**Terms and Conditions Call for Projects for URC**

Programme Circular Society, Alliance TUe, WUR, UU, UMC Utrecht (EWUU)

*Submission deadline 28 April 2023, 5 pm*

## 1. Purpose of funding Urban-Rural Circularity (URC)

The purpose of this second call for project proposals is to facilitate and financially support cross disciplinary and collaborative initiatives that contribute to the mission and research goals of and challenges addressed in the in our [URC theme description](https://ewuu.nl/wp-content/uploads/sites/370/2023/02/UrbanRuralCircularity-background.pdf). We especially encourage (applied or methodological) project proposals that are geared towards large(r) initiatives and joint proposals for larger grants.

**The seed fund can be used for the following activities:**

1. To support preparing a larger (specific) grant application related to URC in the near future (e.g. Horizon Europe, LIFE, NWO, NWA, ZonMW, etc.) including but not limited to
	* Consortium building, organizing stakeholder/dissemination events.
	* Writing support (both internal and external support).
2. Conducting necessary preliminary research to apply for a larger joint proposal in the near future.

**Funds may be used for:**

* Salary of faculty staff and student assistants (i.e. financing substitution of teaching or extending research time of existing staff otherwise).
* Fees for staff or externals who support grant writing.
* Costs of organizing scientific workshops or other events.
* Costs of organizing stakeholder/dissemination events.
* Materials and equipment needed for research.
* Other costs directly associated with the proposed activity (for example, travel costs).

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

* Matching in a grant application.
* Financing the extension of the contract of a PhD student.
* 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.

## 2. Eligibility and review criteria

**Eligibility**

1. The [application form](https://ewuu.nl/wp-content/uploads/sites/370/2023/02/20230215-Application_form_URC_Call_2023_def.docx) has to be filled out
2. At least 2 partners within the alliance are involved in the proposal. It must be clear that the seed fund leads to a new combination of complementary expertise or to strengthening an existing cooperation between different alliance partners. Higher priority will be given to proposals in which more than 2 partners within the Alliance are involved. The fund can be allocated to one partner or several partners.
3. A researcher can be the main applicant for one proposal only and can be co-applicant in a maximum of two other proposals.
4. The duration of a project is typically 12 months; deviations from this must be substantiated in the proposal. The earliest start date is 1 June 2023.

**Review criteria:**

1. The composition and qualifications of the team to complete the project. The extent to which the research team makes effective use of the complementary expertise of the different Alliance partners.

2. The extent to which the proposal is linked to the challenges of URC.

3. The extent to which the seed fund is used to work towards larger initiatives and/or a larger grant application.

4. The scientific quality of the proposed project.

5. Innovativeness and creativity of the proposed project, balanced by the project's likelihood of success.

## 3. What amount can be requested?

The total indicative budget for this call is €120.000. The maximum per proposal is €30.000. If a proposal does not sufficiently substantiate the need of the budget applied for, a smaller amount may be awarded.

## 4. Submission guidelines

Applications can be submitted by e-mailing the completed application form to k.m.hollaender@uu.nl. The deadline of the submission is 28 April 2023 at 17:00hrs. The applicants will be informed about the result of their applications on 9 May 2023 at the latest. Applications that do not meet the minimum requirements (eligibility criteria and submission requirements) will not be considered.

## 5. Review procedure and criteria

The proposals will undergo a scientific review by the members of steering committee and, if

applicable, will have to obtain approval of an Ethics Review Board at the institute of the main applicant. If necessary, the members of the steering committee may ask experts outside the working group to review the research proposals. Circular Society can adjust proposed budgets if deemed reasonable, also to be able to fund additional proposals.

## 6. Requirements for awardees

Awardees must be willing to attend future Circular Society events and present their results there. By the project end date, recipients must provide a final report of the research, including at least a summary of the results, an overview of the planned and obtained deliverables, and financial account. In case of good reasons not to openly publish the final report on the website of the alliance, we request additionally a publishable summary of the results.

## 7. Call timeline & process

28 April 2023 Deadline to submit proposals

9 May 2023 Funding decision

1 June 2023 Project can start

## 8. Organisation

The steering committee Circular Society has the following members:

Theo Salet, TU/e t.a.m.salet@tue.nl

Huub Rijnaarts, WUR, huub.rijnaarts@wur.nl

Chris Backes, UU, c.w.backes@uu.nl

Peter Blankestijn, UMC Utrecht, p.j.blankestijn@umcutrecht.nl

The steering committee is supported by the following members of the working group:

Jurgen Ganzevles, TU/e, programme director Circular Society, j.h.ganzevles@tue.nl

Pim de Jager, WUR, pim.dejager@wur.nl

Kirsten Hollaender, UU, k.m.hollaender@uu.nl

Sacha Tensen, UMC Utrecht, s.tensen@umcutrecht.nl

Petra Dijkman, programme manager Circular hospital, UMC Utrecht, p.e.dijkman-2@umcutrecht.nl