



**BRABANT
HACK_26**

PARTICIPANT BRIEFING

WWW.BRABANTHACK.AI

FRIDAY APRIL 10TH 2026, HTC EINDHOVEN

Welcome to BrabantHack_26. This is where Brabant's hands-on innovation culture comes to life. AI is moving from "interesting" to "necessary". Productivity pressure is rising, talent is scarce, and complexity is the new normal. We cannot wait for perfect conditions. We prototype, test, learn and develop.

BrabantHack_26 is a one-day sprint to turn that mindset into tangible momentum, together with entrepreneurs, experts, and ambitious builders from Brabant and beyond. International participants are explicitly welcome. Come experience Brainport up close and leave with something you can take forward.

THE ESSENTIALS

BrabantHack_26 takes place on Friday, April 10th, 2026 at the Conference Center at High Tech Campus Eindhoven. The official event language is English. That means all plenary parts of the program, as well as your final materials are in English; although you can collaborate in whichever language you want with your team members.

Teams have a maximum of four people. You can either sign up as a team, or join solo. In that case we will match you with others ahead of the event. On our website you can find our program, which will be continuously updated to make the most of the day as we approach April 10th.

WHAT YOU ARE BUILDING

You will work on a real-world challenge connected to one of five tracks: Defense, Decentralized Energy Systems, Medtech and Life Sciences, Plant-based Food, or DeepTech. Tracks will each have their own winning criteria. All details will be announced in advance and published on the event channels. The precise challenges, datasets, and any track-specific conditions will be revealed shortly before the hackathon. We do this intentionally to keep the playing field fair.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND OPEN INNOVATION

BrabantHack_26 is designed with open innovation in mind. The emphasis is on exploring together, sharing insights, and creating momentum across disciplines. Your team retains ownership of what you create, but whatever you build should be shared with the track owners that provided the challenge and data so we can make real progress together.

Optionally, your team may choose to put your materials under a Creative Commons License such as CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 if you prefer to keep elements proprietary for future development. Please let us know in advance if this is the case.

FORMAT AND PITCHES

Expect a full-day build. Teams start in the morning and work through to dinner, with the energy shifting from exploration to execution to storytelling as the day progresses. Throughout the day you will be supported by crucial data, relevant tooling, and mentor guidance. You will explore, design, build, validate, and sharpen your story.

In the semi-final, there will be one winner per track. Your pitch is two minutes, followed by two questions from the track owner. Make every second count. What you deliver can be a prototype, a concept with a credible implementation path, a demo, a workflow, or a system design. Different tracks may require different outputs and track owners will choose the winners of their own track, so align your work to the success criteria once they are published.

Track winners move to the plenary final. The final pitch is five minutes, followed by questions by a professional jury. They will ultimately crown the winners of BrabantHack_26 based on your overall impact.

TOOLS AND MATERIALS

You will need your own PC to build and to shape your materials. Everything else is set up to keep you in flow. We provide the on-site basics and additional supporting materials during the day. Tools are open. Use what helps you build the best solution. At the same time, stay sharp: tools cannot replace your judgment. Your team owns the thinking, the decisions, and the responsibility for what you present.

PRIZES AND FOLLOW-UP

Winners receive concrete implementation support from BOM in the form of venture support, aimed at helping the strongest ideas move from hackathon energy to real-world traction. Additional prizes will be announced as BrabantHack_26 approaches so stay tuned.

CONTACT

For any questions about the hackathon, you can contact either [Bert van Gestel](#) or [Wouter de Bruin](#).

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