

## **Funding opportunities and own-contribution responsibilities for for-profit participating parties in the Proof of Concept programme**

*Large enterprises* If the for-profit private partner is a participating party, has >250 FTE, or >50mIn in revenues, or >43mIn in total assets, the party is considered a Large enterprise. Large enterprises must make a financial own-contribution with a minimum of 50% in-cash (see Figure 1).

### *Not-micro enterprises*

If the for-profit private partner is a participating party, has >10 FTE, and/or >2mIn in revenues, and/or >2mIn in total assets, and thus does not classify as Micro enterprise (i.e. Not-micro enterprise), this party must make a financial own-contribution with a minimum of 20% in-kind and/or in-cash (see Figure 1).

### *Micro enterprises*

If the for-profit partner is a participating party, has  $\leq 10$  FTE, and  $\leq 2$ mIn in revenues and  $\leq 2$ mIn in total assets, this party is considered a Micro enterprise. Micro enterprises can request up to 20% direct funding of the total project budget. The budget requested by the micro enterprise must be matched by an equivalent or greater own contribution (in-kind). The minimum and maximum required own contribution is 5% and 20%, respectively (see Figure 1). For example, if a micro enterprise requires €40k in materials and FTE to participate in the consortium, up to 50% of these costs (€20k) may be requested from the KWF budget (matching KWF and own contribution), provided that €20k  $\leq$  20% of the total project budget (see Figure 1). The micro enterprise can request budget for: reagents, compensation for product (at cost price), FTE and hiring of external expertise.

For micro participating enterprises that request funding the following *additional conditions* apply:

- The micro enterprise should provide information that supports the micro enterprise status.
- The micro enterprise must provide evidence to confirm it is not experiencing financial difficulties.
- The micro enterprise actively participates in the execution of the scientifically driven project.
- The requested costs must be clearly linked to the project deliverables and milestones.
- The micro enterprise is not yet profitable (meaning the micro enterprise is not generating a profit yet and still operating at even/loss).
- The micro enterprise is a spin-off from a Dutch knowledge institution.
- The micro enterprise must be registered by the Chamber of Commerce (KvK) in the Netherlands and proof of registration is requested in the full proposal.
- KWF reserves the right to request additional information regarding the micro enterprise if necessary.

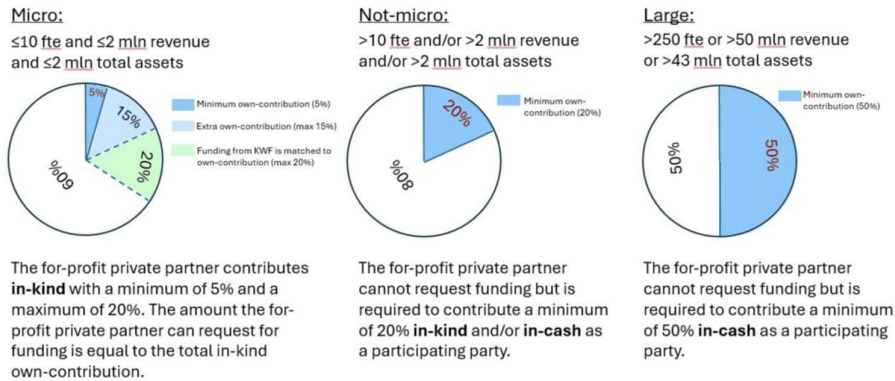


Figure 1. Schematic overview of funding opportunities and own-contribution responsibilities for for-profit private partners.

The following *general conditions* apply to micro enterprises that request funding:

- Funding is allocated to the lead institute, and payments to the micro enterprise are processed through the lead institute.
- The micro enterprise receives funding and is included as a participating party in the project and therefore must agree to KWF's funding conditions.
- Personnel costs for micro enterprises can only be requested according to the KWF salary scales (see section 4.6.1. of the KWF Guidelines 2025).
- The knowledge institution must retain the right to publish.
- Conditions regarding data ownership must be established, ensuring that the lead institute retains ownership of the clinical trial data, with the micro enterprise having option rights under market-conform conditions.
- KWF requires access to any licensing agreements between the knowledge institution and the micro enterprise.
- An exit clause must be included in any potential licensing agreement.