

NWA Smart Industry 5.0 route

Call for project ideas – Innovation projects

Background

Industry is digitalising and automating. The combination of digitalisation, linking of intelligent systems and new technologies is not only changing industrial production processes, but will eventually also change business models, professions and patterns of consumption. This is reflected through the Smart Industry route which is one of the 25 routes in the Dutch Research Agenda (NWA). This route addresses five game changers (more information on <https://www.nwo.nl/en/researchprogrammes/dutch-research-agenda-nwa/research-along-routes-by-consortia-nwa-orc/nwa-orc-2024/themes/smart-industry-50>)

- Human-centered digitalisation & knowledge capture.
- New design paradigms covering the full lifecycle of products and services enabling sustainability
- Autonomous production
- Collaborative way of working
- Flexible & Resilient processes

Call for project ideas

In relation to the call for proposals “NWA Innovative projects within routes” (<https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-innovative-projects-within-routes>) the Smart Industry route is calling for project ideas for innovation projects that support the further development of the route. A total budget of up to €300,000 is available for the route to be spend on a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 3 innovative projects. Complementary to running activities the route management wants to give emphasis on three aspects for this upcoming round of innovation projects:

- **Future Smart Industry topics:** thinking 5-10 years beyond the current state of research, what will be really innovative and promising smart industry technologies and methods of the future. Which societal challenges could be addressed? What is the potential for improvement?
- **Societal position of industry:** If we look at the future, what is the position of industry in our society, how can we keep producing, while also minimally affecting our environment and society. Which challenges does industry need to solve so we can maintain our production sovereignty and also create a healthy, sustainable society where people have work. Projects should provide clear and well justified

future scenario's & analyses (e.g. for positioning different types / variants of industry and needed technological challenges).

- **Internationalisation:** Smart industry is an important research topic all over the world. Looking outside the Dutch ecosystem: how does the world see research priorities? What are trends and promising international partnerships that should be addressed in the future?

Projects should address at least one of those aspects and could focus e.g. on development and demonstration of innovative technologies or the conduction of future oriented studies/workshops.

Procedure

Please send project ideas to the NWA Smart Industry route management until **22/07/2024**. On not more than one page A4 please provide 1) short description of project idea, 2) envisioned project activities, 3) project lead and involved partners and 4) project budget (either 100.000€ or 150.000€).

The route management will review the proposals and select 2 to 3 initiatives to be supported by the route, feedback will be provided until **06/08/2024**. Selected projects will receive a formal statement of the route support which is a prerequisite for submitting a formal proposal through the project leaders in the call "NWA Innovative projects within routes" with a deadline on **12/09/2024**. Further information can be found on <https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/nwa-innovative-projects-within-routes>.

Route management and contact

Ambassador: Sebastian Thiede, Universiteit Twente, s.thiede@utwente.nl

Coordinator: Jeroen Broekhuijsen, TNO, jeroen.broekhuijsen@tno.nl