



NWO Innovative Incentives Scheme / Talent Programme

Vidi 2019

Call for proposals

Applied and Engineering Sciences
Health Research And Development
Science
Social Sciences And Humanities

2019 1st round



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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

In 2020, NWO will convert the Innovational Research Incentives Scheme to the NWO Talent Programme. The programme covers three grant categories (Vidi, Vici and Vici).

Each category has one submission round per year. Procedures may change from year to year, depending in part on the results of interim evaluations.

Each grant category has a separate call for proposals.

NWO is structured into four domains:

- Science;
- Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH);
- Applied and Engineering Sciences (AES); and
- Health Research and Development (ZonMw).

Please note: The 2019 Vidi round will be conducted in four procedures corresponding to the NWO domains. As from September 2019, cross-domain Vidi applications will be assessed within one of the domains.

1.2 Available budget

The overall budget for the Talent Programme funding in 2019 is 150 million euros.

1.3 Validity of the call for proposals

This call for proposals is valid until the closing date of **3 October 2019 at 14.00** hours (CEST).

This call for proposals and any decisions based on this call are subject to the NWO Grant Rules 2017 ([NWO Grant Rules 2017](#)).

2 Aim

The aim of the NWO Innovational Research Incentives Scheme/ Talent Programme is to promote innovation in academic research and to provide encouragement for individual postdoctoral researchers at various stages of their careers. Providing creative opportunities for adventurous, talented, pioneering researchers to do research of their own choice. With a personal grant, researchers have the opportunity to develop their own, innovative line of research which could be structurally embedded in a research institution. Moreover, the Innovational Research Incentives Scheme/Talent Programme offers Vidi candidates the opportunity to build up or expand their own research group..

2.1 Vidi target group

The Vidi target group consists of excellent researchers with a striking and original talent as well as a considerable fascination for doing challenging and pioneering research. The focus in this respect is on innovative and curiosity-driven research.

In view of the programme's aim, candidates must be clearly capable of independently formulating and realising a line of scientific research. Therefore candidates must already have demonstrated their ability in their discipline. The candidates have carried out several years of postdoctoral research after their PhD and have demonstrated the ability to independently generate and effect innovative ideas.

Researchers working at a foreign institution are also eligible to submit an application. If awarded, the proposed research must be carried out at a Dutch research institution recognised by NWO.

Vidi focuses on the top 10 to 20% researchers of their peer group, irrespective of their nationality or research topic. They are also expected to be able to convince others of the originality and potential of their ideas.

2.2 Promoting female researchers

We explicitly invite female researchers to apply. The representation and advancement of women in academia are unfortunately far less than those of men. NWO and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) are working together with the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), the Association of Universities in the Netherlands (VSNU) and Dutch universities to rectify this situation; the aim is that the percentage of female applicants will ultimately be at least equal to the percentage of female researchers in the target group.

NWO strives to ensure that the success rates for female applicants will be at least equal to those for male researchers on average and in the medium term. In the event that two or more applications are rated equally, preference will be given to the proposal submitted by a female applicant.

2.3 Aspasia

The Aspasia premium scheme is linked to the Vidi and Vici rounds of the Innovational Research Incentives/Talent Programme. Through this scheme premiums of 100,000 euros are made available to university executive boards who promote female Vidi laureates to an associate or professorship within one year of the grant being awarded. Aspasia has also been open to female applicants who were qualified as very good to excellent in the interview phase but who ultimately did not receive a grant. Executive boards receive a premium of 200,000 euros for promoting these applicants. The specific conditions for the

awarding of the premium can be found on the Aspasia website (www.nwo.nl/aspasia). Female laureates and candidates who are eligible for the premium will be informed of this by NWO after the funding allocation.

2.4 Knowledge utilisation

By knowledge utilisation, NWO means the transfer of knowledge generated with the help of NWO funding. This transfer can take place both to other scientific disciplines and to users outside of science (industry/society). NWO asks all researchers applying for funding to provide an explanation regarding the possible knowledge utilisation of their project by answering several questions (e.g. how will knowledge utilisation be implemented and how does the researcher intend to facilitate knowledge utilisation?). This explanation is one of the assessment criteria.

During the assessment, attention is paid to the following *inter alia*:

- a realistic representation of the knowledge utilisation possibilities (or lack thereof);
- the effectiveness of the action plan and the extent to which it is made tangible in relation to knowledge utilisation.

NWO acknowledges that the possibilities for knowledge utilisation differ per discipline and that some research projects have few, if any, opportunities for (direct) knowledge utilisation. In such cases, an applicant should explain why there is little to no potential for knowledge utilisation. The selection committee members will be asked to assess this explanation: if they are convinced that the research project indeed has little to no knowledge utilisation possibilities and that the applicant has satisfactorily explained this, then this should not negatively influence the overall assessment score.

More information on the NWO policy on knowledge utilisation can be found at www.nwo.nl/knowledge-utilisation.

3 Guidelines for applicants

3.1 Who can apply

Applications can be submitted by candidates who have obtained their PhD, irrespective of whether they hold tenured positions and of whether they come from the Netherlands or abroad. The appointment will be at one of the host research institutions. NWO will ask candidates for an '[embedding guarantee](#)'. (see 3.5.1).

3.1.1 Career deadline

Vidi applicants must have obtained their doctorate within the last eight years. The 2019 Vidi round is open to researchers who meet this criterion on 1 October 2019. A researcher who has not yet been awarded a doctorate can apply.

3.1.2 Extension clause

The maximum career deadline can be extended by NWO if the candidate has taken extended sick, parental, maternity or care leave within the relevant period. The maximum extension that may be granted to any particular applicant is five years.

Parents can obtain an extension if they are caring for a child. An extension on the grounds of childcare should be supported by the signed parent-declaration form ([parent-declaration](#)), in which the applicant declares that the child or children are part of his or her household.

Further information about extensions is provided in the Frequently Asked Questions ([FAQ](#)) section [online](#). If you wish to apply for an extension, please contact NWO before submitting your application (see Section 5.1).

3.1.3 Compensation scheme Parental leave

Applicants in this funding round can make use of the [NWO Compensation scheme Parental leave](#). Information on this subject is available on the [NWO website](#). If you would like to make use of the scheme, please submit an e-mail request to the relevant programme secretary for your round and/or panel within the Domain you are applying for.

3.1.4 Additional conditions

The following additional conditions apply to the assessment of applications:

a. Applications must be submitted by individual researchers (not by pairs or groups of researchers or by research teams).

b. A candidate may:

- submit a maximum of one application in the Vidi 2019 round;
- enter the application process for the NWO Talent Programme for no more than one type of grant at a time;
- submit a Vidi application no more than twice.
- If an application that has been admitted to the selection process is withdrawn by the applicant, this submission still counts towards the maximum number of submissions per applicant.

- c. Researchers who have previously received a particular type of grant under the Talent Programme may not apply again for the same kind of grant.
- d. A researcher in receipt of a current award under the Innovational Research Incentives Scheme may submit an application for a following type of grant no more than 24 months before the planned end date of the current grant.

3.1.5 Institutions

Approved host institutions are those universities within the Kingdom of the Netherlands whose terms of reference include the conducting of research, the KNAW and NWO institutes, and a number of other institutions. The list of institutions is contained in section 5.2.

3.2 What can be applied for

The maximum amount for a Vidi project is 800,000 euros for a period of five years. If the proposed research is of shorter duration (in months), the maximum amount will be reduced accordingly.

The budget estimate submitted with the application must be based on eligible direct staff costs and direct non-staff costs. The calculation of the staff costs must be based on actual gross salaries and associated costs as specified in the current Agreement for Funding Scientific Research (<http://www.nwo.nl/salary-tables>), with the exception of indexation and end-of-project payments. The amount of these payments for the Vidi 2019 round will be based on the standard rates in the Agreement.

Appointment of additional scientific personnel is eligible for subsidy for Vidi recipients. Thus, it is permitted to list salary costs for additional scientific personnel in the budget submitted with the Vidi application. Salary costs for additional non-scientific support staff may also be listed in the budget. The actual appointment of additional non-scientific support staff requires NWO's approval.

Applicants who will devote no more than 25 percent of their contracted working hours to non-research activities (e.g. teaching, administration, management) and the other 75 percent to research for their Vidi project may charge their entire salary to the project budget. If the applicant is to devote more than 25 percent of his/her contracted working time to other activities, only that proportion of working time devoted to the Vidi project may be charged to the project budget.

The term "direct non-staff costs" means general non-staff costs plus the costs of knowledge transfer, knowledge utilisation and internationalisation. Infrastructure costs (accommodation and office automation) and other overheads are not eligible for funding.

The proposed budget will be assessed by NWO. If it exceeds the maximum amount of the grant, the application must be accompanied by a letter from the prospective host institution or a third party (co-funder) guaranteeing to cover the excess costs requested from NWO. This guarantee must be signed by the dean/manager of the institution or by a person with authority to sign on behalf of the body issuing the guarantee.

For further information and explanation of grant-eligible costs, see the document "guidelines for design of expenditures financial accounting reports" click [here](#).

3.3 When can applications be submitted

The deadline for the submission of proposals is **October 3, 2019**

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

3.4 Preparing the application and the embedding guarantee

The forms for the Vidi grant application and the embedding guarantee for the call of 2019 will be available on the programme website two months before the submission deadline.

- Download the application and embedding guarantee forms from the electronic application system ISAAC or from NWO's website (on the grant page for this programme).
- Complete the application form (see 3.4a)
- After the discussion with the host institution complete the embedding guarantee form with the signature of the dean and make a scan of the document.
- Save the forms as a pdf files and upload them separately in ISAAC (www.isaac.nwo.nl) or in MijnZonMw (<https://mijn.zonmw.nl>) for the Medical Sciences (ZonMw).

Vidi grant applications must be written in English and must include:

- the candidate's curriculum vitae and a list of publications;
- an outline of the research proposal including a motivation for the choice of the institution (max. 4,000 words, not including references);
- a completed knowledge utilisation section (max. 1,000 words);
- a budget estimate.

The Vidi embedding guarantee must be completed and signed by the dean of the institution in which the research will be conducted (see 3.5.1.) and must be uploaded via ISAAC at the same time as the application

3.5 Specific conditions on granting

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

Open Access

NWO is part of Coalition S, an international consortium of research funders that announced the definitive version of a plan ("Plan S") in May 2019, for accelerating the transition to Open Access. The core of the plan is that all publications resulting from funding provided by these research funders must be published in compliant Open Access journals or platforms. (See: <https://www.coalition-s.org/>) This is consistent with existing NWO policies concerning 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). NWO does not accept embargo periods. There are several ways for researchers to publish Open Access. A detailed explanation can be found at www.nwo.nl/openscience-en.

Please note: Costs for Open Access publications can be included in your project budget under "Material".

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 NWO data management protocol. This protocol consists of two steps:

1. Data management section

The data management section is part of the research proposal. Researchers should answer four questions about data management within their intended research project. Therefore, before the research starts, the researcher will be asked to think about how the data collected must be ordered and 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 four 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 on the data management protocol of NWO can be found at www.nwo.nl/datamanagement-en.

Further information on the core criteria on which the format for data management plans is based can be found in the [Practical Guide to the International Alignment of Research Data Management](#) published by Science Europe.

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). NWO assumes that researchers will take all necessary actions with respect to the Nagoya Protocol.

Allocation of IP rights

The following applies with respect to making agreements about intellectual property rights and publication (IP&P): for projects awarded funding by NWO SSH, ZonMw and NWO Science, the project leader is responsible for the allocation of IP rights to the project results.

For Vidi applications funded by the domain AES, NWO is responsible for allocating the IP rights to the project results. After the proposal has been awarded, the NWO domain AES will contact the user/users to make agreements about the allocation of IP rights and about publication, with due consideration for the "Guidelines TTW User Committee".

The NWO conditions with respect to IP rights and the publication procedure are stated in Chapter 4 of the NWO Grant Rules 2017.

User committees

After funding has been awarded, for projects for which project management is handled by the NWO domain AES, NWO will appoint a user committee (as described in Article 3.3.2a of the NWO Grant Rules 2017) in consultation with the project leader, to facilitate the actual and effective transfer of knowledge from the research to the users. The user committee's main task is to advise the project leader about the direction the research should take to maximise the application of the research results. How the user committee works and its tasks are stated in the "[Guidelines TTW/AES User Committee](#)". Membership of the user committee is at the invitation of NWO domain AES. By agreeing to participate, the members commit themselves to the rules stated in the "[Guidelines TTW User Committee](#)". Costs related to participation in user committees cannot be part of the budget.

3.5.1 Embedding guarantee

NWO asks Vidi candidates for an "embedding guarantee". This means that researchers can only submit applications for Vidi funding with the support of the institution where they intend to conduct their research.

The embedding guarantee is an expression of the agreements made between the Vidi candidate and the institution about career prospects. The hosting institution states that a Vidi candidate will be offered either a tenure track appointment or a permanent appointment if the Vidi proposal is awarded. And if the tenure track ends during the Vidi research, a permanent contract will be offered. The embedding guarantee should be laid down in the relevant Vidi embedding guarantee form and must be signed by the dean of the institution. This form is available on the [NWO website](#).

Choice of institution

Candidates are free to choose an approved institution (as listed in Section 5.2) in which they plan to conduct their research, but the embedding within the institution should be arranged by signing the embedding guarantee before submitting the application.

In consultation with the host institution, part of the research may be conducted outside the Netherlands. The applicant's plans for achieving institutional integration may be a subject of discussion during the assessment.

Coordination

In all cases and before submission of the Vidi application, the embedding of the proposed research must be coordinated in a discussion between the candidate and the intended supervisor at the hosting institution. The information in the Vidi embedding guarantee form will play no role in the selection process.

Appointment

The appointment at the host institution and arrangements for integration within it must always be completed before any grant payment is made by NWO.

3.5.2 Ethical aspects

Any research proposal that raises ethical issues must be carefully considered in advance. Certain research projects require a statement of approval from a recognised ethical review committee, medical ethics review committee (MREC) or the central animal experiments committee (CCD). Such committees may advise researchers on matters such as the use and handling of patients, subjects and laboratory animals, possible risks of disclosure of data, use of human tissue, risks to the environment or cultural heritage, and possible conflicts of interest. Their recommendations may or may not be binding. In addition to ethical review by an ethics committee, some research proposals require a licence under the Population Screening Act (WBO).

More information on medical ethics review committees is available from the Central Committee on Research Involving Human Subjects (CCMO), while the Dutch Association of Animal Experiment Committees (NVDEC) can provide information on animal experiments committees, and the Health Council of the Netherlands can advise on the WBO.

Vidi applicants are responsible for determining whether their research proposals raise possible ethical issues. If so, they are also responsible for obtaining any necessary statement of approval from the appropriate ethics review committee and/or licence under the Population Screening Act.

NWO subscribes to the Dutch Freedom of Information on Animal Experiments Code (Code Openheid Dierproeven) and the Biosecurity Code. Vidi applicants must subscribe to and comply with the prevailing codes.

Vidi projects must commence within six months of the grant award. Research projects requiring a statement of approval and/or licence under the Population Screening Act may not start until NWO has received a copy of the relevant statement and/or licence. NWO expects candidates to pay attention to the timetable for the Vidi selection procedure and take account of the time required by ethics review committees to conduct project assessments or for the Population Screening Act licence application procedure to run its course. Where an application raises complex ethical issues, NWO reserves the right to seek external advice.

3.6 Submitting an application

Applications can only be submitted via the online application system ISAAC. Applications not submitted via ISAAC will not be considered. Applications to the Medical Sciences Division can only be submitted via the MijnZonMw application system, which can be accessed via the website of the Netherlands Organisation for Health Research & Development, ZonMw (<https://mijn.zonmw.nl>).

Applicants must submit their application via their personal ISAAC/MijnZonMw account. If the applicant does not yet have an ISAAC/MijnZonMw account, it should be created well in advance of the application deadline, to ensure that any registration problems can be resolved in time. If the applicant already has an NWO account, then he/she does not need to create a new account to submit an application.

When submitting your application to ISAAC/MijnZonMw you will need to enter additional details online. You should therefore start submitting your application at least a few days before the deadline of this call for proposals. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be taken into consideration.

For technical questions, please contact the ISAAC/MijnZonMw helpdesk (see Section 5.1.2).

Choice of NWO domain

NWO has four domains: Science, Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), Applied and Engineering Sciences (AES), and Health Research and Development (ZonMw).

Vidi candidates should submit their applications to only one domain. As from September 2019, all Vidi applications will be assessed within one of the domains.

Please note: NWO recommends that applicants consider in good time which domain is best suited to their application. If you are not sure which domain is best suited to your application, we urge you to contact NWO. NWO may be able to offer advice on this matter; the ultimate decision is up to the applicant. Please find the contact information [here](#).

If, after submission of the application, the secretariat of the chosen NWO domain is of the opinion that the application would be better assessed by a different assessment committee, NWO will contact the applicant

to discuss the possibility of transferring the application to a different NWO domain.

Annexes

NWO asks Vidi candidates for an “embedding guarantee”. The Vidi embedding guarantee form is available [online](#).

The embedding guarantee form should be uploaded as a separate PDF document via ISAAC/MijnZonMw upon submission for the deadline. The embedding form will not be sent to referees or committee members and will not be taken into consideration when assessing the applications.

In the event of a contribution from the host institution and/or a third party, the application must be accompanied by a co-funding declaration from the contributing party. Co-funding declarations must explicitly state the amount contributed by the third party. They are unconditional and do not contain termination clauses. In the case of NWO Science, SSH and ZonMw, co-funding declarations will not be sent to referees or committee members and will not be assessed. In the case of AES, however, co-funding declarations pledging in-cash and/or in-kind contributions will be sent to referees and committee members. **Please note:** the domain-specific form should be used for co-funding declarations. This can be found on the funding page for the domain in question.

No additional annexes may be added other than those listed above. Publications or letters of recommendation may not be submitted with your application.

4 Assessment procedure

4.1 Procedure application

The first step in the assessment procedure is to determine the admissibility of application. This is done using the conditions stated in Chapter 3 of this call for proposals.

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

The data management section in the application is not evaluated and hence is not considered in the decision on whether or not to award funding. However, both the referees and the committee can issue advice relating to the data management section. After a proposal has been awarded funding, the applicant should elaborate the data management section into a data management plan. Applicants can make use of the advice from the referees and committee, if available, when they write the data management plan. The project can start as soon as the data management plan has been approved by NWO.

Vidi applications are assessed in a national competition. The assessment of Vidi applications takes place within the four NWO domains. This means that applications from different disciplines will be compared within each domain in a competitive procedure. The domains use broad-based committees of academics to advise on the merits and prioritisation of the applications. This should be taken into account when writing the application. The application must also be accessible to committee members from other scientific disciplines within the domain. Where domains use multiple assessment panels, the (disciplinary) composition of these panels is explained in more detail on the domain page in question.

NWO gives all Vidi proposals a qualification. The applicant is informed of this qualification when the decision about whether or not to award funding is announced.

For further information about the qualifications, see: <http://www.nwo.nl/qualifications>.

4.1.1 Eligibility

NWO screens applications to ensure that they comply with the formal requirements of the scheme (see Chapter 3). Only those proposals that meet the conditions are eligible and will be taken into consideration by NWO.

4.1.2 Pre-selection

Pre-selection only takes place if the number of applications received by a particular division is at least four times the number of grants available. Otherwise, all applications are sent to external referees without pre-selection. Pre-selection is used because otherwise the number of referees to be consulted becomes too large and the chance of success for many candidates very small.

Pre-selection is based on the three Vidi selection criteria for proposals (see Section 4.2). In the event of pre-selection, the committee will assess all applications globally and comparatively and rate them in terms of their chance of success, without making use of external referees. Candidates whose applications are judged least likely to be awarded grants will be notified that the committee does not intend to select their applications for further consideration. If candidates have legitimate grounds to object to the committee's decision, they may send a reasoned response to the domain handling the application. On the basis of this response, the committee may change its decision and select the application for further processing after all. Otherwise, a formal decision letter rejecting the application will be sent to the applicant.

4.1.3 Hearing and rebuttal

All proposals (or, if applicable, those successful in the pre-selection round) are submitted to external referees for their consideration. Candidates will then be given the opportunity to respond to the anonymised referee reports.

It is possible to indicate up to three non-referees. Candidates can submit the names of non-referees via ISAAC when they submit their application. Even if ISAAC offers room for more non-referees, candidates may not indicate more than three names. Candidates applying to ZonMw may submit the names of up to three non-referees by sending an email to (Vidi@zonmw.nl). NWO will not approach these non-referees to assess the application as external referees.

4.1.4 Interview (selection)

The proposals, referees' reports and rebuttals are presented to the relevant assessment committee. The assessment committee selects a number of candidates for an interview. The selection committee makes its own consideration based on the referees' reports received and the candidates' responses to them. The highest-ranked candidates are then invited for an interview.

During the interview, the assessment committee has an opportunity to ask questions, including new ones not yet raised by the referees. The candidate can respond to these during the interview discussion with the committee. This again provides an opportunity for a hearing and rebuttal. The interview is an important part of the assessment and can result in a review of the assessment and the proposal's score to date.

4.1.5 Decision-making

After the interviews, the assessment committee formulates its funding recommendation and submits it to the relevant domain board, which then takes its decision. The final number of grants to be awarded to applications with a minimum qualification of "very good" depends on the funds available in the round. Once the relevant domain board has taken its decision, the result is announced.

4.1.6 Arrangements and reporting

Once the relevant domain board has announced its decisions, arrangements are made for each award. Successful candidates are awarded contracts of employment with the host institutions of their choice and arrangements are made for final reporting and for any necessary supervision by the domain concerned (see also Section 3.5.1). Vidi projects must always start within six months of the grant being awarded. The projects awarded funding will be managed by one of the NWO domains.

4.1.7 Indicative timetable

NWO aims to complete the entire selection procedure for the 2019 Vidi round within eight months. The indicative timetable for the 2020 Vidi round (the exact timetable varies according to the domain) is:

Applications

3 October 2019 by 14:00 CEST **Deadline for submission of Vidi proposals via the Isaac system/MijnZonMw**

Through to the end of February 2020 Consulting of referees and candidates' rebuttals

March/April 2020 Interviews

May 2020 Decisions by NWO domain boards

From May 2020 NWO notifies applicants of decisions

4.1.8 Adjustments to the procedure

It is possible that NWO may deem it necessary to make adjustments to the procedure during the current round. Any adjustments to the 2019 Vidi procedure will be published on the NWO website. Please check the website regularly for accurate information.

4.2 Criteria for the proposal

All proposals will be assessed against the following criteria:

1. quality, innovative character and academic impact of the proposed research (see Section 4.2.1) (40%);
2. knowledge utilisation (see Section 4.2.2) (20%);
3. quality of the researcher (see Section 4.2.3) (40%).

4.2.1 Quality, innovative character and academic impact of the proposed research

- Challenging content;
- originality of the topic;
- innovative scientific elements;
- aimed at building up a new line of research;
- potential to make an important contribution to the advancement of science;
- effectiveness of proposed methodology;
- international importance of the proposed research area.

4.2.2 Knowledge utilisation

Potential

- Contribution to society and/or other academic areas;
- disciplines and organisations that might benefit from the results.

Implementation

- Action plan to allow the outcomes of the research project to benefit the potential knowledge users;
- if and how the potential knowledge users will be involved;
- (concrete) outcomes for society and/or other academic disciplines;
- the period over which knowledge utilisation is expected to occur.

The assessment committee assesses:

- whether the applicant has given a realistic description of the potential for knowledge utilisation;
- in case there is indeed potential for knowledge utilisation: to what extent the applicant has presented a concrete and convincing plan for the implementation of the available potential.
- If there is no potential for knowledge utilisation: the applicant's arguments as to why the proposed research does not lend itself to knowledge utilisation.

4.2.3 Quality of the researcher

- In terms of profile fit in the target group;
- in the top 10 to 20% of his/her international peer group;
- academic excellence as demonstrated by e.g. the PhD thesis, publications and/or other scientific achievements;
- inspiring enthusiasm for research and/or technology;
- persuasiveness;
- demonstrably capable of generating innovative ideas and independently developing these successfully;
- has both a good national and international position;
- capable of leading and supervising other researchers and staff.

5 Contact details and other information

5.1 Contact

5.1.1 Specific questions

The latest information about the NWO Innovational Research Incentives Scheme/ Talent Programme can be found on (www.nwo.nl/vi). A document with answers to frequently asked questions can also be found under the division specific funding instrument. Candidates are advised to check the website before contacting NWO. Questions about the NWO Talent Programme can be directed towards the central coordinator of this grant programme at NWO or to the coordinator of the relevant NWO domain. Contact details can be found at www.nwo.nl/vi/contact.

Questions about current Talent Programme projects should be posed to the coordinator of the NWO domain or the unit for project management handling the project concerned. The contact details for the project management unit are mentioned in the letter received on the grant decision (for further contact details of the NWO domains please see: www.nwo.nl/vi/contact).

Central coordinator Talent Programme

Website: www.nwo.nl/vi (information on Talent Programme funding) or:
www.nwo.nl/vi-programma (general information on the Talent Programme)

E-mail: vi@nwo.nl

Coordinator telephone number: +31 70 344 0707

Addresses

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Vidi@zonmw.nl

For specific questions about NWO Innovational Incentives Scheme / Talent Programme and this call for proposals please contact:

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 (see <https://www.isaac.nwo.nl/nl/help>) 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 20 346 7179. You can also submit your question by email to isaac.helpdesk@nwo.nl. You will receive an answer within two working days.

Technical questions about the use of the MijnZonMw application system can be addressed to the helpdesk during normal office hours (tel: +31 70 349 5178) or by email: servicedesk@zonmw.nl.

5.2 List of institutions

A list of approved knowledge institutions is given below. Applicants are encouraged to contact the institution of their choice in good time, in order to obtain the compulsory embedding guarantee.

5.2.1 Universities

Delft University of Technology
 Eindhoven University of Technology
 Erasmus University Rotterdam
 Leiden University
 Maastricht University
 Open University of the Netherlands
 Protestant Theological University
 Radboud University Nijmegen
 Theological University of Apeldoorn
 Theological University of Kampen
 Tilburg University
 University of Humanistic Studies
 University of Amsterdam
 University of Aruba
 University of Curacao
 University of Groningen
 University of Twente
 Utrecht University
 VU Amsterdam
 Wageningen University and Research Centre

5.2.2 KNAW institutes

Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW)

5.2.3 NWO institutes (NWO-I)

AMOLF - Physics of functional complex matter
 ARCNL - Advanced Research Center for Nanolithography
 ASTRON - Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy
 CWI - National research institute for mathematics and computer science
 DIFFER - Dutch Institute for Fundamental Energy Research

Nikhef - Institute for Subatomic Physics Nikhef

NIOZ - Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research

NSCR - Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement

SRON - Netherlands Institute for Space Research

5.2.4 Other

Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics

NCB Naturalis

Netherlands Cancer Institute

Princess Máxima Center for Paediatric Oncology

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