

ITEA PO Days 2025

Welcome to the country information session of Belgium

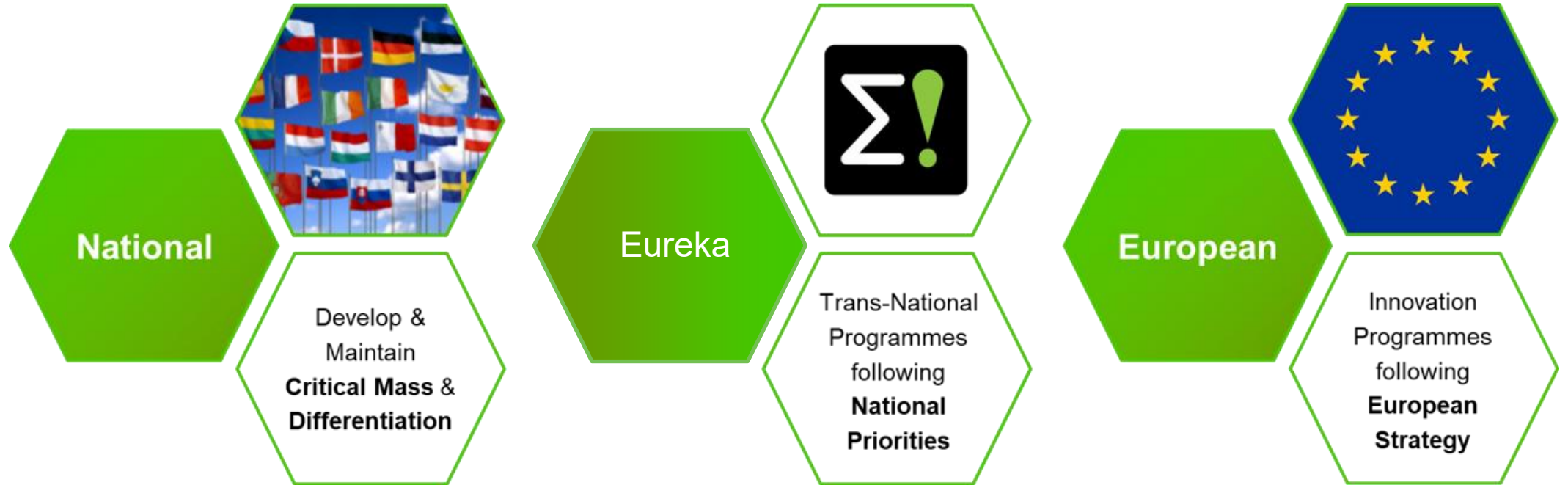
8 September 2025

Frederik De Vusser, VLAIO



ITEA4

European innovation landscape



ITEA

The Eureka Cluster on software innovation and digital transition

Since 1998, ITEA is the Eureka RD&I programme on software innovation and digital transition. ITEA stimulates transnational and industry-driven R&D&I in the domain of **software innovation**. ITEA enables a large, open and international community to **collaborate in funded projects** that turn innovative ideas into new businesses, jobs, economic **growth and benefits for society**.

ITEA is:

- Global and trusted cooperation in an industrial community
- Project financing through national public and private funding
- Commercialisation of research results
- Focus on high-quality process and support

ITEA Key challenges



Smart city



Smart communities



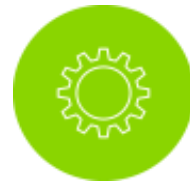
Smart health



Safety and security



Smart mobility



Smart industry



Smart energy



Smart engineering

Participation of Belgium in ITEA

In numbers

- Active in projects since the start of ITEA in 1998
- 181 participating partners
- 132 ITEA projects with Belgian participation:
 - With a strong focus on Smart engineering (32 projects), Smart health (21 projects) and Smart communities (13 projects)
 - More than 100 completed ITEA projects:

	Number of projects with Belgian involvement
Labelled*	9
Running	16
Completed	107
Grand Total	126

Budget




Belgium

- Open budget for the ITEA call
- No competition between projects
- Projects evaluated case by case

Funding Organisations

Belgium

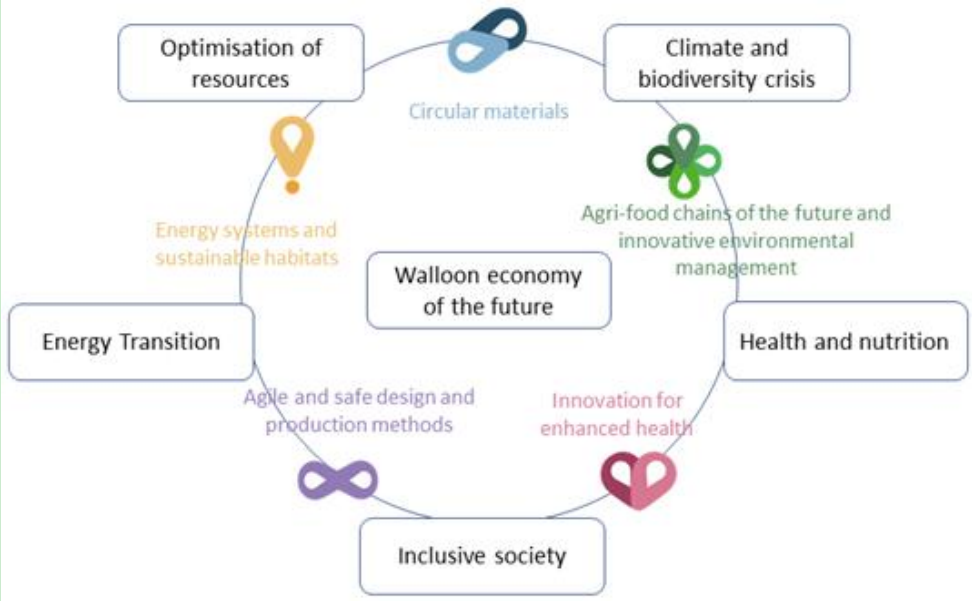
Funding organisation based on real location of the company requesting funding.

Region	Funding organisation
Flemish region	Flanders Innovation & Entrepreneurship (VLAIO) 
Brussels region	Innoviris 
Wallonia	Service public de Wallonie (SPW) 

Location of company = eligibility ! Apply at the right agency!

Regional priorities

Bottom up approach

VLAIO (Flanders)	Innoviris (Brussels)	Wallonia (SPW)
No thematical limitation All ITEA topics are ok	6 Strategic Innovation Domains: 1 Advanced digital Technologies & services 2 Climate: Resilient Buildings & Infrastructures; 3 Optimal Resource Use; 4 Efficient and sustainable urban flows for inclusive urban space management; 5 Health & Personalized and Integrated Care; 6 Social innovation, public innovation and social inclusion)	Bottom-up approach within areas for strategic innovation (s3.wallonie.be)  <p>The diagram illustrates the 'Walloon economy of the future' as a circular system. At the center is a box labeled 'Walloon economy of the future'. Surrounding it are six boxes connected by a circular path, each with a corresponding icon: 'Optimisation of resources' (blue infinity symbol), 'Climate and biodiversity crisis' (green four-leaf clover), 'Agri-food chains of the future and innovative environmental management' (green plant), 'Health and nutrition' (pink heart), 'Inclusive society' (purple infinity symbol), and 'Energy Transition' (orange lightbulb). The connections between the boxes are labeled with themes: 'Circular materials' (between Optimisation of resources and Climate and biodiversity crisis), 'Agile and safe design and production methods' (between Energy Transition and Inclusive society), and 'Innovation for enhanced health' (between Inclusive society and Health and nutrition). A label 'Energy systems and sustainable habitats' is placed near the Energy Transition box.</p>

Research & Development projects

(Industrial) Research project	(Experimental) Development project
(Scientific) knowledge & new skills acquisition (beyond state-of-the-art in applicable industry)	Internal knowledge building, apply the results of industrial research
Important, high level of challenges & risks	Challenges & risks are present
From experimental proof to validation in a representative environment	From validation in a representative environment to a proof-of-concept/prototype in an operational environment
Far from market launch	Closer to the market: concrete view on new products, procedures or services
TRL 3-5	TRL 5-7

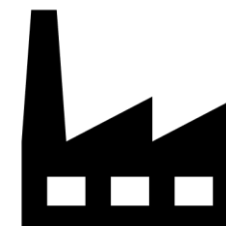
Funding Rate – Company - Development

Development projects:

Grants: base funding rate: 25%

+ 15% collaboration ITEA

+ 10% (medium)/20% (small company)



	VLAIO	Innoviris	SPW
Small company	60%	60%	Grant 60% / loan 70%
Medium-sized company	50%	50%	Grant 50% / loan 60%
Large company	40%	40%	Grant 40% / loan 50%

Funding Rate – Company - Research

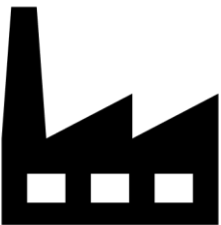
Research projects:

Base funding rate: 50%

+ 15% collaboration ITEA

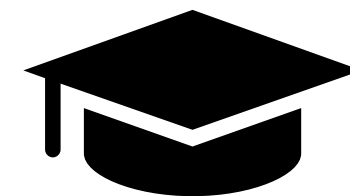
+ 10% (medium)/20% (small company)

Maximum: 70% (VLAIO) / 80% (Innoviris/SPW)



	VLAIO	Innoviris	SPW
Small company	70%	80%	80%
Medium-sized company	70%	75%	75%
Large company	65%	65%	65%

Funding Rate – Universities & Research Centres



	VLAIO	Innoviris	SPW
Funding rate	N/A – research centres and universities are subcontractors/research partner to the company(ies)	100%	N/A – research centres and universities are subcontractors to the company(ies)
Eligibility	Only indirect funding non-funded part of the budget of the research organisation is paid by the company	Located in Brussels Capital region	subcontracting max. 20% of the total research budget of the Walloon industrial partners

Financial viability of a company

- Companies should check “Undertaking in difficulties”
 - Are not in difficulty, in accordance with the European legislation
 - Eligibility issue!
- Financial viability of the company will be investigated
 - Can show their ability to finance their share in the project
 - additional financial conditions are possible

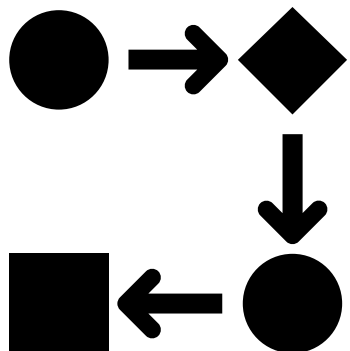
Evaluation criteria - Quality

- Innovation goals clear and realistic?
- Knowledge acquisition?
- Feasibility?
- Contribution State-of-the-art
- Challenges?
- Quality of the approach?
- Available expertise?
- Track record?

Evaluation criteria - Impact

- Quality of the business plan
 - Strategic importance for the company
 - SWOT
 - impact on your business
 - Impact on employment & investments in the region
 - societal added value
 - Track record
-
- Incentive effect of the financial aid

Process



- **International application**

- PO Submission: deadline 10/11/2025
 - Feedback : 22/12/2025
- FPP Submission: deadline 12/2/2026
 - Feedback : End of March 2026

- **National/regional application**

- Deadline next call: 29/5/2026
 - More detailed proposal:
 - Regional activities
 - Precise WPs and budget
 - Regional valorisation/impact company & business implementation plan
 - Budget sheet
- Meeting with advisor(s) (VLAIO&Innoviris)
- Evaluation in a written procedure with (external) experts
 - Development projects/with lower budget can have a shorter procedure using internal experts or in an oral procedure at VLAIO/Innoviris
- Regular decision meetings (monthly)

- Innoviris advice after typically 3 months, formal decision after +/- 5 months
- Adequate valorization information is part of eligibility for Innoviris application
- Have fulfilled their obligations in the context of previous support initiatives granted by the Region: eligibility
- Preliminary discussion with Innoviris adviser is strongly recommended, especially for companies with no or little experience with Innoviris funding after ITEA4 PO evaluation

Contact details

Belgium – Brussels (Innoviris)



Stijn Maas
Innoviris

smaas@innoviris.brussels
+32 2 600 5067

Website:
www.innoviris.brussels



SPW



- Proposal in French
- Use submission system:
 - Deadline submission on ONTIME platform is the same as the ITEA FPP deadline!
- Mandatory to contact public authorities prior to submitting a proposal

Contact details

Belgium – Wallonia (SPW)



Julie Jasmes

julie.jasmes@spw.wallonie.be

081 33 45 45



Fabrice Quertain

fabrice.quertain@spw.wallonie.be

081 33 45 68



- Proposal in Dutch or English
- Strong advice to contact us before submission!
- Cities & municipalities: direct funding possible in smart city projects
 - (not open budget)
 - PILBO
 - Mandatory Flemish company
 - Contact VLAIO to know modalities

Contact details

Belgium – Flanders (VLAIO)

AGENTSCHAP
INNOVEREN & ONDERNEMEN

Frederik De Vusser

VLAIO

frederik.devusser@vlaio.be

+32 2 432 42 98



Website for more information can be found [here](#).

Business advisors (advice & assistance):

<https://www.vlaio.be/nl/begeleiding-advies/coaching-en-advies/vlaio-bedrijfsadviseurs>

Q&A

Any further questions?
Just ask!

Thank you
for your attention