



Netherlands Investment Agency (NIA)

About NIA

Due to the lack of a broad national promotional bank in the Netherlands, NIA was established as a response on the Investment Plan for Europe.

NIA has a highly qualified staff of financial experts with knowledge of national and European financing schemes and programs, supported by project development experts and experts in government administration. They help turning investment ambitions into concrete, financially viable investment projects. NIA cooperates with numerous partners, such as EIB Advisory Hub, European Investment Project Portal (EIPP) and the EIF/NPI-equity platform. NIA is the national point of contact for the promotion of the Investment Plan for Europe in the Netherlands.

NIA has a focus on the following themes



What type of projects are eligible for support by NIA?

- Projects that are economically and technically viable;
- Projects that are socially and/or environmentally focused and which are in line with Dutch policy as well as EU / EFSI policy;
- Projects that need risk capital and are eligible for co-funding of the European Investment Bank (EIB).

NIA offers

- Advise and support to public and private entities in the preparation and development of investment projects;
- Quick scans to assess the feasibility of projects;
- To support gaining in access to financing by banks including the EIB and other financial institutions;
- To connect project owners/sponsors to (international) financial parties, (sector) banks, institutional investors, venture capitalists and (regional) development agencies;
- Identification of obstacles and opportunities in legislation;
- Assistance in setting up investment platforms: regional and/or thematic to bundle smaller projects;
- To stimulate the creation of investment funds to increase access to finance for SME's;
- Advise and support to regional and local authorities for identification and development of investment opportunities.

NIA will merge in Invest-NL

About Invest-NL

The Dutch cabinet intends to encourage investments in sectors where the Netherlands has not yet seized all opportunities. To this end the investment institution Invest-NL will be established, with €2.5 billion in capital. Invest-NL will offer a single contact centre for entrepreneurs seeking risk capital, guarantees, export credit insurance and international finance programmes. In addition, Invest-NL will develop and, where necessary, co-finance major public projects at home and abroad.

Up to this point many businesses and projects struggle to acquire financing due to uncertainty about the trade-off between risk and return or the long, uncertain payback periods of investments. Invest-NL will remedy this through a combination of existing financing instruments and a €2.5 billion capital contribution. This will also provide leverage, in the form of increased financing from institutional investors and European funds and programmes.

Core activities of Invest-NL

Invest-NL will first and foremost play a role in high-risk activities within various transition areas. Examples include energy (such as geothermal energy and charging points for electric cars), greening, mobility, food and the digitisation of industry.

Public sectors such as health care, security and education also come within the purview of Invest-NL.

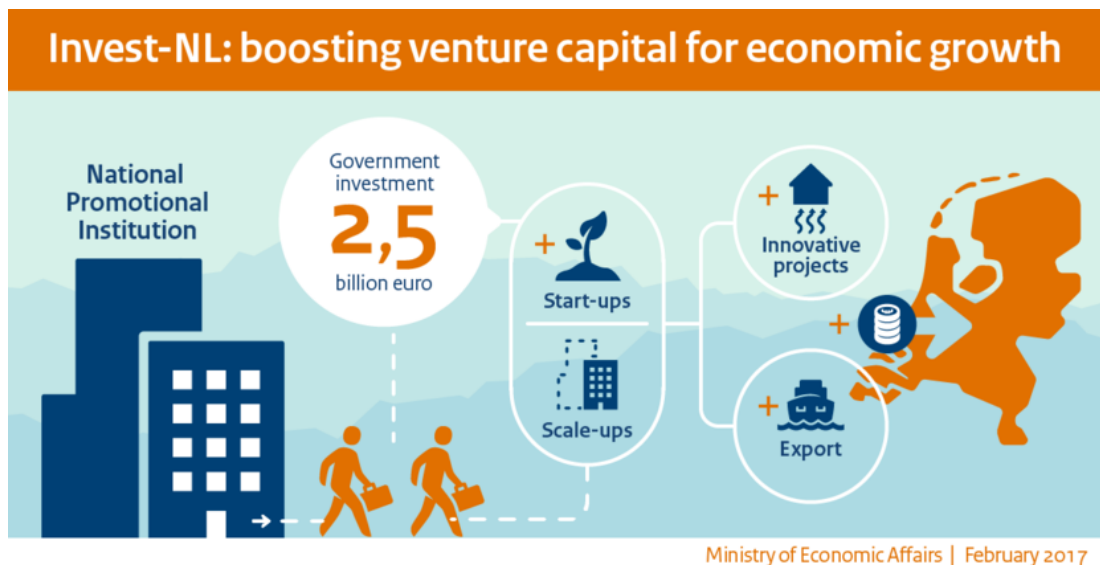
The institution will also assist start-ups and scale-ups: innovative businesses that are still setting up or have just begun expanding their activities and require capital for further growth. Invest-NL is able to supply venture capital, for instance by acquiring an interest in a fund with investments in such businesses. Direct participation in expanding businesses is also an option for Invest-NL.

A third activity of Invest-NL is to support the international operations of Dutch businesses when it comes to export and foreign investments, especially by contributing solutions to global issues.

Additional information

Invest-NL supplements the activities of banks and pension funds and can provide risk capital to enterprises if necessary. Invest-NL is to be a state-owned enterprise under private law. The State will be the sole shareholder, contributing annual capital into Invest-NL up to an amount of €2.5 billion from 2017 onwards.

The cabinet will flesh out the proposal for Invest-NL in the next few months and intends to have the institution operational by the beginning of 2018.



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February 2017