

## **THE INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FUND (INREF) - PHASE 4**

### **CALL for SEED MONEY PROJECTS 2022**

#### **Introduction**

In September 2015, the United Nations adopted the Sustainable Development Goals: 17 goals and 169 targets for people, planet and prosperity for the next 15 years. Wageningen University & Research (WUR) contributes to many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) through its research and education programmes. Worldwide, WUR is renowned for its research and education with high rankings in national and international ratings. The interdisciplinary approach in research and education is one of the most appreciated aspects.

INREF programmes focus on collaboration: between disciplines, between geographical locations, between institutes including those from the countries involved (local partners) and between funding agencies by integrating various funding initiatives into concise research programmes. The Executive Board of WUR stresses the importance of collaboration to tackle the challenges of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to further develop and strengthen national, regional and world-wide Research for Development and Education.

More information on the objectives of INREF and expected outputs of the INREF programme can be found at the [INREF webpages](#)

#### **SEED MONEY PROJECTS**

Preparing full research proposals is a major effort, requiring extensive time investment to work on the proposal and on the network involved. As INREF is focussed on interdisciplinary collaboration, the INREF board is providing the opportunity for researchers to get a small compensation for the investment in network and research ideas through seed money projects. Up to a maximum of € 25,000 grants can be provided for activities that are oriented towards development of research ideas, research networks or research proposals. The activities could contribute to a new INREF full proposal (although no new calls are planned for the current phase of INREF) but also to proposals for other funding programmes like Horizon Europe, NWO etc. In general, INREF seed money projects are allocated for new activities that will contribute to the INREF objectives.

#### **Criteria for funding Seed-Money proposals**

The following criteria for proposal evaluation will be used:

- The scientific quality of the objectives and expected follow-up activities, reflecting the general objectives of the INREF programme
- The relevance of the proposed project for one or more Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- The expected outputs and follow-up activities and development oriented focus of the proposed project
- Contribution to partnership building in developing countries or emerging economies
- Contribution to interdisciplinary research
- Planning of the proposed project feasibility to finish within one year after approval
- The extent to which the proposal results in new partnerships and networks for interdisciplinary research and new project proposals to be submitted to other donors; seed money is an investment in new activities.

#### **Costs categories eligible for funding**

The INREF seed money proposal budget can include costs for travelling to partners, organising (international) workshops, material costs, and hiring temporary staff. Time of staff members already working for Wageningen UR is not eligible for funding.

Activities to enhance the capacity for interdisciplinary research, like participation in a training programme or workshop, are eligible for funding. Also the development of PhD training courses are eligible for funding if they are relevant for various Wageningen Graduate Schools, interesting for PhD candidates from the South, are relevant for one or more of the Sustainable Development Goals, and will afterwards be organised on a regular basis for a large number of years. Researchers of at least two different Graduate Schools have to be involved in the proposed activities. The maximum financial contribution from INREF is €25.000.

#### **Format seed money proposal**

1. Title of project
2. Applicants
3. WU Graduate School(s), name and address  
WU co-ordinator (name, position, address, tel., e-mail)
4. Project description

- State of the art, objectives, activities, targeted SDG(s) and expected outputs
5. Timeframe and budget
  6. Partners and contribution to partnership building
  7. Organisation of project
  8. Budget
  9. Related Programme(s) of Graduate School(s) involved
  10. Expected follow-up activities.

**Application and appraisal procedure**

The electronic version of the INREF seed money project proposal, has to be submitted no later than, **September 15 2022, 17.00 hrs (CET)** to: Jelle Maas (E-mail: [Jelle.maas@wur.nl](mailto:Jelle.maas@wur.nl)), with a copy to the involved graduate schools.

Seed money project proposals undergo one evaluation round. Evaluation is foreseen second half September. A maximum of €200.000 is available for this call.

**ANNEX 1      Format application form for INREF:  
-      Seed Money project**

**1. Title of the project**

**2. Applicant(s)**

WU Graduate Schools (name, address)

WU programme leader (name, position, address, tel., e-mail etc.)

**3. Project description [max 1200 words]**

Describe in general lines the project including

- problem statement,
- conceptual framework,
- contribution to interdisciplinary research,
- objectives,
- activities,
- expected outputs,
- targeted SDG and the
- relevance of the programme for these SDGs, and
- location of the programme activities.

**4. Time frame [max 200 words]**

Include a time table providing the planning of the activities and duration of the programme. For Seed money projects the feasibility of the project ending within one year after approval is relevant.

**5. Partnership**

Give a short description [50 words] of the research partner institutions, and their role in the programme. Give a short description [50 words] of the non-research stakeholders and their role in the project.

**6. Organisation of the project [max 400 words]**

Describe the organisation of the project and particularly the project team in terms of persons involved, responsibilities, tasks, relation with and involvement of partners and management.

**7. Budget**

Here information in main budget items should be given divided as follows:

Funding requested from INREF

If applicable other funding sources

**8. Related Programme(s) of Graduate School(s) involved**

Indicate under which programmes of the graduate schools involved this project will be executed.

**9. References (max 15)**

Provide relevant literature references.

**10. Follow-up**

Describe expected follow-up activities (objectives, activities, outputs, and possible funding sources)