

Save the date

MaterialsNL Strategic Autonomy: towards a national research agenda

Friday 10 and Tuesday 14 February 2023, TNO Utrecht, Princetonplein 6, 3584 CB Utrecht

The world is changing rapidly and the ample supply of materials through globalization is no longer a given. At the same time e.g. the energy transition will require a huge increase in the production of (critical) (raw) materials. In a world in which the main economic powers are scrambling and competing for resources to feed their economies we desperately need to improve our knowledge on what is needed to secure a Dutch economy with Strategic Autonomy on those materials.¹

Are you interested in supporting the formulation of the Dutch national research agenda MaterialsNL Strategic Autonomy ? Please mark your calendar and save the date to attend one of the two workshops “MaterialsNL Strategic Autonomy: towards a national research agenda” on 10 or 14 February 2023 at TNO Utrecht.

The workshops are organised on behalf of ChemistryNL under the umbrella of MaterialenNL-Platform and will be chaired by Jacqueline Vaessen, Boegbeeld ChemistryNL. The English language workshops are free of charge.

The workshops will focus on the formulation of research questions in key technologies as well as key methodologies that are critical to render the Dutch economy more independent on materials and products that increasingly are or can become less available.

The workshops will be identical in content as to allow the maximum number of stakeholders from industry (in particular SME), science (universities, TO2, HBO) and NGO's to participate. Per workshop a maximum of 95 persons can be present.

A formal invitation and announcement including details for registration and contents of the workshop will become available around January 15 2023 and will be disseminated through ChemistryNL, NWO, Regieorgaan SIA, TO2 and LinkedIn. Due to the maximum number of participants, we ask for your understanding we will allow participation on order of registration. More information will also be provided through the website [MaterialsNL Strategic Autonomy](#).

On behalf of the organisation



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¹ <https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2022/12/09/nationale-grondstoffenstrategie>

Background

Materials Strategic Autonomy is emerging as an important topic in policy making and research. Availability of materials and products that are crucial to the energy transition is an important driver, but also other important areas are affected such as health care, agriculture/food and the building industry. Reasons are physical limits in availability of accessible resources, geopolitical developments as well as present high costs of energy hampering production. Another important driver is the increasing concerns with regards to responsible and sustainable sourcing in developing countries.

The European Commission has announced a European Raw Materials Act to promote European industrial activities and reduce European dependence on China, Russia etc. The Netherlands has published its Grondstoffenstrategie for the same purpose.

It is therefore that ChemistryNL has taken the initiative to formulate a national research agenda MaterialsNL Strategic Autonomy as a basis for subsequent development of national and international research activities. The initiative will act on the umbrella of the MaterialsNL-Platform and will be supervised by Jacqueline Vaessen, boegbeeld of ChemistryNL in close collaboration with a coreteam with representatives of various organisations from industry, science, government as well as NGO's.

It is expected that a first reasonable draft of the research agenda will be available by June 2023.

