



Biodiversity.be

**KNOWLEDGE & TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ORGANISATIONS (KTTO)**

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**In Biodiversity Research**



## KNOWLEDGE & TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ORGANISATIONS (KTTO)

Knowledge & Technology Transfer Organisations (KTTO) are at the interface between academic and socio-economic stakeholders, and can have different organisational and legal structures (private, public, academic department, network, etc).

KTTO's goal is to ensure the effective sharing and uptake of knowledge and technology for economic development and for societal benefits. For this purpose, KTTOs foster multidirectional and iterative flows of knowledge:

- From the academic community to the socio-economic stakeholders, contributing to translate research outputs into outcomes. Two types of transfer can be distinguished: technical/technological transfer (enhancement of existing skills, methods, technologies, to be further exploited for economic, societal and environmental purposes) and innovation (all activities leading to the conception, development and production of new-or significantly improved- products, processes, methods, organisations).
- From the socio-economic stakeholders to the academic community, to formulate and channel their knowledge and needs for the development of research and/or transfer agendas and actions.



*This mapping exercise of KTTOs active in Belgium was performed by the Belgian Biodiversity Platform in the framework of BiodivERsA, in the context of a EU-wide exercise to set up a definition for KTTOs and to provide a mapping of existing organisations at European level (BiodivERsA3 Task T2.4, lead by ADECAL).*



## AGENCE POUR L'ENTREPRISE ET L'INNOVATION

The *Agence pour l'Entreprise & l'Innovation* (AEI) supports the creation and development of enterprises, innovation and the development of new economic activities. The AEI works for Walloon enterprises and provides suitable solutions to their needs.

Its mission is to:

- Manage, structure, lead and evaluate a network of advisers which offers project leaders and enterprises a coordinated set of services, and which thus promotes the creation, development and transmission of enterprises, as well as all aspects of innovation.
  - Support the development of a culture of entrepreneurship and new economic models such as short supply chains, the circular economy and the cooperation economy.
  - Provide easy access for enterprises and project leaders to any useful information (aid forms, aid and support available in Wallonia, tracking their files, etc.) through a single entry point: the Infos-Entreprises portal.
  - Manage specific aid for enterprises and project leaders (pre-seed grants, innovation grants, technology vouchers.
  - Optimise the transfer of technology and knowledge about research.
  - Help make Wallonia a region of digital excellence through the Agence du Numérique (AdN).
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## BELGIAN BIODIVERSITY PLATFORM

The *Belgian Biodiversity Platform* (BBPf) provides services to the Belgian scientific community engaged in biodiversity research and to policy-makers as well as to practitioners. As a science-policy interface on biodiversity, the work of the BBPf is based around three main areas:

- Knowledge brokerage: we make biodiversity knowledge understandable by policy-makers, practitioners and society, and vice-versa, to communicate with the research community to ensure their work is relevant for society.
- Topical knowledge incubation: we offer scientists, policy-makers, practitioners and other stakeholders, the opportunity to incubate their knowledge with other experts on topical issues (e.g. invasive species, ecosystem services, etc).
- Open access to data: we provide services related to the mobilisation, publication, access and use of biodiversity data in an open and free manner.



## BELGIAN NATIONAL BELGIAN CLEARING HOUSE MECHANISM (CHM)

The *Convention on Biological Diversity* (CBD) has established the *Clearing-House Mechanism* (CHM) to ensure that all governments have access to the information and technologies they need for their work on biodiversity. The objective of the CHM is to strengthen the cooperation and networking between stakeholders of various fields of biodiversity – governments, NGOs, consultants, academic institutions, environmental professionals and others. In order to achieve this, the CHM helps to improve the exchange of information as well as of scientific and technical expertise.

The establishment of national websites on biodiversity forms one of the main pillars of the CHM approach. In complement, many other non-web activities are also carried out:

- At international level, through its participation in the global CHM network.
- At European level, through its involvement in the European Community CHM and its cooperation with other European countries.
- In the 'Partnering role for the CHM' to assist countries to improve their access to information and their acquisition of knowledge.



## BELGIAN ECOSYSTEMS AND SOCIETY COMMUNITY (BEES)

The *BElgian Ecosystems and Society community* (BEES) is a growing and active informal network of Belgian ecosystem services experts. The BEES-community is facilitated by the Belgian Biodiversity Platform. It contributes to improve ecosystem-society interactions by facilitating collaboration, coordination and communication among and between scientists, administrators, policy makers and practitioners in Belgium.

BEES also helps connecting the Belgian regions and relevant international initiatives such as:

- The Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)
- The EU Working Group on Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystems and their Services (MAES)
- The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB)
- The Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP).

WWW.BIOLIEGE.ULG.AC.BE



## BioLiège

*BioLiège* is a pool of excellence in biotechnology. It is an association of academic units and biotechnology companies enhancing cross-fertilization between industrial and academic research in the field of biotechnology. *BioLiège* organises conferences for large specialised and non-specialised audiences; it stimulates contacts with other universities in Belgium, in neighbouring countries and abroad; it encourages young scientists in biotechnology; sets up interactive forums and debates on current issues in the field and facilitates the contacts and collaborations between scientists and industrial partners in all areas of biotechnology. It is also a privileged intermediary between biotechnologists and regulatory or funding authorities. All major trends of modern biotechnology are represented : human medicine, pharmaceutical industry, toxicology, veterinary medicine, agriculture and plant biotechnology, water treatment, waste management, biodegradation control, textile industry, etc.

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WWW.CETAF.ORG



## CETAF

The *Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities* (CETAF) is a European network of Natural Science Museums, Natural History Museums, Botanical Gardens and Biodiversity Research Centres with their associated biological collections and research expertise.

Taxonomy is the science that explores, describes and classifies entities in the natural world. It is fundamental to understand ecosystem functioning and the origins and evolution of life on our planet. The documenting and describing of biological and geological diversity enables us to understand the building blocks of life, reconstruct the history of life on Earth and understand evolutionary events, and to provide predictive models to meet society's challenges.

CETAF aims to promote training, research and understanding in systematic biology and palaeobiology, and facilitate access to information (collections) and the expertise of its member institutions across Europe. Its objectives are to promote scientific research and access to European collections, to enable the formation of partnerships to exploit European funding opportunities and to be a voice for taxonomy and systematic biology in Europe.

[HTTP://EEN.EC.EUROPA.EU](http://EEN.EC.EUROPA.EU)



## ENTREPRISE EUROPE NETWORK (EEN)

The *Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)* was launched in February 2008 by the *European Commission's Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry*. It is a key instrument in the EU's strategy to boost growth and jobs. Bringing together around 600 business support organisations from more than 60 countries, EEN helps small companies seize the unparalleled business opportunities in the EU Single Market.

Members of the *Enterprise Europe Network* are linked up through powerful databases, sharing their knowledge and sourcing technologies and business partners across all Network countries. But they are also closely linked with the *European Commission*, which enables them to keep abreast of EU policies and to feed small companies' views on them back to Brussels. They are co-financed under *COSME*, an EU funding programme designed to encourage the competitiveness of European enterprises. EEN services are tailored to SMEs but are also available to all other businesses, universities and research centres.

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[WWW.EUREKANETWORK.ORG](http://WWW.EUREKANETWORK.ORG)



## EUREKA

EUREKA is a pan-European network for market oriented, industrial R&D. It strengthens the competitiveness of European companies through international collaboration, in creating links and networks of innovation. The objective of EUREKA is to bring high quality research and development efforts to the market and to benefit from the multiplying effects of cooperation.

The goals of EUREKA are to:

- Raise the productivity and competitiveness of European businesses through technology.
- Boost national economies on the international market.
- Strengthen the basis for sustainable prosperity and employment.



## EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER (EUROTEx)

The European Centre for Knowledge and Technology Transfer (EuroTex) is an international non-profit making association, established in 1999 under the Belgian law, and devoted to the transfer of knowledge, innovation, and technology between EU Member States and the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) countries and Russia, to the mutual benefit of all countries involved.

The goals of EuroTex are:

- To introduce to the European companies the innovations, prototypes of technological products and the know-how developed in the ENP countries.
- To promote and encourage participation of scientists from the ENP countries in the EU funded joint research and technology projects.
- To train the scientists from the ENP countries in better understanding of the EU Framework Programmes (FP7 & H2020) as well as the workings of the European Union.
- To help create an atmosphere of trust between European companies and the innovators from the ENP countries and Russia in order to originate new products and services, and by this to promote technological research activities as an essential element for social and economic progress and consolidation of democracy in these countries.



## FLEMISH INSTITUTE FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY (VIB)

The Flemish Institute for Biotechnology (VIB) is a non-profit scientific research institute. With the aid of gene technology, VIB scientists study the operation of the human body, plants and micro-organisms.

The VIB develops three complementary core activities:

- Strategic basic research
- An active policy of technology transfer for translating research results into products for the benefit of consumers and patients
- Scientific information for the general public.



## FREE UNIVERSITY OF BRUSSELS - TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER OFFICE (ULB-TTO)

The Technology Transfer Office (TTO) within the ULB's Research Department provides support to the research teams. The role of the TTO is to promote collaborative research and business development between the university and its external partners (businesses, public bodies, competition clusters, professional associations, etc.), as well as participating in local and regional development.

More specifically, the TTO is in charge of:

- Disseminating valuable research activities to companies, organising direct contacts between researchers and companies, through publications and events (laboratory visits, Lab'Insight meetings).
  - Transfer of technology (negotiation of licenses, follow-up for the creation of spin-offs...).
  - Management of intellectual property (strategy for protection of results and valorisation)
  - Supporting the establishment of new projects
  - Supporting thematic projects implemented by ULB, in particular in the fields of biotechnology (BioPark in Charleroi, Pôle Santé in Brussels), information and communication technologies.
  - Contributing to local and regional economic development.
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## HASSELT UNIVERSITY - TECH TRANSFER OFFICE (TTO UHASSELT)

The Tech Transfer Office (TTO) is the hub between researchers, businesses and government agencies in Limburg. It seeks to facilitate knowledge and technology transfer from Hasselt University and associated university colleges to the business world by promoting cooperation with SMEs and the creation of spin-off companies.

TTO UHassel works on:

- Research with companies

The most direct way to bring academic expertise into a company is to set up joint research that may lead to new industrial applications. The TTO provides advice from contact to contract. The TTO also works on intellectual property, legal protection and the form of potential commercialisation. The TTO is also active in spin-offs by supporting entrepreneurial researchers as they draw up their business plan and look for investors. TTO UHassel is also active in the management of funds, in the promotion of research expertise, organises information sessions for researchers and companies, is active in networks and knowledge platforms and in science parks.



## IMPULSE.BRUSSELS

*impulse.brussels*, formerly *Brussels Enterprise Agency (BEA)*, was created in 2003 by the Government of the Brussels-Capital region.

*impulse.brussels* has been nominated by the Brussels Capital Region to deliver the services of National Contact Point under NCP Brussels. NCP Brussels is a regional initiative whose aim is to help companies, universities, research centres and other stakeholders of the Brussels Capital Region to access EU funding for Research and Innovation. It covers all societal challenges in Horizon 2020.

*impulse.brussels* also coordinates the consortium *Enterprise Europe Brussels*, member of the *Enterprise Europe network (EEN)*. As the network relay point for the Brussels-Capital Region, *Enterprise Europe Brussels* provides support dedicated to business and innovation for their customers located in Brussels, allowing them to save time and funding by maximising international development opportunities.

## KU LEUVEN RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT - TECH TRANSFER OFFICE

*KU Leuven Research & Development (LRD)* is the technology transfer office (TTO) of the *KU Leuven Association*. LRD has developed a solid tradition of collaborating with industry, securing and licensing intellectual property rights, creating spin-off companies and stimulating knowledge-driven regional development. LRD supports researchers throughout the entire knowledge and technology transfer process and helps them to best leverage the societal and economic potential of their research.

The knowledge and technology transfer activities of LRD include:

- Collaborating with industry
- Managing intellectual property
- Creating spin-off companies
- Promoting entrepreneurship and innovation by stimulating networking initiatives such as *Leuven.Inc* (*Leuven Innovation Networking Circle*) and technology clustering such as *DSP Valley* and *LSEC* (*Leuven Security Excellence Consortium*)
- Stimulating and cultivating knowledge-driven regional development.



## LIEU NETWORK (UNIVERSITIES) - AgrEEn

The LIEU Network brings together the Knowledge Transfer Offices (KTOs) of Belgian French-speaking Universities and Higher Education Institutions, dedicated to provide Services to Society and Business. The AgrEEn working group is the Agro-Food / Energy & Environnement thematic "one stop shop" in this network to help matching academic offer with other parties requirements.

The KTOs from Universities within the *Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles* work together as part of the LIEU Network. By cooperating in this way, they are able to:

- Consolidate the range of academic services available to external partners (businesses and other organisations)
- Provide businesses with easier access to the facilities and skills on offer at over 1000 research centres.

The work carried out by the KTOs is organised into different working groups: AgrEEn (Agri-food industry, Energy and the Environment), Biotech (Life Sciences), Materials, MiNaTIC (Micro and Nanotechnology, Information and Communication Technology) and SSH (Social Sciences and Humanities).

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## SOPARTEC

Sopartec is the Technology Transfer and investment company of the Université catholique de Louvain. Sopartec's mission, within the Louvain Technology Transfer Office, is to bring the results of research carried out by UCL, the *Cliniques universitaires St-Luc* and the *Institute de Duve* (ICP) by creating spin-offs and negotiating licence agreements.

Sopartec is also the management company of the *Vives Louvain Technology Fund*. Vives is a technology multi-sectorial fund that invests in UCL spin-offs and startups in both Belgium and neighboring countries.

Sopartec manages the intellectual property of the university and its commercialisation through licenses, partnerships and the creation of new companies. In particular, Sopartec has invested and participated in the creation of more than 20 spin-off companies based in whole or in part on research results from UCL such as *Ion Beam Application* (IBA), *I.R.I.S.* or *Telemis*.

WWW.SYNHERA.BE



## SYNHERA

SynHERA (ex-ADISIF) aims to promote and facilitate collaborations between companies and *Hautes Ecoles*, in terms of technological services, research and development, exploitation of results and participation in regional development. SynHERA brings together 19 *Hautes Écoles* and multidisciplinary research centers within its network which is composed of academics (*LOCATION*), intermediary bodies (*AEI, Innovatech...*), Certified Research Centers (*ACCORD*) and companies (*BEP, Spow, ...*).

SynHERA is taking off today by drawing on the know-how of *ADISIF*, and by bringing a new look, a new strength, a dynamic breath, in order to professionally support all the *Hautes Ecoles of Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles* and companies in their research projects.

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HTTP://TTOFLANDERS.BE



## TTO FLANDERS

TTO Flanders is a joint initiative of the Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs) of the five Flemish universities: *University of Leuven, Ghent University, University of Antwerp, Vrije Universiteit Brussel* and *Hasselt University*.

TTO Flanders offers a unique portal to the knowledge and technology of the Flemish universities and university colleges and aims to:

- Be a unique point of contact for industry looking for research expertise and licensing opportunities.
- Maximise the valorisation of the available university knowledge and technology for the benefit of the economy and society.
- Further improve the collaboration between the TTOs of the Flemish universities.
- Strengthen the performance of the TTOs by developing common means and sharing best practices.
- Become a player on the European and international innovation scene.

WWW.LTTO.COM



## UCL - LOUVAIN TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER OFFICE

The mission of *Louvain Technology Transfer Office* consists in maximising the technology and knowledge transfer processes between UCL and society. LTTO works on finance, scouting, development, and commercialisation.

It collaborates with Knowledge Transfer Offices (KTOs) of the French Community of Belgium's *LIEU Network* (Walloon Region KTOs network), as well as research centres, competitiveness hubs, clusters, companies and their federations - the *Walloon Science and Technology Intermediation* network comprised of, among others, the *Agence pour l'Entreprise et l'Innovation*, *PICARRE*, *Innovatech* and *Wallonie Design* - and various research development professional associations abroad, including *ASTP-ProTon*, *AUTM*, *Les Bleus* and *C.U.R.I.E.*

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WWW.UGENT.BE/TECHTRANSFER



## UGENT - TECHTRANSFER

*UGent TechTransfer* manages the intellectual property of *UGent*, drives the use of that intellectual property through the creation of spin-offs and licensing, and supports the research community of *Ghent University* in creating research collaborations with industry.

The *Ghent University Association* has developed a unique valorisation structure. The organisation consists of a central Technology Transfer Office and decentralised business development centers.

*UGent TechTransfer* enables and facilitates the transfer of the university's research results towards the socio-economic environment.

*Ghent University* and its association partners (*AUGent*) strive to be an entrepreneurial knowledge institution by:

- Acting proactively as the engine of an innovative knowledge region
- Acting as a service provider and a source of inspiration for innovation for its partners in order to:
  - play a lead role in the development and expansion of the innovative knowledge region with impact on the regional/national and international (European) level
  - be recognised as an attractive research-intensive and entrepreneurial knowledge institution with an appeal that extends across Europe
  - to contribute to the social and economic value creation through transfer of innovative knowledge and technology developed at the Ghent University Association
  - to generate revenues that allow further expansion of these activities, further professionalisation and support.

WWW.ULG.AC.BE



## UNIVERSITÉ DE LIÈGE (LIÈGE, GEMBLoux, ARLON) - TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER OFFICE

Created in 1989 on the initiative of the *University of Liege* and at the request of the economic world (*UWE: Walloon Union of Companies*), *Agoria*, and *Liege Chamber of Commerce*), the *Company-University Interface* aims at reviving the liaison between the *University of Liege* and its external, mainly industrial, partners.

The Interface also has a task of advice and support for the university teams in the economic valuation of their research activities. It also ensures the involvement of the ULg in the local and regional economic development and technological leadership.

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HTTP://WWW.USAINSTLOUIS.BE/  
SL/KTO.HTML



## UNIVERSITÉ SAINT LOUIS - KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER OFFICE (KTO)

The *Knowledge Transfer Office (KTO)* of *Université Saint Louis* was created in 2014 and aims to promote partnerships between academic knowledge and society. As part of the *Research Administration Service*, the KTO is in charge of the link between research carried out at the university and the non-academic world. Its task is not only to ensure the dissemination, mobilisation and transfer of knowledge to society, but also to create collaborations and exchanges between society and the university.

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HTTPS://WWW.UANTWERPEN.BE/  
EN/RESEARCH-AND-INNOVATION/  
VALORISATION-OFFICE/



## UNIVERSITEIT ANTWERPEN (AUHA) - VALORISATION OFFICE

The Valorisation Office of the *Universiteit Antwerpen* connects the academic world to the business world. The Valorisation Office is part of the Department of Research & Innovation. It helps researchers from the *Antwerp University & Colleges Association (AUHA)* with the 'transfer' of knowledge and technologies towards the business world. The collaboration works both ways:

- Link companies (multinationals, SMEs...) to the right research partners or guide them to the appropriate technologies or infrastructure.
- Support researchers of the *Antwerp University* with the valorisation of their knowledge, inventions and ideas.

[HTTPS://PORTAIL.UMONS.AC.BE/  
EN2/UNIVERSITE/ADMIN/DAR/  
PAGES/DEFAULT.ASPX](https://portail.umons.ac.be/en2/universite/admin/dar/pages/default.aspx)



## UNIVERSITY OF MONS - DEPARTMENT FOR RESEARCH SUPPORT AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER (AVRE)

The *Department for Research Support and Technology Transfer* (AVRE) is in charge of the administration of research and technology transfer projects at *UMONS*. AVRE is composed of 11 people who put their expertise at the service of researchers and companies. From the calls for tender to the technology transfers, including the building of the project and the protection of research results, the technology transfer team of Mons can draw from its various and complementary skills. The transfer of results can take two forms: the founding of a spin-off or the granting of an operating licence to a company.

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[WWW.UNAMUR.BE/EN/RESEARCH/  
VALORISATION/TTOFFICE](http://www.unamur.be/en/research/valorisation/ttooffice)



## UNIVERSITY OF NAMUR - ADRE - TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER OFFICE (TTO)

The TTO of the *University of Namur* (ADRE) acts as a liaison between researchers, companies and public authorities. The TTO aims at transferring technologies from the laboratory to the public. It manages the protection of intellectual property, the transfer of technologies to companies and the creation of Spin-offs according to the Regulation as regards to ownership, protection, and transfer of research results obtained within UNamur. The TTO is sponsored by the Walloon Region, which finances an Intellectual Property Expert and takes care of costs pertaining to the protection of selected inventions.

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[HTTP://VITO.BE](http://vito.be)



## VITO (FLEMISH INSTITUTE FOR TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH)

VITO is a leading European independent research and technology organisation in the areas of cleantech and sustainable development, elaborating solutions for the large societal challenges of today. VITO provides innovative and high-quality solutions, whereby large and small companies can gain a competitive advantage, and advises industry and governments on determining their policy for the future. VITO has 750 highly-qualified employees who work on international projects all around the world. VITO's headquarters are located in Mol, Belgium, and the company has a subsidiary in China.

[HTTP://VUBTECHTRANSFER.BE](http://vubtechtransfer.be)



## VUB TechTRANSFER (VUB-TTI)

Technology transfer and valorisation of research results cover a wide range of interactions between the VUB and society. A multidisciplinary team of experts offers a one-stop shop to facilitate collaboration between the VUB, society and industry. *VUB TechTransfer* gives assistance in:

- Funding for applied research
  - Events and communication
  - Legal and IP issues
  - Industrial valorisation and contract management
  - Creation of spin-off companies.
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[WWW.WAGR ALIM.BE](http://www.wagr ALIM.be)



## WAGR ALIM

*Wagr ALIM* is the *Competitiveness Cluster* of the Walloon Agro-Industry. Created in 2006 as a non-profit association by a group of entrepreneurs and academics, *Wagr ALIM* was labeled by Wallonia when it was launched, as part of the *Marshall Plan*. *Wagr ALIM* is an innovation network focusing on the agro-food value chain. Over the years, the Cluster has welcome more and more companies wishing to support their growth through partnership. Today, nearly 150 members make up the network, to which are added many regional partners, whether Belgian or international.

The cluster relies on both its animation team and specific working groups bringing together professionals and experts in the agri-food sector. Since its creation, *Wagr ALIM* has enabled the implementation of numerous collaborative projects in Research and Training.

*Wagr ALIM* improves competition between companies in the food industry, and boosts business and employment by:

- Bringing manufacturers together
- Developing the spirit of innovation with products and technology whose qualities meet the needs of the customer and the market
- Improving the profitability of networks by encouraging people to work together and nurture sustainability
- Increasing production capacity and the size of businesses by enhancing their place in growing markets and extending their sales skills and capacities.



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