Launched in 2010, the programme provides funding for entrepreneurship education and research valorization structures. First national programme to provide institutional funding for valorization activities. Funding is provided to 12 consortia and their regional valorisation centres. Consortia consist of universities, universities of applied science, firms, municipalities, provinces and societal actors. Participants to decide which type of valorization they would like to focus on. Co-funding of 50% of project costs is required. Funding provided by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.

What is the Valorization Program?

- Launched in 2010, the programme provides funding for entrepreneurship education and research valorization structures.
- First national programme to provide institutional funding for valorization activities.
- Funding is provided to 12 consortia and their regional valorisation centres.
- Consortia consist of universities, universities of applied science, firms, municipalities, provinces and societal actors.
- Participants to decide which type of valorization they would like to focus on.
- Co-funding of 50% of project costs is required.
- Funding provided by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.

Regional valorisation centres

Valorization centers provide support activities to researchers, students, and firms in a region.

Interaction with other policy instruments/programmes

- NWO programs Take-off grant/loans
- StartupDelta
- Other regional valorization policies

Impact

Key findings of 2014 evaluation:

- Methods: Desk research, microdata analysis, a CATI survey (≥300 respondents), 12 site visits, interviews, and workshops.
- Increase in entrepreneurial attitude amongst researchers, students, and regional SMEs.
- Strengthened local connections between science, education and application.
- Need to increase high-tech, high-growth academic start-up activity.

Policy recommendations

- Give priority to screening and scouting of high-tech start-ups by Technology Transfer Offices.
- Develop national valorization plan with relevant stakeholders.
- Provide stable, long-term funding for regional valorization centers.
- Up-scale activities of valorisation centres by creating a national network of valorisation centres.
- Find balance between national policy supporting excellence and regional/local development policy.
- Create evaluation and monitoring structures.