

LIFE SCIENCES & HEALTH

Graciously effective

FLANDERS INJECTS INNOVATION INTO LIFE SCIENCES AND HEALTH

Treatment methods that change people's lives, innovative pharmaceutical products... Flanders' track record in life sciences and health is a telling indicator of the region's reputation as an international testing ground that truly pushes boundaries, thanks to fertile cross-pollination between biotech, nanotech and healthcare. This one-of-a-kind ecosystem is underpinned by a robust funding and financing landscape as well as a supportive government. Will your company claim its place in this dynamic life sciences hub?

Describing Flanders' life sciences sector as diverse is an understatement. From young start-ups to established local players and even multinationals: the entire value chain – from research to validation and commercialization – is represented in the northern, autonomous region of Belgium. What's more, Flanders' highly ranking universities, university colleges and business schools educate top-level researchers, engineers and entrepreneurial talent that will happily contribute to the ambitions of your business.

In good and efficient company

In Flanders, knowledge institutions, research centers (such as imec, VIB and VITO) and industry players unite in co-creation projects to bring novel life sciences and health products and solutions to the market in a fast, effective and integrated way. The various disciplines within the region's life sciences and health industry are characterized by their unique interwovenness, forming an ideal biotope for groundbreaking innovations.

For example, the next generation of medtech applications will not just arise from the intersection of healthcare, nanotechnology and biotechnology; it will also include cybersecurity technology. This is another field in which digital companies from Flanders are at the top of their game, offering vast experience and expertise in data security.

Vigorous innovation support

Flanders' life science ecosystem is also stimulated by a well-developed funding landscape. While a variety of capital providers make the region an attractive location for start-ups and scale-ups, numerous incubator and accelerator programs also give new entrepreneurs every opportunity to prepare their concepts for commercialization. It should therefore come as no surprise that Flanders-based start-ups, according to Eurostat, have the highest chances of survival in Europe.

What's more, the government offers a variety of financial instruments. These include tax incentives for companies

and research institutions that want to attract international researchers, subsidy schemes, clinical trials and more. Besides these financial incentives, the government's ambitious (cluster) policy also contributes to the attractiveness of Flanders for life sciences players.

DID YOU KNOW...

Flanders is the European number 2 for clinical trials per capita and has one of the world's fastest clinical trial application procedures. (Source: pharma.be)



Flanders
State of
the Art