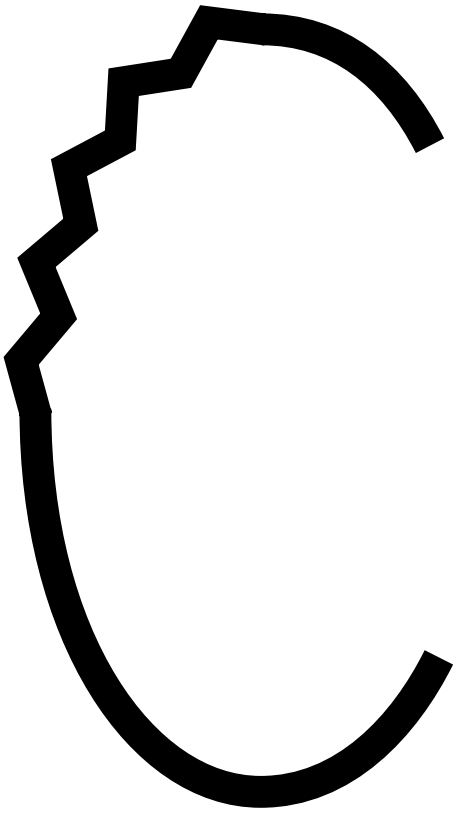
Open Call Residency Think Tanger 2027

This document is a descriptive translation of the original Dutch O*pen Oproep Think Tanger 2027*. The English translation is provided for reference purposes only, and in all instances the original Dutch text takes precedence. If you would like to report a translation error or inaccuracy, we encourage you to contact the Creative Industries Fund NL.



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Are you a designer, architect, spatial practitioner or maker and would you like to conduct research in Morocco and create new work that focuses on design, urbanism and socio-spatial dynamics? The Creative Industries Fund NL is offering a residency at Think Tanger in Tangier, Morocco, in the first half of 2027.

important information

- **Number of grants:** one residency
- **Amount:** € 5.500
- **Work period:** 3 May 2027 – 4 July 2027
- **Deadline:** 21 October 2026, 16.00 (CEST)

background and objectives

Think Tanger is a multidisciplinary cultural platform that focuses on promoting culture, creativity, innovation and exchange in Tangier, Morocco. Founded in 2016, the organisation brings together artists, designers, researchers, entrepreneurs and local communities who join forces to explore the urban and cultural dynamics of a city in transformation and to promote understanding and dialogue. Think Tanger recognises the significant impact the urban environment has on people and communities alike and believes that alternative education, creative entrepreneurship, art production and participatory research can bring about positive changes.

Tangier is a port city in the north of Morocco which has undergone dramatic changes over the past two decades due to economical and industrial growth. This has had a significant impact on the social, economic and urban structure and infrastructure of Tangier and its surroundings. As migration from several regions to the city has boosted its population, the expanding neighbourhoods and communities changed the urban structure as well. Think Tanger researches these changes from a grassroots perspective through various cultural initiatives, such as public workshops, residencies, exhibitions, lectures and publications. Finding creative ways to inspire a collective movement in different communities lies at the core of its approach.

This residency at Think Tanger was set up in collaboration with the Creative Industries Fund NL to stimulate cross-overs and experiments, to initiate exchanges and to learn from other people's perspectives, knowledge and ideas. It offers designers and artists the opportunity to carry out research, to expand their network and to develop new work, with a focus on design, urbanism and socio-spatial dynamics. Participants can engage with Tangier's unique urban aspects by creatively researching existing presuppositions and social issues.

who is this open call intended for?

- You are an individual designer, an architect, a spatial practitioner or a maker.
- You are established in the Netherlands, Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Sint Eustatius or Sint Maarten (Kingdom of the Netherlands).
- You are registered in the business register of the Dutch Chamber of Commerce or one of the business registers within the Kingdom of the Netherlands.
- You have had a professional practice in the creative industry for at least two years.

This open call is not intended for:

- duos, collectives or cooperative ventures;
- designers and makers who receive a grant during the work period under the Talent Development Grant Scheme, the Open Call Self-taught Designer or the Open Call Emerging Design Practices ABCSSS of the Creative Industries Fund NL.
  Please note: this means that if you receive a grant for this open call, you will not be able to submit an application under the grant schemes and open calls named above in 2027.

amount and work period

The residency period takes place from 3 May 2027 to 4 July 2027. If the period turns out not to be convenient after all following the grant award, you may be able to make new arrangements with Think Tanger. However, the residency location would prefer to stick to the period referred to above.

You will receive a grant of € 5,500 for the work period, intended to cover:

- travel expenses;
- insurance policies;
- living expenses;
- compensation for the time invested;
- material and transport expenses.

Costs for housing, use of the studio space and facilitation by Think Tanger are paid by the Fund to Think Tanger directly and are therefore not included in the grant amount.

There may be costs for specific material use in the print room. You will be able to get more information about this after you have been selected, during the online introduction with the Think Tanger team. Think Tanger also organises an introductory week.

practical information about the residency

Accommodation: During the eight-week residency period at Think Tanger, the organisation will provide accommodation. This is a spacious two-person apartment with your own bedroom. It is possible that a second person will be staying in the apartment. Residents share the living room, bathroom and kitchen. The apartment is above Think Tanger's cultural space, the Kiosk, that offers room for meetings and creative inspiration.

Guidance: Throughout the residency period, Think Tanger will offer professional and practical guidance and support (during working hours). This will be arranged in consultation with the team and is subject to the team's availability. Think Tanger can also facilitate contact with its extensive network. Residents are also expected to work independently.

Facilities: The participants have exclusive access to the Tanger Print Club that also houses a screen-printing studio and there is an assistant available who can interpret and translate for them, help them to contact local craftsmen, designers and organisations and get them acquainted with the city. Please note that there are costst associated with the use of certain materials.

Programme: The residency will be celebrated at the end of the period with an Open Studio in Tanger, coordinated with Think Tanger. The platform will also organise one or two studio sessions or lectures for a relevant audience to delve into the resident's work and ideas.

what is assessed?

All submitted applications that comply with the formal conditions and include all the requested attachments, will be presented to an external advisory committee. The advisory committee bases its opinion on the following criteria:

a. The artistic quality of the work

The committee reviews the applicant's portfolio and CV and the applicant's position within the area of expertise as well as the quality and development of the applicant's work in relation to the location and theme.

b. The quality of the proposed project

The committee assesses the project plan and whether it meets the applicant's

objectives. It assesses how well the proposed activities contribute to the applicant's artistic and professional development, while it also looks at the proposed creative angle on the theme selected in the work period's plan.

c. The motivation in relation to the residency's objectives
The committee assesses whether the development plan is in line with the residency's objectives and broad themes that Think Tanger focuses on and also considers the contribution the applicant can make to enhancing international exchange.

The above criteria contribute equally to the final score per application. The advisers apply the assessment method described in the Advisory Committee Procedure of the Creative Industries Fund NL.

The way this open call is assessed is similar to a tender - proposals will be ranked on the basis of the criteria and only applicants who are positively assessed have a chance. The three applications that score the highest will be presented to Think Tanger, who will assess the proposals based on the three criteria as well. The available residency period will be awarded to the applicant whose proposal scores the highest in the combined assessments. If applications end up ranked the same, priority will be given to applicants who score highest on criterion c.

submission of the application

Applications for a residency at Think Tanger can be submitted up until **Wednesday 21 October 16.00 CEST** via the Creative Industries Fund NL's application platform. Please select the 'Open Call Residencies 2027' round.

We prefer that you submit your application in English, because if your application is among the three highest-scoring applications, we will share it with Think Tanger so that they can prepare for your work period.

You may also submit your application in Dutch.

An application should consist of a fully completed application form and the following attachments. Please pay close attention to the maximum file size and the maximum number of pages (including visuals) for the different types of documents. Except for the image, everything must be submitted in pdf. Please use a minimum font size of 10 and single line spacing for all documents.

- a plan for the work period at Think Tanger, preferably in English (max. 4 A4 including visuals and max. 4 MB, in pdf), including:
  - what you want to develop or research during the residency;
  - how the residency fits into the long-term vision of your design practice;
  - your vision on the local urban context and the socio-spatial dynamics connected to this;
- a brief CV (max. 2 A4 and max. 4 MB, in pdf);
- relevant visual material/portfolio that gives insight into your work and practice (max. 8 A4 including visuals and max. 8 MB, in pdf);
- a digitally certified extract, no more than one year old, from the business register of the Dutch Chamber of Commerce or one of the business registers within the Kingdom of the Netherlands (max. 4 MB, in pdf);
- a representative image of the project, to be used freely by the Fund for communication purposes, the necessary rights to which are held by the applicant (max. 4 MB, in JPG).

Only complete applications will be assessed. *Please note*: Make sure you create an account for the online application platform in good time, as it takes one working day to activate a new account.

Files that exceed the maximum file size (the number of MB) cannot be uploaded to the application platform. Documents that exceed the maximum number of pages can be uploaded, but this may still lead to the application being rejected during the assessment of the formal requirements.

Would you like to add images and sketches to enrich your plan? Please note that the maximum number of pages includes any visual material. You may also include links for illustration purposes, for example to videos or websites. Please make sure these links are publicly accessible (not WeTransfer or Google Docs) and do not contain any information that is essential for the assessment of your application. The advisory committee must be able to assess your application on the basis of the submitted documents alone.

grant procedure

Applications are processed and assessed on the basis of the Open Call Grant Scheme, so please read it carefully before submitting an application, as it describes the general conditions, grounds for rejection, manner of publication, submission procedure, assessment, awarding and grant obligations. Articles 19 up to 22 are not applicable, because the grant will be determined directly after the decision. This means that you do not have to hand in an accountability form after the residency has ended.

acknowledgement of receipt and announcement of selection

You will receive a message about the processing of the application no later than two weeks after the closing date. The Fund will let you know about the decision no more than eight weeks after the closing date, including a brief motivation about how well your application fitted in with the criteria of this open call.

want to know more?

For more information about the residency at Think Tanger you can contact the Internationalisation team via internationalisering@stimuleringsfonds.nl or call on +31(0)10-4361600. You can also check out Think Tanger's channels:
www.think-tanger.com/
www.instagram.com/thinktanger/

context

This open call is part of the Design Sector Internationalisation Programme, implemented by the Creative Industries Fund NL with the support of the Dutch Ministries of Education, Culture and Science and Foreign Affairs. This programme supports worldwide residencies at various cultural organisations. Keep an eye on the Fund's website and newsletter for more international opportunities.