

**Horizon programme
Valorisation Project Grant**

April 2010, The Hague, The Netherlands

Objectives of the Horizon Valorisation Project Grant

The Horizon programme is set up as a breeding ground for talented researchers active in the scientific fields of Genomics and Bioinformatics. The Horizon Breakthrough projects within the Netherlands Genomics Initiative (NGI) are short-term projects (1-1½ years) that serve as a preparatory phase for further research and 1) focus on the development of individual talented researchers, 2) support innovative research, and 3) stimulate valorisation of research results.

NGI strives to promote the valorisation of genomics knowledge and scientific results derived from the Horizon programme. Valorisation is defined as the flow of new knowledge to users with a view to applying this knowledge in products, processes and services. Users can have a commercial and/or a non-commercial aim. Potential users can include industry, medical centres, (associations of) patients, et cetera.

In view of maximizing the valorisation potential of the research results of the awarded grants, a valorisation officer of the NGI Valorisation Network has been informed of each awarded Breakthrough project. If the project leader's host institution is not connected to a valorisation officer of the NGI Network, the Technology Transfer Office (TTO) of the host institution has been informed of the awarded Horizon grant. In the situation that the project leader's host institution does not have a TTO, NGI has approached a suitable valorisation expert in consultation with the project leader.

The Horizon Valorisation Project Grant is available for researchers that have already been awarded a Horizon Breakthrough project to further support valorisation of their research results. The grant may be used to validate research, or perform pre-clinical research or (further) clinical research to improve the valorisation potential of the research as performed in the Horizon Breakthrough project.

What can be applied for?

The maximum grant per Horizon Valorisation project is EUR 50,000. Applications can include a request for salary, consumables, the usage of equipment and costs related to IP (support and external advice). The duration of a Horizon Valorisation project is at most 1 year. Project leaders will have to present a final report of the Horizon Valorisation Project Grant.

For allocated grants, the General Terms and Conditions of NWO Grants ("Regeling Subsidieverlening NWO") is declared applicable. See the NWO website, contract VSNU until 01-07-2010, for standard lump sum amounts for various personnel.

Selection procedure and criteria

Admissibility criteria:

- a) Applicants must have received a grant for a Horizon Breakthrough project.
- b) The Horizon Valorisation Grant proposal can be submitted maximum three months after the official end of the corresponding Horizon Breakthrough project.
- c) Before submitting a Horizon Valorisation Project Grant, applicants must have contacted the relevant valorisation officer, TTO or designated valorisation expert. The valorisation officer will have to actively support the Valorisation Project grant application throughout the application procedure and throughout the duration of an allocated grant. The valorisation officer formally supports the application by signature.
- d) Applications should always contain a request for personnel. It is not possible to solely apply for budget for materials e.g. arrays, chemicals, etc.
- e) Only one application per person can be submitted per Horizon Breakthrough project.
- f) Due to the short length and high risk nature of a Horizon Valorisation project, it is not allowed to appoint a PhD student.

Assessment criteria

Besides the aforementioned admissibility criteria, the following two criteria will be applied and will carry equal weight in the assessment of the application.

1. Quality of the proposal
 - The quality of the suggested research approach and project activities.
 - The clarity of the suggested research approach and project activities.
 - The feasibility of the suggested research approach and project activities.
 - The suitability of the approach.
 - The soundness of the finances.



2. Potential for valorisation
 - Expected business opportunities and market potential.
 - How will the project improve the valorisation case.
 - Are the commercialization and business development activities in place?
 - Anticipated follow-up of the project.

Assessment procedure

The Horizon Valorisation Grant committee will be composed of experts from various disciplines. Committee members will make a written assessment of the grant proposal. Applicants will be invited to respond to these reports (to write a 'rebuttal') if they wish to. The Horizon Valorisation Grant committee advises NGI based upon the rebuttal and the application. Finally, NGI decides on allocation or rejection of the applications. Applicants will be informed of this decision within eight weeks after the submission of the grant proposal at the ZonMw ProjectNet.

Submission

The proposals may be submitted throughout the year, but within three months after the ending of the corresponding Horizon Breakthrough project. The proposals may only be submitted through the ZonMw ProjectNet system for electronic submission of applications. Application forms can be downloaded from ZonMw website.

Before official submission, the applicant should send the proposal to the NGI Secretariat, (contact person: Graciela Martinez; martinez@genomics.nl; 070-3440942) after which the proposal will be pre-reviewed by NGI. If the proposal seems applicable for submission, the applicant will receive a personal link to the ZonMw ProjectNet system for application of the proposal. The proposal will be assessed by the NGI Valorisation Committee.

Further information

For detailed information on the programme, visit the websites of ZonMw (www.zonmw.nl) or NGI (www.genomics.nl) and click on the Horizon page. For further questions contact NGI.