



**WOTRO Science for Global Development
Social Sciences**

Call for proposals

Migration, Development and Conflict

2011-2012

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Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research

Contents

1	Introduction	1
1.1	Background	1
1.2	Available budget	1
1.3	Validity of the call for proposals	1
2	Aim	2
3	Guidelines for applicants	4
3.1	Who can apply	4
3.2	What can be applied for	4
3.3	When can applications be submitted	5
3.4	Drawing up an application	5
3.5	Specific conditions	5
3.6	Submitting an application	6
4	Assessment procedure	7
4.1	Procedure	7
4.2	Criteria	7
5	Contact details and other information	8
5.1	Contact	8
5.2	Other information	8
6	Annex: Completing the application form	9

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Through globalisation the social sciences are increasingly embracing topics such as climate change, conflict and migration. The locally diverse effects of such global developments allow for new international research partnerships and intriguing comparative research. The topic of transnational and national migration and resulting societal exclusion and conflicts offers a very interesting possibility for such comparative research.

This call proposes to look at transnational flows and their consequences by looking at the multifaceted interactions of the positive and negative dimensions of transnational migration. Given the existing long-term collaboration in the social sciences of the Netherlands with India and South Africa, the focus is on these countries.

The idea is to undertake comparative research in at least two of the countries concerned by a team of at least two researchers (from each country), preferably from a joint theoretical framework and underpinned by regular exchange and joint workshops for the whole team. Bringing together three different research cultures for comparative research into a global but regionally diversified phenomenon is a challenge which NWO expects to result in promising insights and collaborations.

1.2 Available budget

A budget up to € 110,000 is available per project, for a total of five projects to be awarded. See paragraph 3.2 for special requirements regarding the budget.

1.3 Validity of the call for proposals

This call for proposals is valid until the closing date, March 20, 12:00 hrs. CET.

2 Aim

Transnational migration is increasingly valued for its contribution to development, through the remittances to the country of origin and participation in the labour market of the North. In such a view, financial remittances lead to poverty reduction and local development, while social remittances (ideas and practices) strengthen human, civil and political rights. Transnationalism may, however, also exacerbate inequalities, sharpen social divisions and even lead to violent outbursts. The positive contribution of migration in the North is to a large extent focused on the brain gain by high skilled professionals. Other migrants are more often perceived as a threat to autochthony, and even when migration may be crucial for the labour market, it is controlled and subject to restrictions.

The variability of impacts across regions and sectors of these global developments allow for new international research partnerships and intriguing comparative research. This call proposes to look at transnational flows and their consequences by looking at the multifaceted interactions of the positive and negative dimensions of transnational migration. Given the existing long-term collaboration in the social sciences of the Netherlands with India and South Africa, the focus is on these countries. The flows itself are not necessarily between these countries (though interesting examples exist) but a comparison between at least two of the countries is asked for. Such a comparison aims at new insights and at opening up national debates on migration by looking at the effects of transnationalism on development, citizenship and conflicts.

Indian society has undergone profound changes over the last decades due to economic reforms and globalisation. One dimension of these shifts has been the expansion and proliferation of transnational social networks, as migration (temporary, permanent, and circular) from India to the West, the Middle East, and elsewhere, has increased. People of Indian origin constitute the second largest group of migrants in the world, after the Chinese, and members of the Indian diaspora have become significant actors within India. Transnational networks which link overseas Indians with their regions and towns of origin in India have become conduits through which remittances including capital investment, charitable donations, knowledge and technical know-how are channeled back into India with substantial social and political consequences.

Migration has always been a dominant phenomenon in African societies and contemporary South Africa is not an exception to that rule. Migration has been influenced by the political economy of the country historically (and, to a certain extent, also vice-versa), both in colonial times and during apartheid. It has been related to social conflict and disruption as well as to early securitization of South African society. The post-apartheid democratization along with the policy of the new government to establish its political and economic hegemony in the region boosted both internal migration and influx from the wider region, from neighbouring countries in southern Africa, but also as far as the Horn and West-Africa. These transnational movements brought about heterogeneity of identities (ethnic, religious, linguistic, even national) and social transformations in the sense of new social relationships, new vitality but also patterns of violence and conflict.

Until the mid-1980s, post Second World War migration in the Netherlands consisted of Mediterranean migrant workers and their families and postcolonial migrants. Since the late 1980s, comparable to general migration trends to Western Europe, there is a pluralisation of the sending countries, an increase in long distance migration, and a large increase in labour migration from the enlarged European Union and of highly skilled migrants from countries such as India and South Africa. This development

has coincided with an increase in negative sentiments against migrants, especially Muslims, and an emphasis on national identity and autochthony.

The general focus of the research projects should be to contribute to the debates on transnationalism. Comparative research on the social and cultural effects of migration is an innovative way to understand long distance migration as a process that influences countries in different parts of the world. The research should, in addition, focus on one or more of the following themes, which offers the opportunity for comparison between the three countries:

I Migration and Development

What are the effects of migration on development? After decades of focusing on underdevelopment, the emphasis has turned to development opportunities that migration and its (social) remittances offers. Insights into transnational networks, the mechanisms of (social) remittances and its social and political consequences for the country of origin, the incorporation into the country of destination, are expected to shed light on the various impacts – both positive and negative – of migration (and return migration) for development.

II Citizenship and belonging

How does the inclusion or exclusion of migrants influence these migrants and society as a whole? The issue of xenophobia and the different status of migrants versus the issue of autochthony have become prominent in popular discussions and politics. There is particular concern about diversification of unwanted citizens as illegals, refugees, asylum seekers, seasonal workers, EU or non-EU, etc., as well as about unifying notions such as foreigners, Muslims and non-residents. How does this focus on autochthony and citizenship relate to the increasing heterogeneity of identities (ethnic, religious, linguistic, national)?

III Conflicts and violence

Migration can lead to tensions, conflicts and even violent outbursts. How are such situations solved or avoided, and when are they not solved? Transnational networks are often used to transmit new ideas, ideologies, cultural values and expectations to people at home but also within the diaspora, where they influence the formal and informal practices people use to solve conflicts. What local (community) practices and transnational initiatives, contribute to social, political and economic inclusion or exclusion, and exacerbate or reduce tensions and conflicts? And how are they related?

The research envisioned in this call focuses on transnational flows and their implications and therefore a multi-sited approach is required. Bringing together three different research cultures for comparative research into a global but regionally diversified phenomenon is a challenge which NWO expects to result in promising insights and collaborations. Given the limited scope of the research programme, the studies may therefore build upon existing research data and expertise in one of the countries mentioned, whereby the grant offers the opportunity to build upon the data by including a new focus and new fieldwork sites, and the additional expertise of team members from The Netherlands, India and/or South Africa. The team should at least include members from two of these countries, preferably from a joint theoretical framework and underpinned by regular exchange and a team workshop. The project team members are expected to participate in a final international workshop for the programme as a whole.

3 Guidelines for applicants

3.1 Who can apply

The main applicant should be a senior researcher employed by a NWO recognised grant recipient or by an international centre for scientific education based in the Netherlands.¹ The co-applicant should be a senior researcher with a PhD degree from the partner organisation in India and/or South Africa. He or she should also be a member of the coordinating team.

3.2 What can be applied for

A comparative research project with a maximum duration of 2 years that consists of at least two interrelated research projects, consisting of one post-doc from the Netherlands or two post-docs from a developing country with a maximum of one year fulltime (and a minimum of 10 months fulltime) and/or a senior replacement. The research must be a collaborative initiative of researchers from the Netherlands and from India and/or South Africa. The partner researchers and institutions have to be involved in the formulation of the research questions and the development of the proposal, as well as in carrying out the research programme. To enhance effective use, the uptake of results and the benefit for society, relevant stakeholders from outside the scientific community are preferably engaged in all phases of the programme, from its inception to sharing emerging results.

Budget

The research budget should meet the budget- and administrative guidelines of NWO and WOTRO and may not exceed €110,000. The grant should be viewed as a contribution to the total costs associated with the proposed research activities.

Reimbursable costs

Reimbursable costs include:

- Personnel costs of the post-doc researcher:
 - salaries;
 - living allowances;
 - bench fees.
- One replacement (the Netherlands) or one support grant (India or South Africa) for a senior researcher with a max. of € 25,000;
- Research costs (travelling expenses, durables, consumables, research assistance, synergy meetings) with a max. of € 14,000 for a fulltime post-doc researcher;
- Costs of one joint international workshop for the dissemination of results: max. contribution € 11,000;

Non-reimbursable costs

Non-reimbursable costs are:

- Office space, basic facilities, overheads and depreciation costs;
- Consumables or administrative and technical assistance which the host institution may be expected routinely to provide;
- Costs of accommodation, with the exception of the expenses incurred in the short trips of the (senior) researchers directly related to the research.

¹ HIS, ISS, ITC, MSM UNESCO-IHE

Personnel costs

Personnel costs depend on the type of funding (temporary employee or net grant):

- Project researchers can be employed by a Dutch host institution, which then assumes the full employer's responsibility. WOTRO provides a fixed amount for the personnel costs of additional temporary personnel to the main applicant's institute. The personnel costs of staff already employed (incl. supervision costs) are not reimbursed. The contribution to personnel costs is paid directly to the host institution. On a fulltime basis the amount for a post-doc is € 63.714 for one year.²
- Alternatively, project researchers from developing countries can be provided with a net monthly living allowance. The living allowance is expected to cover all personal costs, including housing, medical costs, insurances and travel to and from work. The regulations of the main applicant's institute should be guiding for determining the amount of the living allowances.
- For the post-doc researcher, a bench fee of € 5,000 is made available that is paid directly to the main applicant's institute. This is a contribution to the personal costs in support of the research conducted by the post-doc researcher, for example, tuition, courses, a (laptop) computer, congress visits, books, etc.

3.3 When can applications be submitted

Comparative research grants for India-South Africa-The Netherlands are available only once. Applications should reach the WOTRO bureau before the deadline of March 20, 12:00 hrs. CET

The entire procedure takes about 6 months. For an overview of the evaluation and selection procedure, please see chapter 4 of this document.

3.4 Drawing up an application

Your grant application has two parts: a fact sheet and the application form.

- You complete the fact sheet directly in NWO's electronic application system Iris.
- The application form is on the grant page for this programme on the NWO website. As soon as you have completed it you can add this form to the Iris fact sheet as a PDF file.

3.5 Specific conditions

Focus

The comparative research projects should focus on transnational migration in relation to development and conflict, as described in the aim of this Call for proposals (Chapter 2). The research must address one or more of the themes mentioned: Migration and Development; Citizenship and Belonging; Conflicts and Violence. The research must also include at least two of the countries concerned: India, South Africa and the Netherlands.

² Subject to change.

Joint project formulation, execution and dissemination

The research project and proposal development must be the result of a collaborative effort of all research partners and other relevant stakeholders involved. WOTRO provides funding up to a maximum of € 11,000 for a required international dissemination workshop that takes place not later than two years after the start of the project.

Joint programme workshop

An international workshop for comparison and dissemination of results of all awarded projects will take place after two years of the start of the projects. Participation by the (senior) researchers of the awarded projects is compulsory. The workshop will be organised and subsidised by WOTRO, in consultation with the research teams.

3.6 Submitting an application

An application can only be submitted to NWO via the electronic application system Iris. Applications not submitted via Iris will not be admitted to the selection procedure. A main applicant is obliged to submit his/her application via his/her own Iris account.

If the main applicant does not have an Iris account yet then this should be created at least one day before the submission. Then any possible registration problems can still be solved on time. If the main applicant already has an Iris account then he/she does not need to create a new account to submit a new application.

For technical questions, please contact the Iris helpdesk (see paragraph 5.1.2).

4 Assessment procedure

4.1 Procedure

The first step in the assessment procedure is to determine the admissibility of the application. This is done using the conditions stated in Chapter 3 of this call for proposals. The NWO Code of Conduct on Conflicts of Interest applies to all persons and NWO staff involved in the assessment and/or decision-making process.

The proposals are reviewed by (anonymous) international peers. Applicants will then have the opportunity to respond to the issues raised in the review reports. The multidisciplinary Advisory Committee evaluates and ranks the proposals on the basis of the proposal, review reports and the applicants' responses to these. The WOTRO Board takes a final decision on funding, also on behalf of the Board of the Division for the Social Sciences, based on the recommendations received from the Advisory Committee. A maximum of 5 projects may be awarded in this call. All applicants will be informed in writing about the outcome of the selection procedure.

20 March 2012	Deadline submission of proposals.
April – June 2012	Consultation referees.
May – June 2012	Obtaining rebuttals from applicants. On average researchers are given 1 week to give a response.
July – August 2012	Meeting evaluation committee. Advice multidisciplinary committee to the Governing Board.
September 2012	Decision WOTRO Board. WOTRO informs the applicants about the decision.

4.2 Criteria

All applications are evaluated according to a fixed set of criteria. The scientific excellence of the proposal is a prerequisite for awarding. Only applications evaluated as excellent and very good for scientific quality are eligible for funding. In addition, the likelihood of providing a meaningful contribution to the thematic focus and the added value of collaboration are important components in the review.

Evaluation criteria for preliminary applications

I Scientific quality:

- Originality or innovative character;
- Reliability and validity of the methodology;
- Clarity of the proposal.

II Contribution to the theme:

- Adequacy and originality of the approach;
- Societal relevance.

III Quality of collaboration:

- Quality and added value of the international collaboration;
- Country-specific knowledge and expertise.

5 Contact details and other information

5.1 Contact

5.1.1 Specific questions

For specific questions about Migration, Development and Conflict and this call for proposals please contact:

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5.1.2 Technical questions about the electronic application system Iris

For technical questions about the use of Iris please contact the Iris helpdesk. Please read the Iris manual before consulting the helpdesk.

The Iris helpdesk is available from Monday to Friday from 11.00 to 17.00 hours on +31 900 696 4747. Unfortunately not all foreign phone companies allow you to phone to a 0900 number in the Netherlands. You can also send your question by e-mail to iris@nwo.nl.

5.2 Other information

Website: www.nwo.nl/wotro/grants

6 Annex: Completing the application form

When submitting a research proposal, you are requested to follow the guidelines below.

General remarks

An application should consist of at least two interrelated research projects, of at least one postdoc and / or a replacement for one of the main applicants.

The form must be completed in English, using the Verdana 9 pt. font.

For some items on the form, a maximum number of words is stated. Do not exceed this number and please fill in the word count. Your application may be disqualified if you exceed the maximum number of words stated.

Letters of recommendation or any other type of reference may **not** be added to the application.

Please submit the application to NWO in electronic form (pdf format is required!) using the IRIS system, which can be accessed via the NWO website (www.nwo.nl/conflict). If, after reading the IRIS guide on the internet, you still have technical questions about the use of the system, you should contact the IRIS helpdesk. They can be reached by telephone on weekdays between 11:00 hrs. and 16:00 hrs. on +31 (0)900 - 696 4747 or by email: iris@nwo.nl.

In order to be able to process the details of the application properly, the file should not be protected in any way (passwords, etc.).

The NWO office must receive the (electronic) application no later than 20 March, 12:00 CET.

Registration form

1. Applicants

- Principal applicant. The principal applicant must be a senior researcher (professor or associate professor employed by a university in the Netherlands or a NWO recognised grant recipient³) and the envisaged leader of the research project in case the proposal will be granted a subsidy. Please provide all of the details requested;
- Co-applicant (s). Co-applicants from India and / or South Africa must be a senior researcher in the country concerned. He or she will act as the co-applicant and must therefore also sign the application electronically (stating name, date and place). Please provide all of the details requested;
- Please note that only *one* proposal in the Migration, Development and Conflict Call is allowed for each main applicant.

1b. Title of the research proposal

Please provide the title of the proposed research project in Dutch and English.

³ Among others: IHS, ISS, ITC, MSM, UNESCO-IHE. See for more information the NWO- website www.nwo.nl

1c. Abstract

Please provide an abstract of your proposal that will be easily understood by a broad, non-scientific audience. The summary should briefly describe the issue addressed, the main objective(s) and anticipated results in no more than 100 words. If your proposal is successful, the summary will be published on the NWO website.

1d. Submission to other bodies

Please fill in whether the application has been submitted to other bodies. This has no direct consequences for the proposal, though NWO only subsidizes costs and personnel which have not been paid for by other sources.

1e. Intended starting date

Please give the intended starting date for the research programme.

1f. Details of the researchers (postdoc(s) and / or the researcher who will be replaced):

Please give the name, titles, university and department of the intended postdoc or person who will be replaced.

Research proposal

2. Description of the proposed research

Applications must fulfil the general objectives of the Migration, Development and Conflict programme as described in this Call for proposals, the General Terms and Conditions of NWO Grants, and all of the following specific conditions in order to be admitted to the competition:

Research should reflect an international scientific orientation, aiming at impact beyond national boundaries. This should be expressed in a broad thematic approach that compares the Dutch, Indian and South-African context with at least two of these countries, in a comparative approach, and/or in cooperation with external parties from at least two of these countries. Such a comparison is not necessarily confined to the three countries mentioned. For example, a comparison can also be made between migrants from African countries to South Africa and to the Netherlands. Another example is to look at the transnational ties between the Netherlands and Morocco or Turkey, compared to the ties between India and the United Kingdom.

Please give a description of the project including a detailed problem definition, the research design and the methodology to be used.

Please take care that special attention is paid to issues that provide insight to extent in which the application responds to the criteria:

I Scientific quality:

- Originality or innovative character;
- Reliability and validity of the methodology;
- Clarity of the proposal.

II Contribution to the theme:

- Adequacy and originality of the approach;
- Societal relevance.

III Quality of collaboration:

- Quality and added value of the international collaboration;
- Country-specific knowledge and expertise.

2. Description of the proposed research

The description of the research topic and approach should not exceed the maximum of 2000 words.

2a. Research topic

2b. Urgency and Topicality of the research

2c. Approach & methods

2d. References

The reference list should have a maximum of 25 references.

2e. Scientific setting & Setting within research groups

Please provide references of the applicant, with a maximum of 10, and information on related research initiatives.

3. Organisation of the project & Timetable

Please provide a work plan and time schedule of the project including communication activities, e.g. approaches for achieving the objectives and milestones. With a maximum of 250 words (please use word count to specify number of words).

4. Societal relevance

Please give a description of what the project is meant to accomplish with regard to the Migration, Development and Conflict-theme. Describe where and how the results can be applied in society, business or policy, and how the research will be embedded.

5. Output and communication plan

An output and communication plan can be directed at both academic and non-academic audiences. A communication plan could be aimed at the incorporation, translation and, if relevant, the application of research results with stakeholders from outside traditional scientific communities. Please give a description of the expected output (publication plan e.g. workshops, books, papers, presentations, policy reports etc.). The communication plan should also include the compulsory workshop that is organised at the end of the research. The budget for communication activities may not exceed the amount of €11,000.

Funds requested

3. Requested financial support

The guidelines for application are published in paragraph 3.2 of this Call for proposals: What can be applied for?

The research team should include at least one applicant from a partner institute in India or South Africa. A postdoctoral researcher employed in the Netherlands, and a replacement subsidy in the Netherlands should be specified in table I.

Reimbursements costs for a postdoc researcher from a developing country should be specified in table II. A replacement subsidy in India or South Africa should be specified in table III.

Specify the budget items as detailed as possible and present details on the calculations (e.g. amount per unit, number, frequency). Please note the restrictions that apply to the NWO contribution to the total costs (see paragraph 3.2 of this Call for proposals). Specify and substantiate the costs of a Post-doc researcher or a replacement (3a), the estimated material costs requested (3b) and the required budget for communication (3c).

Signature

The application must be electronically signed by the principal applicant and by the co-applicant(s). Please state name of the applicant, place and date. It is **not** necessary to scan a signature or send a hard-copy of the application to NWO.

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