• Belgian Science/Innovation Policy
• Flemish Science Landscape
• FWO, Opening Horizons
• What can FWO offer you and your partners abroad?
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The Belgian R&I landscape is a complicated landscape

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMUNITY LEVEL</th>
<th>German Speaking Community</th>
<th>French Speaking Community</th>
<th>Flemish Community</th>
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<td>Basic Research</td>
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<td>REGIONAL LEVEL</td>
<td>Wallonia</td>
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<td>Applied Research</td>
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<td>FEDERAL LEVEL</td>
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<td>Basic &amp; Applied Research - FSIs</td>
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• Belgian Science/Innovation Policy

• **Flemish Science Landscape**

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• What can FWO offer you and your partners abroad?
Main funding streams Flanders SINCE 01.01.2016:

- **Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO):**
  - **Basic, non-oriented** research (mainly at universities)
  - **Strategic basic** research (former SB/SBO/TBM IWT programmes)
  - Research **infrastructure** (before: Hercules)

- **Flanders Innovation & Entrepreneurship (VLAIO):**
  - **Applied** and **industrial** research
  - Larger part budget allocated to **industrial R&D projects**
  - **Doctoral** and **postdoctoral** fellowships
  - Management of programmes on behalf of Flemish Government e.g. Agricultural Research (LA) and Technology Transfer Fund (TETRA)

- **BOF/IOF:** Basic funding for fundamental and industrial research
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• What can FWO offer you and your partners abroad?
1. Research mainly at universities
2. Bottom-up funding in all disciplines
3. Scientific excellence - Interuniversity competition
4. Transparant and equal opportunities
5. International cooperation

Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO)

www.fwo.be
Key Facts on FWO (2017)

Budget: **350 million EUR (incl. EOS)**

- **Research projects**: 72%
- **Fellowships**: 5%
- **Infrastructure**: 23%

- **Fundamental Research**: 74%
- **Strategic Basic Research**: 16%
- **Clinical Research**: 5%
- **Infrastructure**: 5%

- 854 Predocs (basic)
- 400 Predocs (strategic basic)
- 791 Postdocs
- 1220 Projects

- 2017
- 82% Predocs
- 18% Postdocs
- 62% Postdocs
- 38% Projects

- 51% Predocs
- 49% Postdocs

- 42% Predocs (basic)
- 58% Postdocs
- 21.3% Predocs (basic)
- 29.3% Predocs (strategic basic)
- 27.4% Postdocs
- 20.5% Projects
FWO Funding Schemes

- Funding for **individual researchers**
  - Pre- and postdoctoral fellowships including SB, bench fees and research grants

- Funding for **research teams**
  - Research projects including SBO and TBM, Big Science, Bilateral agreements, EOS, ...

- **Infrastructure**
  - Large and medium scale research infrastructure, Flemish Supercomputer Centre, ESFRI

- Supporting **mobility, international contacts and collaborations**
  - Travel grants, sabbatical leaves, scientific research communities, organisation of conferences in Belgium, international coordination actions, collaboration agreements, ERA-Nets and JPI’s, ...

- **Brain gain: Attracting excellent researchers**, active abroad, to Flanders
  - Odysseus, [PEGASUS]$^2$

- Awarding **scientific prizes**
Continuous Optimization Procedures

• Equal opportunities/more homogeneous evaluation procedure:
  o Junior ↔ senior research projects
• Postdoctoral fellowships for junior and senior researchers
• 2-step evaluation for fellowships:
  1. Pre-selection phase
  2. Interview phase
• Focus on INTERNATIONAL peer-review
• Rebuttal phase (fundamental and strategic projects)
Evaluation Procedure

Who?

- 62 Expert Panels (domain-specific and interdisciplinary)
- International Collaboration Committee (CIWC)
- Panel for International Collaboration (CIS)

How?

- Excellence as main criterion
- International peer review
- Severe regulations to avoid CoI
- Feedback procedure
• Belgian Science/Innovation Policy
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• What can FWO offer you and your partners abroad?
International Mobility Funding Opportunities

- Participation in international conferences
- Short and long stays abroad
- Organising international conferences
- Sabbatical leaves
- Scientific research networks
- Long list of exchange and cooperation agreements with different partner countries

Attracting Top Scientists to Flanders - Universities suggest candidates
Start-up funding to develop a research group or to set up a research line at a Flemish university

Group I
- Internationally recognized leading researchers
- Budget: between € 400.000 and € 1.500.000 per year (max. 5 years)
- Permanent position at a university in the Flemish Community

Group II
- Researchers with the potential to grow to a leading position
- Budget: between € 100.000 and € 200.000 per year (max. 5 years)
- Postdoctoral fellowship at a university in the Flemish Community
calls for [PEGASUS]$^2$
Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellows

**CALLS CLOSED**
(deadlines: 01/02/2016 & 01/05/2016)

**INCOMING**
- 3 years postdoctoral fellowship
  - from abroad to Flanders

**OUTGOING**
- 3 years postdoctoral fellowship
  - from Flanders 2 years abroad
  - 1 return year to Flanders

**[PEGASUS]$^2$ Marie Skłodowska Curie Fellowships**

Prestigious Horizon2020 COFUNDed postdoctoral funding scheme

**EU COFUND budget:** € 6.372.000

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 665501.
Bilateral Agreements

Exchange Agreements

Scientific Cooperations

Lead Agency Procedures

Bilateral Research Cooperations
To promote joint research projects in basic research in all fields between the Flemish and French-speaking community in Belgium, possibly in collaboration with foreign research groups:

Consortium composition:

- **TYPE I:** Universities
- **TYPE II:** Research Institutes
- **TYPE III:** Federal Research Institutes
- **TYPE IV:** Foreign Research Institutes

- Research projects (4 years)
- Up to 1 million per year for staff, consumable and equipment
- Up to 2 Type II, III or IV research groups can be included
- Budget for Type II, III and IV: max. 10% of total consortium budget
- Deadline: 4th of April 2017 – 2 pm
- Start project: 1st of January 2018

[www.eosprogramme.be](http://www.eosprogramme.be)
ERA-MBT (Marine Biotechnology)

Participation in 3 calls within FP7

- 2014: “The development of biorefinery processes for marine bioresources”
  - Granted: **NEPTUNA** - Peter Bossier, UGent

- 2015: “Bioactive molecules from the marine environment – Biodiscovery”
  - Granted:
    - **Novofeed** - Lennart Martens, UGent
    - **BlueShell** - Katleen Raes, UGent & Johan Robbens, ILVO

- 2016: “Metagenomic approaches for valorization from the marine environment”
  - Granted: /
Blue Bioeconomy ERA-NET (‘Aquatic biomass’)

Participation upcoming ERA-NET Cofund call within H2020

- JPI Oceans as driven force
- Call planned: 2019
- FWO contribution: 2 to 3 projects
- FWO participation with channels:
  - Fundamental research
  - Strategic basic research

What’s in it for you?

• Enter into dialogue with society/citizens
• Increase societal involvement and confidence in science
• Stimulate, reinforce and innovate collaboration between all actors in knowledge chain (interdisciplinarity)
• Excite your curiosity and imagination (focus on content of questions from citizens, no agenda-setting)
• Maintain and reinforce strong international position of Flanders in science, technology and innovation

Large public survey (17 April – 27 May 2018):

“To which question(s) do you want science in Flanders to offer an answer?”

www.vraagvoordewetenschap.be
Opportunities for your partners abroad

Fellowships

- PhD fellowship (European degree)
- Postdoctoral fellowship (open to all nationalities)
- Odysseus/[PEGASUS]² for (established) researchers

Research projects

- Regular FWO research projects (in collaboration – no funding)
- EOS projects: max. 10% of total budget possible for foreign institutions as Type IV research group
- Applied Biomedical Research (TBM)/Strategic Basic Research (SBO) projects: max. 20% of total budget possible for non-Flemish research centers (co-applicant)
Thank you for your attention