Users’ Committee

Establishment of the Users’ Committee

1. If indicated in the Brochure, NWO Domain AES will establish a Users’ Committee in consultation with the Project Leader and on the basis of the Users referred to in the project plan. The Project Leader will chair the Users’ Committee and a representative of NWO will be the secretary of the Users’ Committee.

2. The Users’ Committee meets at least once a year in a venue to be determined by NWO Domain AES. With NWO’s permission, the Users’ Committee may meet less frequently.

3. Members of the Users’ Committee are made up of Users, the Project Leader(s)/sub-Project Leader(s), the researchers of the Beneficiary/Beneficiaries who have been appointed for the Project, and NWO.

Task of the Users’ Committee

4. The task of the Users on the Users’ Committee is to advise the Project Leader about the course the Project is to take in order to maximise the probability that the Users or Third Parties will be able to use the Results.

5. The Users will address any comments, remarks, questions and advice they may have, solicited or otherwise, to the Project Leader and/or NWO.

6. The Users will provide information to the secretary if he/she has so requested, and also if a User:
   - wishes to address his/her comments, remarks, questions and advice to the other Users and would like their opinion on them;
   - considers that a discussion with the entire Users’ Committee would be desirable;
   - wishes to initiate advice on behalf of the entire Users’ Committee;
   - feels there may be opportunities for patent applications, licence agreements and research contracts.

Joining and resigning from the Users’ Committee

7. After the Users’ Committee is established, new Users may be admitted to it while a Project is being carried out. NWO will ask the current Users for their reasoned advice (in writing or during a Users’ Committee meeting) on the request for admission to the Users’ Committee. NWO will decide on the request for the admission on the basis of that request, the advice given by the current Users and their role in the research and the level of their contribution to that research. The guiding principle in this regard is that the composition of the Users’ Committee must maximise the probability of being able to use the Results and must enable the continued exchange of ideas, including confidential information.

8. The NWO may impose additional requirements on joining Users, for example with regard to the provision of Co-Funding, with due observance of the advice issued on the Project.

9. Users may resign from the Users’ Committee after they have notified NWO of this in writing.