

A large-scale hydraulic experiment facility. A worker in a high-visibility vest stands on a blue metal platform overlooking a long, narrow channel filled with water and submerged vegetation. The facility is equipped with various sensors and structural elements.

Free access to our experimental facilities for SMEs

To kick-start and encourage innovation at small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and startups, Deltares offers effective collaboration, including up to a maximum of 80 hours of free access to one of our experimental facilities to test early design concepts of hydraulic and geotechnical devices and innovations. This could include innovative (marine and subsurface) energy equipment, monitoring or measurement tools or instruments, and bed or coastal protection concepts.

Deltares is a not-for-profit research organisation and has almost a century of experience in the field of hydraulic and geotechnical research in projects that fit Deltares' mission: Enabling Delta Life. On our campus in Delft there is a wide range of experimental research facilities. In working with other organisations and companies on projects and experiments Deltares has been building an extensive and unique knowledge base. For more information about these experimental facilities at the Deltares campus, visit our website: <https://www.deltares.nl/facilities/> or contact us.

By means of this offer for collaboration, Deltares gives Dutch SMEs and Startups the opportunity to use one of the Deltares experimental facilities free of charge. In return Deltares further increases its knowledge base from the generic lessons learned during the tests. Also, Deltares is looking for further collaboration in feasible projects with a potential impact on society that fits Deltares' mission: Enabling Delta Life.

This offer aims at feasibility testing or improvements in early stage of development (i.e. not at the formal testing or optimization of existing design concepts).





The offer

Deltares will cooperate with Dutch SMEs offering eight free of charge concept tests in 2023 with a maximum of one test per SME. Each quarter, two initiatives will be selected.

- Q1 Field facilities
- Q2 Geo facilities
- Q3 Laboratories
- Q4 Hydro facilities

Each effective collaboration between Deltares and SME will consist out of up to a maximum of 80 hours of free access to one of our experimental facilities to test early design concepts of hydraulic, geotechnical or (microbio) chemical and physical devices and innovations. The facility that is according to Deltares most suitable will be proposed for the testing for each selected SME cooperation initiative.

The selected facility will be available for ten consecutive working days, starting on Monday and ending on Friday in the second week. This scheduled testing period includes model preparation, construction, disassembling the test set up and cleaning of the facility.

During the testing period, assistance from a model technician and two days of discussion time with a Deltares project engineer for optimization and interpretation of the tests is included in the offer.

Raw measurement data or video material that is collected during testing is also included, but the actual data processing and analysis by a Deltares project Engineer is not. Please note that Deltares will bear no responsibility whatsoever for the quality of the test.

Depending on the selected facility, required instrumentation or model assistance, rates can vary and therefore the offered amount of basin time is flexible, with 80 hours as a reference value. In case cooperation with Deltares research or other SMEs is possible, we aim to optimize the facility usage.

Additional costs of the test project, will be taken into consideration at regular rates after consultation between Deltares and the SME company.

Which companies and projects qualify?

All Dutch small, medium and micro-sized businesses as well as startups as defined by the European Union are allowed to apply for this offer. Please check the definitions at: https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en.

This offer aims at feasibility testing or improvements in an early stage of development, not at the formal testing or optimization of existing design concepts (i.e. up to Technology Readiness Level 4).

‘Each effective collaboration between Deltares and SME will consist out of up to a maximum of 80 hours of free access to one of our experimental facilities’

We are looking for initiatives from companies that connect to the mission areas of Deltares (see also <https://www.deltares.nl/about-us/>), that are innovative, have a feasible business model and are able to share part of the generated knowledge in the tests e.g. in publications or otherwise.

Procedure

Application

Companies can apply by filling in the PowerPoint Template on <https://www.deltares.nl/en/sme-offer/>.

Applications must be submitted in accordance with the following schedule.

Q1: Field facilities	Apply between 1 January and 31 March 2023
Q2: Geo facilities	Apply between 1 April and 31 May 2023
Q3: Laboratories	Apply between 1 July and 30 September 2023
Q4: Hydro facilities	Apply between 1 November and 31 December 2023

The application template must be submitted to madelief.doeleman@deltares.nl. After the application deadline, all companies are invited to pitch their innovation and proposed tests and, under precondition of Corona measures, are given a tour along the Deltares facilities.

Selection

The selection procedure will be carried out by Deltares and will be based on several aspects, such as the fit with the work of Deltares, potential impact on society and feasibility (both technically and from a business perspective). After the application deadline and pitch session, Deltares will finalize the selection and all initiatives will be informed. If your project is accepted, you will receive a collaboration agreement. Please note that by submitting an application, you agree to the terms of the Collaboration Agreement.

Testing

The goal is to perform the actual tests approximately two to six months after the selection. Do keep in mind that Deltares reserves the right to change the facility scheduling and Deltares has the right to cancel or terminate the individual test or the free of charge SME concept tests in or free access to one of the Deltares' facilities.



Proprietary information and publication

To avoid the free testing to be considered as (forbidden) state aid, it must be agreed in the collaboration agreement that the results of the collaboration which do not give rise to Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) may be publically disseminated. This may also include the dissemination of photos or video footage of the actual tests.

IPR resulting from the activities of Deltares itself - if any - are fully allocated to us, on the other hand it can be agreed that all information and IPR already in your possession before the test (so called 'Background') will remain your property and can be kept confidential. Feel free to contact us to discuss this important legal aspect to avoid misunderstanding.

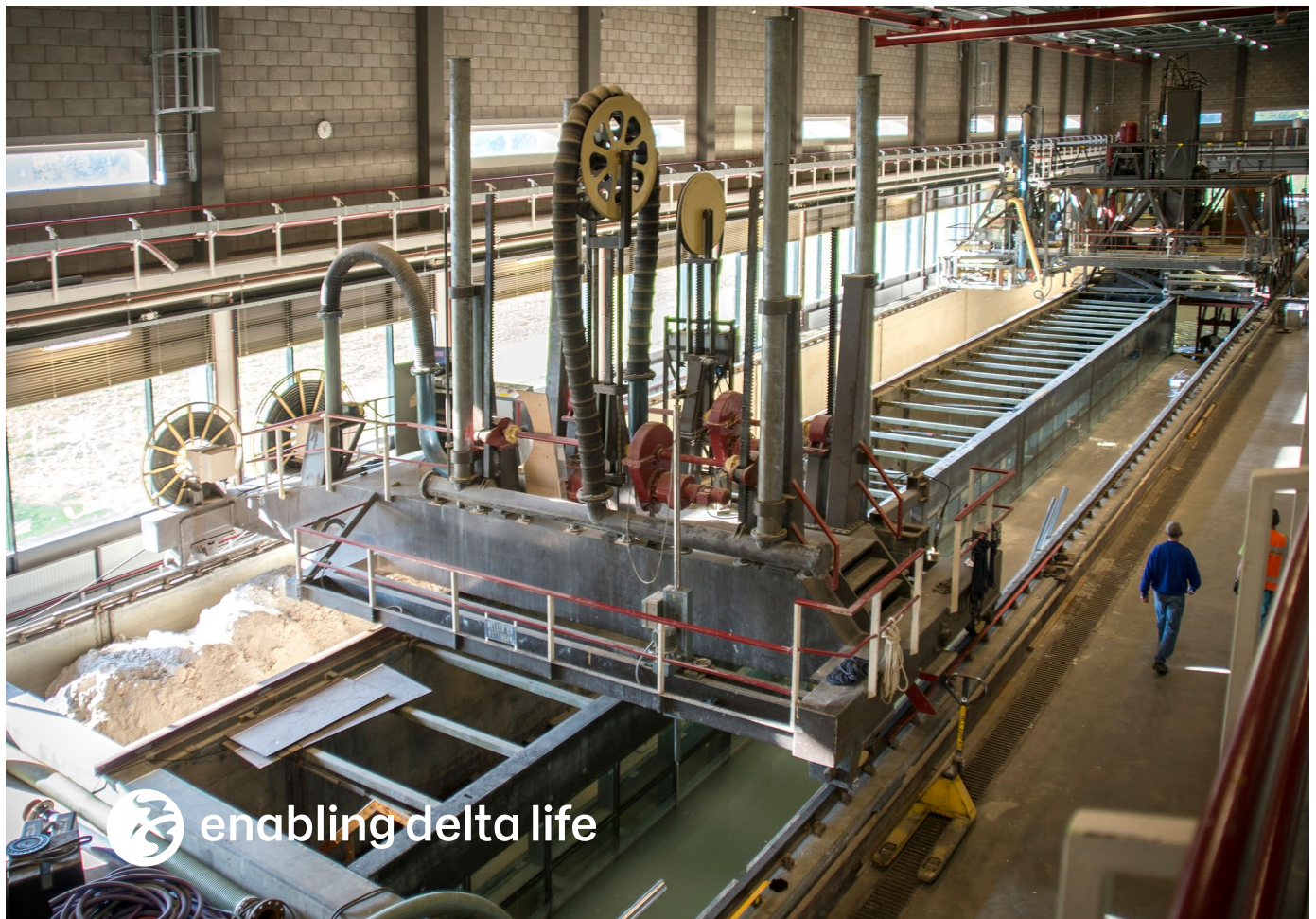
Further details

Deltares will try to maximize the freedom for the Clients to move around in the experimental facilities. However, it should be noted that Deltares has very strict rules for confidentiality. It will, therefore, be strictly forbidden to leave the assigned area without escort of authorized Deltares staff.

Clients will be welcome on the day(s) of their concept test in the morning (8:00) at the Deltares reception and will leave no later than at the end of the working day (17:00).

Counterparty's general terms and conditions are explicitly rejected and the Deltares safety rules and regulations will apply and must always be followed.

Deltares reserves the right to change the conditions or cancel the Free testing time in the Deltares facilities project without notice.



Deltares is an independent institute for applied research in the field of water, subsurface and infrastructure. Throughout the world, we work on smart solutions, innovations and applications for people, environment and society. Deltares is based in Delft and Utrecht.

Deltares
PO Box 177
2600 MH Delft
The Netherlands

T +31 (0)88 335 8273
F +31(0)88 335 8582
info@deltares.nl