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# Orange Knowledge Programme 2023

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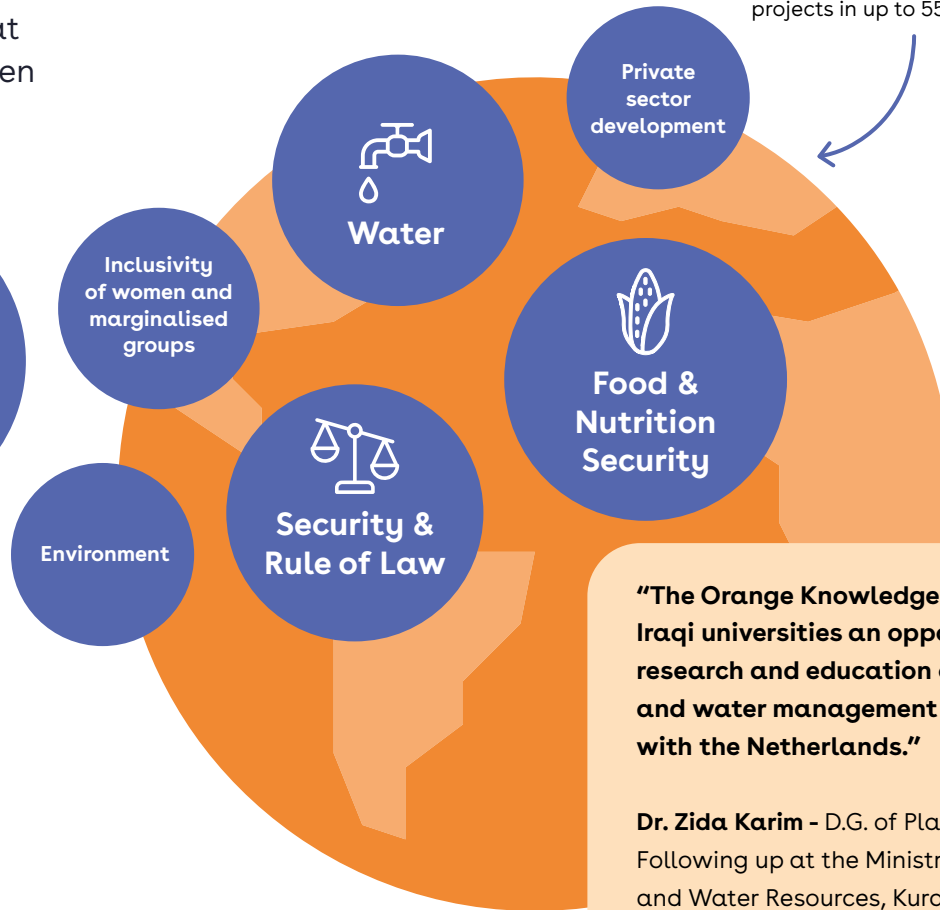
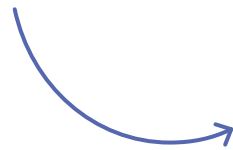
# Orange Knowledge Programme



# Orange Knowledge Programme

offers access to education and training so that professionals and organisations can strengthen their knowledge and skills.

With focus on



In 2023, the programme was available in 30 countries and had ongoing projects in up to 55 countries.



Before being promoted, Dr. Zida Karim was active within the Institutional Collaboration Project in Iraq as part of the gender team.



Contributing to

SDG 4

a relevant and accessible education system of good quality

SDG 17

sustainable partnerships between persons and organisations

Strengthening organisations key to (sectoral) development of partner countries by inflow of enhanced workforce.

**“The Orange Knowledge Programme gave Iraqi universities an opportunity to improve research and education on gender equality and water management by collaborating with the Netherlands.”**

**Dr. Zida Karim** - D.G. of Planning and Following up at the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, Kurdistan Regional Government, Iraq.

We manage



Individual scholarships



Group training



Institutional collaboration



Alumni activities

The Orange Knowledge Programme is funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and managed by Nuffic. Duration: from mid-2017 to mid-2024 [www.nuffic.nl/okp](http://www.nuffic.nl/okp)

# Key figures 2017-2023

10.191



Individual scholarships

€ 134.8 million

- Master's  
2336 Scholarships  
31% of total funds awarded
- Short courses  
7855 Scholarships  
21% of total funds awarded

529



Group training

€ 61.4 million

- Tailor-made Training +  
171 Grants  
13% of total funds awarded
- Tailor-made Training  
311 Grants  
9% of total funds awarded
- Refresher courses  
47 Grants  
1% of total funds awarded

65



Institutional collaboration projects

€ 64 million

- 65 Grants  
25% of total funds awarded

17

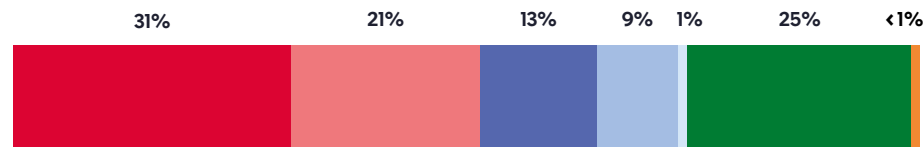


Alumni grants & activities

€ 72.492

- 18 Alumni activities  
1% of total funds awarded

## Total funds spent per instrument



€ 260.3 million

## Figures per priority theme\*



Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights

- 1105 Scholarships
- 61 Group training
- 7 Institutional collaboration projects

SDGs 3 5



Security & Rule of Law

- 1268 Scholarships
- 77 Group training
- 12 Institutional collaboration projects

SDG 16



Water

- 3434 Scholarships
- 86 Group training
- 15 Institutional collaboration projects

SDG 6



Food & Nutrition Security

- 2642 Scholarships
- 255 Group training
- 38 Institutional collaboration projects

SDG 2

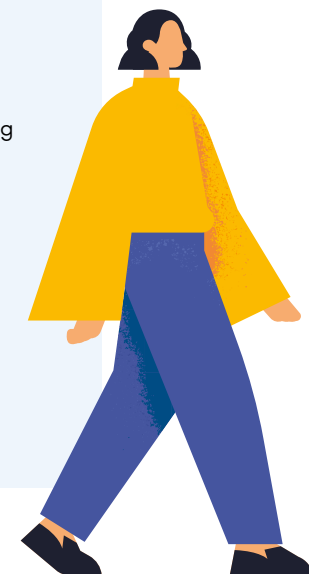
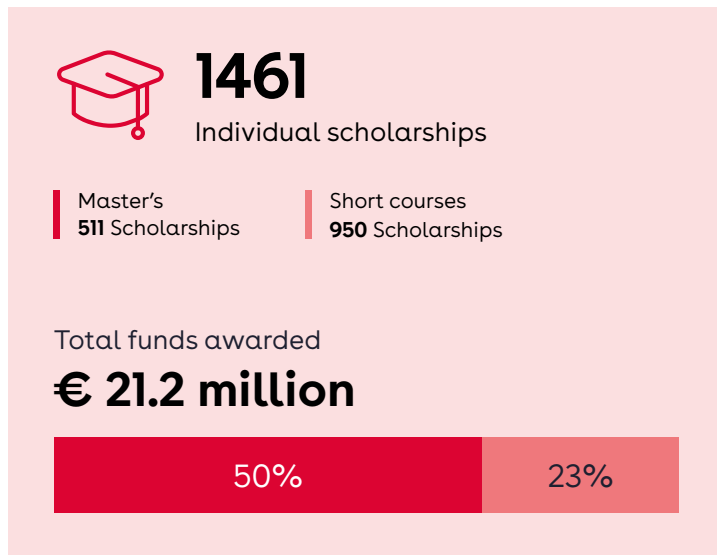
\* results per priority theme are an indication and may differ from the total numbers per instrument

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# Results in 2023



# Results in 2023



Gender ratio  
**51% women**  
participation for individual scholarships

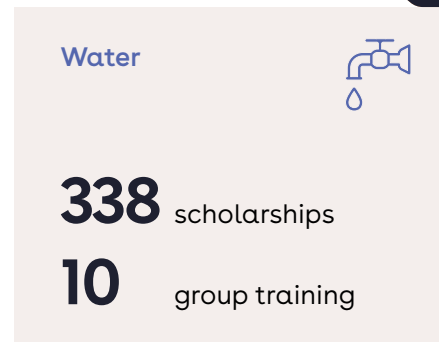
## Figures per priority theme\*



SDGs **3** **5**



SDG **16**



SDG **6**



SDG **2**

\* results per priority theme are an indication and may differ from the total numbers per instrument

# Results in 2023

The Orange Knowledge Programme (OKP) aims to create sustainable positive impact for communities. Economic, environmental, and social sustainability to be more precise. The programme does so through its 4 priority themes: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), Security and Rule of Law (SRoL), Water, and Food and Nutrition Security. These areas are complemented by additional cross-cutting themes, including gender equality, youth employment, and entrepreneurship.

In January 2023, a 2-year extension was granted for the OKP, extending the programme to the end of 2024. This meant that 2023 was a year of simultaneously publishing calls as well as wrapping up. New calls for Scholarships, Tailor-Made Training (TMT) and Tailor-Made Training Plus (TMT+) were published to prevent a gap between the running OKP and an expected new knowledge development programme.

Four calls for scholarships were published: 2 rounds for Master's programmes, including co-financed scholarships for studies longer than 1 year, and 2 rounds for Short Courses. In total, 511 Masters and 950 Short Course scholarships were granted, roughly a quarter of which were related to SRHR and SRoL each, as intended.

Three TMT calls were published in 2023. A key requirement of the new calls was that proposed activities should build on results achieved so far in the OKP. Despite the short time frame to prepare project proposals, the interest of applicants in all 3 calls was enormous, triple the usual number. The reason being, most likely, that the OKP would soon conclude.

For previously awarded Institutional Collaboration Projects, TMT+ and TMT, 2023 was the final year in which activities could take place. In this year, the OKP had a significant impact, advancing quality education and workforce development in 30 partner countries despite facing geopolitical and social challenges, such as the coup in Niger, the Anti-Homosexuality Act in Uganda, and conflicts in Ethiopia and Gaza. Through its achievements, the programme contributed to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 'Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all' and SDG 17 'Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development', as well as other SDGs.

As turmoil increased around the world and conflicts erupted in many of the partner countries, the management of the OKP required heightened flexibility and innovation. A conflict sensitive approach to programming became even more relevant. This translated into measures such as greater attention to risk assessment, a stronger bottom-up approach, working with local experts and non-governmental organisations and, overall, adaptive programme management.

Throughout 2023, the programme's mission continued with strong support from Dutch knowledge institutions, project partners, and the Netherlands' Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In addition, local offices in 6 partner countries across Africa, Asia and the Middle East played a critical role in adapting OKP interventions to local conditions, ensuring effective implementation and quality outcomes. The adaptability of these local offices enabled the OKP to navigate challenges specific to each region, ultimately improving the delivery and impact of its projects.



**Looking back on all that happened, we are proud of our accomplishments in 2024 and excited to share some key highlights:**

- Enhancing education for refugees across the Middle East and Africa to support job market access for refugees and improve the TVET training offer for refugees, thereby indirectly contributing to reducing migration.
- Helping societies keep dry feet by supporting universities in vulnerable river delta's such as in Vietnam, Bangladesh and Indonesia, by aiding centres of excellence and enhancing water education and research capacities.
- Improving 31 curricula on SRHR and sexual education for health professionals at universities and vocational institutes in countries ranging from Benin to Bangladesh.
- Starting the implementation of 96 TMT and TMT+ initiatives that provided customised agricultural training to more than 1,000 staff of governments, training institutions and small and medium sized businesses, supporting agri-food value chains and promoting agricultural growth.
- Continuing our cooperation with the LPDP - the Indonesian Endowment Fund for Education - in offering joint scholarships, enlarging the OKP's impact and underlining a more equal collaboration with Indonesia.
- Disbursing over 1,400 scholarships for Short Courses and Master's programmes, offering opportunities to changemakers across the world to make a bigger impact. Of these scholarships, 51% was awarded to women.





Individual scholarships

## Teaching urban children to farm sustainably

Iryandi Masputra is a microfarmer and educator in the hustle and bustle of Jakarta. After a couple of years of farming, Iryandi felt he needed more knowledge to take his business to the next level. Looking to the Netherlands as a country with expertise in microfarming, as well as a strong culture in business management, Iryandi applied for an Orange Knowledge Scholarship to attend a master's degree course in Business Administration at Business School Netherlands.

Now, his start-up microfarms are a leading example for the future of food nutrition. With his company 'Koperasi Aqsa Farm', Iryandi turns unused land into circular microfarms that feed local schools. With 10 schools currently in the programme, and 300-500 students in each school, the fruits of his microfarms are available far and wide.

This is important, as providing fresh and nutritious food is proved to help students' concentration, learning ability and academic performance. The farms are not only aiding in nutrition for children, the microfarms are also educational farms. School children visit the farms and help out. With his business flourishing, Iryandi already knows what he wants for the future. "My vision is to do this all over Indonesia. In fact, I don't want to microfarm just for schools: I want to create a detained supply system for all over Indonesia, so food will be fresher and cheaper."



# Transforming menstrual health beyond schools

In Uganda, menstrual health has long been a silent struggle, often hindering girls' education and impacting women's daily lives. The Tailor-Made Training+ 'Bringing SRHR to Life in Menstrual Health Management in Uganda' has empowered communities by going beyond the classroom to break down stigma and provide essential menstrual health education and resources within Kampala and rural regions of Uganda.

For this TMT+, Ugandan and Dutch organisations have collaborated on integrating SRHR rights, menstrual hygiene, and water and sanitation in their training. They have trained teachers, health workers, and community leaders from 14 organisations across Uganda to become master trainers. These trainers support girls and women in managing menstruation safely and confidently.

The training has created a ripple effect, fostering understanding, dignity, and inclusion across the country. With its positive impact already visible, the programme is transforming menstrual health and opening new doors for girls and women across Uganda, showing how education and collaboration can drive real change.



 Institutional collaboration projects

# Linking education to economic growth

In Ethiopia, 2 transformative institutional collaboration projects under the name 'Bright Future in Agriculture' have bridged the gap between education and the country's economic needs, equipping young people with essential skills for a thriving workforce. The projects aimed to align vocational education with Ethiopia's demand for skilled professionals in the agricultural sector.

So far, more than 200 teachers have trained thousands of new graduates with updated curricula. Additionally, the introduction of internships has enriched practical learning for students. Moreover, a fundamental shift has occurred in the relationship between the private sector and education, transitioning from detachment to active collaboration and mutual recognition of opportunities.

The projects' profound impact and transformative influence on Ethiopia have not gone unnoticed, as they have caught the attention of the Ethiopian Ministry of Labour and Skills. The government's keen interest in the projects reflects the initiatives' significance. This opens the door to a lasting legacy of the efforts of all the people contributed to making the future of agriculture in Ethiopia a brighter one through education and collaboration.



# Find out more

Thank you for showing interest in the Orange Knowledge Programme. Do you want to stay up to date on the latest results of the Orange Knowledge Programme? Follow us on social media or read more stories on [www.nuffic.nl/en/OKPimpact](http://www.nuffic.nl/en/OKPimpact).

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 [www.nuffic.nl/okp](http://www.nuffic.nl/okp)



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# Abbreviations



# Abbreviations

OKP	Orange Knowledge Programme
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights
SROL	Security & Rule of Law
TMT(+)	Tailor-made Training (Plus)
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training

# Colophon

## Photos

p. 10: Iryandi Masputra

p. 11: Maastricht University, SHE Collaborates & Simavi

p. 12: Maastricht School of Management

## Design

Osage



## Save the planet

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