

## Introduction sheet: Oost NL



Oost NL (East Netherlands Development Agency) is an agency that focuses its activities and projects on strengthening and stimulating the economy of the provinces of Gelderland and Overijssel, the Netherlands.

We work with businesses in the provinces of Gelderland and Overijssel and are commissioned by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy and the respective Provinces.

Oost NL plays an important role in executing the economic policies of the Dutch government and the Provinces of Gelderland and Overijssel and its various city governments. To achieve this it is necessary to encourage a close cooperation between businesses, regional institutes, knowledge institutes, and intermediaries. Oost NL acts as a bridge between government, companies and knowledge institutes.

Internationalization: Foreign Investment offers companies from outside the Netherlands, as well as from other regions of the country, a 'soft landing' in East Netherlands. Through us, international companies gain access to our regional networks as well as assistance with trade promotion. We help owners of SMEs from East Netherlands to internationalize through matchmaking via our worldwide network of partners.

Innovation: Development & Innovation supports the regional business environment by helping city governments and SMEs to bring innovations to market. This is done with knowledge, access to funding (including European-wide funds), networking and one-on-one contacts. The results: fundable business cases (usually focused on market introductions), innovation projects and programs, open innovation centers and establishing campuses.

**Investments**: Capital supports starting and growth-phase SMEs. We do this partly with risk capital from various revolving innovation funds, and partly through our knowledge, networks and personal contacts. Through the revolving funds we provide for direct as well as indirect investment and take care of the fund management. In addition, we stimulate and support public and private investors. The result: growth through financing.

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