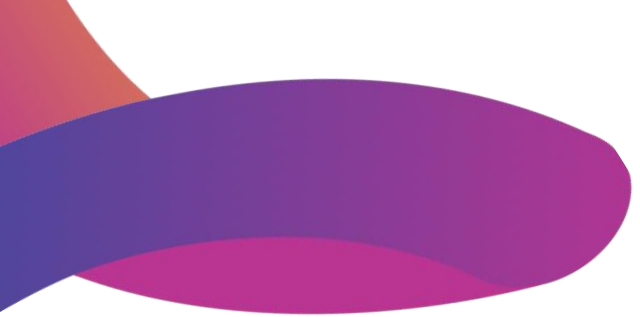


Information session on Weave


For Belgian researchers (eligible for FWO / F.R.S.-FNRS funding)

10 February 2025

Questions and Answers



Is there a higher success rate for Weave collaborative projects or some incentive compared to individual/national grants?

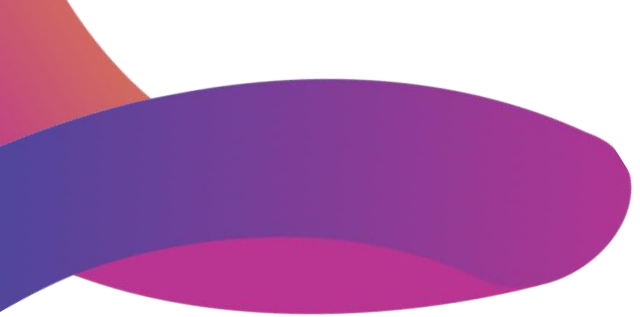


➔ **No, there isn't any incentive, nor a higher success rate.** Please note that Weave projects are not evaluated separately: your Weave application is evaluated in competition with all other applications submitted to the Lead Agency. The success rate of the Lead agency applies but **capped at 20%** (= Weave threshold). Note that most included funding agencies have a regular success rate around 20%.



Budget shifts between different countries are not possible, correct?

- ➔ Correct, each partner requests budget in line with the regulations of their respective funder and indeed no budget can be shifted between countries/regions.
- ➔ FWO funding will only be paid to researchers eligible for FWO
- ➔ F.R.S.-FNRS funding will only be paid to researchers eligible for F.R.S.-FNRS




Addition of a research collaborator from a country in the South, which is possible under the FWO-programme is not an option in WEAVE, correct?

➔ Correct, the principle of max. 10% money-follows-collaboration (possible in regular FWO projects fundamental research) is **not possible** within a Weave project at FWO side.

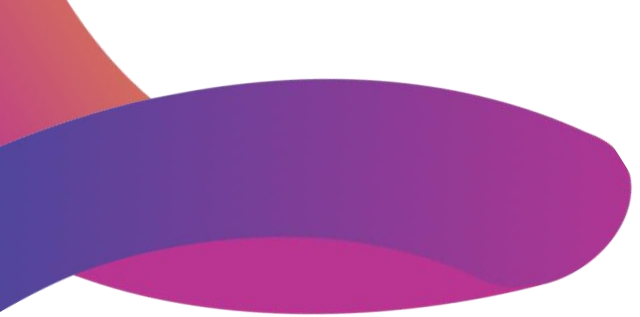
For researchers from FWB (FNRS), is it possible to cumulate a PDR (w/o partner) and a Weave (w/ lead agency = FWO)?

➔ Correct, one can cumulate 1 PDR and 1 WEAVE.




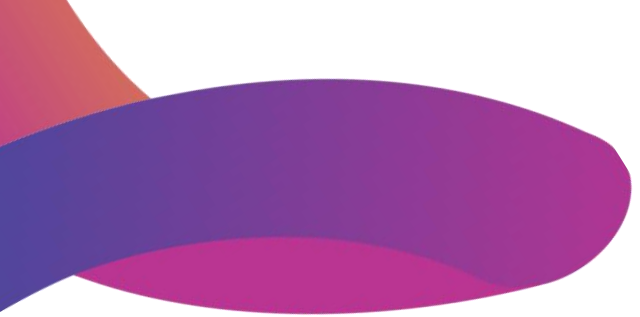
It seems that the success rate ($4/35 = 11\%$) of WEAVE projects is relatively low compared to regular FWO projects. Is that a coincidence?

- ➔ Such a comparison is in fact not applicable since Weave projects are evaluated together with (in the same competition with) the regular FWO projects... It is not a separate competition, not a separate success rate.



From a practical perspective, do you write one integrated proposal (meeting the 10-page requirement), or two separate project proposals that show integration of aims and approach?

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- ➔ It really has to be one jointly written integrated research project proposal in which the added value of each partner is justified, the work packages are clearly divided, the requested funding for all partners is included and justified, ... Because only the Lead Agency will evaluate the project so this funding agency needs all the details of the Weave project as a whole.

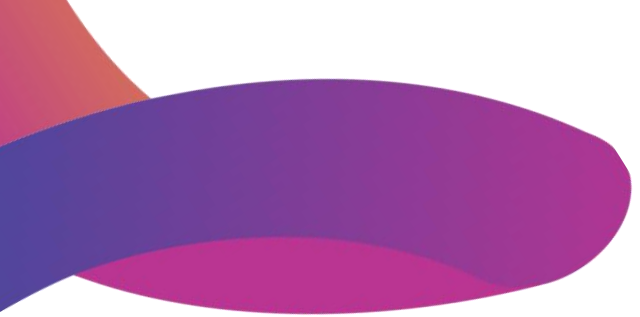


What does “Belgian researchers” mean here? For example, I am from China with Chinese nationality, and I work in Belgium. Am I eligible to apply for the WEAVE project?


➔ This is definitely not related to nationality, but to affiliation. Please make sure to check the eligibility criteria of each funder.

Are trilateral agreements going to be considered with the Netherlands in the future (e.g. FWO+Netherlands+FNRS)?

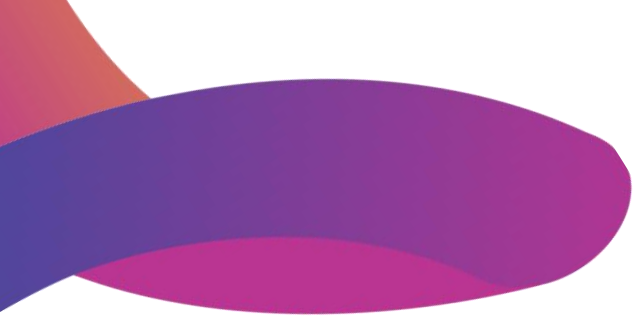
➔ NWO Domain Science is currently only participating in a pilot with FWO. More information on how this will evolve in the (near) future is unfortunately not yet available.




If the supervisor has obtained his/her first PhD more than 12 years before the submission of the project application, and the co-supervisor has obtained the PhD less than 12 years before the submission. the project should be submitted as Junior or Senior type project?



➔ As soon as one of the involved (co-)supervisors has more than 12 years post PhD seniority the project becomes a senior project. Please note we also take the seniority of your foreign Weave partners into account.



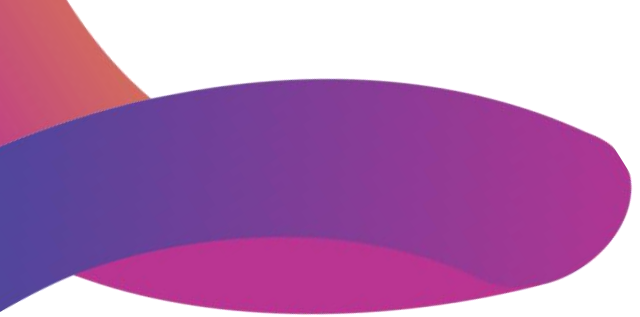
Am I right to imagine that it's not allowed to apply with FWO as lead in April and then again with FNRS as lead in July? Is this prevented by the maximum of 1 application per round and the April and the July deadlines are considered as one round?




➔ Indeed, both the FWO call as lead and FNRS call as lead are part of the same round (2025). As a result, you cannot submit a project at FWO (as lead) and FNRS (as lead).

Do we have the same 3+1 PhD student rule for FWO (lead) + DFG projects?

➔ No, for FWO, whenever DFG is involved (as Lead or as Partner) project duration is max. 3 years, also at FWO side.



Can we then already use the funds on the flemish side before March 2026? Or would we have to wait until the ratification by FWF?

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- ➔ No, FWO cannot make the funds available before final ratification by all involved Partner Agencies. (Not possible as long as it concerns a conditional allocation.) However, as I explained during the presentation, there is at FWO side a phase-out period of 2 years after the official end date to use remaining funds.



Is there the chance of re-submission of a rejected proposal next year?

- ➔ In principle FWO and F.R.S.-FNRS launch a call each year and as a result a resubmission of a rejected proposal is possible in a next round.
- ➔ However, please clarify in all transparency if it concerns a resubmission and take into account the feedback on your initial submission, as provided by the Lead Agency.

If the proposal was submitted as an FWO project in the past (not granted), should it be mentioned in the current proposal for weave?

- ➔ Yes, there is a specific question in the application form that you have to use to indicate it is a resubmission. You are also asked to indicate the changes you made (based on the comments of the reviewers).