Ondersteuning NWA-routes management 2020

Dutch Research Agenda

Call for proposals
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Chapter 1: Introduction / Support for NWA route management

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/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. Multidisciplinarity and interdisciplinarity 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.

NWO is executing the NWA programme on behalf of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.

1.2 Available budget

The total budget for this call for proposals is €1.250.000. The maximum budget per route is €50.000.

1.3 Validity of the call for proposals

Applications can be submitted at any moment and will be assessed on a continuous basis. The final date on which applications can be submitted is the 19th of November, 2020, 14.00.00 CE(S)T
Chapter 2: Aim / Support for NWA route management

2. Aim

NWO finds it important to financially support the 25 routes of the Dutch National Research Agenda in organising their networks. Routes play a role in the organisation of their research area(s). Routes can connect researchers applying for funding from the NWA-programme, engage the whole knowledge chain, bring together relevant partners in consortia, ensure valorisation of research findings, and guard scientific and societal breakthroughs and goals that were formulated for the route. With this call for proposals, NWO also supports the recent policy letter of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, in which the minister asks the NWA programme to support knowledge utilisation and networking.
3 Guidelines for applicants

3.1 Who can apply

Routes
- Only ‘boegbeelden’ or ‘trekkers’ of the 25 routes of the Portfolio for research and innovation of the Dutch National Research Agenda can apply. This list shows all routes, ‘trekkers’ and ‘boegbeelden’. For some routes there are multiple names listed: on the application, only one of them can figure as the applicant.
- There is a maximum of one application per route.

Applicants
On behalf of a route, one person can be the applicant. Applicants need to be:
- Employed at one of the following organisations:
  - Universities based in the Kingdom of the Netherlands;
  - University medical centres;
  - NWO and KNAW institutes;
  - Universities of applied sciences, as meant in article 1.8 of the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act;
  - 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 Centre for NanoLithography (ARCNL);
  - Prinses Máxima Center for pediatric oncology.

If the applicant is affiliated to an organisation not listed above, the organisation must meet the following cumulative criteria:
- it must be located in the Netherlands;
- it must have a public task and carry out research independently;
- it must receive at least 50% public financing;
- it must have a non-profit status, other than for the purpose of further research.

3.2 What can be applied for

The maximum grant amount is €50,000,-

The routes differ in size and structure; hence, they can decide how to use the grant amount. Any type of costs (personal, material, travel, etc.) can be requested. The requested budget can for example be used to organise a workshop to further explore topics or to connect networks. Personnel that support the organisation of the route can also be reimbursed.

Some costs are excluded from this budget:
- Research tasks.
- Costs that have occurred before the submission of the application.

Project costs
Only project-specific costs can be funded. These can be divided in the following categories:
  i. personnel costs;
  ii. material costs.
Chapter 3: Guidelines for applicants / Support for NWA route management

If personal costs are made, than a choice needs to made from the table below regarding the hourly rates (Table 1, based on Handleiding Overheidstarieven 2017). The choice needs to be made based on the actual scale of the employee whose cost are to be funded. In the application, the applicants needs to explain the chosen hourly rate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Hourly rates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>€25</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>€29</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>€109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>€119</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: overview of hourly rates for personal costs.

All funding needs to be in line with European regulations for state aid.

3.3 When can applications be submitted

Applications can be submitted at any moment and will be assessed ongoing upon receipt. The final date on which applications can be submitted is the 19th of November 2020 at 14.00.00 CE(S)T.

3.4 Preparing an application

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

3.5 Conditions on granting

The NWO Grant Rules 2017 and the "Approval of funding for scientific research 2008" apply to all proposals.

NWA-routes

The applicant should remain in good contact with the NWA-team. This means:
- Active participation at meetings, which will be organised by the NWA-team for all ‘boegbeelden’ and ‘trekkers’ to share experiences between routes and to learn from each other.
- Active contact with the relevant NWO/ZonMw contact person about the progress of the NWA-route.

Integrity

In the NWO Grant Rules 2017 it is stated that all research funded NWO must be carried out in accordance with the nationally and internationally accepted standards for scientific conduct as stated in the Netherlands Code of Conduct for Scientific Practice 2012 (VSNU). Further information about the NWO policy on scientific integrity can be found on the website https://www.nwo.nl/en/policies/scientific-integrity-policy
Chapter 3: Guidelines for applicants / Support for NWA route management

Runtime project
The project should start within six months after the granting decision and can have a maximum runtime of one year.

Accountability and completion of the project
The main applicant will be responsible for project reports. For these short projects, NWO will not request interim scientific and financial reports, but only a short final report upon project completion.

3.6 Submitting an application

A proposal can only be submitted to NWO via the online application system ISAAC. Proposals not submitted via ISAAC will not be taken into consideration.

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

When submitting your proposal in ISAAC, you also need to enter information online. Therefore start submitting your proposal at least one day before the deadline of the call. Proposals not submitted via ISAAC will not be taken into consideration.

If you work for an organisation that is not part of the ISAAC database, please send an e-mail to relatiebeheer@nwo.nl. We will add your organisation to the database. As this can take a few days, report the organisation missing at least one week before the submission deadline. For technical questions please contact the ISAAC helpdesk. See Section 5.1.2.
Chapter 4: Assessment procedure / Support for NWA route management

4 Assessment procedure

4.1 Procedure

The NWO Code for Dealing with Personal Interests applies to all persons involved in the assessment and/or decision-making process and involved NWO staff.

Timetable

The applications will be assessed within a maximum of six weeks.

Check on criteria for submission

The first step in the assessment procedure is to determine the eligibility of the application. This is done using the conditions stated in previous paragraphs of this call for proposals. Applications that do not satisfy these conditions will not be taken into consideration.

Assessment

No external advice will be sought for these applications. NWO assesses the application and makes the granting decision. The decision will be communicated to the main applicant.

Qualifications

NWO will award a qualification to all proposals. This qualification will be made known to the applicant together with the decision about whether the application has been awarded funding. Only applications that receive the qualification ‘excellent’, ‘very good’ or ‘good’ will be eligible for funding. For further information about the qualifications, see https://www.nwo.nl/en/funding/funding+process+explained/nwo+qualification+system

4.2 Criteria

Both criteria have equal weight.

I. The application shows how the proposed activities contribute to the development of the route. After the activities have been executed a short report is shared with NWO, which explains what kind of activities have been organised, how these activities contributed to further developments and what the expected impact of these developments will be.

II. The activities funded by the granting amount should enable inclusive collaboration within the route. Activities organised must be open to new parties. The application must clearly state how inclusiveness is promoted.
5 Contact and other information

5.1 Contact

5.1.1 Specific questions
For questions about this call for proposals or about the NWA-routes in general:

Colette Bos
nwa-routes@nwo.nl
070-3494706

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. You will then receive an answer within two working days.
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