



**VLIZ Philanthropy ‘Call for proposals’
Grants for a ‘Brilliant Marine Research Idea’ 2019**

16 October 2018

**Open to PhD students
affiliated to a Flemish University or Flemish University College**

Summary

Budget 2019	EUR 10.000 maximum fund per grant is EUR 5.000
Implementation period	The proposed idea has to be conducted within one year, after the grant has been awarded. Start date: 1 March 2019 End date: 28 February 2020
Eligibility	PhD students affiliated to a Flemish University or Flemish University college with, at the time of application, less than 6 years of research experience at pre-doc level (i.e. since starting PhD research) Applicants can only benefit from this grant once during their PhD.
Launch of the call	16 October 2018
Deadline submission proposals	15 December 2018
Selection	Before the end of January 2019 by the Scientific Board of VLIZ
Topic	Marine research idea contributing to solving a research question linked to (amongst others) the themes identified in the philanthropy research agenda: marine pollution, oceans and human health, marine biodiversity, climate change, ocean related disasters and marine exploration.
Documents needed for application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • application form (fixed format LINK TO DOWNLOAD) • CV of PhD student (free format) • letter of consent of supervisor affiliated to Flemish University or Flemish University College (free format)

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The VLIZ Philanthropy is a program set up by the Flanders Marine Institute vzw (VLIZ) in order to raise additional funds to support scientists, engineers and students to come up with creative solutions for current problems, to develop innovative techniques and to support sustainable use of our seas and ocean. Any form of support means a step forward for our scientific knowledge. With this grant for a ‘brilliant marine research idea’, we hope to inspire and enable PhD students of Flemish Universities or Flemish University Colleges to explore and pan out a brilliant idea, an out of the box idea, an on the top research topic, but always framed within their ongoing marine research.

For more information on VLIZ Philanthropy check www.vliz.be/en/your-contribution and www.vliz.be/en/brilliant-marine-research-idea.

1. What is a grant for a ‘Brilliant Marine Research Idea’?

Established in 1999, VLIZ was mandated to support marine researchers in Flanders. VLIZ promotes accumulation of marine knowledge and excellence in marine research in Flanders. The marine research areas are the ocean and seas, the coast and the tidal systems. The target groups for knowledge accumulation are the marine research community as well as educational institutions, the general public, policymakers and the industry (within the scope of the blue economy).

In 2013, VLIZ was recognized as a charitable organization and therefore developed a philanthropy program. Through this program, VLIZ is able to raise additional funds to provide financial support to promote marine research worldwide.

For 2019, VLIZ Philanthropy offers grants for a ‘Brilliant Marine Research Idea’. The **grants for a ‘Brilliant Marine Research Idea’** are intended to inspire and enable PhD students affiliated to a Flemish University or Flemish University College to execute a brilliant idea during their PhD within the frame of their research. It should concern an out of the box idea, an additional research topic that was initially not foreseen in the PhD, but that would add an extra value to the ongoing research. VLIZ philanthropy seeks to fund a marine research idea that can contribute to solving a hypothesis-based marine research question. Topics of interest are (amongst others) the themes identified in the philanthropy research agenda including pollution, ocean and human health, marine biodiversity, climate change, ocean related disasters and marine explorations.

The fund (of max. EUR 5.000) can be used to assist PhD students in lab and/or field work, data acquisition and analysis, visits to other institutes to use specialized facilities, acquisition of equipment or software needed for a certain analysis and so on. The fund cannot be used to reimburse the use of existing lab infrastructure within your university, for personnel costs, to pay for travel costs which amount to more than 50% of the grant or to attend conferences.

Budget and implementation period

The overall budget available for the grants is EUR 10.000. However, each grant will have a maximum fund of EUR 5.000.

The grant will be awarded to the successful applicant personally and the terms and conditions (incl. a short report) of the award will be discussed and negotiated prior to the implementation of the idea.

The proposed idea should be executed within one year. As the selection of the ideas will take place before the end of January 2019 the successful applicants can start their activities from 1 March 2019 and complete by 28 February 2020.

2. Eligibility and selection criteria

Eligibility of applicant:

- PhD student with, at the time of application, less than 6 years of research experience at pre-doc level (i.e. since starting PhD research)
- Affiliated to Flemish University or Flemish University College
- consent of a Flemish University (College) supervisor

Eligibility of budget and implementation period:

- max. request for EUR 5.000
- max. duration of 1 year
- implemented between 1 March 2019 and 28 February 2020

Eligibility of research domain:

- marine related

Eligibility of activities and related costs:

- no personnel costs
- no conference fees
- no reimbursement of the use of existing lab infrastructure within your university
- travel costs cannot amount to more than 50% of the grant

Eligibility of submission modalities:

- timely and complete submission

After the deadline has passed, the scientific board of VLIZ will evaluate the submitted applications and make a final selection. All applicants will be personally informed by VLIZ about the success of their proposal. The grants will be formally awarded during the VLIZ Marine Science Day 2019. Successful applicants will be invited to present their work at the VLIZ Marine Science Day 2020.

3. How to submit an application?

Applicants should apply for the grant by sending following documents to filantropie@vliz.be:

- application form (fixed format, download application form [here](#))
- CV (free format)
- form of consent from the student's supervisor affiliated to a Flemish University or Flemish University College (free format)

(Mention in the subject of the e-mail: 'PROPOSAL FOR A BRILLIANT MARINE RESEARCH IDEA 2019')

Submission Deadline: 15 December 2018

4. Where to turn to for more information?

Vlaams Instituut voor de Zee vzw

Flanders Marine Institute

InnovOcean site, Wandelaarkaai 7

B-8400 Oostende, Belgium

Contact person: Karen Rappé

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