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Foreign Affairs,

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Development Cooperation

Creating a Belgian eco-system for sustainable technology transfer to LMIC countries



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Executive Summary

Technology owners face an economic trade-off between licensing technologies and intellectual assets to high-value commercial markets ensuring cost recovery and profit generation or allocating IP for societal benefit, potentially reducing short-term revenue or cannibalizing profitable markets.

UNCTAD (2014) shares in their report [Transfer of Technology and Knowledge sharing for development: Science, technology and innovation issues for developing countries](#) that: *“Technological learning and innovation are essential for economic growth and development and are major determinants of long-term improvements in income and living standards. While in the more advanced economies technological progress involves the generation of new knowledge that can be applied to productive activity, for developing countries technological progress is strongly influenced by their ability to access, adapt and diffuse technological knowledge that has been generated abroad”*.

Recent reports provide a more detailed insight that highlight how the technology gap between developed and developing countries is not closing fast enough, and in places may even be widening, with several developing countries spearheading change while many others experience technological poverty. The UNCTAD (2025) report on [Technology and Innovation](#) highlights asymmetries in knowledge creation, skills, ICT, R&D, industry and finance. Furthermore, it states that commercial motives of leading technology companies not always align with the public interest. Governments therefore need to explore policies and regulations that can incentivize and guide technological development along a path that promotes inclusivity and benefits everyone. Next, the UNCTAD [Digital Economy Report](#) (2024) highlights that developing countries reap fewer benefits but bear the brunt of the environmental costs of digitalization. In its report [Technology transfer and innovation for low-carbon development](#), The World Bank (2023) underscores the urgency of accelerating North-South technology transfer and calls to action for the widespread deployment and mass-scale transfer of low-carbon technologies from high-income countries to the developing world.

Historically, technology transfer projects from industrialized to developing countries have failed repeatedly. Technology transfer projects within the development cooperation area comprise various challenges under economic, environmental, social, institutional and technical dimensions, such as inappropriate technology, operation and maintenance issues and lack of socio-cultural entrenchment. Bendul et al (2015) argue that transfer methodologies are more important than the technology itself and it should incorporate aspects and methods from various disciplines such as project management, production, marketing and business innovation to ensure sustainable technology transfer and poverty alleviation¹.

In search of technology transfer methodologies capable of closing the technology gap, Impact Licensing has emerged as a plug-and-play framework that transforms IP into a catalyst for measurable societal and environmental impact with a specific focus on the UN SDG goals while preserving economic viability.

It is a hybrid intellectual property framework that grants conditional, purpose-driven rights to deploy innovations toward defined social or environmental goals (**Intentionality**). It complements existing markets by targeting underserved contexts without displacing commercial value (**Additionality**). Licenses embed rigorous accountability through impact metrics covering technical, societal, and business outcomes (**Measurement**). They go beyond IP transfer by including know-how, tools, and resources that enable sustainable adoption (**Comprehensiveness**). Through reciprocal innovation feedback (**Shared Value**) and inclusive governance with all stakeholders (**Participation**), Impact Licensing transforms IP into a catalyst for

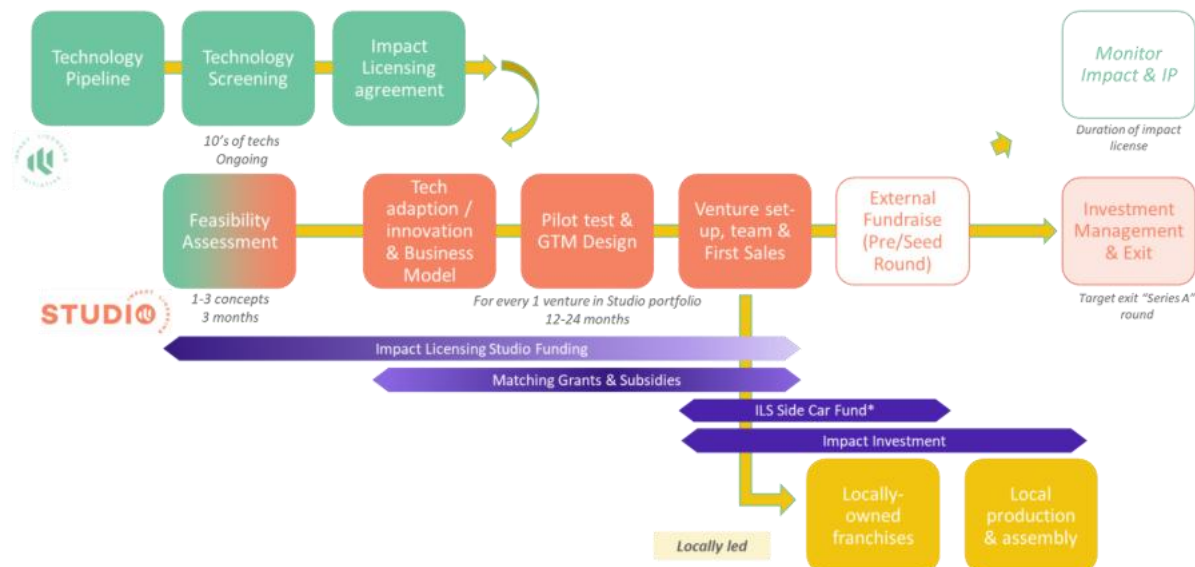
¹ [\[1\]](#) J. Bendul, E. Rosca, T. Hoffmann (2015). Sustainable Technology Transfer For Poverty Alleviation: A Unified Framework For Challenges And Transdisciplinary Solution Approaches. [Sustainable Development and Planning](#) vol. 196 p. 823 – 834. DOI : 10.2495/SDP150691

measurable societal and environmental impact with specific focus on the UN SDG goals while preserving economic viability.

The Impact Licensing Initiative (ILI) has been establishing a **Belgian ecosystem** to scale purpose-driven technology transfer through impact licensing, and an Impact Licensing Ecosystem built around two mutually reinforcing pillars: a Belgian technology transfer facility and a venture building platform to accelerate technology transfer, the Impact Licensing Studio.

Venture Building Model

Partnership between Impact Licensing Studio & Impact Licensing Initiative



In this proposal, four mechanisms are proposed aiming to strengthen both the Belgian private sector and the Belgian development cooperation:

1. **Impact IP Pools** (curated repositories) consolidate high-potential technologies from Belgian research institutions and companies, simplifying identification, licensing, and deployment for both technology holders and adopters. The formal establishment of the partnership between the United Nations Technology Bank and ILI serves as the backbone for an IP Pool for LMICs. By prioritizing technologies with strong societal impact potential, the IP pools accelerate deployment in sectors such as health, agriculture, clean energy, and climate adaptation.
2. **The establishment of strategic partnerships** with Belgian and Global South R&D centers. Despite Belgium's strong research and innovation capacity, the integration of frugal innovation principles into corporate strategies remains fragmented and underutilized. Frugal innovations not only lower the costs of transferring sustainable technologies to low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) but also enable Belgian companies to develop scalable products suitable for global markets, creating benefits for the broader Belgian economy.
3. **A blended Impact financing model:** ILI will coordinate these partnerships with R&D centers in the global South to accelerate the activities of the ILS, to reduce transaction costs and mobilize blended financing – combining public subsidies, private capital, and in-kind contributions from R&D centres. This approach strengthens the entire technology transfer ecosystem, ensures alignment with regional development needs, and maximizes societal outcomes from licensed technologies. In doing so, ILI aims to position the

ILS as a blended impact financing mechanism and consolidate its activities in a flagship project (e.g. Global Gateways).

4. **Innovative revenue approaches** ensuring long-term financial sustainability e.g. Licensing-as-a-service (LaaS) and outcome-based licensing linking royalty payments to measurable societal outcomes. These models incentivize the generation of social and environmental value while maintaining economic viability for technology owners.

Expected key results:

1. **Stimulating frugal innovation within the ecosystem**
By encouraging the repurposing of existing intellectual assets for low-resourced settings, Belgium can foster a culture of frugal innovation that benefits a wide range of actors, including research institutions, startups, and public organizations. Insights and improvements generated through these applications can be reintegrated into the broader innovation ecosystem, enhancing collective knowledge and enabling more cost-efficient development pathways without requiring substantial upfront R&D investments.
2. **Strengthening Belgium's international innovation footprint**
Positioning Belgian knowledge and innovation in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals can reinforce the country's role as a global innovation partner. Beyond product export, this approach promotes the exchange of expertise, collaborative research, and capacity building, thereby embedding Belgian actors in international innovation networks and enhancing the visibility and relevance of the national ecosystem.

Enhancing ecosystem incentives through soft power and collaboration
By fostering cross-sector partnerships, knowledge-sharing platforms, and long-term international collaborations, Belgian stakeholders can strengthen the overall cohesion and attractiveness of the innovation ecosystem. These efforts build soft power, reinforce Belgium's position as a hub for responsible innovation, and create an enabling environment that supports sustained ecosystem-wide growth and influence.

Through sustainable innovation, bridging the gap between cutting-edge research and real-world applications, capacity building and supporting local production, this approach will not only increase the societal and economic value of impact licensing but will strengthen Belgium's development cooperation goals. At the same time, Impact Licensing contributes to the Belgian innovation ecosystem enhancing the frugal innovation potential, while promoting sustainable technology transfer globally.

In doing so, Impact Licensing positions Belgium as a leveraging partner in pioneering inclusive, impact-driven technology transfer architectures that align scientific excellence with societal and environmental value creation, enabling the country to set a European benchmark for purpose-oriented IP management and SDG-aligned innovation deployment.

Summary of ILI achievements 2023-2025

The last three years ILI could -through essential funding of the Belgian Government- develop and validate its initial concept, technology screening and architecture of the impact licensing ecosystem model.

The Impact Licensing Initiative (ILI) has established a Belgian ecosystem to scale purpose-driven technology transfer through impact licensing, built around two mutually reinforcing pillars: a Belgian Technology Transfer Facility and a venture platform to accelerate technology transfer, the Impact Licensing Studio. The development of the Impact Licensing (IL) concept, as well as the architecture of the ecosystem model with its Technology Transfer facility and venture platform has reached a stage where conceptual clarity and initial validation have been achieved.

The **Belgian Technology Transfer Facility for Impact (TT4I)** called Impact Licensing Initiative was set up as an intermediary hub that assesses research, innovation and technology in its ecosystem for its potential for societal valorisation with focus on the UN SDG goals. Its role is to identify promising technologies, screen them for societal applications, and broker impact licensing agreements between technology holders—such as universities, research centers, and R&D-driven companies—and licensees operating in societal markets. Functioning as neutral brokers, the tech transfer facility ensures that agreements are transparent, balanced, and aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. They reconcile the economic interests of IP holders with broader public value, enabling innovations to reach underserved or mission-critical markets in a scalable and responsible way.

ILI engaged **key supporting stakeholders** and developed a **Global Partnership Network** with governmental agencies, institutional and regulatory actors, NGO's, incubators, development agencies, research institutions, universities and the private sector in the North and South, resulting in **technology transfer waves** with 24 screenings of technologies. A **shared service center** for sustainable technology transfer (IP4IMPACT) has been launched in November 2025. ILI also signed a **structural collaboration agreement** with the United Nation's Technology Bank for the Least Developed countries to initiate an impact IP pool. Something we eagerly like to leverage for taking key action in the coming three years. Furthermore, European funding was secured through **Horizon Europe CSA** for the period 2024-2027, in which the knowledge and experience gained from setting up the Belgian Technology Transfer Facility and ecosystem will be harnessed for creating a European ecosystem on Impact Licensing. An additional venture, **READ Impact Venture** was also set up in Octobre 2025.

To support the Technology Transfer Facility, the **Impact Licensing Studio (ILS)** was set up in December 2025 as a start-up venture builder dedicated to translating impact-licensed technologies into market-ready solutions aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). ILS follows a structured process: validating market demand and adapting technologies with Global South partners; designing go-to-market strategies with local companies; recruiting and coaching entrepreneurial teams; and finally setting up ventures with robust financial models to attract investment. The spinning out of the ILS in December 2025 allowed the Impact Licensing Studio (=ILS) to establish a **first impact fund in Belgium**, and an **acceleration and venture builder platform** to transform licensed technologies into investable, impact-driven ventures. This approach ensured that technologies are not only transferred but effectively deployed through viable, scalable businesses. The successful incubation of the ILS through the prior funding cycle, enabled the Studio to refine its model, **build a portfolio of ventures**, and **attract first investment**. 1M€ in committed capital has already been secured. This foundation now allows ILS to scale its operations, raise new investment, and co-found companies that bring technologies to underserved markets.

Trends and challenges

Impact licensing became even more relevant as Belgium is one of the leading R&D economies in Europe, spending nearly €20 billion annually on research and development—equivalent to 3.32% of its GDP. This places Belgium just behind Sweden in terms of R&D intensity within the EU. Approximately 74% of this investment is financed by the private sector, with the remainder coming from public institutions and universities. R&D is thus a central pillar of Belgium's knowledge economy and global competitiveness. The Draghi Report

recommends further increasing this investment to 3.5% of GDP across the EU, affirming the critical role of innovation in shaping Europe’s strategic future.

At the same time, however, Belgium and other high-income countries have seen a relative decline in funding for international cooperation—falling to just 10–15% compared to total R&D budgets. This creates a growing gap in its efforts to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). To bridge this gap, new models are needed to channel the power of science, innovation, and intellectual property toward inclusive global impact. Impact licensing offers such a model since it enables the strategic and responsible transfer of technologies to underserved regions, without compromising the economic interests of the technology owner.

The Belgian context, exhibiting high R&D spending by the private sector, as well as the decline in funding for international cooperation, create a unique opportunity to leverage impact licensing as a tool to support the private sector whilst committing to support the Belgian development cooperation and contributing to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The next Chapter highlights the key actions and mechanisms that ILI will introduce in support of this goal and frames the expected impact of these mechanisms for the Belgian economy and Belgian international development objectives.

Scope of the project 2026-2029

Building further upon the ILI achievements described, as well as the current economic trends and challenges, ILI aims to develop in this project **four complementary mechanisms** to reinforce its technology transfer platform:

Impact IP Pools – Establishing dedicated Impact IP pools to facilitate Belgian technology transfer to underserved markets (See WP1).

In the current project cycle, ILI aims to establish an impact licensing framework that maximizes its leverage on the SDGs through the **creation of Impact IP Pools** while positioning itself as a key actor for private sector engagement in international cooperation.

Impact IP Pools curated repositories consolidate high-potential technologies from Belgian research institutions and companies, simplifying identification, licensing, and deployment for both technology holders and adopters. By prioritizing technologies with strong societal impact potential, **the IP pools accelerate deployment in sectors such as health, agriculture, clean energy, and climate adaptation**. Each technology is screened for its contribution to specific SDGs and licensed under structured agreements that define measurable outcomes, mission locks, and monitoring mechanisms, increasing both societal value and investor confidence. The pools encourage co-development, local adaptation, and joint innovation with partners in target markets, enhancing adoption success, building local capacity, and **strengthening North–South collaboration**.

Standardized licensing frameworks reduce risk for technology owners and provide clarity on legal and operational terms, allowing multiple market deployments while maintaining control over core intellectual property. Categorizing technologies into dedicated pools for LDCs, green technologies, or global health solutions enables systematic deployment, impact tracking, and iterative improvement of licensing strategies. By demonstrating a pipeline of high-impact, SDG-aligned technologies, Impact IP Pools **attract blended investment**—including grants, concessionary capital, and impact finance—to fund adaptation, pilot testing, and scale-up. This **strengthens financial sustainability, expands the reach of technology transfer, and ensures that Belgian innovation delivers tangible benefits to underserved markets, reinforcing Belgium’s position as a global leader in socially responsible technology transfer**.

Strategic Partnerships – Creating collaborations with Belgian and Global South R&D centers and leveraging Team Belgium for frugal innovation (See WP2).

A key mechanism to reinforce ILI's platform is the **establishment of strategic partnerships with Belgian and Global South R&D centers**. These partnerships enable co-creation, local adaptation, and pilot testing of technologies while reducing transaction costs and accelerating impact. Strategic partnerships also serve as a bridge for knowledge exchange, capacity building, and multi-market scaling, allowing Belgian innovations to reach underserved regions more efficiently.

Despite Belgium's strong research and innovation capacity, the integration of frugal innovation principles into corporate strategies remains fragmented and underutilized. This represents a missed opportunity: frugal innovations not only lower the costs of transferring sustainable technologies to low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) but also enable Belgian companies to develop scalable products suitable for global markets, creating benefits for the broader Belgian economy. By offering tailored services and **support for frugal innovation strategies**, the International Licensing Initiative (ILI) seeks to **strengthen its capacity to facilitate access to innovation for Belgian industry**, while simultaneously expanding its pipeline of impact-licensed technologies.

Blended Impact Financing Model – Positioning impact licensing as a strategic tool for private sector engagement in international cooperation (See WP3).

ILI will coordinate these partnerships with R&D centers in the global South to accelerate the activities of the ILS, to reduce transaction costs and mobilize blended financing - combining public subsidies, private capital, and in-kind contributions from R&D centres. This approach strengthens the entire technology transfer ecosystem, ensures alignment with regional development needs, and maximizes societal outcomes from licensed technologies. In doing so, ILI aims in this project to position the **ILS as a blended impact financing mechanism** and **consolidate its activities in a flagship project** (e.g. Global Gateways).

Novel Income Models – Implementing innovative approaches such as leasing-as-a-service and outcome-based licensing to strengthen financial sustainability (See WP4).

To ensure long-term financial sustainability for the ILI Belgian clearing house, ILI will investigate **innovative revenue approaches** alongside traditional licensing. **Licensing-as-a-service (LaaS)** models allow technology owners to receive a percentage of royalties tied directly to technology usage, creating continuous revenue streams without upfront barriers for users. **Outcome-based licensing** links royalty payments to measurable societal outcomes, such as patient treatments, clean water access, or CO₂ emissions reductions. These models incentivize the generation of social and environmental value while maintaining economic viability for technology owners. By piloting and refining these approaches, ILI creates **replicable frameworks** for linking financial returns with tangible impact, supporting sustainable growth and scalability of technology transfer initiatives.

Expected key results

Through these mechanism ILI **aims to strengthen both the Belgian private sector and the Belgian development cooperation**. For the Belgian private sector it is expected that the four mechanisms will create the incentives to engage with impact licensing and create a strong case for **frugal innovation**, while creating **impact with Belgian technologies on the UN SDG goals** strengthens the Belgian development cooperation.

Frugal innovation involves creating high-value products or services using minimal resources and prioritizes affordability, efficiency, and sustainability. Frugal innovation—the development and deployment of affordable, resource-efficient, and context-appropriate solutions—represents a significant strategic opportunity to enhance both the competitiveness and resilience of the Belgian private sector, while promoting sustainable technology transfer globally.

The ILI stimulates frugal innovation by, facilitating knowledge transfer,, and fostering a culture of lean innovation. By repurposing intellectual assets of companies for low-resourced setting and to give access to

these improvements to the technology owners for its own core markets, **Belgian companies can learn and strengthen their own innovation and valorisation.** The transfer of expertise—including technical guidance, know-how, and best practices—ensures technologies are adapted to local market conditions or resource-constrained environments. Optimization of design, production, modularity, and local sourcing further enhances **understanding of technology owners in global, emerging markets.**

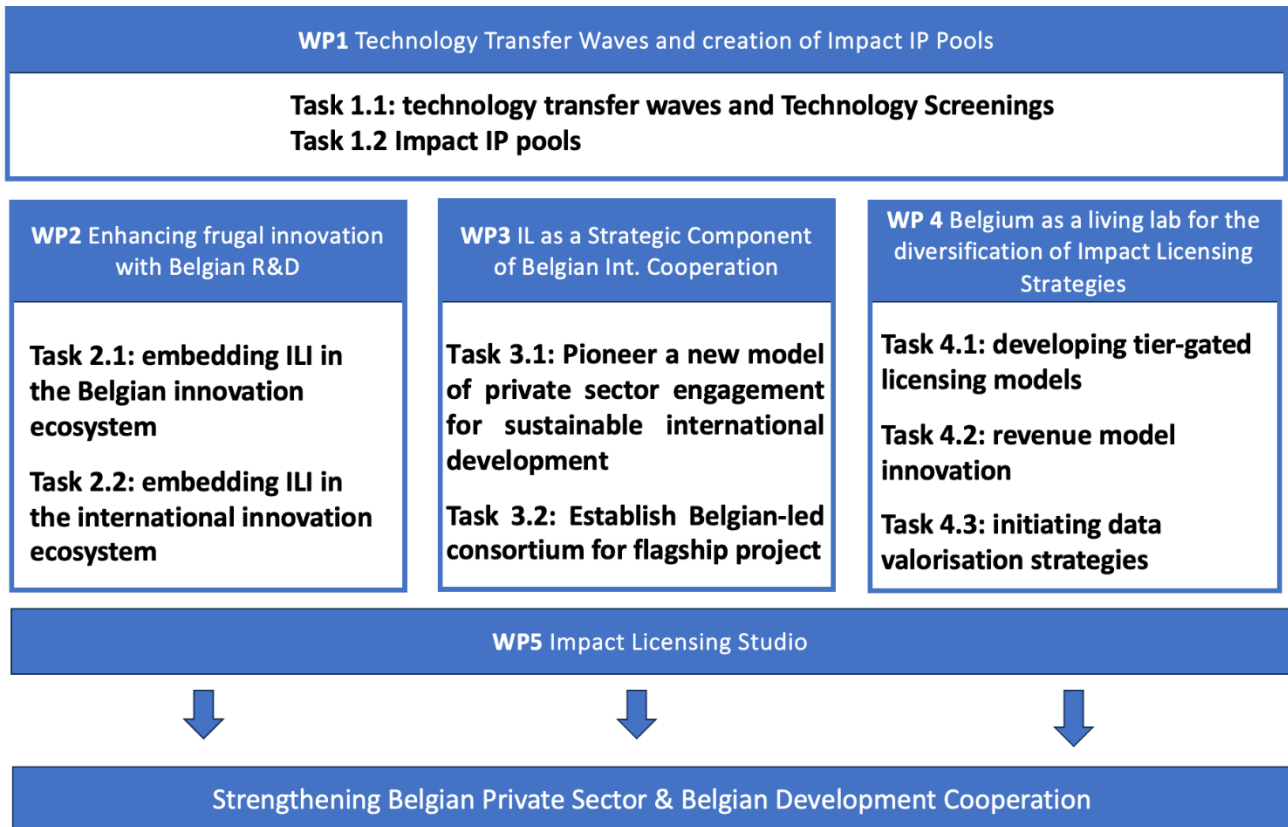
Impact Licensing can serve as a powerful mechanism to strengthen Belgium's international innovation ecosystem by positioning national knowledge and expertise in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. This approach promotes the exchange of capabilities, adaptability, and trust between Belgian actors and international partners. Structured technology transfer—through mechanisms such as patent licensing, training, consulting, and collaborative research—supports the adaptation of innovations to diverse regulatory and societal contexts, while contributing to global capacity building and shared learning.

By embedding the principles of additionality and intentionality, Impact Licensing enables responsible and strategic knowledge sharing across borders, reducing barriers to collaboration and facilitating access to new environments for innovation. A range of instruments, including licensing frameworks, joint initiatives, technical assistance, digital platforms, and international R&D partnerships, can create scalable and lower-risk pathways for ecosystem actors to engage globally. In doing so, they reinforce Belgium's role in international innovation networks, support alignment with global standards, and foster durable, trust-based collaborations.

Through this approach, Impact Licensing contributes to a more connected, resilient, and outward-looking Belgian innovation ecosystem, while also enabling broader access to essential technologies in underserved contexts—an objective that will remain central to this project. Soft power represents a critical lever for strengthening engagement across the Belgian innovation ecosystem in Impact Licensing Initiatives (ILI). Through responsible technology transfer, Belgian actors—including universities, research centers, public institutions, and industry—can contribute to shaping development trajectories in low- and middle-income countries by sharing research, know-how, and technological expertise in ways that build credibility and trust. Initiatives such as training programs, academic collaborations, open-source solutions, and innovation hubs help establish shared norms, facilitate mutual learning, and promote the uptake of Belgian approaches to innovation. By fostering collaborative networks and long-term international partnerships, this approach enhances the connectivity, visibility, and influence of the Belgian innovation ecosystem as a whole. It encourages knowledge circulation across sectors and borders, reinforcing Belgium's role as a trusted partner in global innovation processes. Ultimately, this strategy increases the societal and economic value generated through impact licensing at the ecosystem level, while strengthening Belgium's position as a hub for sustainable and responsible innovation—bridging the gap between advanced research and practical applications in diverse global contexts.

The establishment of equitable, inclusive and legally sound technology and knowledge transfer mechanisms through Impact Licensing represents a set of tools that **strengthens the Belgian development cooperation.** This approach ensures that innovations generated through research and innovation activities not only foster economic growth and societal returns but also deliver **inclusive benefits by addressing unmet needs** in vulnerable populations, regions, and sectors. By enabling **equitable access to technologies in underserved markets** while **safeguarding sustainable revenue streams**, this integrated strategy enhances both the societal valorisation and the economic valorisation of research outcomes, thereby aligning Belgian cooperation with **global commitments to equitable and sustainable development.** By reinforcing the dual pathways of societal and economic valorisation, the action enhances inclusiveness, supports sustainable development objectives, and positions Belgian cooperation as a **driver of transformative impact in line with the UN SDGs.**

Description Work Packages



WP1: Technology Transfer Waves and Impact IP Pools for UN SDG impact to underserved markets

- O1.1:** Validate and expand a stage-gated technology transfer model across four waves.
- O1.2:** Create and operationalize Impact IP Pools (LDC countries, green technologies) and exploration of IP pools in other sectors including a global health pool
- O1.3:** Establish structured pathways for societal valorisation from Belgian universities and companies to LMICs and underserved markets.

In WP1, ILI will continue validation and expand upon its technology transfer waves (see project period 2023-2025). Furthermore, it aims to establish two dedicated Impact IP Pools and to explore the feasibility of a third pool in the area of global health. These pools are designed to facilitate technology transfer from Belgian companies and universities to low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) through the identification, screening, and negotiation of impact licensing agreements.

Task 1.1: Technology Transfer waves and Technology Screenings

ILI has developed and validated a **stage-gated approach to technology transfer**. Each year, a new wave will identify technology holders, select technologies for impact licensing, and design valorisation roadmaps aligned with the SDGs. This structured approach ensures the generation of tangible outcomes, including spin-off ventures with sustainable impact business models supported by impact investment. The Impact Licensing Initiative (=ILI) will be responsible to realize the identification of technology owners, the screening of technologies and the negotiation of impact licensing agreements in each wave. The Impact Licensing Studio (=ILS) takes responsibility for developing the impact licensing technologies in applications, to develop the business models, to start-up the impact ventures and support them to first clients. This model, which has been tested and validated over the past three years, will be continued within this project employing four successive waves of technology transfer with the aim to identify **12 new promising technology** holders each year with key enabling technologies aligned to UN SDG goals and to engage them in structured intake processes. At least **8 technology holders** will be shortlisted for in-depth technology screening and strategy workshops and NDAs will be signed to ensure confidentiality. The intake workshops will systematically analyze asset management and IP strategies, growth and innovation trajectories, organizational positioning, and technology/R&D portfolios. This enables the identification of drivers, constraints, and success factors for adopting social impact licensing within each organization. Per technology wave, the outcome will be **3 Impact License Agreements** (ILAs) per year detailing intentionality, additionality and measurability, decision-making modalities and alignment with the technology holder global strategies.

Task 1.2 Impact IP pools

At least 3 technologies each year will be selected for the impact IP pools, with Letters of Intent formalizing their commitment to the Impact Licensing Initiative. ILI will set-up an advisory committee for each impact IP pool consisting of at least 4 actors (1 member of public policy, 1 member of the Belgian private sector, 1 member of the NGO sector and 1 member of the impact licensing studio). ILI aims to initiate the impact IP pool for the LDC countries in year 1, the impact IP pool for green technologies in year 2 and finalize the exploration for the impact IP pool for global health and potential other IP pools identified through regional innovation priority sectors (e.g. digital transformation) in year 3&4.

Impact IP Pool for LDC Countries

This pool will be based on the technology needs assessments carried out by the UN Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries (UNTB LDC). Its objective is to make priority technologies accessible where societal unmet needs are greatest. In June 2025, ILI signed a collaboration agreement with the UNTB LDC to establish this pool.

Green Technologies IP Pool

This pool will focus on environmentally sustainable innovations, supporting the diffusion of green technologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions (mitigation) and enhance resilience to climate change (adaptation). The sourcing of technologies will be guided by the technology needs assessments conducted under the UNFCCC process. ILI aims to establish a structural collaboration with the UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre, the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), and WIPO GREEN, and is already represented on the Strategic Advisory Board of WIPO GREEN.

Feasibility assessment for a Global Health IP Pool

During this project cycle, ILI will explore the creation of an additional pool focused on global health. This will involve consultation with Belgian global health actors and engagement with international stakeholders such as WHO, the Global Fund, the Wellcome Trust, and Unitaid.

Additional IP Pools, identified on the basis of regional innovation priority sectors, are explored in relation to their importance for the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP), the Strategic Vision 2030, Wallonia's Regional Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialisation (RIS3) and the Brussels-Capital Region's Regional Innovation Plan and through engagement with stakeholders such as Innoviris, VBO/FEB, Agoria and other sector organisations. Through these two established pools—and the feasibility study for a third—ILI seeks to create structured pathways for socially responsible technology transfer, ensuring that Belgian research and innovation contribute to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. In this project cycle, ILI will secure at least ten (=10) key enabling technologies across its Impact IP Pools, with a minimum of five (=5) technologies for each pool. Several technologies are expected to be relevant across more than one pool. ILI will also screen technologies in global health if it attains the targets above.

Deliverables

- **D1.4 3 Screening of technologies (M12, M24, M36, M48):** ILI screens in each year 8 technologies.
- **D1.6 The set-up of impact IP pools of Belgian technologies ((M12, M24, M48):** the impact IP pool of Belgian technologies for the LDC countries in year 1, the impact IP pool of Belgian technologies for green technologies in year 2 and finalize the feasibility study for the impact IP pool for global health and exploration of IP Pools for other priority sectors in year 3&4. The set-up of the impact IP pools will be formalized by the establishment of an advisory board and the launch of a dedicated web-page.

Milestones

- **M1.1 Licensing milestone (M24, M48):** Signed commitments at least six (=6) by M24 and 12 by M48 from technology holders confirming engagement in the Impact Licensing Initiative through signing an impact licensing agreement .
- **M1.2. Impact IP Pool for LDC Countries (M24)** and Impact IP pool green technologies have at least five key enabling technologies – some technologies will be eligible for both impact IP pools.

WP2: Enhancing frugal innovation with Belgian R&D centers to increase the economic and societal value of Impact Licensing

02.1: Embed frugal innovation principles within Belgian R&D ecosystems to enhance economic and societal value of impact licensing.

02.2: Establish collaborations with Belgian R&D centers and Global South counterparts to enable co-creation, adaptation, and sustainable technology deployment.

To embed frugal innovation within Belgium’s research and development ecosystem, ILI will actively engage with both public and private actors shaping regional innovation strategies. This engagement will include outreach to private R&D departments of large and small companies, as well as universities and research centers, with the aim of integrating frugal innovation principles into ongoing projects and strategies. ILI will pay particular attention to key national and regional innovation plans. At the national level, Belgium’s National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) emphasizes innovation under the axis “Climate, Sustainability, and Innovation,” supporting research and development investments that drive the energy transition and foster emerging sectors. In Flanders, the Strategic Vision 2030 outlines the region’s approach to innovation, focusing on digital transformation, sustainable development, and competitive economic growth. Wallonia’s Regional Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialisation (RIS3) for 2021–2027 identifies priority sectors such as aerospace, biotechnology, and digital technologies, aiming to strengthen regional innovation capacity. In the Brussels-Capital Region, the Regional Innovation Plan emphasizes sustainable economic transition and the reinforcement of local R&D ecosystems. Innoviris, the regional agency for innovation, actively supports companies with high technological development potential and promotes collaborations with universities, spin-offs, and research institutions.

Through these coordinated efforts, WP2 aims to create a cohesive framework for integrating frugal innovation into Belgian R&D systems. By aligning corporate and academic innovation strategies with regional and national priorities, ILI will foster the development of affordable, high-impact solutions that are globally scalable. This approach will not only increase the societal and economic value of impact licensing but also strengthen Belgium’s position as a hub for sustainable innovation, bridging the gap between cutting-edge research and real-world applications.

Task 2.1: embedding ILI in the Belgian innovation ecosystem

This work package aims to embed the Impact Licensing Initiative (ILI) into Belgian innovation ecosystems by establishing a structural collaboration framework with Belgian R&D centers. ILI aims to reach out to key actors in the three different regions of Belgium to align the frugal innovation strategy with the key priorities in each region. ILI aims to set-up each year for each region for a relevant economic sector a sectorial needs assessment and opportunity roadmap for ILI-supported frugal innovation aligned with the technology needs assessments realized in the context of its impact IP pools (by UNTB or by UNFCC or other organizations).

The goal is to initiate at least one innovation partnership a year for frugal innovation. A partnership agreement is the signing of a letter of intent for collaboration, including the innovation scope, the innovation roadmap and the funding strategy.

Task 2.2: Embedding ILI in international innovation ecosystems

Each frugal innovation partnership will also involve a counterpart in the Global South. To do so, ILI foresees at least 2 missions a year to the global south to develop a network of local innovation organisations with whom it can collaborate for frugal innovation purposes, but also in its screening process to elicit directly feedback on specific technologies. ILI aims to develop a network of at least 4 R&D centers in the LMIC (with focus in Africa) – with the target to sign a partnership agreement each year with at least one R&D center. This collaboration agreements will reduce drastically the cost of technology transfer as pilottesting and repurposing the technology will be easier to be realized.

Through this structured approach on frugal innovation Belgian R&D centers will be empowered to systematically design and transfer technologies that create shared value for both global markets and underserved communities.

Deliverables

D.2.1. Sectoral needs assessment and opportunity roadmap for ILI-supported frugal innovation (M12, M24, M36, M48).

D.2.2. Missions to R&D organizations in the global South for collaboration in frugal innovation and technology transfer (M12, M24, M36, M48)

Milestones

M 2.1. One frugal innovation partnership with Belgian R&D centers signed each year (M12, M24, M36, M48)

M 2.2. One structural partnership for frugal innovation and technology transfer with R&D centers in the global South developed signed each year (M12, M24, M36, M48).

WP3: Positioning Impact Licensing as a Strategic Component of Belgian International Cooperation

03.1: Position ILI as a strategic innovation and technology transfer vehicle within Belgian international cooperation.

03.2: Align stakeholders (“Team Belgium”), strengthen EU development diplomacy role, and create a Belgian-led consortium to mobilize funding and coordinate sustainable technology transfer.

03.3: Integrate innovative financing, frugal innovation, and structured IP licensing into Belgium’s international cooperation strategy.

Work Package 3 seeks to position the Impact Licensing Initiative (ILI) as the strategic innovation and technology transfer arm of Belgian international cooperation, complementing traditional financial aid and technical assistance programs. By blending impact investment, frugal innovation, and structured IP licensing, ILI will enable Belgium to pioneer a new model of private sector engagement for sustainable development. This WP focuses on aligning Belgian stakeholders under a common vision (*Team Belgium*), strengthening Belgium’s role in EU-led development diplomacy, and establishing a Belgian-led consortium to participate in flagship initiatives such as the EU’s Global Gateway.

Through this approach, ILI will consolidate its activities, deepen cooperation with both Belgian and European actors, and reinforce technology transfer partnerships with public and private sectors in Africa and other LMICs.

Task 3.1: Pioneer a new model of private sector engagement for sustainable international development

ILI will engage Belgian ministries, private companies, NGOs, and EU institutions to ensure alignment and raise awareness of ILI’s role as a strategic vehicle for technology transfer. At least 12 Belgian stakeholders will be engaged annually, broadening ILI’s influence in shaping innovation-driven development policy.

Together with stakeholders, ILI will co-develop an annual strategy and policy recommendations on priority themes for international cooperation. Year 1&2 will focus on innovative financing mechanisms, including blended impact funds and guarantees to reduce private sector risk. Year 3 will outline the design of a frugal innovation facility to support affordable, resource-efficient technologies tailored to LMICs. Year 4 will address legal and institutional reforms to strengthen EU–Africa technology transfer in SDG-aligned sectors. Each year, policy recommendations will be submitted to inform Belgium’s contribution to international cooperation debates.

In parallel, ILI will strengthen Belgium’s international profile by joining at least four key networks for technology transfer (e.g., WAITRO, WIPO GREEN, CTCN, UN Technology Bank for LDCs) and by representing *Team Belgium* at two global conferences annually.

At least 16 promotion videos showcasing a variety of actors from the North & South are created for advancing knowledge valorisation and technology transfer by documenting best practices and innovation journeys, while simultaneously amplifying the voices of underserving markets. By showcasing authentic success stories and inclusive collaboration, they foster societal trust and strengthen local ownership. At the same time, these videos act as strategic communication tools that attract private sector engagement by highlighting clear value propositions, scalable business opportunities, and alignment between societal needs and commercial viability. In doing so, they accelerate the mobilisation of investment, strengthen international cooperation, and enhance the scientific, societal, and economic impacts of technology transfer and international development initiatives in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Hosting a final event at the end of year 4 serves as a strategic instrument to consolidate and showcase the achievements of the project, demonstrating how knowledge transfer, impact licensing, and international cooperation have generated measurable scientific, societal, and economic value. By bringing together stakeholders, the event creates a platform for dialogue, co-learning, and the validation of results against real-world needs and inspires replication and scaling by presenting success stories and concrete pathways for future collaboration. In line with the project’s broader valorisation objectives, the final event not only

disseminates outcomes but also acts as a catalyst for mobilising new investments and fostering innovation uptake in underserved markets.

Task 3.2: Establish Belgian-led consortium for flagship project

ILI will form a Belgian-led consortium within the Global Gateway framework or a comparable EU initiative, bringing together Belgian and European R&D centers, private sector stakeholders, and development agencies under a clear governance structure. The consortium will develop and submit a proposal to Global Gateway or a similar program, seeking at least €10 million in investment capital to support sustainable technology transfer initiatives. Approval of the proposal falls outside the scope of this deliverable.

Deliverables

D3.1 Annual engagement of 12 Belgian Stakeholders (M12, M24, M36, M48)

D3.2 Policy recommendations (M24, M36, M48): Co-creation of policy recommendations: (1) Recommendations on innovative financing mechanisms; (2) Design and implementation framework for a Belgian frugal innovation facility; (3) Recommendations on legal and institutional reforms for EU–Africa technology transfer.)

D3.3 International Network Membership and Conference Participation (M12, M24, M36, M48): Evidence of ILI membership in at least three international networks and participation in two conferences per year.

D3.4 Consortium Strategy Document (M18): Funding proposal and strategic plan for a flagship *Team Belgium* project on sustainable technology transfer.

D3.5: 16 promotion videos (M12, M24, M36, M48): 4 promotion videos per year showcasing actors for advancing knowledge valorisation and technology transfer by documenting best practices and innovation journeys

D3.6: hosting final event (M48): as a platform for dialogue, co-learning, and the validation of results against real-world needs, inspiring replication and scaling by presenting success stories and concrete pathways for future collaboration

Milestones

M3.1 Stakeholder engagement completed (M12): Engagement and stakeholder mapping of at least 12 Belgian stakeholders completed

M3.2 Policy recommendations submitted (M24): policy recommendation on innovative financing mechanisms, including blended impact funds and guarantees to reduce private sector risk submitted

M3.3. flagship project submitted (to be aligned with flagship project submission date): Submission of program at Global Gateway or other program for 10 million Euro additional blended capital (directly or indirectly – through guarantee mechanism)

WP 4: Belgium as a living lab for the diversification of Impact Licensing Strategies in support of sector-specific tech transfer

04.1: Position Belgium as a living laboratory to test and refine diversified impact licensing strategies balancing affordability and economic sustainability

04.2: Develop tier-gated royalties, leasing-as-a-service, outcome-based royalties, and explore ethical data valorisation

04.3: Generate practical evidence and tools for policymakers, technology owners, and development actors.

Work Package 4 positions the Belgian ILI Clearing House as a living laboratory for the diversification of impact licensing strategies in support of sector-specific technology transfer. Earlier explorations into impact licensing focused on royalty-free models, either unconditional or in exchange for technological improvements by the licensee. While these approaches have supported equitable access, they also reveal the limits of royalty-free licensing for long-term sustainability and adoption of technology owners as they obtain only indirect returns. This work package therefore introduces and tests innovative models designed to balance affordability with economic viability, using Belgium's innovation ecosystem as a testing ground and demonstration hub.

Task 4.1: developing tier-gated licensing models

The first task centers on the development of a tier-gated affordable licensing model that introduces differentiated royalty fees based on the economic capacity of users and markets. The framework will be co-designed with stakeholders and grounded in principles of transparency, accountability, and affordability. Scenario modelling will be used to simulate revenue flows, cross-subsidisation effects, and adoption rates across different sectors such as health, agriculture, and climate technologies. A strategy will be developed by month six, followed by pilot testing with at least one technology owner in the first screening wave. Lessons learned will inform iterative improvements and further testing in consecutive years, ensuring a progressively refined and validated model. Hence, for affordable access 4 pilottests are foreseen.

Task 4.2: revenue model innovation

The second task explores innovation in revenue models for ILI, introducing approaches that go beyond conventional income models. A licensing-as-a-service (LaaS) model will be developed, enabling ILI to request a percentage of the royalty fee for technology transfer where income for the technology owner is generated. Also, outcome-based royalty mechanisms will be designed and tested, linking royalty payments for ILI directly to measurable development outcomes such as the number of patients treated, reductions in disease incidence, access to clean water, or CO₂ emissions avoided. These models tie financial flows to societal impact rather than purely commercial success, creating incentives for ILI to maximize development benefits. Other innovative revenue models will be assessed for their potential, as well as the combinations of revenue models.

Task 4.3: initiating data valorisation strategies

The third task addresses the valorisation of data generated through licensed technologies. Increasingly, the use of technologies in LMICs produces valuable datasets that can inform regulatory standards, adapt technologies to local contexts, and generate new services. This task will investigate how such data can be ethically and responsibly valorised, balancing the interests of technology owners, local users, and public institutions. Governance frameworks will be designed to ensure equitable benefit sharing and data protection, while pilot projects will test data valorisation models in real-world technology transfers. At least one pilot in data valorisation will be conducted annually to assess feasibility, scalability, and replicability.

Through these three interlinked tasks, WP4 will deliver empirical evidence on diversified licensing strategies, generating concrete tools for policymakers and practitioners. Belgium will be positioned not only as a testbed but also as a thought leader in sustainable, sector-specific impact licensing models that can be scaled at the European and global levels.

Deliverables

D 4.1: Tier-Gated Affordable Licensing Framework + Pilottesting (M12, M24) – A comprehensive, iteratively refined framework defining differentiated royalty fees, governance standards, eligibility criteria, monitoring mechanisms, and scenario modelling for revenue flows, cross-subsidisation, and adoption rates.

D 4.2: Innovative Revenue Model Frameworks and Pilot Reports (M12, M24) – Design and piloting of innovative income models: LaaS, outcome-based royalties, combined LaaS and outcome-based model, integrating lessons from prior pilots.

D 4.3: Data Valorisation Pilot Report (M36:M48) – Report documenting pilottesting ethical and responsible data valorisation, including assessments of feasibility, scalability, replicability, and governance guidance.

Milestones

M 4.1 (M12): Foundational Frameworks Developed

Core structures for licensing, revenue models, and data valorisation pilots are established, providing the basis for iterative refinement and pilot testing.

M 4.2 (M30): Mid-Term Validation Achieved

Refined frameworks and pilot results are validated through stakeholder feedback and interim reporting, ensuring alignment with adoption, governance, and valorisation objectives.

M 4.3 (M36): Consolidated and Scalable Models Demonstrated

Final iterations of frameworks and pilots are consolidated, with evidence of feasibility, replicability, and scalability, ready for integration into long-term exploitation and dissemination strategies.

WP 5: Impact Licensing Studio as an Acceleration Platform for Technology Transfer to LMICs-

05.1: Developing sustainable business models that align social impact with economic viability

05.2: Adapting technologies to new impact use cases

05.3: Building new ventures and coaching entrepreneurial teams through their first external investment rounds.

Within this project, ILS will **pilot a cohort-based investment strategy**:

- **Investment target: Funding goal by Year 3:** €6M with a minimal target of 1,2M Euro.
- **Venture Target:** 6–8 ventures over a 3–4year period with a dedicated studio team if 6M Euro investment target is reached. In case of minimum investment of €1.2M, ILS will enable the creation of 2–3 ventures

The Impact Licensing Studio (ILS) is a venture builder dedicated to co-founding companies that bring impact-licensed technologies to market in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In November 2025, ILS will be spun out of the Impact Licensing Initiative vzw as a Commanditaire Vennootschap (limited partnership).

ILS raises investment capital to finance its operations and to spin out new ventures based on impact-licensed technologies sourced through the Impact Licensing Initiative. Its core objectives include:

- Developing sustainable business models that align social impact with economic viability,
- Adapting technologies to new impact use cases, and
- Building new ventures and coaching entrepreneurial teams through their first external investment rounds.

ILS operates with an agile, cohort-based investment model. Each venture cohort targets the creation of a minimum of two ventures, with the capacity to scale up to six to eight ventures per cohort. Every cohort is financed through a dedicated capital raise.

The dual mission of ILS is to generate measurable social and environmental impact while achieving attractive financial returns for its investors. Each venture is built around Key Enabling Technologies (KETs) licensed from R&D-driven companies and research institutions under impact licensing terms.

Technologies are selected based on their “**exponentiality**”—their ability to:

- Address major societal or environmental challenges,
- Scale for impact
- Demonstrate strong market demand and productive use,
- Support multiple applications to reduce market risk, and
- Enable local innovation and production through technology transfer.

Operationally, ILS works closely with local distribution and implementation partners in Africa, integrating local stakeholders from the outset. This multi-market approach accelerates scaling and strengthens local ownership. To ensure that technologies remain aligned with their intended impact, each is licensed under impact licensing terms with a legally binding mission lock. Any misuse or deviation from the impact mission is treated as an intellectual property infringement. This guarantees that ILS-backed ventures remain aligned with their social and environmental objectives, even as they scale and attract private investment.

Investment capital raised by ILS is used to:

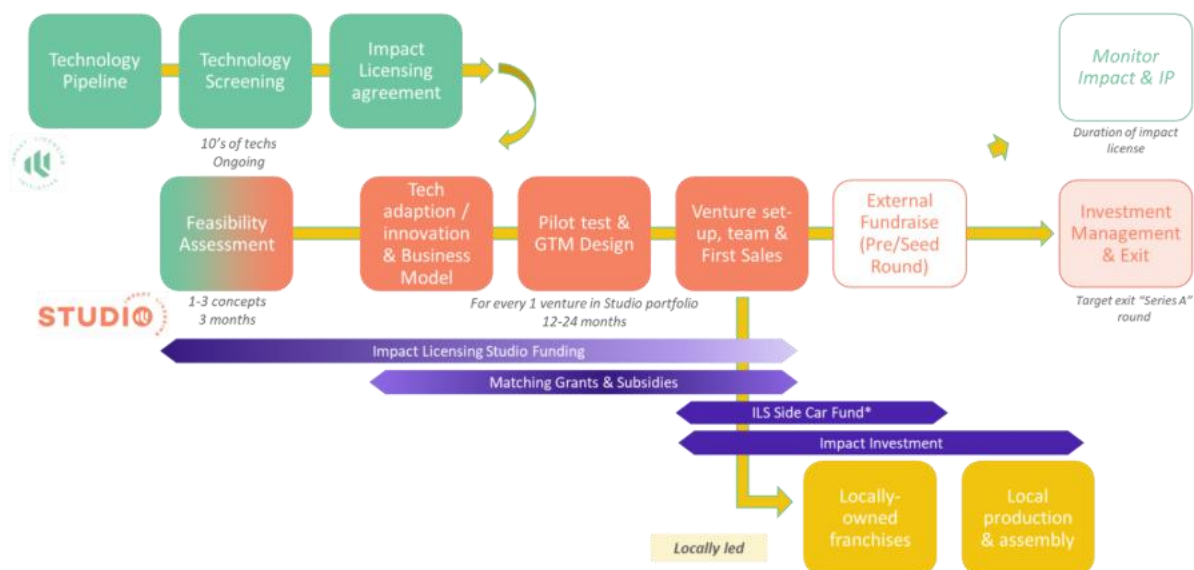
- Identify and select impact-licensed technologies (in collaboration with the Impact Licensing Initiative),

- Adapt and pilot technologies for new use cases,
- Design sustainable business models, and
- Recruit and coach entrepreneurial teams.

These ventures are developed from zero to pre-seed stage—pre-profit but with validated solutions, demonstrated product–market fit, and early commercial traction. ILS takes founding equity stakes in each venture. Investors are repaid when ILS exits its equity positions, typically during Series A or B funding rounds. Each cohort is financed separately, with investors repaid through the liquidity events of the ventures in that cohort.

Venture Building Model

Partnership between Impact Licensing Studio & Impact Licensing Initiative



ILS applies a structured, four-phase venture development process over 12–24 months:

- 1. Feasibility Assessment**
Evaluate technologies for impact and return potential, define critical path for spin-out.
- 2. Technology Adaptation & Business Model Design**
Co-innovate with Global South partners to validate demand, adapt technology, and develop a minimum viable product (MVP).
- 3. Pilot Testing & Go-to-Market Strategy**
Pilot prototypes with end users, refine design, develop distribution partnerships, and prepare market entry strategies.
- 4. Venture Setup & First Sales**
Establish new ventures or partner with existing companies, design investment strategy, recruit teams, and secure initial funding. Provide ongoing coaching to ensure alignment between business growth and impact goals.

Each venture is expected to reach the seed capital stage with annual revenues of €500K–1M within three years of licensing. Over the subsequent 2–4 years, ILS supports capital raises of €1–2M per venture to enable rapid scaling. Exits are typically targeted around year eight.

ILS operates under a **Limited Partnership (=Commanditaire vennootschap)** model.

- Investors become **limited partners** (=stille vennoten) with a dedicated share class.

- Their shares are redeemed once ILS has exited its positions in portfolio companies.
- To balance early-stage risk in sub-Saharan Africa with attractive returns, ILS targets a **blended capital structure**:
 - **50% concessionary capital** (high-risk, impact-first),
 - **50% finance-first capital** (market return focus).

This blended approach reduces investor risk while reinforcing impact objectives.

ILI will set-up in November 2025 a BV that will take the role of General Partner (=Actieve vennoot). The General Partner will coordinate the activities in the Commanditaire Vennootschap

Key Terms – Impact Licensing Studio Pilot Cohort

Investment term	Open-ended, but target exits in 8-12 years	
Venture creation period	3-4 years	
Legal form	CommV with designated GP BV Investments made into Class B shares New portfolio companies funded by Class B shares will be owned by Class B shares	
Return of Funds & Redemption	Return of capital as equity in portfolio companies in Class B sold Shares redeemed when all Class B portfolio share capital sold (or liquidated)	
Target investment	€ 6mil, € 8 mil cap (realisation of 6-8 ventures) Minimal investment : 1,2M Euro (realisation of 2-3 ventures)	
First close	€ 1.2 mil	
Investment structure		
Impact Capital	50% of invested Class B funds	
Concessionary Capital	50% of invested Class B funds, return capped at 5% IRR until Impact Capital tranche reaches hurdle IRR	
Indicative Returns – conservative case		
	IRR	MM
Impact Capital	12-18%	2.3 – 3.4
Concessionary Capital	5%	1.4

In this project, ILS aims to pilot a **cohort-based investment strategy** designed to finance the creation of **6–8 ventures** over a **three- to four-year period**, supported by a dedicated studio team. With a **minimum investment of €1.2 million**, ILS targets the development of **2 to 3 ventures** in the initial cohort.

ILS is committed to achieving its **full funding target of €6 million by Year 3**. The **minimum investment amount** will be secured through the **€608,370 subsidy** requested in this proposal. This subsidy will be **matched by at**

least €600,000 from additional investors, ensuring a blended financing structure that supports both impact and financial objectives.

Deliverables:

D.5.1. Successful fundraising of minimum €1.2M Euro (M18)

D.5.2. Successful fundraising for Impact Licensing Studio with the target of a total of 6M Euro (M36)

D.5.3. Incorporation of minimum 1 and up to 2 new ventures (depending on final investment raised), including technology adaptation and MVP development (M24).

D.5.4. Incorporation of minimum 2 and up to 4 new ventures (depending on final investment raised), including technology adaptation and MVP development (M48).

Milestones:

M.5.1 Engagement with at least 20 investors (M12)

M.5.2 Feasibility study and going-to-market strategy for at least 1 venture (M18)

M.5.3 Feasibility study and going-to-market strategy for a second venture (M36)

A. Timeline

WP	Deliverables	Y1				Y2				Y3				Y4			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
WP1 Ptechnology transfer waves and creation of Impact IP Pools																	
Task 1.2	Technology transfer waves and Technology screenings				D1.1				D1.1				D1.1				D1.1
Task 1.3	Impact IP Pool creation				D1.2				D1.2								D1.2
WP2 Enhancing frugal innovation with Belgian R&D sector																	
Task 2.1	Embedding ILI in the Belgian innovation ecosystem				D2.1				D2.1								D2.1
Task 2.2	Embedding ILI in the international innovation ecosystem				D2.2				D2.2				D2.2				D2.2
WP3 IL as a strategic component of the Belgian development cooperation																	
Task 3.1	Pioneering a new model of private sector engagement for international development				D3.1, D3.3				D3.1, D3.2, D3.3				D3.1, D3.2, D3.3				D3.1, D3.2, D3.3
Task 3.2	Establish a Belgian-led consortium for Flagship Project				3.5				D3.4				3.5				D3.5, D3.6
WP4 Belgium as a living lab for diversification of IL strategies																	
Task 4.1	Developing tier-gated licensing models				D4.1				D4.1								
Task 4.2	Revenue model innovation				D4.2				D4.2								
Task 4.3	Initiating data valorisation strategies												D4.3				D4.3
WP5 The Impact Licensing Studio																	

B. Budget

	Year1							Year2							Year3							Year4						
	WP1	WP2	WP3	WP4	WPS	Total	Total Cost	WP1	WP2	WP3	WP4	WPS	Total	Total Cost	WP1	WP2	WP3	WP4	WPS	Total	Total Cost	WP1	WP2	WP3	WP4	WPS	Total	Total Cost
Screening of technologies	80%					80%	104.000 €	80%					80%	107.640 €	80%					80%	111.407 €	80%					80%	115.307 €
IP management	20%			10%		30%	39.000 €	20%			10%		30%	40.365 €	20%			10%		30%	41.778 €	20%			10%		30%	43.240 €
Financial modelling	10%			10%		20%	26.000 €	10%			10%		20%	26.910 €	10%			10%		20%	27.852 €	10%			10%		20%	28.827 €
Frugal innovation		30%				30%	39.000 €		30%				30%	40.365 €		30%				30%	41.778 €		30%				30%	43.240 €
Partnership development			30%			30%	39.000 €			30%			30%	40.365 €			30%			30%	41.778 €			30%			30%	43.240 €
Total FTE	110%	30%	30%	20%		190%		110%	30%	30%	20%		190%		110%	30%	30%	20%		190%		110%	30%	30%	20%		190%	
Total Euro	143.000 €	39.000 €	39.000 €	26.000 €		247.000 €		148.005 €	40.365 €	40.365 €	26.910 €		255.645 €		153.185 €	41.778 €	41.778 €	27.852 €		264.593 €		158.547 €	43.240 €	43.240 €	28.827 €		273.853 €	
OPEX																												
Travel		10.000 €	9.000 €			19.000 €			10.250 €	9.225 €			19.475 €			10.506 €	9.456 €			19.962 €			10.769 €	9.692 €			20.461 €	
Communication (video)		2.000 €	6.000 €			8.000 €			2.050 €	6.150 €			8.200 €			2.101 €	6.304 €			8.405 €			2.154 €	6.461 €			8.615 €	
Events, conferences and membership			3.000 €			3.000 €			- €	3.075 €			3.075 €			- €	3.152 €			3.152 €			- €	11.231 €			11.231 €	
Total						30.000 €							30.750 €							31.519 €							40.307 €	
Impact Licensing Studio						195.000 €							181.643 €		- €					174.074 €							57.653 €	
Fundraising					50%	65.000 €						35%	47.093 €						25%	34.815 €					0%		- €	
Venture Building					100%	130.000 €						100%	134.550 €						100%	139.259 €					40%		57.653 €	
					195.000 €	195.000 €						181.643 €	181.643 €						174.074 €	174.074 €					57.653 €	57.653 €		
Subtotal (without Impact Licensing Studio)						277.000 €							286.395 €							296.111 €							314.160 €	
Overhead (10%)						27.700 €							28.640 €							29.611 €							31.416 €	
Total						499.700 €							496.677 €							499.787 €							403.229 €	1.899.403 €

Work package 1:

Personnel	FTE/year	Description
Screening of technologies	80% (180 days/year)	-12 identifications of technologies owners= 45 days -3 days/Technology + 9 days general coordination) -8 screenings of technologies (90 days - 10 days/technology + 10 days coordination) - 3 Impact licensing agreements (45 days – 15 days/technology)
IP management	20% (45 days)	-Support in screening of 8 technologies (15 days – 1,5 days/technology + 3 days general support) -IP support in impact licensing agreement negotiation (30 days -10 days/technology)
Financial modelling	10% (22,5 days)	-Financial support in screening of technology (180 hours – 20 hours for each screened technology + 20 hours general support

1 fulltime equivalent works at ILI 225 days a year. The base gross salary is 130.000 Euro/year (+ 1% annual seniority increase +2,5% inflation). Personnel work either as employee or through long-term framework contracts as independent or through their respective management company. The hour fee is 72,22 Euro (equivalent to the base gross salary, assuming 225 working days and 8 work hours a day).

Work package 2

Personnel	FTE/year	Description
Frugal innovation	30% (67,5 days/year)	-Sectorial needs assessment (40 days- 10 days general + 10 days/each (3) region) -Set-up of innovation partnership (12 days) -2 missions a year (16 days - 2 persons/4 days mission/2 missions a year)

OPEX	Cost/year	Description
Travel (transport, hotel,..)	10.000 Euro/year	-Transport (6000 Euro - 2 persons/2 travels/ 1500 Euro for each travel) -Other cost (4000- Euro 4 day mission – 2 persons/ 250 Euro a day)

Communication	2000 Euro/year	Video and other communication material to capture the missions (1000 Euro for each mission)
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OPEX increases annually with 2,5% through inflation relative to baseline cost.

Work package 3

Personnel	FTE/year	Description
Partnership development	30% (67,5 days/year)	-Stakeholder engagement (6 days – 0,5 day/ stakeholder , 12 stakeholders) -Policy recommendations (14 days – development of policy briefing) -Set-up Belgian consortium for flagship project (48 days – 4 days/month)

OPEX	Total Cost	Description
Membership fees	3000 Euro/year	-Membership (3000 Euro membership; 4 key networks related to technology transfer (2 memberships at 1000 Euro and 2 at 500 euro/year)
	9000/year Euro	-Transport (4000 Euro - 2 persons/2 travels/ 1000 Euro for each travel) -Other cost (4000- Euro 4 day mission – 2 persons/ 250 Euro a day) -Conference fees (1000 Euro- 250 euro/conference; 2 conferences; 2 persons)
Communication	6000 Euro/year	-4 movies a year (6000 Euro – 1500 Euro/movie)
Event	8000 Euro	-1 end conference (8000 Euro – catering + rent room)

OPEX increases annually with 2,5% through inflation relative to baseline cost.

Work package 4

Personnel	FTE/year	Description
IP Management	10% (22,5 days/year)	Pilot test (2 days/month)
Financial modelling	10% (22,5 days/year)	Pilot test (2 days/month)

Work package 5

	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4
Impact Licensing Studio	195.000 €	181.643 €	174.074 €	57.653 €

The subsidy will be used for fund management personnel activities. This subsidy will be **matched by at least €600,000** from additional investors, ensuring a blended financing structure that supports both impact and financial objectives

Personnel	FTE/year 1	FTE/Y 2	FTE/Y 3	FTE/Y 3	Description
Fundraising	50% (112,5 days/year)	35% (78,75 days/year)	25% (56,25 days/year)		Reaching out in year 1 to 20 impact investors, year 2 15 impact investor and in year 3 to 10 impact investors. Revising every year investors proposition on basis of new evolutions Rais investment capital. Ambition target: 1,2M Euro (=M18) and 6M Euro (=M36)
Venture Building	100% (225 days)	100% (225 days)	100% (225 days)	40% (90 days)	Feasibility study and going-to-market strategy for at least 1 venture (M18) with the aim to establish at least 1 venture in M24 Feasibility study and going-to-market strategy for a second venture (M36) with the aim to establish at least a second venture in M48

1 fulltime equivalent works at ILI 225 days a year. The base gross salary is 130.000 Euro/year (+ 1% annual seniority increase +2,5% inflation). Personnel work either as employees or through framework contracts as independent or through their respective management company for Impact Licensing Studio Comm V or for Reforge Impact Management Partners BV which is the active partner of Impact Licensing Studio Comm V. The hour fee is 72,22 Euro (equivalent to the base gross salary, assuming 225 working days and 8 work hours a day).

Conclusion

The project will establish structured and scalable pathways for socially responsible technology transfer from Belgian universities and companies to low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) and underserved markets. By creating **dedicated pools of priority technologies**—focusing on LDC countries, green solutions, and potential global health innovations—the initiative will ensure that critical technologies are accessible where societal needs are greatest. The identification, screening, and engagement of technology holders will facilitate impact licensing agreements that generate tangible contributions to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), while promoting the creation of spin-off ventures with sustainable business models.

Embedding frugal innovation principles within Belgian research and development ecosystems will lower the cost and complexity of technology transfer, increase adoption in LMICs, and enhance the scalability of Belgian innovations. By aligning corporate and academic strategies with regional and national priorities, and by fostering partnerships with counterparts in the Global South, the initiative will support co-creation, pilot testing, and local adaptation of affordable, resource-efficient, and context-appropriate solutions.

Positioning impact licensing as a strategic component of Belgian international cooperation will strengthen Belgium's influence in EU-led development initiatives and global technology transfer networks. Engagement with Belgian ministries, companies, NGOs, and EU institutions will facilitate policy alignment, while a Belgian-led consortium will mobilize blended investment capital to support sustainable technology transfer initiatives. This coordinated approach will enhance Belgium's visibility as a hub for innovation-driven international development and enable the country to contribute more effectively to global SDGs.

Finally, testing and **refining diversified impact licensing strategies** will create financial models that balance affordability for end-users with economic returns for technology owners. Piloting tiered royalties, leasing-as-a-service, and outcome-based royalty models will link financial flows to measurable societal outcomes, while the responsible valorisation of data generated from technology use will provide insights for local adaptation, regulatory guidance, and the development of new services. These efforts will generate empirical evidence and actionable tools for policymakers, technology owners, and development actors, supporting the replication of sustainable licensing strategies across sectors and regions.

By combining structured technology transfer, frugal innovation, strategic international engagement, and diversified licensing approaches, the initiative will generate measurable societal and economic impact. It will strengthen Belgium's capacity to drive innovation for sustainable development, create equitable access to critical technologies, and provide scalable, evidence-based models that can be applied globally, ultimately benefiting both Belgian stakeholders and underserved communities worldwide.

Contact

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