

# Place-Based Innovation Policies and the Knowledge Triangle in The Netherlands

*A perspective from Higher Education*

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Erasmus University Rotterdam



Erasmus University Rotterdam  
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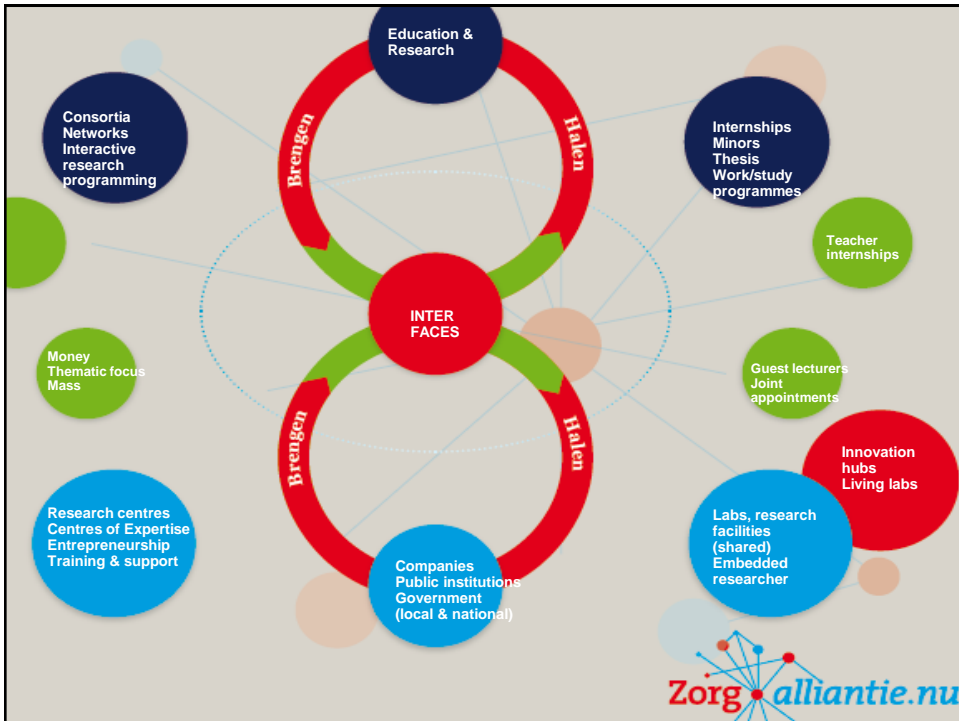
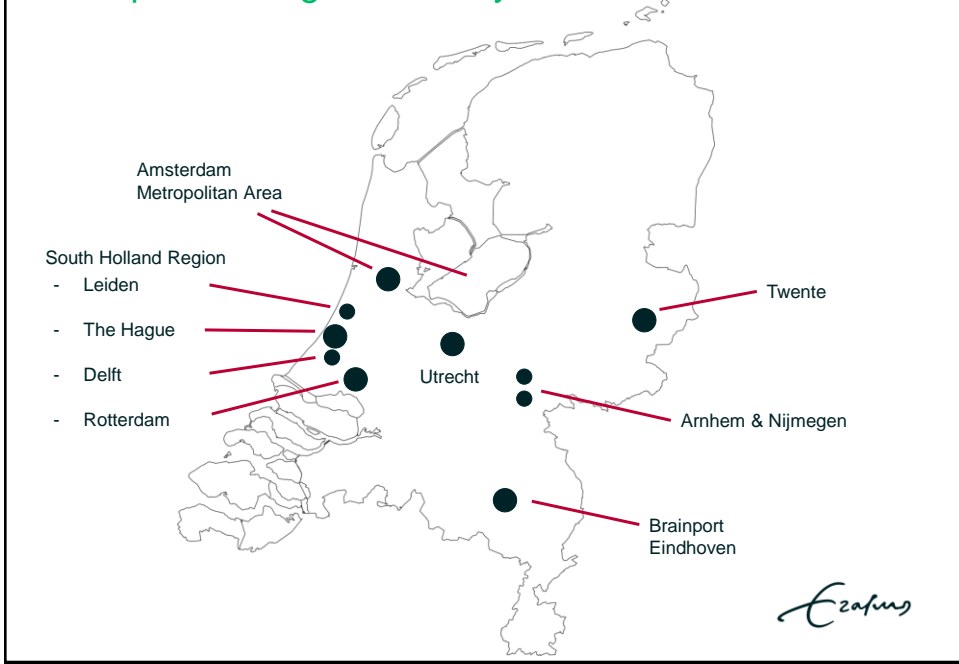
**Past experience**  
Leiden University of Applied Sciences  
*President*



HAN University of Applied Sciences  
*Vice President*



## Examples of Regional Ecosystems



## Characteristics of the South Holland Region

- Highly fragmented local government
- Two metropolitan areas: Rotterdam and The Hague
- Poor economic performance
- Broad spectrum of economic activity
- 3 large and complementary research universities
- 2 large medical centres
- 2 large Universities of Applied Sciences



## Knowledge Networks in Regional Ecosystems

### South Holland Region



*'Triple Helix' Concept*

Koers 2020 (Economic Agenda): Ambition: European Top Region



#### Focus:

- Improving accessibility of metropole region
- Economical improvements
- Transition to leading sustainability
- Attractiveness of the metropole region



## Knowledge Networks in Regional Ecosystem

### Leiden-Delft-Erasmus Alliance (LDE)



Scientists and students from the three universities work jointly since 2012 on complex (inter)national social issues in 8 centres and develop joint degree and non-degree programmes

### Medical Delta:

Network of life sciences, health and technology partners

Lessons learned:

- Time (long start-up phase)
- Executive commitment
- Building trust
- Bottom-up development



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## Cross-regional and International cooperation

Successful Knowledge Triangle → *looking beyond borders*



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Health

Cross-regional Partnerships

European Partnerships



## Lessons learned in The Netherlands

- Collaboration is more successful when built on existing networks and expertise.
- Culture.
- Leadership capabilities are key.
- Mergers lead to resistance
- Regional ecosystems develop a triple helix concept with regional governance rather than national governance
- Performance of a KT in an entrepreneurial ecosystem is dependent on local and historical factors

The logo for Erasmus University, featuring the word "Erasmus" in a stylized, cursive script.