



Opening new horizons



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FWO opportunities for
research collaboration
between UK and Flanders

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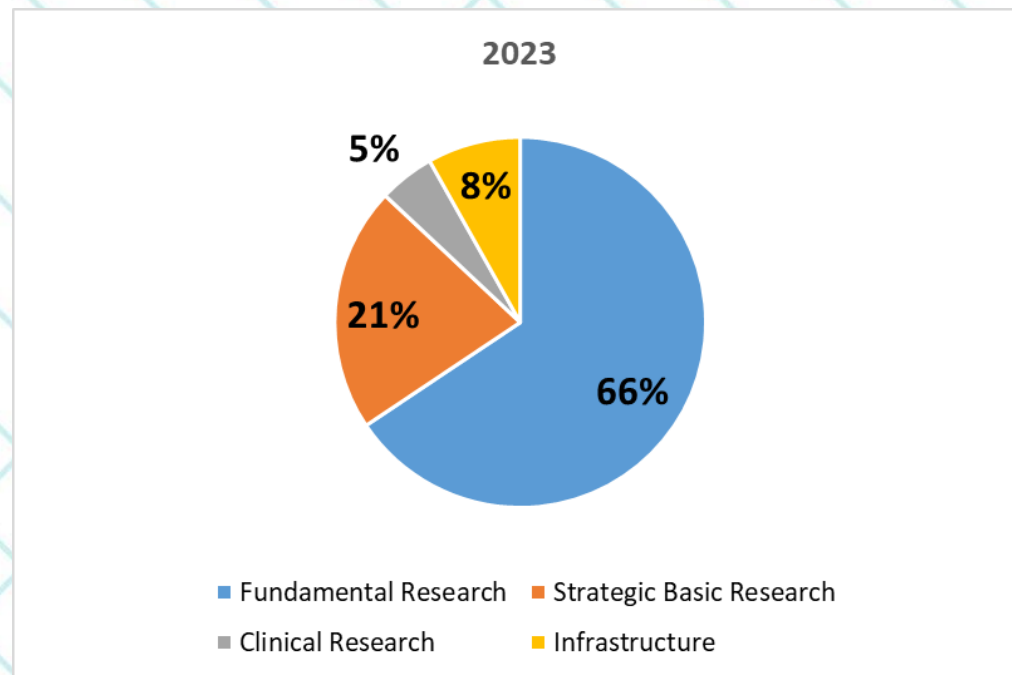
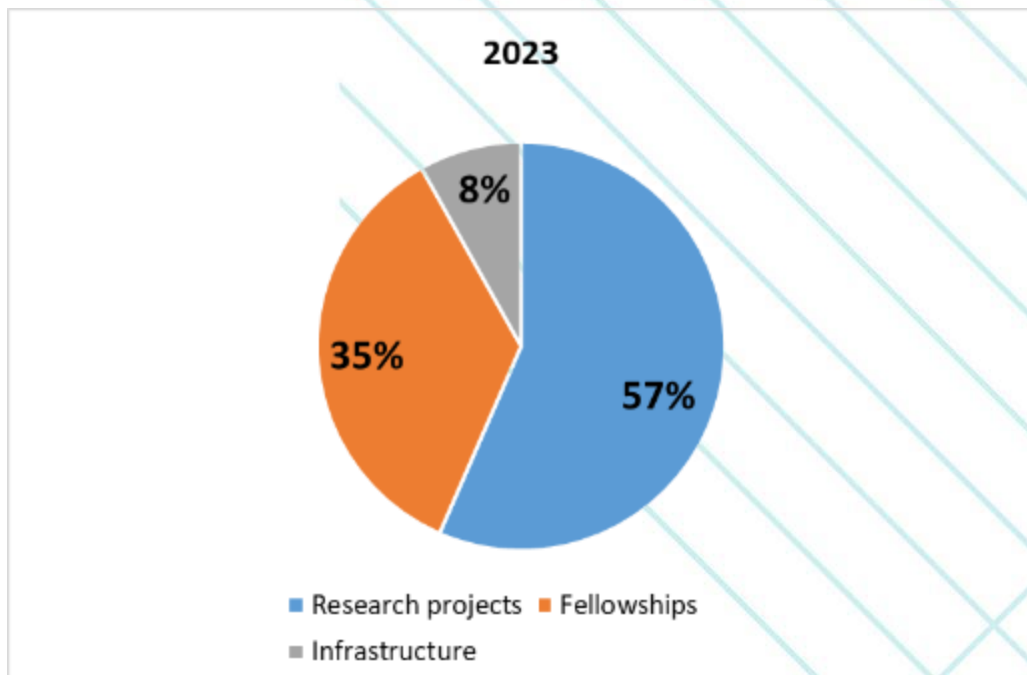
Main research funding organisation in Flanders for:
Fundamental Research, Strategic Basic Research, and Research Infrastructure



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH



Budget 2023: 406 MEUR



±1150 Predocs (basic)
 ± 850 Predocs (strategic basic)
 ± 900 Postdocs
 ± 2400 Predocs/Postdocs (projects)



52% Predocs 48%
 42% Postdocs 58%



73% Predocs 27%
 56% Postdocs 44%



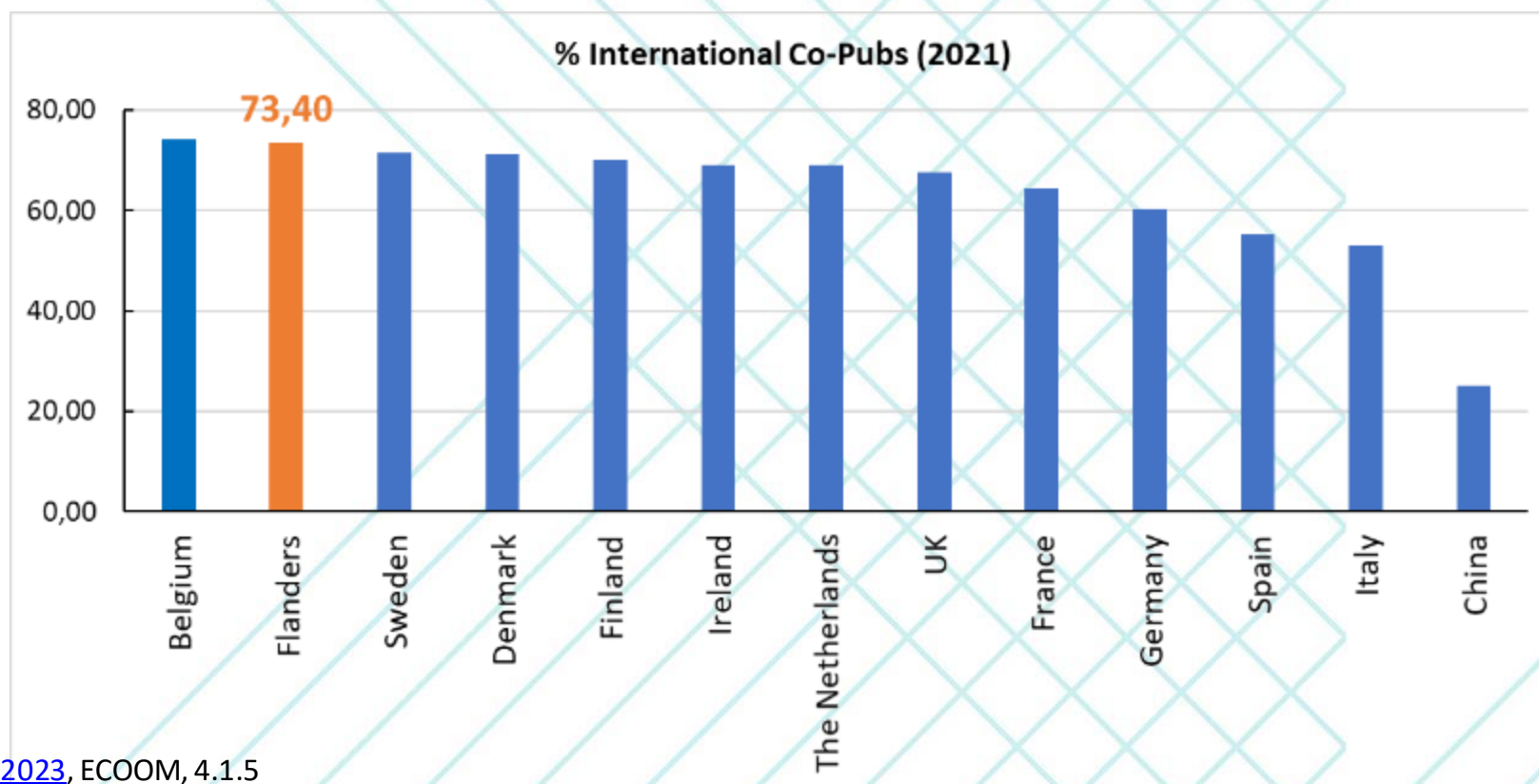
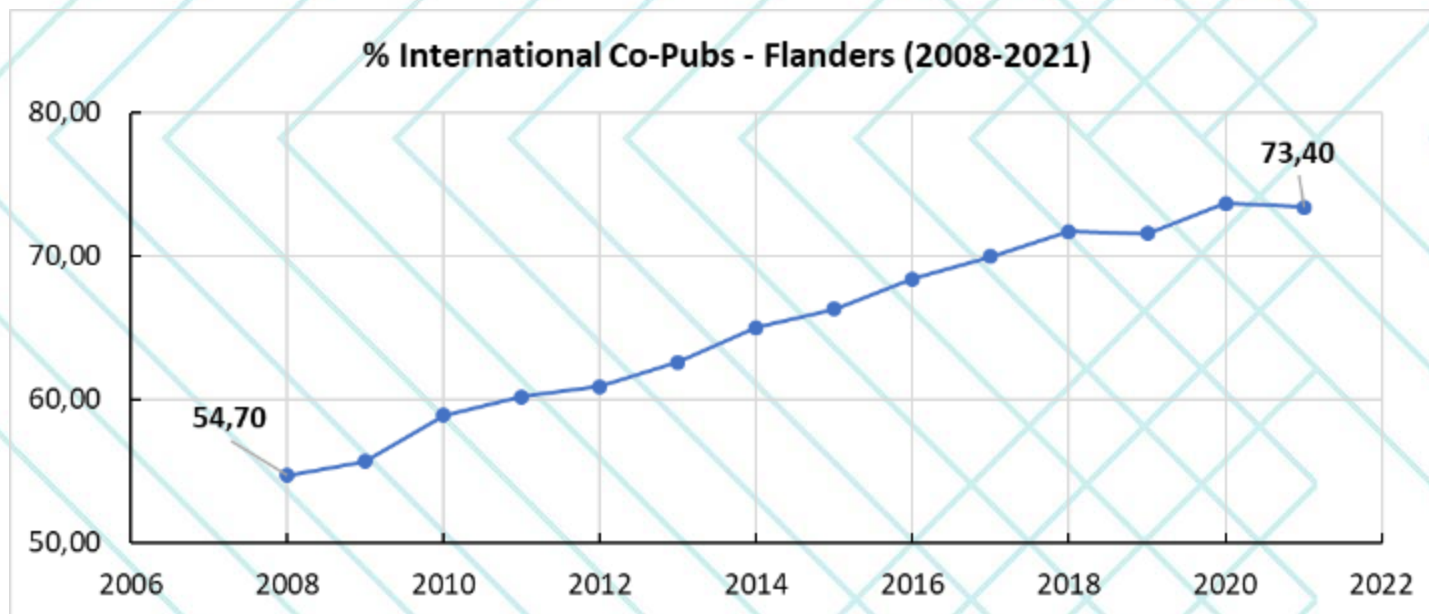
31 FWO fellows
 have UK nationality

01/01/2024



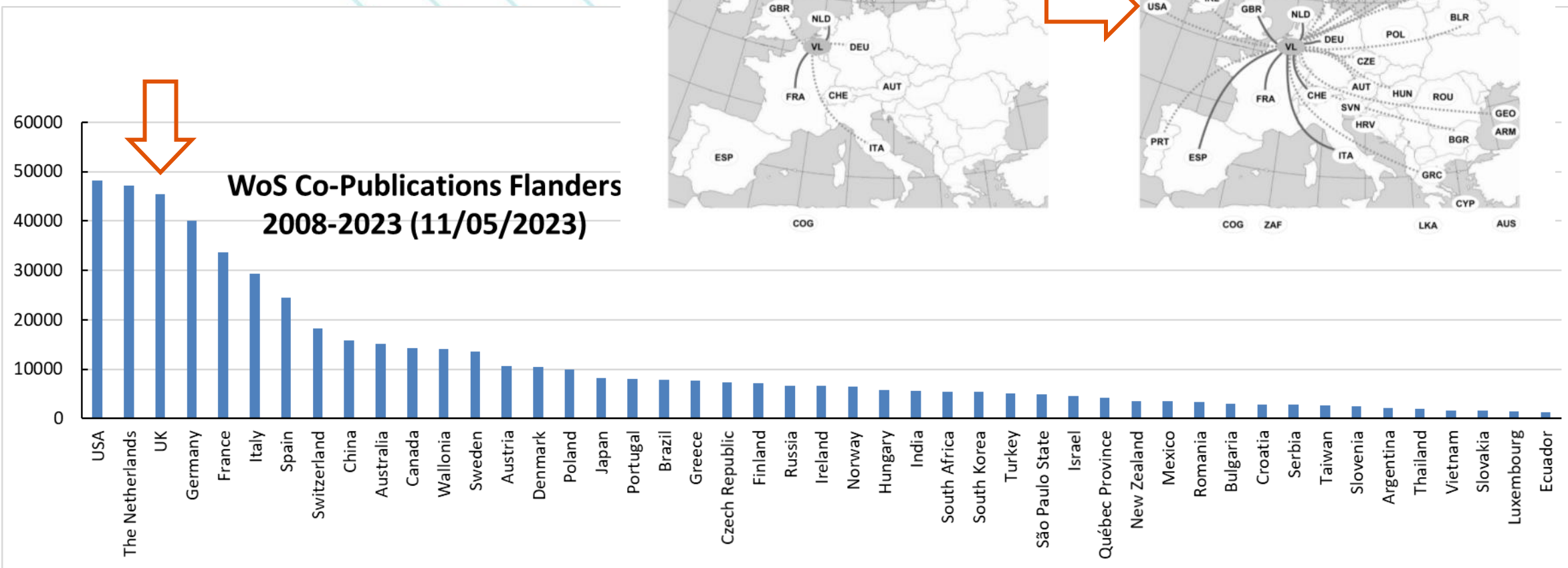
2023

24,5% Predocs (basic)
 29,5% Predocs (strategic basic)
 21,2% Postdocs Junior
 26,0% Postdoc Senior
 18,3% Projects

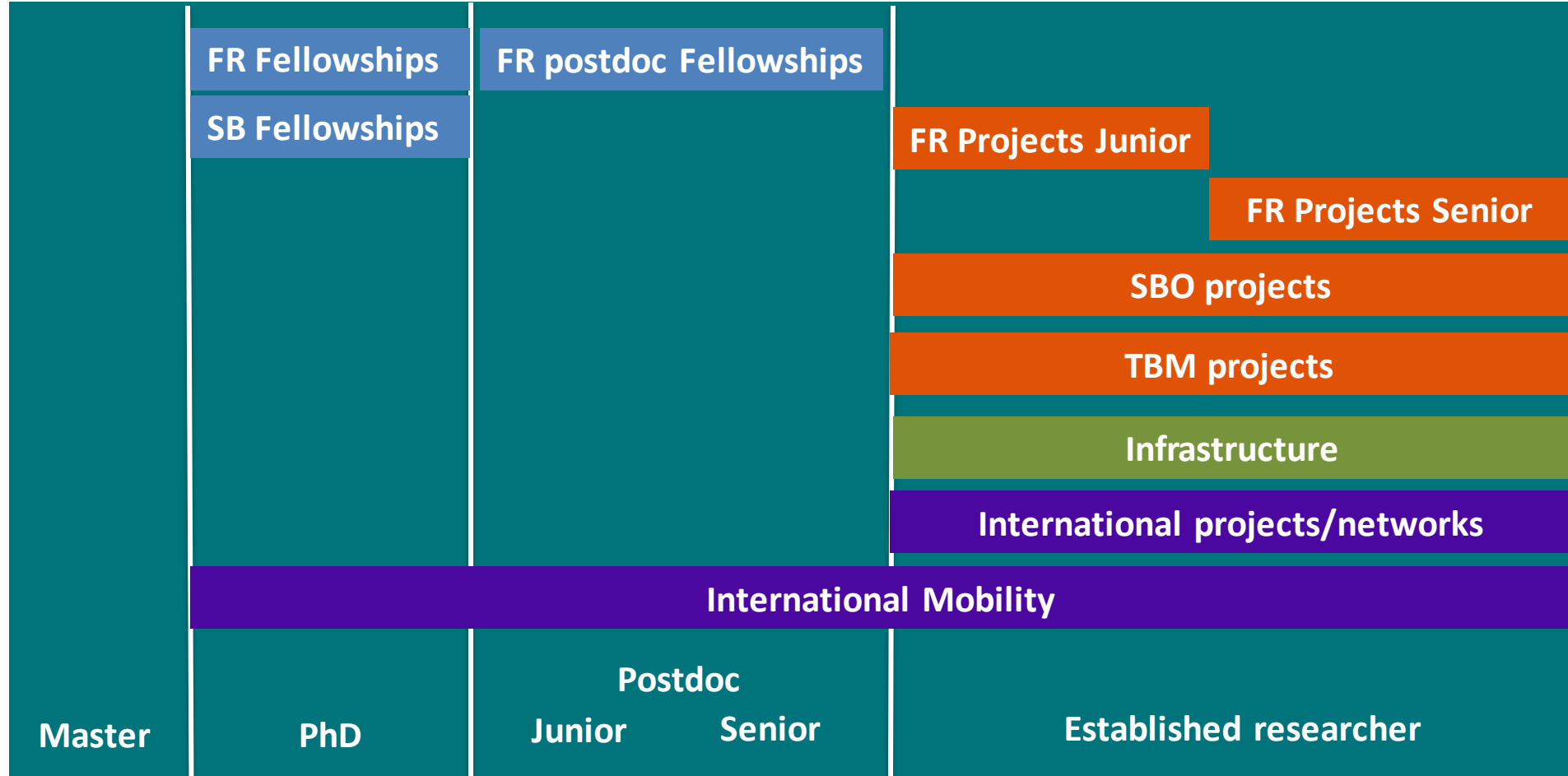


Figuur 10. De belangrijkste co-publicatielinks van Vlaanderen in de periode 2007-2012

Figuur 11. De belangrijkste co-publicatielinks van Vlaanderen in de periode 2014-2019



Main FWO Funding Schemes



FR: Fundamental research

SB: Strategic basic research

TBM: Applied biomedical research

International collaboration opportunities in 'national' programmes

Research projects (Money-Follows-Collaboration)

- [Junior/Senior FWO research projects](#): max. 10% total budget for non-Flemish research institutions (**call currently open, DL: April 2nd**)
- [Applied Biomedical Research \(TBM\)/Strategic Basic Research \(SBO\) projects](#): max. 20% of total budget for non-Flemish research institutions



2023 call for JR/SR research projects:

3 funded projects include UK research institutions: UCL, Imperial College London, King's College London that receive combined 125K EUR of FWO funding

Fellowships

- [PhD fellowship fundamental research/strategic basic research](#) (open to all nationalities) (**calls currently open, DL: March 1st**)
- [Junior/senior postdoctoral fellowship](#) (open to all nationalities)

Attracting top talent from abroad

- Attracting Top Scientists to Flanders - Universities in Flanders nominate candidates
- No nationality restrictions, but candidate main appointment of min. 80% at foreign institution on FWO-deadline + other eligibility criteria (see regulations)
- Start-up funding to develop a research group or to set up a research line at a Flemish university
- **Two-yearly call. [Next call](#) opens in April 2024 > FWO-deadline: 30th of September 2024**

TYPE I

- Internationally recognized leading researchers
- Budget: between € 400.000 and € 700.000 per year (max. 5 years)
- Permanent position at a university in the Flemish Community

TYPE II

- Researchers with the potential to grow to a leading position
- Budget: between € 100.000 and € 200.000 per year (max. 5 years)
- Tenure track position at a university in the Flemish Community

Individual International Mobility

OUTGOING

From
Flanders to
UK

- [Conference abroad](#)
- [Workshop/course abroad](#)
- [Short/Long](#) stay abroad

Destination UK (2023):

- Top 2-5 destination
- On average: 7,5% of allocated mobility grants

**No call, continuous submission system
(submission no later than 3 months prior
to departure)**

Individual International Mobility

INCOMING

From
abroad (eg.
UK) to
Flanders

- [Incoming scientific stay in Flanders](#)

Who?

Researchers from postdoctoral level onwards, appointed min. 50% outside Belgium – open to all nationalities

What?

Scientific stay in Flanders of min. 1 – max. 3 months
Added value for (research group in) Flanders is crucial: has to be scientifically motivated in depth
FWO funding for travel + daily allowance

**No call, continuous submission system
(submission no later than 3 months prior to departure)**

International Networks

Organisation
conference in BE

Scientific Research
Network (SRN)

International
coordination action
(ICA)



Budget: 12k EUR/year

Duration: 5 years

Minimum SRN requirements:

- Three research groups from at least two eligible Flemish host institutions
- Two research groups from the French-speaking community and/or abroad → **UK research groups can be easily included**: 31 (54%) of the SRN running on 01/01/2022 include at least one UK research group

2023 call: specific top-up possible funded by Universities Wales on behalf of the Global Wales Partnership: 2 of the 13 approved SRN included a Welsh research group

2024 SRN call opens in April with a deadline on September, 1st, 2024

Extra-European

- Mobility projects (Brazil, China, Japan, Taiwan, South Korea)
- Research projects (Brazil, China, Québec, Vietnam, South Africa)

Intra-European

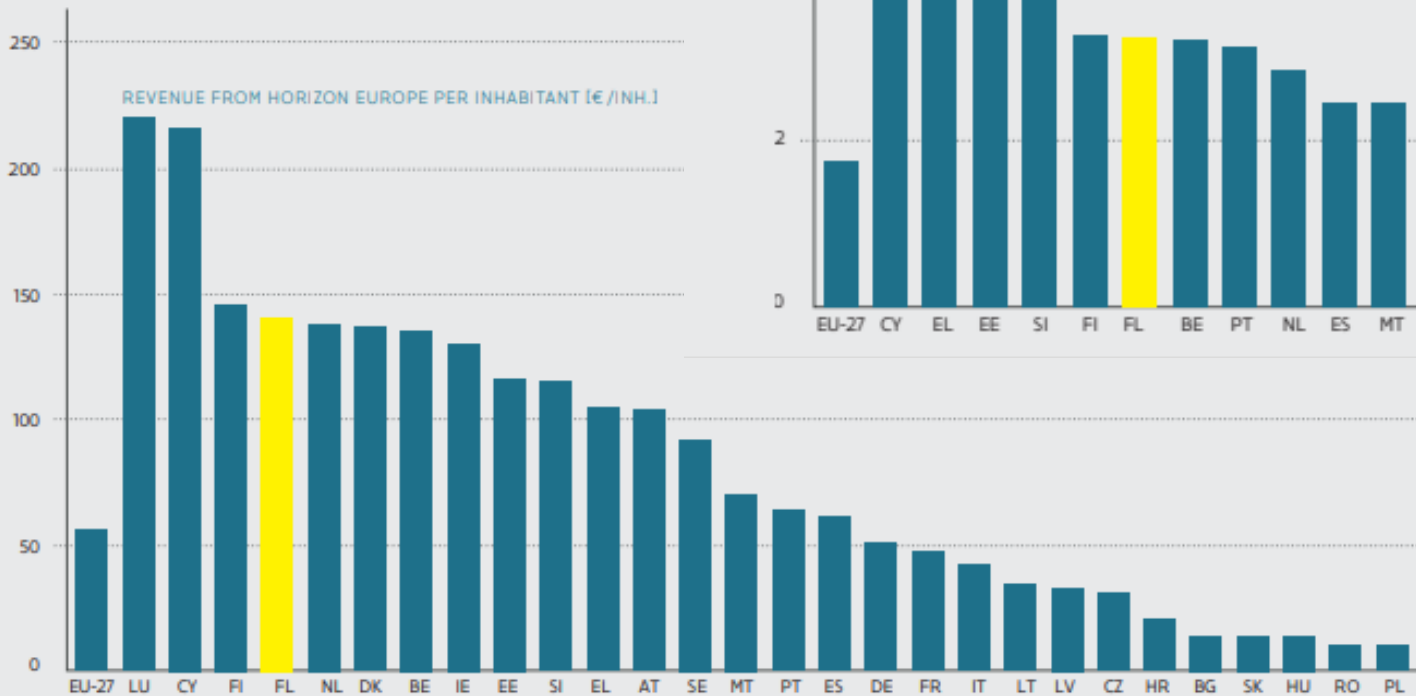
- NCP - COST
- ERA-Net – JPI – Partnerships
- Mobility projects (France: Tournesol)
- Weave (NEW since 2021)



Performance in EU framework programme

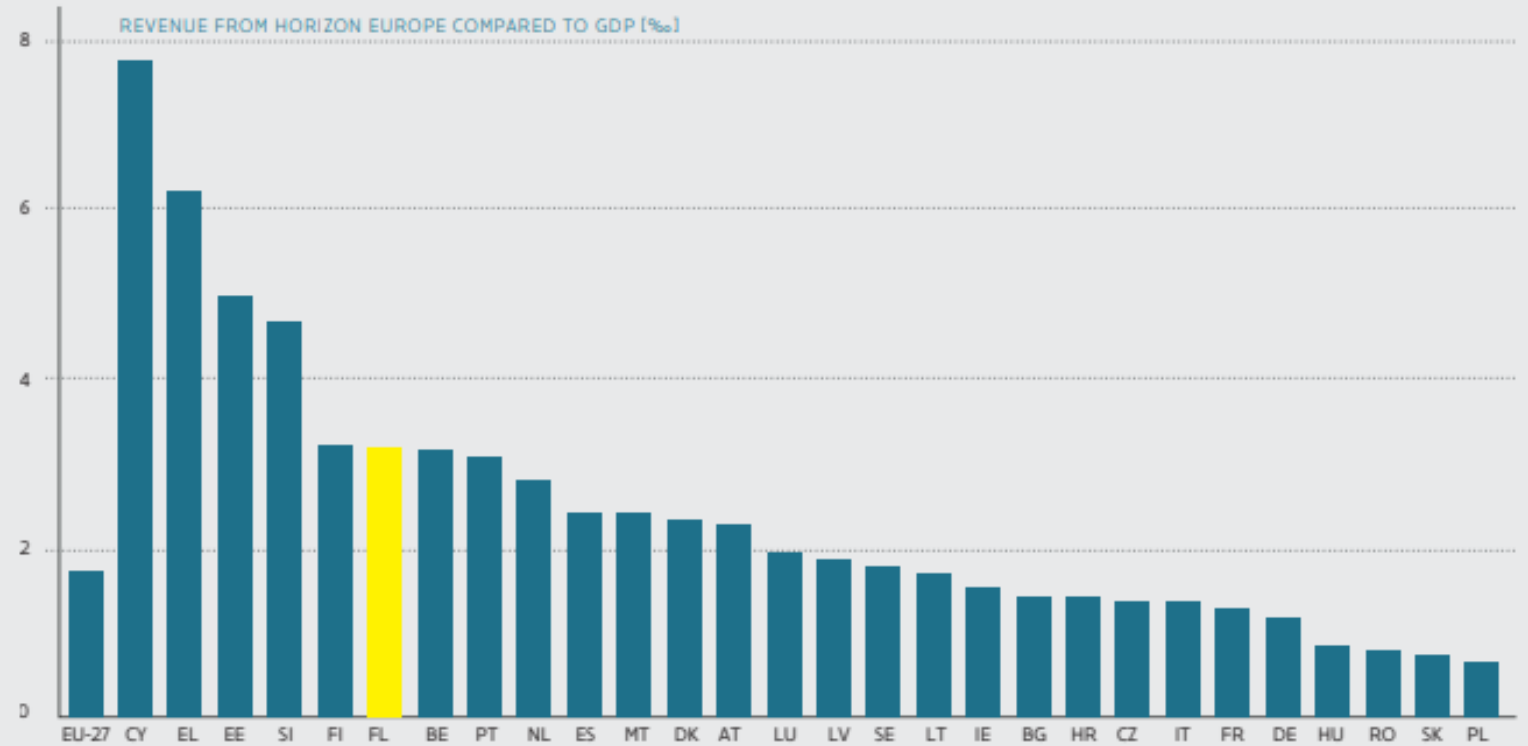
BENCHMARK FOR THE FLEMISH PARTICIPATION IN HORIZON EUROPE

Figure 29



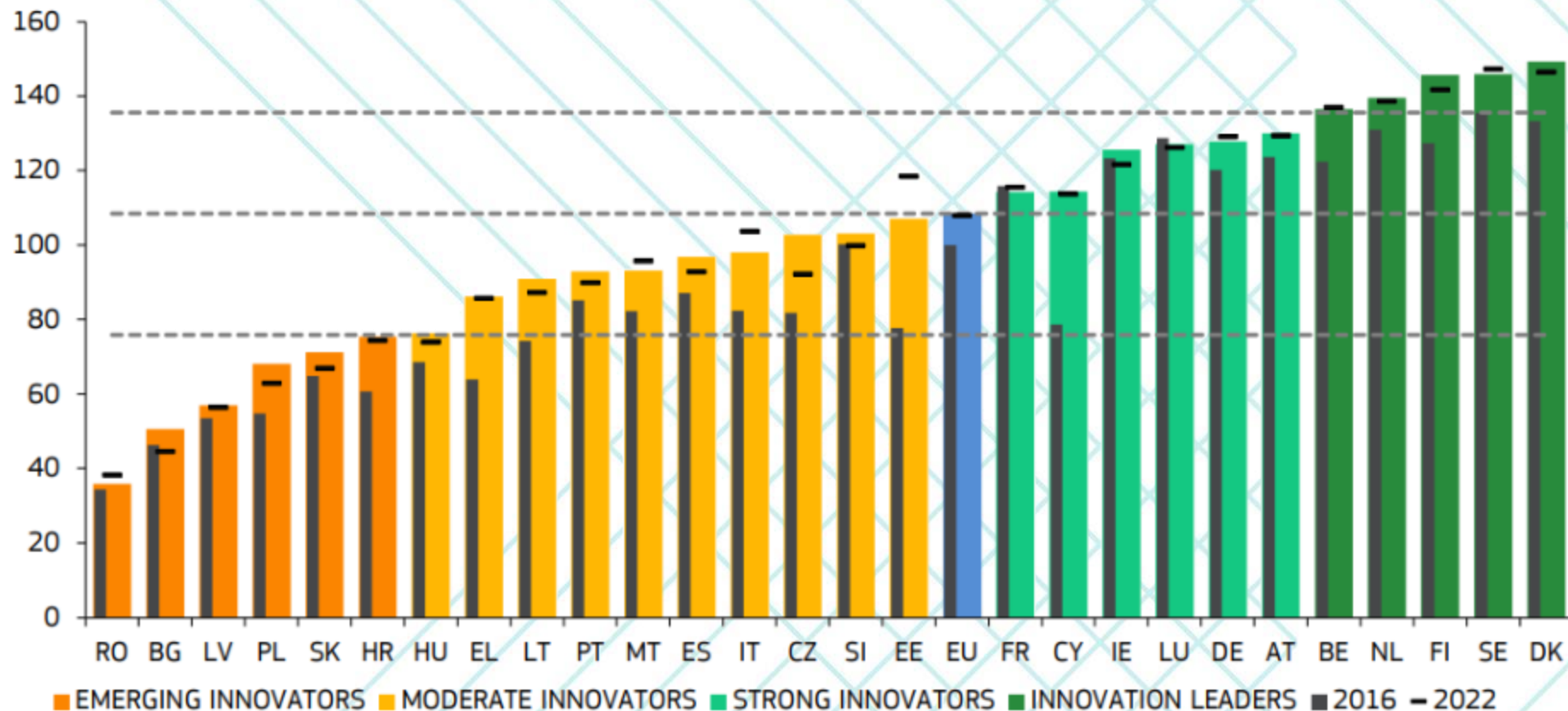
HORIZON EUROPE AS PER INHABITANT

Figure 30



European Innovation Scoreboard 2023: Belgium - 5th place as innovation leader

Figure 1: Performance of EU Member States' innovation systems





Der Wissenschaftsfonds.



weave
Research funding without borders

Bottom-up cross-European initiative
developed by European research funders;

To support **collaborative bilateral/trilateral research projects**
across borders;

Through a **single evaluation** procedure;

Based on **Lead Agency Procedure principle**: funder that receives proposal (the so-called Lead Agency) evaluates proposal according to internal rules set out for its respective national or regional programme open for collaborative Weave projects. Funding recommendation is then communicated to other funders involved (so-called Partner Agencies), for approval and budgetary purposes.



FONDS NATIONAL SUISSE
SCHWEIZERISCHER NATIONALFONDS
FONDO NAZIONALE SVIZZERO
SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

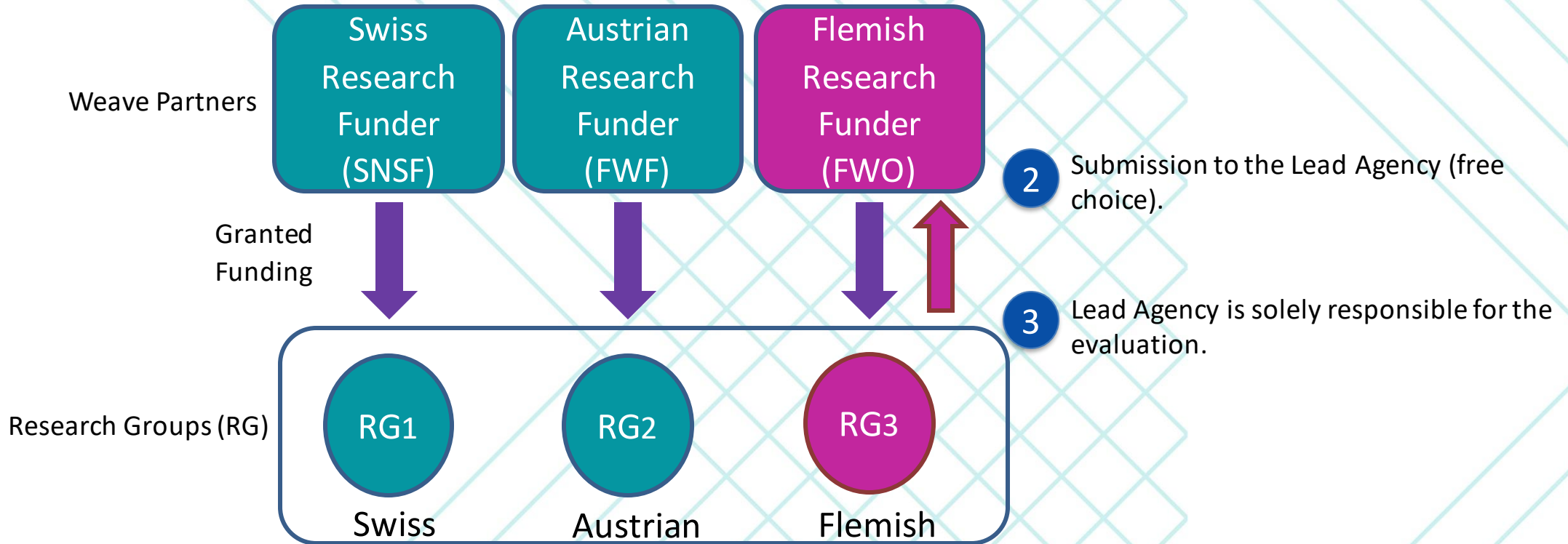




Thank you for your attention

Fictional example:

- 4 Partner Agencies ratify the funding decision of the Lead Agency.
- 5 Each research funder finances its own researchers.



- 2 Submission to the Lead Agency (free choice).
- 3 Lead Agency is solely responsible for the evaluation.

- 1 Collaborative research project in which each research group adds value.