

A close-up photograph of two bees on a yellow flower. One bee is in the upper center, flying towards the left. The other bee is in the lower left, positioned on the flower's stamens. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

# Annual Overview 2024

dept. Co-creating Value & Impact (CVI)

## Be inspired by our collaborative results

Thanks to the joint efforts of colleagues at Wageningen University & Research and our valued partners from government, industry, and investors, we can transform WUR's knowledge into societal impact.

With great enthusiasm, the *Department for Co-Creating Value & Impact* collaborates with you to develop practical solutions that drive positive change. Together, we can make a difference.

We invite you to explore this reflection of the progress made in 2024 across our core departmental domains: Knowledge Utilization, Entrepreneurship, Knowledge for Society, and Campus & Facilities. This overview highlights key achievements that underscore our shared commitment to co-create value & impact.

In 2024 we saw a 50% increase in supported inventions, with the Knowledge Transfer Office (KTO) screening over 230 projects and facilitating more than 25 license and transfer agreements to bring research to market.

StartHub Wageningen thrived as an entrepreneurial hub for over 350 active members. Seven new startups joined its workspace, and the Wageningen Impact Catalyst programme launched its inaugural cohort of 14 initiatives.

In the domain of Knowledge for Society, interactive dialogues engaged over 1,000 participants, while 38 Science Shop projects and 12 new 'Kenniss op Maat' initiatives demonstrated the ongoing relevance of making societal impact.

Wageningen Campus welcomed seven new organisations, further strengthening the vibrant innovation community. Sharing research facilities and joint investments in state-of-the-art equipment remains central to enhancing innovation and collaboration. SRF investments saw a boost in applications.

Together, these developments reflect a year of solid progress and growing momentum in co-creating value for a sustainable future. Enjoy reading.

On behalf of the entire team,  
Best regards,

Sebastiaan Berendse  
Director Value Creation, Wageningen University & Research



# Key Results 2024

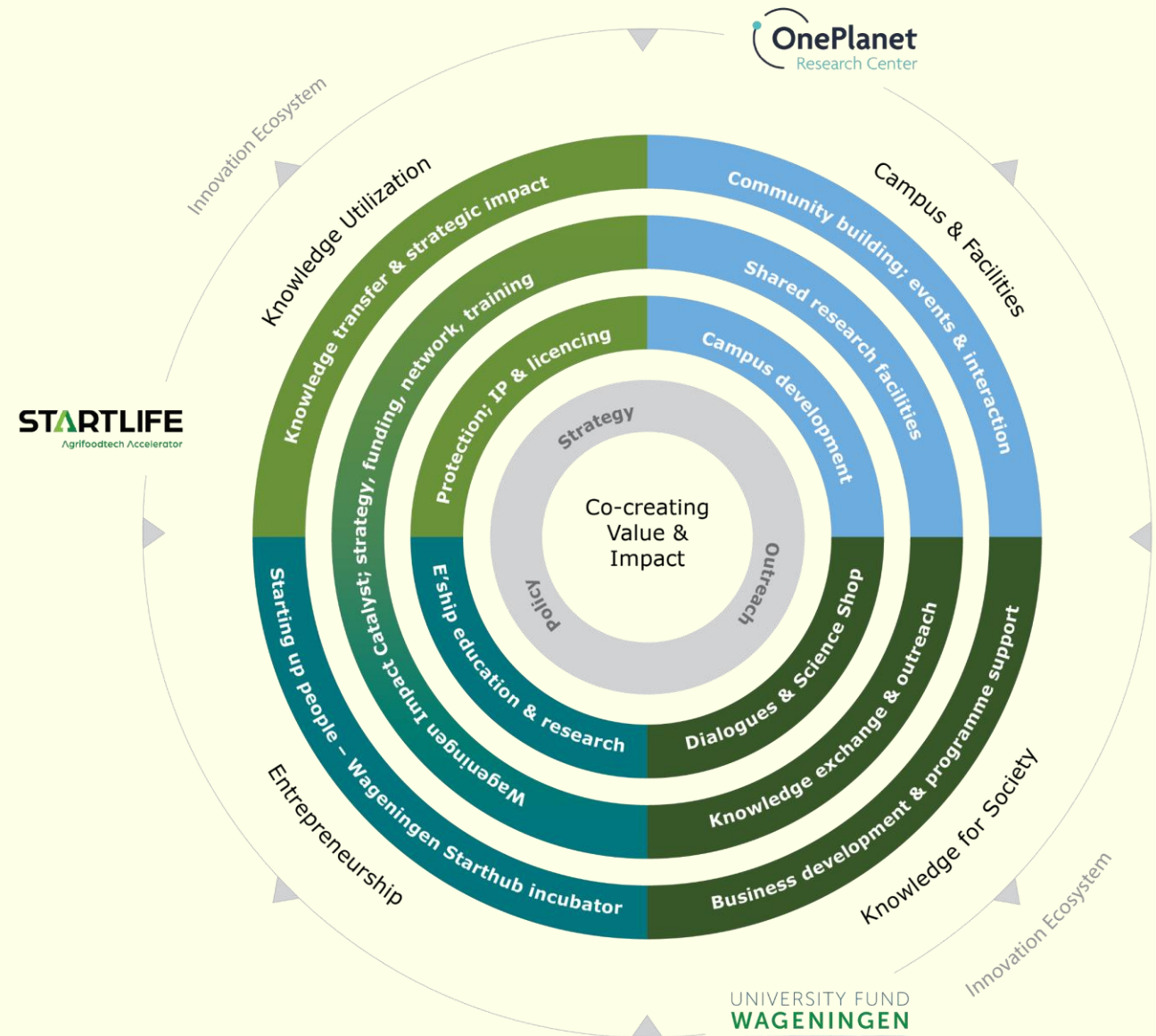
We invite you to have a look at the collaborative results for 2024 in the next pages.

Click at the tile of your interest and read more about the impact related to different aspects of Value Creation at WUR.

Interested in the funding for innovation and value creation in 2024? Click [here](#) to get an overview.

Interested in how to make impact? Click [here](#) to download the WUR Impact Guide.

[Here](#) you can read the Impact stories of WUR.



## Co-creating value & societal impact – our ambition as department

Worldwide, we are confronting major challenges that require significant, transformative action. Addressing these global issues demands not only change but collaboration at every level.

The Department for Co-Creating Value & Impact plays a central role in fostering an innovation ecosystem where all stakeholders mutually reinforce one another. Here, knowledge, funding, entrepreneurship, and practice converge to drive meaningful and responsible change.

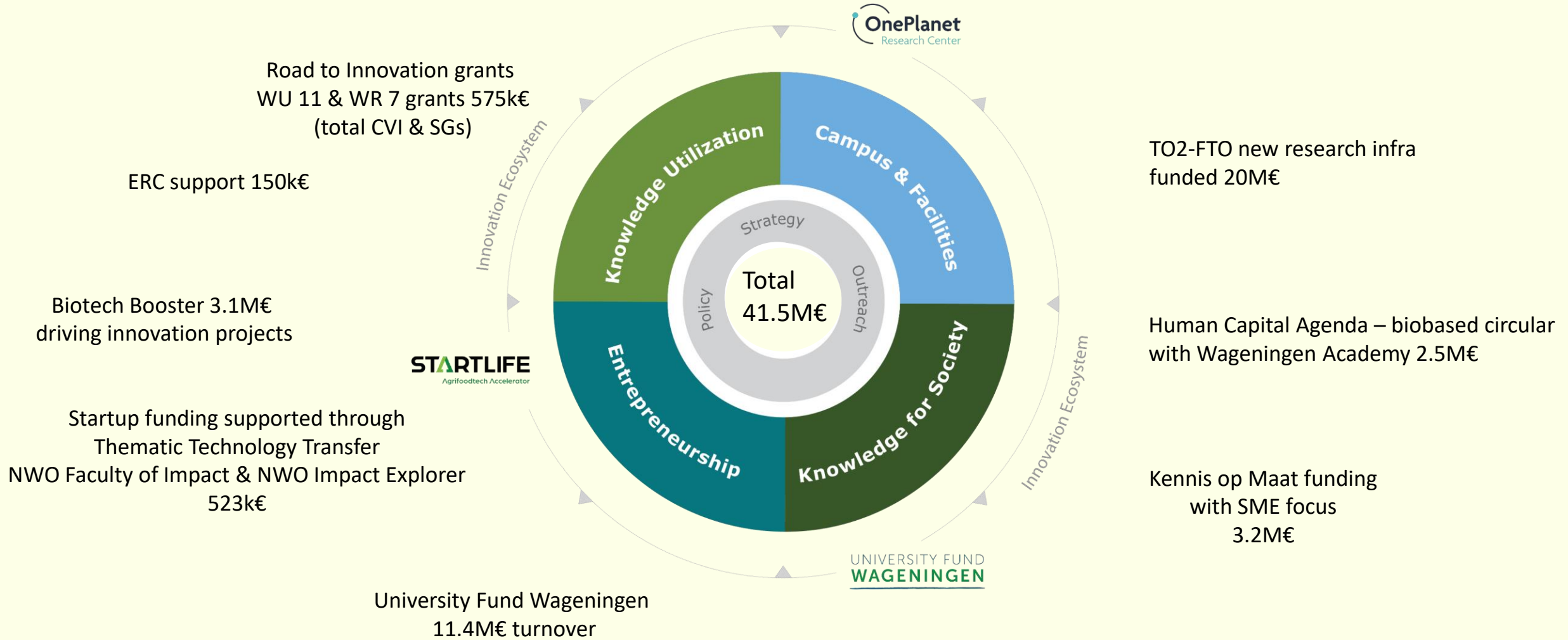
Through close collaboration with knowledge institutions, NGOs, SMEs, corporations, farmers, citizens, and policymakers, we ask the critical questions and co-create solutions that extend beyond science.

As the complexity and urgency of global challenges grow, it is increasingly vital to connect the impact and innovations across Wageningen University & Research to joint programs, regional initiatives, valuable patents, inspiring dialogues, and innovative startups.

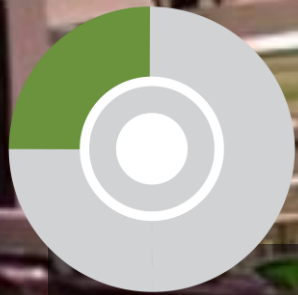
We actively promote entrepreneurship, coaching individuals with entrepreneurial drive and creating an environment that nurtures talent and allows it to reach its full potential.

By embedding sustainable innovation that respects nature and humanity, and fosters positive economic outcomes, the solutions we develop are built to endure and create lasting impact across generations.

# Funding for research, education & value creation 2024\*



\* Generated for WUR in 2024, acquired in collaboration with WUR scientists, supported by the department CVI and University Fund Wageningen.



# Knowledge Utilization

## Foundation for Innovation - patents

**27** New inventions disclosed

WU: 18 | WR: 9 + 22%

**12** Patent applications filed

WU: 8 | WR: 4 + 20%

**3** Patent families officially granted

WU: 2 | WR: 1

Turning science into impactful solutions for society takes expertise, network and vision. That's where the Knowledge Transfer Office (KTO) comes in. From first customer exploration to application development, from starting new collaborations to finding the right financial instruments, from nurturing spinoffs to supporting research with purpose. The KTO is at the heart of turning science into innovations that matter. Together, we've propelled cutting-edge research into tangible solutions, bridging academia, industry and society to unlock real impact.

The KTO made notable progress in supporting WUR inventions in 2024, showcasing a steady upward trajectory. There is a 50% increase in inventions that are supported by the KTO. A total of 230 projects were screened and foreseen from feedback, where suited and possible support has been provided. The KTO facilitated **more than 25 license and transfer deals**, working closely with business development and legal teams to ensure the seamless transition of innovations from research to market. For more information, contact [Brechtje Vreenegoor](#).



Training & Awareness



IP management



Exploitation & commercialisation



Academic entrepreneurship



Funding



Promotion

Multi-phased array of knowledge protection & utilization activities

# Innovation life cycle best practices

## Deep tech application



New dawn bio

Demeter42 is a software-as-a-service company specialising in autonomous agricultural decision-making. Through advanced agricultural models, AI algorithms and data-driven insights, its software enables stakeholders to use resources more efficiently, increase yields, and improve profitability, significantly reducing water usage and supporting a more sustainable food system. In 2024, Demeter42 was awarded a WUR Spin-off label.

[Read more](#)

## Innovative technology



Novya Biotech is revolutionising yeast engineering with precision fermentation. Its proprietary platform combines yeast's sexual reproduction cycle and CRISPR-Cas technology for precise, modular genetic edits. This innovation shortens timelines and cuts development costs from years to months, enabling faster creation of sustainable ingredients. In 2024, Novya Biotech joined the Biotech Booster programme and was selected for the Faculty of Impact.

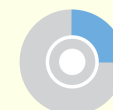
[Read more](#)

## Social Enterprise

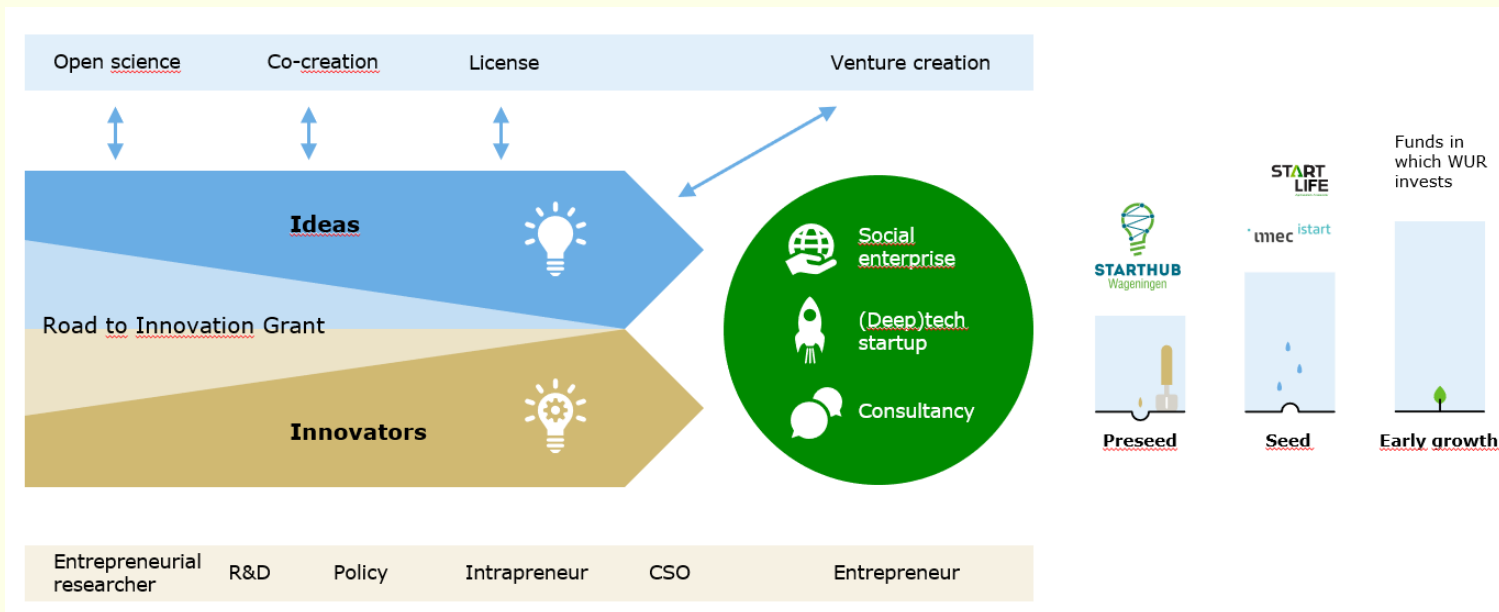


Afropulse has been recognized as an official WUR spin-off in 2024. Originating from the "Pulse of Africa" research project, Afropulse bridges science and business to promote climate-resilient, nutrient-rich cowpea-based ingredients. With support from WUR and industry partners, the company empowers smallholder female farmers while advancing sustainable food systems.

[Read more](#)



# From inventions to impact



Innovation funnel; pathway to societal impact

## Wageningen Impact Catalyst

In 2024 CVI launched the **Wageningen Impact Catalyst** programme as WUR's one-stop-shop for entrepreneurial changemakers to develop innovative ideas into validated prototypes or service concepts. This initiative is dedicated to fostering the creation of deeptech, midtech, and social enterprises, providing a strong foundation for aspiring entrepreneurs who are committed to addressing societal challenges and driving impactful innovation. In 2024 the first pilot completed, and **13 researchers** became actively involved.

[Read more](#)







# Funding Innovation

## Biotech Booster

Biotech Booster is a national growth fund supported programme that offers mentorship, financial support and networking opportunity, to guide founders in the biotechnology field from the idea stage to developing a commercial proposition. WUR leads the thematic cluster TC2, "green biotechnology", providing national support for value-driven biotechnological innovations applied in a sustainable value chain for the agri-sector and food production.

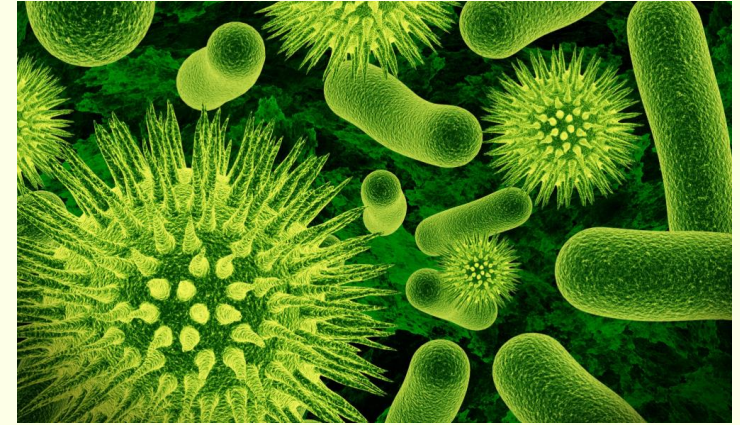
The Knowledge Transfer team unlocks the funds that drive innovation forward. In 2024 the team raised **€3.1M** through the Biotech Booster, supporting **seven groundbreaking innovation projects**.

[Read more](#)

## Road to Innovation

To foster valorisation of research outcomes we offer the **Road to Innovation grant** as a WUR-wide funding opportunity. This grant focuses on exploring potential impact pathways and covers both commercial innovation like developing new products, processes or services for socio-economic benefits and societal innovation including introducing new principles, legislation, policy recommendations, interventions or forms of participation for socio-economic advantages. We are proud to report that 2024 has been our most successful Road to Innovation to date! We received **22 applications** and supported more projects than all years before combined. The program achieved an impressive 74% success rate, a testament to the quality of our preparation and the robust support we provide to participants. This increase in quality has not gone unnoticed by our external evaluators, who have consistently given positive advice on our proposals. With a total investment of €575,000, WUR started the road to impact for **18 projects** WU: 11 | WR: 7.

[Read more](#)



## NWO Impact Explorer

The NWO Impact Explorer is a small top-up, for ongoing research-projects in the open competition or talent line, to explore an unforeseen opportunity for impact. In collaboration with an Impact Partner. In 2024 an impact explorer grant was awarded to Associate Professor Sijmen Schoustra to develop a code of practice for formalizing and upscaling the traditional processing of mabisi in Zambia, using microbial ecology research as a foundation to support quality standards and formal sales for small-scale processors.

[Read more](#)



# Stimulating entrepreneurial change



Standardized IP dealmaking for spin-offs

[Read more](#)

## Thematic Technological Transfer

This programme facilitates researchers in advancing their research ideas, validating them, and establishing successful spin-offs. It harnesses the strengths of the four technical universities in the Netherlands and TNO to foster the development of promising spin-off enterprises.

*Thematic Technology Transfer*

By joining forces the KTO secured € 308k to assess the commercial and technical viability of 5 spinoffs.

[Read more](#)



## WUR Spin-offs

In 2024, WUR welcomed **four official WUR spin-off companies**. These companies represent the fruits of our collective labor. WUR spin-offs are established with the purpose of further developing and exploiting knowledge coming from WUR. Demeter42, Afropulse, Fractus Ltd and InsectSense.

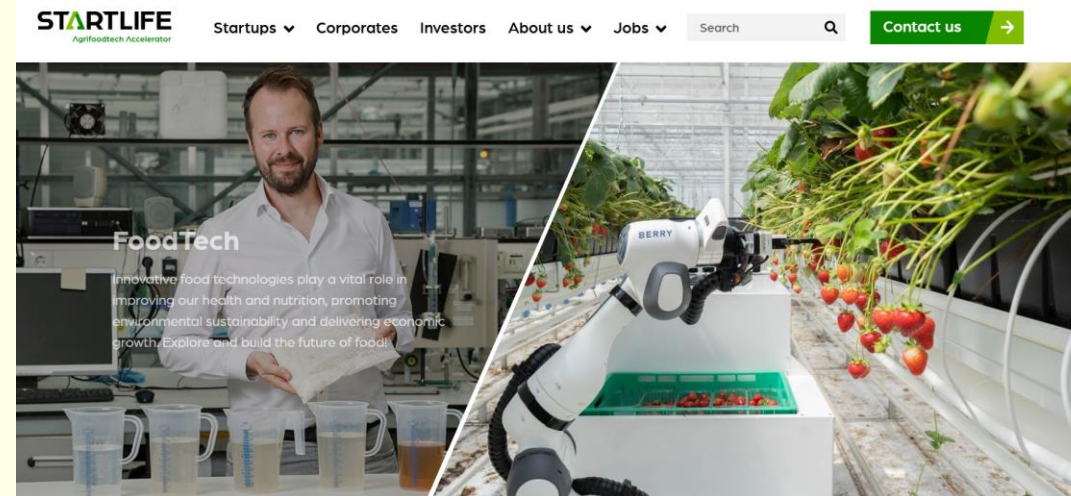
[Read more](#)



# CVI partners up with

# STARTLIFE

## Agrifoodtech Accelerator



Agrifoodtech Accelerator

Shaping a Sustainable Food System  
by Accelerating AgriFoodTech Startups  
via an Open Innovation Ecosystem approach

### FACTSHEET 2024

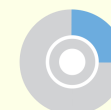
- Since 2010** – Europe's 1st F&A Accelerator
- 400+** Startups Supported
- 35** Countries (5 continents)
- €650M+** Total Capital Raised
- 3,000+** Jobs Created
- 40** Strategic Partners
- 65+** Mentors



## Agrifood Accelerator

Tomorrow's global food supply challenges demand a radical approach to innovation in the Food and Agriculture sectors today. In 2010, StartLife was co-founded by Wageningen University & Research (WUR) to build, support, and fund startups that drive breakthrough technologies in the domains of food and agriculture.

Over the years, StartLife has played a crucial role in fostering innovation, helping entrepreneurs turn scientific discoveries into scalable solutions that contribute to a more sustainable and resilient food system. Nowadays, almost 15 years after its founding, StartLife supported more than **400 startups** in **35 countries** in co-creation with **40 strategic partners** and more than **65 coaches**.





# Entrepreneurship

## Starting up people

18 entrepreneurial education programmes, for BSc, MSc, PhD

Launch of Wageningen Impact Catalyst programme, with 14 initiatives.

350 active Starthub community members

20 residents hiring workspace

Making a societal impact requires an entrepreneurial mindset. That's why WUR integrates entrepreneurial skills into more than 18 BSc, MSc, and PhD programmes, supporting students at all stages of their studies.

Beyond the curriculum, **StartHub Wageningen** serves as the entrepreneurial hub for WUR students, PhDs, recent graduates and WUR researchers eager to explore their entrepreneurial spirit and grow their innovative ideas. With around **350 active members**, StartHub provides space, networking events, inspiring workshops, to share experiences and entrepreneurial pathways. In 2024, 7 new startups moved in as renters of a working space at the Starthub .

Over the years many impact initiatives and startups have emerged from WUR's entrepreneurial education and research programmes, including InsectSense, Greencovery and Algreen.

In 2024, StartHub expanded through the **Wageningen Impact Catalyst** programme in collaboration with University Fund Wageningen. This initiative strengthens WUR's entrepreneurial ecosystem, connecting funding, networking, coaching and training opportunities to aspiring responsible changemakers across Wageningen Campus and beyond and launched their first cohort with 14 initiatives enrolled.

For more information, contact [Gitte Schober](#)

# Starting up people; Starthub Wageningen

## Student startup



After graduating from WUR, Tijmen Blok and Jort Maarseveen decided to set up their own startup. Together they conceived and built the Hippotainer: a vertical farm in a freight container. Their first container now produces hundreds of heads of lettuce per week in war-torn Ukraine.

[Read more](#)

## Community building



Frequently organized community event at Starthub in the multitenant building Plus Ultra II. To exchange ideas, to network, to celebrate achievements and to meet with fellow entrepreneurial spirits in our Community of Purpose.

[Read more](#)

## Starthub Wageningen

StarHub Wageningen is the launchpad for innovation. Starthub Wageningen provides the space, tools, network, and support to bring ideas to life. For all of WUR, **students, scientists and staff.**

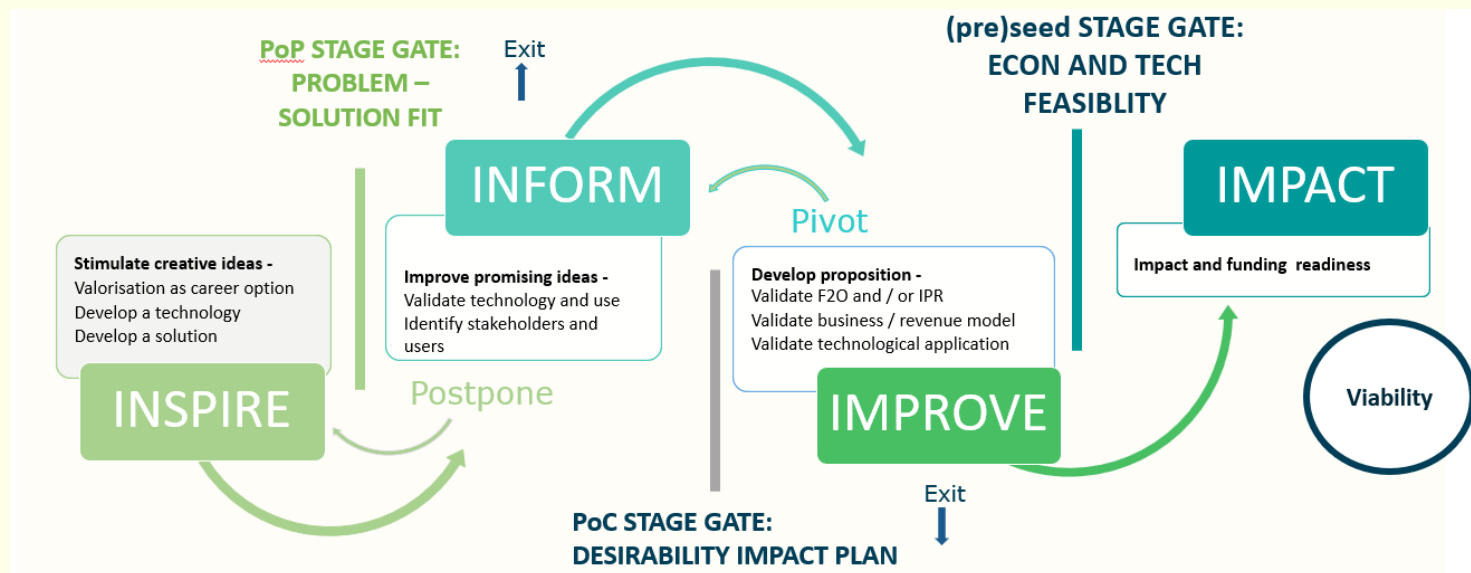
Starthub Wageningen offers an inspiring space to experiment, meet up, collaborate and co-create with change makers.

*“Starthub is not just a workspace; it is a hub for individuals to grow, innovate, and create. It is not about routine tasks but about cultivating a culture that uplifts the community and nurtures personal transformation through making, learning, and sharing.” Sudarshan Ethirajah, member Starthub community.*



# Wageningen Impact Catalyst

Funding, training & networking

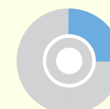


Stage gates: Wageningen Impact Catalyst support programme (WIC)

## From inventions to impact

Together with our partners in our ecosystem Wageningen University & Research supports innovative ideas and impact initiatives throughout the different stages of their development. We aim to nurture innovative ideas and accelerate their development into successful business and societal initiatives that can address global challenges in food, agriculture and the living environment. We collaborate with strategic partners in our ecosystem. Together we amplify our impact, fostering an innovation ecosystem where knowledge, financing, entrepreneurship and practice converge. Our diverse community enables us to deliver solutions in The Netherlands, Europe and beyond.

[Read more](#)



# E'ship education & research



**STEP** 

**STUDENT  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
PROGRAM**

**KICK-OFF: MARCH 26TH**  
7 SESSIONS - END MAY 22ND

✦ **INFO SESSION: 26TH OF FEB** ✦  
16:00 AT PLUS ULTRA II

 **STARHUB**  
Wageningen

**SIGN UP FOR THE INFO  
SESSION VIA LINK**

Introductory course on entrepreneurship,  
taken before the WIC programme.



**One Single Hub  
StartHub Noorderwind**



**Duurzame Pivots: Van Idee  
naar Grotere Impact**

## Integrated approach

Our collaboration with Education & Learning Sciences (ELS) and Business Management & Organization (BMO) strengthens entrepreneurship education and research.

We integrate insights from the 4TU Federation and the EWUU alliance into our programmes, such as the **Minor in Entrepreneurship & Innovation** and the **Mastertrack in Entrepreneurship**.

Research from 4TU is leveraged to further develop entrepreneurship education and contribute to learning trajectories.

Initiatives such as the student entrepreneurship programme **STEP** and the OneSingleHub Project further drive innovation and knowledge exchange, with relevant training and a strong network in the circular economy with our partner Noorderwind.

Through this integrated approach, we connect education, research, and practice, fostering an entrepreneurial mindset within WUR.

# CVI partners up with

## UNIVERSITY FUND WAGENINGEN

University Fund Wageningen, an independent support foundation for Wageningen University & Research, raises funds from national and international trusts and foundations, institutions, public authorities, alumni and other private individuals. Thanks to these extra funds, projects and activities in the fields of talent development, pioneering research and entrepreneurship that do not (fully) qualify for regular funding can be realized and accelerated enhancing WUR's societal impact.

In 2024, the University Fund Wageningen had a turnover of 11.4 million through fundraising, secured 1.5 million in multi-year commitments and further contributed to 5.1 million in multi-year commitments directly to WUR. The fund secured a significant long-term grant from the Bezos Earth Foundation and strengthened its relationship with the Novo Nordisk Foundation while collaborating on the Plant2Food programme. For more information contact [Lies Boelrijk](#).







# Knowledge for society

**1,000** colleagues, students and partners became aware of polarization dynamics through interactive workshops

**30** internal facilitators are part of a pool for facilitating dialogues and further expanding their skills

**38** ongoing Science Shop projects, of which **17** completed in 2024.

**12** new projects within Kennis op Maat

**22** participants joint value creation programme

Wageningen University & Research strengthens the interaction between science and society through various functions: Wageningen Dialogues brings together scientists and societal actors for constructive conversations that foster insight and mutual understanding. Omnia serves as a physical space for these dialogues, where partners and stakeholders engage in discussions on pressing societal challenges.

The Wageningen Science Shop supports non-profit organizations by using transdisciplinary research to drive societal transitions. Citizen science actively involves individuals in research, enhancing their knowledge and encouraging action.

Through the TO2 Federation, WUR partners with institutions like TNO and Deltares to foster innovation and provide policy support. By making our contributions visible through impact stories, WUR showcases its achievements and enhances societal engagement.

Within our business development community, we actively encourage collaboration between researchers, entrepreneurs, and external partners. By connecting science with industry, we accelerate the transition of innovations into society and the market, maximizing the impact of our knowledge.

For more information contact [Gerlinde van Vilsteren](#).

# Business development & Programme support

## Delta Climate Center

The Delta Climate Center (DCC) in Vlissingen is a collaboration among six knowledge institutions: Scalda, HZ University of Applied Sciences, University College Roosevelt, the Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ), Utrecht University, and WUR. By collaborating with businesses, societal organisations, and governments, the DCC facilitates the practical application of research outcomes, positioning Zeeland as a 'living lab' for innovative solutions to climate and sustainability challenges. In 2024, the DCC presented its initial developments at the 'Meet the Delta Climate Center' event, introducing the three flagship projects to over 250 attendees. CVI supported the launch and further embedding of DCC within WUR.

[Read more](#)



## BD community building

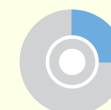
The department for Co-Creating Value & Impact supports the BD-coreteam and Business Development community by fostering knowledge exchange and mutual inspiration. BD professionals learn from each other through regular meetings and events, such as workshops, training sessions and side visits, where successes and challenges are shared. This collaborative approach reinforces the WR-wide market approach and increases the organisation's overall impact.



## Joint value creation

The Joint Value Creation programme is a 1.5-year training for business developers, programme managers and sr. researchers. It focuses on proposition development, collaboration, and business strategy, enhancing skills while supporting Wageningen's mission. In 2024, the first cohort graduated, presenting their final pitches to demonstrate their learnings in practice. CVI initiated and coordinated the programme.

[Read more](#)





## Kennis op maat

In 2024, the Kennis op Maat initiative successfully enabled SMEs, horticulturists, and farmers to apply research insights in practice. It helps unlock and disseminate research-driven knowledge, making it accessible and actionable for entrepreneurs in agriculture, water, and food sectors. By offering tailored, easily implementable solutions, the initiative empowers businesses to integrate cutting-edge research into their everyday practices, driving innovation, efficiency, and sustainability in these industries. CVI coordinates the program, together with LVVN and the TKI offices and supports colleagues in the creation of a better action perspective for SMEs based on science, e.g. by a CoP-event.

[Read more](#)

## Impact award

In 2024, WUR proudly announced the winners of the Impact Award. The Jury Award went to the Autonomous Greenhouse Challenge, praised for its innovative approach to sustainable food systems, resource scarcity, and AI integration. The Audience Impact Award, was presented to the WCDI Seed Systems Thematic Cluster for its work in improving food security by empowering smallholder farmers with better seeds. Both projects exemplified WUR's focus on responsible changemakers and societal impact. CVI organizes this together with UFW and Wageningen Ambassadors.

[Read more](#)



## TO2 Impact

In 2024, WUR proudly launched the TO2 Impact magazine, dedicated to showcasing the impact of applied research in science and innovation. The magazine highlights WUR's collaboration with other TO2 organizations. These institutes focus on driving sustainable solutions in agriculture, food, water, energy, health and safety. Through compelling stories and case studies, the TO2 magazine provides insights into the real-world applications of science. It serves as an important resource for stakeholders, offering a deeper understanding of how TO2 research contributes to global challenges. CVI identifies impact stories to enhance WUR's impact outreach and to engage with relevant stakeholders.

[Read more](#)





# Citizen Science & Dialogues

## Science Shop

The Science Shop collaborates with non-profit groups in society by organizing research projects that find answers to their questions, free of charge. Our goal is to empower groups in society by engaging them in scientific research and to create direct, positive change together.

[Read more](#)

## Wageningen Dialogues

Through Wageningen Dialogues, we enable (future) scientists and actors in society to contribute to the necessary transitions in the WUR domains by stimulating better connections, insights and understanding. We do this in co-creation with scientists, communicators, and societal actors. We ensure that people and organisations with different opinions and perspectives engage in constructive conversations. To do that, we offer workshops, support, and a sophisticated programme with inspiring dialogues.

### Dilemma Dialogues

250 people participated in the [Dilemma Dialogue](#) on the future of agriculture, food and nature in the Netherlands, mainly external attendees. Building on the eponymous report with 'WUR perspectives', a setting was created to exchange knowledge, but also perspectives, stakes, values, and novel ways forward. In co-creation, the [Mansholt lecture 2024](#) got shape, further sparking the dialogue on dilemmas for future land use. Dilemma-thinking remains at the program's center, with financing secured for the development of both a [dilemma dialogue tool](#) and extended dialogue programming.

[Read more](#)



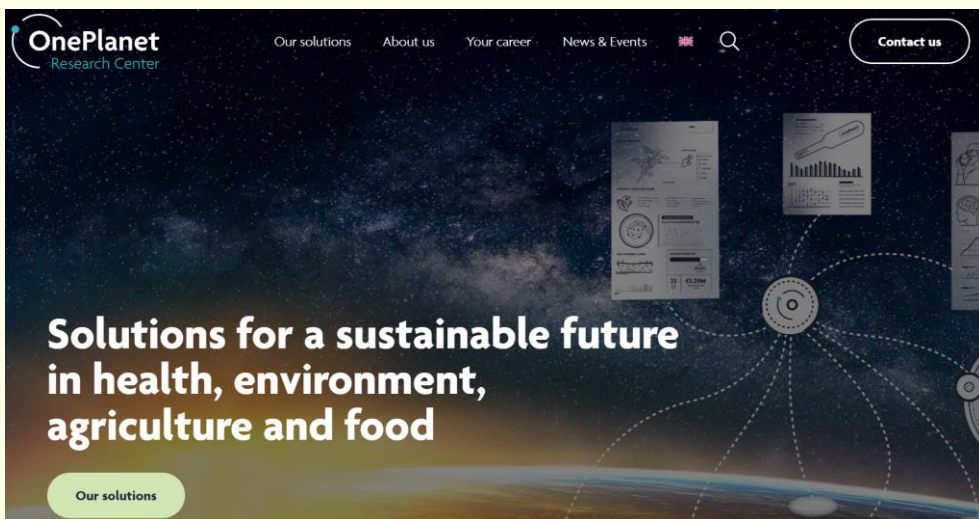
## Citizen Science Hub

Citizen Science, as part of Open Science, combines the power of active citizenship with the power of science by involving citizens with different backgrounds and interests in, amongst others, articulating research questions, collecting and analyzing data, and determining action, for example advocating for policy change. In doing so, citizens work closely together with scientists working at universities and research institutes who aim to have positive societal impact. In 2024 the Citizen Science Hub organizes meetings for peer to peer exchange and built the community, also with outside partners, to boost Citizen Science.

[Read more](#)



# CVI partners up with



## Executive report Five years: Innovations with global impact

A society where everyone can live healthy lives and have...

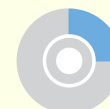


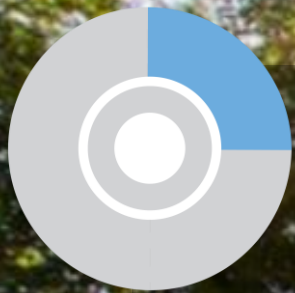
OnePlanet Research Center is a multidisciplinary collaboration between Wageningen University & Research, Radboud University, Radboudumc, and nanotechnology global leader imec.

In just 5 years, OnePlanet went from a vision to create a better future to an R& D hub; developing breakthrough innovations, today! Disruptive, new technologies and domain expertise result in breakthrough innovation processes for real-life applications.

In 2024, OnePlanet Research Center, together with research partners Radboud University, Radboudumc, and Wageningen University & Research, opened the new ICAI Lab. Using artificial intelligence (AI), the lab aimed to enhance personalized lifestyle feedback and promote healthy behavior—for example, by developing smart chatbots that encouraged people to eat healthier or quit smoking.

[Read more](#)






# Campus & Facilities

> **230 Wageningen Campus residents**

 **12%**  
corporates

 **3%**  
institutes

 **73%**  
SMEs  
(incl. startups)

 **12%**  
NGOs

## Shared research facilities in 2024

**660 devices available** for shared use in research equipment platform

**2,100 of registered users** of shared research equipment

**40,000 equipment reservations** in research equipment platform

At Wageningen Campus people from all over the world come together to meet, work and learn, committed to create innovative solutions and to find answers to global challenges.

Wageningen Campus is a hotspot for innovation fueled by world renowned knowledge and scientific expertise. Home to over 230 organisations, including WUR, research institutes, NGOs, SMEs, and R&D departments, it fosters collaboration and scientific excellence.

The Wageningen Campus team connects stakeholders, supports new residents, and links with other WUR locations to strengthen the innovation ecosystem.

In 2024, seven new organisations have settled on Wageningen Campus, amongst others Grassa, Fixeau and Bayer.

In line with the ecosystem way of working, WUR encourages the shared use of research facilities and joint investments in advanced research equipment by both WUR and the Wageningen Campus ecosystem and beyond. A dedicated team of experts coordinates the shared use of research facilities and joint investments, ensuring efficient and effective collaboration.

For more information, contact [Anne Mensink](#). Visit the [website](#) or join the campus community on [linked in](#).

Watch the Wageningen Campus video.



# Wageningen Campus Development

## Driver for Innovation



Campuses and science parks in The Netherlands play a pivotal role in fostering employment, new business activity, and solutions for societal transitions. This was highlighted in the research report by Buck Consultants International (BCI), commissioned by the National Campuses Network (NCO). Wageningen Campus exemplifies this development, having evolved over the years into a key driver of innovation.

[Read more](#)

## Construction innovation hub



In May 2024 the construction of the new Plus Ultra III building began. This building forms the last of three collective buildings spacing innovative startups, scale-ups, research facilities and other organisations in the agrifood and life sciences domain. The Plus Ultra buildings act as a hub for innovation and impactful initiatives, fostering entrepreneurship, collaboration, and knowledge exchange within the vibrant environment of Wageningen Campus.

[Read more](#)

## Wageningen Campus Oost



End 2024, WUR signed a purchase agreement with Idealis for the sale of a plot of land on Wageningen Campus Oost. Idealis will build 250 new student homes here. These student homes form the start of Wageningen Campus Oost, which offers space for knowledge-intensive businesses and essential student housing. In the 2026-2027 academic year, students will be able to live, study and work here.

[Read more](#)



# Wageningen Campus Community building

## Student Expedition



In 2024, two student expeditions were organized (April, December), exploring career opportunities on Wageningen Campus and attracting a total of 248 participants. A special thanks to the in total 29 organisations that opened their doors, e.g. IFF, Upstream Foods, NoPalm Ingredients, Stichting Boerengroep, Foodvalley NL, KWS Vegetables, NIOO-KNAW, Thai Union Innovation. Collaboration emerged as a prominent theme, to share knowledge and address needs.

[Read more](#)

## Campus Connect



One of the campus connect events in 2024 was about cellular agriculture and precision fermentation; breakthrough innovations that offer sustainable alternatives to traditional animal products. Professionals from different organisations across campus came together to share insights and develop new ideas. Start-ups like RESPECTfarms, Upstream Foods, and NoPalm Ingredients shared their philosophies.

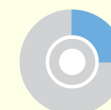
[Read more](#)

## F&A Next in Omnia



On 22-23 May 2024, the ninth edition of the annual innovation summit F&A Next took place in Omnia, the debating centre of Wageningen Campus. This event connected promising startups and scale-ups with investors and industry leaders in the agri-food sector. Over two days of networking, debating and pitching, WUR business developers and startups had the opportunity to establish valuable connections. The event had **857** attendees, including **249** startups, **245** investors, and **151** corporates from over **36** countries.

[Read more](#)







## Shared Research Facilities

### Research equipment platform

Through this [platform](#) users can search for and book devices that are available for sharing, providing WUR, Wageningen Campus-based organizations, and other innovative organizations in the Regio Foodvalley and beyond with access to state-of-the-art equipment. The research equipment platform offers access to a total of 660 devices, of which 440 are available for shared use. It currently serves 2,100 registered users. Each year, more than 40,000 equipment reservations are made through the platform, demonstrating its extensive use and contribution to collaborative research. Joint investment opportunities are supported by the RegioDeal Foodvalley 2030 programme.

[Read more](#)

### User Experiences

By sharing research facilities, WUR fosters collaboration, innovation and knowledge exchange between experts, helping to accelerate the practical application of scientific insights. Thanks to NoPalm Ingredients's commitment to make use of these facilities and a subsidy provided by RegioDeal Foodvalley and Province of Gelderland, it has been possible to invest in a series of state-of-the-art bioreactors. Entrepreneur and company founder Jeroen Hugenholtz and Martijn Bekker (WFBR) share their experience.

[Read more](#)



### WUR Roadmap Research Facilities

The Roadmap Research Facilities is a continuous and up-to-date overview of all investment requests and ideas for WUR research facilities. It is managed by the Shared Research Facilities team. By means of this Roadmap, a long-term research facilities strategy can be drawn up, and well-informed decisions on the investments of equipment and the use of resources can be made.

[Read more](#)



