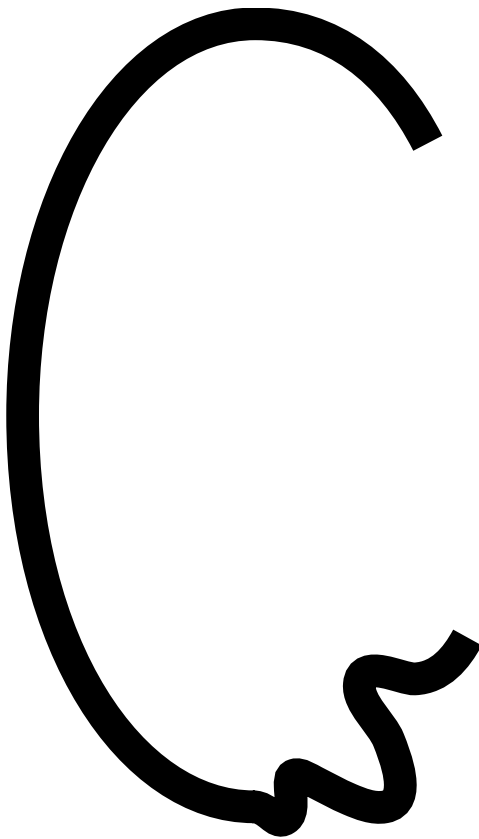


Four-year Institutional Grant Scheme for the Creative Industry 2025-2028



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Four-year Institutional Grant Scheme for the Creative Industry 2025-2028

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Explanatory notes to the Four-year Institutional Grant Scheme for the Creative Industry 2025-2028

The Creative Industries Fund NL awards four-year institutional grants to cultural institutions within the creative industry through this scheme.

Category I or category II?

The Four-year Institutional Grant Scheme for the Creative Industry 2025-2028 is divided into two categories.

Category I is for cultural institutions that implement an extensive activities programme within the creative industry. They do this on a scale comparable to institutions that are part of the national cultural Basic Infrastructure (BIS).

- 1 The Fund expects to support six to seven institutions with a grant of between € 275,000 and € 550,000 per calendar year in this category.
- 2 Institutions in this category must be nationally outstanding within the disciplines of design, architecture or digital culture. Furthermore, the institution's programme has international significance.
- 3 Prioritization of positively assessed applications will be based on the ranking that arises after the criteria have been assessed.

Category II is for cultural institutions that implement a large activities programme within the creative industry.

- 1 The Fund expects to support six to seven institutions with a grant of between € 125,000 and € 275,000 per calendar year in this category.
- 2 Institutions in this category must be of national significance within the disciplines of design, architecture or digital culture.
- 3 Prioritization of positively assessed applications will be based on the assessment of the criteria and the proposals will first be ranked within the main discipline to which they relate. The application that scores the highest within the architecture discipline, will be the first to receive support, followed by the highest scoring application within the design discipline and then by the highest scoring application within the digital culture discipline. This order will be repeated until the grant ceiling has been reached. In this way, the Fund ensures an equal spread between the disciplines.

Applications for categories I and II will be assessed by the same independent advisory committee. Institutions may submit an application within one of these categories, but they can also submit one in both categories. In that case, two separate applications have to be submitted.

The advisory committee first advises on applications that are submitted in category I of the scheme. If the applicant has submitted a grant application in both categories under this scheme and the application in category I is approved, then the application that has been submitted within category II will be rejected. This is formalized in the grounds for rejection in Article 7.

It is therefore possible to submit two applications under this scheme: one in category I and one in category II. However, it is not possible to receive two grants under this scheme. In the summer of 2024, the 1- and 2-year Activities Programme Grant Scheme for 2025 and 2026 will be opened. An equal spread between the disciplines as well as a regional spread will play a role within that scheme.

Relation to the ministerial Basic Infrastructure Grant Scheme for Culture 2025-2028 (BIS 2025-2028)

With this scheme, the Fund is continuing the system of 1-, 2- and 4-year support that it introduced in 2020. The objective is to enable a number of institutions within the creative industry to develop themselves financially and organizationally in few steps up to the same level as institutions that are financed under the ministerial Basic Infrastructure Grant Scheme for Culture 2025-2028. The Fund expects a number of institutions to submit both an application under BIS 2025-2028 and under the Fund's four-year grant scheme. The procedure therefore runs simultaneously with BIS 2025-2028 as much as possible, and the criteria and appendices have been aligned to each other as much as possible as well.

Institutions can submit an application both under BIS 2025-2028 and under the Fund's four-year grant scheme. It is not possible to receive grants under both schemes. This means that if a grant application is awarded under BIS 2025-2028, the application under the Four-year Institutional Grant Scheme for the Creative Industry will be rejected. If, at that time, the advisory committee has already issued its advice about the application and has drawn up a priority list, then the next applications will move up one place in the ranking.

Schedule

- 1 December 2023: opening of the Four-year Institutional Grant Scheme for the Creative Industry 2025-2028
 - This will occur simultaneously with BIS and the other national culture funds.
 - 8 december 2023 an informative meeting about the scheme will be held.
- 1 February 2024, 5 p.m. CET: closing of the Four-year Institutional Grant Scheme for the Creative Industry 2025-2028
 - This is one day after the BIS closing date.
- July 2024: announcement of the results of the Four-year Institutional Grant Scheme for the Creative Industry 2025-2028
 - This will occur in consultation and simultaneously with the results of applications within BIS and the other national culture funds.

Sustainability

The Council for Culture has advised that sustainability will not yet be included as a weighting factor in assessing applications under BIS 2025-2028. Instead, a questionnaire will be distributed to the institutions in 2024, by way of a baseline measurement. This baseline measurement is separate from the application assessment. The Fund will follow this line. Just like the Council for Culture, the Fund considers sustainability important, but it does not want to put more pressure on the often small organizations now. Supported institutions will be obliged to complete the baseline measurement after the award.

Having regard to Article 10(4) of the Cultural Policy (Special-Purpose Funding) Act, the board of the Stichting Creative Industries Fund NL has decided to lay down the following scheme, containing the rules for providing four-year institutional grants to institutions to stimulate the quality of the creative industry.

Section 1: Definitions

Article 1. The Creative Industries Fund NL Mission Statement

- 1 The Creative Industries Fund NL's mission is to continue and renew the rich design tradition in the Netherlands, from a cultural perspective, by stimulating experimental and research processes as well as new creation methods and to promote good commissioning.
- 2 In accordance with its articles of association and according to the statutory provisions and grant schemes, the Fund provides grants to natural and legal persons who contribute to the high quality, development and professionalization of the contemporary creative industry within the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Article 2. Definitions

The definitions used in this scheme have the same meaning as laid down in the Cultural Policy (Special-Purpose Funding) Grant Scheme and are understood to mean:

- 1 **The Fund:** the Creative Industries Fund NL;
- 2 **The board:** the Executive Director of the Fund, as referred to in Article 5 of the articles of association;
- 3 **Scheme:** Four-year Institutional Grant Scheme for the Creative Industry 2025-2028;
- 4 **Creative industry:** the field of work relating to the design, architecture and digital culture disciplines, including any crossovers between these disciplines;
- 5 **Kingdom:** the Kingdom of the Netherlands, consisting of the countries of the Netherlands, Aruba, Curacao and Sint-Maarten and the public bodies of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba;
- 6 **Cultural institution:** a non-profit legal entity under private law with a supporting, producing or initiating function within the creative industry, like a lab or workshop, a platform or a presentation space;
- 7 **Applicant:** an institution that submits a grant application to the Fund;
- 8 **Core task:** any primary activities that contribute to the realization of the institution's objectives;
- 9 **National cultural funds:** Performing Arts Fund NL, Netherlands Film Fund, Dutch Foundation for Literature, Mondriaan Fund, Cultural Participation Fund, Creative Industries Fund NL;
- 10 **Own income:** in this scheme, own income is to be understood as the following income reflected in the financial statements on the income side of the operating account:
 - a Public revenues;
 - b Other income, namely:
 - Direct income in the form of sponsorship income;
 - Indirect income;
 - Other contributions.

In any case, the following income items are not included in the own income:

- Grants awarded by an administrative body;
- Other contributions from public revenues;
- Interest income;
- Contributions in kind, including capitalization of own hours;
- Capitalization of volunteers;

- Value of complimentary tickets;
- Other income items that are not related to cultural entrepreneurship.

Section 2: General provisions

Article 3. Scope and objective

- 1 Under this scheme, the Fund may provide four-year grants to cultural institutions and organizations within the Kingdom, that under their core task contribute to the high quality, development and professionalization of the present-day creative industry within the Kingdom through an activities plan.
- 2 This scheme implements the Fund's policy objectives set out below:
 - a Promoting the quality of design and its development;
 - b Promoting the use of the power of design in big social challenges;
 - c Promoting a healthy and innovative design infrastructure;
 - d Stimulating experiment, research, reflection and debate;
 - e Promoting talent development;
 - f Enhancing international collaboration within the various design disciplines.

Article 4. Grant forms

- 1 Under this scheme, an applicant may apply for a grant within the following categories:
 - a Category I: four-year grants to cultural institutions with a grant requirement of € 275,000 per calendar year up to a maximum of € 550,000 per calendar year;
 - b Category II: four-year grants to cultural institutions with a grant requirement of € 125,000 per calendar year up to a maximum of € 275,000 per calendar year.

Article 5. Grant ceiling

- 1 A grant will always be provided on condition that sufficient funds are allocated to the Fund by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.
- 2 The board will adopt a grant ceiling in a board resolution for categories I and II.
- 3 The resolutions referred to in the second paragraph will be announced on the Fund's website www.stimuleringsfonds.nl.
- 4 If the grant ceiling in category I is not reached, the board may decide to increase the grant ceiling for category II by the amount left from category I.

Article 6. Thresholds

- 1 A four-year institutional grant will only be provided if the following condition has been met:
The institution has received a grant under the ministerial Basic Infrastructure Grant Scheme for Culture 2021-2024, or has received positive advice from an advisory committee within one of the following schemes of the Fund:
 - a Four-year Institutional Grant Scheme for the Creative Industry 2021-2024;
 - b 1- and 2-year Activities Programme Grant Scheme (concerning the 2021-2022 period);
 - c 1- and 2-year Activities Programme Grant Scheme 2023-2024.
- 2 To provide a four-year institutional grant under this scheme:
 - a The institution has to be located within the Kingdom and registered in the Commercial Register of the country or public body in question;
 - b The institution has to apply the following codes:
 - [Fair Practice Code](#);
 - [Governance Code for Culture 2019](#);
 - [Diversity and Inclusion Code](#);

- 3 To provide a four-year institutional grant under this grant scheme within category I:
 - a The institution must be nationally outstanding within the disciplines of design, architecture or digital culture;
 - b The institution's programme must have international significance.
- 4 To provide a four-year institutional grant under this grant scheme within category II:
 - a The institution must be nationally significant within the disciplines of design, architecture or digital culture.

Article 7. Grounds for rejection

- 1 No grant will be provided under this scheme if the institution receives a long-term grant for its core tasks in the 2025-2028 period from:
 - a The ministerial Basic Infrastructure Grant Scheme for Culture 2025-2028;
 - b One of the other national culture funds.
- 2 Applications in category II will be rejected if the institution receives a grant under this scheme in category I.
- 3 The board may reject a grant:
 - a If the applicant did not meet one or more of the conditions or obligations attached to the grant in the past two years, which in any case includes the completion of the supported activities properly and on time, providing information about relevant changes to the implementation on time and accounting for activities properly and on time;
 - b If the applicant does not meet the provisions of this scheme.
- 4 No grant is provided to or for:
 - a Activities that have already taken place or are starting prior to the year to which the grant period pertains;
 - b Applications that are not submitted on time or that are incomplete;
 - c Educational programmes and related activities of educational institutions;
 - d Higher professional education institutions and universities;
 - e Study trips;
 - f Labour costs of employees of government, provincial and municipal bodies;
 - g Acquiring property;
 - h Regular construction and restoration costs;
 - i The exploitation of catering activities.

Article 8. Provisions relating to finances, sources of income and other grant relationships

- 1 A four-year institutional grant within category I can only be provided:
 - a If the grant amounts to at least € 275,000 per calendar year;
 - b If the grant does not exceed € 550,000 per applicant per calendar year.
- 2 A four-year institutional grant within category II can only be provided:
 - a If the grant amounts to at least € 125,000 per calendar year;
 - b If the grant does not exceed € 275,000 per applicant per calendar year.
- 3 A four-year institutional grant for categories I and II can only be provided:
 - a If the total grant to be provided by the Fund to the applicant does not amount to more than 65% of the costs that are eligible for the grant;
 - b If at least 35% of the costs that are eligible for the grant, within the total income over the entire period, comes from sources of income other than from a grant from the Minister of Education, Culture and Science or the other national culture funds.

- 4 Institutions that receive a four-year institutional grant in category I of this scheme, will not be eligible for a grant, in the calendar years to which this grant relates, under the Fund's following schemes:
- Design Grant Scheme;
 - Architecture Grant Scheme;
 - Digitale culture Grant Scheme;
 - Festivals and Creative Industry Public Presentations Grant Scheme;
 - Design Sector Internationalization Grant Scheme.
- 5 Institutions that receive a four-year institutional grant in category II of this scheme, will not be eligible for a grant, in the calendar years to which this grant relates, under the Fund's following schemes:
- Design Grant Scheme;
 - Architecture Grant Scheme;
 - Digitale culture Grant Scheme;
 - Festivals and Creative Industry Public Presentations Grant Scheme;

Section 3: Grant application

Article 9. Submission procedure

- 1 The board announces the period within which a grant application under this scheme can be submitted on the website www.stimuleringsfonds.nl;
- 2 The grant application must be submitted via the Fund's [digital application environment](#);
- 3 Applications should be drafted in Dutch;
- 4 In the application form, the applicant indicates the category for which it is submitting the application and the institution's main discipline;
- 5 Within an application round, the applicant may apply for a grant in categories I and II. In that case, two separate applications must be submitted, taking into account the different amounts of the grants applied for and the effects of them in the activities programme.

Article 10. Contents of the application

- 1 An application consists of the following components:
 - a A fully completed application form;
 - b An activities plan (20 pages at most, including visual material; A4, portrait layout; minimum font size of 10; line spacing of 1.0), including:
 - A description of the institution's mission, vision and profile, matching the threshold of the category concerned, as described in Article 6(3) and (4);
 - A reflection on the implementation of the activities and the functioning of the institution during the 2021-2024 policy period;
 - A description of the activities the institution wants to implement in the 2025-2028 period and a reflection on the substantive line of these activities;
 - A description of the communication and digital strategy for the 2025-2028 period;
 - A reflection on the assessment criteria of this grant scheme as expressed in Article 13.
 - c A balanced budget for the four-year period in accordance with this scheme's model budget format, including a quantitative list of activities and explanatory notes;
 - d A digitally certified extract, issued no more than one year ago, from the Commercial Register of the Dutch Chamber of Commerce or from one of the Chambers of Commerce that fall within the Kingdom of the Netherlands;
 - e A presentative image, for communication purposes by the Fund, the necessary

- rights to which are held by the applicant;
- f** Where applicable, letters of intent from or collaboration agreements with the most important partners;
- g** The legal entity's deed of incorporation or its most recent articles of association;
- h** A document that shows the institution's financial position, preferably the most recently drawn up financial statements or, if there are no financial statements available, a report about the applicant's financial position at the time of the application;
- i** The most recent substantive annual report.

Article II. Submission of the budget, quantitative list of activities and explanatory notes to the budget

- 1** The budget contains a list of the annually estimated income and expenditure. When drawing up the budget, the institution uses this scheme's model budget format that has been established by the Fund and published on the website www.stimuleringsfonds.nl.
- 2** The budget consists of four components:
 - a** A specified overview of the activity expenses;
 - b** A specified overview of the management expenses;
 - c** A specified overview of the income - financial cover, including any own income;
 - d** A summary of the income and expenditure and the result.
- 3** The budget contains a quantitative list of activities covering the period for which the grant is applied for.
- 4** The budget's explanatory notes specify the long-term budget, the balance sheet and the quantitative list of activities and serves as a more detailed substantiation of the grant application.

Section 4: Grant provision

Article I2. Process of advice

- 1** The application is assessed to see whether it is complete and whether it meets the criteria set for this scheme to be eligible for an institutional grant.
- 2** Applications that are complete and also meet the criteria set for this scheme will be submitted to an external independent advisory committee for its advice.
- 3** The advisory committee will formulate its advice on providing or not providing a grant based exclusively on the documents provided by the applicant.
- 4** A positive advice may include a reasoned recommendation about the amount of the grant to be provided and substantiated recommendations relating to the implementation or why support is not being provided for specifically stated activities.
- 5** The advisory committee applies a working method in accordance with the [Assessment Framework Four-year Institutional Grant Scheme for the Creative Industry 2025-2028](#) (in Dutch only). The version published on the Fund's website at the time of submission applies.
- 6** If an institution has submitted an application for both category I and category II, and the application in category I is awarded, then the application in category II will no longer be processed. The application in category II will not be included in the priority list.
- 7** If an institution receives a grant for the 2025-2028 period under the Basic Infrastructure for Culture (BIS), then the application within this scheme will no longer be processed. The application will not be included in the priority list.

Article 13. Assessment criteria

- 1 When assessing an application, the advisory committee applies the following criteria, which are given the same weighting:
 - a **The artistic value:** how does the institution succeed in implementing the artistic activities at a high-quality level, which at the same time substantially contribute to the Dutch creative industry? Both the institution's recent history is scrutinized here as well as the quality of the proposed activities plan;
 - b **The social significance:** how do the institution's artistic activities contribute to social issues or to other social sectors? In this respect we look at the Programme, Partner and Employee elements of the [Diversity and Inclusion Code](#), the [Fair Practice Code](#) and the [Governance Code for Culture 2019](#) and the institution's connectivity with its own city, province and/or cultural region;
 - c **Accessibility:** how is an audience reached and involved? This could, for instance, include the communication and digital strategy. But also: how does the institution ensure that the activities are accessible to the intended target groups? Consider things like social, physical, financial and digital accessibility, for example. In this regard, the Audience element of the [Diversity and Inclusion Code](#) will be assessed;
 - d **The institution's business health:** demonstrate that the institution's management and governance enable it to function responsibly and sustainably in the coming period and that the activities scheduled can be implemented in a financially healthy way.
 - e **The application's consistency in objective and set-up:** the interlinking and interconnectivity of all the components referred to in Article 10 will be assessed.

Article 14. Prioritization

- 1 If the total number of applications that are eligible for a grant exceeds the available budget, applications will be prioritized. The following prioritization procedure will apply to applications in category I:
 - a The applications that have been assessed positively will be ranked based on the assessment's outcome according to the criteria referred to in Article 13.
 - b The available amount will be awarded to the applicants whose application ranks the highest on the priority list. The highest-ranking applications will be provided with the amount advised by the advisory committee, as long as the total amount does not exceed the grant ceiling.
 - c The application, whose award would lead to the grant ceiling being exceeded, will be awarded the remaining amount up to the grant ceiling after the submission of an adjusted application and budget approved by the board.
 - d If, based on the average final score, applications end up on the priority list with the same score, and the grant ceiling is exceeded with these applications, then these applications with the same score will be prioritized as follows:
 - The equally scored applications will first be prioritized based on the contribution to the regional spread within the creative industry's infrastructure;
 - If there are then still applications with the same score, priority is given to the application that contributes the most to diversity and inclusion within the creative industry.
- 2 The following prioritization procedure will apply to applications in category II:
 - a The applications that have been assessed positively will be prioritized within the main discipline the applicant has indicated, namely design, architecture or digital culture, based on the assessment's outcome according to the criteria stated in Article 13;

- b** The first contribution advised by the advisory committee will be awarded to the application that ranks the highest in the architecture discipline. This will be followed by the highest-ranking application within the design discipline and then by the highest-ranking application within the digital culture discipline. This order will be repeated until the grant ceiling has been reached;
- c** The application, whose award would lead to the grant ceiling being exceeded, will be awarded the remaining amount up to the grant ceiling after the submission of an adjusted application and budget approved by the board;
- d** If, based on the average final score, applications within the same discipline end up on the priority list with the same score, and the grant ceiling is exceeded with these applications, then these applications with the same score will be prioritized as follows:
 - the equally scored applications will first be prioritized based on the contribution to the regional spread within the creative industry's infrastructure;
 - if there are then still applications with the same score, priority is given to the application that contributes the most to diversity and inclusion within the creative industry.

Article 15. Decision to provide a grant

- 1** The board informs the applicant about the decision within 24 weeks;
- 2** In this decision, the board may attach additional obligations to the grant provision;
- 3** The decision to provide a grant contains a summary or copy of the advice, the board's considerations, the conditions on which the grant is being made available, the obligations with which the recipient must comply, the maximum amount of the grant and information about the payment and any advance funding;
- 4** The applicant may not derive any rights from the decision to the grant an award for any subsequent applications;
- 5** Both the committee's positive and negative advice will be published on the Fund's website www.stimuleringsfonds.nl.

Article 16. Amendment to the grant amount

- 1** If the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science increases the institutional grant to the Fund, taking into account the cost trends regarding employment conditions or price levels, then the Fund may increase the grant it provides under this scheme by the percentage determined by the State Secretary;
- 2** If the grant, which the Fund provides under this scheme, is amended, taking into account the cost trends regarding employment conditions or price levels, then the State Secretary for Education, Culture and Science determines which percentage of the grant is wage-sensitive or price-sensitive.

Article 17. Advances

- 1** Per calendar year, the Fund pays the institution an advance, which is an equal part of the total grant amount that has been awarded over the four-year period;
- 2** If the grant is amended pursuant to Article 16(1), the amount of the advance will be amended accordingly.

Section 5: The grant recipient's obligations

Article 18. Administration

- 1** The grant recipient's financial year is concurrent with the calendar year;
- 2** The grant recipient keeps records of the project in such a way that the rights and obligations, which are of importance for determining the grant, as well as the income and expenditure, can be verified at any time;

- 3 The grant recipient keeps the records and any documents forming part of them for seven years after the determination of the grant.

Article 19. Periodic reports

- 1 Every year of the grant period before the first of May, the grant recipient submits an interim report via the Fund's digital application environment. The first report must therefore be handed in before 1 May 2026. The interim report covers the previous calendar year and contains:
 - The board's report;
 - Financial statements audited by an independent auditor, accompanied by an audit certificate;
 - Accountability for the quantitative list of activities.
- 2 The board's report in any case explains:
 - a The grant recipient's operating results;
 - b The grant recipient's financial position, with it also elaborating the investment policy, insofar as the institution or the affiliated institution has investments;
 - c A concise and clear qualitative accountability, consisting of a report about the implemented activities, which demonstrates that the subsidized activities took place according to plan;
 - d The application of the codes:
 - [Fair Practice Code](#);
 - [Governance Code of Culture 2019](#);
 - [Diversity and Inclusion Code](#);
- 3 The accountability for the quantitative list of activities that were implemented in the year to which the board's report relates must be concisely and clearly specified;
- 4 The board's report is signed by the director of the institution concerned;
- 5 The Fund holds monitoring meetings with the institutions supported under this scheme during the grant period. In these meetings, the most important developments within the organization in relation to this scheme's assessment criteria are discussed. Furthermore, the progress in relation to the application of the codes is reviewed.

Article 20. Reference to the Fund

In all its public statements about the subsidized activities, the grant recipient is to refer to the Fund as the grant provider. The Fund's logo is to be included in publications and reports relating to the subsidized activities, as well as in invitations, announcements, websites and audio-visual productions relating to them. If a grant recipient includes other parties' logos, the Fund's logo will be depicted comparably sized in proportion to the contribution.

Article 21. Notifying the board

The grant recipient immediately notifies the board if:

- 1 The activities for which the grant has been provided will not or not entirely take place;
- 2 The obligations attached to the grant will not be fully met;
- 3 There are substantial artistic or commercial changes compared to the plan based on which the grant was provided;
- 4 There are developments that may hinder the implementation of the activities, like reports of inappropriate behaviour or involvement in legal proceedings.

Section 6: Final determination of the grant

Article 22. Application for the final determination of the grant

- 1 The application for the determination of the final grant after the grant period has expired, must be submitted via the Fund's digital application environment. The application for the final determination has to be submitted by 1 June 2029 at the latest and should be accompanied by:
 - a The board's report on the last calendar year of the grant period;
 - b If the Fund's grant is € 160,000 or more per calendar year, the financial statements for the last calendar year of the grant period audited by an independent auditor and accompanied by an audit certificate;
 - c Accountability for the quantitative list of activities over the entire grant period.
- 2 If the application for determining the final grant is submitted after 1 June 2029, a lower grant may be determined.
- 3 If the activities have been implemented according to plan and all obligations attached to the grant have been met, the board will then determine the grant within ten weeks at the amount initially granted.
- 4 If it appears that activities have not or only partly been implemented, or if not all the obligations attached to the grant have been met, a lower grant may be determined.
- 5 The board may issue further instructions to the recipient about monitoring compliance with the conditions attached to the grant.

Article 23. Financial statements

- 1 Title 9, with the exception of chapters 1 and 11, 12, 14 and 15, of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code, or a corresponding provision in the law of the country in which the institution is located, applies to the financial statements. In those articles, the term 'profit and loss account' must be replaced with 'operating account'. The provisions regarding the profit and loss account apply equally to this operating account. Provisions regarding profit and loss apply equally to the operating balance.
- 2 The board may decide that provisions of Title 9 or sections thereof are not applicable to certain grant recipients or to certain categories of grant recipients.
- 3 The financial statements contain the balance sheet and the operating account, and must include explanatory notes to both.
- 4 The financial statements of a grant recipient are accompanied by the financial statements of the institution's subsidiaries as referred to in Section 24(a) of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code or a corresponding provision in the law of the country in which the institution is located or of other legal entities over which it can exercise dominant control or of which it has central management.

Article 24. Auditor's statement

- 1 If the Fund's grant is € 160,000 or more per calendar year, it is obliged to add an auditor's statement to the financial statements as referred to in Section 393(1) of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code or a corresponding provision in the law of the country in which the institution is located.
- 2 In the statement, referred to in the first paragraph, the auditor comments on the grant recipient's compliance with the grant provisions according to the audit protocols published on the website www.stimuleringsfonds.nl, using the model auditor's statements included there.

Section 7: Concluding provisions

Article 25. Appeal

A stakeholder may appeal a board resolution adopted under this scheme. A notice of objection must be submitted to the board. The period for lodging a notice

of objection is six weeks. The period starts on the day after the resolution has been announced. The objection proceedings are published on the website www.stimuleringsfonds.nl.

Article 26. Protection of personal data

The board will not provide any confidential information about an application to third parties. This relates to company and manufacturing data which an applicant makes available to the Fund in a confidential way and personal data as referred to in Articles 22 up to and including 33 of the General Data Protection Regulation (Implementation) Act, unless that provision ensues from a statutory obligation or does not manifestly infringe privacy.

The advisory committee's advice is excepted from this. The Fund will actively make this advice available to the public via de Fund's website www.stimuleringsfonds.nl.

Article 27. Hardship clause

In exceptional cases, the board may deviate from provisions in this scheme in the stakeholder's favour if application thereof would result in extreme unfairness.

Article 28. Effective date and expiry

- 1 This scheme will become effective on 1 December 2023. If the Government Gazette, in which the scheme is published, appears at a later date, the scheme will be effective from the second day after the appearance of the Government Gazette in which it is published and has retroactive effect to 1 December 2023;
- 2 This scheme will expire with effect from 1 January 2029, on the understanding that it remains applicable to the finalization of any grants provided based on this scheme.

Article 29 Reference title

This scheme is to be cited as: Four-year Institutional Grant Scheme for the Creative Industry 2025-2028.

This scheme will be published in the Staatscourant (official Dutch Government Gazette).

The Creative Industries Fund NL,

S. Groeneveld MA-MBA, Executive-Director