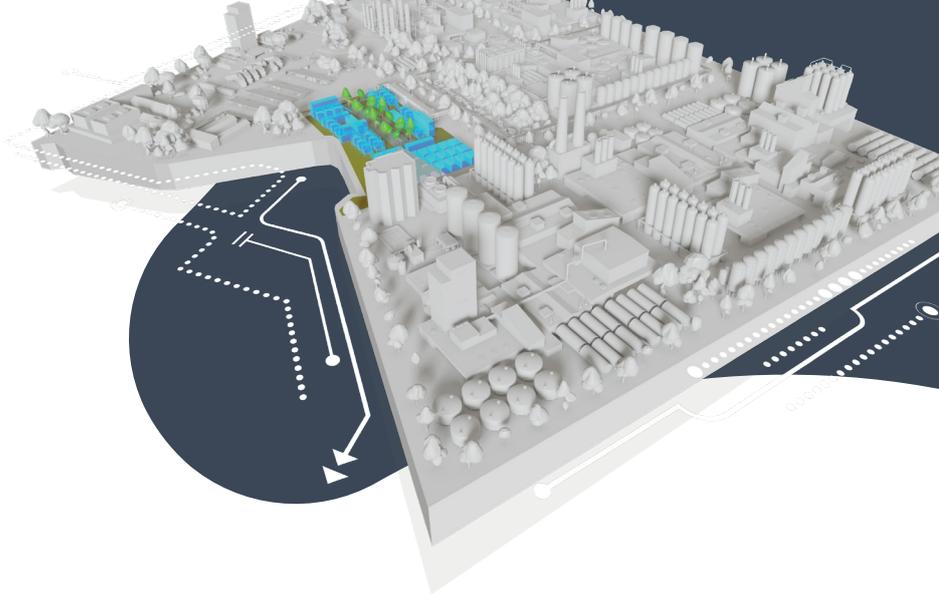


NextGen Demo

by Port of Antwerp-Bruges



Port of Antwerp-Bruges

With a total throughput of 289 million tonnes per year, Port of Antwerp-Bruges (hereinafter 'POAB') is a major hub in global trade and industry. The port is a crucial link for container handling, general cargo traffic and vehicle throughput. Port of Antwerp-Bruges is home to 1,400 companies and accommodates the largest integrated chemical cluster in Europe. The port provides, directly and indirectly, a total of 164,000 jobs and generates an added value of more than 21 billion euros.

POAB has a clear ambition: to become the first global port to reconcile economy, people and climate. The port not only wishes to further progress its growth trajectory; it also aims to focus on its unique position as a logistics, maritime and industrial centre and take the lead in the transition to a circular and low-carbon economy.

Within the principle of a landlord port, POAB owns or manages the land in the Antwerp port area and makes this public domain available to companies on the basis of domain concessions that enable them to carry out their projects.

Innovation hub

To spur this new economy and give budding initiatives a boost, POAB has provided an area within the NextGen District project site, an 88-hectare site in the industrial heart of the port.

NextGen District will host a number of interesting players within the circular industry:

- Plug Power, producing green hydrogen;
- Ekopak, circular water recycling company;
- Bolder Industries, recycling end-of-life car tyres into new raw materials;
- Triple Helix, recycling polyurethane foam and PET shells into new raw materials;
- PureCycle, recycling PP plastics into renewed PP plastics.

NextGen Demo, zone within NextGen District, aims to be the ideal catalyst for sustainable feedstock and energy transition innovations as an innovation hub. In this **zone of about 2 hectares**, demonstrators (start and scale-ups, spin-off businesses and pilot projects) active in the **sustainable and innovative chemistry and energy technology** can test and **demonstrate** their technologies **at a larger scale on the basis of a plug-and-play model**. As an entrepreneur, you can also count on the industry network with top global players and the accompanying ecosystem.

“ Demonstrators on NextGen Demo can count on an ecosystem maximising synergies, in the heart of the port and its industrial cluster.

Scope

To implement NextGen Demo, POAB specifically targets industrial circular and carbon smart demonstration projects with a TRL (technology readiness level*) of 6 to 8. POAB thus focuses on projects that need industrial proof-of-concept, through a pilot or demo unit, in order to move towards commercialisation. At the moment of submission, the project may still be at TRL 5.

Specifically, there is a focus on technologies in four domains:

- 1 Waste-to-X (chemicals/fuels)
- 2 CCU (Carbon Capture & Utilisation)
- 3 Bio-based technologies
- 4 Renewable energy storage and H₂-technologies

Offer

POAB has defined a general offer where, on the one hand, basic infrastructure is guaranteed and, on the other hand, through financial support from POAB, space is left for the demonstrator to attract further specific support (provided the applicable conditions are met).



Infrastructural design

- Basic infrastructure and connections to utilities such as drinking water, gas, electricity and data;
- Public domain including, among others, roads, bicycle and footpaths, rainwater infiltration via a communal rain infiltration area, public lighting and greenery;
- Plots (ready for building) from around 200 to 2,000 m². Depending on the project, plots can be combined;
- At the demonstrator's request, paving and fencing will be provided in consultation with POAB.



Community building with a view to matchmaking

- POAB wants to deploy its role as a community builder and its wide national and international network to facilitate and launch the demonstrators.
- In addition, it is POAB's intention to promote further partnerships with port companies open to potential exchange of knowledge, products and/or by-products. POAB thus aims to create an ecosystem (network) on top of the physical location;
- POAB organises events to strengthen the ecosystem and partnerships;
- A 'virtual NextGen Demo platform' might be provided in the longer term, where demonstrators can form part of an online proving ground in order to make a national and international name for themselves.



Financial support

- Depending on the qualitative assessment of the project proposal, there is the option of financial support for the further development of the project. This financial support will always be linked to milestones to be achieved by the applicant.



Duration

- Demonstrators can count on a concession with short duration to ensure flexibility, in order to stimulate growth to a commercial level.

* https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2014_2015/annexes/h2020-wp1415-annex-g-trl_en.pdf