

Seed fund for collaborations with priority partners in the regions

Terms and conditions for participation

By applying to the Seed Funding Programme and agreeing to these Terms and Conditions, applicants acknowledge and accept the following terms under Dutch and EU jurisdiction in the event their project is awarded funding:

1. Truthful Declaration

The applicant confirms that all information provided in the application form is accurate, complete, and submitted in good faith. Submission of knowingly false information may result in the withdrawal of funding and/or further institutional consequences.

2. Funding and Eligibility Period

The awarded amount is a fixed **lump sum of €15,000**, to be spent **exclusively** in accordance with the approved project proposal between **1 January 2026** and **31 December 2026**. Funds must be administered in compliance with the applicant's host institution's financial policies and applicable Dutch/EU laws.

3. Ethical and Knowledge Safety Compliance

The applicant agrees to comply with all relevant ethical standards, including the [Dutch Code of Conduct for Scientific Integrity](#), and to take appropriate measures to mitigate risks related to knowledge security, dual-use research, or intellectual property misuse in accordance with institutional and national policies.

If the proposed project may cause issues with confidentiality, or focus on sensitive information, a dedicated collaboration agreement will be needed. The applicants will flag the need for this at the earliest opportunity. Project activities will be paused while the contract negotiations for this agreement are ongoing.

4. IP, Data Protection and Open Science

Legal rights to IP are owned by the creator, following university and national policy. When IP is created jointly, the legal rights will be shared. In this case, a dedicated collaboration agreement is needed between the researchers (owners) and their employers. The applicant will inform the funder of this need at the earliest opportunity.

The applicant shall manage personal data in full compliance with the **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)** [(EU Regulation 2016/679)] and any national implementing legislation. Research outputs and data shall be shared in accordance with **Open Science**

principles, following FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) guidelines unless exemptions apply.

5. Engagement with Regional Coordinators

The applicant agrees to actively engage with the designated regional coordinator(s) to discuss the long-term strategic potential of the funded project, and to cooperate in initiatives to strengthen international or regional collaboration, where applicable.

6. Public Outreach Requirement

The applicant commits to submitting a **short article** suitable for publication on the faculty website, summarizing the project's key outcomes and relevance, no later than the fourth quarter of **2026**.

7. Reporting Obligations

The applicant agrees to submit:

- A **progress report** by the end of **Q2 2026**
- A **final report** by the end of **Q1 2027**

These reports must comply with the formats and instructions provided by the seed fund organisers and should reflect on outcomes, budget use, and lessons learned.

8. Participation in Programme Evaluation

The applicant agrees to participate in the formal **evaluation** of the Seed Funding Programme, including surveys, interviews, or workshops, as reasonably requested.

9. Restrictions on Future Applications

The applicant understands and accepts that they may not submit the same or substantially similar project to the **2026 Seed Funding call** if the currently funded project is still ongoing during the submission period.

10. Involvement in Future Evaluation Activities

The applicant agrees to assist, if reasonably requested, in the **evaluation of future Seed Funding calls**, including activities such as reviewing proposals, providing feedback, or participating in selection panels, provided no conflict of interest exists.

Jurisdiction and Dispute Resolution:

These Terms and Conditions shall be governed by the laws of the **Kingdom of the**

Netherlands. Any disputes arising out of or in connection with these Terms and Conditions shall be submitted to the competent court in the Netherlands.
