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Design Policy Mapping in Europe

The following content is drawn from the “Design Policy Mapping in Europe” report. Access and download the complete report using the link:

https://madres.beda.org/en/publications/design-policy-mapping-in-europe/

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Sep 2025

Country Profile: Belgium

Country Size: 30,528 sq km
Citizens: 11,817,096 (2024) | Tendecy: rising
GDP per Capita: 55,954.6 $ (2024) | Tendency: rising
EU Innovation Scoreboard: Strong Innovator (2025) | 138,0 %
BEDA Member Organisations: Wallonie-Bruxelles Design/Mode (WBDM), Flanders DC, Design Museum Gent, Designregio Kortrijk

Dedicated design policy status

No – responsibilities are devolved to regions (Flanders, Wallonia, Brussels). Belgium is Design (joint initiative of regional actors: Flanders DC, MAD Brussels, Wallonie-Bruxelles Design Mode) promotes Belgian design abroad.

Design in other policy agendas

- → **CCI Strategy:** No national strategy. Regional actors (Flanders DC, MAD Brussels, Wallonie-Bruxelles Design Mode) support design and CCI.
- → **Circular economy Strategy:** No national CE plan. Regions lead through Vlaanderen Circulair, Circular Wallonia, and the Brussels CE Programme.
- → **Innovation, industrial/development, digital and architecture strategies**: No explicit national strategy or inclusion identified; approaches vary by region.

Observations

Belgium's federal system means design policy is fragmented across regions. While there is strong promotional activity, a coherent national design policy is absent.

ADDRESS

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