VIB-Grand Challenges Program



VIB's mission

Frontline life sciences research "Excellence in Science"

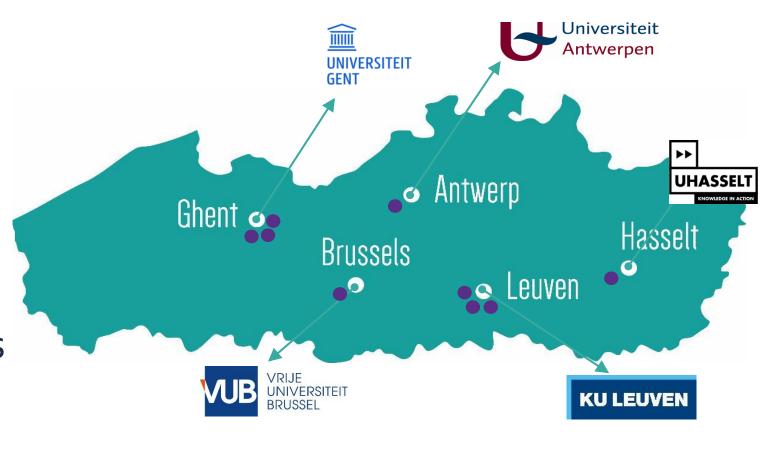
Translate results into benefits for society "Excellence in Tech Transfer and Entrepreneurship"

Public outreach
"Excellence in Science communication"



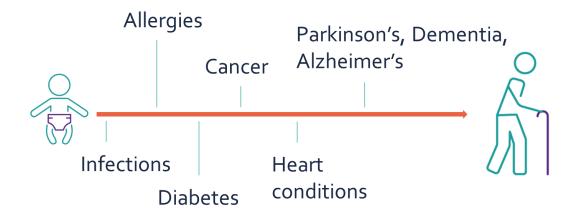
VIB 2019

- ▶ 5 universities
- ▶ 1,608 FTE
- ▶ 76 nationalities
- ▶ 8 research centers
- ▶ 81 research groups
- ▶ 10 core facilities

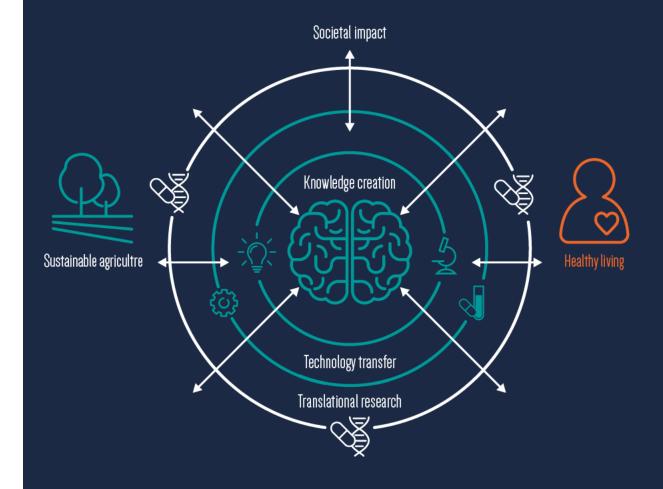




VIB – from impact in science to societal impact



PREVENT, IDENTIFY & CURE!





VIB – from impact in science to societal impact



Growing population: 7 bn (2016) to 9 bn in 2050



Climate change

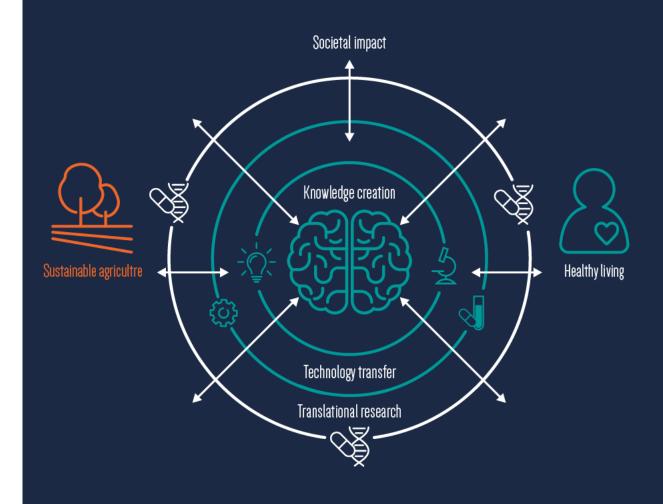


Safekeeping of nature



Use less water





SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2 VIB'S GRAND CHALLENGES PROGRA IS INSPIRED BY 3 UNITED NATIONS VIB'S GRAND CHALLENGES PROGRAM

VIB GRAND CHALLENGES PROGRAM

Goal:

Structurally support translational and/or disruptive research programs around a specific 'grand challenge'

Key features:

- Bottom-up funding
- Joining forces beyond borders and trans-disciplinary
- Projects are translational with a clear technology transfer potential
- Societal impact and outreach





HOW DO WE DO THIS?

- Innovative molecular-diagnostic paradigms
- Innovative treatments
- Personalized/targeted treatment strategies
- Epidemic control
- Sustainable agriculture







- Consult external experts, stakeholders & public/patients
- Identify need/ research question
- Funding: 2,5 M€ + own leverage funding
- Collaboration + knowledge transfer
- → proof-of-concept data available or in 6 months (gonogo)
- → deliverables/breakthroughs within 3 year timeframe



FOCUS ON NEW TECHNOLOGIES + IMPROVE OF PATIENTS/CONSUMERS



UNTIL NOW...

- First call launched in 2017
 - Projects started 2018 and will continue to 2021
- ▶ 3 projects selected:



Overcoming the main current diagnostic challenges in hepatology practices



Improving immune checkpoint inhibitor response by single cell integrative multi-omics of the tumour ecosystems



Translational science initiative on primary immune deficiencies



UNTIL NOW...

- Second call launched in 2018
- 3 projects selected:



Inducing drug-tree remission by early treatment of spondyloarthritis



Targeting drugs beyond the blood-brain-barrier: new routes to treat brain disease



Microbiota modulation strategies in Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)



VIB-GCP Call 2

Review procedure

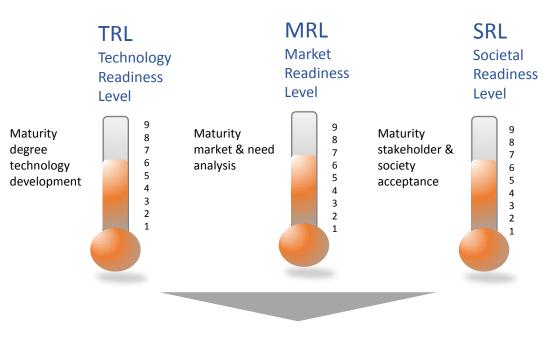
2 step evaluation process:

- Written review:
 - Scientific experts
 - Societal experts
 - Rebuttal
- Panel review
- Decision of the board of directors

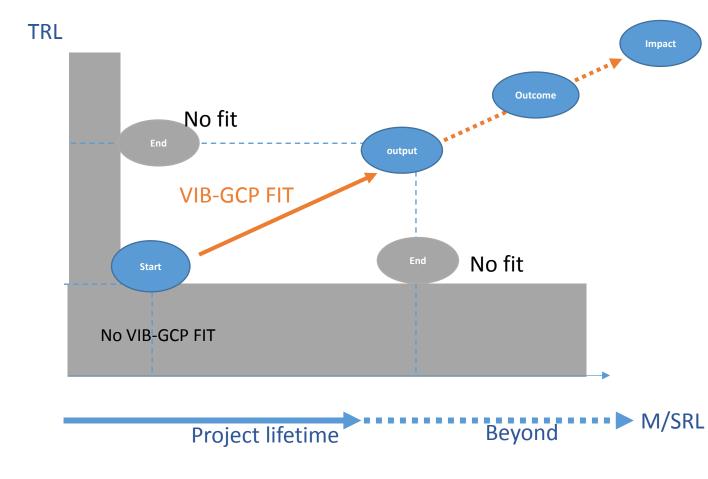


VIB-GCP Call 2

Towards Societal Impact



Innovation Readiness

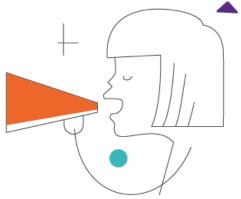


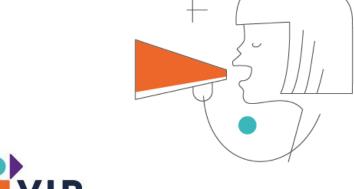


SCIENCE MEETS LIFE

IN THE PIPELINE...

- **2019 2020**
 - Call 3 launched
 - Outreach activities planned







Outreach

engagement (information) vs.

involvement (consultation) vs.

participation (collaboration)







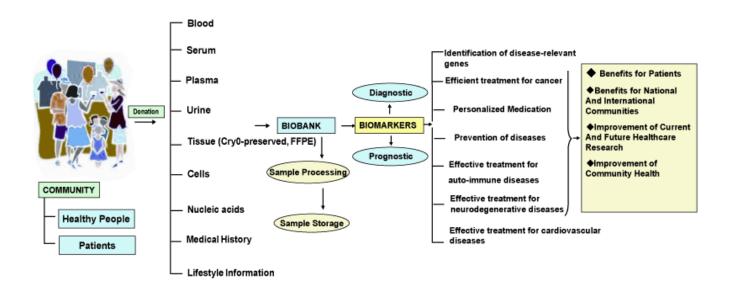






Capabilities @VIB-GCP

FAIR sharing







Contact





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