



# TAKE OFF ANTWERP

ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEM ANTWERP



## ECOSYSTEM ANTWERP

# TAKEOFFANTWERP\_ALLIANCE

From this academic year onwards, the city of Antwerp, the primary higher education institutions, youth center KAVKA, student association SINC and the chamber of commerce VOKA are combining their forces within 'TAKEOFFANTWERP\_ALLIANCE'.

The goal of this venture is to inform, support and motivate young people in Antwerp regarding entrepreneurship.

AGENTSCHAP  
INNOVEREN &  
ONDERNEMEN



EFRO  
EUROPEES FONDS  
VOOR REGIONALE  
ONTWIKKELING



**Europese Unie**



11 | CARRY VAN ANTWERPEN

## TakeOffAntwerp

# Bedrijf starten tijdens studie

Antwerpse universiteit en hogescholen openen gratis ruimte voor jonge ondernemers

**S**tudenten die een idee voor een eigen bedrijfje hebben, mogen dat idee uitwerken in een ruimte die de universiteit en de hogescholen daarvoor huren. "De komende vijf procent van minstens vijf procent van onze studenten een eigen zaak starten in Antwerpen", zegt de Antwerpse schepen Philip Heylen (CD&V).

\*De stad liet in de Kleine Cauberg, naast het studentenhuus Gate 15, een nieuwe ruimte bouwen voor ondernemende studenten. Die ruimte krijgt de naam TakeOffAntwerp.

"Wij huren dat gebouw voor 30.000 euro per jaar", zegt Robert Voorhamme, voorzitter van de Associatie Universiteit en Hogescholen Antwerpen. "In de komende weken kunnen studenten komen blokken voor de examens. Nu baat in dit gebouw met vrijdag

en toont dat hij de wil heeft om het uit te werken, kan daarvoor studiepunten verdienen", zegt Voorhamme. "Hij wordt dan vrijgesteld van andere taken, en krijgt daardoor de tijd om zijn idee voor een onderneming uit te werken. Hij wordt daar dan ook op beoordeeld door zijn professoren."

Nathalie Bovy, voorzitter van Vereecken mochten een succes dat TakeOffAntwerp een laatste wordt. "Wij zitten in ons laatste jaar Handelsingenieur, en moeten als onderdeel voor onze masterproef een zakenplan opstellen. TakeOffAntwerp opent voor ons Lissa Vereecken. "We gaan een en vooral de decanen van verschillende studierichtingen aanspreken. Zij kunnen ons helpen om het nieuws over TakeOffAntwerp te verspreiden naar hun studenten."

TakeOffAntwerp heeft vandaag al vier vergadertafels met telkens zo'n veertien stoelen. Studenten kunnen een plaatsje aan die vergadering reserveren via de website. "Ze



# HIGHER EDUCATION

Strategic Choice

Initiated by the Antwerp University Association:  
a collaboration between several HEI's.







# CITY OF ANTWERP

## Startup Policy

Goal: stimulate & support entrepreneurship

Less graduates starting up their own business  
in Antwerp, compared to other European  
student cities



# EVOLUTION

Before the start of this project, only 1 university college in Antwerp offered an entrepreneurship program for students.



**2014**

Development of a  
co-working space



**2015**

TAKEOFFANTWERP:  
a collaboration on  
student entrepreneurship



**2016**

TAKEOFFANTWERP\_ALLIANCE:  
a collaboration on  
young entrepreneurship



# TAKEOFF ANTWERP

LAUNCH 2015



**Fuelling entrepreneurship**



**Inspire – inform – support**



**Collaboration agreement between  
Antwerp University Association and the city of Antwerp**

- **Budget: 40.000 EUR / year**
- **1.5 FTE**



# MAIN PARTNERS

TAKEOFFANTWERP is established as a unique collaboration between 4 different kinds of organizations. Together they form the steering committee for the project.



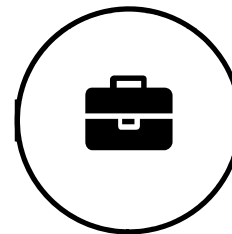
## CITY OF ANTWERP

Represented by a startup coach.



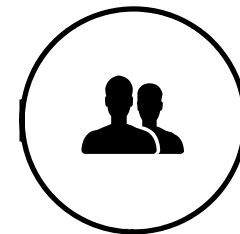
## HIGHER EDUCATION

The Antwerp University Association :  
1 university + 3 university colleges



## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Chamber of Commerce in Antwerp is a business network



## STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Student association SINC (Students for Innovation and Cooperation) stimulates students towards entrepreneurship

# FUELLING ENTREPRENEURSHIP

TAKEOFFANTWERP focuses on both entrepreneurship and intrapreneurship.







# ONE ON ONE COACHING

City of Antwerp

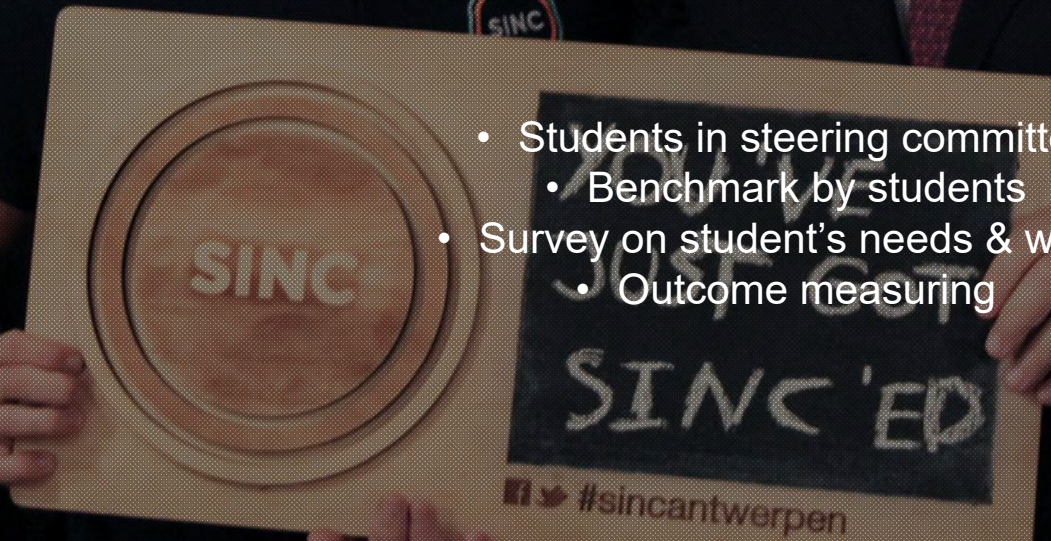
Free & neutral advice for all students





# ACTIVE STUDENTS

- Students in steering committee
  - Benchmark by students
- Survey on student's needs & wants
  - Outcome measuring







# INTERDISCIPLINARY

The project seeks to stimulate interdisciplinary thinking & team acting



15 MARCH 2016  
TEAM UP FOR YOUR FUTURE  
INNOVATION & INTERACTION  
internet of things





# LEARNING NETWORK

Ecosystem in Antwerp

Partners, HEI's, staff and students  
can learn from each other and together form an  
evolving entrepreneurial ecosystem in Antwerp



2016

# TAKEOFFANTWERP\_ALLIANCE

SUPPORTING ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEMS  
IN A STUDENT CITY

Following from a call by the European Regional Development Fund,  
the founding partners of TAKEOFFANTWERP decided to take a next step towards  
developing the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Antwerp



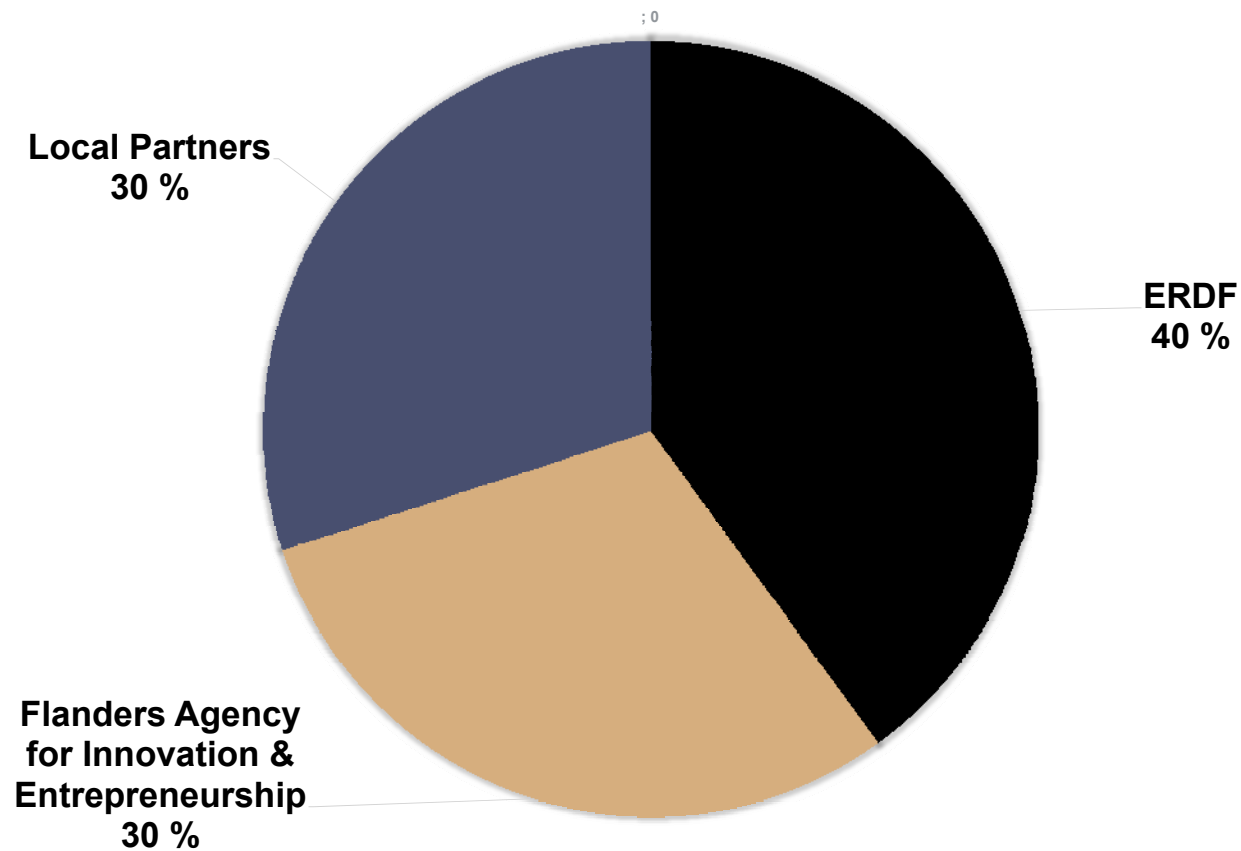


# PURPOSE

- ✓ Creating an entrepreneurial environment for youth
- ✓ Stimulate entrepreneurship and intrapreneurship
- ✓ Broadening and deepening existing partnerships



# PROJECT BUDGET





# A NEW COLLABORATION

For the establishment of TAKEOFFANTWERP\_ALLIANCE, the foundations of TAKEOFFANTWERP were broadened on two levels:



## FOUNDING PARTNERS

Youth organization KAVKA joined the existing partnership



## TARGET GROUP

The target group of TAKEOFFANTWERP\_ALLIANCE is twofold and consists of youth as well as staff





# YOUTH

AGED 18 - 24

Students in higher education institutions,  
Young potentials  
Young people not in employment, education or  
training





# STAFF

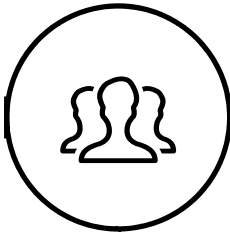
## INTERMEDIARY TARGET AUDIENCE

Teachers / researchers,  
Youth workers,  
Supportive staff

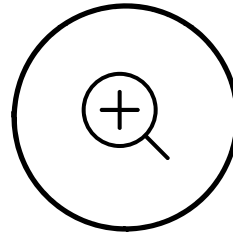


# PROJECT PILLARS

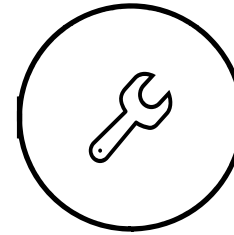
TAKEOFFANTWERP\_ALLIANCE focuses on 3 pillars:



**CONNECTION**



**EXPERTISE**



**SUPPORT**





CONNECTION

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EXPERTISE



A photograph of a group of people at a social gathering, possibly a conference or networking event. In the foreground, a man with a beard and dark hair is looking down at a small, colorful object (possibly a card or brochure) held in his hands. He is wearing a dark t-shirt with a red graphic. To his left, another man with glasses is partially visible, looking towards the same object. In the background, other people are blurred, suggesting a busy environment. The word "SUPPORT" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters, with a horizontal line underneath it.

**SUPPORT**  
—





## 2017 OUTCOMES

- Trans-institutional collaboration
- Bottom-up operation
- Official statute for student entrepreneurs at every HEI involved in the project
- Reach: 1500+ students
- Increased visibility
- Coaching by Chambers of Commerce
- First line support for every student



2017-...

# CHALLENGES

- Maintaining a collaboration between multiple partners
- Connecting with NEET youth
- Different approach between youth work and higher education
- Strategic embedding in the HEI
- University: coaching students?
- Continuity of students representatives
- Structural funding





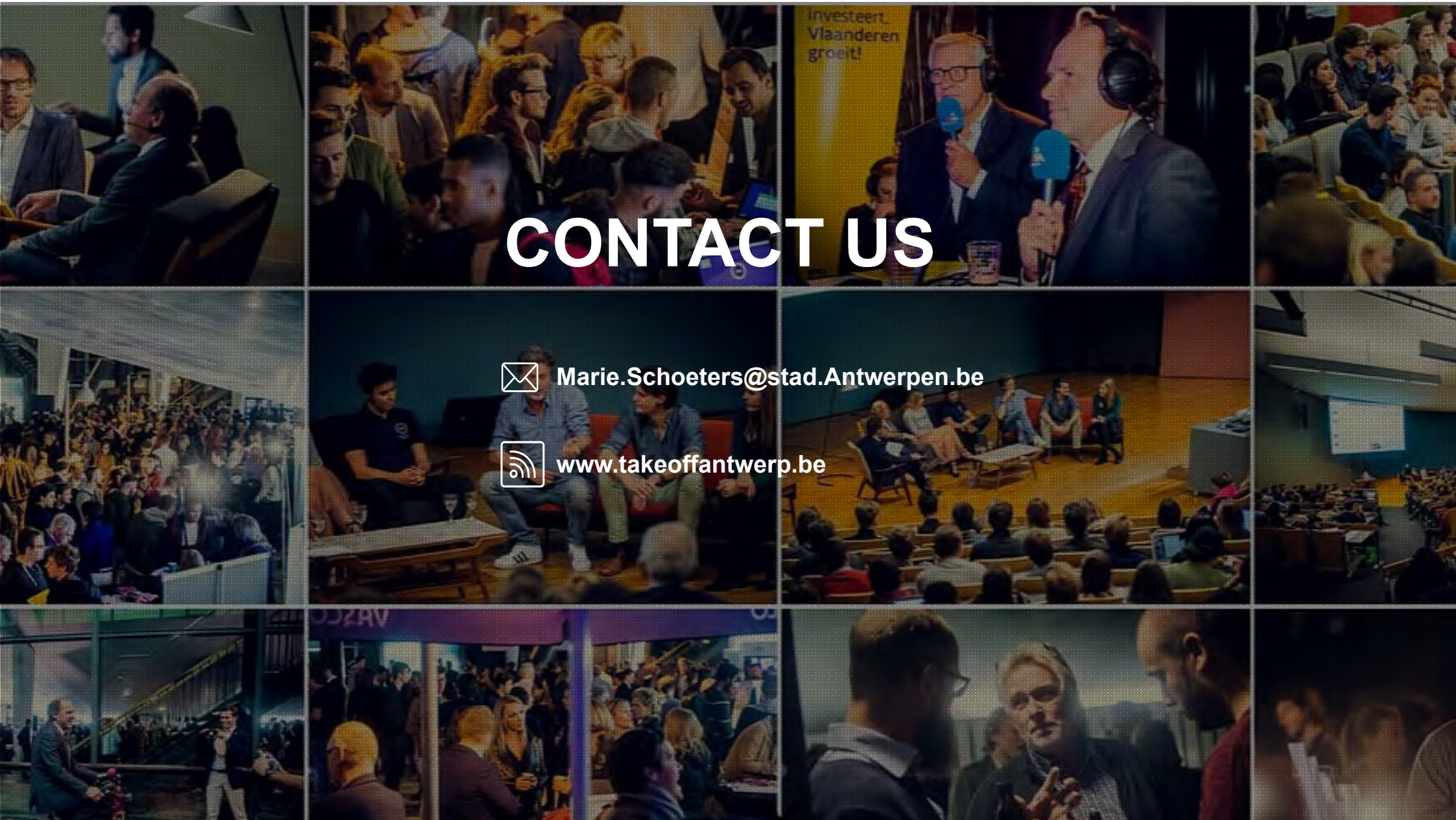
A wide-angle photograph of a large lecture hall. The audience, consisting of many young people, is seated in rows of wooden chairs, facing a stage. On the stage, a group of about seven people are seated in a semi-circle. To the left of the stage, a person is seated at a small desk with a laptop. A large screen on the left wall displays a social media feed with the hashtag #KICKOFFTANTW ERP. A smaller screen in the center background shows a map. The room has a high ceiling and a curved wall on the right side.

2018

# WHAT'S NEXT?

- Erasmus+ : Knowledge Alliance





CONTACT US



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www.takeoffantwerp.be