

SMART REGION IN THE HEART OF EUROPE

SMART HUB



**FLEMISH
BRABANT**

INHOUD

- 03 Smart Hub Flemish Brabant**
Innovative spearhead clusters
- 04 Flemish Brabant**
Unique knowledge region
- 06 Health**
Healthcare of the future
- 08 Logistics**
Focus on smart logistics
- 10 Food**
Healthy food for people and animals
- 12 Cleantech**
In pursuit of a sustainable society
- 14 Creativity**
Creative clusters in the knowledge region
- 16 Key Enabling Technologies**
- 18 What does Smart Hub Flemish Brabant do?**



SMART HUB FLEMISH BRABANT INNOVATIVE SPEARHEAD CLUSTERS

Smart Hub Flemish Brabant stimulates innovation, encourages companies and knowledge institutions to collaborate and attracts (foreign) investments. We focus on Flemish Brabant's five innovative spearhead sectors.

- Health ➤ Logistics ➤ Food
- Cleantech ➤ Creativity

Smart Hub Flemish Brabant strengthens and promotes the province as a **unique knowledge region** with trend-setting knowledge institutions and innovative companies. Combined with the central location, the national airport and the science parks, Flemish Brabant is the ideal gateway to Europe.



(travel times with a high-speed train)

SMART HUB FLEMISH BRABANT UNIQUE KNOWLEDGE REGION

Flemish Brabant harbours a unique concentration of knowledge institutions and innovative companies. Take knowledge city par excellence Leuven, with its university, university colleges, the university hospital, the numerous spin-offs and the renowned imec research centre. Together, they boost innovation and economic activity in Flemish Brabant and Flanders.

The advanced knowledge is applied in real life in spearhead sectors such as health, food, logistics, sustainable technologies and the creative sector. Those have developed into the five smart hubs of Flemish Brabant.

But there is more: the central location, the airport and numerous logistic companies and activities have turned Flemish Brabant into a logistic hub for Flanders and Europe. Finally, there is the vast service sector and the vicinity of Brussels capital, with its universities and the European institutions.

1 KU LEUVEN

This high ranking university is internationally known for cutting edge research and successful valorisation of knowledge. It has given rise to over 100 spin-offs.
www.kuleuven.be

2 UZ LEUVEN

The university hospital is one of the largest hospitals of Belgium. Its mission is to provide innovative and high quality patient care, combined with top research and excellent education.
www.uzleuven.be

3 IMEC

Imec is the world-leading R&D and innovation hub in nanoelectronics and digital technologies. It employs 3.500 top scientists from over 75 countries.
www.imec.be

4 LEUVEN MINDGATE

Leuven, the provincial capital, offers a unique concentration of renowned knowledge institutions, innovative companies, science parks and incubators. Leuven Mindgate focuses on health, high tech and creativity.
www.leuvenmindgate.be

5 HEALTH HOUSE

Health House is a digital experience centre focusing on health technologies. You will discover what digital high tech can do for modern medicine and healthcare.
www.health-house.be

6 DSP VALLEY

DSP Valley unites companies and knowledge institutions in a European 'cluster of excellence' in Smart Electronic Systems.
www.dspvalley.com

7 CREATIEVE HUB VAARTKOM

Leuven boasts plenty of creative talent and communication companies. These are concentrated at the Vaartkom, an old industrial area where beer giant AB Inbev started its activities. Today, it is the home of a new creative hub with, amongst others, the creative incubator De Hoorn, housed in a former brewery.

8 ENTERTAINMENT VALLEY TILDONK

A cluster of trend-setting companies such as Stageco (design and construction of stages for concerts), EML Productions (light and sound) and The Powershop (power supply). Established partners in entertainment at major events.

9 FEED FOOD HEALTH CAMPUS

A science park with an incubator and a high-quality innovative industry zone centred on healthy food for people and animals.
www.foodport.be

10 BRUSSELS AIRPORT

The national airport, transporting passengers and expediting goods, and the province's central location make Flemish Brabant the logistic hub par excellence for Flanders and Europe.
www.brusselsairport.be

11 VILVOORDE MEDIA CITY

Strong concentration of big audiovisual players with specialised services close at hand.
www.vilvoorde.be

12 BRUSSELS AND THE EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Brussels is not only the capital of Belgium, but of Europe as well. The political bodies and several agencies of the EU and NATO have their headquarters in the city.
www.brusselsinternational.be

13 VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL

The Vrije Universiteit Brussel is an internationally oriented university. Delivering top level research and tailored education, the VUB engages to actively contribute to a better society.
www.vub.ac.be

14 PHOTONICS INNOVATION CENTER

VUB's photonics lab researches new applications of light such as lasers and LEDs. Its equipment is unique in the world.
www.b-phot.org



HEALTH

Smart Hub Flemish Brabant contributes to the development and reinforcement of the healthcare sector in Flemish Brabant. We lend a helping hand by creating innovative collaborations, finding suitable financing, networking and promotion.



HEALTHCARE OF THE FUTURE

- Medical (bio)technology
- New medicines and diagnostics
- Regenerative medicine
- Digital healthcare
- Sports and technology

More info

smarthubhealth@vlaamsbrabant.be
www.smarthubflemishbrabant.be

LOGISTICS

Smart Hub Flemish Brabant unites companies, authorities and knowledge centres on important logistics themes in Flemish Brabant such as the future of the airport, innovative logistics technologies and the intelligent use of existing infrastructure.



FOCUS ON SMART LOGISTICS

- International airport and knowledge institutions
- Logistic smart hub for Flanders and Europe
- Flanders Pharma Hub
- Multimodal transport
- Clustering commodity flows
- Sustainable city distribution

More info

smarhublogistics@vlaamsbrabant.be
www.smarhubflemishbrabant.be

FOOD

The food sector in Flemish Brabant successfully combines tradition with high tech. The region harbours an interesting mix of industrial food companies and research centres, trend-setting knowledge institutions, world-renowned export SMEs and passionate artisan producers.

Smart Hub Flemish Brabant promotes cooperation, innovation and internationalisation in this sector.



HEALTHY FOOD FOR PEOPLE AND ANIMALS

- Tradition and high tech
- International companies and research institutions
- Innovative Feed Food Health campus in Tienen
- Specialising in sugar and cereal

More info

smarthubfood@vlaamsbrabant.be
www.smarthubflemishbrabant.be

CLEANTECH

Flemish Brabant pioneers in products, processes and services that contribute to an environmentally friendly and carbon-neutral province. The knowledge and know-how we have gathered on materials, circular economy, hydrogen, renewable energy, energy storage and mobility, to name but a few, is unique.

Smart Hub Flemish Brabant promotes cooperation in the community and with focus regions.



IN PURSUIT OF A SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY

- Collaborating in community
- Focus on energy, mobility and circular economy
- Carbon-neutral Flemish Brabant

More info

smarthubcleantech@vlaamsbrabant.be
www.smarthubflemishbrabant.be

CREATIVITY

Flemish Brabant has a strong presence in the audiovisual sector with the media cluster in and around Vilvoorde and communication and new media in Leuven. These are the areas Smart Hub Creativity concentrates on. And on numerous crossovers with other sectors.



CREATIVE CLUSTERS IN THE KNOWLEDGE REGION

- Unique media concentration in Vilvoorde
- Vibrant communication companies in Leuven
- Entertainment Valley in Tildonk

More info

smarthubcreativity@vlaamsbrabant.be
www.smarthubflemishbrabant.be



KEY ENABLING TECHNOLOGIES

These technologies are the basis for many innovative applications and help find solutions for societal challenges. In our 5 spearhead clusters, these technologies and the associated knowledge centres play an important role as well.

NANOTECHNOLOGY

Imec is the world-leading R&D and innovation hub in nanoelectronics and digital technologies. It employs 3.500 top scientists from all over the world.

MICRO- AND NANOELECTRONICS

Besides imec, there is also the Leuven Center on Information and Communication Technology (LICT) that performs ground breaking research in this field. And DSP Valley unites companies and knowledge institutions in a European 'cluster of excellence' in Smart Electronic Systems.

PHOTONICS

The Brussels Photonics Team (B-PHOT) of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) performs pioneering research in the science and technology of light.

ADVANCED MATERIALS

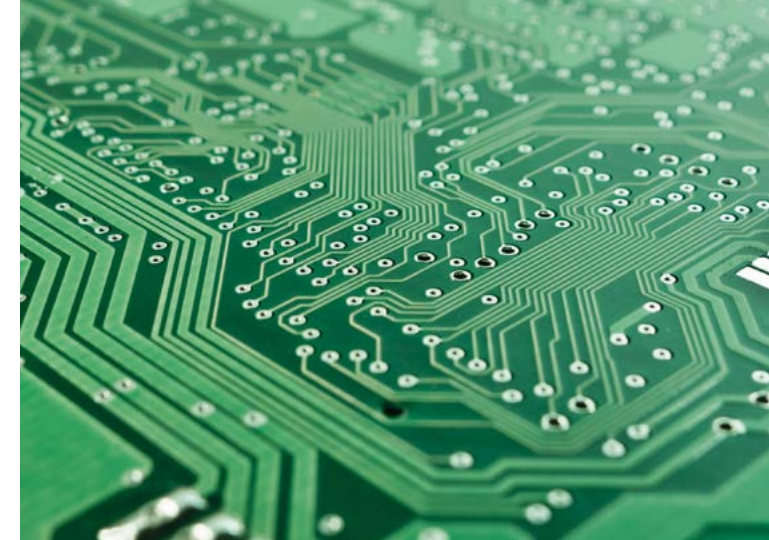
The KU Leuven Materials Research Centre (LMRC) researches new materials. And the KU Leuven is a key partner in the European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) 'Raw Materials'.

BIOTECHNOLOGY

KU Leuven and VUB host important departments of the Flemish Biotechnology Institute. Besides these cutting edge research facilities, the knowledge province of Flemish Brabant also boasts numerous innovative companies in this field.

ADVANCED PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGIES

Trend-setting companies such as Materialise and 3D Systems Layerwise were founded in Flemish Brabant and have developed into world players.



WHAT DOES SMART HUB FLEMISH BRABANT DO?

COMMUNITY BUILDING

We unite companies, knowledge institutions and public authorities to promote cooperation and innovation. In order to achieve this, we organise activities and start initiatives.

PROJECTS

We support, accompany and finance spearhead cluster projects in which companies, knowledge institutions and authorities collaborate. These projects must have an added value for Flemish Brabant as an innovative and entrepreneurial region.

BRANDING

We promote and position Flemish Brabant as a unique knowledge region in Belgium and abroad to draw companies into Flemish Brabant's science and business parks.

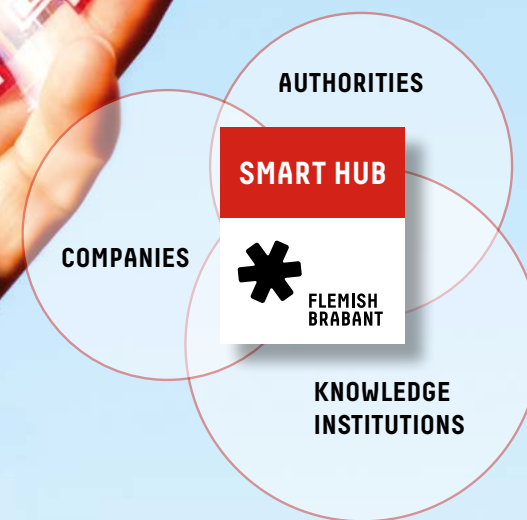
INTERNATIONALISATION

We stimulate and start international partnerships and cooperation projects for the companies and knowledge institutions of Flemish Brabant. We direct our efforts primarily towards Flemish Brabant's focus regions: Noord-Brabant, Rhein-Neckar, Skåne, Capital Region Denmark and Chengdu.

More information on www.smarthubflemishbrabant.be

TRIPLE HELIX

The collaboration between companies, knowledge institutions and public authorities occupies centre stage in the activities of Smart Hub Flemish Brabant. It boosts the development of the innovative knowledge region!



Join our knowledge region!

The province of Flemish Brabant focuses on innovation, internationalisation and entrepreneurship in the five spearhead sectors.

Would you like to participate in our community? Collaborate on one of our projects? Set up an international cooperation? Invest in or move to our region? An idea and looking for partners, financing or guidance? Contact us, our Smart Hub managers will be happy to help!

Marc Florquin
Vice-Governor for economics

Tom Dehaene
Vice-Governor for internationalisation



MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SMART HUB FLEMISH BRABANT

➤ www.smarthubflemishbrabant.be

➤ smarthub@vlaamsbrabant.be



SMART HUB FLEMISH BRABANT IS AN INITIATIVE OF THE POLICY EXECUTIVES, BUSINESS SECTOR AND ACADEMIC WORLD OF FLEMISH BRABANT. THE INITIATORS ARE: THE PROVINCE OF FLEMISH BRABANT, VOKA VLAAMS-BRABANT, KU LEUVEN, VUB AND POM VLAAMS-BRABANT (PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY).