



Institute 4 Preventive Health (i4PH)

Alliance TU/e, WUR, UU and UMCU

i4PH Seed Projects Call for Project Ideas 2023

Submission deadline October 21st, 2022

Terms and Conditions

Optimizing functioning and self-efficacy within different stages of life

1. About i4PH

The i4PH is one of the new inter-university research themes within the Alliance TU/e, WUR, UU and UMCU: a strategic alliance of Eindhoven University of Technology, Wageningen University & Research, Utrecht University and University Medical Center Utrecht. i4PH aims to further strengthen excellent collaborative research within the Alliance on Preventive Health, contributing to the central mission of the [Knowledge and Innovation Agenda 2020– 2023 of Health Holland](#) (HH) and its supportive long term goals: *All Dutch people live at least 5 years longer in good health, and decrease the health differences between the lowest and the highest socio-economic groups by 30%.*

The purpose of this Call for Project Ideas is to stimulate ideas for research projects from within the Alliance TU/e, WUR, UU and UMCU on Preventive Health, that will contribute to the backbone of the i4PH's research roadmap for the coming years. Below we have provided information on the content and processes involved.

Optimal physical, social and mental functioning and self-efficacy is important to live healthy and productive lives. This reflects all stages of life: e.g. reaching independence is a key target in adolescence, and maintaining self-efficacy is the prime goal of the elderly population. Within i4PH we want to understand how lifestyle and environmental factors influence the independent functioning of individuals, and what the role of their biological and social systems is. How can these factors influence resilience, and how can we improve self-efficacy of individuals and societies through lifestyle, environmental, societal, medical and technological support and innovations? I4PH wants to work on system changes where solutions from the different domains (environmental and curative health, nutrition and innovative technology) are combined to support the sustained transformative change towards independent functioning and sustained self-efficacy in different phases of life.

For more information on i4PH please refer to the Annex I to this Call for Proposals.

2. Who can submit?

- Project Ideas can be submitted on behalf of a group of **at least three Applicants** (postdoctoral researcher, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor or Professor) employed by one of the Universities in the Alliance TU/e, WUR, UU and UMCU.
- The Applicants must be from **at least three different institutions** within the Alliance TU/e, WUR, UU and UMCU.
- **Excluded as Applicants** for this call are: Members of the Preventive Health working group (programme team and steering committee).
- Researchers can be Applicant in a maximum of one Project Idea in response to this Call for Proposals
- Proposals that do not meet these requirements will not be considered for funding.

3. What can be submitted?

Applicants are invited to submit Project Ideas on Preventive Health research, that fit within the theme, the overall scope of the i4PH and contributes to one of its 4 research lines (see Annex I). Selected Project Ideas will receive seed funding (see below) to support the further development of the Project Idea into a full, larger scale project application in 2023 (e.g. Horizon Europe, NWA, NWO, ZonMW, Health Holland, charitable funds ("collectebusfondsen") etc.).

4. What amount can be requested?

The Institute for Preventive Health has budgeted a total of €300.000 for 2023 (max € 40.000 per project).

The seed fund grants should be used for activities to support preparing a larger grant including but not limited to:

- Salary of a PostDoc
- Fees for additional personnel, material costs or grant writing consultants.
- Travel and costs directly associated with the proposed activity (for example, travel to match-making events, consortium meetings related to the grant application).

The seed fund **cannot** be used for:

- Matching in a grant application.
- Financing the extension of the contract of a PhD student.¹
- The purchase of software, hardware or other devices unless such items are crucial to the execution of the research project and cannot be obtained through the regular support services of the institution where the researcher has been appointed.
- Attending courses or conferences not related to the research project.

¹An exception is the following situation: the PhD student has completed his/her work for the dissertation and still has some time left in the contract. The PhD student may then be included in the budget for the new project as a PhD student. It should therefore be clear that the PhD student will be carrying out new work that falls outside the scope of the PhD assignment.

5. Evaluation and next steps

Out of the submitted eligible Project Ideas, 8 will be selected to pitch their Project Ideas during the conference [Preventive Health Conference: Accelerating Cooperation to Stop Overweight and Obesity - Institute 4 Preventive Health \(ewuu.nl\)](#), November 23rd, 2022.

Project Ideas that meet the eligibility criteria as listed in paragraph 2 will be evaluated against the following criteria:

a. Scientific Excellence - 30%:

- the extent to which Project Ideas advance the state-of-the-art in Preventive Health
- Originality of the proposed Project Idea

b. Contribution to cross EWUU collaboration (20%)

- The extent to which the Project Idea promotes scientific collaboration across the four institutions, and the extent to which the Applicants show a clear complementarity where collaboration and combining resources leads to a unique, synergistic effort.

c. Fit with i4PHs overall strategy (see Annex I) - 50%:

- Contribution to the overall mission of the Knowledge and Innovation Agenda 2020-2023 of Health Holland and its supportive long-term goals (see slide 5 Annex I)
- Fit to at least one of the four Research Lines (see slide 6 of Annex I)
- Focus on preventive health (primary and/or secondary and/or tertiary), adopting personalised, predictive, participatory and potential health approaches into its research (see slide 7 Annex I)
- Incorporation of a life course perspective (see slide 8 of Annex I)
- Combining the three complementary routes of interventions: technology, lifestyle and environment (see slide 9 of Annex I).

Project Ideas will be evaluated by a panel consisting of:

- The Steering committee members of the i4PH (exempted from applying):
 - UU: Prof. dr. Roel Vermeulen
 - UMCU: Prof. dr. Niek de Wit
 - WUR: Prof. Ellen Kampman
 - TUE: dr. Patricia Jaspers
- An external stakeholder panel consisting of representatives of external organisations

6. Contact

For questions concerning this Call for Proposals, please contact Martine van der Mast (martine.vandermast@wur.nl)