Collaboration between Radboud University and Maastricht University

# The ambitions for 2023-2027



Radboud University and Maastricht University have worked out the ambitions for their collaboration. The ambition document 2023-2027 sets out the focus for the next few years and explains how the collaboration will be facilitated. What are the plans, in a nutshell?

The aim of the collaboration between the two universities is to join forces to maximise the academic and social impact in the South-East region of the Netherlands. Further collaboration will provide additional opportunities for students in the region (education), besides attracting and retaining knowledge through strong joint research ventures (research) and innovative spin-offs (impact). Venlo, with its central location, will form a hub for education, research and impact.

# What will we be doing?

Both universities will concentrate over the next few years on new and existing collaborations. We will encourage people to find each other with a view to further exploring, strengthening and expanding collaboration. We will have a number of priorities over the coming years in the domains of *students and education, research, society and support.* 

#### **Students and education**

*Key objective: students of both Radboud University and Maastricht University can make better use of each other's educational offerings.* 

We will begin by:

- Launching joint study programmes in biotechnology and applied physics, with the Brightlands Campus Greenport in Venlo as an important base.
- Sustainably embedding collaboration in the field of training academic teachers.
- Increasing the information provided to students about each other's educational offerings.
- Encouraging joint minors and promoting student exchange.
- Jointly developing Lifelong Learning programmes for professionals and postgraduate education.

### Research

*Key objective: together with the University Medical Centres (UMCs), we create a strong chain that is unique in the Netherlands and Europe.* 

We will begin by:

- Purposefully introducing scientists to each other as we explore the opportunities for financial stimulation. Priorities here are:
  - beta: focus on research groups that support the joint study programmes.
  - Lifelong Learning combined with educational research.
- Facilitating collaboration on large-scale research applications, such as the Growth Fund and NWO Gravitation.
- Establishing a connection between the collaboration of both universities and the existing Academic Alliance of both UMCs, tying in with the Alliance's fund for research cooperation.



# Society

Key objective: thanks to the broadening and deepening of our offering in the fields of education, research and Lifelong Learning, we contribute to social issues in society. The Brightlands Campus Greenport Venlo can act as a living lab. With the Academic Alliance of the UMCs we contribute to prevention and health.

We will begin by:

- Strengthening the Lifelong Learning Regional Hub, through the Lifelong Learning offering in the region and by fostering the learning culture and learning climate within the region.
- Sustainably embedding collaboration in the field of training academic teachers.
- Developing a shared vision of collaboration with the Academic Alliance of UMCs together with the existing Alliance team.

## Support

Key objective: we avoid us both trying to reinvent the wheel by sharing best practices and making use of each other's capacity. Our initial focus is on the themes of valorisation/impact, knowledge security, Lifelong Learning, internationalisation and Recognition & Rewards.

We will begin by:

- Joining forces on the knowledge security and valorisation/impact files.
- Actively exchanging support services in the areas of internationalisation, education law, joint appointments and education policy.

# Working on this collaboration

The development of our collaboration is organic, with content supplied by professionals in the workplace and facilitation provided by good governance and policy. For the latter, Radboud University and Maastricht University are setting aside financial and human resources.

In the short term, we will set up a small project office. This will get to work on the above activities, serve as the central point of contact for questions and ideas, and stimulate and support existing and new collaboration. It will also communicate on the collaboration and its progress. It will do this under the leadership and direction of the steering group and the Governing Board for this collaboration.

Over the next five years, the university administrations will provide an investment budget of 1 million (combined) per year, which will be allocated by the steering group. It may be invested in exploring or stimulating collaboration, e.g. as seed money, or spent on concrete projects.

#### Contact

Would you too like to work on this collaboration between Radboud University and Maastricht University? Then contact us at <u>maastricht.nijmegen@ru.nl</u>

