2023 Vaccine Seed Grants ERRAZE@WUR Guidelines and form

Early Recognition and Rapid Action in Zoonotic Emergencies



More information: contact Joukje Siebenga

Background

ERRAZE@WUR

ERRAZE@WUR is a research and investment programme supported by WUR, with the mission: **To leverage the knowledge, network and capacity of WUR, to strengthen the global capacity on Pandemic Crisis Management, with the goal of reducing the chance of future pandemics occurring, and reducing their impact when they do occur.**

WUR has a very strong knowledge base and international network, in a range of fields that are critical to the prevention, and mitigation of pandemics. Our researchers have a strong track record in taking a One Health approach to address issues that matter. This includes expertise around developing vaccines.

The programme has been assigned funds by the Executive Board and Board of Directors of WUR, which are specifically intended to be leveraged to establish relevant external collaborations and generate further external funding to deliver towards the programme's mission. More information about ERRAZE@WUR can be found both on the programme's <u>internet page</u> and <u>intranet group</u>.

Vaccine seed grant projects

Objectives of the vaccine seed grant

Here we call for proposals from across Wageningen University & Wageningen Research, for projects that will help strengthen WUR's acquisition power in the field of R&D relevant to the development and effective use of all types of vaccines. We wish to clarify that the purpose of the vaccine may be broader than those that would fit under the scope of the ERRAZE@WUR programme (which pertains to pathogens with pandemic potential only); any type of vaccine expertise is eligible for the seed grants.

Financial information, application process, timelines and project durations

Up to four seed/demonstrator projects will be granted, with a maximum of 40k€ per project, for a duration between 0.5-1.0 years. For budgeting, WU groups should use an internal tariff rate (Dutch: IKP, geen concernheffing). WR research groups should use the WR internal tariff.

Call open, guidelines and forms available	20 February 2023
Submission deadline	26 April 2023, 17:30
Results selection of seed grants announced (no later than)	24 May 2023
All projects finalised	31 December 2024

Projects are to be finalised before 31-12-2024. Granted funds that were not expended by that date will go back to the ERRAZE@WUR programme.

Project types and eligible expenses

Proposed projects should include a clear pathway to impact, such as strengthened vaccine-related expertise and collaboration within WUR, enhanced external visibility of WUR's expertise, or pathways to future funding. We outline <u>suggestions</u> for types of activities, as well as the expenses covered for the different groups we intend to fund. These lists are not exhaustive.

Types of projects may include Proof of Principle studies, skills exchange trips to other universities/ institutes, pilot project expenses, coordination of large consortium driven grant applications ..., etc. Contact <u>Joukje.Siebenga@wur.nl</u> if you want more information about the eligibility of your proposed activities or expenses.

Staff eligibility

The call is open to all WUR employees who have an employment contract for the duration of the grant. To stimulate and strengthen the network of vaccine related expertise, each proposal should involve researchers from at least two different WUR-departments. Preference will be given to new collaborations.

Diversity criteria

ERRAZE@WUR wishes to support diversity among programme participants, and therefore encourages people of currently underrepresented backgrounds and qualities both within WUR and within ERRAZE@WUR to apply. We note that preference may be given to applicants from currently underrepresented backgrounds over other applicants. Staff with part time employment and/ or care duties are encouraged to apply, time allocation to the proposed project will be considered in this context. Contact Joukje Siebenga if you'd like to discuss specific requirements.

Deliverables and reporting

Successful projects must submit a final report upon completion of the project, with a summary of the deliverables and a brief financial statement, upon which the funding will be released (in arrears, against actual costs). Depending on the timelines associated with the specific project, a midway progress report may be requested.

Aside from the deliverables associated with each specific project, successful applicants will be invited to present their results at future ERRAZE@WUR events.

Assessment criteria

Proposals will be checked for completeness and eligibility criteria by the ERRAZE@WUR programme manager. Ineligible, incomplete and late proposals will not be assessed. The ERRAZE@WUR programme team will assess and rank proposals according to the criteria below. They may ask additional assessors with complementary expertise to weigh in. Their recommendations will be presented to the ERRAZE@WUR steering committee for consideration and final investment decision.

Ranking will occur using the following criteria:

• Soundness and feasibility of the plan.

The presented plans are feasible within the allotted time, risks are well identified, proportionate to the possible gains, and where possible mitigated by alternative approaches. Clear outputs or deliverables are described, with associated timelines.

• New collaborations built.

A <u>One Health approach</u> with collaborations across disciplines is considered an important component of all ERRAZE@WUR projects. Applicants are required to collaborate across science groups. If appropriate for the goals of the project external partners are also allowed. New collaborations are preferred over existing ones.

• Impact on strengthening WUR's expertise and visibility in vaccine related areas. A credible and feasible plan is presented that enhances WUR's chances in participating in future consortia, helping deliver safe and effective vaccines, or obtaining future funding for the proposed work.

• New knowledge generated and embedded in WUR.

Capacity building or other outcomes with demonstrable relevance to vaccine related expertise. The project is well placed in the current state of the art, and aims to add to it.

Application form for ERRAZE vaccine seed/demonstrator projects

This form serves to inform the selection committee for the ERRAZE vaccine seed/demonstrator project, enabling them to make an informed decision about supporting the proposed workplans.

Write for scientists outside your field, but include sufficient detail to convince experts in your field. The use of figures is encouraged but not required.

Feel free to adjust the formatting of tables, if required.

Maximum of 3 A4 pages for the text sections excl. the tables for your Team and for the Budget.

<u>After completing the form, remove the guideline pages, and the italicised text in the form</u>. Submit your form to joukje.siebenga@wur.nl

Descriptive title

An explanatory subtitle is allowed.

Short summary. Maximum 250 words

Team

· can			
Name	Affiliation	Position	Role in activity
	E.g. WBVR,	E.g. Sr Researcher	E.g. Activity leader, data
			steward, project advisor,
			etc

! Indicate who will be the project leader, who will be the deputy, etc. The project leader will be responsible for the (administrative) management of the project. Their Department Head or responsible signatory needs to sign / endorse the application.

r or Department Head				
I agree that the proposed work is feasible and in line with the strategic approach of our group.				
Date:	Signature:			
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Activity description

Describe the workplan for the project, including the proposed approach and foreseen timeline for different deliverables and/or work packages.

What synergies with existing research and new knowledgebase development can be achieved, both within WUR and with partners outside WUR?

Impact statement

Describe how the work will strengthen vaccine related research in WUR. This can <u>for example</u> be through delivering Proof of Concept, or by developing a consortium for a large scale funding application, or through other

approaches. Make sure to clearly indicate what any following steps will be. What will grow from this seed investment?

Feasibility

Describe what risks have been identified and how they are mitigated, also in context of the planning.

Building (new) collaborations within WUR

Indicate with which partners you will collaborate, their role and contribution. Will new collaborations be established, or important existing ones strengthened in a meaningful manner?

Budget

For budgeting activities funded by ERRAZE@WUR, WU groups should use an internal tariff rate (Dutch: IKP, geen concernheffing). WR research groups should use the WR internal tariff.

If practical and informative, present separate budgets for separate work packages, e.g. when they are truly separate, or to be budgeted under different tariff rates (involvement of external funder).

In this case, it is encouraged to present the budget in Excel (less chance of errors, easier to update).

Project budget	2023	2024	Total
Personnel			
Materials/Consumables			
Publications			
Total costs			

In this table present the total required funding per WR / WU funding unit, split between personnel costs and other (all other categories). Add /remove institutes, and years as required. If relevant present internal or external co-funding separately, per unit if relevant. Modify the table if needed.

Budget per Research Group (RG)	2023	2024	Total
RG-1 Personnel			
RG-1 Other costs			
RG-2 Personnel			
RG-2 Other costs			
RG-3 Personnel			
RG-3 Other costs			
Etc			
Etc			
Total requested from ERRAZE@WUR (max 40k €)			
Total costs			

