Participatory innovation for urban residents

What challenge or problem are you addressing? What is the need for the project?

Enhance the innovation performance of enterprises by providing a test bed for SME's within cities. Simultaneously contribute to tackling the challenges of our region (in field of health and circular Economy). It includes experimentation and co-creation with citizens in real life environments: citizens together with researchers, SME's and public institutions cooperate in developing new solutions - or business models- for challenges of the growing city. It's about societal involvement, about promoting innovation in a societal basis with immediate impact.

Objective of the project: What your project wants to achieve/change

Many successful companies are based in Mechelen (e.o.cities). However, they rarely focus to local citizens in their innovation needs. The project wants to pursue a measurable profit for each of them.

Why do you need transnational cooperation?

Many middle sized cities need to tackle the same societal challenges and do not have the innovation capacity within their own administration to find solutions. Enterprises in the region are not aware of the potential of cooperation with these cities. The cities can develop and implement a strategy of cooperation, together and bundle expertise in quadruple helix strategies and using innovation procurement etc.

What kind or partners are you looking for?

We are preferably looking for partners with experience in (urban) LivingLab initiated by SMEs and partners who are looking for models to measure the social profit of LivingLabs.

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