



# mec

SMART FLANDERS

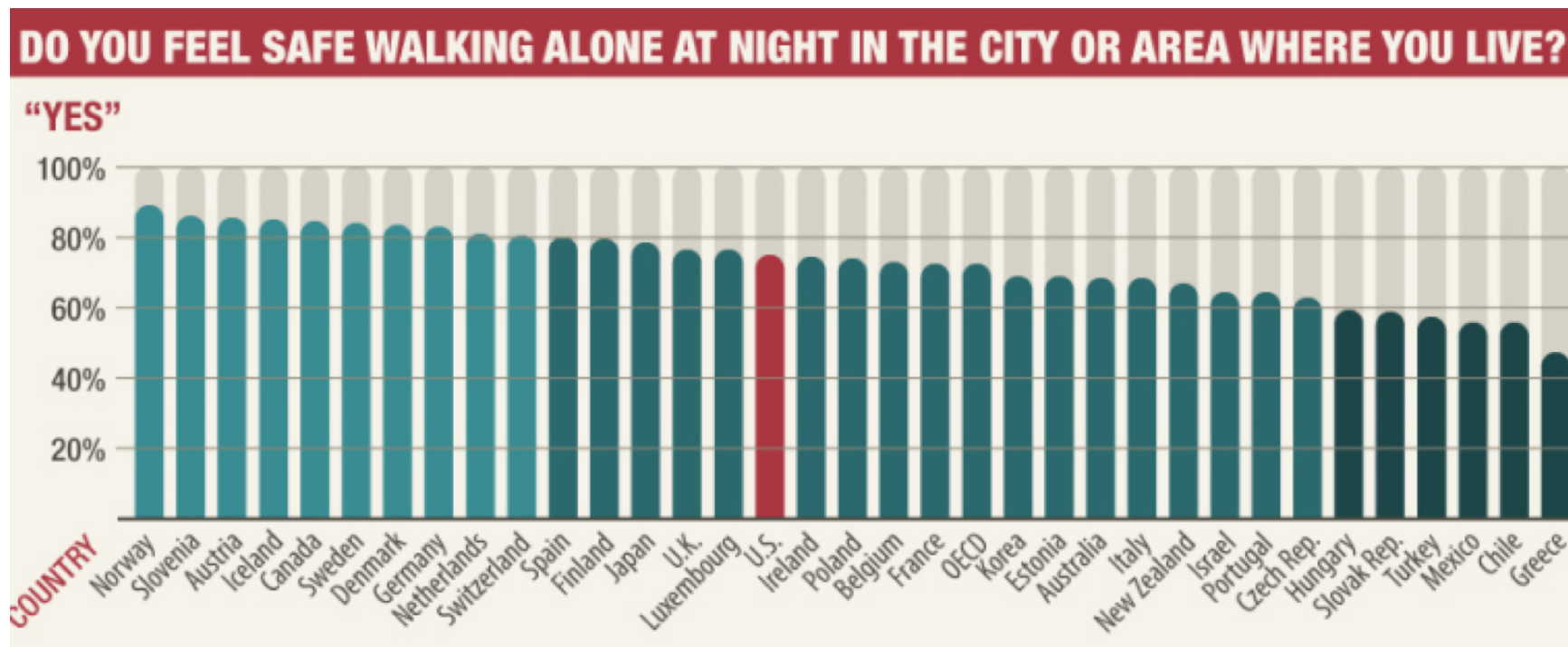
Nils Walravens, PhD

@nwalrave

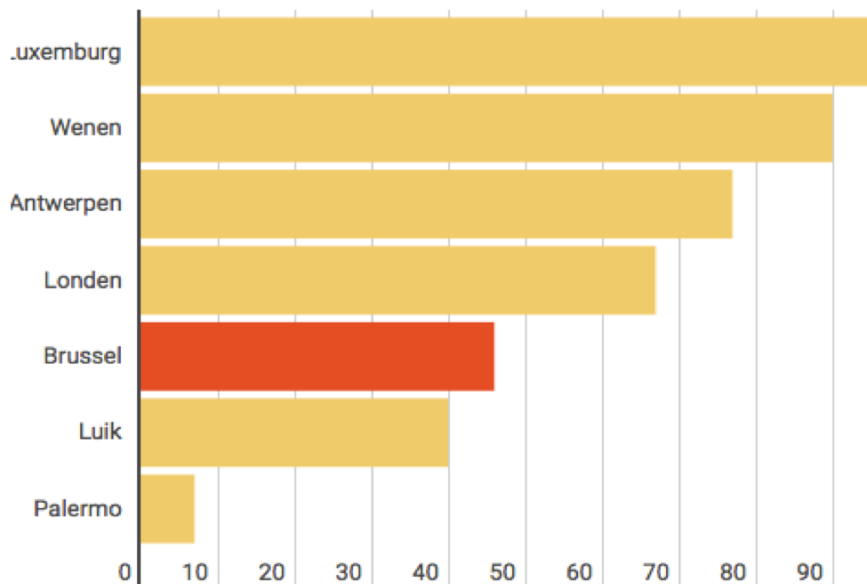
[smart.flanders.be](http://smart.flanders.be)

PROBLEM

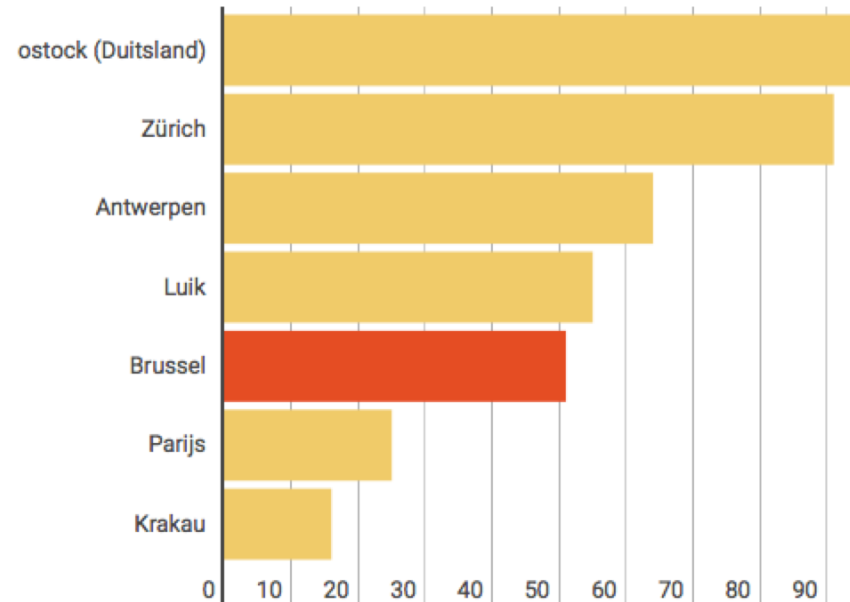
# What are we dealing with?



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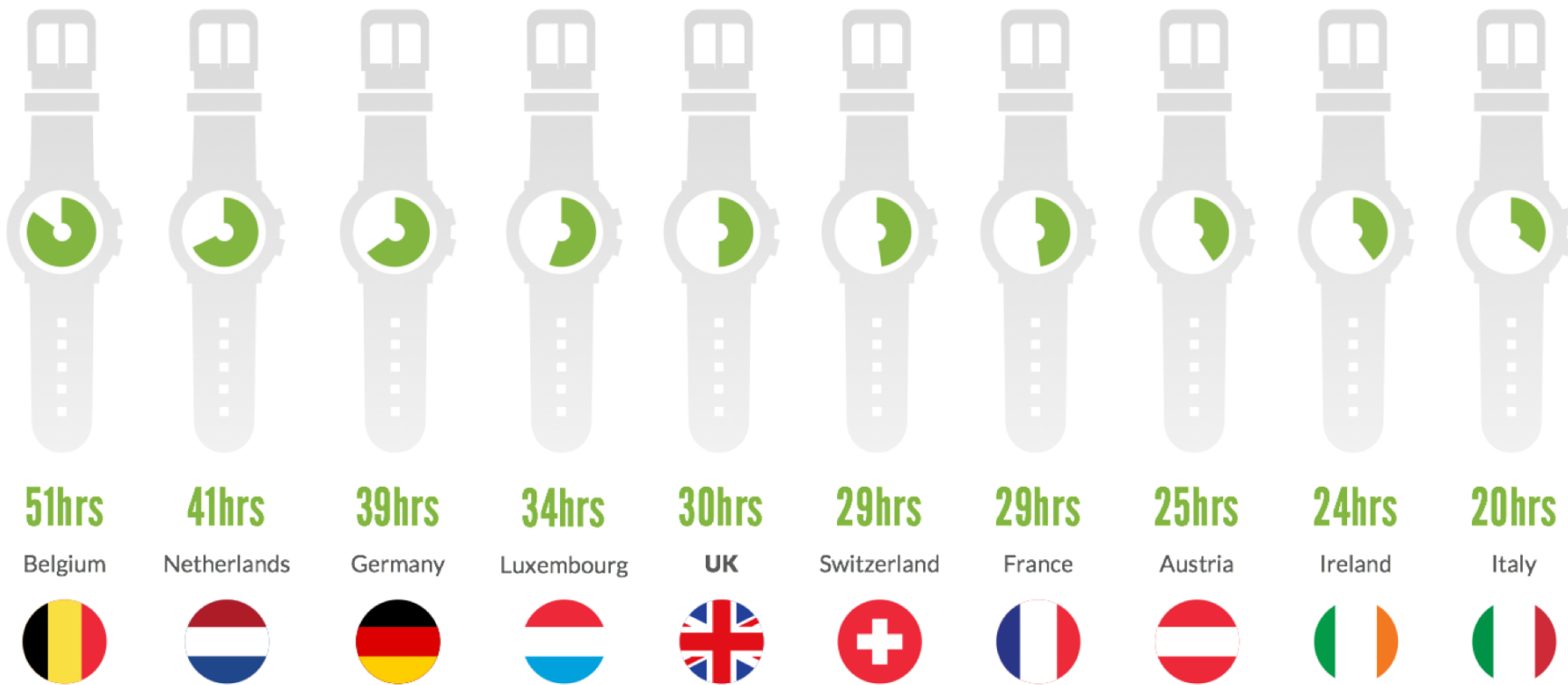
'Ik ben tevreden over de netheid in mijn stad'



'Ik ben tevreden over de luchtkwaliteit in mijn stad'

# What are we dealing with?

## Europe's ten most congested countries in 2014 (by hours wasted annually):



# Wicked problems require collaborative solutions

Not reinventing the wheel on an island...



# Wicked problems require open and shared approaches

No silos or fragmentation...



# Wicked problems require data

Tons of data...



<https://index.okfn.org>

BOTTOM LINE

## Bottom line of Smart Flanders

Expectations around IoT and Smart Cities in general remain very high, but the potential real-life impact and return are still hard to grasp or unclear.

Which **urban challenges** can we start tackling in a better way today, by bringing together city data in smarter ways and making them available for reuse? (**linked & open**)?

Based on this exercise, which **new opportunities** do we identify for more innovative, different or other ways of collecting, processing and opening data?

WHY OPEN DATA?

# Why open data?

Transport for London publishes real-time open data

13.000 registered developers, 600 apps

Approx 500 people directly employed

42% of Londoners use a service based on TfL data

Yearly estimated economic benefit and savings of £130 milio

<http://content.tfl.gov.uk/deloitte-report-tfl-open-data.pdf>



**TRANSPORT  
FOR LONDON**  

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**EVERY JOURNEY MATTERS**

AND BECAUSE YOU HAVE TO...

# Why open data? Because you have to...

[Decreet Hergebruik van Overheidsinformatie](#) (2007)

According to the definition of 'bestuursdocumenten' in the [Decreet Openbaarheid van Bestuur](#) (2004)

Translation of the European Directive on Public Sector Information (PSI) in which Flanders was a frontrunner in Europe (and Belgium)

No privacy-sensitive or personal data

PILOT ON REAL-TIME OPEN PARKING DATA

# Pilot real-time occupancy parking garages

## Proof of concept


<https://smartflanders-poc.netlify.com/#/parkings>

## Informatiepagina


<https://datapiloten.be/parking>

 Kortrijk

 Gent

 Leuven


 Sint-Niklaas

 Nederland

parkings

belgium

netherlands

 Kortrijk

PARKING

VACANT

TREND

p-houtmarkt

168



p-budabrug

230



p-veemarkt

575



p-schouwburg

395



p-broeltorens

320



p-haven

250



p-p+r expo

448

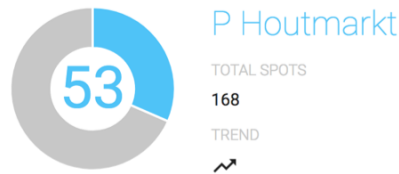


p-station

214



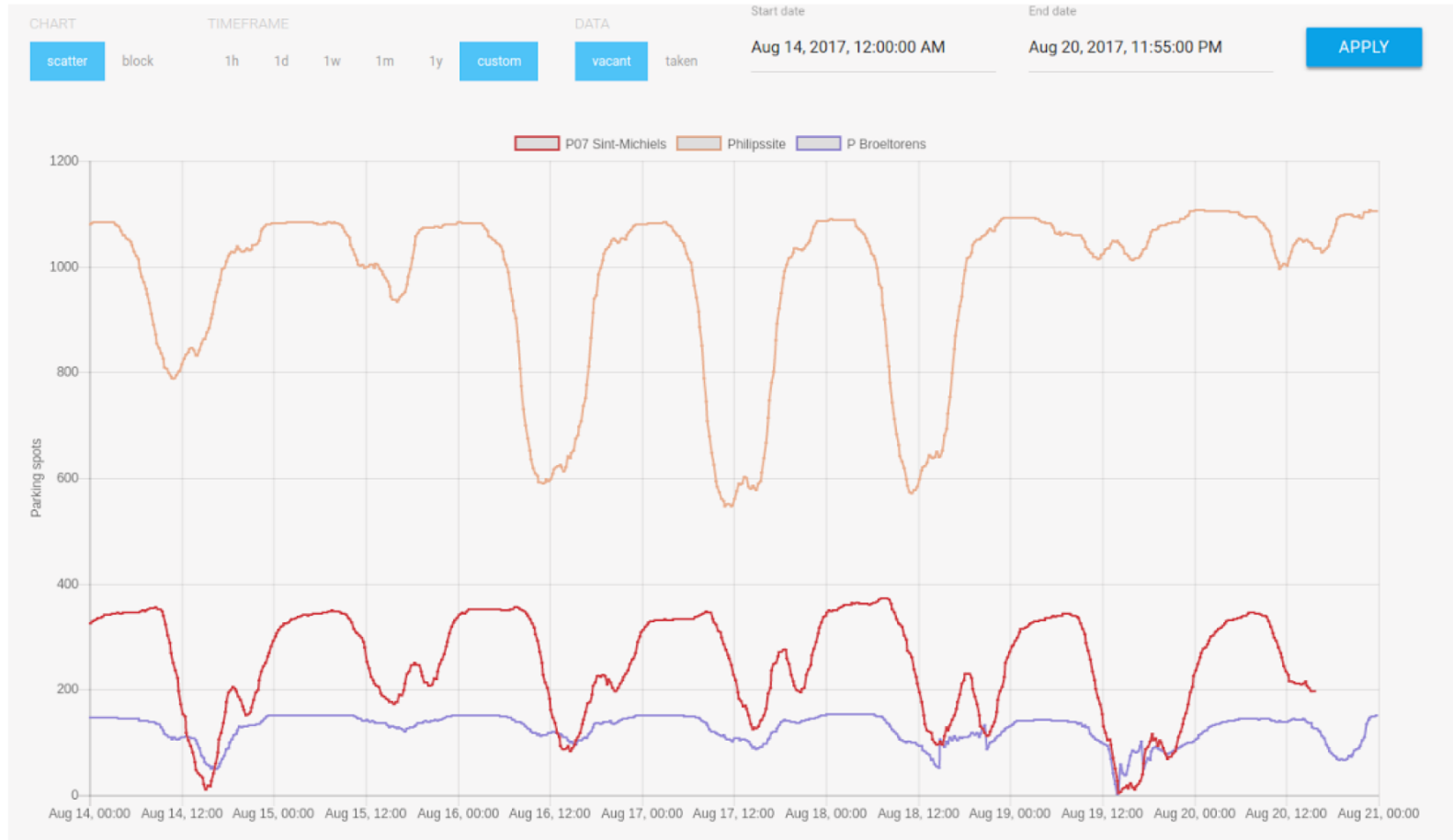
# Occupancy individual parkings



Visualize historic data



# Compare occupancy over time



# Importance of this approach to data publishing

Not this visualisation, however:

- Automation
- Reuse (already by one startup and research)
- Scalability and cost for cities
- Data-based policy (internal reuse)
- Transparency

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# PRINCIPLES

# Core principles of Smart Flanders

Support programme, communications channel, knowledge and interaction platform

Focus on real-time open data and shared reference architectures

Cooperation between cities and actors from the quadruple helix

Implementation-driven

Internationally networked

Lighthouse model for smaller cities (13 centre cities and VGC Brussels)

# PROJECT STRUCTURE

# Threefold project structure

## 1. Open and Agile Smart Flanders: *Maturity Check*

*Maturity check and 'Smart Portrait'*

*Open Data Charter*

## 2. Smart Flanders Data Pilots: *Reality Check*

*1 - 2 data pilots per year to tackle a shared urban challenge*

## 1. Smart Flanders Testbed: *Conformity Check*

*Test and validation in a real-life environment*

**Partners:** imec, 13 centre cities and VGC, ABB, Kenniscentrum, AIV, Facilitair Bedrijf, cabinets Homans, Muyters, Weyts, user group

WHAT CAN CITIES EXPECT FROM SMART FLANDERS?

# Smart Flanders Offer I

Practices and tools for **cost efficient data publication**

Support in defining and setting up **data pilots** with societal impact

**Stimulating data reuse** with innovation as the goal

Working towards better **inter- and intragovernmental** data sharing

Support in avoiding **vendor lock-in**



# Smart Flanders Offer II

Building bridges to **existing initiatives**

Building on **available solutions** and technologies

Gathering and translating **international insights**

Support participation in **(inter)national projects**, pilots and so on

Support **matchmaking with the market** where possible



WHERE ARE WE TODAY?

## Status after one year

- ✓ Introduction round of 13 cities
- ✓ Questionnaire on Smart Cities and open data
- ✓ In-depth interviews 'Smart Portrait'
- ✓ <https://smart.flanders.be> with page for developers
- ✓ 7 Steercos
- ✓ 2 working groups
- ✓ Running pilot on parking data: <https://datapiloten.be/parking>
- ✓ Steerco-approved Open Data Charter

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# OPEN DATA CHARTER

# Open Data Charter

<https://smart.flanders.be/open-data-charter>

Goal: establish a progressive vision and ambition, stimulate reuse

Strategic and technical principles on open data publishing

Point of reference for cities, but open to broader support

Co-created with the cities for 3 types of data



# Open Data Charter: Principles

Stimulate maximum reuse

Accurate metadata

Web as publication platform

Open licences

Sharing and cooperation between governments

Dialogue and interaction with quadruple helix and reusers

Lowest possible delay between measurement and publication + historical data

Attention for these principles in procurement, contracts, concessions etc.

To be published on <https://smart.flanders.be/open-data-charter> when finalised



# CONCLUSION

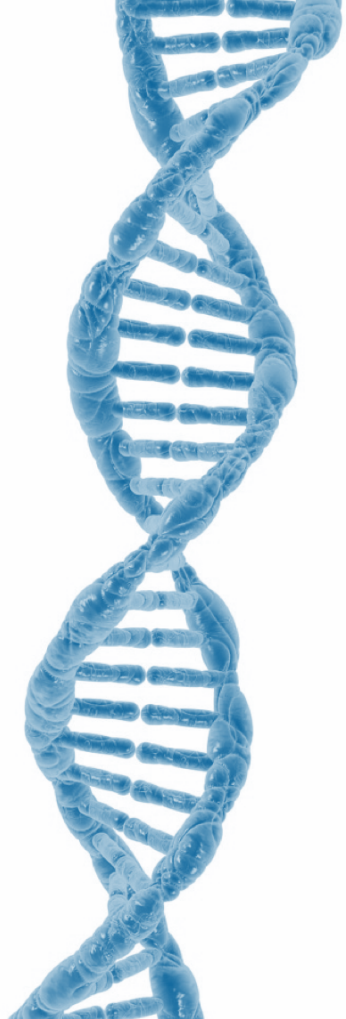
# Conclusion

Complex challenges can be tackled in the relative short term

Learning by doing works, but raises understandable questions

Not obstacles, but opportunities

Keep focus on return for the cities, with attention for the whole ecosystem



TEAM

# Prof. Dr. Pieter Ballon



Strategic Coordinator  
[pieter.ballon@imec.be](mailto:pieter.ballon@imec.be)

Director imec – SMIT – VUB

PhD Communication Sciences

Author “Smart Cities: Hoe Technologie  
Onze Steden Leefbaar Houdt en Slimmer  
Maakt” - Lannoo, 2016

Strategic coordination

# Dr. Nils Walravens



Operational Coordinator

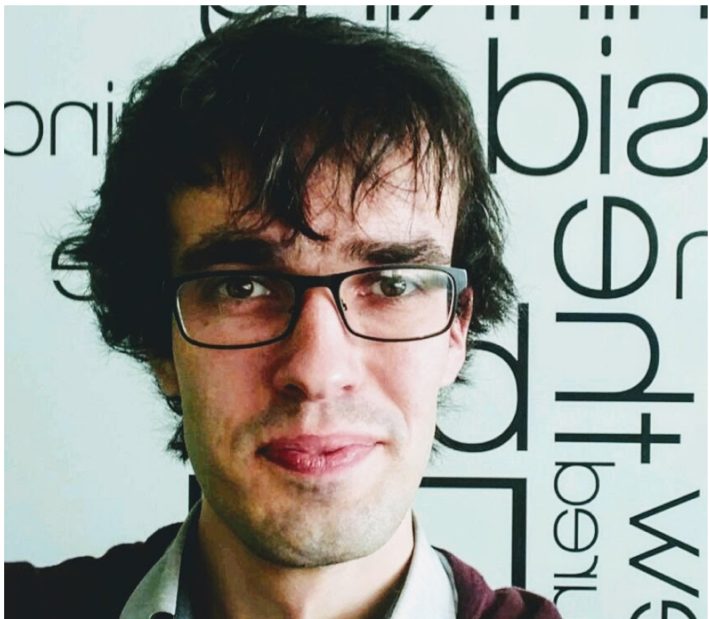
[nils.walravens@imec.be](mailto:nils.walravens@imec.be)

Senior Researcher imec – SMIT – VUB

PhD Communication Sciences on public  
value, mobile apps en Smart City strategies

Operational coordination

# Pieter Colpaert



Chief Technology

[pieter.colpaert@imec.be](mailto:pieter.colpaert@imec.be)

Researcher imec – IDLab – UGent

PhD on data publishing for maximum reuse

Contact technical questions and vision on  
data publishing

# Mathias Van Compernelle

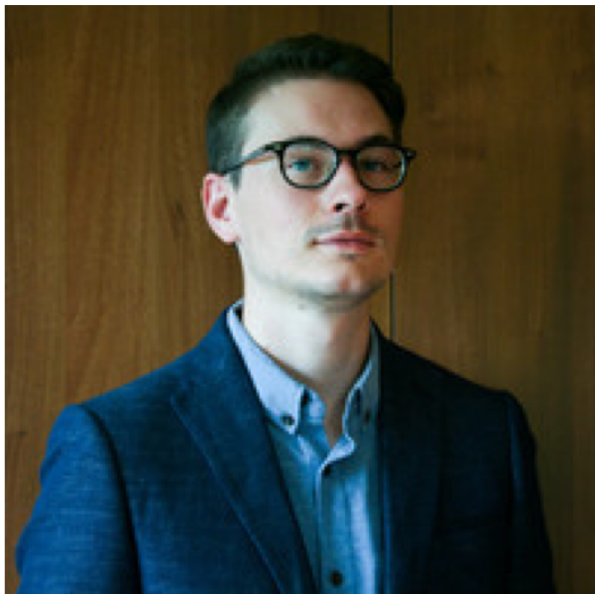


Policy & Methodology Lead  
[mathias.vancompernelle@imec.be](mailto:mathias.vancompernelle@imec.be)  
Researcher imec – MICT – UGent

Initiated PhD gestart on governmental innovation, with focus on data government

Development Maturity Check and collaboration techniques, policy expertise open data & e-government

# Jan Waeben



Monitoring Lead

[jan.waeben@imec.be](mailto:jan.waeben@imec.be)

PhD Researcher imec – SMIT – VUB

Initiated PhD on international Smart City  
monitors and benchmarking

Contact and support of monitoring activities



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