Call for proposals

Dutch National Research Agenda
Thematic programme

Future directions
in Dutch archaeological research

The Hague, March 2019
Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research
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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Our heritage is important on account of its historical value, its value to our living environment and its connecting value: heritage is the carrier of our past, lends recognition and identity, and connects people from different backgrounds. As a result, heritage has great societal relevance. Based on this outlook, the Dutch government intends to protect our heritage and keep it accessible.\(^1\) The emphasis here is on preservation and repurposing, the living environment and the connecting power of heritage. Archaeology has an important role to play in this because it makes the social and culture-historical past visible and encompasses the vast majority of human history.

In the last 30 to 40 years, Dutch archaeology has undergone radical changes in scale, funding, responsibilities, organisation, methods and techniques, structure and staffing. Archaeology’s societal aims and its relationship with the broader public have also changed. To ensure that archaeology can continue to contribute in this changing environment, targeted investments are needed, for example to encourage the use of innovative methods and techniques for telling new stories.

This call for proposals on the theme of archaeology stems from the Ministry’s objectives (set out in the “Erfgoed telt” policy brief) and the Dutch National Research Agenda. The programme is geared to potential societal and scientific breakthroughs. Interdisciplinary cooperation, knowledge transfer, knowledge utilisation and application of results throughout the duration of the research is considered of vital importance for this programme.

The Dutch National Research Agenda (NWA)

The Dutch National Research Agenda (NWA) describes broad, challenging topics that require a national approach and can be used by Dutch research to strengthen society and the knowledge economy. The NWA was created through 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 umbrella of the Knowledge Coalition, compiled the resulting questions into 140 groups, from which 25 routes were formulated.

The NWA programme seeks above all to build bridges: between diverse scientific fields, between different forms of research (fundamental, applied, practical) and between different national and international agendas. Far-reaching multidisciplinarity and interdisciplinarity, an approach spanning the entire knowledge chain and cooperation with societal partners including Ministries, companies and NGOs are therefore crucial features of the consortia involved in NWA projects and programmes.

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\(^1\) Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (22.06.2018). Policy brief “Erfgoed Telt: naar een toekomstbestendig erfgoedbeleid” (Heritage counts: a future-proof heritage policy), The Hague.
The overarching ambition of the NWA programme is to make a positive, structural contribution to the 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 that we can address scientific and societal challenges together.

The call for proposals Future directions in Dutch archaeological research fits in with the NWA Route "Living History", where heritage is central. The call follows on from the game changer "Sustainability and heritage", which aims for a forward-looking approach to tangible and intangible relics of the past.

1.2 Available budget

The total budget for the programme Future directions in Dutch archaeological research is 2,900,000 euros. A (small) round is expected to take place in 2021, in which applications can be submitted for finds of national or international importance. The sum of 200,000 euros will be set aside for this purpose. Another 200,000 euros of the budget will be reserved for programme activities, including contributions to the sustainability of the research infrastructure, meetings and knowledge transfer/valorisation. The total budget for research proposals under this call for proposals is therefore 2,500,000 euros.

1.3 Submission deadlines

The compulsory pre-proposals should be received by NWO by 12 September 2019, 14:00 CE(S)T.

The full proposals should be received by NWO by 9 January 2019, 14:00 CE(S)T.
2 Aim

2.1 Aim of the programme

The aim of the programme *Future directions in Dutch archaeological research* is to inspire research that uses innovative methods and techniques to answer central questions in archaeology. The research should involve the entire knowledge chain and contribute to the development of a sustainable research infrastructure. Knowledge transfer/valorisation to a wider audience is an important part of the programme and will be carried out in cooperation with societal stakeholders (regional authorities, museums). In doing so, this programme will lead to both scientific and societal breakthroughs.

Innovation, technology, computerisation and robotisation will be of crucial importance for Dutch archaeology in the coming years. The Dutch government is therefore seeking to modernise the field in the broadest sense, to ensure that archaeology continues to make a useful and relevant contribution to society in the future. The primary aim is to expand and improve the knowledge and use of innovative methods and techniques in archaeology.

The application of new and interdisciplinary methods and techniques does not automatically provide a clear answer to research questions; integration of epistemological perspectives, historical and socio-scientific theories and models is essential. Deepening the exchange of knowledge between academic and non-academic archaeology in the formation and application of social theory and implementation in practice is of vital importance.

Together with NWO, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) has developed the research programme *Future directions in Dutch archaeological research*. The aim is to achieve i) a structural impact on archaeology in the broadest sense in the Netherlands, and ii) sustainable cooperation and knowledge sharing between private and public parties.

This call for proposals invites consortia to submit research proposals which, in addition to their specific objectives, also demonstrate the added value of the consortium for the research. This concerns the way in which cooperation both within the knowledge chain and between the knowledge chain and social stakeholders from the public and semi-public sectors and industry will be assured. A key ambition of the programme is to encourage partnerships leading to structural exchange of knowledge in the form of training, education and scientific knowledge sharing, as well as shared use of research facilities such as laboratories and equipment. In this way, the programme will contribute to a sustainable research infrastructure. Research proposals will be submitted by consortia comprising both representatives of organisations from the public knowledge chain and private parties.
Each consortium will be required to state how society in the broadest sense will be involved in the design and implementation of the proposed research project. To further increase the impact of the proposed research, the consortium should also indicate how knowledge transfer from the consortium to end users will be promoted and how this can be incorporated throughout the duration of the research.

The operational objectives of the programme are as follows:

1. Creating logistical and financial opportunities to use new and conventional methods and techniques.
2. Strengthening cooperation between public and private archaeological research.
3. Contributing to a sustainable research infrastructure (see Section 2.2).
4. Promoting and achieving new insights, knowledge exchange and expertise by means of cooperation and innovation across the entire knowledge chain.
5. Promoting the transfer of research results to the public through cooperation with parties involved in presenting archaeology to the public, such as national and regional museums.
6. The possibility of conducting in-depth scientific research (in the research projects) into Dutch archaeological finds of national or international importance.

### 2.2 Conceptual framework

Increasing the application of new and existing methods and techniques in Dutch archaeology will help to answer questions that have traditionally been prominent in archaeology. These are basic questions, such as where to find archaeological remains and how to date them, or about the social and cultural structures and characteristics of people in the past. Innovative methods and techniques are vital in order to research the natural environment in which people used to live, their development, origins and health, and the emergence, distribution and use of food crops, domestic animals and livestock, the extraction and processing of raw materials, the production of consumer goods, and social and cultural practices from the past.

In particular, methods and techniques from the natural sciences and digital humanities are currently underused (e.g. data mining and Big Data, 3D modelling for analysis and visualisation, chemical analyses, isotope and aDNA studies, archaeobotany, archaeozoology, osteoarcheology, geophysical methods, etc.). This programme therefore provides funding for innovative multidisciplinary research.

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2 “Private archaeology” means private parties (companies) carrying out archaeological research for profit. “Public archaeology” comprises knowledge institutions (Dutch universities and universities of applied sciences), regional authorities (e.g. municipalities) and museums.

3 The next stage of the programme (expected in 2021) will provide a further opportunity to submit proposals for research into archaeological finds of national or international importance.
using methods and techniques from the humanities, social and natural sciences to answer archaeological questions.

This programme will also focus on archaeological specialisations that are at risk of disappearing, and on interdisciplinary and international cooperation to answer archaeological research questions. Alongside and in combination with the use of innovative methods and techniques, an intensification of conventional research (e.g. ceramic type chronologies) is also necessary.

Finally, this programme will offer the opportunity to carry out in-depth scientific research into recent archaeological finds in the Netherlands of national or international importance.

Thematic embedding
The “National Research Agenda for Archaeology 2.0” (NOaA 2.0) forms the conceptual framework for this programme. If a proposal focuses on a subject that is not part of the NOaA 2.0, the proposal must substantiate the relevance of the research to the objectives of the call. Examples of research themes are given in the boxes in this call document. Other examples are:

- the opportunistic integration of the use of food crops and domestic animals into the broad spectrum economy of hunters and gatherers in the Dutch delta;
- the long-distance movement of individuals and groups in the Neolithic period and Bronze Age;
- the development of humans as a geological factor in the late Iron Age and Roman times;
- the drastic redistribution of the population in the third to seventh centuries;
- the origins and composition of village and city communities in the medieval and early modern Netherlands;
- the Dutch role in the development of shipping, trade and economics (silver trade, smuggling, production areas, semi-finished products, etc.) between different nations and parts of the world through research into Dutch shipwrecks.

Cooperation across the knowledge chain
The programme aims to encourage cooperation both within the knowledge chain and between the knowledge chain and societal partners. The research under this programme will be carried out in consortia consisting of researchers (from the humanities, natural and social sciences), private parties (specifically archaeological companies and agencies), and societal stakeholders such as national and regional authorities and museums. In each consortium, the structure and implementation of the research will be designed to involve society at every stage of the research. There will be a strong focus on transferring the consortium’s research results to end users, such as societal stakeholders and companies.

International cooperation

Example of a research theme:
A medieval international market town. Dorestad, located near the modern-day town of Wijk bij Duurstede, was one of the most important international market towns in North-Western Europe during the early Middle Ages. Dorestad enjoyed an exceptional position thanks to its long-distance and regional trading and production, and its role in exchanges between the Christian Franks and the non-Christian northern areas. The information we have about the people buried in Dorestad also hints at the international character of the market town. By using innovative methods and techniques and by studying the skeletons and burial practices in Dorestad, we will gain a better understanding of the nature of social and cultural exchanges at this successful market town.
For the vast majority of human history, the Netherlands did not have the geopolitical borders it has today. This is evident from cross-border social and cultural phenomena such as Neolithisation, migration and mobility of population groups, or shared burial practices in prehistoric North-Western Europe. To properly understand these phenomena and our shared past, cooperation with researchers outside the Netherlands is appropriate for a number of research themes. International cooperation also gives Dutch archaeological researchers the opportunity to learn from their foreign colleagues’ experience of innovative methods and techniques and to use equipment that is only available abroad. In addition, this cooperation will contribute to the international positioning of Dutch archaeology. For the opportunities in this call, see Section 3.2.5 “Internationalisation”.

**Finds of national or international importance**

Within the framework of this programme, it is possible to carry out in-depth scientific research into Dutch finds of national or international interest. The application should state the reasons why the find in question is of national or international importance. The proposed research should also fit in with the National Research Agenda for Archaeology (NOaA 2.0).

If the proposed project involves research into a find of national or international importance, the research should not relate to the carrying out or reporting of the basic research into the find. The basic research should be complete and a basic report should be available. The basic research should also have been carried out in accordance with the standard requirements applying at the time (Kwaliteitsnorm Nederlandse Archeologie, Dutch archaeological quality standards).

**Knowledge utilisation**

To further increase the impact of the proposed research, the consortium should also indicate how knowledge transfer from the consortium to end users (such as municipalities, companies, societal stakeholders and the public) will be promoted. As a result of this design, the programme will be a connecting factor between public and private parties, and also between heritage and a wider audience.

The aim is to promote the involvement of society in the broad sense in the design and implementation of the proposed research project, and to generate new and appealing stories about our past. To disseminate the new information and knowledge, there should be cooperation with parties involved in presenting archaeology to the public, such as national and regional museums. This will help to flesh out the connecting role of heritage for a broad and diverse audience.

Activities aimed at knowledge utilisation will take place at both project and programme level. The results of the programme will be made accessible to the entire knowledge chain through a digital platform such as www.archeologieinnederland.nl.

**Sustainable research infrastructure**

The programme Future directions in Dutch archaeological research encourages cooperation across the knowledge chain by means of innovative scientific research carried out in consortia. The Netherlands has a variety of high-quality research facilities and laboratories that are important for innovation in archaeology. The programme aims to help these facilities and laboratories to form sustainable networks, by improving the connections between them and encouraging widespread awareness and use of these facilities and laboratories. The aim is to encourage partnerships that guarantee affordable innovation in archaeological methods and techniques, increase the accessibility of these facilities across the knowledge chain and allow the structural exchange of data. Consortia should take the lead in building these sustainable partnerships. The digital platform containing the results of the programme can be used as a knowledge platform serving as a sustainable research infrastructure.
Programme committee
A programme committee will be set up shortly after the start of the research projects. The committee will consist of the project leaders and representatives of the programme sponsor (OCW/RCE). The tasks of the programme committee are:
- to bring together the partnerships, compile and synthesise the results and place them on a platform;
- to take the lead in contributing to making the infrastructure more sustainable;
- to draw up best practices and recommendations.
NWO will support the programme committee by organising meetings at the start and end of the programme.
3 Guidelines for applicants

3.1 Who can apply

Applications should be submitted by consortia.
Four categories of participants are differentiated within a consortium:
1. Main applicant (also the official secretary)
2. Co-applicant(s)
3. A certified archaeological company or an archaeological research and/or advice bureau (hereafter archaeological company/companies) established in the Netherlands
4. Other public and/or private cooperation partner(s)

Consortia are formed by researchers from knowledge institutions, private parties (specifically archaeological companies) and societal stakeholders such as national or regional authorities and museums. Each consortium must consist of at least one knowledge institution, at least one archaeological company, and at least one societal stakeholder. For each participant in the consortium, the role and contribution to the proposed project should be defined in the application.

Upon submitting the pre-proposal, at least one knowledge institution, one archaeological company, and one societal stakeholder that will take part in the consortium should be known.

Only the institutions of the main applicant and co-applicants can be beneficiaries of the NWO funding.

In this round, a researcher may act as a main applicant in a maximum of one application, and as a co-applicant in a maximum of one application.

3.1.1 Main applicant

The main applicant (also the official secretary) submits the application 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 organisations or knowledge institutions can act as a main applicant:
- Universities located in the Kingdom of the Netherlands;
- KNAW and NWO institutes;
- Universities of applied sciences (hogescholen), as described in Article 1.8 of the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek, WHW);
- TO2 institutes4;
- the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics in Nijmegen;
- the DUBBLE Beamline at the ESRF in Grenoble;
- NCB Naturalis;
- Advanced Research Center for NanoLithography (ARCNL).

The main applicant should also meet the following requirements:
- The main applicant holds a PhD;

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4 The members of the TO2 Federation are Deltares, ECN, Marin, NLR, TNO and WUR/DLO. See also http://www.to2-federatie.nl (website in Dutch).
The main applicant has an appointment for at least the duration of the application process and the proposed research project.

Researchers with a zero-hours appointment at one of the above-mentioned organisations are excluded as applicants.

An exception to the required duration of the employment contract can be made for main applicants with a tenure-track appointment.\(^5\)

### 3.1.2 Co-applicant(s)

A co-applicant participates in the consortium and receives funding via the main applicant. A co-applicant may be:

- A researcher from an organisation or knowledge institution listed in Section 3.1.1.
- A researcher from (an organisation that falls under) one of the following:
  - Municipalities
  - Provinces
  - Other regional authorities

Only one division or organisation may participate per municipality.

- A person working for an organisation that meets these conditions:
  - is located in the Netherlands;
  - has a public task and carries out research independently;
  - there is no profit motive other than for the purpose of further research.

The co-applicant has an appointment for at least the duration of the application process and the proposed research project.

Researchers with a zero-hours appointment at one of the above-mentioned organisations are excluded as applicants.

An exception to the required duration of the employment contract can be made for main applicants with a tenure-track appointment.\(^6\)

### 3.1.3 Archaeological company/companies

Archaeological companies cannot act as applicants. They are involved in the research by the main applicant via the Material budget module (3.2.2), option "Work by third parties". The use of this module is therefore mandatory. A maximum of € 200,000 per project can be requested for this module option. The maximum of € 200,000 per archaeological company is available on the condition that the relevant archaeological company does not exceed the de-minimis aid threshold as stipulated in the de-minimis regulation (Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013 of the European Commission of 18 December 2013). The project proposal should explain the agreements on cooperation with these companies.

Participating archaeological companies are paid by the main applicant for the services they perform in the context of the investigation. This financing must comply with European rules on state aid and procurement.\(^7\) For an explanation, see section 3.2.2.

\(^{5}\) See the NWO Grant Rules 2017, Article 1.3, paragraph 2 and, for the definition, Article 5.1.
\(^{6}\) See the NWO Grant Rules 2017, Article 1.3, paragraph 2 and, for the definition, Article 5.1.
\(^{7}\) See Regulation EU 1407/2013 of 18/12/2013, Regulation EU 651/2014 of 17/06/2014 and the communication from the European Commission 2014 / C 198/01 to check whether there is compatibility with these aid schemes. For the procurement rules we refer to: http://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBR0032203/2016-07-01
3.1.4 Other public and/or private cooperation partner(s)

Cooperation partners are other public and / or private organizations that do not fall into the main or co-applicant category, other than archaeological companies. They are closely involved in conducting the research and / or knowledge utilization, but do not receive funding from NWO. They can provide co-financing in cash and / or in kind to the proposed research; this is not mandatory. For further conditions regarding co-financing, see section 3.5 and for the definition of private and public parties, see section 5.2.

3.2 What can be applied for

In this round, a maximum of 625,000 euros in funding per proposal can be requested from NWO for projects with a duration of three to five years.

If the necessary budget exceeds the maximum amount of funding, co-funding by the knowledge institution or a public or private party is required. It is also possible not to apply to NWO for the maximum budget but still include co-funding by another party.

The budget is composed using the modules which have been standardised across NWO. These modules are described below. In the application budget, select the combination of modules needed to answer the research question, and indicate how often each module will be used.

There are five modules:
1. Personnel
2. Material budget
3. Investments
4. Valorisation/Impact
5. Internationalisation

When drawing up the budget for the proposal, applicants should explain how the proposed expenditure on the various items will contribute to the proposed research. NWO will provide a budget form which must be submitted as a compulsory annex to the detailed proposal.

A specification of the different modules is found below.

3.2.1 Personnel costs

Funding can be requested for the appointment of temporary personnel: PhD students8, postdocs, PDEng or non-scientific personnel. For permanent staff, such as professors, assistant professors and associate professors, there is the option of applying for a research leave grant.

The rates for deployment of temporary personnel are the standard rates used by NWO:
- VSNU salary table rates for knowledge institutions according to the NWO Grant Rules and the “Approval of funding for scientific research 2008”;
- “Research Tariffs Manual (HOT) 2017” for universities of applied sciences and TO2 institutes and other co-applicants, Table 2.2 (overall salary costs table), column “cost-covering rate per hour”.

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8 In line with the NWO strategy, this category includes Industrial and Societal Doctorates. In case of an appointment of an Industrial or Societal Doctorate, the private or public organisation where the candidate carries out his/her PhD research should bear part or all of the salary costs.
There is no limit to the number of times that personnel modules can be used in applications under this call.

1a. PhD students: AIO/PhD/PDEng/MD PhD

This module can be requested as often as is necessary for the intended research.

The guideline is that 1 FTE PhD for 48 months or 0.8 FTE for 60 months can be applied for. If a different duration of appointment is desired in order to carry out the proposed research, then the guidelines may be deviated from as long as this is properly justified (e.g. PDEng 2 years or MD PhD longer than 4 years).

The salary costs will be remunerated according to the agreements in the “Approval of funding for scientific research” made with the Association of Universities in the Netherlands and are based on the collective labour agreement of the Dutch universities (for ZonMw, the costs are based on the NFU collective labour agreement).

In addition to salary costs, the project employee funded by NWO will receive a one-off individual bench fee of 5,000 euros to encourage his or her scientific career. The agreement and the maximum remuneration rates for personnel costs can be found at https://www.nwo.nl/en/documents/nwo/salary-tables/approval-of-funding-for-scientific-research-2008 and http://www.nwo.nl/en/funding/funding+process+explained/salary+tables.

1b. Postdoc

This module can be requested as often as is necessary for the intended research.

The guideline is that the appointment period of a postdoc can be between 12 and 48 months with a minimum size of 0.5 FTE. 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.

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 agreements in the “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.

In addition to salary costs, the project employee funded by NWO will receive a one-off individual bench fee of 5,000 euros to encourage his or her scientific career. The agreement and the maximum remuneration rates for personnel costs can be found at https://www.nwo.nl/en/documents/nwo/salary-tables/approval-of-funding-for-scientific-research-2008 and http://www.nwo.nl/en/funding/funding+process+explained/salary+tables.

1c. Non-scientific personnel

This module can only be applied for in combination with module 1a, 1b and/or 1d.

For the appointment of non-scientific personnel specifically needed for the research project for which funding is requested, a maximum of 100,000 euros can be requested with this module. This can concern personnel such as student assistants, programmers, technical assistants, analysts, etc.

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 remuneration rates for personnel costs can be found at https://www.nwo.nl/en/documents/nwo/salary-tables/approval-of-funding-for-scientific-research-2008 and http://www.nwo.nl/en/funding/funding+process+explained/salary+tables.

1d. Personnel at applied research institutions (HBO), TO2 institutes, government knowledge institutions (RKIs), municipalities, regions, provinces or recognised archaeological companies and other co-applicants

The appointment of personnel at universities of applied sciences, TO2 institutes, RKIs, municipalities, regions, provinces or recognised archaeological companies and other co-applicants is governed by the system of the “Research Tariffs Manual” (HOT) and in particular the rates in the column “Cost-covering rate per hour” in Table 2.2 (overall salary costs), based on the collective labour agreement grade or the actual salary costs of the employee concerned. The rates in the “Research Tariffs Manual 2017” (HOT 2017) apply in this round. The HOT 2017 can be found on the web page of the funding instrument on the NWO website. The maximum hourly rate is 125 euros incl. Dutch VAT.

The application budget should state how the requested personnel costs will be allocated between the different members of the consortium (if applicable) and the considerations behind this allocation. The hourly or daily rates should be stated for each type of personnel, with a maximum of 125 euros per hour. These rates will then be binding. This means that the hourly rates included in the application will be used in any awarding and ultimate allocation of funding.

In the case of students, only the actual amounts paid to the students can be included as costs within the project. A maximum hourly rate of 25 euros applies at all times.

1e. Research leave

This module can be used to request research leave for the main applicant and/or co-applicant(s), to release them from teaching, administrative and management duties. This enables the employer to cover the costs of a replacement to take over the educational, supervisory, administrative or management tasks (non-research tasks) of the main applicant and/or co-applicant(s). The main applicant and/or co-applicant(s) may use the time freed up by the research leave grant only for project activities, such as supervision. The application must specify which project activities the main applicant and/or co-applicant(s) will carry out based on the research leave grant.

In this module, a total of up to five full-time months can be requested for a research leave grant. NWO funds the research leave grant on the basis of the salary tables for a senior scientific employee that apply at the time of granting. The salary tables for personnel grants can be found at https://www.nwo.nl/en/funding/funding+process+explained/salary+tables.

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9 The cost-covering rate includes the gross salary including expected wage development, holiday allowance, year-end bonus and social security and pension contributions, plus an increment for overheads. The maximum that can be requested is scale 16. Module 1d does not apply to co-applicants working at the knowledge institutions listed in Section 3.1.1. (except HBO and TO2).
1f. Other scientific personnel at universities

This module can only be applied for in combination with module 1a, 1b and/or 1d.

Budget for other scientific personnel at universities, such as employees with an MA or MSc degree (former Dutch drs. and ir. titles), AIOS (doctor training to be a specialist), ANIOS (doctor not training to be a specialist) or scientific programmer, necessary for the requested research project. The maximum period of appointment is 48 months for 1 FTE and 60 months for a part-time appointment. 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. 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 salary tables for personnel grants can be found at https://www.nwo.nl/en/funding/funding+process+explained/salary+tables.

3.2.2 Material budget for project-related goods/services, travel and accommodation costs and implementation costs

A maximum of 15,000 euros per year per full-time scientific position (modules 1a, 1b and 1d) can be applied for in terms of material credit. The following can be applied for as material credit, broken down according to the three categories 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 must not exceed 160,000 euros 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 module 1.

Travel and accommodation costs
(for employees requested in modules 1a, 1b and 1d)
- travel and accommodation costs (national and international);
- congress visits;
- fieldwork;
- work visits.

Implementation costs
- national symposium/conference/workshop organised by the project;
- costs of Open Access publishing;
- data management costs;
- recruitment costs (incl. advertisement 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, etc.);
- maintenance and insurance costs.

If the maximum amount is not sufficient to carry out the research, then it may be deviated from if a clear justification is provided in the proposal. An exception to this is the maximum amount for small equipment.
Archaeological companies
At least one archaeological company participates in each consortium. Reimbursement for the companies’ contribution to the research is made by using the Material budget module, item "Work by third parties". The use of this module is therefore mandatory. A maximum of € 200,000 per project can be requested for this module. The use of this module is therefore mandatory. A maximum of € 200,000 per project can be requested for this module option. The maximum of € 200,000 per archaeological company is available on the condition that the relevant archaeological company does not exceed the de-minimis aid threshold as stipulated in the de-minimis regulation (Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013 of the European Commission of 18 December 2013). The project proposal explains the agreements on cooperation with these companies.

A participating archaeological company must demonstrate by means of a declaration of de-minimis aid that the de-minimis threshold stipulated in the de-minimis regulation is not exceeded. The main applicant must take this into account when drawing up his application budget, and must ensure that the de-minimis threshold is not exceeded. The declaration of de-minimis aid is a part of the full application.

For this call there is no restriction on the number of times that this module can be employed, as long as the total material budget for the module 'Work by third parties', namely the deployment of an archaeological company, does not exceed the maximum amount of € 200,000. In addition, the aforementioned amount of € 15,000 per year applies to each of the above-mentioned personnel categories.

3.2.3 Investments

Funds for investments in innovative scientific equipment and data collection of national and international importance can be requested under this module. NWO has other instruments for applications involving large investments.

The contribution requested must not exceed 500,000 euros. The lower limit is an NWO contribution of 160,000 euros for equipment (the lower limit for data collections is 25,000 euros). The knowledge institutions and archaeological companies must contribute at least 25% to the costs of the investment.10

Funding can be requested for:
- costs of investment in scientific equipment and datasets;
- personnel costs for setting up databases and initial digitisation of the bibliographic apparatus, if the latter cannot be purchased;
- personnel costs for employees with specific and essential technical expertise required for the development or construction of an investment.

Those applying for funding for personnel costs must explain why these costs are necessary, why the facility in question cannot be purchased and why the necessary personnel expertise cannot be hired elsewhere at comparable cost.

Funding cannot be requested for:
- costs of infrastructural facilities that can be regarded as part of the usual infrastructure;
- data collections and any associated software and bibliographies that are already available in other ways (see material costs);
- other personnel costs, including personnel costs required to operate and conduct research with the facility;

10 The institution concerned should confirm this contribution to the investment in writing.
- maintenance and use of the equipment, costs of researchers’ use of equipment that can be requested on a project via material credit.

3.2.4 Knowledge utilisation

In the application, at least 10% of the total budget requested from NWO should be reserved for activities in this area. There is no limit to the number of times that these modules can be used in applications under this call. The application budget should specify the costs required.

The aim of this module is to facilitate the use of the knowledge that emerges from the research. The contribution requested per module must not exceed 25,000 euros. The total amount requested must be specified. Because knowledge utilisation takes many different forms in different scientific fields, it is up to the applicant to specify the costs required, e.g. costs of producing a teaching package or conducting a feasibility study into potential applications.

3.2.5 Internationalisation and Money follows Cooperation

5a. Internationalisation

The aim of this module is to encourage international collaboration. The contribution requested per module must not exceed 25,000 euros. The total amount requested must be specified. If the maximum amount is not sufficient to carry out the research, then it may be deviated from if a clear justification is provided 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 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

5b. Money follows Cooperation

The aim of this module is to encourage international collaboration via the principle of Money follows Cooperation (MfC), where national research budget is used for cross-border collaboration that offers the possibility to create added value for individual research projects by deploying expertise from abroad which is not available in the Netherlands at the desired level for the project. This concerns expertise from organisations outside 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 must state the amount to be deployed for this module in the budget. In principle, there is no limit to the amount that can be requested.

3.3 When can proposals be submitted

The compulsory pre-proposals should be received by NWO by 12 September 2019, 14:00 CE(S)T.

The full proposals should be received by NWO by 9 January 2020, 14:00 CE(S)T.
When you submit an 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 received after the deadline cannot be taken into consideration.

### 3.4 Preparing and submitting a proposal

**Matchmaking**

On Monday 1 April 2019 from 13:00 to 17:00 hours, an information and matchmaking meeting will be organised as part of this programme at The Netherlands Cultural Heritage Agency (RCE), Smallepad 5, in Amersfoort. The purpose of the meeting is i) to present information on the call, and ii) to establish contacts with representatives of public and private parties interested in contributing to research projects. Attendance is not compulsory.

**Pre-proposals and full proposals**

This call for proposals will use compulsory pre-proposals in order to limit the time and effort required on the part of applicants. Pre-proposals should contain a concise and powerfully formulated project idea that describes the reason for the consortium’s existence and the proposed research. Only applicants with the most promising pre-proposals will be invited to develop their pre-proposal into a detailed proposal. Projects will be selected on the basis of their mutual coherence in order to have a greater impact on the field.

For the admissibility check and assessment criteria for pre-proposals and full proposals, see Section 4.2.

The detailed proposal should contain one or more clear objectives, specific activities and a time schedule. These should be worked out in as much detail as possible for the entire project period.

In addition to their specific objectives full proposals should therefore also describe the added value of the consortium for the research and how cooperation both within the knowledge chain and between it and societal partners from the public and semi-public sectors and/or industry will be assured. The detailed proposal should answer questions such as: what does the consortium stand for, what does it aim to achieve and what is the role of various consortium members in the research?

**Pre-proposal (compulsory)**

The pre-proposal consists of:

- The application form for pre-proposals.

**Detailed proposal**

A detailed proposal is a full funding proposal. It consists of the following parts:

- the application form for full proposals;
- an application budget;
- a statement from the institution of each main applicant and co-applicant confirming that the institution concerned accepts all of the conditions to be met in order to carry out the project. A template has been prepared for this statement of agreement;
- a letter of commitment from the private or public co-funder(s) (if applicable);
- a declaration of de-minimis aid from each archaeological company involved in the application.
Availability of forms and templates
How to access the forms and templates is described below. The forms and templates for full proposals will be made available online when the outcome of the pre-proposals is announced.

Application form for pre-proposals and full proposals
The application forms for pre-proposals and full proposals are available on the online application system ISAAC or from the web page for the funding instrument on the NWO website.

Application budget
The budget template is available on the online application system ISAAC or from the web page for the funding instrument on the NWO website.

Template for institution’s statement of agreement
The template for the statement of agreement to be provided by the main applicant and co-applicant(s) is available on the online application system ISAAC or from the web page for the funding instrument on the NWO website. The statement of agreement must be drawn up on the knowledge institution’s headed paper in accordance with the template.

The statement must be signed by the applicant and an authorised signatory/administrative officer from the institution. By submitting the statement of agreement, the institution where the project will be carried out after the application has been awarded funding confirms that it has been informed about the application and accepts all of the conditions to be met in order to carry out the project. If the application concerns a joint project, separate statements of agreement are required from each institution.

Template for letter of commitment from co-funder (if applicable)
In the event of in-kind or in-cash co-funding, a letter of commitment should be submitted. This letter must be drawn up on the organisation’s headed paper in accordance with the template. In it, each individual party pledges its contribution. By means of the letter of commitment addressed to the applicant, the party commits to make the pledged contribution to the project if it is funded by NWO. The letter of commitment is unconditional and may not contain any resolutive conditions. The template for a letter of commitment can be found on the online application system ISAAC or from the web page for the funding instrument on the NWO website. Letters of commitment should be submitted as separate PDF documents via ISAAC, together with the detailed proposal.

NB: A digital version of the letter with original signature is sufficient, provided it is drawn up in accordance with the conditions in the template. NWO reserves the right to request the original letter from the main applicant.

Submitting the pre-proposal
The procedure for submitting a pre-proposal is as follows:

- Download the application form from the online application system ISAAC or from the web page of the funding instrument on the NWO website.
- Complete the form in English and save it as a PDF.
- Upload the PDF form to ISAAC and enter the requested data in the different tabs.  

Submitting the detailed proposal
The procedure for submitting a detailed proposal is as follows:

11 Only plain text (ASCII) characters can be used in the ISAAC fields. Formulae, illustrations, italics, etc. cannot be used. However, these may be used in the pre-proposal form and the detailed proposal form.
- Download the application form from the online application system ISAAC or from the web page of the funding instrument on the NWO website.
- Complete the form in English and save it as a PDF.
- Upload the PDF form to ISAAC and enter the requested data in the different tabs.\(^\text{12}\)
- Download the budget template from ISAAC or from the NWO website.
- Complete the budget template and upload it to ISAAC.
- Download the declaration of de-minimis aid template from ISAAC or from the NWO website.
- Complete the declaration of de-minimis aid template and upload it to ISAAC.
- Save the statement(s) of agreement from the institution(s) concerned as a PDF and upload to ISAAC.
- In the event of co-funding, save the letter(s) of commitment from the party or parties concerned as a PDF and upload to ISAAC.

No additional annexes may be added to the application, except for the compulsory annexes such as the budget form.

### 3.5 Funding conditions

All proposals in this funding round are subject to the [NWO Grant Rules 2017](https://www.nwo.nl/en).

#### Conditions for the start and execution of the project

**Declaration of de-minimis aid**

The declaration of de-minimis aid is a part of the full application. Because the decision-making phase extends into a new tax year, the remuneration will take place on the condition that the archaeological company, with a completed declaration, demonstrates that the de-minimis threshold is not exceeded at the time of payment.

**Start**

The research must start within six months of the date of the funding award decision. At least one researcher must have been appointed to the project when it starts. If the project has not started within six months of the date of the decision, the decision-making body may decide to withdraw the funding.

**Starting documents**

The project can start once the following documents have been approved by NWO:

- a project start form with payment information;
- a personnel information form;
- a data management plan;
- a cooperation agreement signed by all parties involved;
- (if applicable) a statement of approval from the ethics review committee.

**Duration**

Contrary to Article 3.5.1, paragraph 1, of the NWO Grant Rules 2017, research projects may have a duration of three to five years.

**Extension**

An extension of the project duration will be granted only in exceptional cases.

**Publications**

\(^{12}\) Only plain text (ASCII) characters can be used in the ISAAC fields. Formulae, illustrations, italics, etc. may not be used. However, these may be used in the pre-proposal form and the detailed proposal form.
All publications containing results of the funded research must mention the support received from the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) and the programme name *Future directions in Dutch archaeological research*. Images or logos are available from the NWO office (see Section 5.1.1).

**Reporting on the project to NWO**

*Progress reports*

A progress report should be submitted to NWO halfway through the duration of the project. The applicant will be notified of this in advance and will be sent the template and instructions. Submission via ISAAC is compulsory.

*Publication details*

During the term of the project and in subsequent years, NWO expects the details of each form of output to be recorded separately under the project in ISAAC.

*Final report*

A detailed final report on the progress of the research and the results achieved should be submitted within three months after completion of the project. At the same time, a final financial report signed by the main applicant and the controller/financial manager of the knowledge institution should be submitted, broken down according to the approved budget items. This should include the actual duration (period) and size (FTE) of all appointments of personnel assigned to the project and (if applicable) state the arrangements made for research leave. All in-cash and in-kind contributions made by co-funders should also be accounted for. See Section 5.2 for more information on accounting for in-kind contributions.

**Programme coherence**

The projects resulting from this call should contribute to strengthening cooperation between public and private archaeological research and a sustainable common research infrastructure. For that reason, project leaders and researchers should contribute to knowledge exchange/utilisation at the level of the programme *Future directions in Dutch archaeological research* and take part in meetings organised for that purpose. This is in addition to relevant activities at project level.

**Composition of the consortium**

The broad and innovative character of the Dutch National Research Agenda should be expressed in the interdisciplinarity and composition (spanning the entire knowledge chain) of the consortium. The consortium should also include societal partners from the public and/or semi-public sectors and/or industry.

**Co-funding**

- Co-funding by private and/or public parties is not compulsory in this call for proposals, but is possible (both in cash and in kind).
- For in-kind contributions, see Section 5.2. Supervision and consultancy may not form part of the contribution. Besides in-kind contributions, cash contributions are also possible or contributions may be made partly in kind and partly in cash.
- The contributions entered in the budget correspond to the letters of commitment in which the private and/or public parties pledge their contribution. If the private party has ANBI (Dutch charitable) status, the relevant declaration must be submitted.
- The private parties are part of the consortium and will remain involved in the research to which the application relates throughout the period for which funding is requested.

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13 The public knowledge chain includes universities, universities of applied sciences, university medical centres, TO2 institutes and government knowledge institutions.
- The main beneficiary (also the official secretary) is responsible for collecting in-cash co-funding from the partners. Payment arrangements between the participants will be laid down in the consortium agreement.

**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 applications 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. For the intellectual property (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). The IP rights to the results of any co-funders will be subject to the percentages shown, unless an “adequate reflection” of their contributions justifies a departure.

**Open Access**

All scientific publications resulting from research that is funded on the basis of 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 at [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 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 about the data management protocol of NWO can be found at [https://www.nwo.nl/en/policies/open+science/data+management](https://www.nwo.nl/en/policies/open+science/data+management).

**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 resources 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 a proposal

An application can only be submitted via the online application system ISAAC. Applications not submitted via ISAAC will not be considered.

A main applicant must submit his/her application via his/her own ISAAC account. Main applicants who do not yet have an ISAAC account should create one at least five working days before submission, by sending a request to relatiebeheer@nwo.nl. This is to ensure that any registration problems can be resolved in time. If the main applicant already has an NWO account, then he/she does not need to create a new account to submit an application.

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.

For technical questions please contact the ISAAC helpdesk, see Section 5.1.2.
4 Assessment procedure

4.1 Procedure

The NWO Code of Conduct on Conflicts of Interest applies to all persons and NWO staff involved in the assessment and/or decision-making process.

The first step in the assessment procedure is a check to make sure the proposal (both pre-proposal and detailed proposal) is eligible for consideration. This is done based on the conditions stated in Section 4.2.1 of this call for proposals.

All proposals (both pre-proposals and full proposals) will be assessed in combination by the selection committee for the call Future directions in Dutch archaeological research based on the criteria in Section 4.2.2.

A selection committee will be set up, consisting of academic and practical experts. Based on the selection committee’s recommendation, the NWO Social Sciences and Humanities Domain Board will decide on the proposals to be awarded funding.

The selection procedure is described below.

Pre-proposals¹⁴

Eligibility
The administrative eligibility of the pre-proposals will be determined by the NWO office based on the criteria in Section 4.2.1 once the deadline for submission of pre-proposals has elapsed.

Content assessment
The selection committee will then check that the eligible pre-proposal fits within the agenda and objectives of the programme Future directions in Dutch archaeological research. The committee will also examine the (intended) composition of the consortium and the experience/expertise of the applicants. In doing so, the selection committee will take into account the mutual coherence between the pre-proposals, and their distribution across the research themes and the proposed application of new methods and techniques.
The selection committee will have the option of offering advice to applicants who have been invited to develop their pre-proposal into a full proposal.

¹⁴ For an explanation of pre-proposals and full proposals, see Section 3.4.
**Full proposals**

*Eligibility*
The administrative eligibility of applications will be determined by the NWO office based on the criteria in Section 4.2.1 once the deadline for submission of applications has closed.

*Content assessment*
All eligible proposals will be submitted to independent national or international referees to evaluate their scientific quality (criterion I) and the quality of the consortium (criterion II).
The selection committee will assess the proposals in terms of potential scientific and/or societal breakthroughs (criterion III). The committee will draw up a short written (provisional) assessment for each proposal.
The referees’ anonymised reports and the selection committees’ written assessments will be sent to the main applicants. They will be given five working days to respond in writing to these assessments and reports (rebuttal).

*Interview*
The assessment committee may decide to interview main applicants. The interview is an integral part of the assessment and is taken into account in assigning a classification and ranking the application.

*Assessment and ranking*
Based on the application, rebuttal and any interview with the main applicants, the selection committee will reach a final decision on the proposals in accordance with the criteria in Section 4.2 and produce a ranking. It will take into account the distribution of proposals between the research themes and the proposed methods and techniques. In the interest of the objectives of the programme as a whole, the committee will also consider the mutual coherence of the proposed research projects. The selection committee will then submit the proposals to be awarded funding to the NWO Social Sciences and Humanities Domain Board, together with a reasoned opinion.

*Decision-making*
NWO, in this case the NWO Social Sciences and Humanities Domain Board, checks the validity of the assessment procedure and then – based on the assessment committee’s recommendation for the call *Future directions in Dutch archaeological research* – takes the final decision on the applications to be awarded funding.

*Qualifications*
NWO will give each application a qualification. This qualification will be notified to the applicant together with the decision on whether the application has been awarded funding.

To be eligible for funding, an application should be qualified as at least "very good". For further information about the qualifications, please refer to:
https://www.nwo.nl/en/funding/funding+process+explained/nwo+qualification+system
Data management
The data management section in the application is not evaluated and is therefore not included in the decision on 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 applicant should elaborate the data management section into a data management plan. Applicants can draw on the referees’ and committee’s recommendations when writing the data management plan. The project can start as soon as the data management plan has been approved by NWO.

Global timetable

Pre-proposals
Deadline for submission of pre-proposals 12 September 2019
Assessment by selection committee early October 2019
Invitations to submit a detailed proposal October-November 2019

Full proposals
Deadline for submission of full proposals 9 January 2020
Consultation of referees (scientific quality) Jan.-Feb. 2020
Assessment by selection committee (relevance) Jan.-Feb. 2020
Obtaining rebuttals from main applicants end of Feb. 2020
Selection committee meeting March 2020
Interviews (optional) and final ranking April 2020
Decision of NOW SSH Domain Board May 2020
Applicants notified of outcome May 2020
Review of permissible state aid May 2020
Allocation of funds May 2020

4.2 Criteria

4.2.1 Eligibility

The administrative eligibility of both pre-proposals and full proposals will be determined by the NWO office. An application will not be accepted in this round if it has not been completed correctly or in full and the applicant has not complied in time with the request to submit a corrected application. If correction of the application or late submission of required annexes is possible, the applicant will be given the opportunity to correct the application and/or submit the required annexes within 48 hours. If the applicant cannot or does not wish to do so, the application will not be considered. If the proposal has been corrected in time and meets the eligibility criteria, it will be taken into consideration.

NWO will not consider a pre-proposal or detailed proposal if one or more of the following situations applies:
The application:
1. does not relate to the field of research described in this call for proposals;
2. was not submitted through ISAAC;
3. was received by NWO after the deadline;
4. does not comply with the prescribed format or guidelines for preparing an application;
5. was not submitted by a researcher with doctoral degree who is appointed at a knowledge institution as referred to in Section 3.1.1 during the application process and throughout the duration of the project;
6. was not submitted on behalf of a consortium as described in Section 3.1;
7. a researcher is the main applicant in more than one application;
8. a researcher is a co-applicant in more than one application;
Full proposals will also not be taken into consideration if:
9. no pre-proposal was submitted prior to the detailed proposal;
10. the required annexes are missing and/or are not attached to the application as individual documents in PDF format. This concerns the following documents:
   a. a balanced budget;
   b. where applicable, the letter of commitment signed by each individual co-funder;
   c. a signed statement of agreement from the main applicant and co-applicant(s);
   d. Declaration of de-minimis aid for each archaeological company involved in the application.

### 4.2.2 Assessment criteria

#### Pre-proposals

Pre-proposals will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:
- Fit within the agenda and objectives of this call for proposals;
- Demonstrable experience of the main applicant in areas relevant to the proposal and the impact of the results;
- (Intended) composition of the consortium and the (multi- or interdisciplinary) role of each participant in the consortium and its contribution to the proposed project;

In addition:
- Distribution of pre-proposals across the themes of the research agenda and across the proposed application of new methods and techniques.

#### Full proposals

Full proposals will be 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 criteria are weighted equally and each criterion counts for one third of the overall assessment. The assessment criteria are operationalised below on a number of sub-aspects:

I. Quality of the research proposal
   - Scientific quality of the proposed research;
   - The research theme’s fit within the NOaA 2.0 or, if a proposal focuses on a topic that is not part of the NOaA 2.0, the relevance of the research to the objectives of the call;
   - Interdisciplinarity, or the proposal includes the necessary disciplines to tackle the problem;
   - Innovative nature of the research question and approach;
   - Clarity of the research problem;
   - Appropriateness of the approach or methodology;
   - The application of new and/or conventional methods and techniques for innovation in archaeology in the broadest sense;
   - Appropriateness of the budget for the research project to be carried out and justification of the various budget items;
   - If the proposal includes research into an archaeological find of national or international importance, the following criteria also apply:
- Extent of national or international importance of the find to which the proposed research relates;
- Quality of the basic research:
  - Is the basic research complete and is a basic report available?
  - If the basic research is not yet complete, what is its status?
  - Was the basic research carried out in accordance with the standard requirements applying at the time (Kwaliteitsnorm Nederlandse Archeologie, Dutch archaeological quality standards)?
  - How does the in-depth research for which funding is requested relate to the basic research? Is the proposal unrelated to the execution or reporting of the basic research?

II. Quality of the consortium
- Quality of the consortium partners units involved;
- Quality, coherence, complementarity and diversity of the consortium;
- The collaboration between academic and private archaeological research as proposed in the proposal;
- Potential of the consortium to promote knowledge exchange and expertise by means of cooperation across the knowledge chain;
- Potential of the consortium to connect public and private archaeology;
- Potential of the consortium to contribute to the development of a sustainable research infrastructure;
- Potential of the consortium to accomplish the transfer of knowledge to end users, such as municipalities, companies, societal stakeholders and the public;
- Organisation and embedding of the research. The project has good organisation and is embedded among the members of the consortium.

III. Potential scientific and/or societal breakthroughs
- Extent to which the proposal is focused on scientific and/or societal breakthroughs;
- Extent of involvement and commitment of public and private parties;
- Means by which society/the broader public/specific target groups will be involved in the proposal and have a role in any implementation;
- Ambition and feasibility of the knowledge utilisation plan (including knowledge transfer, utilisation of results and valorisation);
- Extent of the potential of the project to make a sustainable impact on archaeology in the Netherlands;
- Potential of the project to contribute to the development of a sustainable research infrastructure in Dutch archaeology.
5 Contact

5.1 Contact

5.1.1 Specific questions

For specific questions about this call for proposals, please contact:
- Dr. Hayley Mickleburgh
  archeologie@nwo.nl
  +31 70 349 4196
- Rapti Miedema
  archeologie@nwo.nl
  +31 70 349 4076

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 CE(S)T on +31 20 346 7179. However, you can also submit your question by email to isaac.helpdesk@nwo.nl. You will then receive an answer within two working days.

5.2 Other information

Definitions/explanations of some of the terms used

Definition of private co-funder
Private co-funders are considered to be businesses, organisations or partnerships which conduct activities in the context of this programme/project that are or can be considered as market activities according to objective standards. NWO defines a business as an organisational relationship or a person who focuses on long-term participation in commercial activities with the help of labour and capital and with the intention of generating profit. SMEs fall into this category, as do self-employed persons (registration with the Chamber of Commerce as an entrepreneur is required). Institutions with ANBI status can act as private partners.

Definition of public co-funder
Public co-funders are considered to be institutions and knowledge institutions which are not knowledge institutions recognised by NWO (such as heritage institutions, municipalities, intermediate organisations or foundations) and do not belong to the category private parties (such as healthcare funds, health insurers and government institutions which do not act as administrative bodies in the context of the activities they carry out in the programme/project), as long as they do not perform any activities in their role as “partner” which are or could be considered to be market activities according to objective standards.

Stipulations relating to in-kind contributions

1. Possibility of participation with in-kind contributions
   Private (and public) co-funders can participate in the projects by making a full or partial in-kind contribution, provided that this is included in the NWO-approved
budget for the research costs of the project proposal in which the co-funder participates and falls within one of the cost categories listed below. A co-funder pledges the relevant in-kind contribution (possibly plus any financial (cash) contribution) by means of a letter of commitment to NWO.

2. **Commitment**

If a co-funder is to participate in the research project by making a (partial) in-kind contribution as described above, the co-funder will commit itself to the relevant in-kind contribution plus any financial (cash) contribution to the NWO project by means of a letter of commitment.

3. **In-kind contributions**

Co-funders may make in-kind contributions to a research project that are directly attributable to the research project and incurred by the party, as listed here:

- Salary costs, assuming an hourly wage calculated on the basis of 1) the annual salary for a full-time position according to the “wages for income tax” column of the payroll records, incremented by the surcharges due for social security contributions as required by law and/or stemming from an individual or collective labour agreement, and 2) 1,650 productive hours per year. Over and above this amount, an allowance of no more than 50% of these salary costs may be budgeted for other, general costs. The resulting hourly rate attributable to the project, including the 50% increment for general expenses referred to above, is capped at 125 euros. Costs of supervision or project management may be contributed only if the intended supervisor or project manager is an active participant in the research project.

- Costs of consumables, aids, software or software licences that are directly related to the project, based on the original purchase prices.

- Use of equipment and machines:
  - Costs of purchasing and using machines and equipment, provided they are based on the depreciation costs attributable to the project, calculated on the basis of the original purchase prices and a depreciation period of at least five years.
  - Costs of consumables and maintenance during the period of use.
  - Costs of purchasing and using machines and equipment that have not been purchased exclusively for the project will be taken into account on a pro rata basis only if detailed time sheets are kept of the hours spent on each machine or item of equipment.
  - Discounts on the prevailing commercial price (list price) of machines and equipment. In this case the discount should be at least 25% of the list price. The costs charged to the equipment budget of the project are the list price minus the relevant discount.
  - Provision of software.
4. **Justification of in-kind contributions**

Co-funders must justify their in-kind contributions to NWO by providing the official secretary with a statement of costs contributed within three months of the end of the relevant research project. The application to determine the in-kind contribution must be submitted by the official secretary to NWO at the same time as the application for funding, accompanied by a joint final report. If the in-kind contribution to be justified exceeds 125,000 euros, an auditor’s report should be submitted; otherwise, a written statement confirming that the in-kind contributions are actually attributable to the project is sufficient.