



Flanders
State of the Art

Innovation mandates

VLAIO

Who we are



At a glance

VLAIO Innovation support

companies: 593

€210 million

Support for investments

companies: 296

€40.7 million

Support for training and
knowledge provision

companies: 55,291

€57.5 million

Newsletters

Start up

6,000

Entrepreneurship

66,000

Innovation

12,000

Visits to Vlaio.be

2.7 million

Overview

- Purpose
- General terms and conditions
- Consortium
- Budget and funding
- Submitting an application
- Processing an application
- Follow up
- Timing

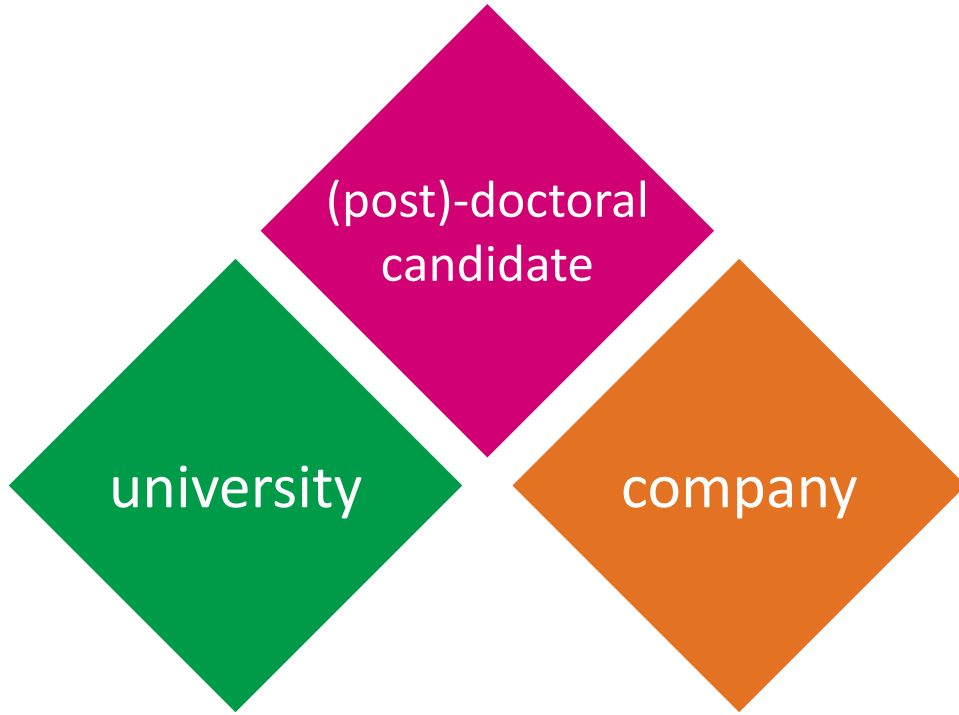
Purpose



The aim is to promote the **mobility** of researchers between the **academic** and the **industrial** world.

Projects include **challenging scientific research** questions, linked to the **valorisation** of scientific results within one or more companies

Purpose



- **Postdoctoral researchers** who want to execute a project **in close collaboration** with a company, either with an existing company, either with the aim of founding a new company.

General terms and conditions IM



Main target of the research project is:

- **strategic basic research** with scientific challenges of which the risks are too high to be executed within the companies, but resulting in the applicability of the research results in the industry
- the **economical valorisation** of research

Types of Innovation mandates

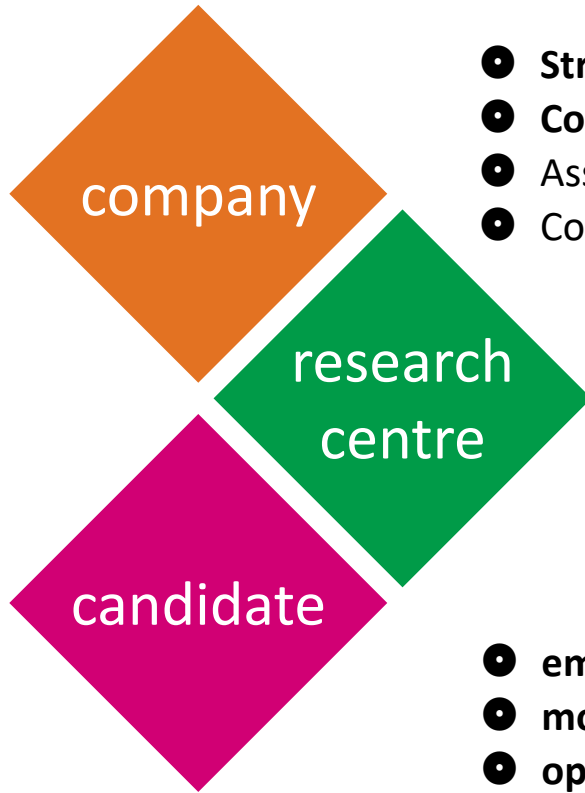
Spin-off mandates

- leading to the **establishment of a spin-off company**
- main target is research (and activities) directed towards the creation of a spin-off company with an industrial activity in Flanders
- prior to application: consult TechTransfer dept. of university

Cooperation with existing company

- with co-financing
- phased model
 - **First phase:**
assess the applicability in a business context
define milestone(s), and the thereto related scientific objectives, which should be achieved before a transfer of results to the industry will be possible
 - **Second phase: (Baekeland sr)**
the company is the applicant and is responsible for the strategic orientation of the research and for co-financing

Consortium - partners



- **Strategic orientation** of the project
 - **Co-financing (IM Phase 2)**
 - Assigns an **industrial mentor**
 - Commitment for duration of the project
-
- **Scientific promotor**: responsible for scientific quality/guidance
-
- **employee** of the university/knowledge centre or employee of the company
 - **mobility**: activities in the company and in the university/knowledge centre
 - **open** to all candidates who have a PhD-diploma (IM)

Case - Pathosense

- Testing animals for disease-causing pathogens not straightforward
- Idea of type of pathogen before PCR-test
- New approach: examination of pure samples for all different pathogens simultaneously
- <https://www.vlaio.be/nl/ondernemersverhalen/compleet-diagnose-van-infectieziekten-bij-dieren>



Cases - Artiq

- PhD Marko Topalovic on using AI for lung function test
- Spin-off mandate
- Established in 2019
- VLAIO research project and Baekeland mandate
- <https://www.vlaio.be/nl/ondernemersverhalen/deze-start-zet-ai-om-longziekten-beter-te-begrijpen>



Duration



- Part-time occupation is possible ($\geq 0,5$ FTE),
 - part of the assessment
 - can PhD be obtained?
- In case of part-time occupation
 - project duration extended
 - total support = 2- 3 full-time person years

Budget and funding



- Basis = payroll of the mandate holder (based on the real **salary cost**) + overhead costs + operating costs associated with this **one employee**
 - **Overhead costs**: not 100% attributable to the project, **max 25.000 eur/FTE**
 - **Operation costs**: real costs related to the execution of the project, **max 25.000 eur/FTE**
- No fixed sum but a **maximum**

Budget and funding

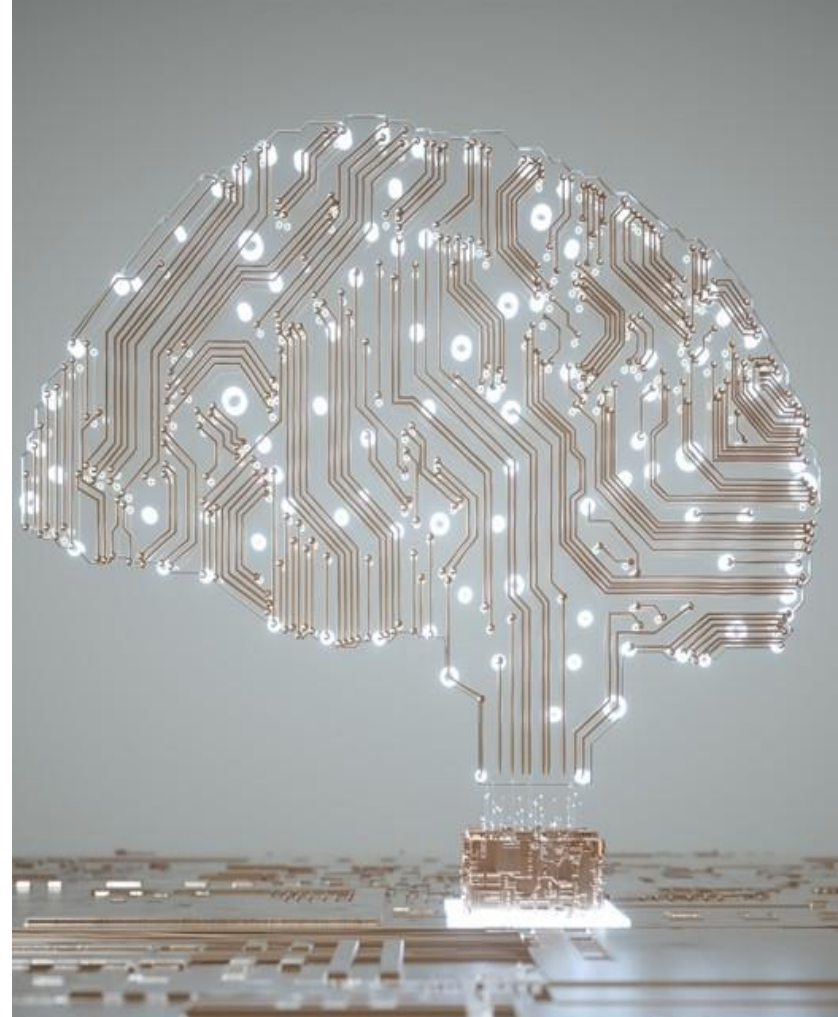


- Baekeland and IM Phase 2
 - Support of 50%, 60 or 70% for SME's
 - 10% extra support for well-balanced collaboration with an SME
- IM Phase 1 and spin-off
 - Support 100%

Intellectual property

IM Phase 2

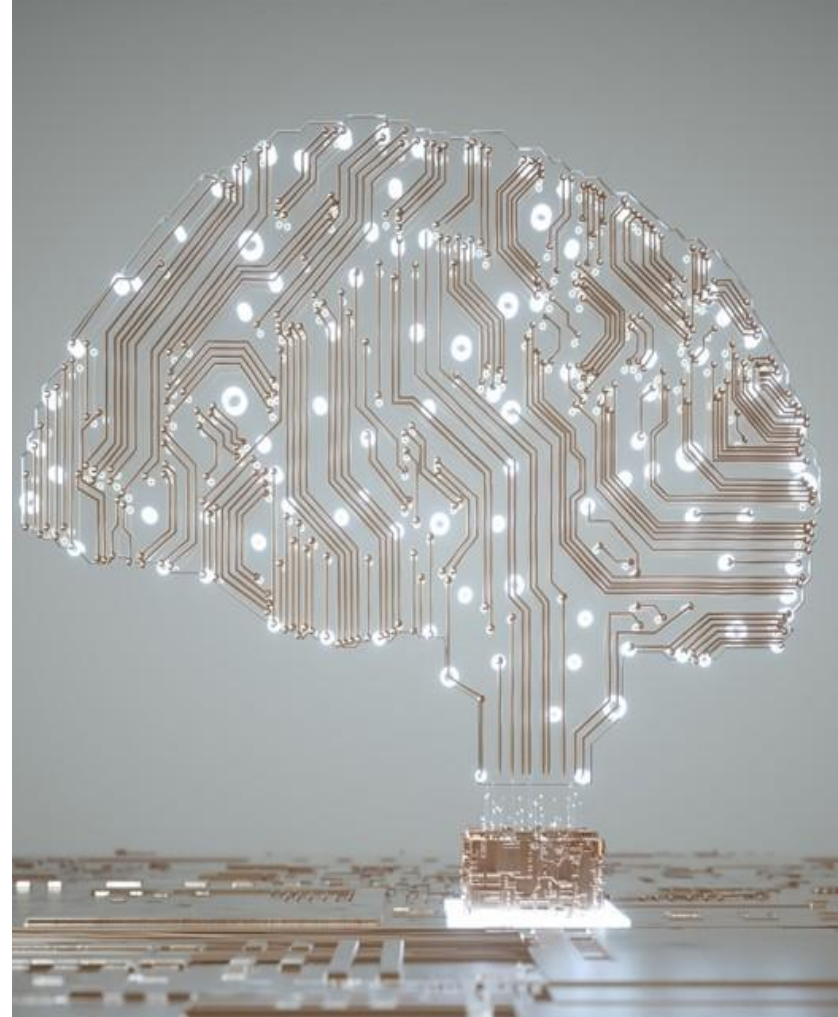
- Mutual consent concerning the distribution of IPR. Different options are possible, e.g:
 - Shared rights
 - Property rights to the results would belong to the knowledge centre
 - Company would acquire property rights on results with a specific target
- Partners need to agree on access to background knowledge
- If the company also contributes its own knowledge/ models/tools, an immediate start with Phase 2 is highly recommended



Intellectual property

IM phase 1/ spin-off

- 100% funding to the knowledge centre
- The **companies** only take on a **coaching role** and they do not acquire any rights to the research results;
- In Phase 1, it is possible to agree on a “**Right Of First Negotiation**”
- Upon transferring IPR to a company, the knowledge centre receives a fee in accordance with the **market price for the transfer of intellectual property rights**;
- The company acting as an industrial mentor has **no guarantee** on the possible licensing/exploitation of the project results.





Submitting the project application



Subsidies & financiering

Innovatiemandaat



Wat

Voorwaarden

Bedrag

Aanvraagprocedure

Vervolgstappen

Aanvragen

In 't kort

Een innovatiemandaat is specifiek bestemd om **postdoctorale onderzoekers** een project te laten uitvoeren in nauwe samenwerking met de bedrijfswereld, hetzij met een bestaand bedrijf, hetzij met het oog op de oprichting van een nieuw bedrijf.

Het hoofddoel van het onderzoeksproject is de economische valorisatie van onderzoek en de verdere uitwerking van basisonderzoek om de resultaten toepasbaar te maken binnen bedrijven, met andere woorden projecten waarvan de risicograad nog te hoog ligt om reeds als een O&O-project te worden uitgevoerd.

> **Meewerken aan projectevaluaties? Meld je aan als deskundige!**

Oproep actief

Wanneer?

Van 21/12/2023 12.00 u tot 12/03/2024 10.00 u

> **Meer over deze oproep**

Samengevat

Voor wie?

consortium van Vlaams bedrijf Vlaamse kennisinstelling



Nieuwsbrief



Pre-registration

Application Innovation Mandate Spin-off

[Klik hier voor een aanvraag in het Nederlands.](#)

[More information about the application for this subsidy](#)

Project

Give the project title

Candidate mandate holder - Applicant

First name

Name

Company of industrial promotor

Is the company already created?

☒ Ja ☐ Nee

Enter the company number from the [Crossroads Bank for Enterprises](#) below.

Company number (CBE)

Knowledge institute

Enter the company number from the [Crossroads Bank for Enterprises](#) below.

Company number (CBE)

Contact details

Enter your e-mail address below. To this address we will send an e-mail with a personalised link to your application.

First name

Els

Name

Tourwé

E-mail

Mail with link to application


Submit

Project portal

PROJECT OVERVIEW BAEKELAND

Els Tourwé | Log off

[How to complete this application](#)



The application is submitted completely, when all parts are submitted. This means

- the main applicant completed and submitted the form "General project information".
- the main applicant completed and submitted the form "Main applicant".
- each partner completed and submitted his specific form.

When an application is submitted completely, you receive a confirmation email with an overview of the application. Contact us at bedrijfsinnovatieleuning@vlaio.be if you assume the application is submitted completely, but you did not receive a confirmation email.

General project information + Candidate Mandate Holder

Open form

Project title:

Test project

Candidate Mandate Holder:

Els Tourwé

Status:

To validate

Main applicant - Company

Organisation	Status	Contact
E - MAX ALUMINIUM PROFIELEN	In draft	Els T

Open form

Industrial partners

+ Add

Organisation	Status	Contact
No data		

Knowledge Institutes

+ Add

Organisation	Status	Contact
UGent	In draft	Els T

Open form

Fill in the different forms

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION - MANDATESEls Tourwé | Afmelden

[Terug naar projectoverzicht](#)

Project information

1234

Project information

General information

Project title

Keywords

Start date

Duration in months

This project is a resubmission ☐ Yes ☒ No

Employment ☒ Full-time ☐ Part-time

Proposal for the industrial PhD research

Please download the following [MS Word template](#) fill it in and upload it below.

Bijlage toevoegen

Sleep de bijlage naar hier om toe te voegen

Cooperation agreement

The cooperation agreement is preferably immediately part of this application, but can also be submitted to the Agency at the latest on the deadline mentioned in the [call document](#).

Versie ☒ This is the final version ☐ This is a preliminary version ☐ This document is missing, but will be delivered to the Agency before the deadline

Bijlage toevoegen

Sleep de bijlage naar hier om toe te voegen

Next

Form is submitted by legal representative

1

2

3

4

Declarations

5

Declarations

You are a legal representative or mandated of the legal representative and want to submit the application: complete the declaration below, complete your data as submitter with your e-mail address, go further and click on "Submit" under the overview of the provided information.

You are not the legal representative and not mandated? Forward the mail with the link to the application to the legal representative or mandated, to complete the declaration and to submit.

After submitting you cannot change the information. Your application will only be complete after the general project information has been submitted and all partners, if any, have submitted their specific part. After this, all applicants will receive a confirmation with the overview of the application.

☐ Als rechtsgeldig vertegenwoordiger van de aanvragende onderneming of gemandateerde van de rechtsgeldig vertegenwoordiger, geef ik het Agentschap Innoveren en Ondernemen, optredend voor het Hermesfonds, de toestemming alle nodige acties te laten uitvoeren naar aanleiding van de aanvraag voor dit project.

I declare that the selected Type of company is correct and declare that I have correctly completed the requested information on the annual reports and shareholders & ownership shares where required.

I declare that no other governmental support was requested or obtained for this project.

I declare that on the date of submission of this application, the company has no overdue unpaid taxes and/or employer social security contributions and is up to date with respect to all the required (environmental) permits.

I declare to be informed that the Hermes fund can and may not give a subsidy to [an undertaking in difficulty](#).

I declare that, when a contract is subcontracted to a research organisation, the company reimburses the service provided at the market price or fully reimburses the costs and pays a reasonable margin in addition.

I declare that I have taken note of the project application and the modalities of such project application as described in the manual of the Agency for Innovation and Business, acting for the Hermes Fund.

In case of approval of the Baekeland mandate, I agree that the project is carried out by the candidate mandate holder and that the supervision is ensured by the industrial promoter(s) and the scientific promoter(s). The activities of the promoters imply that at the request of the Agency for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, acting for the Hermes Fund, or at the request of the candidate holder, the promoters concerned are available to consult each other on the progress of the project, to advise on interim reports, publications and the valorisation process of the research.

I agree to the activities being carried out as stated in the accompanying project application.

The company is a small enterprise under 10 years of age ☒ Yes ☐ No

I declare that, in the course of the project implementation, the company does NOT wish to use the partial exemption of tax deducted at source on wages of employees as a Young Innovative Company (YIC). In the event of a change in this situation, I will inform the Agency Flanders Innovation & Entrepreneurship immediately of the fact in writing.

Legal representative of
university = rector or its
representative, not scientific
promotor!



Processing the project application

Eligibility

- In accordance with the modalities of the program
- All participants have to be known and eligible
 - Company with exploitation seat in Flanders,
 - No undertaking in difficulty ('OIM')
 - Scientific promotor at Flemish university
 - ...
- Principal agreement on IPR and use of results: can, exceptionally, be submitted later on. Deadline on website!
- PhD-diploma
- Candidate: max 2 applications
- Sufficient information in project description to start evaluation

Assessment



- Oral defence before a panel of experts
 - only the candidate mandate holder is invited
- Experts: 50/50 academic/industry
- Confidentiality & experts to be avoided
 - (max. 5 names and because of industrial competition)
- Application in English or Dutch – interview in the same language
- Introduction (1 min.)
- Interactive discussion (30 min.)

Evaluation criteria



- Divided in four quadrants:
 - Scientific quality vs utilisation quality
 - Candidate vs project
- Scores: excellent-good-moderate- weak (critical)
- Basis: explanatory document available at the website
- Panel with experts: score per criterion and per set (=quadrant), final appreciation by the Hermes comity
- Always: GO/NO GO
Hermes comity decides on the cut-off, in case of # > budget

Evaluation criteria

I. Scientific quality



- Reasoning skills and critical-scientific mindset of the candidate
- Scientific knowledge and insight into the project

- Scientific quality level and challenges
- Quality of the research approach and feasibility



Evaluation criteria

II. Utilisation quality



- Insight and vision on the strategic importance of the project for the valorisation objectives
- Knowledge and insight in the valorization path

- Strategic importance
- Size and probability of the expected valorization (in case of scientific success)





Follow-up

Start date



Start date

At the latest, 6 months after the decision



Retro-activity is possible:

Earliest possible start date = 1st of the month following the submission deadline

Period before the decision of VLAIO: at own risk

Follow-up

- The funding is paid in **yearly instalments**, in the form of advance payments
- **Progress report** every year (for each payment)
- **Final report**
- **Financial report** at the end of the project: corresponding to the real costs and committed funding rate, last payment = accepted funding minus the instalments already paid
- Changes within the scope of the innovation goal possible

(Post-)doctoral programme in collaboration with industry: what's in it for the candidate?



Exposure to the private environment and acquire an insight of non academic organisations



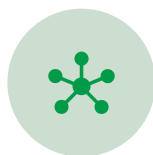
Facing “real life” research problems



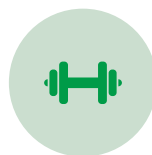
Joint supervision by professionals from industry



Broaden employability perspectives



Enable networking outside academic environment



Access to additional industry training, meetings, equipment and expertise

(Post-)doctoral programme in collaboration with industry: what's in it for the company?



access to expertise at the university



new in-depth knowledge



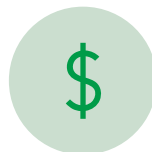
student reinforces their research team



recruitment



build a strong bond with the university of your choice, development of your network



research in co-financed up to 80%

1st call in 2025

Deadline for submission: March, 11



Oral defence (indicative): May - June



Decision: July, 19

Contact persons



Programme: Els Tourwé
Administration: Ann Voets

Questions?

Mail to baekeland-im@vlaio.be