



Network of Regional Energy Transition-Labs (NoREST)

Co-Creation Workshop

25 – 26 June 2024

Preliminary Agenda

Meeting Location

Thor Central

Thor Park 8000

3600 Genk, Belgium

Registration

Please register here via [this link](#) to confirm your participation.



Dear participant,

Thank you for your interest in the co-creation workshop for the new collaborative initiative “**Network of Regional Energy Transition-Labs**” (NoREST) by [ERA-Net Smart Energy Systems](#) and [CETPartnership TRI 5](#)!

During the two days, we gather representatives of funding agencies and pioneer living labs across Europe to openly share experiences and ideas based on which we jointly create a vision of how NoREST Labs can create an innovation-friendly environment for need owners. This is your chance to **generate new perspectives** and identify **future business opportunities** at European level!

Enclosed in this brochure, you will find all necessary information for your attendance at the workshop on **25 & 26 June** at EnergyVille, Genk, Belgium:

- Preliminary agenda
- Learn more about Genk and EnergyVille
- How to get to the location & where to stay

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us via the contact details below.

We look forward to seeing you in Genk!

Best regards,

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Agenda | Day 01

25 June 2024 | 8:30 – 18:00 (CEST)

Day 1	
08:30 – 09:00	Arrival & check-in
09:00 – 09:45	Interactive Warm Up , Get Together & Get to Know all participants involved
09:45 – 10:00	Welcome Statement , Goals & Co-Creation Setup
10:00 – 11:30	Sprint: Identify & Share learnings from the past 24 months Separate formats for Leading Pioneers & Funding Agencies: ABC Talks along guiding questions & 1-2-4-All-Focus Groups
11:30 - 11:45	Coffee break
11:45 – 12:30	Transfer: Highlights & Take Aways from 1-2-4-All Focus Groups from Leading Pioneers & Funding Agencies
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break
13:30 – 14:00	Sprint Warm Up: Shift in Perspective – Leading Pioneers & Funding Agencies and vice versa.
14:00 – 15:30	Sprint: What slows innovation? Identify relevant barriers in small design groups.
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break
16:00 – 17:30	Sprint: What enables innovation? Identify relevant gamechangers to create an innovation-friendly environment in small design groups.
17:30 – 18:30	Experience Sprint Results & Cool Down followed by Networking, Food & Drinks
19:30	Dinner



Agenda | Day 02

26 June 2024 | 9:00 – 14:30 (CEST)

Day 2	
09:00 – 10:00	Input: Learnings & Overview of the survey among Pioneers & Funding Agencies 1) Main areas of work and identified challenges. 2) Form Sprint Agenda & Task definitions: Identified common issues + tasks and other topics identified on the first day.
10:00 – 11:15	Sprint: Deep Dive on common issues and tasks in small teams
11:15 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 12:30	Challenge: Results and further development of the proposals in small teams
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break
13:30 – 14:30	Final Focus: Host pitch 1) identified + developed ideas for emerging initiatives 2) identified need for further support.
14:30	Next Steps & Closing
14:30	Visit of the EnergyVille building
19:00	Dinner in town (for those staying in Genk)



Events in Genk



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1. About us

1.1. About Genk

Genk is a young city that cleverly developed on the foundations of its rich mining past: an agricultural village that grew into a true city due to its dynamics and versatility. A city that also presents itself on Flanders' economic map. It is a city full of interesting contrasts.



The city is coloured by the diversity that went hand-in-hand with its mining history. Starting off with the cultural melting pot – no less than 80 nationalities, each with their own cultural values and standards, live together in an atmosphere of mutual respect. Added to this are the historical landmarks of the city such as the monumental mining architecture and the beautiful garden suburbs that blend in harmoniously with the new, modern architecture.

Another contrast is that of a working-class town that focuses on a knowledge-based economy and wants to inspire its old economy towards innovation. Also a city with a great variety of residential areas, ranging from characteristic mining suburbs to monumental villas. Another contrast is the industrial image combined with the title of greenest city in Flanders. Harmony in contrast: that is what it is all about. This blend of fragrance, colour, taste and cultural background is combined with the day-to-day events in Genk. It is versatile and intriguing.

1.2. About EnergyVille



EnergyVille is a collaboration between the Belgian research partners KU Leuven, VITO, imec and UHasselt in the fields of sustainable energy and intelligent energy systems. EnergyVille develops technology and knowledge to support public and private stakeholders in the transition to an energy efficient, decarbonised and sustainable urban environment. The unique complementarity of the research partners allows us to integrate the energy system value chain in its entirety, ranging from materials and components to the level of entire energy systems, business models and strategies. Our activities are

clustered in eight interdisciplinary domains: solar energy, battery storage, power electronics, power-to-molecules, thermal systems, electrical networks, energy for buildings and districts, energy strategies and markets.

With approximately 400 researchers and state-of-the-art research facilities, EnergyVille is a top European innovation hub in the energy field. It bundles research, development and training under one roof and collaborates closely with local, regional, national and international partners from industry as well as public authorities.

As an energy R&D innovation hub, located in the industry-oriented ecosystem of Thor Park (Genk, Belgium), EnergyVille offers an attractive environment for energy research, industrial product development and business creation. The collaboration is supported by the city of Genk, the Province of Limburg, LRM, Nuhma, POM Limburg and the European structural funds.

2. Practical Information

2.1. Passport and Visa

Participants will need to hold and have with them a valid id-card or passport to enter Belgium.

Citizens of the European Union and the Schengen area are exempted from visa requirements. Other participants may require a visa. This should be checked with the Belgian embassy or consular office in the participant's country. Participants are responsible for all arrangements and costs for their passport and visa. If you need a formal letter of invitation, please contact: info@energyville.be

2.2. Hotels in Genk

In the city of Genk you will find almost twenty hotels in a broad price range. However, for ease of organisation, we do recommend you stay at one of the hotels listed below.

Carbon hotel ** (60 rooms)**

Europalaan 38
3600 Genk
www.carbonhotel.com

M Hotel ** (65 rooms)**

Albert Remansstraat 1
3600 Genk
<http://www.differenthotels.be/nl/Hotels/M-Hotel>

Green hotel* (23 rooms)**

Europalaan 68
3600 Genk
www.greenhotel.be

Hotel Ecu * (50 rooms)**

Europalaan 46
3600 Genk
www.hotelecu.com

Hotel Stiemerheide **(70 rooms)**

Wiemesmeerstraat 105
3600 Genk
www.stiemerheide.be

You can also find the full list on the website of the regional tourism board:

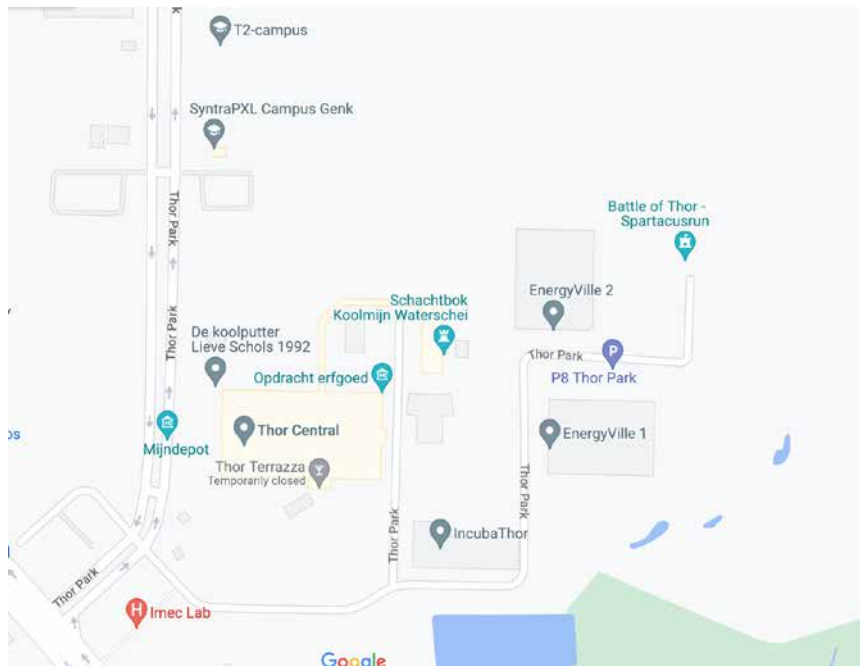
<https://www.visitlimburg.be/en/find-your-stay>

2.3. How to reach the venue

Address:

Thor Central
Thor Park 8000
3600 Genk
Belgium

Navigation: André Dumontlaan 67
3600 Genk, Belgium



Visitors' parking is available at the entrance of the Thor Par

Warning! It is not allowed to park in front of the building: on the gravel, in the little 'park' or on the road in the whole of Thor Park. Parking guards check Thor Park very regularly for offenders.

2.3.1. Arriving at Brussels Airport

Information about Brussels Airport: www.brusselsairport.be

We suggest you take the train. The airport railway station is situated within the airport building (floor -2).

- Brussels Airport → change trains in Hasselt → Genk
Duration: +/- 90 minutes

For information about the schedule: www.belgianrail.be/en

Price: +/- 21 euros

2.3.2. Arriving by train in Brussels

By train to Genk

www.belgianrail.be/en

2.3.3. Arriving by train in Genk

From the railway station to your hotel

- Hotels within walking distance
- Bus: www.delijn.be/en
- Eco-Taxi:
www.eco-taxi.be
- Taxi Peters
Turfstraat 54 - 3600 Genk
Tel: +32 475 30 62 91
E-mail: info@taxipeters.be
www.taxipeters.be

2.3.4. Going to the venue

From your hotel to Thor Park

We will foresee a shuttle service in the morning and evening

Easy bus connections

- www.delijn.be/en
- From Genk railway station:

Bus stop 'Thor Park'
Served by City Line G1
takes 15 minutes to arrive at Thor Park
Between 6h and 20h, every half hour
Between 7h and 9h, every 15 minutes

Bus stop "Waterschei Mijn"
Served by other bus lines following school hours/days (lines 1, 31, and 33)

Bus stop "Waterschei Bascule"
at 1 km of Thor Park

served by:

- City line G7 Genk - Zutendaal: frequency of one bus per hour in both directions
- Regional line 8 Genk - Overpelt: frequency of one bus per hour in both directions with additional service during rush hour
- Regional line 9 Genk - Lanklaar: various trips per day
- Regional line 11 Genk - Maaseik: frequency of one bus per hour in both directions with additional service during rush hour
- Regional lines 1, 31, 33, 40 and 45 with a number of services per day

2.3.5. General Information

- Time Zone: GMT + 1:00 hour
- Average temperature in September: 20° C
- Currency: Euro (€)
- Electricity Supply: 230 volts AC, 50 Hz
- Water: water throughout the country is potable and safe for drinking. Bottled water is available in hotels, restaurants, supermarkets, etc.
- Smoking: in Belgium, smoking is not allowed inside, however there is a smoking area outside the meeting building.

3. Practical information

3.1. Useful numbers in Belgium

3.1.1. General

112	Emergency Unit
105	Red Cross
100	Ambulance & Fire Brigade
1405	Telephone Enquiries
101	Police

3.2. International phone calls

To call a Belgian number from abroad, dial country code +32, followed by the phone number.

For international calls from Belgium, begin with dialling 00 followed by the country code and the phone number.