



NWO Talent Programme

Vidi 2023

Call for proposals

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



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1 Introduction

In this Call for proposals information is provided about the application procedure for the NWO Talent Programme Vidi 2023 funding round. This Call for proposals falls under the responsibility of the Dutch Research Council (NWO).

In this Call for proposals you will find information about the aim of this programme (Chapter 2), the conditions for the grant application (Chapter 3) and how your proposal will be assessed (Chapter 4). This is the information you need to submit a grant application. Chapter 5 states the obligations for grant recipients in the event you are awarded funding, Chapter 6 contains the contact details and Chapter 7 the annexes.

1.1 Background

The NWO Talent programme covers three grant categories (Veni, Vidi and Vici). Each grant category has one submission round per year and a separate Call for proposals.

The 2023 Vidi round has nine submission windows within the four NWO domains. The domains AES, Science and ZonMw each have one submission window. The SSH domain is divided into six submission windows; one per disciplinary panel:

- Science;
- Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH);
 - Cultural Sciences & Linguistics;
 - Economics & Business Administration;
 - Philosophy, Historical Sciences & Religious Studies;
 - Behaviour & Education;
 - Law & Public Administration;
 - Social Sciences
- Applied and Engineering Sciences (AES);
- Health Research and Development (ZonMW).

You apply for funding at the submission window that best suits your application. See chapter 3.3.1 for more information.

Please note: if you are unsure about which submission window is best suited to your application, you should contact NWO in good time, prior to submitting the proposal (see 3.3.3)

1.2 Available budget

The available budget for this Call for proposals is 65,600,000 euro. There is a dedicated budget for each domain. The budget for Science is 24,000,000 euro, the budget for SSH is 21,600,000 euro, the budget for AES is 8,000,000 euro and the budget for ZonMw is 12,000,000 euro. It is expected that a maximum of 82 proposals will be awarded funding. Circa 30 for Science, circa 27 for SSH, circa 10 for AES and circa 15 for ZonMw.

1.3 Submission deadline(s)

The deadline for submitting preproposals is **November 2, 2023**, before 14:00:00 hours CET.
The deadline for submitting full proposals is **March 26, 2024**, before 14:00:00 hours CET.

When you submit your application in ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw, you will also need to enter some details online. Therefore please start submitting your application at least one day before the deadline of this Call for proposals. Applications that are submitted after the deadline will not be taken into consideration.

2 Aim

This chapter describes the aim of the programme and the societal impact.

2.1 Aim of the programme

The aim of the NWO Talent Programme is to provide creative opportunities for adventurous, talented, pioneering researchers to do research of their own choice, to develop their own innovative line of research and to further develop their talent.

The Vidi target group consists of researchers at the stage of transition to leadership. The Vidi grant is intended to contribute to the further development of the researcher in this area. Researchers eligible for a Vidi grant have academic qualities that clearly exceed what is customary within the international peer group and they demonstrate developing leadership and mentorship qualities.

The Vidi grant is intended to fund scientifically innovative research and enable these researchers to establish or expand a research group.

Promoting female researchers

We explicitly invite female researchers to apply. The representation and advancement of women in academia are unfortunately lagging behind 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 Universities of the Netherlands (UNL) and individual Dutch universities to rectify this situation, with the aim 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 multi-year perspective. In the event that two or more applications are rated equal, preference will be given to the proposal submitted by a female applicant.

Please note: in order to qualify for this, it is necessary for female applicants to have filled in 'Female' under the header 'Gender' in their ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw details.

2.2 Societal impact

New knowledge and insights from scientific research can make an important contribution to solutions for societal issues of today and tomorrow. Examples are the energy transition, health and care, or climate change. Through interaction and alignment between researchers and potential knowledge users, the chance of knowledge utilisation increases and with it the chance of societal impact. Through its policy on impact, NWO promotes the potential contribution from research to societal issues by encouraging productive interactions with societal stakeholders, both during the development and implementation of research. It does so in a manner appropriate to the aim of the funding instrument.

2.2.1 A customised approach to impact

Depending on the aim of the funding instrument, NWO will select the corresponding approach that has the greatest chance of achieving societal impact. The primary aim of the funding instrument determines the method NWO deploys to facilitate knowledge utilisation in various phases of the project (proposal, realisation, project completion) and the effort required from the applicant(s) and partner(s).

In this programme, the Impact Outlook approach is applied. Here, researchers can choose which type of impact they want to put their own focus on, and proportional consideration is given to what can be done for the remaining impact.

NWO offers an e-learning module that can help interested parties via [NWO Impact - Online workshops](#). For more information on the policy on impact see the website: [Knowledge utilisation | NWO](#).

3 Conditions for applicants

This chapter contains the conditions that are applicable to your grant application. Firstly it describes who can apply for funding (section 3.1) and what you can request funding for (section 3.2). Subsequently, you will find the conditions for preparing and submitting the application (sections 3.3 and 3.4) and the specific funding conditions (section 3.5).

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. Researchers can apply if they obtained their PhD in the eight years preceding this round's benchmark date of 1 October 2023. Extension may be granted in certain cases (see from section 3.4.2).

The research will be conducted at one of the following host research institutions. NWO requires candidates to provide an 'embedding guarantee' from the chosen organisation (see section 3.3.1):

- Universities located in the Kingdom of the Netherlands;
- University medical centres;
- Institutes affiliated to the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) or NWO;
- Netherlands Cancer Institute;
- the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics in Nijmegen;
- Naturalis Biodiversity Center;
- Advanced Research Centre for NanoLithography (ARCNL);
- Princess Máxima Center.

Applicants with a part-time contract should guarantee adequate supervision of the project and all project members for whom funding is requested.

Additional conditions:

- 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 2023 round;
 - enter the application process for the NWO Talent Programme for no more than one type of grant at a time in a given calendar year;
 - submit a Vidi application no more than twice. If an application that has been admitted to the assessment procedure is withdrawn by the applicant, this submission still counts towards the maximum number of submissions per applicant, unless the withdrawal is done under an NWO-approved appeal to the Compensation Scheme for Parental Leave or the Force Majeure Extension Scheme (for more information on this see section 3.4.4).
- c. Researchers who have previously been awarded grants under the Talent Programme (formerly: Innovational Research Incentives Scheme) may not apply again for a grant of the same kind.
- d. A researcher in receipt of a current grant under the NWO Talent Programme (formerly: 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.

3.2 What can be applied for

For an application in this Call for proposals, a maximum of € 800,000 can be applied for. The maximum duration of the proposed project is five years. If the proposed project is of shorter duration, the maximum amount is reduced proportionally. Apply only for funding that is vital to realise the project. A more detailed explanation of the budget modules can be found in the annex to this Call for proposals (see section 7.1).

3.3 Preparing and submitting a preproposal and full proposal

Applicants should submit a preproposal to be eligible for a Vidi. Applicants who receive a positive decision for their preproposal are invited to submit a full proposal. In case the applicant receives a negative decision for their preproposal, the applicant cannot submit a full proposal.

3.3.1 Preproposal

The steps involved in writing your pre-proposal are:

- download the preproposal application form ISAAC or from the NWO or ZonMw website (on the grant page of the funding instrument concerned). ZonMw uses a modified preproposal form. Preproposals in the domain of Health Research and Development (ZonMw) should exclusively use that form;
- complete the preproposal form;
- after a meeting with the hosting institution, fill out the embedding guarantee form, ask the dean to sign it, and make a scan of the document. If you work for an institution without a dean, please ask an authorised signatory to sign the document. Save the form as a PDF file;
- complete your ISAAC or Mijn ZonMw account with up-to-date contact details (phone numbers and email address, including your mobile phone number);
- complete your ISAAC or Mijn ZonMw account where necessary by ticking the 'gender' box, see 'Promoting female researchers' at section 2.1;
- save the preproposal form as a PDF file and upload it for preproposals in Exact and Natural Sciences (Science), Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) and Applied and Technical Sciences (AES) in the appropriate submission window in the online application system ISAAC (www.isaac.nwo.nl) or for preproposals in Health Research and Development (ZonMw) in Mijn ZonMw (mijn.zonmw.nl);
- upload the embedding guarantee and literature list separately from the preproposal in ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw. The annexes should be submitted as a PDF file (not protected). Annexes other than the embedding guarantee and the literature list are not allowed;
- indicate in ISAAC or Mijn ZonMw whether you want to specify non-referees. It is possible to list (a maximum of three) non-referees. Applicants can enter these non-referees in ISAAC or Mijn ZonMw at the time of submitting the preproposal. NWO will not approach these referees to assess the application as an external referee.

The preproposal contains:

- an Evidence Based Curriculum Vitae of the applicant, consisting of:
 - a description of the candidate's academic profile (maximum of 1200 words);
 - a description of the candidate's key output (minimum of 400 words and maximum of 700 words);
 - short research idea (maximum of 150 words).

You may only use quality indicators that are measured at the level of the individual output item, for instance article level indicators. You are allowed to mention amounts for individual grants, etc. Do not refer to reputation, but provide substantiation of relevant qualities and contributions. You may not mention lists or total numbers of publications, grants or prizes, nor the total acquired sum.

Mandatory annex for preproposal:

- Embedding guarantee

Optional annex for preproposal:

- A literature list of up to ten pieces of relevant scientific literature closely related to your research idea. NWO will use the literature list - together with your research idea, key words and indicated discipline - to search for potential referees for your full proposal. Your literature list will not be submitted to the committee. Save the list as a PDF file and upload it as a separate attachment in the online application system ISAAC or Mijn ZonMw.

It is mandatory to write your preproposal in English.

A preproposal can only be submitted via the web application ISAAC or Mijn ZonMw. Applications that are not submitted via ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw will not be taken into consideration. As the main applicant, you are required to submit the preproposal via your own personal ISAAC or Mijn ZonMw account.

It is important to start with your application in ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw on time:

- if you do not yet have an ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw account, then you should create this on time to prevent any possible registration problems;
- any new organisations must also be added to ISAAC by NWO;
- you also need to submit other details online.

Preproposals submitted after the deadline will not be taken into consideration by NWO. For technical questions, please contact the ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw helpdesk, see contact (Chapter 6).

3.3.2 Full proposal

The steps involved in preparing your full proposal are:

- download the full proposal form ISAAC or from the NWO from the NWO or ZonMw website (on the grant page of the funding instrument concerned); ZonMw uses a modified full proposal form. Applications in the domain of Health Research and Development (ZonMw), should exclusively use that form;
- complete the full proposal form;
- complete your ISAAC or Mijn ZonMw account with up-to-date contact details (phone numbers and email address, including your mobile phone number);
- save the application form as a PDF file and upload it to ISAAC (www.isaac.nwo.nl) or to Mijn ZonMw (mijn.zonmw.nl) for ZonMw applications;
- add optional annexes; annexes should be uploaded separately from the full proposal form in ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw. Annexes should be submitted as PDF files (not protected).

The full proposal contains:

- a description of the research proposal, a motivation for the choice of institution, and a description of the fit between the research proposal and the applicant's academic profile (maximum 4000 words on no more than 8 pages, including references to the literature);
- a paragraph on scientific and/or societal impact (maximum 1000 words on no more than 2 pages);
- a filled-out paragraph on data management; and
- a budget

Conditional annex(es):

- declaration co-funding (see section 3.5.5);
- statement exceeding maximum funding (see section 3.5.6);
- embedding guarantee, only if amendments have been made to the embedding guarantee submitted with the preproposal.

Any annexes other than those mentioned above are not permitted.

It is mandatory to write your full proposal in English.

An application can only be submitted via the web application ISAAC or Mijn ZonMw. Applications that are not submitted via ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw will not be taken into consideration. As the main applicant, you are required to submit the application via your own personal ISAAC or Mijn Zonmw account.

It is important to start with your application in ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw on time:

- if you do not yet have an ISAAC/MijnZonMw account, then you should create this on time to prevent any possible registration problems;
- any new organisations must also be added to ISAAC by NWO;
- you also need to submit other details online.

Proposals submitted after the deadline will not be taken into consideration by NWO. For technical questions, please contact the ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw helpdesk, see contact (Chapter 6).

3.3.3 Advice about field choice

For this Call, you have to choose which field you will submit your application to. You can choose from:

- Science (ENW);
- Applied and Engineering Sciences (AES);
- Health Research and Development (ZonMw);
- Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), Cultural Sciences and Linguistics;
- Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), Economics and Business Administration;
- Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), Philosophy, Historical Sciences, and Religion;
- Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), Behaviour and Education;
- Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), Law and Public Administration;
- Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), Social Sciences.

Within the SSH domain, there are six different fields in ISAAC. The distribution of disciplines across the panels can be found on the NWO website: [Overview panels Domain Social Sciences and Humanities](#)

Please decide well in advance to which field it would be best to submit your application. If you have doubts about which field would be most appropriate, for example, because your application has a (partly) field-overarching character, then you should get in touch with one of the contact persons from the programme well before the deadline. They can advise you about which field can best deal with your application. Please note that the final choice is yours. After submission of the preproposal, your choice of field is final and it will no longer be possible to have the application assessed within another field.

For advice, please contact the following domains:

AES: ttw-vidi@nwo.nl

ENW: enw-vidi@nwo.nl

SSH: sgw-vidi@nwo.nl

ZonMw: vidi@zonmw.nl

For the most up-to-date phone numbers, please refer to the NWO website:

<https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/nwo-talent-programme>

3.4 Conditions for submission

3.4.1 Formal conditions for submission

Pre-proposal

NWO will assess your preproposal against the conditions listed below. Your preproposal will only be admitted to the assessment procedure if it meets these conditions. After submitting your application, NWO requests you to be available to implement any possible administrative corrections so that you can (still) meet the conditions for submission.

These conditions are:

- the applicant meets the conditions stated in section 3.1;
- the preproposal complies with the DORA guidelines as described in section 4.1;
- the preproposal form is, after a possible request to make additions or changes, complete and filled out according to the instructions;
- the preproposal is submitted via the main applicant's ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw account;
- the preproposal is received before the deadline;
- the preproposal is written in English;
- the proposed project has a duration of at most five years (see section 3.2);
- all of the required annexes, after a possible request to make additions or changes, are complete, filled out and submitted according to the instructions and conditions of this Call for Proposals.

Full proposal

NWO will assess your full proposal against the conditions listed below. Your application will only be admitted to the assessment procedure if it meets these conditions. After submitting your application, NWO requests you to be available to implement any possible administrative corrections so that you can (still) meet the conditions for submission.

These conditions are:

- the applicant meets the conditions stated in section 3.1;
- the application complies with the DORA guidelines as described in section 4.1;
- the application form is, after a possible request to make additions or changes, complete and filled out according to the instructions;
- the application is submitted via the main applicant's ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw account;
- the application is received before the deadline;
- the application is written in English;
- the application budget is drawn up in accordance with the conditions for this Call for proposals
- the proposed project has a duration of at most five years (see section 3.2);
- all of the required annexes, after a possible request to make additions or changes, are complete, filled out and submitted according to the instructions and conditions of this Call for Proposals.

3.4.2 Career-dependent submission period and extension scheme

This round is open for researchers who have obtained their PhD between 1 October 2015 and 1 October 2023.

The date from which an applicant is allowed to carry the title of doctor serves as the reference date. If there is a gap of more than six months between the defence and when the applicant is allowed to carry the title of doctor, the date of the defence applies.

For researchers who have completed two PhD programmes, the date of the second promotion serves as the reference date for submission.

The stated maximum career-dependent submission period can be extended by NWO if there was a long period of leave due to illness, care responsibilities, or in the case of completed training for a number of clinical specialisations.

An extension is also possible for parents who take care of one or more children. Applicants can also receive an extension based on a combination of the above-mentioned grounds. For all applicants, the maximum extension to the submission period allocated by NWO is five years.

For more information, see <https://www.nwo.nl/en/extension-clause>. If you would like to make use of the extension scheme, then you should always contact NWO (see Section 6.1) before you submit your proposal.

3.4.3 Parental leave

For instruments in which no co-applicants can be entered, NWO offers applicants who take parental leave during the assessment period due to the arrival of a child, the possibility to make use of the 'Compensation scheme for parental leave'. This scheme applies to this Call for proposals. For more information, please see <https://www.nwo.nl/en/compensation-scheme-parental-leave>. If an applicant wants to make use of this compensations scheme, then a written request for this, supported by reasons, should be submitted to NWO via the contact person for this funding round (see section 6.1). With this request, the applicant should provide all information that NWO needs to take a decision, including information from which it is clear that the applicant is hindered from providing input due to childcare leave.

3.4.4 Force majeure extension scheme

If, during the application process or during the course of a project, the applicant is prevented from providing the required input (such as an application, rebuttal, interview or report) within the allotted time, the applicant may be able to take recourse to the NWO Force majeure extension scheme. For more information, please see <https://www.nwo.nl/en/force-majeure-extension-scheme>.

3.5 Conditions on granting

The **NWO Grant Rules 2017** and the Agreement on the Payment of Costs for Scientific Research are applicable to all applications.

3.5.1 Compliance with the National Knowledge Security Guidelines

World-class science can benefit from international cooperation. The National Knowledge Security Guidelines (hereafter: the Guidelines) helps knowledge institutions to ensure that international cooperation can take place securely. Knowledge security concerns the undesirable transfer of sensitive knowledge and technology that compromises national security; the covert influence of state actors on education and research, which jeopardises academic freedom and social safety; and ethical issues that may arise in cooperation with countries that do not respect fundamental rights.

Applicants are responsible for ensuring that their project complies and will continue to comply with the Guidelines. By submitting an application, the applicant commits to the recommendations stipulated in these Guidelines. In the event of a suspected breach of the Guidelines in an application submitted to NWO for project funding, or in a project funded by NWO, NWO may ask the applicant to provide a risk assessment demonstrating that the recommendations in the Guidelines have been taken into consideration. If the applicant fails to comply with NWO's request, or if the risk assessment is in apparent breach of the Guidelines, this may affect NWO's grant award or decision-making process. NWO may also include further conditions in the award letter if appropriate.

The National Knowledge Security Guidelines can be found on the central government website at: [Home | National Contact Point for Knowledge Security \(loketkennisveiligheid.nl\)](https://www.loketkennisveiligheid.nl).

3.5.2 Data management

The results of scientific research must be replicable, verifiable and falsifiable. In the digital age, this means that, in addition to publications, research data must also be publicly accessible insofar as this is possible. NWO expects that research data resulting from NWO-funded projects will be made publicly available, as much as possible, for reuse by other researchers. “As open as possible, as closed as necessary” is the applicable principle in this respect. Researchers are at least expected to make the data and/or non-numerical results that underlie the conclusions of work published within the project publicly available at the same time as the work’s publication. Any costs incurred for this can be included in the project budget. Researchers should explain how data emerging from the project will be dealt with based on the data management section in the proposal and the data management plan that is drawn up after funding is awarded.

Data management Section

The data management section is part of the proposal. Researchers are asked before the start of the research to consider how the data collected will be ordered and categorised so that this can be made publicly available. Measures will often already need to be taken, during the creation of data and analysis of the data, to make its later storage and dissemination possible. If it is not possible to make all data from the project publicly available, for example due to reasons of privacy, ethics or valorisation, then the applicant is obliged to list the reasons for this in the data management section.

The data management section in the proposal is not evaluated and will therefore not be weighed in the decision whether to award funding. However, both the referees and the committee can issue advice with respect to the data management section.

3.5.3 Scientific integrity

In accordance with the NWO Grant Rules 2017, the project that NWO funds must be carried out in accordance with the nationally and internationally accepted standards for scientific conduct as stated in the Netherlands Code of Conduct for Research Integrity (2018). By submitting the proposal, the applicant commits to this code. In the case of a (possible) violation of these standards during a project funded by NWO, the applicant should immediately inform NWO of this and should submit all relevant documents to NWO. More information about the code of conduct and the policy regarding research integrity can be found on the website: [Scientific integrity | NWO](#).

3.5.4 Ethical statement or licence

The applicant is responsible for determining whether an ethical statement or licence is needed for the realisation of the proposed project. The applicant should ensure that this is obtained from the relevant institution or ethics committee on time. If the project is awarded funding, then the grant is issued under the condition that the necessary ethical statement or licence is obtained before the latest start date for the project. The project cannot start until NWO has received a copy of the ethical statement or licence.

3.5.5 Nagoya Protocol

The Nagoya Protocol 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 ([ABS Focal Point - ABS Focal Point](#)). NWO assumes that researchers will take all necessary actions with respect to the Nagoya Protocol.

3.5.6 Co-funding

In the event of a contribution by a third party, a 'Declaration co-funding', signed by the co-funding party ('in cash' or 'in kind'), must be uploaded with the full proposal. NWO will provide a template Declaration co-funding on the funding page of the domains. It is important that this party is explicit about the amount of the contribution in the Declaration. The Declaration is unconditional and does not contain any resolute conditions.

At AES, co-financing statements in which third parties commit to in cash and/or in-kind support are sent to referees and committee members.

Co-financing for projects

Invoicing in-cash co-funding

After the proposal has been awarded funding, NWO will invoice the private or public party that has pledged an in-cash contribution. After these funds have been received, NWO will allocate the funding to the project.

The following are permitted as in-kind co-funding

The use of personnel and material contributions is permitted on the condition that these are capitalised and are fully part of the project. Services and know-how may not already exist or be available to the applicant. In-kind contributions are only accepted under the condition that the part contributed by the co-funder is an integral part of the work plan and can be made visible as an identifiable effort.

Determining the value of in-kind co-funding

- The use of personnel is valued on the basis of hours x rate, whereby the hourly rate is based on the actual salary costs (incl. a premium for social benefits and employer costs). Furthermore, 1.400 hours is taken as the standard number of productive hours per year for the calculation of the hourly rate. For rates, see table 2.2, column 'Uurtarief productieve uren, excl. btw' of the most recent Manual Tariffs Government (HOT; in Dutch only) on the NWO website (www.nwo.nl/en/salary-tables).
- The value for material in-kind contributions is determined on the basis of the cost price of consumables. The value of investments/equipment is determined based on standard depreciation costs bearing in mind the intensity of use and any existing depreciations according to applicable reporting principles;
- For in-kind contributions in the form of services or know-how (knowledge, software, access to databases or cell lines) the economic value must be established and only the actual costs that can be directly attributed to the project may be counted as co-funding. This is always without a profit margin. Furthermore, the service or know-how must not already be present at or available to the applicant.

Co-funders should justify the structure and size of the in-kind contributions provided (including hourly rates) in the Declaration co-financing. NWO can request substantiation and documented evidence of the rates used and can also request their adjustment.

The following may not be contributed as co-funding (both in cash and in kind):

- funding awarded by NWO;
- PPP allowance;
- co-funding may not come from parties that on the basis of this Call for proposals can submit a funding proposal to NWO;
- discounts on commercial rates, e.g. on materials, equipment and services;
- costs related to overheads, supervision, consultancy and/or participation in the user committee (see section 5.1.5);

- costs of services that are conditional. The co-funding provided may not be subject to any conditions. The provision of the co-funding does not depend on whether a certain stage in the research plan is achieved (e.g. go/no-go moment);
- costs that are not reimbursed according to the Call for proposals;
- costs of equipment if one of the (main) objectives of the proposal is the improvement or creation of added value for this equipment.

Accounting for in-kind co-funding

The main applicant reports to NWO about the in-kind co-funding that they have received from a co-funder. The main applicant provides accountability in accordance with the NWO Grant Rules 2017 on an annual basis. If a co-funder fails to partly or entirely fulfil its obligations to the main applicant and/or NWO, then this can have consequences for the grant settlement (see Article 3.4.5 of the NWO Grant Rules 2017).

3.5.7 Declaration exceeding maximum funding

If the proposed budget exceeds the maximum amount set by NWO (€ 800,000), the full proposal must be accompanied by a letter from the prospective host institution guaranteeing to cover the excess costs. If this is the case, the applicant is required to upload the form Statement exceeding maximum funding as an annex to the full proposal. NWO will make a template for this statement available on the funding page.

4 Assessment procedure

This chapter first describes the assessment according to the DORA principles (Section 4.1) and the course of the assessment procedure (Section 4.2). Second, it states the criteria that the assessment committee will use to assess your application (Section 4.3).

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

NWO strives to achieve an inclusive culture in which there is no place for conscious or unconscious barriers due to cultural, ethnic or religious background, gender, sexual orientation, health or age ([Diversity and inclusion | NWO](#)). NWO encourages referees and members of an assessment committee to be actively aware of implicit associations and to try to minimise these. NWO will provide them with information about concrete ways of improving the assessment of an application.

4.1 The San Francisco Declaration (DORA)

NWO is a signatory to the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA). DORA is a worldwide initiative that aims to improve the way research and researchers are assessed. DORA contains recommendations for research funders, research institutions, scientific journals and other parties.

DORA aims to reduce the uncritical use of bibliometric indicators and obviate unconscious bias in the assessment of research and researchers. DORA's overarching philosophy is that research should be evaluated on its own merits rather than on the basis of surrogate measures, such as the journal in which the research is published.

When assessing the scientific track record of applicants, NWO makes use of a broad definition of scientific output.

NWO requests committee members and referees not to rely on indicators such as the Journal Impact Factor or the h-index when assessing applications. Applicants are not allowed to mention these in their applications. You are, however, allowed to list other scientific products besides publications, such as datasets, patents, software and code, et cetera.

For more information on how NWO is implementing the principles of DORA, see [DORA | NWO](#).

4.2 Procedure

The application procedure consists of the following steps:

- Submission of the preproposal;
- Admissibility of the preproposal;
- Assessment of the preproposal;
 - Initial advice assessment committee
 - Opportunity to submit a motivated response in case of negative preliminary advice
- Decision-making preproposal;
- Submission of the full proposal;
- Admissibility of the full proposal;
- Assessment of the full proposal;
 - Peer review by referees;
 - Rebuttal;
 - Initial advice assessment committee;
 - Interview selection;
 - Interview and assessment committee meeting;

– Decision-making full proposal

For this Call of proposals, external, independent assessment committees will be installed per submission window, consisting of representatives from science with knowledge of the academic field. The task given to this assessment committee is to assess the submitted pre-proposals and proposals and thereto pertaining documents, in light of both the collective context and individual merits, based on the assessment criteria outlined in this Call for proposals.

4.2.1 Submission of the preproposal

The submission of a preproposal is compulsory for this Call for proposals. The preproposal is a concise proposal. For the preproposal submission, a standard form is available on the funding page of this Call for proposals on the NWO and ZonMw websites. When you write your preproposal, you must adhere to the questions stated on this form and the procedure given in the explanatory notes. You must also adhere to the conditions for the maximum number of words and pages. The preproposal form, completed by you, must have been received before the deadline via ISAAC or Mijn ZonMw (see section 1.3). After submitting the preproposal, the applicant will receive a confirmation of receipt.

4.2.2 Admissibility of the preproposal

As soon as possible after you have submitted your preproposal, you will hear from NWO whether or not it will be taken into consideration. NWO will determine this based on several administrative-technical criteria (see the formal conditions for submission, Section 3.4). NWO can only take your preproposal into consideration if it meets these conditions.

Please bear in mind that within two weeks after the submission deadline, NWO may approach you with any possible administrative corrections that need to be made so that your preproposal can (still) meet the conditions for submission. You will be given one opportunity to make the corrections, and you will be given five working days to do this.

4.2.3 Assessment of the preproposal

While writing the preproposal, please keep in mind that the committee that will evaluate your pre-proposal consists of members from the whole domain. The preproposal should be accessible for committee members from other academic disciplines within your domain. In case domains work with different evaluation panels, the (disciplinary) composition of these panels will be detailed on the relevant page per domain (<https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwo-talent-programme>, under the tab "Explore" > "Assessment").

The assessment committees evaluate the preproposals based on the criteria and make a ranking based on which proposals have the most chance of being awarded funding, without using external reviewers. They will formulate these comments based on the substantive assessment criteria (see Section 4.3.1) and they will give the proposal a numerical score per assessment criterion. For this, the NWO score table will be used (on a scale of 1 to 9, where "1" is excellent and "9" unsatisfactory).

Candidates will receive the provisional assessment of the assessment committee in a timely manner. Candidates with a negative advice will subsequently be given five working days to provide a substantive response to the provisional assessment of the assessment committee. This response is not meant to include additional, new information about the proposal, nor is it meant as a way to ask questions to the committee. Taking this information into account, the assessment committee will consider whether there is cause to revise the provisional assessment. After this consideration, the final ranking will be determined.

4.2.4 Decision preproposal

The advice of the assessment committee regarding the pre-proposals will be presented to the relevant

domain boards, which will make the final decision. The most promising candidates will receive a timely invitation to submit a full proposal before the deadline. The other applicants will receive a decision stating that they are not allowed to submit a full proposal. These applicants do not have the opportunity to submit a full proposal. They are also not allowed to submit a full proposal in a different domain from the domain they used for the preproposal.

4.2.5 Submission of the full proposal

For the submission of the full proposal, a standard form is available on the funding page of this Call for proposals on the NWO website (for the domains SSH, Science and AES) or the ZonMw website (for the ZonMw domain). When you write your proposal, you must adhere to the questions stated on this form and the procedure given in the explanatory notes. You must also adhere to the conditions for the maximum number of words and pages.

Your complete application form must have been received before the deadline via ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw (see Section 1.3). After this deadline, you can no longer submit a proposal. After submitting the proposal, the applicant will receive a confirmation of receipt.

4.2.6 Admissibility of the full proposal

As soon as possible after you have submitted your full proposal, you will hear from NWO whether or not your proposal will be taken into consideration. NWO will determine this based on several administrative-technical criteria (see the formal conditions for submission, Section 3.4). NWO can only take your proposal into consideration if it meets these conditions. Please bear in mind that within two weeks after the submission deadline, NWO may approach you with any possible administrative corrections that need to be made so that your proposal can (still) meet the conditions for submission. You will be given one opportunity to make the corrections, and you will be given five working days to do this.

4.2.7 Peer review by referees

Before the assessment committee considers your proposal, NWO will request input from at least two external referees. These are independent advisers who are expert in the subject of the proposal. They will assess the proposal based on the assessment criteria stated in the Call for proposals (Section 4.3).

A maximum of three non-referees can be registered. Applicants can register these non-referees in ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw when submitting the pre-proposal. NWO will not approach these non-referees to assess the proposal as external referees.

4.2.8 Rebuttal

The applicant subsequently receives the anonymised referee reports. You then have the opportunity to formulate a rebuttal. You will be given five working days to submit your rebuttal via ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw. If you decide to withdraw the proposal, then you should do this as quickly as possible by sending an email stating this to the office and withdrawing the proposal in ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw. If NWO receives your rebuttal after the deadline or if it does not meet the conditions, then it will not be included in the rest of the procedure.

4.2.9 Pre-advice assessment committee

After this, your proposal, the referees' reports and your rebuttal will be submitted for comments to several members of the assessment committee (the pre-advisers). The pre-advisers will provide a written substantive and reasoned response to the proposal. They will formulate these comments based on the substantive assessment criteria (see Section 4.3.1) and will give the proposal a numerical score per assessment criterion. For this, the NWO score table will be used (on a scale of 1 to 9, where "1" is excellent and "9" unsatisfactory).

4.2.10 Interview selection

This step in the process is applicable only to applications submitted to the ZonMw domain. The assessment committee will prioritise the applications in the interview selection based on the pre-advice. Subsequently, the applicants with the highest ranked proposals will be invited for an interview.

4.2.11 Interview and meeting of the assessment committee

The domains SSH, Science and AES do not have an interview selection. All those who have submitted a full proposal within these domains are invited to an interview. During the interview, the assessment committee has the opportunity to pose questions, including new questions that the referees have not asked yet. During the interview, the applicant can respond to these in the discussion with the committee. In this manner, the principle of hearing and rebuttal is applied. The interview is an important component of the assessment that may lead to revision of the assessment and the score of the application up until that point.

The committee will make its own assessment based on the available material. The referees' reports will to a large extent 'guide' the final assessment but will not be blindly accepted by the committee without question. The committee will consider and compare the arguments of the referees (also among each other) and examine whether the rebuttal contains a well-formulated response to the critical comments from the referees' reports. Furthermore, the committee, unlike the referees, assesses the quality of all proposals and rebuttals submitted. Therefore, the committee may differ from the referees in their assessment.

Following the discussion, the committee draws up a written recommendation addressed to relevant decision-making body about the quality and ranking of the proposals. This recommendation is based on the assessment criteria. The proposal must receive an overall qualification of at least "very good" to be eligible for funding.

For more information about the qualifications, see [Applying for funding, how does it work? | NWO](#).

If, after the discussion of the full proposals, two or more of the full proposals cannot be distinguished from each other based on their weighted total score, then there is an ex aequo situation (see the paragraph about ex aequo).

4.2.12 Ex aequo

NWO understands ex aequo to be a situation in which two or more proposals based on their weighted score cannot be distinguished from each other. An ex aequo situation is relevant with respect to the borders of the available budget or the selection borders. The existence of an ex aequo situation is determined as follows. The starting point is the ranking drawn up by the assessment committee, with the final scores rounded down to two decimal points. The reference score is the score of the lowest-ranked proposal within the borders of the available budget or the selection borders. All proposals with a score that is within 0.05 or less of the reference score will be considered. In this way, the proposals that are equal within a score of 0.1 will be selected. If an ex aequo situation occurs at the borders of available budget or the selection borders, then, in order to stimulate the number of females in science, the proposal from a female applicant will end as the highest. If the ex aequo situation is not resolved with this, then the proposal with the highest score for the criterion 'Quality and innovative character of the research proposal' will end highest. If this provides no resolution either, the ex aequo situation will be sent on to the decision-making body.

4.2.13 Decision-making

Finally, the relevant decision-making body will assess the procedure followed and the advice from the assessment committee. It will subsequently determine the final qualifications and take a decision about awarding or rejecting the proposals.

4.2.14 Timetable

Below, you will find the timetable for this Call for proposals. During the current procedure, NWO might find it necessary to make further changes to the timetable for this Call for proposals. You will be informed about this in time.

Pre-proposals	
Thursday 2 November 2023 14:00:00 CET	Deadline preproposals
November/December 2023	Committee assesses preproposals
Start of January 2024	Applicants receive preliminary decision (advice about whether or not to develop the preproposal into a full proposal) and possibility to submit their motivated response.
Early February 2024	Applicants receive final decision (about whether or not they are allowed to submit a full proposal)
Proposals	
Tuesday 26 March 2024 14:00:00 CET	Deadline proposals
April/May/June 2024	Referees consulted
June 2024	Applicants can submit a rebuttal
July 2024	(Possible) interview selection and interviews
August / September 2024	Interviews and assessment committee meeting
October 2024	Decision by the board

4.3 Criteria

4.3.1 Substantive assessment criteria preproposal

The preproposal within this Call for proposals will be substantially assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

Quality of the researcher

- Whether the researcher fits in the target group: is the researcher in transition to leadership, i.e. are they ready to establish a research group or expand a recent research group, and to what extent will the Vidi contribute to the researcher's leadership development?
- The extent to which the researcher's qualities clearly exceed what is customary within the international peer group, as evidenced in the CV by the quality and impact of the key output and by other academic achievements¹;
- The extent to which the researcher's work is clearly positioned with respect to scientific and (where possible) societal themes or questions;
- The quality of the (inter)national network, collaborative abilities and visibility of the researcher;
- Whether the researcher's key output and academic profile clearly align with the research idea, or whether the researcher presents a convincing vision of how this alignment will be achieved;

¹ Examples of 'other academic achievements' are contributions to the development of scientific theories and methods, indications of independence, contributions to Open Science and 'academic citizenship'.

- The extent to which the researcher demonstrates the capability of generating innovative ideas and independently developing these successfully;
- The extent to which researcher's approach to leadership and mentorship and plans for contributing to the development of individuals, as described in the academic profile, are appropriate.

4.3.2 Substantive assessment criteria full proposal

The applications submitted within this Call for proposals will be substantially assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

1. Quality and innovative character of the research proposal (75 %);
2. Scientific and/or societal impact (25 %).

Quality and innovative character of the research proposal

- The extent to which the proposed research has the potential to make an important contribution to the advancement of science²;
- The extent to which the proposed research contains (elements of) scientific innovation in terms of theory, methods and/or topic;
- The extent to which the proposed research goes beyond an incremental evolution of the applicant's current research;
- Whether the proposed research strikes an equitable balance between being challenging and feasible³;
- Whether the proposal aligns with the researcher's expertise, or whether the researcher presents a convincing vision of how this alignment will be achieved;
- The extent to which the proposed approach is appropriate;
- The clarity of the proposal, including question(s) posed and the objectives.

Scientific and/or societal impact

Applicants can choose to focus in their research project on scientific impact, societal impact, or a combination thereof.

NWO assesses scientific impact as follows:

- Whether the proposal conveys an ambitious vision and appropriate strategy regarding the dissemination and/or implementation of the research results in one's own discipline, related disciplines and the broader scientific field.

NWO assesses societal impact as follows:

- To what extent the project has added value for societal impact;
- To what extent the project has potential for societal impact in the short and long term; and
- Whether the proposal conveys an ambitious vision and appropriate strategy regarding the way(s) in which the proposed research may lead to societal impact.

In addition to the above and irrespective of the choice of impact, the assessment committee, as part of this criterion, will also weigh:

² NWO uses a broad definition of the term science, which includes technology, clinical research and scholarship.

³ Aspects that can be included in the assessment of feasibility include the logical and technological framework, planning and timeframe, and resources, such as allocation of human resources, data, tools, technology, expertise, experience, network and institutional support. NWO is open to the selection of high risk - high gain projects

- To what extent the motivation for the focus on scientific impact and/or societal impact is convincing;
- If the focus is primarily on scientific impact: how proportional attention is given during the course of the project to increasing (unforeseen) opportunities for social impact;
- If the focus is primarily on societal impact: how proportional attention is given during the course of the project to increasing (unforeseen) opportunities for scientific impact.

It is possible to receive a good score for this criterion if the focus of the proposal is on scientific impact, if the focus is on societal impact, and if the focus is spread across both types of impact. The score for this criterion is given independently from the chosen focus; one type of impact is not superior to the other.

5 Obligations for grant recipients

This chapter details the various obligations that - in addition to the conditions stated in Section 3.5 - apply after funds have been awarded.

5.1.1 Start, reporting and completion

Once the relevant domain board has announced its decisions, arrangements are made for each of the awarded or reject grants. 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. Vidi projects must always start within six months of the grant being awarded. The projects awarded funding will be managed by the NWO domain to which the application was submitted. During the Vidi project you as the project leader are responsible for the progress and final reports and you bear final financial responsibility. With the subsidy decision you will be informed who your contact person will be during the term and which obligations you must meet.

Guidelines for the financial accounting reports for NWO Talent Programme grants

1. The starting point for the expenditure of funds awarded to you is the final budget you submitted. This final budget serves to support the financial report.
2. In your proposal you have already stated which budget items are necessary for the realisation of the research under the heading Cost Estimates. As this distribution of items has already been assessed and approved on intrinsic grounds (can the proposed research be carried out with these?) this provides the foundation for drawing up the final budget.
3. The final budget should, for the purpose of excluding possible omissions, be drawn up in consultation with the financial manager of the recipient institution. The budget provides the basis for the financial management of NWO and of the recipient institution, as well as for the accountant who must issue an auditor's report in retrospect for the annual accounts.
4. The format in which the final budget must be presented is the same as the format in which the financial report must be presented after the project has been completed. NWO will offer a model format for this purpose.
5. Within 3 months after the end date of the grant you should submit a final scientific report as well as a financial report for all financial transactions attributed to the research project. The grant received and the costs booked for the research are part of the standard auditing procedure by the accountant for the purpose of the annual accounts.
6. The final establishment and possible payment take place once the final scientific report and the financial report have been approved. In addition to this a general qualification is made for the event that any shortcomings emerge following the financial audit of institutions

5.1.2 Data management

After a proposal has been awarded funding, the researcher should elaborate the data management section into a data management plan. For this, applicants can make use of the advice from the referees and committee. The applicant describes in the plan whether use will be made of existing data, whether new data will be collected or generated, and how the data will be made FAIR: Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable. Before submission, the data management plan should be checked by a data steward or similar officer of the organisation where the project will be realised. The plan should be submitted to NWO via ISAAC within 4 months after the proposal has been awarded funding. NWO will check 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.

More information about the data management protocol of NWO can be found at: [Research data management | NWO](#).

5.1.3 Intellectual property and consortium agreement

With respect to intellectual property (IP), the NWO IP policy applies. This can be found in Chapter 4 of the NWO Grant Rules 2017.

Applicants must carry out a project funded by NWO during the time that they work for the knowledge institution. If an applicant or a researcher funded by NWO is appointed by more than one employer, then the other employer should relinquish any possible IP rights that emerge from the project of the applicant.

In case of co-financing

After a proposal has been awarded funding, the conclusion of a consortium agreement is one of the conditions for starting the project. In this agreement, arrangements are made about intellectual property and publication, knowledge transfer, confidentiality, co-financing payments, progress reports, and final reports. Uploading in ISAAC is required before the project can start.

The responsibility for arranging the consortium agreement lies with the applicant. NWO is not a cosigner of the agreement.

The model agreement that NWO makes available must be used and can be found on the funding page of this Call for proposals. This model agreement has been drawn up in accordance with the NWO Grant Rules 2017.

5.1.4 Socially responsible licensing

The knowledge that emerges from the project could be suitable for use in society. When agreements about licensing and/or the transfer of research results developed under this Call for proposals are made, due consideration should be given to the ten principles for socially responsible licensing, as stated in the NFU factsheet "[19.4511 Ten principles for Socially Responsible Licensing v19-12-2019.pdf \(nfu.nl\)](#)".

5.1.5 User committee

After a project submitted to the AES Domain has been awarded funding, a user committee will be appointed in accordance with Article 3.3.2.a of the NWO Grant Rules 2017. The committee will follow the project and advise about the progress.

To promote the effective transfer to users of knowledge generated by the research, NWO Domain AES sets up a user committee for each research project in consultation with the project leader, based on the users proposed in the project plan.

Users of research are defined as natural or legal persons (at national or international level) who are able to apply the results of the research. A distinction can sometimes be drawn between direct users of the knowledge generated, usually companies, and end users, who buy the products from those companies. Both have their own role to play in the innovation chain and must be named in the knowledge utilisation plan. It is the explicit intention that potential technology users and end users outside the immediate circle and outside the research field of the researchers submitting the application should be involved in the project from beginning to end. Users should be able to apply the knowledge generated by the research in the medium to long term. Actual and potential users, if known, should be indicated in the research application.

A minimum of four users must sit on the user committee and should be included in the application.

At least two non-academic parties must be represented on the user committee. These users are not required to contribute financially, but they should participate in the user committee. Academic users may include, but are not confined to, (associate/assistant/full) professors working at another

university and interested in the proposed research. Non-academic parties include, amongst others, companies, clinics, patient associations, foundations, and civil society or public organisations. Users may include Dutch as well as foreign citizens and may work at a Dutch or foreign organisation, institute, knowledge institution, university and/or company.

5.1.6 Open Access

As a signatory to the Berlin Declaration (2003) and a member of cOAlition S (2018), NWO is committed to making the results of the research it funds openly accessible via the internet (Open Access). By doing this, NWO gives substance to the ambitions of the Dutch government to make all publicly funded research available in Open Access form. Scientific publications arising from projects awarded on the basis of this Call for proposals must therefore be made available in Open Access form in accordance with the Open Access Policy.

Scientific articles

Scientific articles must be made available in Open Access form immediately at the time of publication (without embargo) via one of the following routes:

- publication in a fully Open Access journal or platform registered in the DOAJ;
- publication in a subscription journal and the immediate deposition of at least the author accepted manuscript of the article in an Open Access repository registered in Open DOAR;
- publication in a journal for which a transformative Open Access agreement exists between UNL and a publisher. For further information, see [Open Access](#).

Books

Different requirements apply to scholarly books, book chapters and edited collections. See the Open Access Policy Framework at [Open Science | NWO](#).

CC BY licence

To ensure the widest possible dissemination of publications, at least a Creative Commons (CC BY) licence must be applied. Alternatively – in case of substantial interest – the author may request to publish under a CC BY-ND licence. For books, book chapters and collected volumes, all CC BY licence options are allowed.

Costs

Costs for publication in fully Open Access journals can be budgeted in the application using the budget module for “material costs”. Costs for publications in hybrid journals are not eligible for reimbursement by NWO. For Open Access books, a separate NWO Open Access Books Fund is available.

For more detailed information about NWO’s Open Access policy, see [Open Science | NWO](#).

6 Contact and other information

6.1 Contact

6.1.1 Specific questions

For questions about this Call for proposals, please visit the [webpage of the Talent Programme](#) or contact:

General questions Talent Programme and extension requests:
talent@nwo.nl

NWO Talent Programme
Domain Science
PO Box 93460
2509 AC The Hague
enw-vidi@nwo.nl

NWO Talent Programme
Domain SSH
PO Box 93461
2509 AC The Hague
sgw-vidi@nwo.nl

NWO Talent Programme
Domain AES
PO Box 3021
3502 GA Utrecht
ttw-vidi@nwo.nl

NWO Talent Programme
ZonMw
PO Box 93245
2509 AE The Hague
vidi@zonmw.nl

6.1.2 Technical questions about the web application ISAAC/Mijn ZonMw

For technical questions about the use of ISAAC, please contact the ISAAC helpdesk. Please read the manual first before consulting the helpdesk. The ISAAC helpdesk can be contacted from Monday to Friday between 10:00 and 17:00 hours on +31 70 34 40 600. However, you can also submit your question by email to isaac.helpdesk@nwo.nl. You will then receive an answer within two working days.

For technical questions concerning the use of Mijn ZonMw, please contact the service desk. This service desk can be reached during office hours via telephone number +31 (0)70 349 51 76, or via e-mail servicedesk@zonmw.nl.

6.2 Other information

The whole text of this Call for proposals has been published in both Dutch and English. The Dutch version is deemed authentic. For legal interpretation the text of the Dutch version will be decisive.

NWO processes data from applicants received in the context of this Call in accordance with the NWO Privacy Statement, [Privacy Statement | NWO](#).

NWO might approach applicants for an evaluation of the procedure and/or research programme.

7 Annex

7.1 Explanation of budget modules

You can find an explanation of the available budget items below. Approval from NWO is required before any changes are made to the content, personnel or financial aspects of the research plan and the corresponding final budget.

General

- The budget that is submitted with the application, is based on the direct staff costs and direct material costs that are eligible for the research.
- Administration of the grant takes place at the receiving institution.
- One unique administration number must be applied to the grant. The administration needs to be in accordance with the final budget, and a clear distinction must be made between staff costs and material costs.

Personnel

It is possible to apply for the funding of the salary costs of personnel who make a substantial contribution to the research. Funding of these salary costs depends on the type of appointment and the organisation where the personnel are/will be appointed.

- The calculation of eligible staff costs must be based on actual gross salaries and associated costs as specified in the current Dutch agreement on the funding of academic research ('Akkoord bekostiging wetenschappelijk onderzoek'), with the exception of end-of-project payments. The amount of these payments for the Vidi 2023 round will be based on the standard percentages in the agreement (<https://www.nwo.nl/en/salary-tables>).
- For university medical centres, actual gross salaries and mark-ups in accordance with the NFU salary tables in force at the time of grant award are used (<https://www.nwo.nl/en/salary-tables>).
- For personnel from other organisations, salary costs will be funded based on the collective labour agreement pay scale of the employee concerned in accordance with the applicable rate at the time of awarding the grant as taken from Table 2.2, column 'Hourly rate productive hours, excl. Dutch VAT' from the Handleiding Overheidstarieven [HOT- Manual Dutch Government Rates] (<https://www.nwo.nl/en/salary-tables>).
- For the Caribbean Netherlands, the Dutch government employs civil servants on Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba under different conditions than in the European part of the Netherlands: <https://english.rijksdienstcn.com/working-at-the-rijksdienst-caribisch-nederland/employment-terms-and-conditions>.

The mandatory one-off indexing has no influence on the level of the grant ceiling or on the maximum amount of the grant awarded per proposal. The level of the grant ceiling and the maximum amount of the grant awarded will remain unchanged during the assessment procedure. The mandatory one-off indexing will be applied after the decision-taking about awarding or rejecting proposals has been completed.

If co-funding is required or permitted then the one-off mandatory indexing will have no consequences for the co-funding requirement, nor for the IP rights that can emerge from the co-funding

Material

Project-related goods/services

- consumables (e.g. glassware, chemicals, cryogenic fluids, etc.);

- measurement and calculation time (e.g. access to supercomputer, etc.);
- costs for acquiring or using data collections (e.g. from Statistics Netherlands [CBS]);
- access to large national and international facilities (e.g. cleanroom, synchrotron, etc.);
- work by third parties (e.g. laboratory analyses, data collection, citizen science, etc.);
- personnel costs for the appointment of a postdoc and/or non-scientific personnel for a smaller appointment size than those offered in the personnel budget modules.

Travel and accommodation costs for the personnel positions applied for

- travel and accommodation costs;
- conference attendance (maximum of two per year per requested scientific personnel position);
- fieldwork;
- work visit.

Implementation costs

- national symposium/conference/workshop organised by the project researchers;
- costs for Open Access publishing (solely in full gold Open Access journals, registered in the "Directory of Open Access Journals" <https://doaj.org/>);
- costs data management;
- 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, office furniture, etc.);
- maintenance and insurance costs.

Knowledge utilization

The aim of this budget module is to facilitate the use of the knowledge that emerges from the research.⁴

As knowledge utilisation takes many different forms in different scientific fields, the applicant needs to specify the required costs, e.g. costs of producing a teaching package, conducting a feasibility study into potential applications, or filing a patent application.

The budget applied for should be adequately specified in the proposal.

Internationalisation

The budget for internationalisation is intended to encourage international collaboration. The amount requested must be specified.

Funding can be requested for:

- travel and accommodation costs in so far as these concern direct research costs emerging from the international collaboration and additional costs for internationalisation that cannot be covered in another manner;
- travel and accommodation costs for foreign guest researchers;
- costs for organising international workshops/symposia/scientific meetings.

⁴ In this budget module, the definition for "knowledge transfer" as used by the European Commission in the Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation (PbEU, 2014, C198) applies.

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Dutch Research Council

Visiting address:

Location The Hague

Laan van Nieuw Oost-Indië 300

2593 CE The Hague

The Netherlands

Location Utrecht

Winthontlaan 2

3526 KV Utrecht

The Netherlands

[Homepage | NWO](#)

