



Ministerie van Economische Zaken



To Research institutions, management- and engineering- companies, contractors and advisory companies	From F. Schoof
	No. of pages 3
Cc.	The Hague April 28, 2016

Subject: Call for (research-) project indications for the geothermal Knowledge Agenda (Kennisagenda Aardwarmte 2016)

Introduction

The Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs and the Dutch horticultural sector represented by LTO Glaskracht have joined forces in 2014 to set up a Geothermal Knowledge Agenda ('Kennisagenda') to streamline the development and dissemination of geothermal knowledge in the Netherlands. The aim is to execute a shared vision on R&D- and knowledge transfer priorities, 'demand driven', based on existing questions from (primarily) the geothermal sector but also from the government itself.

Furthermore the Knowledge Agenda seeks to align with research conducted elsewhere, in The Netherlands or abroad, to create the leverage and progress necessary to further the use of geothermal energy. The Agenda positions itself between large-scale R&D as conducted by research institutions and focussed studies for individual problems.

The ambition is to make geothermal energy (heat) the efficient and reliable heat-source 'par excellence' for the horticultural sector, the industry and the build environment and thus making a substantial contribution to Dutch energy-supply.

The Agenda is focussed on knowledge-development and – transfer in the form of publically available reports, conferences, guidelines et cetera. Software has to be 'open source', demonstration-projects and research on specific vendor-related products are not part of the Agenda.

To this aim a Coordination-Group with representatives of the geothermal sector including government was put in place to establish a coherent list of topics in the Dutch geothermal sector that need further investigation. Each year one or two calls for proposals are published based on this list of short- and longer term priorities. The total yearly budget is € 900.000, including longer-term commitments for pre-competitive and European projects. Proposals are evaluated by the Coordination group, consisting of representatives of the ministry, LTO (horticultural sector), DAGO (Dutch Association of Geothermal Operators), SPG (Platform Geothermie), RVO (Netherlands Enterprise Agency), TNO Research Organisation and SSM (State Supervision of Mines). Final decisions are made by the funders in a Steering Group.

The longer-term national and international research projects by TNO and the shorter-term research by several parties can now be aligned 'from the demand-side' and expanded. The knowledge-exchange with other countries is actively pursued.

Invitation

With this letter the funders would like to invite you to submit 'indications' for project-proposals to the Knowledge Agenda. Awarded proposals can start in or shortly after the summer 2016.

We would like to point out that proposals that are co-funded by the industry via a noticeable financial contribution are preferred, due to the expected 'multiplier-effect'.

In **Annexe 1** please find a list and short description of the identified questions. Project-indications on other issues that (substantially) contribute to the realisation of the aforementioned goals and ambitions are possible.

The overview is presented as guidance for the indications and (later) proposals. It is possible to offer a (well-defined) part of the research as indicated and/or seek cooperation with other companies. We suppose you are familiar with the research that is already done on geothermal energy. Specific Dutch websites on this issue include: the website of Kas als Energiebron, www.kasalsenergiebron.nl, www.nlog.nl, www.geothermie.nl and www.tno.nl.

The deliverables are to be submitted with a summary in English and an (equal) summary in Dutch.

Where applicable we ask you to indicate the risk-reduction that can be achieved once the results of your proposal/study are known, who has to take what kind of action to achieve this reduction and what the (other) benefits and pitfalls are for the different parties involved.

Dependent on the quality and content of the proposals we receive, the budget for this call will be partially or completely allocated.

Procedure and deadlines

We ask you to first set-up indications on research-projects you propose to execute. **These indications can be submitted before May 26, 5:00 PM, via email (frank.schoof@fpp-management.nl).**

For the submittal please use the format given in **Annexe 2**. You can limit the indication to one page. The Coordination Group will then review the document and the applicant will be given an advice to further elaborate the proposal or not. For the submittal of (concept-) proposals (at that time) please then use the format given in **Annexe 3**.

The coordinator will review and advise on the definitive proposal. Once a positive advice of the Coordination Group is received this proposal is sent for final approval to the Steering Group, consisting of three representatives of the funders. You will be notified after the approval and receive a written order-confirmation by one of the funding parties.

Time-schedule

Action	
Submittal of indications	May 20, 5 PM.
Advise on indications (invitation to prepare an offer)	Approx. June, 14
Submittal of proposals	Approx. July, 1
Reaction on proposals (OK or request for clarification/change)	Approx. July 15

For each assignment a Supervisory Group is set up, consisting of representatives of existing and new operators, Knowledge Agenda and possibly other relevant parties.

The results of the research are to be made publically available (publication on the website of one of the funders). If possible a workshop to contribute to knowledge-dissemination is part of the project.

Disclaimer

No rights can be derived from this call. Not regarding the Ministry of Economic Affairs, LTO Glaskracht nor others. Financing of the program and the research funding may be subject to change and is not final. The listed dates on which opinions or comments are given by the coordinator or others involved are intended dates which may be changed without notice.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me.

With kind regards,

Frank Schoof

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for the Ministry of EA, LTO Glaskracht Nederland and the 'Kas als Energiebron'-program

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Annexes

1. Overview of the Knowledge-topics
2. Format for indications
3. Format for proposals (for your information, do not fill in now!)