Knowledge-intensive health ecosystem

The Netherlands is a Life Sciences & Health powerhouse, a high life expectancy, an accessible healthcare system and low number of hospital admission days. Internationally, the Netherlands is a desired discussion partner that tackles problems in an interdisciplinary manner and thinks in terms of total solutions. Health Valley, located in East Netherlands, tops the list of appealing investment regions for many Life Sciences & Health innovators worldwide. Health Valley has an ideal mix of multinational companies, research institutes, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and startups.

Business climate

Health Valley is the largest network in the Netherlands that fosters and supports technological innovations in health care. Health Valley provides a unifying platform for universities, care institutions, companies and governmental authorities to exchange information and collaborate in setting up innovative projects.

The international Health Valley Event in March each year is the largest Health innovation congress in the Netherlands.

Companies

Many of the world’s leading life sciences and health companies have already chosen to settle here. Among them are well recognized multinationals such as AbbVie, AstraZeneca, GE Healthcare, Lupin Pharmaceuticals, Mercachem, MDxHealth, Mindray, Synthon, Vaxxinova and Zoll Medical.

70 Start-ups
Average new technology start-up companies every year

Business support

Oost NL is in a strong position to help secure new markets for you in Europe, with the following partners:

The Economic Board a driver of innovation in the Arnhem/Nijmegen/Wageningen region encouraging & connecting economic activity & innovations in Food, Health, Energy & cross-overs.

The World Trade Centers Twente and Arnhem support the development of international trade and business opportunities in the region.

Novel-T supported by 2 universities, helps startups, scale-ups, innovative entrepreneurs and developments in the Twente region.

The Health Innovation Park accelerates healthcare innovations and enriches the network of its members and partners.

Novio Tech Campus Open innovation between researchers and entrepreneurs in Health & High Tech.

TekDelta organizes quality meetups between high level startups & leading Dutch organizations.

MedValue offers you to make the potential added value of innovations concrete.

Rockstart supports startups in becoming scalable by providing access to capital, market, community, and expertise.

Open & innovative

Via joint research programs with the Universities of Wageningen (Food), Nijmegen (Health) and Twente (Tech) and top-class research institutes bring your innovation forward e.g. in medtech, rehabilitation, prevention, e-health and lab-on-a-chip.

Radboud University & Medical Centers:
• Institute for Health Sciences
• Institute for Molecular Life sciences
• Institute for Molecules & Materials
• Donders Center for Medical Neuroscience

University of Twente & Research Centers:
• MESA+ Institute for nanotechnology
• TechMed Centre leading innovation hub
• Digital Society Institute

Important test environments for many modern innovations regarding posture & movement.
• St. Maartenskliniek
• Roessingh Research & Development

East Netherlands: a vibrant Health ecosystem

Only in East Netherlands you can find such a strong, vibrant representation of qualified Health business partners, technologies, talent and government support.

This ecosystem is boosted by a funding injection from the EU of €110 billion Euros, to help companies such as yours to succeed with Life Sciences & Health Europe.

If your company is active in the Health value chain, East Netherlands is the place to be.

Vaxxinova

“The choice for Nijmegen and the East of Netherlands was obvious. Some of our collaboration partners are nearby. We have access to talent and expertise at the universities of Münster, Utrecht and Wageningen. The major airports are easily accessible by train and car. The quality of life in the East Netherlands is excellent, offering a safe living environment, excellent education and good housing at reasonable prices.

The East Netherlands Development Agency (Oost NL), together with the Netherlands Foreign Investment Agency (NFIA) supported our establishment and expansions through introductions to their network”. 

Most innovative country in the world
GI 2017-2019

East Netherlands Development Agency
Oost NL has partnered with over 900 companies for success in Europe

Top talent

The region has leading entrepreneurial academic research centers: Wageningen University & Research (Food Research), Radboud University & Medical Center, Nijmegen (Life Sciences & Health) & University of Twente Enschede (Medtech & Technical Medicine). The Universities and Applied Sciences Institutes in the Netherlands strongly support relevant scientific studies that are closely linked to this growing market.

Number of students, East Netherlands

43,000 research university students
85,000 university of applied sciences students
104,000 students in vocational education

source: CBS, 2018/2019

Due to its position in Europe, the East Netherlands attracts many international students and researchers. Hosting three international schools, the region offers a quality setting for international talent workers and their families.

Funding

Innovation in Life Sciences & Health is one of the funding priorities within the European Union (EU). These funds are also an important vehicle to connect our Life Sciences & Health ecosystem to other important hot spots in Europe. The EU has made significant investments in Life Sciences & Health in recent years.

80 billion budget for cooperation in R&D through EU Horizon 2020 program

As a partner of the Dutch and EU governments, Oost NL is a qualified intermediary in helping you to access EU, national and regional funding.

255 million regional participation fund
100 million innovation grants & incentives

Market access

The Netherlands is a gateway to European markets, with an open market approach, business-friendly fiscal climate, and a multilingual workforce.

95% of Europe’s most lucrative consumer markets are just around the corner

244 million consumers within 2-3 days by road
170 million consumers within 1-2 days by road

6 international airports in 1.5 hour drive

Oost NL - Your support for success in business

Oost NL is the economic development agency for East Netherlands.

Invest in Holland
Oost NL works closely together with partners in the Invest in Holland network. Our main partner is the Netherlands Foreign Investment Agency. We have access to resources - funding, network of business and research partners- to help you succeed in establishing and growing your European business.

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43,000 85,000 104,000
research university students university of applied sciences students students in vocational education

source: CBS, 2018/2019

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