

**To:** (10)(2e) (10)(2e) @uu.nl  
**From:** (10)(2e); (10)(2e)  
**Sent:** Tue 11/3/2020 8:25:33 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Open competition - XL and NWA calls  
**Received:** Tue 11/3/2020 8:25:33 AM

Dank, er gaat weer een nieuwe wereld voor mij open \*

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**From:** (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>  
**Sent:** dinsdag 3 november 2020 06:58  
**To:** (10)(2e) (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@rivm.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@rivm.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@umcutrecht.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>  
**Subject:** Re: Open competition - XL and NWA calls

Interesting paper, folks; just out. If you have also interesting/relevant papers; let us know. Kind regards, (10)(2e)

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**From:** (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>  
**Date:** Sunday, 1 November 2020 at 11:38  
**To:** (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@rivm.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@rivm.nl>  
**Cc:** (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@umcutrecht.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>  
**Subject:** Re: Open competition - XL and NWA calls

Many thanks, (10)(2e) and (10)(2e) for the positive response; and indeed let's hope that we have the virus peak behind us. Kind regards, and have a nice Sunday, (10)(2e)

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**From:** (10)(2e); (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@rivm.nl>  
**Date:** Sunday, 1 November 2020 at 08:59  
**To:** (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@umcutrecht.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>  
**Cc:** (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>  
**Subject:** RE: Open competition - XL and NWA calls

Dear (10)(2e)

Yes we agree to take these steps, looking forward to work on the proposal, very happy with the timeline as it is after the peak of the resp viruses season \*

(10)(2e) (and (10)(2e) of course)

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**From:** (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>  
**Sent:** maandag 26 oktober 2020 18:41  
**To:** (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@rivm.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@rivm.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@umcutrecht.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>  
**Cc:** (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>; (10)(2e) <(10)(2e)@uu.nl>  
**Subject:** Open competition - XL and NWA calls

Dear consortium partners,

As discussed today, we would like to hear your opinion whether you wish to participate in the Covid-19 project and whether you agree to target the NWO – XL call as potential call and not the NWA. Please let us know what you think this week, so we can plan the next steps in the following week.

Below, you will find the description of the two calls with useful links and attached are a number of relevant documents.

We are looking forward to your reply.

Kind regards,

(10)(2e)

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#### **Open competition - XL**

##### ***Purpose***

Curiosity-driven, fundamental research is necessary for innovations that make society economically successful and socially resilient. The ENW XL-grant gives researchers the opportunity and freedom to start, strengthen or expand excellent, challenging and innovative lines of research.

##### ***Who can apply***

A consortium of at least two researchers from different research institutes can apply.

##### ***Budget***

An ENW-XL grant has a minimal size of 1,000,000 euro and a maximum size of 3,000,000 euro.

##### ***Deadlines***

Pre-proposals: 15 April 2021, at 14:00:00 hours CE(S)T.

Full proposals: 23 December 2021 at 14:00:00 hours CE(S)T.

##### ***Assessment criteria and procedure***

Pre-proposals are assessed for:

- Scientific quality of the proposal (50%);
- Quality of the consortium (50%).

Pre-proposals are assessed by cluster assessment committees. When NWO appoints the members of the cluster assessment committees it will do its best to choose experts for the research areas stated by the applicants. The cluster assessment committees select the most promising pre-proposals per cluster via a graded assessment of the assessment criteria. Preproposals are not submitted to referees and therefore no rebuttal is requested. Based on the advice of the cluster assessment committees, the Board of NWO Domain Science decides which proposals can submit a full proposal, and which cannot.

Full proposals are assessed for:

- Scientific quality of the proposal (40%);
- Scientific and/or societal impact (20%);
- Quality of the consortium (40%).

In the second step, the full proposals are submitted to referees for assessment. Applicants will subsequently be given the opportunity to respond in writing to the anonymised referees' reports (the rebuttal). All consortia will be invited for an interview with one of the three assessment committees. Subsequently, these assessment committees rank the proposals via a graded assessment of the assessment criteria. A domain-wide assessment committee agrees on a single prioritisation of the proposals and advises the Board of NWO Domain Science about the quality of the proposals. Based on this advice and the available funding, the Board of NWO Domain Science decides which proposals to award.

##### ***Further information***

<https://www.nwo.nl/en/funding/our-funding-instruments/enw/open-competition/nwo-open-competition-domain-science---xl/nwo-open-competition-domain-science---xl.html>

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#### **NWA**

Consortia that are interdisciplinary and cover the full breadth of the knowledge chain are invited to submit research proposals that

express the broad and innovative character of the Dutch Research Agenda (NWA). Proposals should fall within one or more NWA routes and address one or more of the 140 cluster questions. The starting point for this is the Portfolio for Research and Innovation.

#### **Purpose**

The aim of the NWA-ORC 2020/21 call for proposals is to encourage research and innovation focused on the portfolio of 25 routes (<https://2.wetenschapsagenda.nl/overzicht-routes/>) and the 140 corresponding cluster questions (questions related to our research idea: <https://vragen.wetenschapsagenda.nl/route/kwaliteit-van-de-omgeving>) in the NWA. This research will be set up and carried out by interdisciplinary consortia that will include representatives from the full breadth of the knowledge chain as well as relevant societal partners, including industry. The added value of the consortium will be evidenced by the joint approach to the research, with the individual strengths and expertise of each participant demonstrably reinforcing those of the others. Which knowledge partners are involved and which societal partners are relevant will depend on the objectives of the project.

#### **Who can apply**

Proposals should be submitted by a consortium in which the various types of research in the knowledge chain (fundamental, applied and practice-oriented) must be represented. There are four categories of participant within a consortium:

- Main applicant;
- Co-applicant(s);
- Co-funder(s)
- Cooperating partner(s) (optional)

#### **Budget**

In this round, proposals can be submitted in the following budget ranges:

- 500,000 – ≤ 2,000,000 euros;
- 2,000,000 – ≤ 5,000,000 euros;
- 5,000,000 – ≤ 10,000,000 euros.

#### **Co-funding**

Co-funding is obligatory in each proposal. The participating co-funders should jointly contribute at least 10% of the total project budget in the form of co-funding, either in-cash or in-kind.

#### **Deadlines**

Pre-proposals: 14 January 2021 at 14:00:00 CET.

Full proposals: 24 June 2021 at 14:00:00 CEST.

#### **Assessment criteria and procedure**

Pre-proposals:

- Alignment with the objectives of the NWA-ORC programme (weighting 75%)
- Scientific importance of the proposed project (weighting 25%)

Pre-proposals are allocated across various clusters. A selection committee is set up for each cluster. Each selection committee assesses and prioritises the proposals in its own cluster without consulting external referees. As a result, each pre-proposal receives a reasoned non-binding advice as to whether it should be elaborated into a full proposal. This means that consortia that receive a negative advice may still submit a full proposal.

Full proposals:

- Alignment with the objectives of the NWA-ORC programme (weighting 33.3%)
- Quality of the consortium (weighting 33.3%)
- Quality of the research proposal (weighting 33.3%)

Full proposals will be assessed in various clusters as well, with each cluster having its own selection committee. The full proposals are submitted to referees for assessment. Applicants will subsequently be given the opportunity to respond in writing to the anonymised referees' reports (the rebuttal). The full proposals together with the referees' comments and the rebuttals will subsequently be submitted for assessment to the selection committee. The selection committee will rank the proposals per cluster.

Based on this ranking, the consortia of the highest ranked proposals in each cluster are invited for an interview with the selection committee. After the interviews, the selection committee reranks the proposals based on the proposal, the referee comments, the rebuttal and the interview, coming to a final ranking for each cluster.

The rankings of the separate cluster committees will then be submitted to a broad, science-wide committee composed of delegations from the various cluster committees. Based on the independent cluster rankings drawn up after the interviews, the broad committee draws up a single final ranking.

The final ranking will be submitted to the NWO executive board. The executive board will marginally test the procedure and will take the final granting decision.

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(10)(2e) | Faculty of Science | Utrecht University | Budapestlaan 6 (room (10)(2e)) | 3584 CD | Utrecht | The Netherlands | +31- (10)(2e)

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