



IMEC.ICON INFORMATION SESSION

| imec.icon CALL 2022-2

AGENDA

- Introduction to imec
- imec.icon program, project modalities and IPR model
- Example projects
- Application procedure
- VLAIO and Innoviris funding
- Next steps

- Extra: tips and tricks

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A pair of hands is shown from the bottom, gently cradling a glowing, translucent globe of the Earth. The globe is illuminated from within, showing continents and oceans in a warm, golden-brown hue. The background is a dark, deep blue or black, speckled with small, bright white and yellow stars, suggesting a cosmic or futuristic setting. The overall mood is one of care, responsibility, and forward-looking vision.

As a **world-leading R&D** hub, we aspire the impossible and aim for **disruptive innovation**. We maximize societal impact by creating **smart sustainable solutions** that enhance **quality of life**.

At imec, we shape the future.

KORTRIJK
SMART EDUCATION

ANTWERP
CITY OF THINGS

 Universiteit
Antwerpen


UNIVERSITEIT
GENT

 VRIJE
UNIVERSITEIT
BRUSSEL

LEUVEN
HEADQUARTERS

GENK
ENERGYVILLE

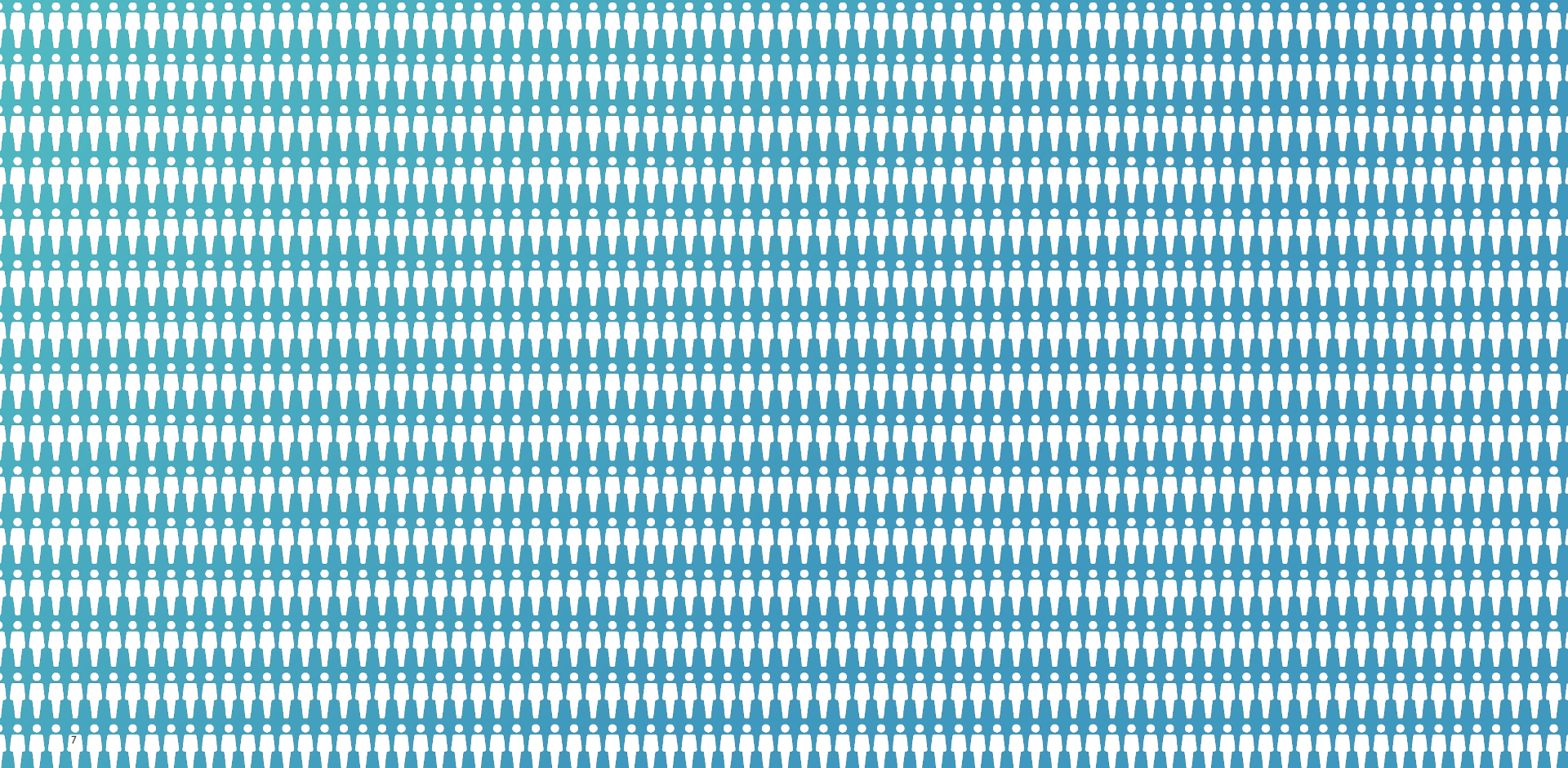
 **UHASSELT**

 **KU LEUVEN**

GHENT
SMART APPLICATIONS

BRUSSELS
EU HUB

MORE THAN 5,000 BRILLIANT MINDS



INNOVATION PLATFORM

APPLICATION DOMAINS

SMART HEALTH



SMART MOBILITY



SMART CITIES



SMART INDUSTRIES



SMART ENERGY



SMART EDUCATION



SMART INFOTAINMENT

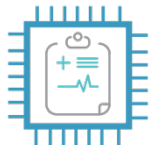


SMART AGROFOOD

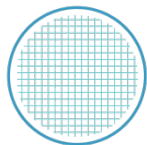


SEMICONDUCTOR & SYSTEM TECHNOLOGIES

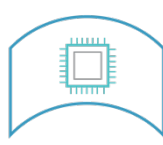
CORE CMOS



SENSOR TECHNOLOGY



FLEXIBLE TECHNOLOGY



PATTERNING TECHNOLOGY

LOGIC TECHNOLOGY

MEMORY TECHNOLOGY

INTERCONNECT TECHNOLOGY

3D INTEGRATION OPTICAL I/O

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS

NETWORKING



DIGITAL PRIVACY & SECURITY



SOFTWARE & DATA MANAGEMENT SKILLS



IMEC BUSINESS MODELS TO CREATE IMPACT


R&D
COLLABORATION



DEVELOPMENT



VENTURING
STARTUPS & FUNDS



IMEC BUSINESS MODELS TO CREATE IMPACT

R&D
COLLABORATION



DEVELOPMENT

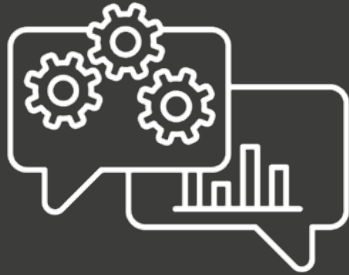


VENTURING
STARTUPS & FUNDS



IMEC BUSINESS MODELS TO CREATE IMPACT

R&D
COLLABORATION



DEVELOPMENT

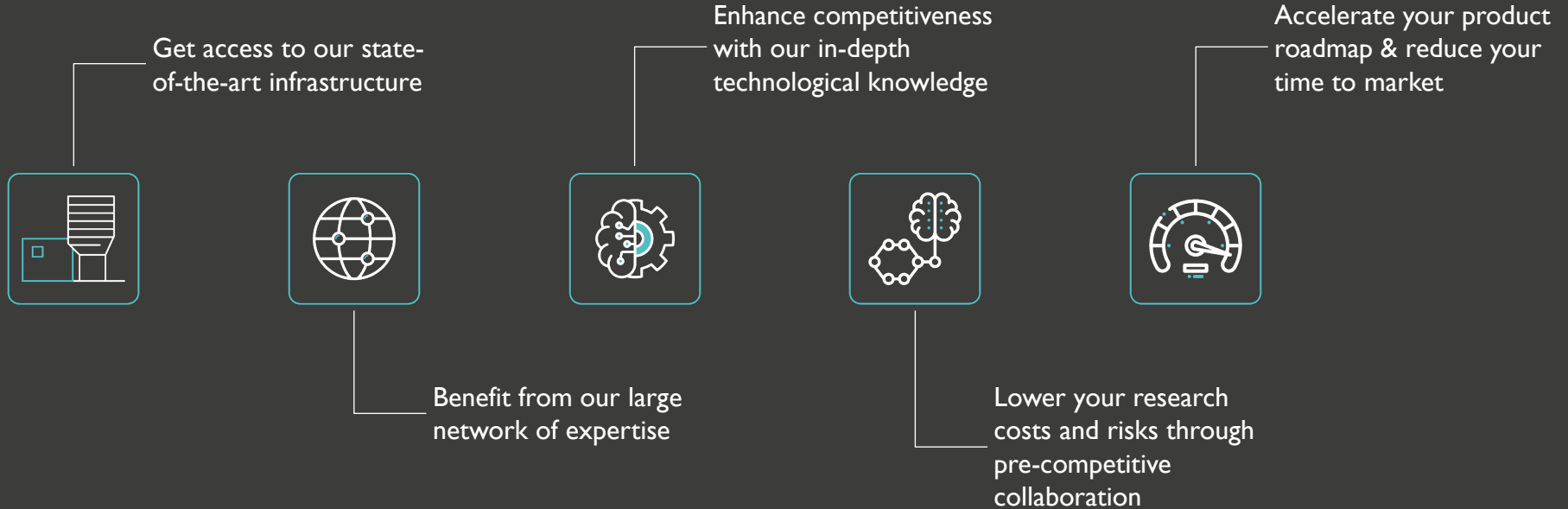


VENTURING
STARTUPS & FUNDS



low-barrier access
applied research
between imec and industry

IMEC R&D COLLABORATION MODELS ANSWERING YOUR NEEDS

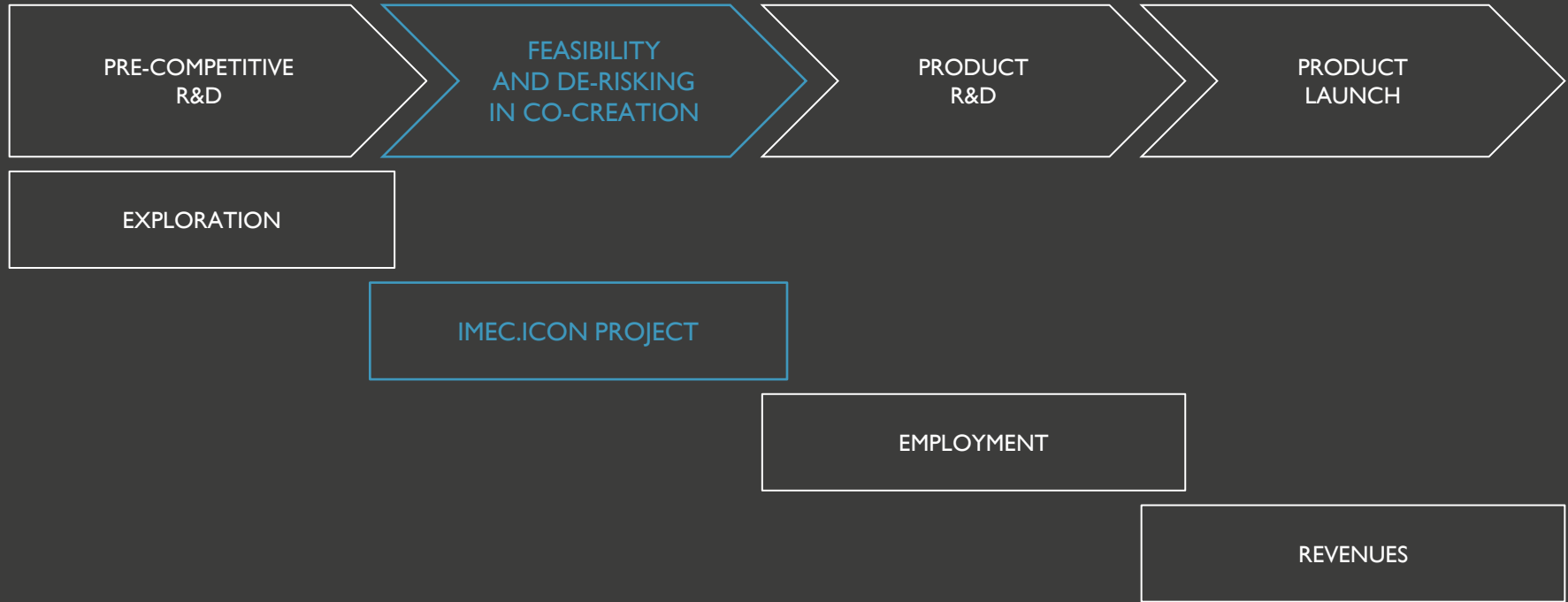


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THE POSITION OF IMEC.ICON IN THE R&D LIFE CYCLE



POSITIONING AGAINST TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVELS (TRL)

TRL 1 – basic principles observed

TRL 2 – technology concept formulated



TRL 3 – experimental proof of concept

TRL 4 – technology validated in lab

TRL 5 – technology validated in relevant environment

TRL 6 – technology demonstrated in relevant environment

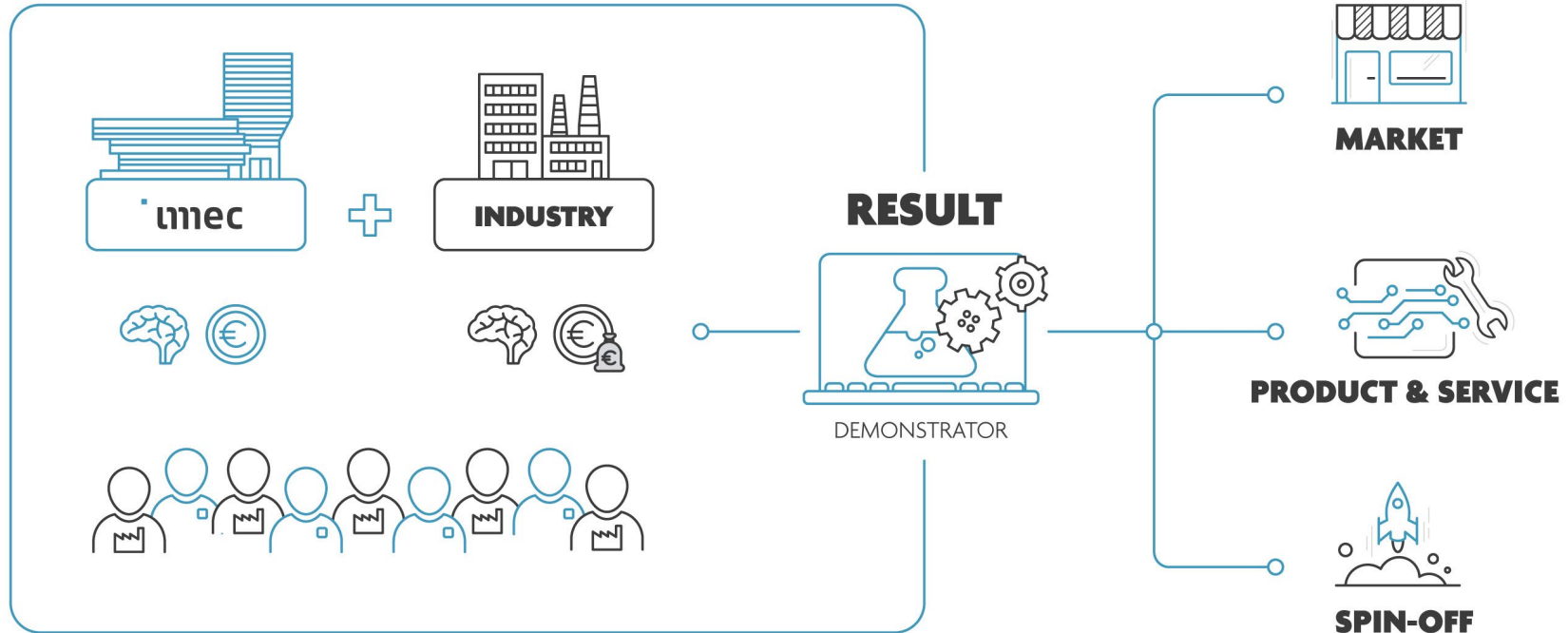
TRL 7 – system prototype demonstration in operational environment

TRL 8 – system complete and qualified

TRL 9 – actual system proven in operational environment

INTERDISCIPLINARY COOPERATIVE RESEARCH

VALORIZATION



IMEC.ICON CHARACTERISTICS



ICT and nanoelectronics-related
digital products, services and
business models



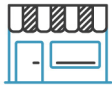
Balanced consortium
balanced contribution of industry
and research partners



Demand-driven
relating to a real need in
industry or society



Interdisciplinary approach tackling
technological, legal and social challenges,
new business models, etc.



Cooperative research with a
focus on valorization for all
industry partners involved



2 to 3 year duration

IMEC.ICON KEY FIGURES 2012 – 2022



17

CALLS ORGANIZED



341

PROJECT PROPOSALS



136

PROJECTS APPROVED



€108M

RESEARCH FUNDING



398

PARTNERS INVOLVED



67%

FIRST TIME PARTNERS PER CALL



6X

LEVERAGE ON PUBLIC FUNDING WITHIN COMPANIES



61%

INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTION



€2.1M

AVERAGE PROJECT SIZE

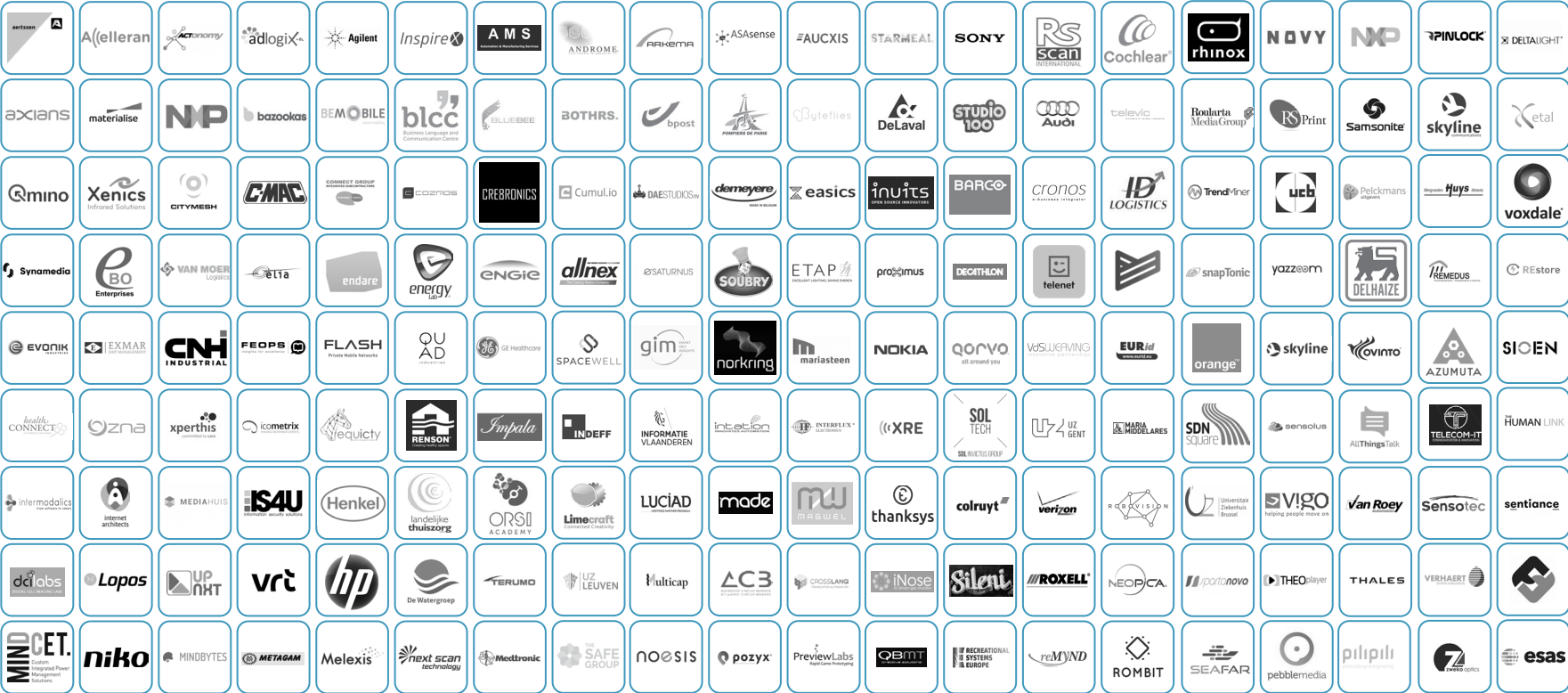


50%

SME PARTICIPATION



398 IMEC.ICON PARTNERS AND COUNTING



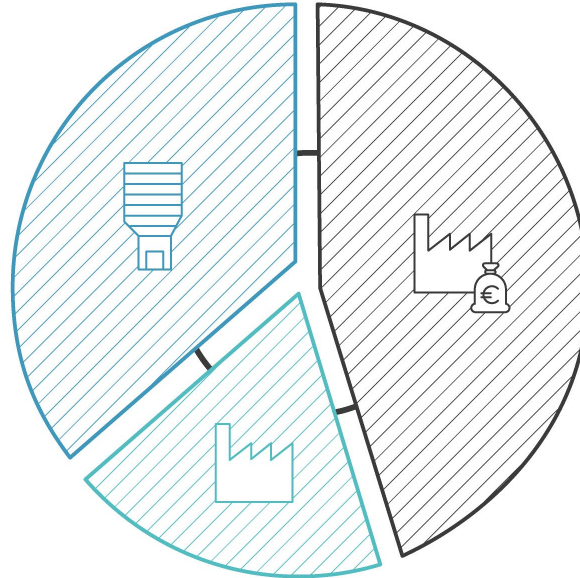
IMEC.ICON CONSORTIUM

RESEARCH GROUPS



Min. 2 groups

- imec (min. 1)
- Flemish universities
- Other



INDUSTRY PARTNERS



Min. 3 independent companies,
of which **2 Flemish** companies

(+ Brussels region, Belgium, international)

IMEC.ICON CONSORTIUM

RESEARCH GROUPS

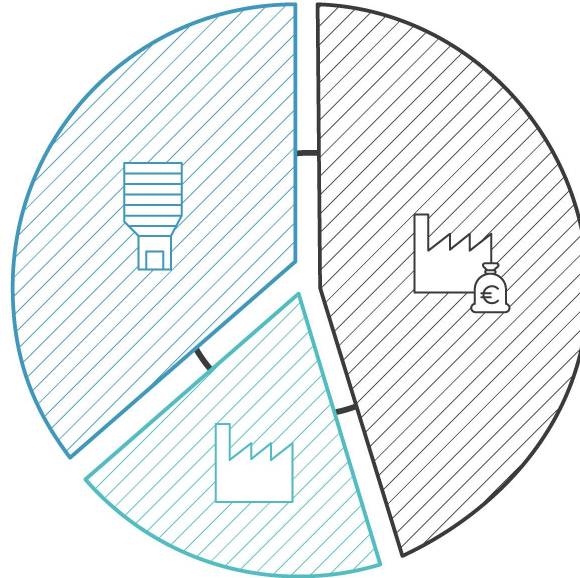


Min. 2 groups

- imec (min. 1)
- Flemish universities
- Other

FUNDED RESEARCH GROUPS

- **imec dotation:** imec & Flemish research organisations
- **Own budget:** other research groups



INDUSTRY PARTNERS



Min. 3 independent companies,
of which **2 Flemish** companies

(+ Brussels region, Belgium, international)

FUNDED INDUSTRY PARTNERS

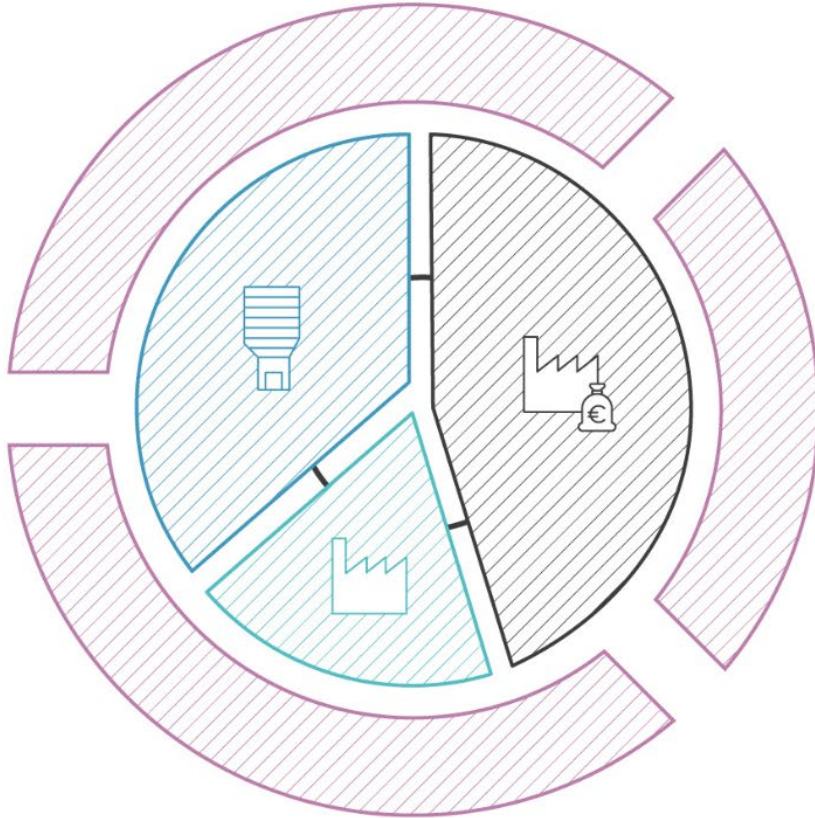
- VLAIO (Flanders)
- Innoviris (Brussels region)

INDUSTRY PARTNERS WITH OWN FUNDING

- Allowed
- Don't count for the 50/50

IMEC.ICON CONSORTIUM

OPTIONAL: USER GROUP



USER/STAKEHOLDER GROUP

- **NOT A FORMAL PARTNER**
- **IS LINKED TO THE PROJECT TO:**
 - provide specific input
 - gather requirements
 - act as a sparring partner
 - validate project results
 - provide certain data
 - ...

FLANDERS MAKE

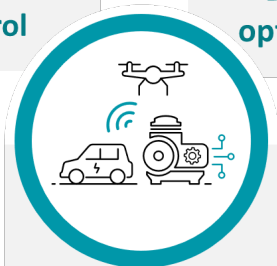
PARTNERS WITH IMEC IN IMEC.ICON PROJECTS



Decision
& control



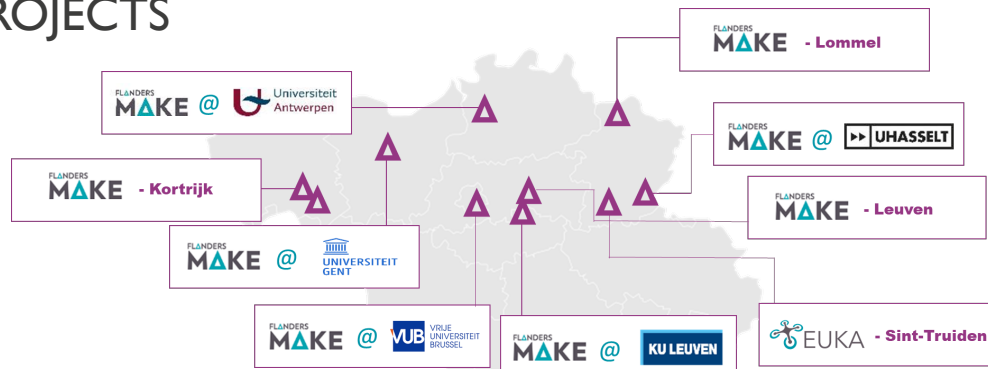
Design &
optimisation



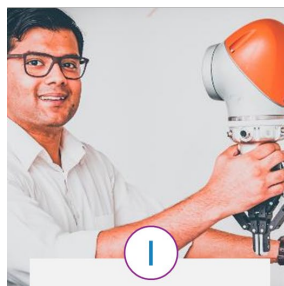
Motion
products



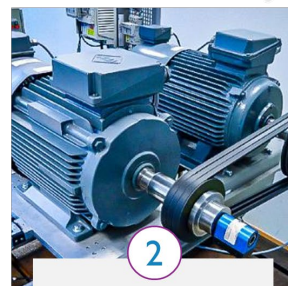
Flexible
assembly



650+ highly specialised researchers



1
Production



2
Machines



3
Vehicles

SMART EDUCATION IN IMEC.ICON

SMART EDUCATION EXTENSION PROJECTS

- Objectives
 - Enable **evidence-based validation** of effects of EdTech in schools
 - Increase **adoption rate** for EdTech by Flemish schools
- Schools can receive funding from imec budget
 - Funding of staff costs and operational costs
 - Activities: **experimenting** with cutting-edge EdTech, **validating** the added value of the technologies developed in the project and broad **dissemination** of the insights

RESULTS AT THE END OF THE IMEC.ICON PROJECT



- **Proof-of-Concepts / demonstrators**
 - Minimum experimental setup needed to validate innovation goals
 - Ranging from pure technical tests to real-life validation
 - Not a pilot ready for commercialization



Incorporate the value of the project for your company from the start
⇒ involve customers, end-users and stakeholders

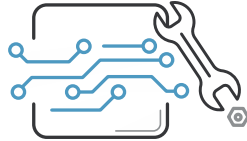
RESEARCH AMBITION IN IMEC.ICON FOR RESEARCH GROUPS

- Research goes **beyond the state of the art**
- Research is sufficiently **generic**
 - Inspired by the companies' use cases and working together with the companies on their use cases, **not directed by the companies**
 - There is a **broader application potential** beyond the use cases of the involved companies
 - **Broad dissemination** of the research results
 - Types: publications, presentations, demonstrations, PhDs, follow-up projects, IP licences, etc.
 - New in full proposal: **academic valorization plan**

VALORIZATION



Entering new markets or targeting new customer segments

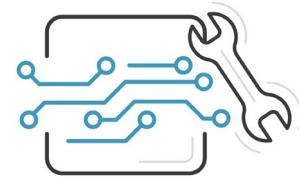


Launching new product line or improving current products or services



Launching new spin-off company, joint-venture or external startup

IMPACT OF AN IMEC.ICON PROJECT



- Added value of the project **for your company**
 - Economic: companies absorb the project results in their innovation path
 - They foresee – and document – a positive impact on their business
 - New or improved products, processes, services
 - Business growth, extra revenues, larger margin, larger market share, expansion, new ventures...
- Added value of the project **for the funding region** (Flanders/Brussels)
 - Economic: extra qualitative employment and extra investments in the region
 - Social: added value to the target group in the region
 - Quantification: added value through employment and investments > 10x funding
- Types of valorization: collective, partially collective or individual
 - **Every** industry partner has to present an ambitious valorization plan
 - The **economic** impact needs to be quantified and needs to be sufficiently large

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR)

- IPR model in imec.icon is **fixed**
- Starting IPR discussions upfront is strongly advised

IMEC.ICON IPR MODEL CONCEPTS



Background

All pre-existing knowledge a partner contributes to the project

- Necessary to perform the project
- Needs to be identified, substantiated and **listed in the project description and consortium agreement**

Foreground

All results obtained during the execution of the project

- Foreground is to be **reported to the steering committee** (i.e., project deliverables)
- Types of IPR protection: patent, copy right, trademark, trade secret

OWNERSHIP AND ACCESS RIGHTS

Ownership

Each partner is and remains **sole owner** of own Background and Foreground

Exception: **co-ownership** when Foreground is created by two or more parties and when it is **impossible** to divide and unambiguously attribute parts of the results to each partner

Access Rights

During project execution

License to Background and Foreground **free of charge**

For valorization after project

License to Background and Foreground **deemed granted** if needed to valorize own project results

Remark: exclusive access to Foreground is **not possible** in imec.icon

ACCESS RIGHTS FOR VALORIZATION BASED ON WORK PACKAGE (WP) STRUCTURE

	Same Work Package	Different Work Package
Foreground	Royalty-free (extra conditions: see below)	Favorable
Background	Market conditions	Market conditions

Conditions

Access is required for exploitation of industry partner's **own Foreground**

Balanced collaboration between industry partners and research groups

For royalty-free access

Intensive collaboration in WP between industry partner and research group on Foreground topic

IMEC.ICON IMPACT ON FLEMISH COMPANIES

PORTFOLIO IMPACT STUDIES 2015 AND 2017 – NON-ECONOMIC EFFECTS

Reported effects at project's closing

Effective **collaboration**
Enhanced **knowledge** and competence
Tapping into **new knowledge** domains
Development of **demonstrator**
Increased **scale** of research activities



Reported effects at moment of survey

Adaptation and fine-tuning of **product roadmap**
Expansion to **new markets**
Growth in existing markets
Increased **turnover**
Accelerated product or process development



Expected effects for next two years

New product development
Launch of new products
Increased **employment**
Stronger **reputation** and **branding**

Q&A

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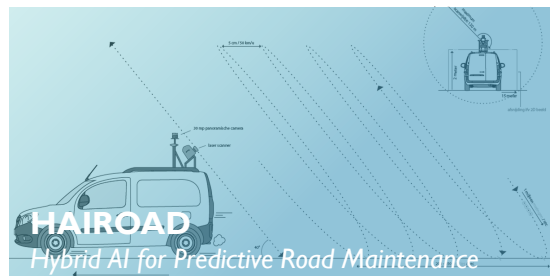
PROJECTS IMEC.ICON CALL 2021-2



BIPV4ALL
digitalization and automation to truly make BIPV affordable for all



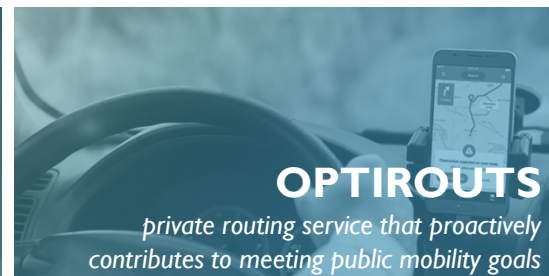
BOCEMON
BUILDING OCCUPANT CENTRIC MONITORING & CONTROL
BOCEMON
Building Occupant Centric Monitoring and Control



HAIROAD
Hybrid AI for Predictive Road Maintenance

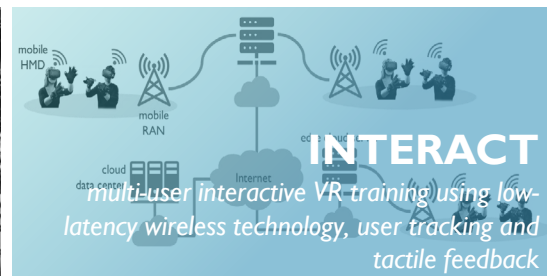
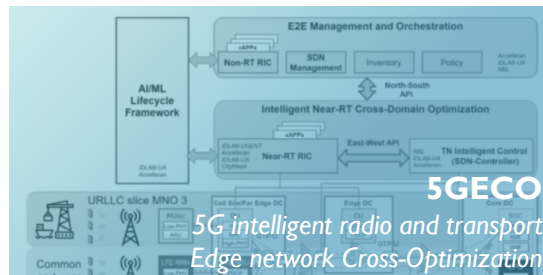
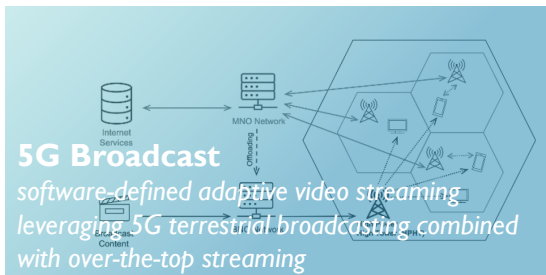


MULTIPLICITY
Multiple Lasers and Integrated Cameras for Increasing Trustworthy Yields in Additive Manufacturing



OPTIROUTS
private routing service that proactively contributes to meeting public mobility goals

PROJECTS IMEC.ICON CALL 2021-I



SMART INDUSTRIES PROJECTS



CHAI
CHAI
more efficient product development, monitoring,
analysis and production processes in chemistry

ELITE
efficiency-optimized production lines
using industrial IoT enhancements

INWARDRONES
Indoor Inventory Drone Solution

WIPER
Wireless, Pervasive & Reliable Monitoring of
Industrial Internet of Things Systems

iXCon
industrial X-ray CT for high
throughput quality control

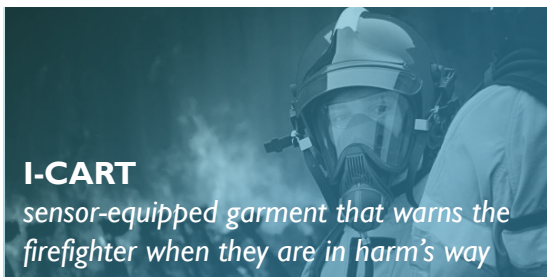


InWareDrones

Indoor Inventory DRONE Solution

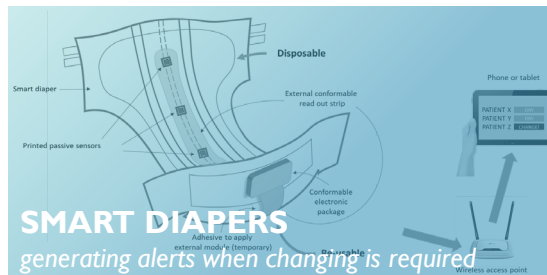
[Click on the image for the video](#)

SMART HEALTH PROJECTS



I-CART

sensor-equipped garment that warns the firefighter when they are in harm's way



A photograph of a caregiver in a red uniform smiling at an elderly woman in a polka-dot shirt in a care home hallway. The caregiver has a green circular logo on her chest. The background shows a hallway with wooden walls and a blue bin.

DISCRETE

Incontinence management through ambient monitoring and actionable data

[Click on the image for the video](#)

SMART INFOTAINMENT PROJECTS



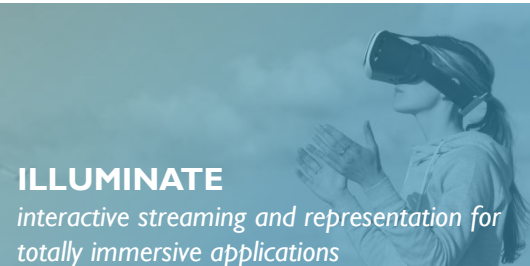
NEWSBUTLER
an intelligent, personalized news engine for consumer engagement in publishing



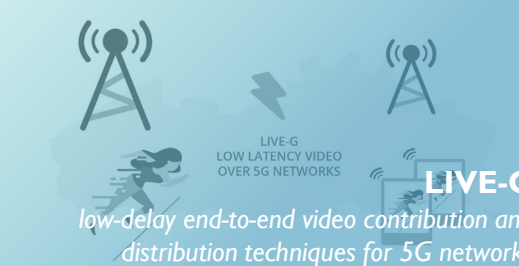
RHETORIC
reducing Hate with Editorial Tools for Online Reactions and Comments



DAIQUIRI
Data & Artificial Intelligence for Quantified Reporting In sports



ILLUMINATE
interactive streaming and representation for totally immersive applications



LIVE-G
low-delay end-to-end video contribution and distribution techniques for 5G networks



53 cm



They are running out of energy after **DAIQUIRI**

Data & Artificial Intelligence for QUantified Reporting In sport.



His speed is too low to reach the striking circle

previous successful attack

They learned from

Their defense almost impenetrable

[Click on the image for the video](#)

SMART EDUCATION PROJECTS



LEAPS

paving the way for adaptive learning with a multi-purpose, self-learning analytics system



COSMO

COgnitive Support in Manufacturing Operations



LECTURE+

effective learning in remote classrooms through technology-enhanced user engagement



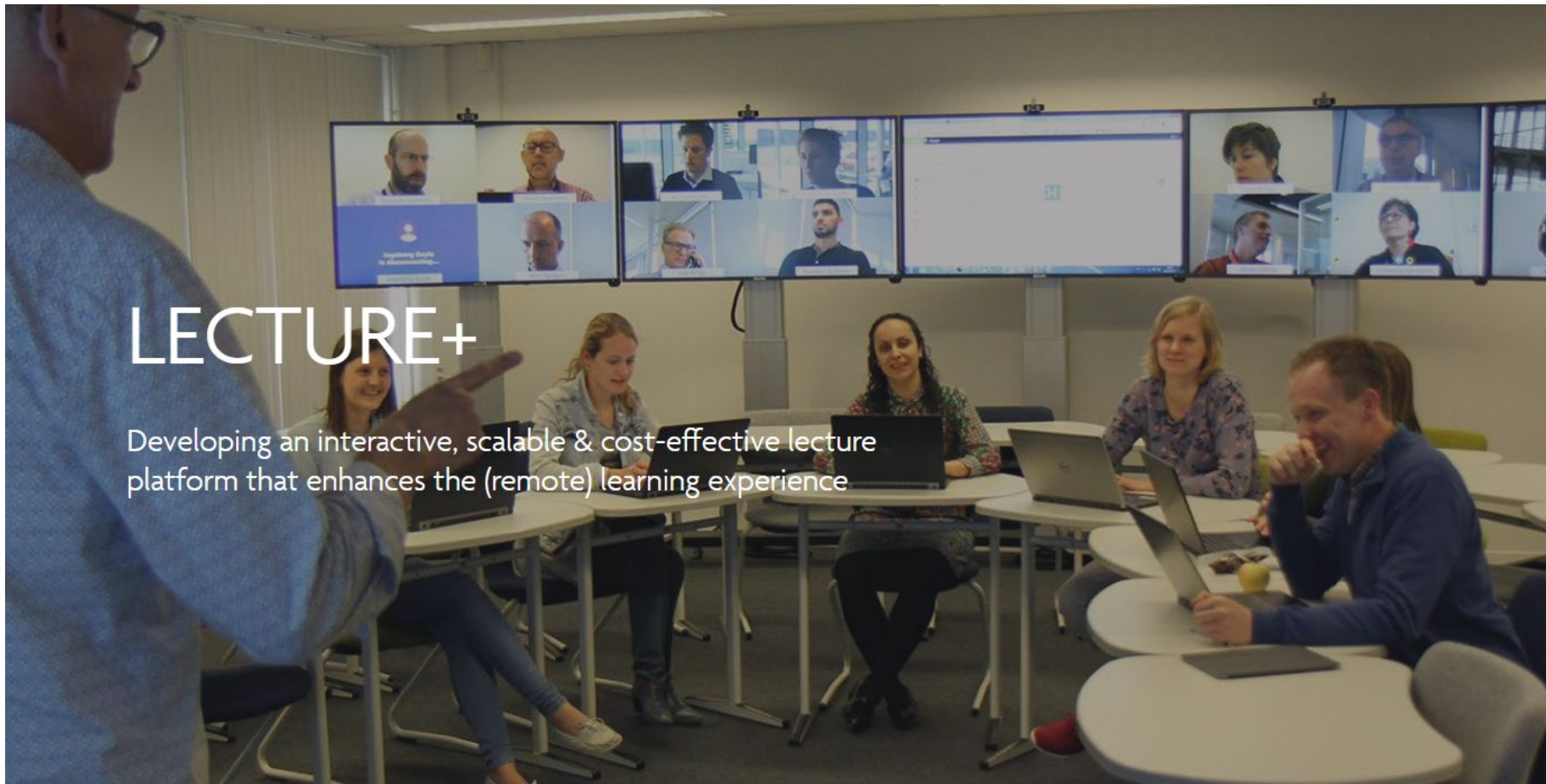
AIDA

new explainable AI methods to create material for online learning and e-assessment



STEAMS

Supporting TEAmwork in AMbient learning Spaces

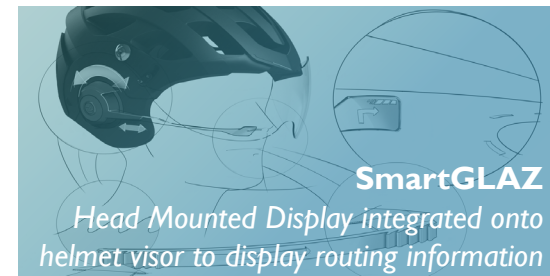
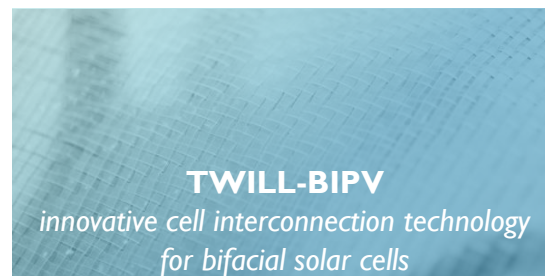
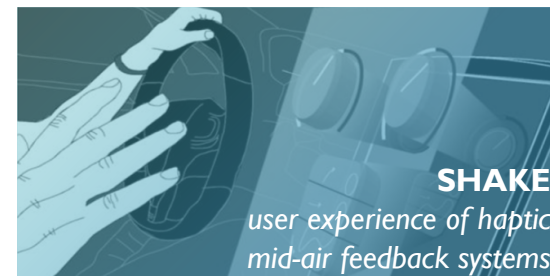
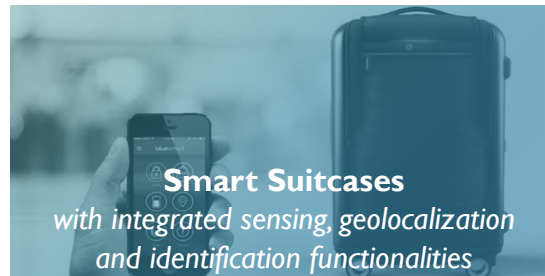
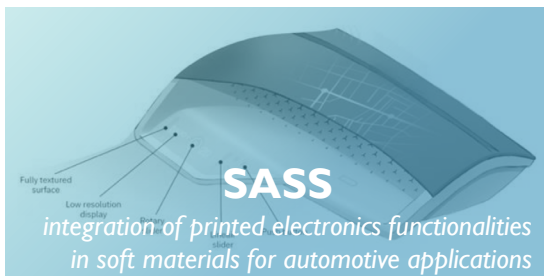


LECTURE+

Developing an interactive, scalable & cost-effective lecture platform that enhances the (remote) learning experience

[Click on the image for the video](#)

HARDWARE-FOCUSED IMEC.ICON PROJECTS





TWILL-BIPV

IT WILL Be Integrated Photovoltaic

Click on the image for the video

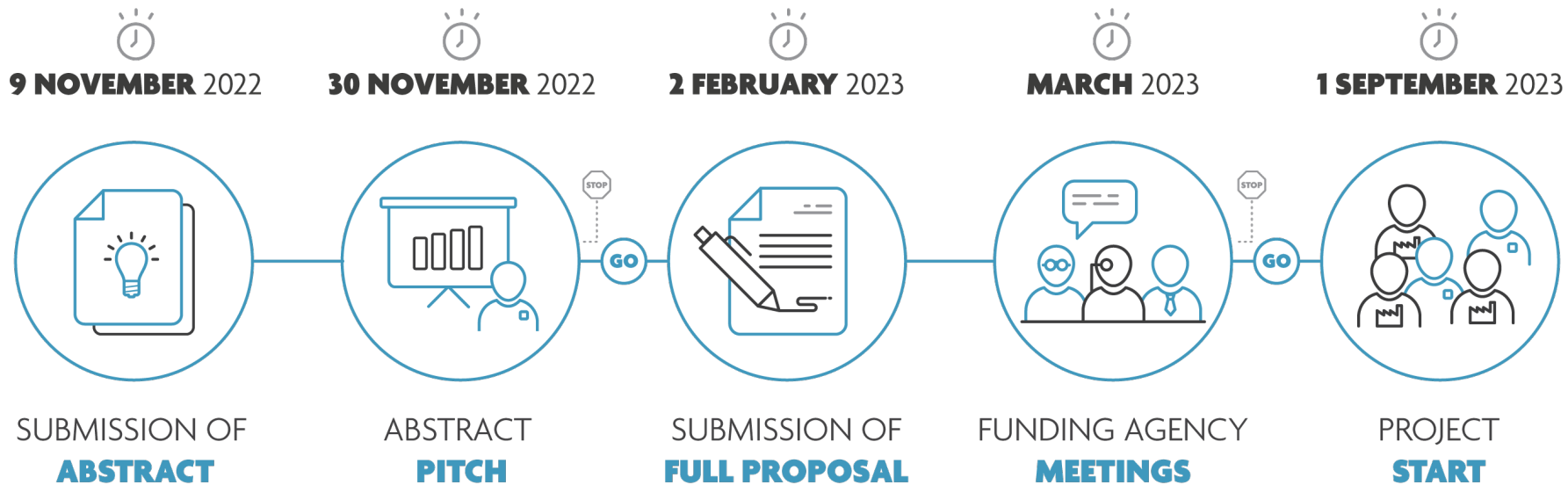
Q&A

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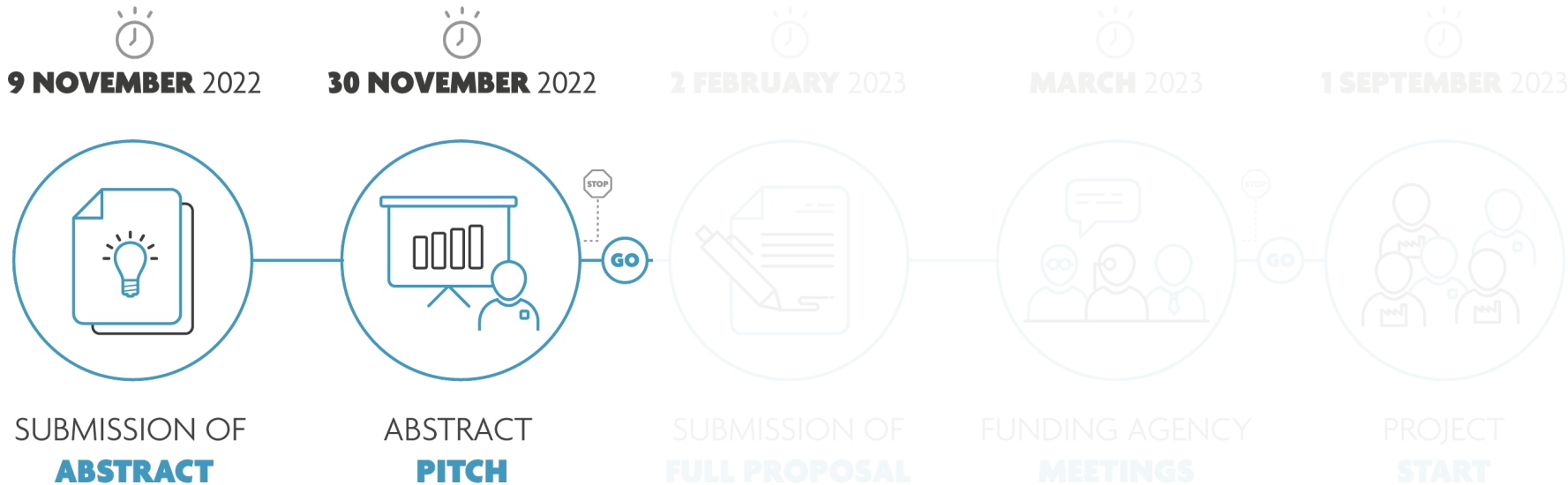
- Extra: tips and tricks

IMEC.ICON EVALUATION PROCESS



IMEC.ICON EVALUATION PROCESS CALL 2022-2

ABSTRACT PHASE



ABSTRACT PHASE: EXTENDED ABSTRACT



Content Abstract:

- Cause and context of the project
- Innovation goals and outcome
- State of the art and leap of knowledge
- Valorization and social/economic impact
- Information on the partners (new: **input for Pre-application step**)

New in this call: **structure of abstract aligned with structure of full proposal**



Template available on imec website on 19 September

ABSTRACT PHASE: EVALUATION PROCEDURE



9 November

- Submit your abstract

16 November

- Receive feedback and questions from experts

24 November

- Written rebuttal on the feedback and questions from experts

30 November

- Pitches in front of panel

ABSTRACT PHASE: PITCH IN FRONT OF PANEL



■ Pitch

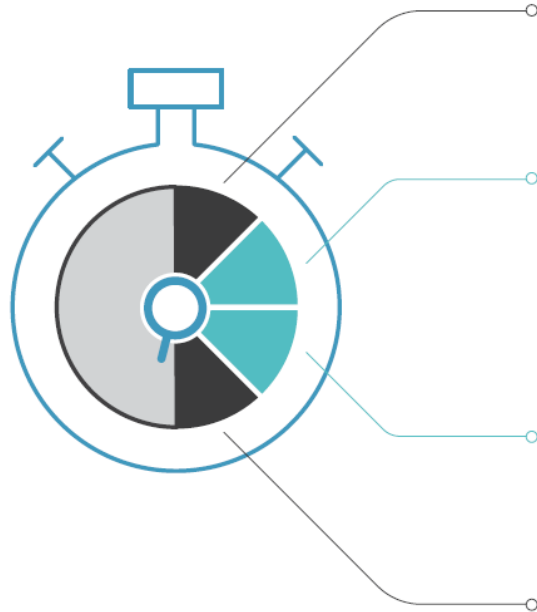
- Short presentation (10 minutes)
 - General project presentation (suggestion: 5-6 minutes)
 - Presentation of valorization plans of the industry partners (suggestion: 4-5 minutes, preferably presented by representatives of the industry partners)
- Followed by a short Q&A
- Consortium presence
 - Max. 5 consortium members, incl. research lead and project lead

■ Panel

- External domain experts
- Representatives of imec

PITCH FLOW

40 MINUTES
PER CONSORTIUM



PANEL ONLY

8 MINUTES

Expressing the most important remarks & questions



CONSORTIUM

10 MINUTES

Pitch presentation



CONSORTIUM & PANEL

8+2 MINUTES

Q&A



PANEL ONLY

12 MINUTES

Discussion + scoring



Abstract Jury: focus on general quality, valorization & fit

- One jury for all abstracts
- Jury appointed by imec*

* in cases of a conflict of interest, jury members do not participate in the evaluation of the abstract

IMEC.ICON ABSTRACT EVALUATION CRITERIA (1/2)

CLEARLY DEFINED AND AMBITIOUS RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- The research goals as well as the problems that the project wants to tackle are well-defined, focused and clear.
- There is a substantial progress (improvement) in comparison with former or ongoing research.

APPROPRIATE CONSORTIUM WITH RELEVANT APPROACH

- The consortium organization and structure are in line with the project challenges.
- All the necessary areas of expertise are represented within the consortium.
- The contribution and added value of each partner in the project is clear.
- The consortium is cooperative, the partners work together instead of side by side.
- There is a suitable partner for each important step in the value chain.
- Risks related to privacy or ethical issues during project execution or valorization are identified and a plan for mitigation is outlined.

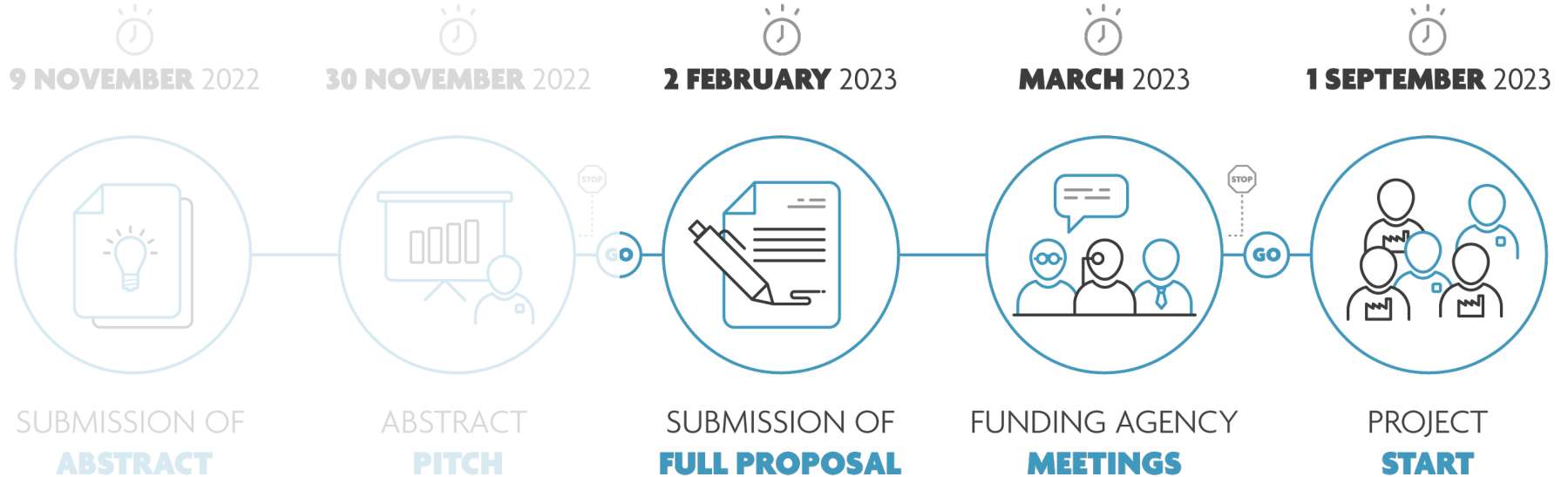
IMEC.ICON ABSTRACT EVALUATION CRITERIA (2/2)

SOCIAL / ECONOMIC VALORIZATION AND ADDED VALUE OF THE PROJECT

- The project is driven by demand from the market.
- The description of the valorization potential is clear. The project is aimed at the economic and / or social valorization of the knowledge creation.
- The project offers clear perspectives on (multiple) applications for (several) companies and / or sectors.
- It is clear which partner(s) take responsibility for the go-to-market.
- The added value of the project to the companies (e.g., in terms of extra revenues) and to the funding region (in terms of extra employment, investments and possible societal benefits) is substantiated.

IMEC.ICON EVALUATION PROCESS CALL 2022-2

FULL PROPOSAL PHASE



There will be a specific info session on the full proposal procedure

INFO SESSION ON FULL PROPOSAL

ONLINE SESSION

6 December

- 11am – 13.00pm: General info session
 - Detailed session with tips & tricks

6 – 9 December

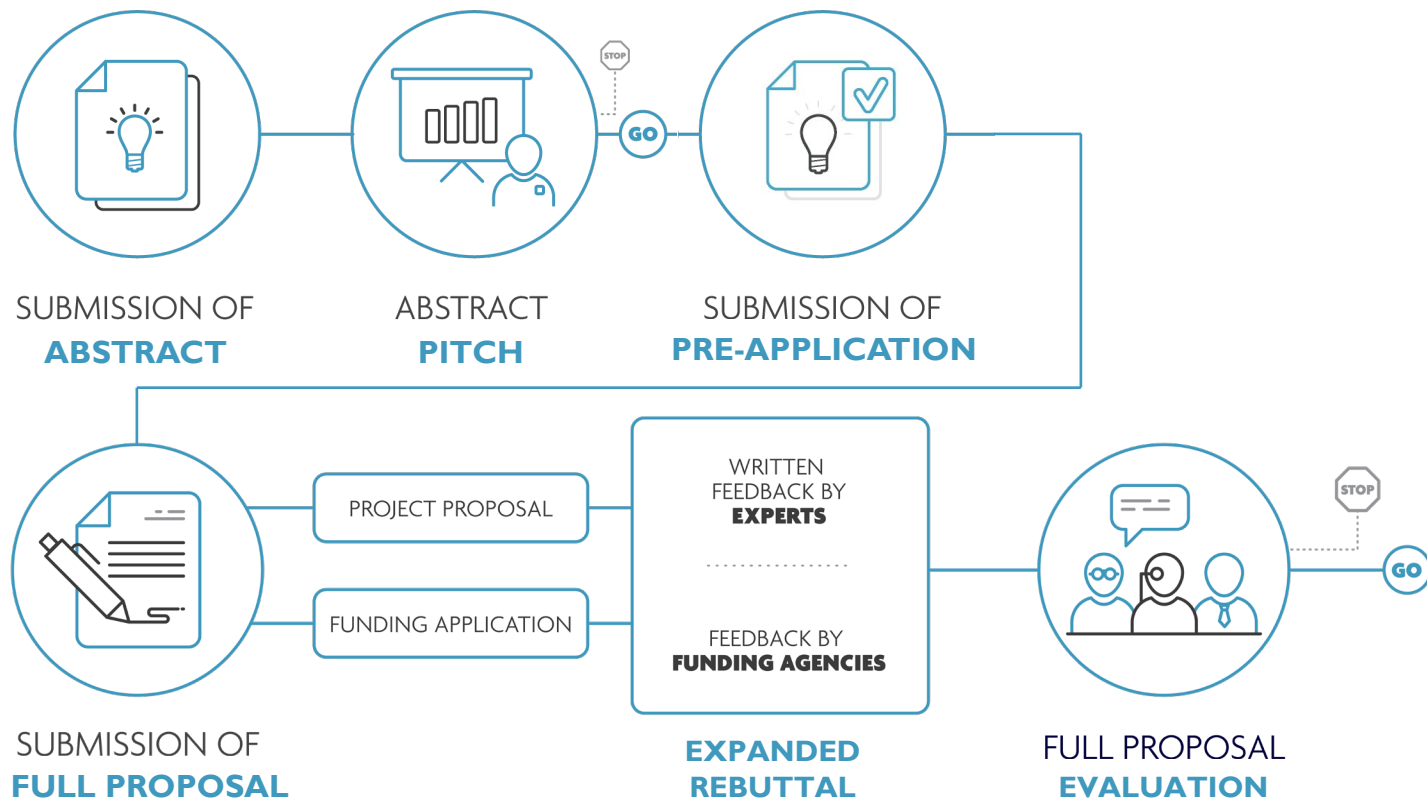
- To be planned: 1 session per consortium
 - Discuss feedback from abstract jury
 - Kick-off of support by VLAIO Team Bedrijfstrajecten (Innovatiecentrum)
 - Strongly advised for first-time applicants



High-level content Full Proposal:

- Information on the whole imec.icon project
 - Cause and context, Innovation goals, Implementation
- Partner-specific information
 - Valorization information
 - Requested funding (if applicable)

FULL PROPOSAL PHASE: EVALUATION PROCEDURE



HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

ABSTRACT AND FULL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION: VIA MYPROJECTS

MyProjects:

- Submitting your application
- Follow-up
- Reporting

The screenshot shows the MyProjects dashboard for a project named 'ZZ_TESTPROJEC...'. The interface includes a top navigation bar with 'imec', 'MY PROJECTS', 'HELP', and 'CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT'. A left sidebar contains navigation options: 'DASHBOARD', 'SUMMARY', 'PROJECT DOCUMENTS', 'PARTNERS', 'MEMBERS', 'EXPERTS TO AVOID', and 'CHANGE LOG'. The main content area features a 'Validate Submission' button and a 'DASHBOARD' heading. Below this, a 'CORE MEMBERS' section lists three roles: 'PROJECT LEAD' (ZZ_Charlotte Waeghebaert), 'RESEARCH LEAD' (ZZ_Roger Willems Ozig), and 'PROPOSAL MANAGER' (ZZ_Laura De Sutter).



[Tutorials](#) on how to submit

SUBMITTING YOUR PROPOSAL VIA MYPROJECTS

The Proposal manager is responsible for creating and submitting the proposal

- Already a user in MyProjects?

⇒ Use the button in MyProjects

Start a new application

- Not a user in MyProjects?

⇒ Register via website



Start your new abstract as from 19 September

no test project necessary

NEED ACCESS TO MYPROJECTS

- If you are **not a Proposal manager**, but you need access to the platform, contact your proposal manager
- How to give access as Proposal manager:
 - Add the member
 - Give him a specific role or the role 'generate user'
 - The member will receive a mail with login information

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION: VIA MYPROJECTS

TO DO'S

	Add directly	Upload	
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project metadata• Partners + MM• Members + roles• Experts to avoid	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abstract doc (doc/PDF)• Resubmission letter• Motivation letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pitch slides (ppt)
	Deadline: 9 November		1 day before pitches

!! Check VAT number of partners !!

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION: EXTRA DOCUMENTS

EXTRA DOCUMENTS

If necessary:

- Resubmission letter
 - If your project has been submitted before in ICON AND if you have approval from imec to resubmit
- Motivation letter for new research groups
 - If it's the first time the research group participated in ICON

ZZ_TESTPROJEC...

Phase: Abstract

DASHBOARD

SUMMARY

PROJECT DOCUMENTS

PARTNERS

MEMBERS

EXPERTS TO AVOID

CHANGELOG

PROJECT DOCUMENTS

The maximum size per document is 25MB. If you have a document that is larger or another file type, please contact icon@imec.be and transfer by a manner of your own choosing.

TEMPLATES

ICON ABSTRACT

What? Document containing the offline sections of the ICON Abstract.

Templates **Template (ENG)**

[Link to template](#)

ICON ABSTRACT MOTIVATION LETTER

What? Motivation letter for first-time research groups:
First-time research groups in imec/icon that want to request research funding from imec, have to provide a motivational side letter.

This document is free format, but needs to contain the following elements:

- Which research group? (university - faculty - research group...)
- Why did the consortium choose this research group?
- The document needs to be signed by the Research Lead.
- Length: 0.5-1 A4 page
- Language: free choice NL or Eng

ICON ABSTRACT REBUTTAL

What? Document with answers to the questions from the experts.

Templates **Template (ENG)**

[Link to template](#)

ICON ABSTRACT RESUBMISSION LETTER

What? If an ICON project already has been submitted in a previous call, the following procedure needs to be followed:

- Prior to resubmission, a mandatory meeting has to be set up with Steven Van Assche (the instrument leader) to discuss the feedback & modifications for resubmission. Please contact icon@imec.be in order to set up such a meeting.
- Prepare a resubmission document prior to the meeting, that contains a description of the major changes between this submission and the previous one (what will be added/removed/clarified...). This document is free format (e.g. one pager, slideset).
- The meeting will result in a decision if a resubmission will be considered.
- The resubmission document needs to be uploaded on the MyProjects platform (same deadline as the abstract document).
- The resubmission document will be sent to the evaluation panel together with the abstract information.

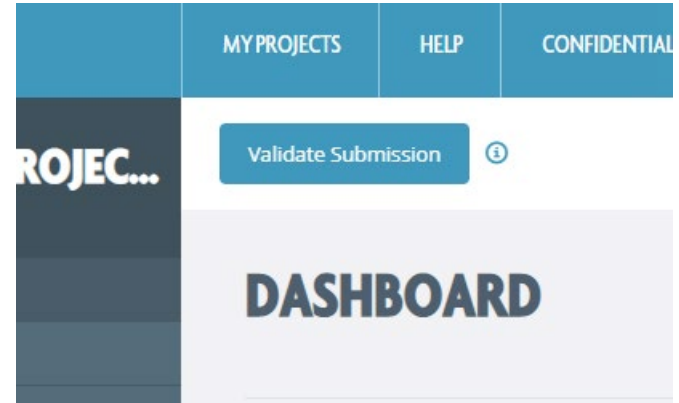
ADD DOCUMENT

Project Document Type

--None--

VALIDATE AND SUBMIT YOUR PROJECT

- Steps to submit your project as a proposal manager
 1. Start your application
 - ① don't wait until the last moment
 2. Fill in all information and upload the necessary documents
 3. Validate to check if all information is correct
 - ① you can validate as many times as you want
 4. Submit the project using the submission button



CONTRACTS

ICON NDA AND LOI

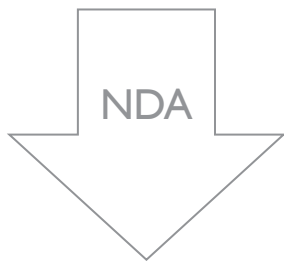
- **Non Disclosure Agreement (NDA)**
 - Recommended to use from abstract phase onwards
 - Own choice consortium
- **Letter Of Intent (LoI) or Letter of Declaration (LoD)**
 - Mandatory at full proposal phase
 - LOD for VLAIO application/LOI for all other partners
 - Template cannot be changed. May be submitted in English or in Dutch
 - Content:
 - Intention of each partner to implement its own task package
 - Acceptance of the imec.icon Collaboration Agreement
 - Termsheet with IPR framework

IMEC.ICON NDA AND LOI/LOD



Today

First talks on the project

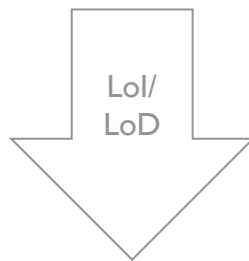


Recommended
as soon as project talks start



November

Abstract submission

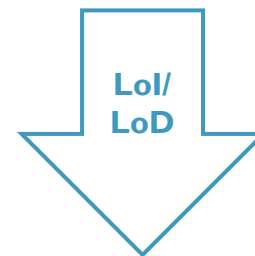


Recommended
as of abstract submission



February

Full proposal submission



Mandatory
(part of full proposal submission)

CONTRACTS TO BE SIGNED AFTER PROJECT APPROVAL

- **Collaboration Agreement (CA, Samenwerkingsovereenkomst)**
 - Binding for **all** parties
 - imec (incl. universities) and all industry partners
 - Stating imec's and all partners' research input
 - Aspects: project description, operations through steering groups, ownership of results, publication rights, background IPR, ...
- **User group Agreement (if applicable)**

AGENDA

- Introduction to imec
- imec.icon program, project modalities and IPR model
- Example projects
- Application procedure
- **VLAIO and Innoviris funding**
- Next steps

APPLYING FOR VLAIO OR INNOVIRIS FUNDING

- Funding applications within the imec.icon procedure

- VLAIO (Flemish region)

AGENTSCHAP
INNOVEREN & ONDERNEMEN

- Innoviris (Brussels region)

»» innoviris
.brussels 
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AGENTSCHAP INNOVEREN & ONDERNEMEN
www.vlaio.be

IMEC.ICON VLAIO INFOSESSION 2022.02.22

1. INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH (ICON) PROJECTS
2. KEY ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
3. FUNDING PERCENTAGE (RESEARCH VERSUS DEVELOPMENT)
4. PROJECT EVALUATION: CRITERIA & IMPACT FACTOR

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Vlaanderen
is ondernemen

I. INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH (ICON)

- Carried out by an interdisciplinary research consortium, consisting of:
 - one or more research organizations, and
 - at least three mutually independent Flemish organizations (companies and/or social profit)
- Demand driven cooperative research
- Goal: generate new knowledge that can be practically applied to develop innovative solutions that will subsequently find their way into the market offerings of the participating partners
- The Flemish industrial partners can apply for VLAIO funding

2. KEY ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR VLAIO FUNDING

- For organisations (companies or non-profit) with legal entity and activities in Flanders
- For innovation topics in all domains
[restrictions for military and dual use applications: <https://www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/onderzoeksproject/voorwaarden/projecten-met-militair-tweeerlei-gebruik-dual>]
- No funding for UIDs (Undertakings In Difficulty)
 - Specific criteria/conditions + calculation module:
OIM definition: <https://www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/ontwikkelingproject/voorwaarden/ondernemingen-moeilijkheden-komen-niet>
Determination of company size: <https://www.vlaio.be/nl/begeleiding-advies/financiering/overheidsmaatregelen/kmo-definitie-verschil-europese-en-fiscale>
 - When UID: to be solved at last by date of submission of full proposal (July 2022)!
 - When part of a group, you need to perform the UID analysis *at group level* as well!
Block diagram to analyse group structure: <https://www.vlaio.be/media/43>

3. FUNDING PERCENTAGE: RESEARCH VERSUS DEVELOPMENT

- Development project (TRL 4 – 7) <-> Research project (TRL 1 – 3)
- **Basic funding percentage:** 25% for development activities, 50% for research activities
 - > Extra *funding* for SMEs: Small Enterprise +20%, Medium Enterprise +10%
 - > +10% *in case of intensive collaboration within an ICON-context and at least 1 SME in the consortium*
 - > **Overall max. 50% for development & max. 60% for research activities**
- Differentiation based on **important challenges and risks**. Which knowledge will be used?
 - No funding when purely using existing know-how (standard engineering)
 - **Development** if new knowledge is applied to your specific business.
 - explain carefully:
 - why it is new (compared to what others are doing)
 - why it is more than merely combining what you already know
 - **Research** if clear step forward w.r.t. the state-of-the-art (worldwide!)
 - > BASIS: description of activities per partner in the Work Packages in the full proposal

4. PROJECT EVALUATION: CRITERIA & IMPACT FACTOR

➤ **VLAIO criteria, assessment of:**

ADDITIONALITY: stimulating effect of the grant

IMPACT: quality of the business case and the expected economic and social effects for the company and for Flanders

+ POTENTIAL TO ACHIEVE IMPACT: real market that is accessible to the company, IP, expertise and (financial) resources for follow-up and marketing

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES: innovative character, clear objective with challenges and sufficient internal knowledge building

+ POTENTIAL TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES: relevance and quality of the approach, expertise and resources

4. PROJECT EVALUATION: CRITERIA & IMPACT FACTOR

- A grant leverage of factor 10 is required:
economic impact $> 10 \times$ (net) grant
- Time horizon: typical 5 yrs AFTER end of the project
- Quantification and motivation!
- Evaluation at project level, yet for all applicants a convincing business case is required!

Questions regarding VLAIO funding: VLAIO Team Bedrijfstrajecten can assist



Agro
en voeding



Bouw



Energie
en milieu



Gezondheidszorg



Artificiële
Intelligentie



Bio-economie



Circulaire
economie



ICT
en diensten



Logistiek
en mobiliteit



Machinebouw
en elektronica



Materialen
en chemie



Cybersecurity



Financiering



Intellectuele
eigendom

Contact

Marc Tiri marc.tiri@vlaio.be

FUNDING BY INNOVIRIS
www.innoviris.brussels

FUNDING BY INNOVIRIS: ELIGIBILITY

- **Companies which:**
 - Develop all or some of their activities within the Brussels-Capital Region
 - Are not in difficulty, in accordance with the European legislation
 - Are proposing a R&D project presenting the development, completion or implementation of an innovative product, process or service
 - Can show their ability to finance their share in the project
 - Have fulfilled their obligations in the context of previous support initiatives granted by the Region.

- **SMEs and Large Enterprises**

FUNDING BY INNOVIRIS: RESEARCH vs DEVELOPMENT

- imec.icon industry partners can apply for R&D funding
- R&D project
 - **Industrial Research:** series of activities carried out with a view to acquiring new skills and innovative scientific knowledge designed to develop a product, procedure or service.
 - **Experimental Development:** activities designed to apply the results of industrial research in the form of prototype products, procedures or services.
- Not exclusively Brussels partners within imec.icon consortium (at least 3 in Flanders)

FUNDING BY INNOVIRIS: PERCENTAGES

- **Basic funding percentage of Budget**
 - 50% research project
 - 25% development project
- **Extra funding**
 - SME
 - SE (+20%) / ME (+10%) (in case of doubt: contact Innoviris)
 - Collaboration +15% when, considering the project part for which funding is granted,
 - Contains at least 1 SME as project partner and
 - None of the partners contributes more than 70% of the budget → in ICON-project fulfilled
- **Basic funding + Extra funding: min. 25% max. 80%**

FUNDING BY INNOVIRIS: IMPORTANT EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Strategic and economic impact (Incentive effect of the financial aid, FP, BP, ...)
- Valorization: economic, environmental and societal impact for the Brussels Region
- Adequate valorization information is part of eligibility for Innoviris application
- Attendance full proposal info session incl. preliminary discussion with Innoviris adviser is strongly recommended, especially for companies with no or little experience with Innoviris funding

AGENDA

- Introduction to imec
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- Next steps
- Extra: tips and tricks

IMPORTANT CHANGES AND ATTENTION POINTS IN THIS CALL

PROJECT MODALITIES

- Consortium with at least 3 independent companies, of which at least 2 VLAIO-funded companies
- All Flemish research organizations can be financed by imec, if compliant with VLAIO's requirements for Flemish SBO research partners
- Subsidy top-up of 10% for VLAIO-funded companies in case of intensive collaboration between companies and 1 funded SME in the consortium
- Minimum contribution of 12 PM for companies requesting funding
- Budget balance of 50/50 instead of 60/40: budget of funded companies > research budget (with some margin)
- Standard project duration of 2 years; duration of up to 3 years possible if motivated

IMPORTANT CHANGES AND ATTENTION POINTS IN THIS CALL EVALUATION PROCEDURE

- **Abstract template structure** aligned with full proposal template structure
- Extra attention to **valorization** in abstract and in pitch
- Continued attention to **awareness of privacy and ethical issues** in abstract phase
- Introduction of **Pre-application eligibility check** for VLAIO funding (e.g., on valorization track record, Undertaking in Difficulty (UID) / Onderneming in Moeilijkheden (OIM), co-financing capacity, etc.); extra information requested in abstract document
- **Academic valorization plan** in full proposal in light of the broad application of the research results
- **Expanded rebuttal** in full proposal phase to remedy remarks from VLAIO/Innoviris and experts

RESEARCH FUNDING RESERVATIONS AND RESUBMISSIONS

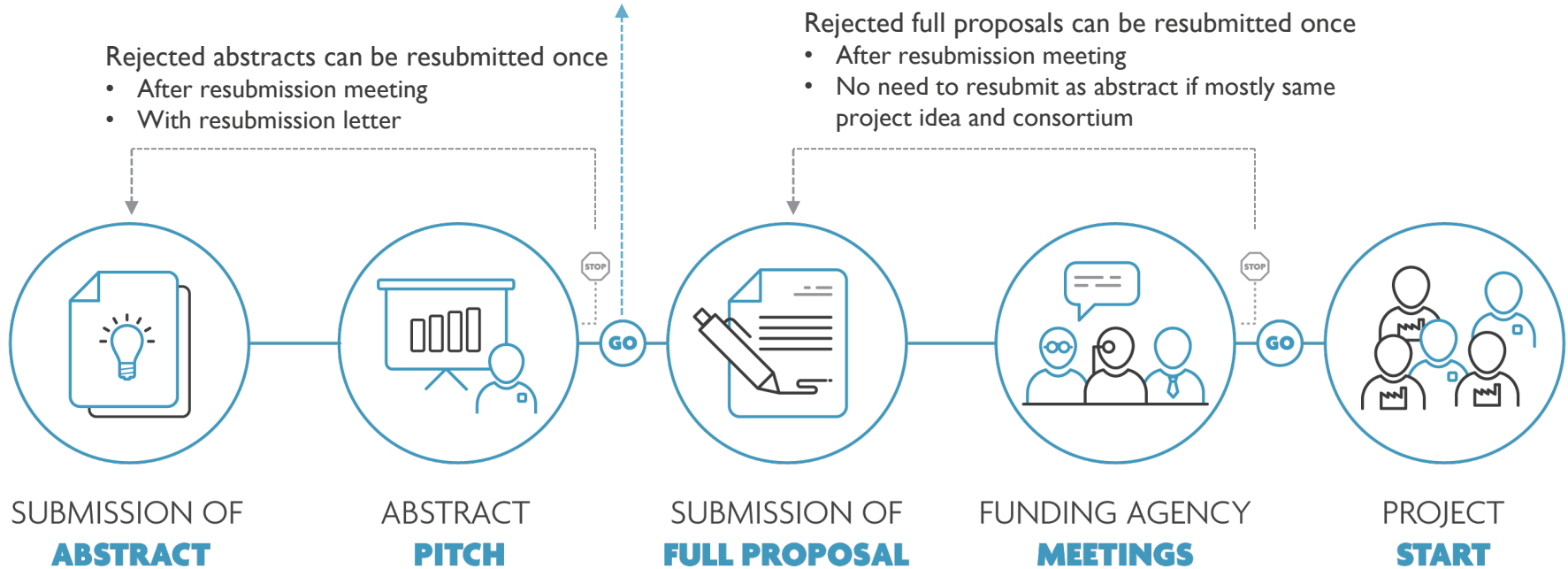
Research funding reserved for project for **18 months**
(= between abstract decision and project approval)

Rejected abstracts can be resubmitted once

- After resubmission meeting
- With resubmission letter

Rejected full proposals can be resubmitted once

- After resubmission meeting
- No need to resubmit as abstract if mostly same project idea and consortium



THINGS TO DECIDE

- Project idea
- Consortium
 - Industry partners
 - Research partners
 - User group members (if needed)
- Proposal manager
 - Start abstract in MyProjects
 - Optional: request imec Teams space via icon@imec.be

EARLY-CONSORTIUM CONTACT MOMENTS

- Who?
 - Consortium with an imec Innovation Manager
- What?
 - Sparring with consortium: idea, approach, research ambition, valorization, ...
 - Is imec.icon the right instrument?
 - Match-making with extra partners (e.g., missing expertise)
- How?
 - Online meeting
 - Optional, upon request by consortium
 - Fix a date via [this form](#)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

9 NOV	Abstract submission	12:00 noon
16 NOV	Questions from panel	Late afternoon
24 NOV	Rebuttal submission	12:00 noon
30 NOV	Pitches	
6 DEC	Full proposal info session	
2 FEB	Full proposal submission	12:00 noon
MAR	Funding agency meetings	
1 SEPT '23	Expected start project	

AGENDA

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- Extra: tips and tricks

EXTRA:TIPS AND TRICKS

TOPICS

- Example sparring questions
- Tips for writing convincing research goals
- Specific attention points for AI projects and projects dealing with user data
- Attention points for ICON specific evaluation criteria
- Tips concerning valorization

CONTACTS

CONTACTS FOR IMEC.ICON

**IMEC.ICON
PROGRAM MANAGER**

○—○ Steven Van Assche



**QUESTIONS REGARDING CALLS,
WEBSITE, MYPROJECTS, IP & CONTRACTS**
icon@imec.be

○—○
○—○ Laura De Sutter
○—○ Charlotte Waegebaert



QUESTIONS REGARDING CONTENT



Annelies Vandamme



Eric Moons



Eric Van der Hulst



Deben Lamon



CONTACTS FOR ICON

- Questions regarding **VLAIO funding**

- [Marc Tiri](#)

AGENTSCHAP
INNOVEREN & ONDERNEMEN



- Questions regarding **Innoviris funding**

- [Stijn Maas](#)

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Q&A



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IMEC.ICON TIPS AND TRICKS

CONTENTS

- Example sparring questions
- Tips for writing convincing research goals
- Specific attention points for AI projects and projects dealing with user data
- Attention points for ICON specific evaluation criteria
- Tips concerning valorization

EXAMPLE SPARRING QUESTIONS

Research challenges

- What are the innovation goals and research challenges? Are they clearly formulated?
- How do they relate to the SotA? Are the research challenges sufficiently ambitious?
- What will be the demonstrators and how will they validate the innovation goals?

Consortium

- Is the consortium capable of tackling the research challenges?
- Is the required expertise available?
- Are the contributions of the partners balanced and a good fit for the research challenges?
- Will the consortium engage in real collaboration?

Valorization

- What are the valorization plans of the industry partners? How will they integrate the technologies and project results into their products/services?
- How will the industry partners (together or separately) bring (parts of) the innovation to the market? What is the likelihood that they will be successful?
- Are there any parties missing in the consortium for successful valorization? If so, how will they be involved in the project (e.g., through user groups, ...)?
- What is the return for Flanders/Brussels region in terms of qualitative employment, investments and societal impact? Does the industry consortium reach a lever of 10 against the subsidies they will request?

ICON RESEARCH GOALS

1. Converge and align on the overall **project objective(s)**
 - What do you aim to achieve in the project?
 - What will the demonstrator look like?
2. Identify the **difficult problems** to be solved in the path to the realize the deliverables
3. Identify the **research goals**
 - Ensure the goals are **ambitious**
 - Improving on the SotA → **research** challenges
 - While still in line with the competence and the means of the partners
4. Define **measurable success criteria** for the research goals

ICON RESEARCH GOALS

CHARACTERISTICS OF GOOD GOALS

- **Specific:** what challenging problems need to be solved
- **Concise:** capture the essence of the challenge
- Realization that can be **verified:** measurable, preferably quantified
- Success criteria must be **positioned against the SotA**
 - SotA scope: worldwide, EU, market segment, organization
 - Is a measure of the risks and ambitions
- Innovation goals are **not to be confused with project activities or deliverables!**

ICON RESEARCH GOALS

FICTIVE EXAMPLE

Innovation objective: ***gain competitive edge with a consumer TV with world class display***

Requires research to make substantial steps in specific domains:

Concrete research goals	Ambition	State of the art	Specific criteria	Measurable
Resolution (pixel density)	↑↑	Best in class: 150 pixels/cm	200 pixels/cm	Y
Color gamut	↑↑	Rec.709	Rec.2020	Y
Brightness	↑	LCD: 600 nits;	800 nits	Y
Power	↓	AMOLED: 15mW/cm ²	5mW/cm ²	Y
Compatible with common semiconductor processes	+	11th generation fab processes	Per fab requirements	Verifiable
Radiologists QoE	↑	MOS = 4.0 on reference monitor	MOS = 4.4	Y

PROJECT APPROACH

SPECIFIC ATTENTION POINTS

- **AI projects**
 - Need credible approach to
 - collecting sufficient and relevant data
 - training the AI algorithms
 - validating the AI algorithms
 - Within 2-year project duration and with the project partners / user group members
- **Projects dealing with user data**
 - Compliance with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
 - Consultation of mandatory ethical committees and voluntary ethical boards
 - Data management and governance plan
 - Suggestion: DMPonline (<https://dmponline.be/>, <https://dmponline.dcc.ac.uk/>)
 - Can be part of research activities

ICON-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

ATTENTION POINTS

- Real collaboration
 - Collaboration (also between industry partners) is a **clear goal of the project**
- Generic character of research
 - Broader applicability of the results of the research groups **beyond the consortium** and the use cases of the companies
 - Research activities are **independent** from the industry partners
 - In case of possible conflict of interest: explain how it will be handled
- Research beyond the state of the art
 - Only **high-risk research activities** can be funded at 100%
 - Ensuring beyond SotA character of research activities is an important responsibility of the **research lead**
- Compliance with EU state aid rules
 - Now handled in Letter of Intent

VALORIZATION BY INDUSTRY PARTNERS

ATTENTION POINTS

- Sufficient valorization in Flanders/Brussels is key for funding: need increase in **qualitative employment** and **investments**
- Business case should give **convincing economic rationale**
 - Unique Selling Propositions (UPSs) of envisioned innovation for target market
 - Credible go-to-market strategy
 - Realistic revenue increases
 - Extra employment and investments in 5 years after project
 - Societal benefits are considered a “plus”
- Requests for **research funding** must be substantiated: elaborate on ambitions beyond the state of the art and the risks of **the company’s** activities
- Check for **fundability** with VLAIO and Innoviris
 - E.g., against Undertaking-in-Difficulty (UID) / “Onderneming-in-Moeilijkheden” (OIM) rules



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