



LE FONDS EUROPÉEN DE DÉVELOPPEMENT RÉGIONAL
ET LA WALLONIE INVESTISSENT DANS VOTRE AVENIR

MLE on Widening Participation and Strengthening Synergies - Wallonia -

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Didier Flagothier, SPW-DGO6 – DPF1

didier.flagothier@spw.wallonie.be

Not much « synergies » per se...

- Wallonia is fully autonomous regarding the funding of applied science and technologies
- A significant part of its annual budget is allocated to research and innovation
- ESIF rules are complex and somehow lack flexibility
 - State Aid Rules even more difficult to comply with
 - Threat of N+3 budgetary cutbacks and ambitious research programmes difficult to combine

Nevertheless...

- Wallonia has decided to complement (rather than combine) ERDF funding
 - Regional funds are used to fund additional projects for large project portfolios when the ERDF cofunding wasn't deemed sufficient to attain their ambitious goals

And...



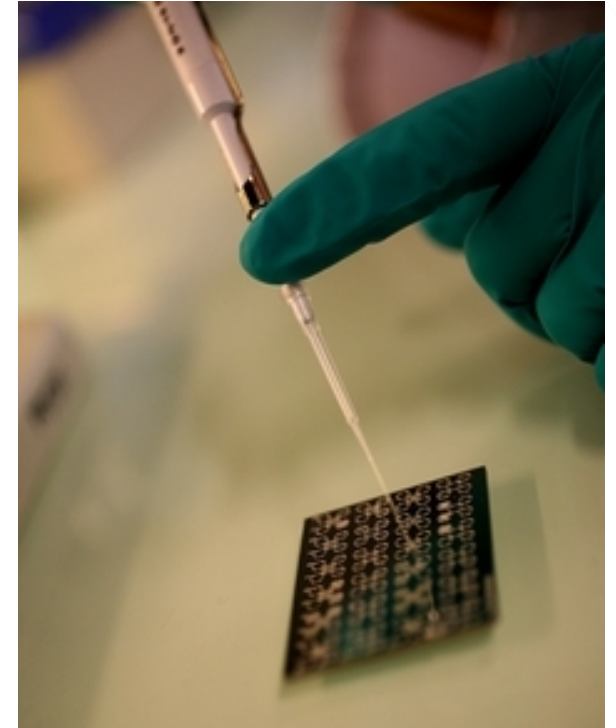
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And, even more importantly...

- As such, large ERDF project portfolios need (and allow for) the funding of onerous research equipment and a critical mass of researchers that wouldn't have probably been possible without it.
- This brings our research teams new opportunities, their inclusion in new international networks, etc.
- Which in turn lead to new projects to be funded via public (regional, European) funds or privately.
- Which in turn... well, a virtuous circle !

Charleroi (Brussels South) aeropole & Biopark

- +/- 100 hectares of agricultural land progressively transformed through successive investment phases by ERDF and Wallonia since the 90s
- Today 150 companies and 4,000 jobs
- 6 main economic sectors (biotech, aeronautics, ICT, manufacturing, B-to-B services)
- **Biopark** : 46 companies (incl. foreign companies) – 1,100 jobs + 2 universities + 4 research institutes + 1 incubator + 1 training centre (850 trained per year)
- Private investing in hosted companies : 150 M€
- Univercells : 12 M€ investment by the Gates foundation to develop a tool to produce 40 million dose of polio vaccine



GIGA (Interdisciplinary Cluster for Applied Genoproteomics)

- Since 2002, clustering of 22 research teams (600 researchers)
- Genoproteomics applied to human and animal pharmacy and medicine
- Attraction of new SMEs and training component
- Participation in :
 - European level :14 FP7 projects, 3 Interreg, 1 ERC Advanced Grant
 - Federal level : 12 interuniversity projects + numerous FNRS and Télévie projects
 - Regional level : 39 research projects in various programmes
- Increase of the number of foreign researchers (122 – 38 different countries in 2014)
- Way more publications in high impact publications
- Etc...



In a nutshell, the scientific and technological investments made with the help of ERDF have a dramatic synergetic effect on projects, partnerships and investments.

Still...

- Wallonia has recently launched with regional funds two programmes with the intent of contributing to the internationalisation of its research actors :
 - SWAN
 - Horizon 2020 grants

SWAN (Seal of excellence WALLoNia)

- SME Instrument
- Excellent propositions but... lack of EU funds, awarded a « Seal of Excellence »
- Phase 1 : Grant max. 50.000 € (at 75%)
- Phase 2 : Recoverable loan (in case of commercial success) (45-55 %)
- Same project proposals, maybe slightly modified to comply with our own regulatory and accounting environment

Horizon 2020

- SMEs
- Grant (3.500 € participant; 10.000 € coordinator)
- Preparation, Submission, Negotiation
- All FP calls (pillars 2&3) and other European (co-)funded initiatives (EUREKA, Eurostars, JTI, ERA-NETs)



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Thank you for your attention

Didier Flagothier, Director a.i.

SPW – DGO6 – Federal and International Programmes Direction

didier.flagothier@spw.wallonie.be
