

Small projects call 2021

NWA has opened a third small projects call. This call will be coordinated by the Origins Center steering group, in a similar process as the 2020 call. Below a brief summary of the call. More information can be found in the file *OC-Small projects call 2021* and the full NWO call in *NWA-Call for Proposals kleine projecten*. NWO has left it up to the routes to design their internal procedure, as long as it is open and transparent.

We now invite you to submit preproposals to the Origins Center.

The maximum budget reserved for the Origins Center route is 300 k€. The steering group will reserve the optional 5% management costs to coordinate this effort. With the remaining 285 k€ we can fund up to three projects.

To accommodate for three projects and allow for a fair selection, we limit the budget per proposal to 95 k€.

Budget details can be found in the online information. But importantly 5-20% of the budget needs to be allocated to knowledge utilization, please keep that in mind when applying. If you have no ideas for knowledge utilization, we are happy to accommodate you, by including your work in the larger Origins Center programmes that are currently being developed, including a podcast series.

For the internal Origins Center procedure, we identified five steps:

1. **Feb 25:** Preproposal submission to the steering group.
2. **Feb 28 - March 10:** Eligibility check of submitted proposals by Origins Center network.
3. **March 11:** Final ranking and proposal draw by independent panel.
4. **March 14:** Announcement of three drawn proposals that will be develop to a full proposal for submission to NWO. This fourth step will be coordinated by a member of the steering group.
5. **April 5:** submission of final proposal to NWO.

The mandatory preproposal template includes a 300-word abstract and the list of NWA requirements that need to be addressed. A budget description is not necessary at this stage.

All network members will be asked to evaluate the proposal based on seven questions related to the criteria.

Please don't hesitate to contact us at: proposals@originscenter.nl

Maximum amount: € 300,000

Three projects: 50 - 95 k€ per project,

- The duration is maximum 2 years per project
- The project must start within six months of the allocation decision
- It is not allowed to split one large project into two or more sub-projects.

Origins Center Deadlines:

- Feb 18 - preproposal to Origins Center for open eligibility check by network
- March 4 - closing date eligibility check

- March 10 - draw from eligible proposal by independent panel
- March 11 - announcement of selected proposals
- April 5, 2022 at 2 p.m. - NWO submission deadline

Objective:

- Innovative: explore a new, out-of-the-box idea
- Synthesis: amalgamating existing knowledge to arrive at new insights that contribute to the knowledge agenda, ambitions and/or game changers of the route;
- Knowledge exploitation: (research into or for the benefit of) knowledge utilization, valorization and implementation of existing knowledge.

Knowledge Utilization:

Involvement of and interaction with society at large are important aspects of the NWA program, and should be part of the applications. This can be done by means of

- involving society during the implementation of the subprojects,
- applying Citizen Science in the subprojects,
- communication activities aimed at the wider society, linked to the subprojects.

Content criteria:

1. Connection to the route (25%) - whole proposal.
 - a. Extent to which a transparent process has been followed to arrive at a selection of the proposed subprojects in consultation with the route network and to create support. This means that the route network is involved in the development of the application, and that there is agreement between the route network and the route management on the proposed subprojects.
2. Connection (25%) - by subproject
 - a. Extent to which subprojects contribute to new and unexpected connections;
 - b. Extent to which within the subprojects the connection to society is made through involvement of society in the research, Citizen science and/or communication activities aimed at the wider society.
3. Relevance (25%) - per subproject
 - a. Extent to which the subprojects give substance to the topics relevant to the route, and thereby tie in with the route agenda, the ambitions and/or gamechangers of the route;
 - b. Extent to which the subprojects increase scientific and/or social impact of the route.
4. Project structure (25%) - per subproject
 - a. The proposed subprojects have an outline that allows the proposed idea to be implemented;
 - b. The proposed project budget is realistic and supports the design of the subprojects;
 - c. The proposed subprojects are consistent with the ambitions of the trail.
5. Utilization of knowledge - per subproject

The application must clearly specify, for each subproject, which activities will be developed in the context of knowledge utilization, and how these activities will contribute to the social impact of the results.

Main applicant:

Only the *boegbeelden* or *trekkers*, or a person approved by the route

In case of a person approved by the route acting as the main applicant, the route must give its written consent by means of a statement, see call.

Lead applicants will have an active role in the implementation of the project. Lead applicants will typically be the project leader of one of the subprojects. In addition, the lead applicant performs a coordinating function with respect to all subprojects that are part of the project application

Co-applicant:

- Co-applicants will typically be the project leader of one of the sub-projects
- A co-applicant may participate as a co-applicant in a maximum of two applications in this call.
- Persons with a zero hours employment contract are excluded from submitting as a co-applicant.
- No private limited company
- Institutes not on the NWO list must be submitted for approval by March 22, see call.

Mandatory annex(es):

- budget
- declaration in which figurehead or initiator(s) give(s) permission for submission (if applicable, see section 3.1.1)
- guarantee for continuity in project support (mandatory if applicable, see section 3.1.1).

Data management:

NWO expects that research data resulting from projects funded by NWO will be made freely available for reuse by other researchers as much as possible. Any costs incurred for this can be included in the project budget. Researchers will make known how data resulting from the project will be handled using the *data management* paragraph in the application, and the *data management plan* after grant award www.nwo.nl/datamanagement.

Assessment:

You may not mention indicators such as the Journal Impact Factor or the h-index in your application. However, you may mention other scientific products in addition to publications, such as datasets, patents, software and code and so on.

The application as a whole must be rated at least 'good'. In addition, the application must be rated at least 'good' for each of the individual assessment criteria. For more information on the qualifications see www.nwo.nl/kwalificaties.

If the application does not meet the criteria, the assessment committee will indicate which elements are insufficient and the lead and co-applicants will be given a one-time opportunity to revise the application on these elements.

NWO Timeline:

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|---------------------------------|--|
| • 5 th of April 2022 | Deadline applications |
| • May 2022 | Meeting assessment committee |
| • June 2022 | Decision assessment committee |
| • September 2022 | If application is not accepted, chance to adjust application |

Budget:

Budget module	Maximal budget
Postdoc	According to VSNU or NFU tables 1 fte PD = € 81,315
Non-scientific personnel	€ 100,000, according to VSNU of NFU tables, in combination with postdoc
Personnel colleges, educational institutions and other organizations	Budget according to "Handleiding Overheidstarieven 2021"
Material costs	€ 15,000 per year per fte postdoc
Knowledge Utilization	Minimal 5%, maximal 20% of total budget of subproject
Project management	Maximal 5% of total budget

Postdoc Funding:

The scope of a postdoc's appointment is a minimum of 6 full-time months and a maximum of 24 full-time months. The commitment can be arranged as desired, but is always at least 0.5 fte or the duration is at least 12 months. The product of fte x duration must always be at least 6 full-time months. For a more limited use of a postdoc, the material budget is available.

Non-Scientific Staff:

As a postdoc, but can only be appointed if a PD is also appointed.

Staff college et al:

Schaal	uurtarief	dagtarief	per jaar	Schaal	uurtarief	dagtarief	per jaar
1	€ 39	€ 312	€ 54.300	10	€ 70	€ 560	€ 98.300
2	€ 40	€ 320	€ 57.300	11	€ 77	€ 616	€ 109.300
3	€ 44	€ 352	€ 62.300	12	€ 87	€ 696	€ 122.300
4	€ 47	€ 376	€ 66.300	13	€ 96	€ 768	€ 135.300
5	€ 50	€ 400	€ 70.300	14	€ 105	€ 840	€ 148.300
6	€ 52	€ 416	€ 73.300	15	€ 113	€ 904	€ 159.300
7	€ 55	€ 440	€ 78.300	16	€ 121	€ 968	€ 171.300
8	€ 59	€ 472	€ 83.300	17	€ 130	€ 1.040	€ 184.300
9	€ 64	€ 512	€ 90.300	18	€ 140	€ 1.120	€ 198.300

Material:

- Per fte applied for scientific position (postdoc) a maximum of € 15,000 material budget can be applied for per year of appointment. Smaller projects on a pro rata basis.
- A maximum of € 15,000 in the material budget can be requested per 0.2 FTE academic staff member at a university of applied sciences, educational institution or other organisation (with a minimum appointment of 0.2 FTE for 12 months) per year of appointment.
- If the maximum amount is not sufficient to carry out the research, it may be deviated from, provided that this is properly justified in the application.

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]), for which the total amount may not be more than €25,000 per proposal
- 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 scientific position applied for)
- 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)
- audit costs (only for institutions that are not subject to the education accountants protocol of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science), maximum €5,000 per proposal; for projects with a duration of three years or less, a maximum of €2,500 per proposal applies

Costs that cannot be applied for are:

- basic facilities within the institution (e.g. laptops, office furniture, etc.)
 - maintenance and insurance costs
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Knowledge utilization:

Each subproject is required to spend between 5-20% of the budget on knowledge utilization.

In any case, the budget must include:

- Specific activities to promote knowledge utilization to (intermediary) parties not funded in the projects, such as knowledge platforms. These activities include joint learning activities, training and communication activities.
- Stakeholder involvement: activities organized by the consortium aimed at involving stakeholders, such as consultation workshops, expert meetings, round table meetings etc.
- Communication: activities organized by the consortium such as (international) learning events, development of videos, blogs, newsletters and other media expressions. Hiring of communication expertise may also be included.
- Skills development: Activities aimed at developing skills beyond the levels of individual students, PhD students or postdocs, such as developing courses for stakeholders or master students.
- Monitoring and evaluation moments in which knowledge utilization is a topic of discussion: such as the mid-term evaluations and the Advisory Committee meetings.