboration with government ministries. The NWA states challenging and trendsetting issues that connect with the strengths of Dutch science, the major societal challenges of this time and the economic opportunities that arise. Specific thematic programming for urgent societal themes ties in with this.

What is the aim of the thematic NWA-programmes

Thematic programmes from the NWA are mainly intended to build bridges between the various scientific disciplines, between different types of research (fundamental, applied, practice-oriented) and between various national and international agendas. Far-reaching multidisciplinary and interdisciplinarity, a knowledge-chain-wide approach and collaboration with societal partners including government ministries, companies and NGOs are therefore crucial characteristics in the consortia that realise projects and programmes.

Why is social embedding important?

Knowledge transfer, knowledge utilisation and application of the results throughout the duration of the projects are vital within thematic programmes, as these aspects optimise the societal embedding of the calls and generate support for the usability of the outcomes for policy and implementation.

Why should fundamental and applied research be combined within the NWA?

The NWA programme aims to build bridges between diverse scientific, innovation and policy agendas and to promote cooperation between the various players along the entire knowledge chain of research and innovation. NWA therefore has a particular emphasis on conducting interdisciplinary research involving partners from the entire knowledge chain from fundamental to applied and practice-oriented research. In addition, the resources made available to the NWA by the Ministry of OCW are partly intended for fundamental research and partly for applied research, in a ratio of roughly 80/20. Following the origin of the resources made available by OCW, the ratio between fundamental and applied research (80/20) should be reflected in the distribution of resources at the project level.

How are the terms 'fundamental' and 'applied' research defined?

Fundamental research is defined as research carried out by organisations that can normally submit research to NWO, including universities, university medical centres, and NWO and KNAW institutes. Applied research is meant by research carried out by universities of applied sciences, TO2 institutions and government knowledge institutes.

2. General information on the programme 'Transition to a sustainable food system'

Wat is the objective of the programma Transition to a sustainable food system?

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.

Who might be interested in this call for proposals?

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. Who can apply is described in detail in paragraph 3.1 of the call for proposals.

Can the National Knowledge Institutions and Planning Agencies participate in this subsidy round?

Yes, the ten government knowledge institutes and three planning offices can be applicants. These are:

1. Koninklijk Nederlands Meteorologisch Instituut;
2. Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieu;
3. Nederlands Forensisch Instituut;
4. Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek en Documentatie Centrum;
5. Rijks Kunsthistorische Dienst;
6. Kennisinstituut voor Mobiliteitsbeleid;
7. Rijkswaterstaat;
8. Plan Bureau voor de Leefomgeving;
9. Nederlandse Voedsel en Waren Autoriteit;
10. Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed;
11. Sociaal en Cultureel Planbureau;
12. Centraal Plan Bureau;
13. Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek.

They do not have to send in the documents mentioned in paragraph 3.1.2 of the call for proposals.

What is the available budget?

The budget available for the programme 'Transition to a sustainable food system' is €2.77 million for 3 years.

What is the duration of the programme?

The programme/projects has/have a maximum duration of 3 years. Projects last 3 years at the most (fulltime and part time). Therefore PhD-students cannot be requested for in the full proposal(s). It is possible to apply for a postdoc.

3. Sandpit participation

How can I participate in the Sandpit?

For Sandpit participation you need to end in a motivation form. The deadline for interested parties to submit a motivation form is [12 September 2019 at 2 p.m. CE\(S\)T](#).

When does the Sandpit take place?

The Sandpit takes place from [January 21-24 2020](#).

Can I be part of a consortium without participation in the Sandpit?

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).

4. Preparation of the motivation form

Should the proposal be drafted in Dutch or English?

The proposal must be drafted in Dutch.

I have an important consortium partner, where can I describe them?

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.

5. Submission via ISAAC

How do I submit the motivation form?

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.

Do I need an ISAAC account to submit a motivation form?

Yes, a principal applicant must submit his/her motivation form 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.

6. Procedure for assessing motivation forms

Who will assess the motivation forms?

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.

Which criteria are used to assess the motivation forms?

The criteria used for the assessment of the motivation forms can be found in section 4.2 of the call for proposals.

7. Continuation of the programme

The further development of the programme, including the Sandpit and the procedure concerning the full proposals, is described in the [call for proposals](#).