FAQ Information session for the NWO Hop-On Call for Researchers Based in Ukraine: NWO-NRFU Partnership Initiative

Eligibility

What is needed in order to be able to apply for a funding within this Call for proposals?
In order to apply for a grant in this Call for proposals, a Ukrainian scientist needs to find a collaboration partner in the Kingdom of the Netherlands who is the project leader of an on-going or soon-to-be-started NWO project. It also applies vice versa; a project leader of an on-going or soon-to-be-started NWO project needs to find a scientist based in Ukraine to be able to apply within this Call for proposals.

Can an assistant professor in Ukraine, holding a PhD degree, apply?
Yes, assistant professors are eligible for application.

Can a Head of Chair / Head of scientific department apply?
They can apply as long as they also carry out research.

Can a group of three or four researchers apply for the grant?
Only a pair of researchers consisting of one project leader of an on-going or soon-to-be-started NWO project and one scientist working and residing in Ukraine can apply for a grant. Therefore, groups of researchers cannot apply. However, the co-applicant can be part of a group.

Can one person apply several times for a grant?
Basically, one scientist can apply only once for a grant. However, in case the application is not admissible, the main applicant and/or the co-applicant can submit another application with a different partner.

Are scientists already receiving funding from NRFU (e.g. from previous Calls for proposals or as part of a creative team winning a grant) eligible to apply?
Yes, they can apply for a funding in this Call for proposals since it is a Call from NWO and thus projects are and will be financed by NWO.

How many Ukrainian partners can be involved in an NWO project?
An NWO project may involve one scientific partner from Ukraine.

Who has to submit the application: the Dutch partner or the Ukrainian partner?
The application has to be submitted by the project leader of an NWO project in the Kingdom of the Netherlands who is also the main applicant. The Ukrainian partner is the co-applicant. However, the main applicant and the co-applicant work together on the application.

What needs to be done step by step in order to apply?
The first and foremost step is to find a collaboration partner as an application needs a main applicant (project leader of an NWO project in the Kingdom of the Netherlands) and a co-applicant (scientist residing and working in Ukraine). The next steps involve the application for a grant. The project leader of an NWO project will guide the application process since they are the main applicant and they have applied for an NWO funding before. Please find more information about the application procedure and the eligibility criteria in the documentation of this Call for proposals.

It was mentioned that NRFU will review and approve applications if all the criteria are fulfilled. What are these criteria?
The criteria can be found in the Call documentation in Section 4.1.
What is the estimated time for evaluating the applications after they have been submitted?
The admissibility procedure may take up to 2 months to complete. Please find more information on it in the Call documentation.

Does a Ukrainian scientist have to work full-time at an institution or is it possible to be employed part-time?
Please find the eligibility criteria in the Call documentation in Section 3.

According to the Call, is the beneficiary of the grant the Ukrainian institution or the Ukrainian scientist?
The beneficiary of a grant is a scientist based in Ukraine.

The Ukrainian project participant have to live in Ukraine. Are they allowed to leave the country during the collaboration period?
The place of residence for a Ukrainian partner has to be in Ukraine. However, they can leave the country temporarily.

Are any criteria that can make an application successful?
An application will most likely be successful if all the eligibility criteria are fulfilled and the application is submitted as soon as possible after the submission has been opened on 11 September 2023. Applications are awarded on a first come - first served basis and the submission closes as soon as the funding limit has been reached or on 8 April 2024 14:00 CET the latest.

Ukrainian knowledge institutions

It is mentioned in the guidelines that only one grant per institution is allowed. Does this apply for institutions in the Kingdom of the Netherlands or in Ukraine?
This applies to Ukrainian institutions.

A Ukrainian knowledge institution may receive only one funding in this Call for proposals. Does this mean only this round of the call or also the rounds of the years before?
The NWO Hop-On Call for Proposals for Researchers Based in Ukraine: NWO-NRFU Partnership Initiative has only this one round of call. If the Ukrainian knowledge institution has received funding before within another Call for proposals, then the Ukrainian knowledge institution will still be eligible for this Call for proposals.

How many scientists can apply from one Ukrainian knowledge institution?
More researchers from the same Ukrainian institution can submit an application, but only one researcher per Ukrainian institution can be awarded a grant. Submissions will be assessed and awarded on a first come first served basis.

A Ukrainian knowledge institution may receive only one grant in this Call for proposals. Does this also apply for institutions in the Kingdom of the Netherlands? Or is there a limitation of one grant per NWO project?
This restriction applies only for institutions in Ukraine. Furthermore, one NWO project may receive only one grant within this Call for proposals.

Projects and criteria

Does this call for proposals apply to any size of NWO project (e.g. even the smaller ones with a 1-year duration)?
This applies to any on-going or soon-to-be-started NWO project as long as the collaboration with a scientist based in Ukraine takes places during the execution of the NWO project.
What types of research projects or collaborations are supported within this program?
This initiative supports all types of on-going or soon-to-be-started NWO projects in any scientific discipline. Collaborations within such projects are supported if they are between a scientist residing in Ukraine and a Dutch scientist that is the project leader of an on-going or soon-to-be-started NWO project.

Can Ukrainian scientists suggest their own project theme? Or are project topics proposed by the partners in the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Ukrainian scientists join as co-participants?
The idea of this Call for proposals is that a scientist based in Ukraine joins an NWO project of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. However, they are welcome to voice their ideas and opinions about the added value for the NWO project through their participation. The way of collaboration should be discussed and agreed on by the pair/match of one Ukrainian and one Dutch partner.

Is there a similar initiative where scientists working in the Kingdom of the Netherlands could write a new project with Ukrainian colleagues and apply for a grant of NWO?
All Call for proposals that are open or will open soon within NWO can be found on NWO's call planning page. Moreover, through the Money Follows Cooperation principle, international expertise can be added to a research project.

Finding a suitable project

How can I find a suitable project to join?
Ukraine-based scientists interested in finding an NWO project and thus a project leader in the Kingdom of the Netherlands are invited to join our Matchmaking meeting on 28 August 2023. During the Matchmaking, there is a possibility to find a suitable partner. Another option is to browse in the NWO database where ongoing and soon-to-be-started NWO projects are listed. In case the project leader is not listed in a project, please note that we cannot provide their contact details due to privacy regulations. However, you can try to find out more about a project through search engines.

For someone who can't attend the matchmaking session, is there a way to see afterwards who is interested and what topic they work on to still try and find a match?
For people who registered for the Matchmaking meeting, we will provide a list of participants with contact details (first and last name, email address and scientific discipline). Only details of participants will be shared who have given consent to share these details with other participants when registering for the Matchmaking meeting.

Partners in the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Does this grant include a reward for the partner from the Kingdom of Netherlands?
The research partner in the Kingdom of the Netherlands does not receive a remuneration within this Call for proposals. However, they will have the benefit of an additional partner in their project with new ideas and perspectives. The remuneration in this Call for proposals is meant for the Ukrainian research partner.

How do you ensure that people in the Kingdom of the Netherlands know about this call for proposals before the Matchmaking meeting?
NWO advertises this Call for proposals through its newsletter and social media channels.

What could be a stimulus or reason for a Dutch PI already having an NWO project funded to add a Ukrainian researcher, especially when the project is not in the starting phase?
The stimulus for PI’s of an on-going or soon-to-be-started NWO project can be the benefit of an additional partner in their project with new ideas and perspectives. Furthermore, they will extend their professional network this way.
Information session

Is there a recording of the Information session and/or will the presentation be made available?

There is no recording of the Information session due to privacy regulations. The presentation slides are available on NWO’s website. All the information on the Call for proposals can be found on https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwo-hop-on-call-for-researchers-based-in-ukraine-nwo-nrfu-partnership-initiative