



# BELGIUM

WALLONIA TRADE -  
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION  
MISSION

in Norway and Sweden

Equine and equestrian sector

20 -24 February 2023



Wallonia.be



Wallonie - Bruxelles  
International.be



Wallonia has an excellent logistics infrastructure and «multimodality» is the keyword. **Liege Airport** was awarded the title of **best cargo airport in the world** for the year 2020. You will also find yourself well supported : the actors of the sector are gathered in the «Logistics in Wallonia» cluster.



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## CLUSTER EquisFair



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### ACTIVITY - RANGE OF PRODUCTS

EquisFair is the **cluster of the equestrian sector in Wallonia**, BE. We serve all companies, research or training actors linked to the equestrian world. Our aim is to develop existing networks and create new links between stakeholders. EquisFair was created in February 2019.

We have some **sixty adhering members which are active in various areas**: feed, breeding, infrastructure development, fences, care products, biotechnology, pharmaceutical, communication, transport, event organization, applications...

### ADDED VALUE

We support Walloon equestrian companies in terms of marketing, R&D, own skills development and partnerships - all while considering the assets and issues of the equestrian sector in Wallonia.

### MAIN REFERENCES

Member of European Equestrian Business Association + European Horse Network. Official partnership with Hippolia.

## HORSE INN - LIEGE AIRPORT



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### ACTIVITIES - RANGE OF PRODUCTS

EVERY YEAR, MORE THAN 3,000 HIGH-VALUE HORSES TRANSIT THROUGH LIEGE AIRPORT BY ROAD OR BY AIR.

Through the HORSE INN, Liege Airport provides a perfectly suitable **overnight stay for you and your horses** during your passage.

The HORSE INN perfectly suits **road/road and road/air transits** and also offers an **ideal location to access the European market**. It is located in a central position at the heart of the Golden Triangle linking Amsterdam, Paris and Frankfurt.

You will enjoy a pleasant and soothing visit in a **dedicated infrastructure for the horses as well a resting area for the grooms**.

### ADDED VALUE

FOR THE HORSES : the HORSE INN is perfect to host and relax horses before or after their trip and has many advantages : 55 spacious & luxurious stalls (3x5m or 6x5m), Healthcare & Check area, Veterinary available 24h, loading platform on dollies, Special horses flooring & ramps, Soothing environment, Hot & cold water

### FOR THE GROOMS

As much as the horses, grooms need to rest and relax.

Therefore, the HORSE INN provides all they need to do so : resting area, Free Wi-Fi, secured room to store belongings, Showers & WC, Park Inn Hotel & restaurants nearby.

## European Horse Centre Mont-le-Soie



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### DELEGATE

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### ACTIVITIES - RANGE OF PRODUCTS

The European Equine Centre 'Mont-le-Soie' is a **state-of-the-art equestrian resort** located in Southern Belgium. Its services are available to breeders as well as sporting, scientific and economic stakeholders of the equestrian sector.

**The goal of the Centre is to promote horses as an element of life and of identity in the rural environment**, be it through equine research in areas such as locomotion, breeding, reproduction and selection or through sport, tourism and training.

The Centre works in close collaboration with the Walloon and Luxembourgish Province authorities and with the University of Liège (ULiège) as well as the Equestrian League Wallonia-Brussels (LEWB).

First of all, Mont-le-Soie is a **veterinary research Centre devoted to equine performance**.

**R&D projects** are carried out by the Centre's team but also thanks to partnerships with research teams from Belgian and foreign universities as well as other laboratories selected on the basis of protocols to achieve and their own particularities.

**The R&D topics concern orthopedic problems** in growing (osteocondrosis) or sport horses (optimization of locomotion and the impact of sport and prevention for example). We also collaborate with the Belgian-Ardenne studbook in the context of the prevention of the chronic progressive lymphoedema of the limbs observed in draught horses.

**The Centre welcomes Belgian and international students** throughout the year for observation, training and thesis-based internships. Mont-le-Soie works with equestrian, agronomy, and blacksmith schools, with veterinary assistants, etc. The Centre staff also organizes **conferences, discovery days and workshops** on different topics for the purpose of continuous training.

## European Horse Centre Mont-le-Soie



### COMPANY BACKGROUND

The Centre also carries out sport and **tourism activities, partnerships with equine companies and equine reproduction centres**.

Mont-le-Soie is both an equestrian inn and a **training, event and competition facility**: stables, indoor and outdoor arenas, cross-country course, 1700m rolling galloping track, 20, 30 and 40 km-long marked courses that allow riders to discover the region and the wonderful Ardennes landscapes. These loops are also great footing for endurance horses.

Mont-le-Soie also offers **full equine reproduction service**: management of stallions (semen collection, freezing, semen banking, shipping services, reproductive health follow-ups), and insemination of mares with fresh and frozen semen. We also handle all administrative aspects related to import and export shipments of the semen.

### ADDED VALUE

Our team is made out of veterinarians, researchers and technicians, all specialised in the equestrian sectors. Several companies or actors of the sector rely on their skills to develop their products and have them approved but also to carry out studies of expert missions.

The European Centre Mont-le-Soie is part of EquisFair, the equestrian cluster in Wallonia.

### MAIN REFERENCES

R&D projects in partnership with Liège universities (Belgium) and in France with IFCE (French Institute for Horse and Horse-riding) and INRAE (National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment).

R&D projects with biotech companies like Revatis, Progenus and Volition (BE and US), with companies developing equine products like complementary foods (Kara-supplements), protective gaiters (Compositi),

B2B relations with breeders in all Europe (frozen equine semen).

# EKISM

# FLEXIFLOOR



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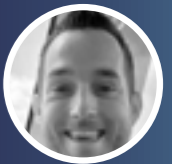
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### ACTIVITIES - RANGE OF PRODUCTS

Ekism supports you in the **development of your digital communication with tailor-made services**. We create your **turnkey mobile application**.

### ADDED VALUE

Our application becomes yours, adapted to the specific needs of your sector of activity. Ekism supports you in the development of your digital communication with «tailor-made services». We provide you with a simple and easy tool to manage your content and your design instantly.

### MAIN REFERENCES

Ekism realizes the **mobile application of several international events such as** Stephex Event, 5 \* of Pau, CSI Nîmes.(FR).. but we are also active in the field of Tourism with www.viziit.be or the Equi-Topo App (Auvergne France) and in the world with Borg Events (Qatar, Monaco, France, Italy, Sweden, Norway...).

### ACTIVITIES - RANGE OF PRODUCTS

Our company FLEXIFLOOR SRL specializes in the **sale and laying of shock absorbing floors** (playgrounds, fitness, resin gravels, garage floors etc.) One of the subdivisions of this company, **EQUIFLOOR, is exclusively dedicated to the equestrian world**.

Our range of products includes floors for your stalls, stables, walkers, aisles and corridors, paddocks, showering and grooming areas, as well as for your vans, trailers, ramps and wall shells. Last but not least, Equifloor also offers innovative solutions for your tracks, pits and lunging rings.



# HORSE REMEDY



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### ACTIVITY - RANGE OF PRODUCTS

Sale of carefully selected natural products:

- Exclusively natural products,
- mainly local circuit,
- transparency of the compositions,
- personalized advice (in agreement with your vet).

We have developed an **exclusive range of natural feed supplements and care products**. We have an exclusive range of olfactotherapy products to improve the mental problems of the horse.

We have also developed a new range of product with floral water.

### ADDED VALUE

The «Stable Guts» range has been developed around microorganisms to improve the overall health of equines.

Through scientific research and manufacturing in the laboratory, we put the oldest «technology» - microorganisms - back in the spotlight!

### MAIN REFERENCES

Chia de Gracia (Finland), [www.cheval-energy.com](http://www.cheval-energy.com) France's most important online Equestrian store, Royal Horse - importer in the Emirates.



# PROGENUS



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### ACTIVITY - RANGE OF PRODUCTS

Progenus' mission is to provide a **reliable, accessible, high-quality scientific environment to carry out our clients' DNA analyses and develop custom solutions for innovative projects.**

### Our expertise covers 4 main services:

- 1) CRO & CDMO : molecular biology research services (ISO13485 certified)
- 2) Laboratory services : Genetic analysis for animals (ISO17025 certified)
- 3) Food authenticity tests
- 4) PCR and DNA extraction Kits

### ADDED VALUE

At Progenus, we focus on our partners needs and we adapt to their specificities. We apply high quality standards to all our processes.

## REINERTZ PGMBH

## REVATIS



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### ACTIVITY - RANGE OF PRODUCTS

Cavalo Concept is a Belgian company born from the cooperation between a carpenter and a rider. With a passion for improving the well-being of the horse and its rider, this high-tech company offers you:

- Customized and top-of-the-line **tack rooms**
- Fully customizable **grooming boxes and textile boxes for your travels**
- An **infrared and UV solarium** with ventilation, chromo therapy and integrated Bluetooth speakers

The materials used are of the utmost quality and respectful of the environment.

### ADDED VALUE

Always attentive to its customers, Cavalo Concept studies your facilities and plans to improve their aesthetics and optimize their operation.

Turning your facility into a unique place that reflects your image ...You dream it, we do it

### MAIN REFERENCES

Different high-level professional riders in Belgium and France (G. Wathélet, I. Colls, Jiva Hills Stables, etc.).

### ACTIVITY - RANGE OF PRODUCTS

Revatis is active in **regenerative medicine for horses and pets.**

- We developed and patented an **innovative and non-invasive technology to obtain stem cells from a muscle micro biopsy.**
- We are GMP approved to produce **clinical batches of horses' stem cells** and conduct 2 **clinical trials** (tendonitis and osteoarthritis).
- We also sell **PRP kits and visco-supplements.**
- The R&D department, in close relationship with the University of Liège - Belgium, works on stem cells, inflammation, ROS and mitochondria.

### ADDED VALUE

- Noninvasive and patented technology to obtain stem cells from muscle micro biopsies.
- GMP approved facilities to produce stem cells for clinical applications in veterinary medicine.
- A broad range of products for regenerative medicine for veterinarians.
- Close relationship with the University of Liege for R&D projects.

### MAIN REFERENCES

- Private veterinarians and vet clinics for basic regenerative medicine products (Europe);
- Partnerships with vet clinics and Vet faculty of the University of Liège for the 2 clinical trials.
- R&D projects with Belgian Universities (Liège, Bruxelles, Vésale) - close interactions between R&D labs, Equine research centers of MLS, Vet faculties and Revatis;
- Private companies or vet clinics for patent valuation and technology transfer (USA, Saudi and UAE)

# WPBGROUP



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## ACTIVITY - RANGE OF PRODUCTS

**Manufacturer of care products for horses, we offer a natural and non-doping range.** Unique and universal product for all skin problems in general. We have the expertise of time and experience in care. Distributed in 18 countries of the European Union we are also present in Morocco, Algeria and South Africa. We are known and recognized by many national and international riders.

## ADDED VALUE

Presence with horse riding shops, trainers, veterinarians and in certain veterinary clinics, (e.g. the veterinary clinic in Grosbois, France)

## MAIN REFERENCES

We are present in Sweden, Germany, Poland, the Netherlands, France, Spain, Switzerland, and many other countries.





## WALLONIA-BRUSSELS RESEARCH DELEGATION

### ULIEGE



**CESARINI LATORRE Carlotta**  
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Carla Cesarini graduated from the Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain) in 2000 and completed her training in equine medicine with an internship (Dierenkliniek de Morette, Belgium) and a residency (University of Montreal, Canada). She's a diplomate of the American and European Colleges of Veterinary Internal Medicine and has worked in private equine practice (Dierenkliniek de Morette, 2006) as well as in academia (assistant professor and PhD Thesis, Autonomous University of Barcelona, 2008-2014). In 2015, she joined the equine internal medicine service of the University of Liège (2015 to present).

Dr Cesarini is especially interested in developing international collaboration with other veterinary hospitals (private clinic or academia) regarding clinical teaching or research in any area of equine internal medicine, including infectious diseases. Her areas of clinical expertise are digestive and respiratory pathologies and neonatology. In research, she's particularly interested in the study of the equine gastrointestinal microbiome.



**DELEUZE Stefan**  
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As the Head of the Equine Clinical Department, I hope I can help connecting people (clinicians, researchers...) from our respective institutions with common fields of interest, hopefully leading to future collaborations. I also would like to explore the feasibility of building mobility programs for students / researchers between our Faculty and those of Uppsala and Oslo.

I qualified in 1994, worked in private practice for a while before coming back to academia. I am in charge of reproductive physiology, as well as small and equine reproduction at the Veterinary Faculty of the University of Liège (Belgium). I became an ECAR (European College of Animal Reproduction) specialist in equine reproduction in 2004 and in small animal reproduction in 2009. I am currently the president of ECAR and the Head of the Equine Clinical Department of our veterinary Faculty. My fields of interest range from assisted reproductive technologies to semen evaluation and cryopreservation and pathologies of the female.



**DE LA REBIERE DE POUYADE Geoffroy**  
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I am an associate professor of equine surgery at Uliege and diplomate ECVS since 2018. I spend a lot of time working in the clinic. I am interested in all new developments in equine surgery. Our team performs a lot of abdominal surgeries but our case log is quite diversified and in development. My preference goes to orthopedic disorders, diagnosis and management, and more recently to upper airway surgical diseases. I passed my Ph.D. thesis in 2010 on the pathophysiology of equine laminitis and I am the co-promotor of a Ph.D. student who continues our work on this topic.

Additionally, a sensor-based quantitative gait analysis system (Equimoves) has recently been acquired for both clinical and research applications. Using this tool, we just started some research on navicular disease and the performance of stem cell therapy on tendinopathies. My colleagues also conduct research on colic surgeries and postoperative management and on some ocular disorders. As a teacher, I am interested in the methods of student management in other universities as well.

## WALLONIA-BRUSSELS RESEARCH DELEGATION



**MARTINELLE Ludovic**  
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Ludovic Martinelle is the Director of the Research and Teaching Farm at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Liege, Belgium. Ludovic graduated from the University of Liege in 2005 and started his career as a large animals vet in France and Switzerland. He holds a Master degree in emerging diseases, a PhD in veterinary epidemiology and is a diplomate of the European College of Veterinary Public Health, option Population Medicine.

His primary research interests are emerging, zoonotic and vector-borne diseases of ruminants, focusing on Bluetongue disease, Schmallenberg virus and Q Fever. Ludovic is currently involved in on-farm slaughter projects and is an enthusiastic user of smart farming sensors and IoT to manage dairy and beef cattle. Partnership could include discussions and exchanges around large animals welfare, in particular regarding on-farm slaughter or mobile slaughterhouse. Sharing about farm management at the era of smart farming and big data would be appreciated. Exchange of staff for short stays could be discussed.

### UNAMUR



**VANDEWEERD Jean-Michel**  
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Professor Jean-Michel Vandeweerd, Doctor in Veterinary Medicine, Master in Higher Education, PhD in Veterinary Sciences, Certificate in Equine Soft Tissue Surgery (RCVS), Diplomate of the European College of Veterinary Surgeons, Member Associate of The Académie Vétérinaire de France. He worked in private veterinary practice in Belgium from 1990 until January 2003 (small animals and horses), with a particular interest for surgery. He was lecturer in equine orthopaedic surgery at the University of Liverpool from 2003 until 2007. Then he was appointed by the University of Namur as professor in animal anatomy, EBM (Evidence Based Medicine) and clinical epidemiology. He was a consultant surgeon at the equine clinic Desbrosse (France) until 2019. He is the past-president of NARILIS (Namur Research Institute for Life Sciences). He heads a research and teaching group called OASIS (Omnibus Animalibus Studia Sanitatis) within the department of veterinary medicine of UNamur. He is also the president of the CEEXPANI (Comité Ethique pour l'Expérimentation Animale), and he is head of the Platform for Life Sciences.

## WALLONIA-BRUSSELS RESEARCH DELEGATION

### ULB



**DE SELLIERS Lucy-Anne**  
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Lucy-Anne de Selliers, PhD student (biomedical sciences) at the Faculty of Medecine of the Université libre de Bruxelles, supervised by Professor Tomberg. Master in Biology of Organisms and Ecology at Faculty of Sciences of the Université libre de Bruxelles. I'm passionate about animal welfare. During my free time I do animal care, horse riding, animation of horse-riding courses and hippotherapy.

PhD thesis on "the effects of the human-animal relationship on the human health". Using behavioural, physiological, and psychological biomarkers to understand the biological mechanisms involved in a positive tactile interaction between a horse and its owner. My study is supervised by Professor Tomberg and I'm currently collaborating with two interns from France.



**CHAPAUX Vincent**  
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Vincent Chapaux holds a PhD in International Relations and a Master spécialisé in International Law (Université libre de Bruxelles). He did his post-doctoral research at the New York University School of Law (Fulbright Grant 2012) and at the Université du Québec à Montréal (FRQNT Grant 2013). Vincent Chapaux was a lecturer in International Law at the Université libre de Bruxelles (2014 -2016), at the Institut supérieur de traducteurs et interprètes de Bruxelles (2015-2016) and at the University of Ottawa (2016) before joining the Maison des Sciences Humaines of the Université libre de Bruxelles where he is responsible for the scientific coordination. His current research mainly focuses on how legal norms structure the relationship between human and non-human animals, in particular at the international level (International Animal Law). Together with Frédéric Mégret and Usha Natarajan, he edited the Routledge Handbook of Anthropocentrism and International Law (Routledge, 2023).



**TOMBERG Claude**  
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Claude Tomberg, Professor of neurophysiology & cognitive neurosciences at the Faculty of Medicine of the Université libre de Bruxelles. PhD in Motor Skills Sciences and tenure in Medical Sciences. Member of the Royal Academy of Belgium, Classe des Sciences; Chairman of the Collège Belgique of the Royal Academy of Belgium. Delegate for Belgium at the International Federation of clinical Neurophysiology. Academic director, Certificate in Health impairment Assessment, Université libre de Bruxelles. Dressage rider, dressage coach and stable owner. Academic research in cognitive neurosciences (consciousness, brain information processing, comparative cognition (Equus caballus & Canis lupus familiaris)). Claude Tomberg is the supervisor of Mme de Selliers PhD thesis.

## WALLONIA-BRUSSELS RESEARCH DELEGATION

### MULTITEL



**PARFAIT Jean-Yves**  
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Jean-Yves Parfait holds an Electrical Engineering degree from the Polytechnic Faculty of Mons since 2005 and a master's degree in management from the Louvain School of Management since 2008. He joined Multitel in 2005 as a researcher/project manager in signal processing/machine learning. He became the head of the signal processing group in 2010 and the head of Artificial Intelligence research group in 2018. His research interests include digital signal processing, machine learning and statistical inference

Recognized as a centre of excellence at the international level, Multitel develops and integrates emerging technologies in the industrial sector. These technologies are articulated around four areas of activity: Artificial Intelligence, Networks and Telecoms, Applied Photonics, Embedded Systems and Railway Certification. Our team of about 100 employees play a crucial role in supporting companies (from start-up to corporate) in their technological innovation projects and accompanies them from the feasibility phase to the development of minimal viable products in various fields such as: avionics, automotive, IoT, Smart Cities, industry 4.0, medical sciences & defence. Our interest in the mission lies in the set-up of R&D partnership with academic player and companies.

## WALLONIA-BRUSSELS RESEARCH DELEGATION

### UCLouvain & TRAIL

CADJI Anne-Laure  
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Anne-Laure Cadji has been active in project management for over ten years. Before joining the University of Louvain, she used to work as an evaluation expert to assess projects funded by the European Commission and the Belgian Federal Government. She has been appointed project manager for the TRAIL (Trusted AI Labs) initiative in November 2022. This initiative is supported by the Research Department of the Walloon Government and aims to gather all the expertise available in AI in the Region (5 Universities, 4 Research Centres, over 150 Affiliated Researchers). When she is not working on TRAIL, Anne-Laure enjoys very much horse-riding and she has launched, with her husband, in October 2021 a stable with a focus on animal welfare.

Anne-Laure graduated from the University of Oxford in politics in 2004. She is fluent in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish.

As mentioned in the shared template on TRAIL, we are seeking to have three impacts with this initiative and one of them is « International Outreach ». Even though TRAIL does not (yet) have a legal identity we are always looking forward to involve our founding partners (universities and research centres) in European projects. Also we have privileged links with a number of industrial partners in a variety of domains.



DAUSORT Manon  
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I obtained my master's degree in Biomedical Engineering with a specialization in biomaterials at UCLouvain in June 2022. My master thesis focused on the microstructural changes induced by short-term abstinence in alcoholic patients using diffusion MRI. In October 2022, I started a PhD, in Benoit Macq's team (PiLAB) at UCLouvain, which focuses on the creation of a microstructural model of tumors in order to improve their characterization and diagnosis. To do so, we mainly use information extracted from diffusion MRI. I am also a member of TRAIL and this mission is of particular interest to me because, as a horse rider for more than 15 years, it allows me to put a foot in the equine world through medical imaging and AI

**TRAIL**

A community gathering research, innovation capacities and needs in AI  
Providing next-generation AI to transform society

The TRAIL ecosystem consists in **5 Universities**, **4 Research Centres**, more than **150 Researchers** in AI, network of **Business Partners** providing or using AI services and **International Experts**.

## What's TRAIL ?



### Training AI talents

- 50 PhD students funded
- +150 affiliated junior and senior researchers



### Socio-economic impact

- Connected to a network of industrial partners
- Selected as a Strategic Innovation Initiative (IIS in French)



### International outreach

- Partner of a flagship initiative under the Digital Europe Programme
- Panel of International experts

The TRAIL digital **Factory** will benefit our business partners by granting them access to cutting-edge research and innovation capabilities

### Join Our Community

TRAIL offers opportunities for

- Industrial Players
- Researchers
- International Stakeholders

### Contact

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# WALLONIA EXPORT & INVESTMENT AGENCY

The Wallonia Export & Investment Agency is the institution in charge of the development and management of Wallonia's domestic and international economic relations.

Through a personalized, innovative, and sustainable approach, AWEX supports Walloon companies - regardless of their size, sector, or target market - in every step of their international endeavors. This includes exports, technological partnerships, and development abroad.

The agency's vast network of connections ensures the best advisors are always by your side. Our local anchors and agents abroad are capable of providing unparalleled insight to take your company to the next level. In addition, our connections will help establish your business in the global marketplace and promote it throughout the world. Training, incentives, and international financing are also available.

AWEX is also committed to strengthening Wallonia's position as the premier gateway for international investors seeking success in the heart of Europe. We work closely with them to inform, convince, and advise in every stage of their development.

Feel free to get in touch with one of our local or international agents via our websites listed above.

In our network of more than 400 employees in nearly 100 countries around the world, there is always someone ready and willing to support you in your approach.

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# WALLONIA-BRUSSELS INTERNATIONAL

Wallonia-Brussels International (WBI) is the public body in charge of the international relations of the Walloon Region and the Wallonia-Brussels Federation, in Belgium. Widely open to the world, WBI's mission is to increase the impact, influence and notoriety of the Wallonia-Brussels area and its actors. Through agreements with 70 countries and regions WBI support bilateral collaboration projects, mainly focused on the academic, scientific and cultural sectors.

WBI Research & Innovation Unit aims to foster contacts and to build partnerships between research and innovation actors of Wallonia-Brussels and other countries. Our missions are to connect scientists, researchers, entrepreneurs with inspiring partners of excellence – facilitate academic programs, global innovation strategies and knowledge exchange – support internationalization efforts of Wallonia-Brussels academic institutions and companies, with a special focus on innovation start-ups and spin-offs – inform on developments in science, technology and innovation policies and opportunities. Therefore, WBI create and build up international science, technology and innovation networks in an open approach with academia, businesses and public bodies.

The WBI Research and Innovation Platform is a multi-stakeholder forum that coordinates international cooperation in the field of science and technology. It enhances the visibility and positioning of the actors from Wallonia-Brussels in these areas. By sharing information and identifying common priorities, the Platform makes possible to define joint or coordinated initiatives that pave the way for synergies and new scientific and technological opportunities in research innovation.

WBI and the Platform benefits from a network of scientific liaison officers (SLO) based in innovative ecosystems reputed for their excellence (in Scandinavia, our Scientific Liaison Officer is based in Stockholm). The missions of the SLO encompass the promotion and facilitation of cooperation between R&I stakeholders of Wallonia-Brussels and those from partner countries, the organisation of a scientific and technological watch on the potential projects which could be of interest for economic stakeholders, the identification of industrial and/or financial partners to create bilateral partnerships and joint spin-offs, the submission of joint research projects to the regional, national, European or international authorities, the assistance in the submission of applications within the existing funding sources if foreign partners, the organization of prospecting missions for projects promoters of Wallonia-Brussels in its country of assignment and the promotion and activation of mobility programs for researchers.

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