

PPS-I 2025 Call Biobased raw materials for circular materials

If you are planning to conduct chemistry and/or biobased research into biobased raw materials, you can apply for a PPS-i allowance for 2025 from the TKI (Top consortium for Knowledge and Innovation) for Green Chemistry and Circularity by submitting an application no later than 14:00:00 on 16 September 2025. Please find the submission requirements below.

Introduction

The TKI for Green Chemistry and Circularity has made €5,000,000 available for public-private partnerships that conduct research into innovations relating to water quality, biobased raw materials, and carbon capture and utilisation (CCU). This call text relates to the theme of 'biobased raw materials'. The greening of the chemical sector is a key theme within the mission-driven top sectors and innovation policy. An action agenda is currently being developed in the field of biobased raw materials in the chemical sector by the committee on biobased raw materials. The biobased chemical field plays a crucial role to realise innovations in this field. The TKI is issuing this call to stimulate innovation within this specific theme and wishes to encourage young researchers and SMEs in particular to submit an application.

Scope of the call

Bio-based raw materials are essential for the sustainability of the chemical industry by reducing CO₂ emissions, as they can function as a sustainable replacement of fossil-based raw materials. The biomass use in the current chemical industry is approximately 5-8 % and is projected to grow significantly over the next few decades. However, there are still many challenges that hinder the further development of sustainable chemistry: availability of biobased raw materials, processing technology, product development for the right applications, and economic feasibility of bio-based raw materials.

Aim of this call

This call aims to stimulate research on the conversion of biobased raw materials into sustainable biobased chemicals which can be used for materials. "Materials" within this call refers to a broad definition of functional molecules and includes polymers, coatings, films, adhesives, fibers, textiles, composites, resins and additives, ingredients for home and personal care products.

Feedstocks

This call is open to research on both first generation (G1, e.g. corn, sugarcane, oils) and second generation (G2, e.g. agricultural residues, woody biomass) feedstocks. This call gives preference to G2 feedstocks. G1 feedstocks may still be considered when they provide unique functionalities that cannot be achieved through G2 alternatives. Applicants should clearly justify such choices.

Conversion of biomass into platform chemicals and specialty chemicals

To transform biomass into chemicals for sustainable materials, chemo-catalytic, and/or biotechnological synthesis or conversion technologies are used. Challenges in this conversion process and further downstream processing include, but are not limited to, process design and/or adaptation of processes for use of biobased feedstock, energy consumption, efficiency and scalability of the process, and purification of the building blocks with justifiable LCA results. Additionally, the formulation of the building blocks should suit its intended application.

Building blocks for materials

The resulting bio-based materials should have a clear and viable end-of-life solution, ensuring they do not result in persistent environmental waste. Applicants should address this aspect explicitly in their proposal. The building blocks developed should have a relevant application and the right functionalities for use in the chemical sector. This call explicitly excludes proposals focused on biofuels, as the focus is on high-

value materials for the chemical sector rather than energy applications

Knowledge dissemination and shared knowledge building

The TKI for Green Chemistry and Circularity promotes knowledge dissemination and shared knowledge building. As part of this, project leaders and project participants are expected to participate in a programme day in Q4 2026 / Q1 2027 to share their project results. In addition, the TKI for Green Chemistry and Circularity asks the project leaders to consider whether the system of 'learning communities' (<https://www.wijzijkatapult.nl/files/topsectoren/Topsectoren%20Toolkit.pdf>) can be deployed during the course of the project to promote skills building by students and teachers/researchers. Depending on the TRL phase of the project, this could involve students from universities (lower TRLs) and/or universities of applied science (higher TRLs). For help with the latter, the HCA coordinator of ChemistryNL can also be contacted: onno.devreede@chemistrynl.com.

Requirements for a CCU application

- Applicants
The call is open for applications from public-private partnerships. The primary applicant must be a researcher with a position at a Dutch knowledge institution for the duration of the project or longer. Furthermore, at least one Dutch private party must be a (financial) participant in the partnership.
- Scope of the call
The application must fit the scope of this call. This can be found on page 1.
- Conditions for using the PPS-i-allowance
The terms and conditions as described in Annex A apply to the PPS-i-allowance 2025.
- Maximum PPS-i-allowance per project and call budget
The maximum PPS-i-allowance 2025 per project is €150,000.
The total budget for the calls 'biobased raw materials', 'water quality' and 'carbon capture and utilisation (CCU)' is €5,000,000. The budget per call is €1,666,666. This amount can be changed in case of under- or over spending in one of the specific calls.
- Application submission – **template and deadline**
Applications must be submitted via an 'allowance use plan'. Allowance use plans must be drawn up in accordance with the templates in Annexes B and C. The TKI for Green Chemistry and Circularity will only consider applications drawn up in accordance with these templates. Applications must be submitted by email to and aanvragen@chemistrynl.com with 'Aanvraag PPS-i-toeslag 2025 Biogrondstoffen' (Application for PPS-i allowance 2025 Biogrondstoffen) in the subject line. The deadline for submission is **14:00:00 on 16 September 2025**.

Please note that we will not consider applications that are incomplete or incorrectly drawn up.

To avoid this, you can have your application checked for completeness prior to submitting your definitive version. If you wish to have your application checked, please send your draft application by email to aanvragen@chemistrynl.com by 14:00:00 on 9 September 2025 at the latest.

Your definitive version must be submitted by **14:00:00 on 16 September 2025** at the latest.

- Project end date
This scheme applies to research projects with an end date before or on 31 December 2030. The end date cannot be extended.
- Young researchers and SMEs
The TKI for Green Chemistry and Circularity encourages the participation of young researchers and SMEs.
- Critical raw materials
TKI for Green Chemistry and Circularity also aims to avoid the use of critical raw materials. Research proposals that do not use critical materials are therefore preferred.
- Required co-funding by a private party
The project must involve actual public-private collaboration and the private party must co-finance the project. The minimum private co-financing for this call is:
 - 30% for fundamental research,
 - 50% for industrial research,
 - 75% for experimental research.

At least 50% of the co-financing must be in the form of a financial contribution ('in cash'). This rule does not apply to SMEs (small and medium-sized enterprises) that participate as project partners in the project. SMEs may freely distribute their co-financing between contributions in kind ('in kind') or financial contributions ('in cash'). Public parties can also contribute to a project, but this contribution does not count as private co-financing. Project costs of private parties are not eligible for subsidy.

Procedure

1. You have to submit an application in the form of a PPS-i-allowance use plan by means of the templates in Annexes B and C to aanvragen@chemistrynl.com (specifying 'Aanvraag PPS-i-toeslag 2025 Biogronstoffen' in the subject line) **by 14:00:00 on 16 September 2025 at the latest.**
2. After submission, the us plans will be assessed by a committee. This committee consists of, among others, representatives from the ChemistryNL program councils. The committee provides advice to the Board of Directors of the TKI Green Chemistry and Circularity regarding the approval of the application for PPS-i-allowance 2025. Assessment criteria are:
 - alignment with the scope of the call
 - feasibility of the research idea
 - strength of the consortium
 - innovative character and social and/or economic impact.
3. The Board of Directors of the TKI for Green Chemistry and Circularity is expected to make its decision on awarding the PPS-i-allowance 2025 in Q4 2025. Should the budget of €5,000,000 not be sufficient for the number of applications on which the committee has given positive advice, then the Board of Directors will decide on the allocation, taking into account policy considerations and diversity in research topics. You cannot appeal the decision of the Board of Directors.

You cannot appeal decisions of the TKI for Green Chemistry and Circularity.



Questions and information

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact the PPS-i coordinator of the TKI for Green Chemistry and Circularity, Harmen Veldman (phone: +31 6 31976594, email: h.veldman@chemistrynl.com).

The TKI for Green Chemistry and Circularity wishes you good luck in developing your public-private partnership projects and looks forward to receiving your application.

Annexes:

Annex A: Terms and conditions for award and use of a 2025 PPS-i allowance

Annex B: Allowance use plan

Annex C: Budget form (Excel)

Annex A: Terms and conditions for award and use of a 2025 PPS-i-allowance

The following terms and conditions apply for the award and use of the 2025 PPS-i-allowance.

1) Use of the PPS-i allowance

You will use the PPS-i allowance for the allowance use plans involving a real public-private partnership* as granted by the Board of Directors of the TKI for Green Chemistry and Circularity.

**Actual partnership: A collaboration between at least two independent parties to exchange knowledge or technology, or to realise a joint objective on the basis of a division of tasks, where the parties jointly decide on the scope of the partnership project, contribute to its execution, and share the risk and results. One or more parties may cover the total costs of the project, thereby releasing the other parties from the financial risks associated with the project. Contract research and conducting research services are not considered to be a partnership.*

2) The PPS-i-allowance scheme

All activities to be undertaken must comply with the terms and conditions for PPS-I cooperation projects as set forth in the *Regeling Nationale EZK-subsidies* (Scheme for National Subsidies from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy) and as defined by the RVO Netherlands Enterprise Agency ([Link](#)). The obligations of a PPS allowance recipient as defined in these schemes apply in full to your organisation in the context of the funds made available to you by the TKI for Green Chemistry and Circularity.

3) Private contribution

The project must involve actual public-private collaboration and the private party must co-finance the project. The minimum private co-financing for this call is:

- 30% for fundamental research,
- 50% for industrial research,
- 75% for experimental research.

At least 50% of the co-financing must be in the form of a financial contribution ('in cash'). This rule does not apply to SMEs (small and medium-sized enterprises) that participate as project partners in the project. SMEs may freely distribute their co-financing between contributions in kind ('in kind') or financial contributions ('in cash'). Public parties can also contribute to a project, but this contribution does not count as private co-financing. Project costs of private parties are not eligible for subsidy.

4) Costing method

You must calculate the costs specified for partnership projects for which the PPS-i-allowance will be used in accordance with the standard methods as described in articles 10 up to and including 15 of the *Kaderbesluit nationale EZK-en LNV-subsidies* (Framework decision on national subsidies granted by the Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Policy and the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality) ([Link](#)). The costs will be considered without VAT if the allowance recipient that incurred the costs is able to deduct VAT.

5) Availability of the allowance

The TKI for Green Chemistry and Circularity will make the allowance available to your organisation as an advance under the terms and conditions applying to the use of the PPS-i-allowance. The allowance will be paid in several tranches amounting to 90% of the allowance granted. The remaining 10% will be settled at the time of the final allowance review. You will receive an allowance tranche scheme with the approval of your allowance use plan.

6) **Period of use**

The period of use for the PPS-i-allowance ends on 31 December 2029. You will not be able to use the PPS-i allowance after this date.

7) **Reporting requirement**

You must submit a research and financial report on the progress of activities in the previous year in Q1 of every year. This is done in the context of monitoring by the RVO Netherlands Enterprise Agency. In addition, the TKI may request information for purposes of the annual report of the TKI for Green Chemistry and Circularity.

8) **Request for allowance review**

You must submit a full *Aanvraag Vaststelling Toeslag* (request for allowance review) to the TKI for Green Chemistry and Circularity within eight weeks following completion of the project. Such a request for allowance review consists of a financial and research justification and an audit statement by an independent auditor when the PPS-i-allowance exceeds €125,000. This limit does not apply for each (sub)project but for the total sum of the 2024 PPS-i-allowance used. A statement from the Board of Directors must be included for sums not exceeding €125,000.

9) **Communication**

- Upon the TKI's written request, you must make up-to-date information about the partnership projects for which the allowance is used available to the general public in an easily accessible manner.
- The TKI bureau will provide support in communications relating to the use of the PPS-i-allowance in your organisation, among other things via ChemistryNL's (social) media channels.
- You must also include the following statement or an equivalent thereof in publications resulting from an activity funded in part with an PPS-i allowance: 'This activity was cofunded by the TKI for Green Chemistry and Circularity with a PPS-i allowance from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy'. Please use the ChemistryNL logo where possible.
- The RVO Netherlands Enterprise Agency and ChemistryNL publish a brief description of all projects funded with a PPS-i-allowance on their websites. This brief description includes the names of participating companies.