

## NATIONAL NETWORK

### ICOS BELGIUM in brief:

- 10 stations
- in all 3 observatory networks
- 6 consortium partners
- synergies with other research infrastructures



RV Simon Stevin

### Multidisciplinary research platforms at sea:

- Research vessels **Simon Stevin** and **Belgica** operating in North Sea and adjacent seas
- **Thornton Buoy** at C-Power wind turbine farm
- Collaboration with European ESFRI **LifeWatch**



Lochristi ecosystem station

### Cultivated sites as ecosystem stations:

- **Dorinne** is an intensive grazed grassland
- **Lochristi** is a bioenergy plantation of poplar
- **Lonzée** is an agricultural site with 4 year rotational crop

### Solid foundations...

- Belgium hosts two of the longest-running and most complete flux towers in **Vielsalm** (since 1996) and **Brasschaat** (since 1997)



Vielsalm ecosystem station

### Atmospheric observatory on Ile de la Réunion:

- Collaboration between BIRA-IASB, LSCE (France) and University of Reunion
- Measurements also for **Total Carbon Column Observing Network (TCCON)**

### Did you know...

- **Maasmechelen**, situated in a national park, is the only heathland in ICOS
- Maasmechelen and Lonzée ecosystem stations are directly linked with **AnaEE** experimental platforms

## HIGHLIGHTS

Belgium has been an active player in ICOS since the very beginning, participating in the preparatory phase project in 2011 and in 2015 becoming one of nine founding member countries of ICOS ERIC. Belgium plays a coordinating role in the ecosystem network, co-hosting the Ecosystem Thematic Centre. With ten stations in all three observatory networks Belgium is a major player in ICOS.



Bert Gielen, Dario Papale and Denis Loustau from ETC

**2011** University of Antwerp forms the Ecosystem Thematic Centre together with INRA Bordeaux (France) and University of Tuscia (Italy).



DG Werner Kutsch at 2014 ICOS Science Conference

**2014** First ICOS Science Conference is organized in Brussels. More than 200 scientists and stakeholders participate.



University of Antwerp, University of Liège and DG Werner Kutsch at inauguration

**2015** New ecosystem station of Maasmechelen in National Park Hoge Kempen is inaugurated in the presence of director general Werner Kutsch.

**2016** Celebrating 20 years of flux measurements at ecosystem station Brasschaat made it to the national news.



Pi Ivan Janssens being interviewed



Marc Aubinet next to an eddy covariance set up

**2017** Prof. Marc Aubinet, former coordinator of ICOS Wallonia, receives Award for Outstanding Achievement in Biometeorology from American Meteorological Society.

**2017** First edition of ICOS Belgium Science Conference welcomes 75 participants in Gembloux.

**2017** Ecosystem station of Lonzée is one of seven first stations to receive official ICOS label in presence of Walloon minister for climate and press.



Walloon Minister Crucke at the press event

## FUTURE PLANS



Render of new Belgian research vessel

- 2019** Nine out of ten Belgian stations expected to be labelled.
- FALL 2019** 2<sup>nd</sup> ICOS Belgium Science Conference will be organised in Antwerp.
- 2019 – 2021** 90 climate workshops will be given in schools together with WWF.
- FALL 2020** New Belgian research vessel will be delivered.

### Focal Point

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### Partner organizations

