TechMed Funding Newsletter

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The new Horizon Europe Health calls will open soon. This round offers the following interesting calls for health and technical/medical research:
- Developing EU methodological frameworks for clinical/performance evaluation and post-market clinical/performance follow-up of medical devices and in vitro diagnostic medical devices (IVDs)
- Gaining experience and confidence in New Approach Methodologies (NAM) for regulatory safety and efficacy testing – coordinated training and experience exchange for regulators
- Pandemic preparedness and response: Maintaining the European partnership for pandemic preparedness
- Bio-printing of living cells for regenerative medicine
- Pandemic preparedness and response: Host-pathogen interactions of infectious diseases with epidemic potential

All calls above have a deadline on the 11th of April 2024.

The 2023/2024 round of NWO Open Competition Domain Science M will open on the 8th of August. This funding instrument is open to proposals with a research question in or overlapping the fields of earth sciences, astronomy, chemistry, computer science, life sciences, physics and mathematics. The aim of the open competition is the same as previous years: for curiosity-driven and fundamental scientific research with impact. There are three categories of ENW-M grants: ENW-M-1 (1 scientific position), ENW-M-2 (2 scientific positions in collaboration) and ENWM-invest (investment) that are evaluated in competition with each other. The budget is 35.5 Million for the full year. Average success-rate of this call is between 20 and 25%. You can find the new call for proposals and updated application form here.

The new TURBO round for collaborative projects between UT and Radboud UMC is open. Annually, the two institutions will jointly supply four TURBO grants of 80K€ each for (preferentially) new collaborations between researchers from the University of Twente and Radboudumc. This pre-seed subsidy aims to support a joint grant application. Projects should be innovative and can be fundamental, applied or implementation science. At least one of the
awards will go to a valorisation project, which is defined as a project with a TRL or SRL 5 or above. The projects could concern SSH innovation with technology (in collaboration with the domain of care & wellbeing). In all cases, the project brings together health and technology (in the broadest sense). The deadline for this round is the 15th of September. More information can be found here.

The NWO Faculty of Impact program is aimed at researchers who want to achieve social impact with their research and are interested in setting up their own company. These researchers can now submit a grant application to become a so-called “fellow” at the Faculty of Impact. The Faculty of Impact offers participants an intensive, two-year training and support program to successfully translate their scientific invention into a scalable commercial or societal startup. A maximum of €185,000 can be applied for per selected fellow, to be spent on (in particular) salary costs. For more information, please see the funding page.

If you are interested, please inform the Knowledge Transfer Office via kto@novelt.com as soon as possible, or before the 1st of September. The KTO will be able to provide coaching on preparing a good proposal. Furthermore, they also encourage researchers who plan to apply for this grant to sign-up for the Entrepreneurial Researcher Bootcamp starting August 30th.

Please note that for this call 30% co-funding from the organization is required – depending on the number of researchers that are interested this might result in a pre-selection at UTwente.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need for: 1) rapid development and availability of new safe and effective therapies, and 2) the security of supply of approved therapies. With the Regulatory Pandemic Preparedness Program, ZonMw wants to generate knowledge that contributes to this. The first round within this program is aimed at optimizing the implementation of legislation and regulations in the Netherlands in the field of therapy development. Among other things, by identifying bottlenecks in the implementation of the European regulatory framework, and by offering solutions for this. This round includes exploring and (if possible) developing, improving and accelerating and/or experimenting with new regulatory routes to the market that are in line with the frameworks of the new EU legislation and regulations. ZonMw expects to open this call coming September. On the 7th of September there will be a matchmaking session in Utrecht. For more information and registration for the matchmaking session, take a look on the website.

NWO has changed the set-up of NWA-ORC. Starting this year, each year, a number of themes will be selected for which consortia can submit research proposals. The route networks will contribute to these themes, which NWO will then evaluate. The themes will address one or more of the cluster questions. Ultimately, each route will be able to propose a theme in either the 2023 round or the 2024 round. One proposal will be awarded for each theme. A list of this year’s themes can be found here. The 2023 round of NWA-ORC has a statement of intent deadline of the 3th of October 2023. More information of the 2023 round and the call for proposals can be found here.

IHI calls 4 and 5 are open for submission. The Innovative Health Initiative (IHI) is a public-private partnership (PPP) between the European Union and the European life science industries. Their core goals are to translate health research and innovation into tangible benefits for patients and society, and ensure that Europe remains at the cutting edge of interdisciplinary, sustainable, patient-centric health research. Any organization established in the EU or a country associated to Horizon Europe is eligible to receive IHI funding. In practice, IHI funding primarily supports the
participation in its projects of organizations like universities, research organizations, patient organizations, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and mid-sized companies. Depending on the type of call for proposals, larger companies may also be eligible to receive IHI funding.

The topics under IHI call 4 consist of two-stage proposal, with a preproposal deadline of 8 November 2023 and full proposal deadline of 23 April 2024. Each of these topics is supported by a predefined industry consortium; meaning that in order to have a chance at obtaining funding partners of this predefined consortium should join your proposal. The topics under IHI call 5 are single-stage proposals, with a deadline of 16 January 2024.

IHI proposals require at least 45% co-funding. This is a lot, however, the predefined consortia partners make it much easier to reach this number. You can use the IHI portal to look for partners. Furthermore, IHI has a success rate of more than 20%, higher than Horizon Europe, making it a very interesting funding instrument.

If you are interested in applying to any of the IHI calls, do contact TechMed as soon as possible, so we can support you with your competitive proposal.

New Zealand joined Horizon Europe. On the basis of the association agreement, researchers and organisations in New Zealand will be able to participate in Pillar II of Horizon Europe. They will be able to collaborate in the programme on equal terms with entities from the EU Member States and will have access to Horizon Europe funding and networks of researchers in Europe and beyond aimed to tackle global challenges.

Formal negotiations to join Horizon Europe are currently ongoing with Canada, and recently the Commission has launched negotiations with the Republic of Korea. Exploratory talks with Japan closed in September 2022 and technical discussions are ongoing.


Calls with upcoming deadlines

Below you will find a selection of funding opportunities in the technical-medical domain, from national and European funding sources. This list is not exhaustive, and does not include continuously open grants. This overview enlists grants with a (pre-)proposal deadline on or after 16 September 2023.

1. **SONY Faculty Innovation Award**, provides funding for cutting-edge academic research and helps build a collaborative relationship between faculty and Sony researchers in the areas of Information Technology, Devices and Materials, and Biomedical and Life Science  
   **Budget:** $100,000  
   **Deadline:** 16-09-2023
2. **NWO Open Competition Domain Science – XL**, funding for curiosity-driven, fundamental research in the research fields of the NWO Domain Science (earth sciences, astronomy,
chemistry, computer science, life sciences, physics and mathematics).

**Budget:** €1,000,000 - €3,000,000  
**Deadline:** 19-09-2023 (pre-proposal)

3. **Michael J Fox Foundation - Freezing of Gait (FOG) in Parkinson’s Disease Research Program**, supports clinical studies that advance the knowledge of Freezing of Gait (FOG) and balance disorders to support therapeutic treatments. Applications are open to multi-centric studies with cross-disciplinary teams.

**Budget:** $250,000 - $2,000,000  
**Deadline:** 26-09-2023 (pre-proposal)

4. **NWO Open Science Fund**, to support researchers to develop, test and implement innovative ways of making research open, accessible, transparent and reusable, covering the whole range of Open Science.

**Budget:** €50,000  
**Deadline:** 26-09-2023

5. **ADDF Alzheimer’s Prevention Program**, to support researchers and clinicians based in academic institutions, companies and non-profit organisations worldwide to carry out studies of cognitive symptoms due to health conditions, comparative effectiveness research and epidemiological studies that investigate whether the use or choice of drugs alters the risk for dementia or cognitive decline.

**Budget:** $5,000,000  
**Deadline:** 29-09-2023 (letter of intent)

6. **ADDF Alzheimer’s Drug Development Program**, to support researchers and clinicians based in academic institutions, companies and non-profit organisations worldwide to develop therapeutics for Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias.

**Budget:** $5,000,000  
**Deadline:** 29-09-2023 (letter of intent)

7. **ADDF Neuroimaging and CSF Biomarker Program**, aims to further develop and validate established biomarkers for which there is a clear clinical need in Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias. It prioritises biomarkers with a defined context of use, a clear advantage over other relevant biomarkers and a path to commercialisation and/or clinical use, with an emphasis on clinical trials.

**Budget:** $600,000  
**Deadline:** 29-09-2023 (letter of intent)

8. **ZonMw – Proper Use of Care Aids – Open Round 6**, funding for research into the effectiveness of at home care aids.

**Budget:** €600,000  
**Deadline:** 28-09-2023 (project idea)

9. **NGF AiNed XS Europe-1**, to support promising ideas and to facilitate innovative and more speculative initiatives that focus on the challenges outlined in the national AI research agenda AIREA-NL and are designed in collaboration with at least one European collaborative partner organization. The proposed research is ground-breaking and involves a real risk of failure.

**Budget:** €80,000  
**Deadline:** 03-10-2023

10. **Dutch Brain Foundation - On the Road to Healing Programme**, focused on developing and advancing disease-modifying treatments, and treatments that cure, stop or slow down brain disorders. Solving a need within the target group and the further transfer of
results to healthcare practice (application-oriented research) are central to this.

**Budget:** €600,000  
**Deadline:** 06-10-2023 (project idea)

11. **NWO Perspective Programme**, aimed at solving innovation bottlenecks by applying innovative knowledge and thus contributing to technological innovation with a potential social and economic impact for the Netherlands.

**Budget:** €5,000,000  
**Deadline:** 10-10-2023 (letter of intent)

12. **Health~Holland - HHINT Kickstarter for Public-Private Partnerships**, to stimulate international, public-private partnerships (PPP). Within the framework of the program, companies and recognized knowledge institutions are invited to apply for financial support (PPP Allowance) to help them establish a long lasting international public-private partnership in R&D.

**Budget:** €120,000  
**Deadline:** 12-10-2023

13. **Cure Parkinson’s Quarterly Research Grant Funding Programme**, for laboratory or clinical research projects with the potential to cure Parkinson’s. The definition of cure in this instance is disease-modifying therapy or therapies: to slow, stop or reverse underlying disease progression.

**Budget:** £250,000 (for pre-clinical projects)  
**Deadline:** 16-10-2023

14. **NWO Open Competition Domain Science – XS 23-4**, to support promising ideas and to facilitate innovative and more speculative initiatives within the seven Domain Science disciplines. The proposed research is ground-breaking and high-risk. What counts is that all results, be they positive or negative, must contribute to the advancement of science.

**Budget:** €50,000  
**Deadline:** 24-10-2023

15. **JDFR – Strategic Research Agreements**, Three-year funding for basic, pre-clinical and clinical research to address knowledge gaps, research challenges and potential breakthroughs in the prevention, treatment and cure of Type 1-diabetes.

**Budget:** Discretionary  
**Deadline:** 02-11-2023 (letter of intent)

16. **EUREKA - ITEA-4**, the strategic Eureka Cluster program supporting innovative, industry-driven, pre-competitive R&D projects in the area of software innovation. The program is open to large industry, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), start-ups, academia, and customer organisations and covers a wide range of business opportunities facilitated by digitisation such as smart mobility, healthcare, smart cities and energy, manufacturing, engineering, and safety & security.

**Budget:** Discretionary  
**Deadline:** 13-11-2023

**Missing grants, or would you like more information or specific advice on which grant is suitable for your project? Or would you like to receive help in preparing your proposal?**  
Contact the TechMed Funding Officer.

**For weekly updates on calls, join the SBD – Grants Office Support Hub**
What’s more?!

Staying on top of funding news:
- SBD – Grants Office Support Hub
- ResearchConnect
- EC funding & tender opportunities

Looking for collaborators:
- Within the UT, you can look for fellow researchers based on their research output.
- Crowdhelix: international kind of memo board; mostly used for HEU calls.
- HEU: For each call there is a list of people who have indicated that they are looking for partners, or a consortium to join.

Relevant contact information
- For more information and personalized advice, TechMed Funding Officer, Mariska van den Berg
- For advice on personal grants: SBD Grants Office