



# Defence & Dual-use Innovation

## Collaboration with East Netherlands region

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ZENIT R&I Days

**th!nk**  East  
NL

# Introduction East Netherlands region

- Think East Netherlands triple helix collaboration (universities; higher knowledge institutions; industry partners and regional government)
- Six innovation themes, including Defence & Dual-use Technology

## Track record:

- EDIH Boost Robotics East Netherlands
- AI Redgio Horizon
- Long standing history in (leading) Interreg-projects on topics from Digitalisation of the industry, circularity, smart materials, health and energy.
- I3: Healthcain; RegioGreenTex; 3DoP; Hy2Market
- Enterprise Europe Network



# Defence & Dual-Use Innovation Ecosystem

- **Cross-sector strength:** Strong integration with Digital Industry, Smart Energy and MedTech ecosystems, creating new dual-use innovation opportunities.
- **Companies:** High-tech SMEs, semiconductor companies, sensor and radar technology firms, cybersecurity scale-ups, drone and robotics companies, advanced materials and manufacturing industry.
- **Knowledge institutions:** University of Twente, Radboud University, Saxion University of Applied Sciences, HAN University of Applied Sciences, Windesheim University of Applied Sciences, Wageningen University & Research
- **Field labs & test facilities:** EDIH BOOST Robotics, TUCCR cyber ranges, test sites for UAV and counter-UAS technologies, digital twin laboratories, composite materials labs, battery systems test facilities.
- **Clusters & networks:** AI Hub East Netherlands, ChipTech Twente/Gelderland, OnePlanet Research Center, Centers for Cybersecurity, Industrial Reality Hub, Perron038, Connectr.

# Regional Strengths & Priorities

- **Cargo & defence logistics**

Resilient, smart and secure logistics solutions for civil and defence use, building on a strong manufacturing and logistics base.

- *Examples:* **VDL**, regional high-tech SMEs, Port of Twente ecosystem, digital twin and logistics test environments.

- **Counter-UAS & IAMD**

Integrated solutions for detection, tracking and neutralisation of aerial threats, combining sensors, radar, AI and command-and-control.

- *Examples:* **Thales**, **DEMCON**, specialised sensor and AI SMEs, **TUCCR cyber ranges**, UAV & counter-UAS test sites.

- **Low-altitude airspace surveillance**

Advanced monitoring and data-fusion capabilities for drones and hybrid threats in complex airspace.

- *Examples:* **Thales**, University of Twente research groups, UAV test locations, **EDIH BOOST Robotics**, digital twin labs.

# Looking for collaboration!

## What:

- Joint projects in defence & dual-use
- Interregional innovation alliances for stronger European value chains

## Potential Horizon calls (and more)

- HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-BM-03: Detection/characterisation of threats or illegal/smuggled goods in cargo
- HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-INFRA-01: Enhanced physical protection of critical infrastructure
- HORIZON-CL3-2027-01-SSRI-01: Accelerating uptake of advanced SME security innovation

Deadline: 4 November 2027

# Let's get in contact!

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