



### Meetjesland

The Meetjesland is a Belgian countryside region between the cities of Ghent and Bruges, at the border with the Netherlands nearby the North Sea. It covers 1/5 of the province of East Flanders and consists of 13 towns and municipalities with 175.000 inhabitants. Eeklo is the central town, and beside Eeklo, Aalter, Evergem, Maldegem and Zelzate are important economic centres. The region has a variety of landscapes: at the North we have typical creeks, recovered from the sea, the south is more sandy and wooded. 80% of the area is cultivated by farmers (2300 agricultural properties). The Meetjesland is a pronounced agro-food region with European known companies.

### **Streekplatform+**

In the region there is a strong regional cooperation, stimulated and served by the Streekplatform+ Meetjesland, a neutral forum for the representative organisations and public authorities of the Meetjesland.

The aim is to provide a fundamental contribution in the promotion of the prosperity and the well-being in the Meetjesland by reaching a consensus of an integrated and sustainable region development, coordinating the conduct of policy in the region, stimulating the cooperation between governing boards and organisations, initiating and implementing the regional initiatives and projects and establishing the conditions for a successful regional development