

NWO Research programmes

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The Female Faculty Network

Twente University

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Research in the Netherlands

- Total R&D expenditure: approx. 9 billion euro
- Percentage of GNP: 1,75 %

- Total expenditure in public sector: 3,7 billion euro (2005)
- Government: 70%
 - NWO: 11%
 - Private companies: 11%
 - From abroad: 5%
 - Private non-profit: 3%



NWO at a glance

- Independent, non-governmental, self-governing funding organisation (NWO law)
- Basic research, all fields of science
- Science-driven organisation; operation based on peer review
- Annual expenditure approx.: 500 M€



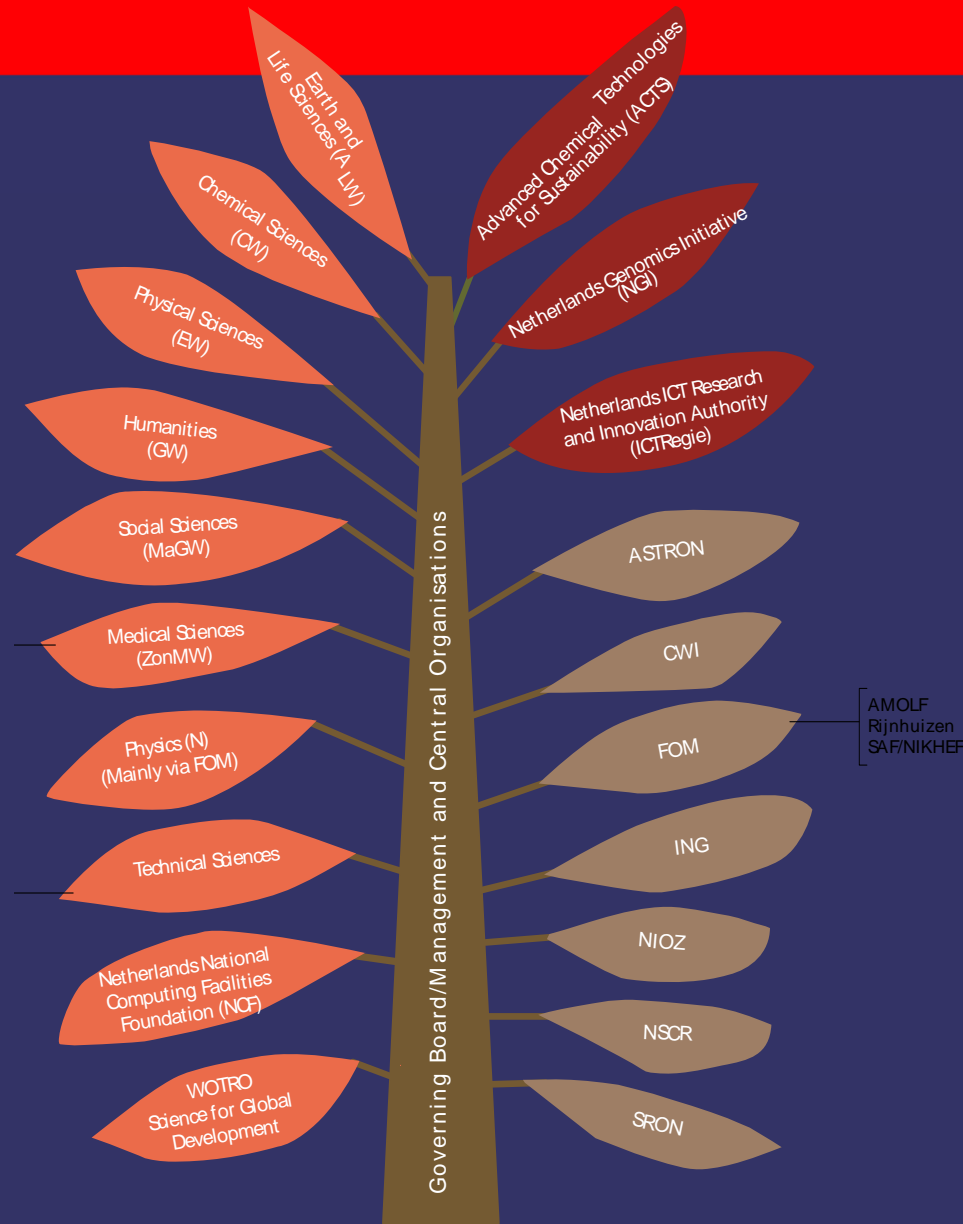
Mission

NWO stands for scientific excellence and innovation

- Enhancing the quality and innovative nature of scientific research
- Allocating resources for research
- Facilitating the transfer of knowledge to society
- Enhancing the leading position of the Netherlands in the global knowledge economy



NWO:





Granting pillar: independent divisions

- Chemical Sciences
- Earth and Life Sciences
- Humanities
- Medical Sciences
- Physics
- Physical Sciences
- National Computing Facilities
- Science for Global Development
- Social Sciences
- Technical Sciences

Temporary Task Forces

- Netherlands Genomics Initiative
- Advanced Chemical Technologies for Sustainability
- National ICT Research and Innovation Technology

NWO research institutes



Netherlands Foundation for
Research in Astronomy
(ASTRON)



Institute for Dutch History
(ING)



Foundation for Fundamental
Research on Matter
(FOM)



Royal Netherlands Institute
for Sea Research (NIOZ)



Sub Atomic Physics/National
Institute for Nuclear
Physics and High Energy
Physics (SAF/NIKHEF)



National Research Institute
for Mathematics and
Computer Science (CWI)



FOM-Institute for Atomic and
Molecular Physics (AMOLF)



Netherlands Institute for the
Study of Crime and Law
Enforcement (NSCR)



FOM-Institute for Plasma
Physics 'Rijnhuizen' (FOM)

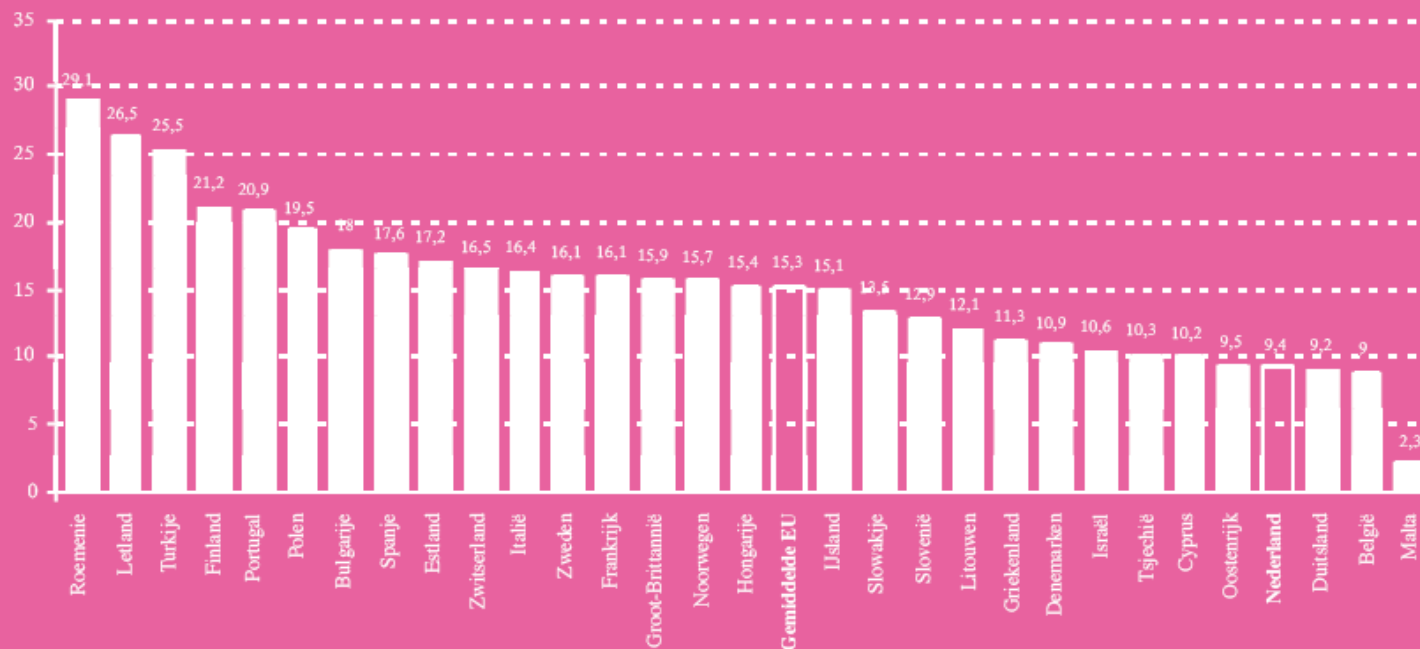


Netherlands institute for
Space Research (SRON)



Issue of diversity

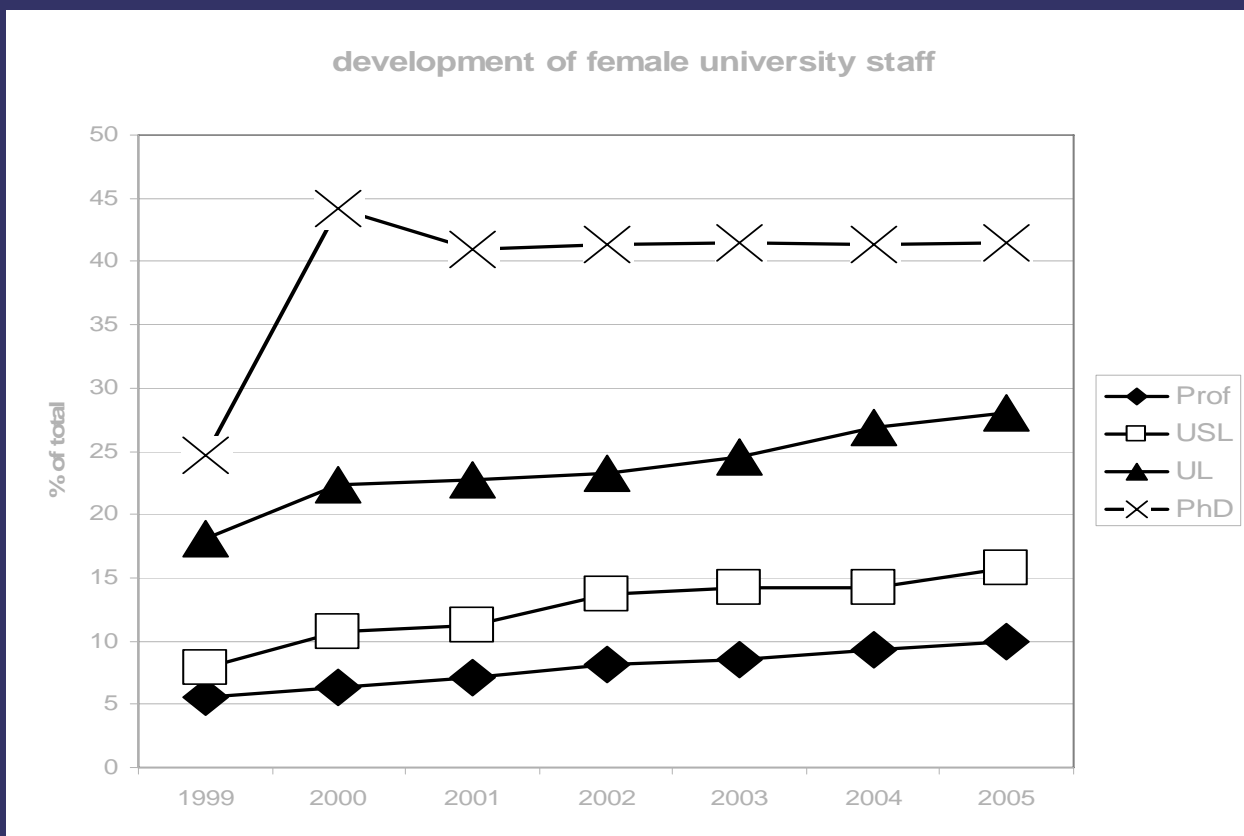
FIGUUR 1 Het aandeel vrouwelijke hoogleraren EU (in percentage), peiljaar 2004



Bron: She Figures 2006, Women and Science, Statistics and Indicators
(European Commission, 2006)



Issue of diversity





NWO contribution to increase participation of women

- No age limits wherever possible
- Extension of time-limits for submission of proposal (*on grounds of pregnancy, parental leave or part-time appointments in combination with care responsibilities*)
- Monitoring application and grant figures
- Female representation in committees and boards
- Special programmes for women
- Mainstreaming: women in Veni/Vidi/Vici



Various NWO projects/programmes especially designed for women

- **Aspasia:** for Vidi and Vici laureates who are appointed associate professor (Vidi) and full professor (Vici)
- **Athena:** appointment of female Veni laureates as assistant professors within the Chemical Sciences
- **Meervoud:** appointment of female post-doc researchers as assistant professors within the Life Sciences and Physical Sciences
- **FOM/v:** promotes female physicists
- **Vademecum:** Create and monitor internal awareness at NWO of gender effects in all our granting procedures
- **EQUAL (ESF):** joint project to increase number of female scientists and board members, awareness, research and putting the issue on the agenda



Personal Grants – Target groups

- PhD grants:
 - TopTalent
 - Mozaïek (ethnic minorities)
- Post-doctoral grants:
 - Rubicon: young post docs, stay abroad
 - “Open competition” (PhDs + post docs)
 - “Vernieuwingsimpuls” (VI) (post docs, ‘indirect’ PhDs)
- Spinoza: top level award



Mozaïek

- target group: ethnic minorities
- last-year students and graduates of Dutch universities *
- PhD-grant (lump sum € 180.000)
- recommendation letter of intended mentor (professor)
- brief research idea (preproposal)
- selection by committee
- definite proposal after workshops
- next deadline/round (2009) unknown/undecided

* some specific conditions apply



Rubicon – Goals

- Impulse to young researcher's careers
 - talented, young researchers (any nationality)
- Impulse to Dutch science
 - mobility
 - new, creative research lines
 - impact on university system



Rubicon

- PhD-students and fresh doctors (until 1 year after PhD)
- Stay abroad (max. 2 years) or in the Netherlands (max. 1 year)
- Only *one* application allowed
- Open to all nationalities
- 2008: 1 April, 2 September, 2 December
- Requirements: application (max. 3 p. A4), CV (max. 3 p. A4), 2 letters of recommendation, 1 invitation letter of host institute
For PhD-students: approval form PhD-thesis
- Criteria: quality of applicant, proposal, host institute
- Three Clusters: Alfa-Gamma, Life Sciences and Bèta Sciences
- No reviewers



Vernieuwingsimpuls – goals

- All fields of science and scholarship are eligible
- Excellence is the only valid criterion
- Investment in research talent
- Independent individual investigators and groups



Vernieuwingsimpuls – three stages

Veni-stage: 'fresh' doctors and young post docs

- 0-3 years after doctorate
- € 208.000 (3 years); ca. 100 grants (2008)
- deadline: 2009

Vidi-stage: experienced post docs + **group**

- 3-8 years after doctorate
- € 600.000 (5 years); ca. 75 grants (2008)
- deadline: 2009

Vici-stage: senior post docs/professors + **group**

- 8-15 years after doctorate, 0-3 years after professorate
- € 1.250.000 (5 years); ca. 28 grants (2008)
- deadline: 1 April 2008



Vernieuwingsimpuls – procedure

- Open filing by any researcher of any nationality who fulfills conditions
- Criteria: Quality of applicant, Innovative character of the proposed research, Quality of the research plan
- Peer review (by nat. & int. senior researchers)
- Reaction of applicant to reviews
- Meeting by selection committees
- Interview (if selected) with panel
- Decision by boards of the divisions and general board of NWO
- Possibility to appeal/object



Mainstreaming: women in Veni/Vidi/Vici

- Universities should encourage female researchers to participate in this programme
- NWO guarantees that granting percentages for female candidates will be minimally equally high as for male candidates (averaged over several years).
- Ministry provides 2 million euro annually (since 2004) for extra Vidi and Vici grants for women who have been rated as 'very good or excellent'.



Vernieuwingsimpuls – statistics NWO

2002-2007	applications	grants	%	M€
Veni:	3467	747	22%	152
Vidi:	2068	479	23%	287
Vici:	991	169	17%	211
Total:	6526	1395	21%	650

2002-2007	appl. (f)	grants(f)	%
Veni:	1332	301	23%
Vidi:	540	137	25%
Vici:	184	36	20%
Total:	2056	474	23%



Vernieuwingsimpuls – 2009

- Full grant paid by NWO (no matching)
- Increase of budget:
 - 2008: 100 M€
 - 2009: 150 M€
- More grants, higher budgets (no details yet)
- More information later in 2008



When writing a proposal – don't's

- don't exceed the word count / page limit
- don't exceed the budget (unless covered by institute)
- don't be too modest, but remain realistic (high competition)
- don't send any publications or extra letters of recommendation



When writing a proposal – do's

- write clearly and structured ('architecture' of your proposal)
- remember the role of reviewers/committee members: proposal neither too specialistic, nor too global
- take note of the criteria, esp. innovative character for the VI
- keep your CV clear and *to-the-point*, add foreign experience and (academic) leadership experience (esp. Vidi, Vici)
- describe your own work apart from the work of the additional postdoc/PhD part (Vidi/Vici)
- show your concept-proposal to senior researchers; gather critical comments; contact successful applicants



How to apply?

- The brochure and the necessary forms are available at the website approximately 6-8 weeks before the deadline
- Extension-clause (care, clinical education)
- Electronic application and handling, Iris system
- Upload your application as a pdf document



NWO – information

- www.nwo.nl/rubicon rubicon@nwo.nl
- www.nwo.nl/vi vi@nwo.nl
- www.nwo.nl/kleurrijktalent mozaiek@nwo.nl
- www.nwo.nl/meervoud
- www.nwo.nl/aspasia
- www.fom.nl
- brochure VI 2008, (nov: 2009): email to vi@nwo.nl
- electronic application: iris@nwo.nl
(*Iris* helpdesk; 0900–NWO IRIS, 15 cpm)



Thank you for your
attention

Helga Varwijk

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Rubicon Conditions I

1. Applications must be submitted by individual researchers
2. Only one application allowed
3. Applications can be submitted when:
The applicant graduated and/or obtained the doctorate at a Dutch institution
or
The Rubicon research will be conducted at a Dutch institution.



Rubicon Conditions II

4. The research must be conducted in a country other than the one where the applicant graduated or obtained the doctorate, unless that country is the Netherlands.
5. Applications will be admissible only if the candidate is to conduct the research at an institution other than the one that awarded his or her doctorate.
6. The written invitation from the intended host institution should include an explicit commitment to provide facilities for the candidate for at least the duration of the grant period.
A Rubicon grant does not constitute a contract of employment with NWO.