

ITEA PO Days 2026

Welcome to the country information webinar of Belgium

3 September 2026

Frederik De Vusser (VLAIO)

Fabrice Quertain (SPW)



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



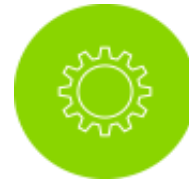
Smart health



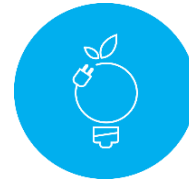
Safety and security



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

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!

Budget

Belgium

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

Innoviris (Brussels region)



- Innoviris does not participate in the next ITEA Call
=>There will be no funding for companies in the Brussels region in the next ITEA Call !

Regional priorities

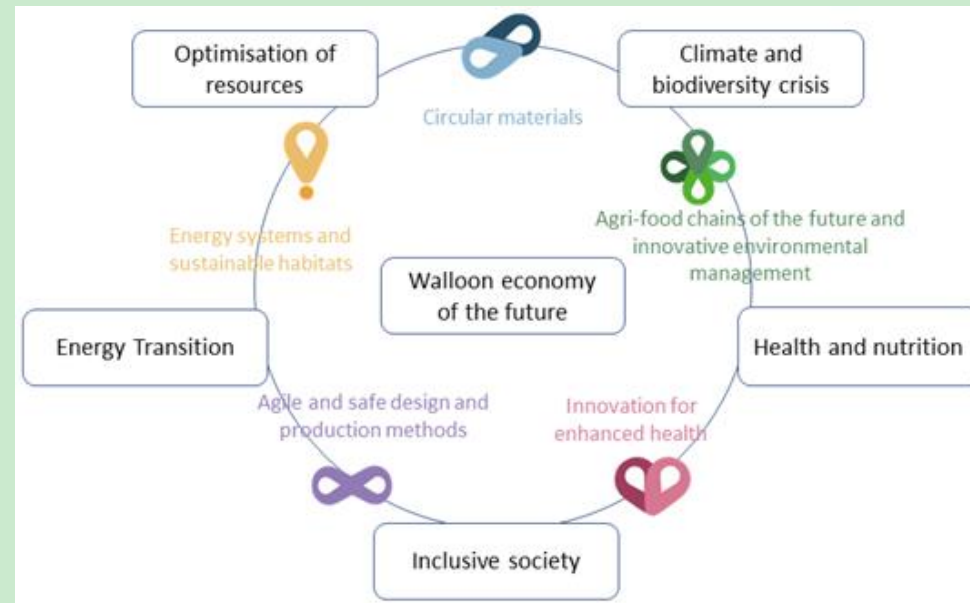
Bottom up approach

VLAIO (Flanders)

No thematical limitation
All ITEA topics are ok

Wallonia (SPW)

Bottom-up approach within areas for strategic innovation (s3.wallonie.be)



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	SPW
Small company	60%	60%
Medium-sized company	50%	50%
Large company	40%	40%

Funding Rate – Company - Research

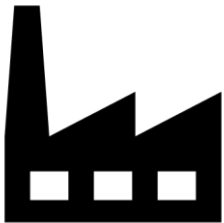
Research projects:

Base funding rate: 50%

+ 15% collaboration ITEA

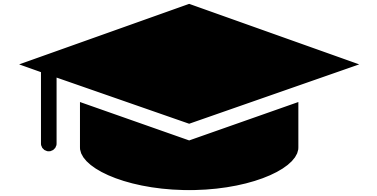
+ 10% (medium)/20% (small company)

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



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

Funding Rate – Universities & Research Centres



	VLAIO	SPW
Funding rate	N/A – research centres and universities are subcontractors/research partner to the company(ies)	N/A – research centres and universities are subcontractors to the company(ies)
Eligibility	Only indirect funding The company pays for the research organisation. Funding rate for activities of research organisation = funding rate of company => non-funded part of the budget of the research organisation is paid by the company	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

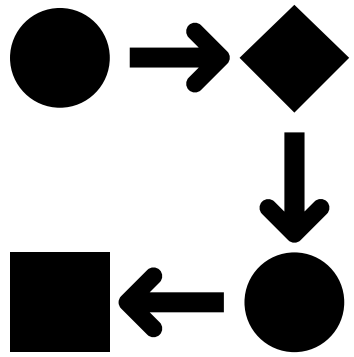
Evaluation criteria - Quality

- 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 2/11/2026
 - Feedback : 15/12/2026
- FPP Submission: deadline 11/2/2027
 - Feedback : End of March 2027

- National/regional application

- More detailed proposal:
 - Regional activities
 - Precise WPs and budget
 - Regional valorisation/impact company & business implementation plan
- Budget sheet

Contact details

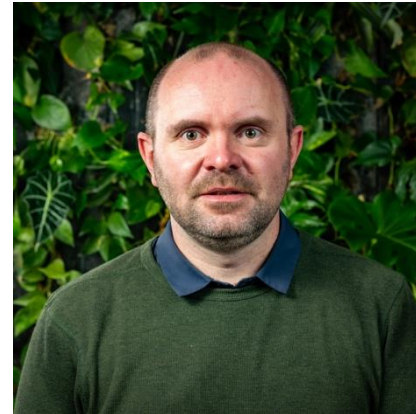
Belgium – Brussels (Innoviris)



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)



Fabrice Quertain

fabrice.quertain@spw.wallonie.be

+32 (0)81 77 87 06

Website: <https://recherche.wallonie.be/eureka>



- Strong advice to contact VLAIO before submission!
- Deadline VLAIO-submission: 28/5/2027
 - Proposal in Dutch or English
 - Cities & municipalities: direct funding possible in smart city projects (PILBO-project)
 - (not open budget)
 - Mandatory Flemish company
 - Contact VLAIO to know modalities
- Evaluation procedure
 - Meeting with VLAIO advisor(s)
 - 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
 - Regular decision meetings (monthly)

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: [Click here](#)

Business advisors (advice & assistance):

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

Thank you
for your attention
Questions?