Mega trends like digitalization, automation, mobility, climate change, globalization or the demographic development change the world and pose great challenges for society. A consolidation of various academic disciplines and companies is required to solve these complex contexts and issues. RWTH Aachen Campus is a unique platform for finding answers to the relevant questions of the future. One of the largest technology-oriented research landscapes in Europe is currently in development in three steps on an area of 800,000 m².
Stage 1: Research Clusters and Centers

Already now, academia and industry are conducting joint research on RWTH Aachen Campus. The subject areas are embedded in 16 long-term clusters. The centers represent operative units that are focused on individual future issues, in which interdisciplinary teams and industry consortia work jointly on visionary approaches to solving these issues. Six clusters with more than 30 centers are currently being developed on Campus Melaten: Bio-Medical Engineering, Sustainable Energy, Photonics, Production Engineering, Heavy-Duty Drives and Smart Logistics. More than 360 companies are already involved as members on RWTH Aachen Campus.

The clusters are common spaces for ongoing joint ventures between academia and industry in specialized centers.
Stage 2: Lighthouse Projects

Initial innovative lighthouse projects are now being developed on RWTH Aachen Campus, which were made possible by the initiators relying on the services and results of the various centers. In the area of electromobility, e.GO is the second electric vehicle manufacturer after StreetScooter to emerge from this network. Production researchers have shown that Industrie 4.0 allows for fast development processes and particularly cost-efficient prototype and series production. e.GO Life goes into serial production in 2018 at a new factory in Aachen Rothe Erde, which is set up for an initial capacity of 10,000 vehicles per year. The aeronautics center Air s.Pace introduces the new development project Silent Air Taxi in 2018: a small aircraft for short and regional routes, which is set to complement and optimize existing mobility options.

The Electric City Car e.GO Life is an RWTH Aachen Campus development.
Stage 3: Innovation Factory

The Innovation Factory should be seen as a place for invention and development that focuses specifically on innovation projects. The aim of the Innovation Factory is to allow industrial enterprises to develop innovative products better, faster and leaner. Developer teams move into the Innovation Factory temporarily, where they are provided with relevant expertise and infrastructure on over 60,000 m². Some companies are already in the process of developing their own accelerators on RWTH Aachen Campus.

The Innovation Factory facilitates state-of-the-art product development – from the initial idea to market readiness.
Hotspot for Pioneers

National as well as international experts see RWTH Aachen Campus as a place where knowledge is created and where exchange with like-minded people is facilitated. Here, teamwork makes ideas reality. On the campus, know-how and resources, dialog and discussions at conferences and congresses, further education courses, recruiting of young talents and the option of showcasing one’s own business are offered.

Members benefit from their on-site representation on RWTH Aachen Campus.
Room for Research

The expansion areas Campus Melaten and Campus West provide the workspace needed for the cooperation of academia and industry. The university’s expansion options in terms of space are limited due to the scarcity of public funding. That is why the campus has taken the innovative approach of inviting private investors to fund the development of attractive and functional research complexes on public land. Over the course of the past 10 years, the interdisciplinary approach of the campus concept has facilitated great successes in competitions for publicly funded research buildings.

The investor ante4C (Aachen) and the architectural office KPF (New York) built the 1st construction phase of the Photonics Cluster.