



Call for proposals

Encouraging European Research

2015

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

With effect from 2015, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, in alignment with the Ministry of Economic Affairs, has made extra funding available for publicly funded knowledge institutions that acquire European funds within Horizon2020. This funding will be provided via the so-called 'Encouraging European Research' regulation. This regulation makes a contribution towards the costs that institutions incur directly or indirectly for an EU-funded project.

1.2 Budget available

For 2015 the budget is 50 million euros and throughout the duration of Horizon2020 it is expected to remain at a similar level each year. The intention is that throughout the entire duration of Horizon2020 the funds from the Encouraging European Research regulation will be made entirely available to the institutions.

1.3 Validity call for proposals

This call for proposals is valid for 2015.

2 Aim

The Encouraging European Research regulation aims to increase Dutch participation of the publicly funded knowledge institutions in EU programmes for research and innovation and forms part of the policy to strengthen the Dutch knowledge and innovation system. With these funds successful knowledge institutions will effectively and efficiently receive a contribution towards the costs, in addition to the European project grants they have managed to acquire. This regulation will therefore encourage active participation of the publicly funded knowledge institutions in European research programmes.

3 Guidelines for applicants

3.1 Who can apply?

Funds from the Encouraging European Research regulation cannot be applied for. These are awarded to publicly funded knowledge institutions on the basis of contracts concluded within Horizon2020. The target group consists of universities, research institutions (both fundamental and applied research) and higher professional education institutions and has been set by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. An overview of institutions that are eligible for the regulation can be found on the funding page of this regulation (www.nwo.nl/se0-en). This overview is updated twice annually, both in Spring and in Autumn.

If a Legal Entity wishes to be included in the target group then it should first register as a Higher or Secondary Education organisation (HES) or as a Research organisation (REC) at the EU and then submit a substantiated request to NWO. NWO will subsequently pass this request on to the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science and the ministry will take a decision about admittance to the target group.

To be eligible for the additional funding, these institutions should have acquired a European project grant within Horizon2020. Each contract will be included once in the calculation of the grant in the context of the Encouraging European Research regulation. All contracts agreed upon within Horizon2020 are eligible for the stated regulation unless there is already co-funding from NWO or a Dutch government ministry. These contracts are excluded from the regulation.

3.2 What can be applied for?

The size of the grant in the context of the Encouraging European Research regulation, is a percentage of the funds acquired from Horizon2020, at the conclusion of the contract. For the years 2015 and 2016 this has been set by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science at 9%, as long as the amount of funds still remaining for 2016, as expected, is 50 million euros. After 2 years this percentage will be evaluated and, if necessary, adjusted for later years.

3.3 When will funds be awarded?

In November and December these funds are awarded by NWO to Dutch institutions that have received a European project grant within Horizon2020 in the previous year. For this process use will be made of the EU contracts database (Ecorda).

3.4 Drawing up an application

Funds from the Encouraging European Research regulation cannot be applied for. These are awarded on the basis of the contracts concluded within Horizon2020. Consequently there is no need to submit an application.

4 Assessment procedure

4.1 Procedure

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

NWO will try to award these funds each year in November and December to Dutch institutions that have received a European project grant within Horizon2020 in the previous year. The support function for Horizon2020 lies with the Netherlands Enterprise Agency. Each year at the end of October the Netherlands Enterprise Agency will receive a list from NWO with the names of the organisations that belong to the target group of the Encouraging European Research regulation. In November (if the EU contracts database has been updated by the EU), NWO will receive an overview from the Netherlands Enterprise Agency of the contracts received by the target group. For each new contract the Netherlands Enterprise Agency will give an overview of the size of the EU funds that the members of the target group have received. Based on this list, NWO will determine the total size of the EU funds acquired for each member of the target group. The award letters for the funds from the Encouraging European Research regulation will preferably be sent to the institutions within the same year.

4.2 Criteria

There are no selection criteria. The conditions for awarding funds are described in Chapter 3.

5 Contact

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