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Food & Business Research

In collaboration with the Food & Business Knowledge Platform

Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research
WOTRO Science for Global Development

Food &



Business Research

Food & Business Research provides grants to consortia of researchers and public or private practitioners for research that addresses food security challenges in developing countries. The programme focuses on the urgent need for comprehensive knowledge and solutions for regional and local food security problems. Cooperation between public and private parties is expected to facilitate the utilisation of research results, thus contributing to new products, policies and practices. Research grants are available through two funding instruments: the Food & Business Global Challenges Programme (GCP) and the Food & Business Applied Research Fund (ARF).



About GCP and ARF

The Food & Business **Global Challenges Programme** (GCP) aims to encourage scientific research and innovations that generate new insights into the functioning of the global food system. GCP's goal is to advance our understanding of emerging key issues in global and regional food security, their impact on local food and nutrition security, and the role of private sector development. GCP-funded research should contribute to long-term access to affordable, safe and nutritious food for vulnerable and resource-poor populations in developing countries. The research projects are expected to focus on one or more Low and Middle Income Countries, involve partners from these countries and use a global perspective.

The Food & Business **Applied Research Fund** (ARF) addresses the need for knowledge and research of practitioners in the 15 partner countries of Dutch development cooperation. The fund focuses on challenges for food security and private sector development in local contexts, and promotes research-driven innovations in partner countries. ARF aims to meet the knowledge and innovation needs that emerge from development challenges in these countries. Moreover, research projects funded through ARF must be aligned with the priorities set out in the Multi-Annual Strategic Plans (MASPs) of the Dutch embassies in the partner countries.



Food & Business Research funding

GCP funding is available through thematic calls for proposals for longer-term (maximum of five years) or fast-track (two to three years) research projects. Research themes are based on the identification of pertinent research needs by the Food & Business Knowledge Platform. Research is carried out by consortia comprising Southern and Northern scientific and non-scientific stakeholders. GCP encourages private sector participation. The level of funding for consortia typically can reach 600,000 euro for longer-term research projects, excluding additional co-funding from partners.

ARF issues a continuous call for proposals for a period of one year, after which the focus of the call can be adjusted in consultation with the Knowledge Platform. Partner country practitioners (from the private sector, civil society or government) jointly address the research needs with knowledge or research institutions. Together they develop research proposals for projects lasting six months to three years with funding varying between 50,000 and 300,000 euro, excluding co-funding by partners.

Recipients of funding from either of these two instruments are required to interact with networks connected to the Food & Business Knowledge Platform.

The Food & Business Knowledge Agenda

Food & Business Research is part the Food & Business Knowledge Agenda, through which the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs supports the global quest for developing and implementing effective ways to enhance food and nutrition security in cooperation with the private sector. The Knowledge Agenda brings together parties from the private sector and civil society, as well as scientists, education experts and policymakers in order to share, learn, apply, critically reflect and create new knowledge, innovations and applications in the field of food security.

The Knowledge Agenda is being further developed by the Food & Business Knowledge Platform, which oversees it. In addition to the Food & Business GCP and ARF, the Knowledge Platform also set up the Food & Business Knowledge Management Facility, managed by the platform's Office, thus creating a coherent package of three funding instruments. For more information on the Knowledge Platform and Office, please visit www.knowledge4food.net.

Food & Business Research is governed by a Programme Committee that represents the funders, the scientific community, the Dutch economic priority areas agri-food and horticulture and the Knowledge Platform. The committee is in charge of allocating funds, based on the advice of experts. NWO-WOTRO Science for Global Development manages Food & Business Research on a day-to-day basis.

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