



# SYMBIO TECHNICAL WORKSHOP

## Bioeconomy Policy overview for Flanders

20 February 2025

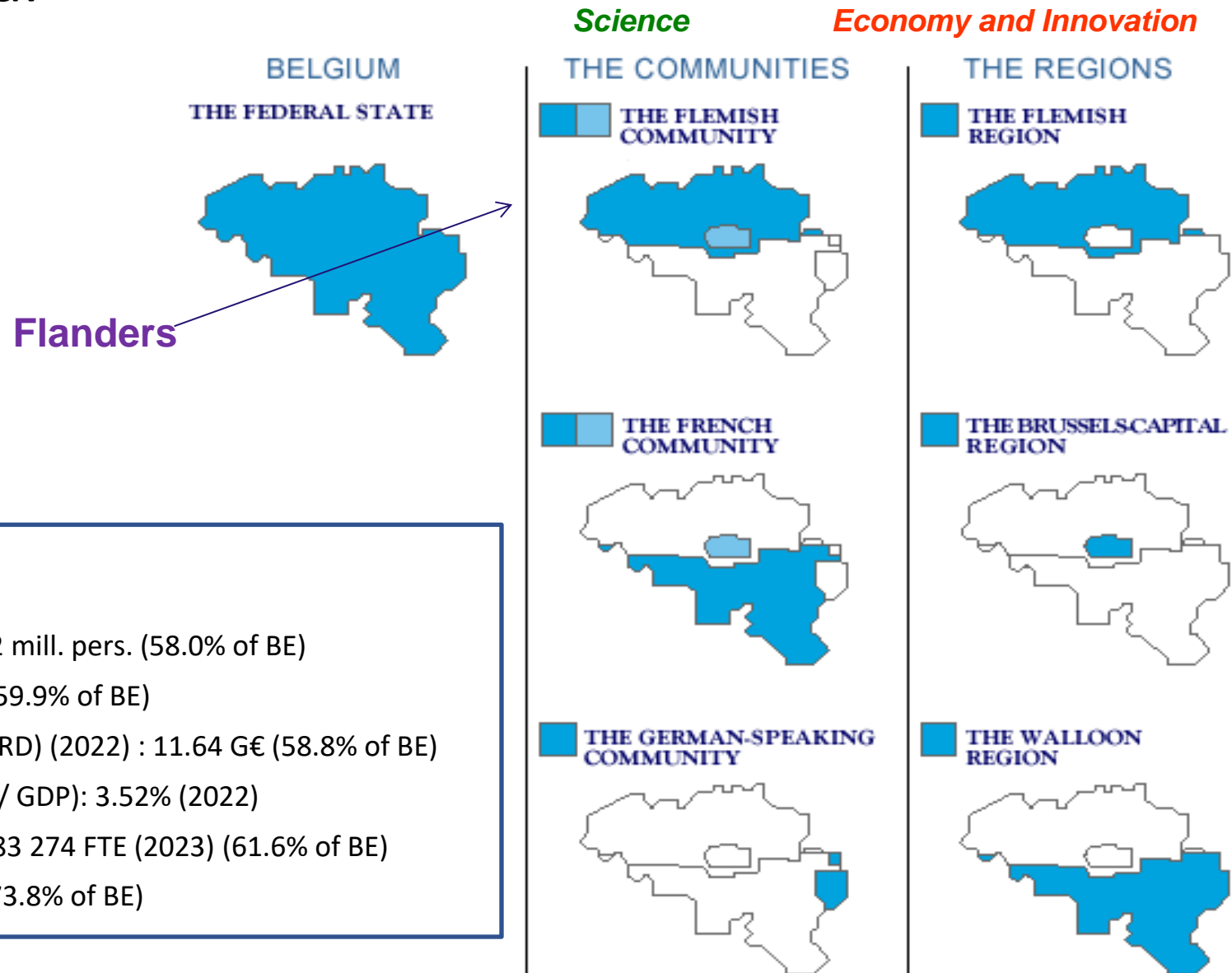
**Dries Maes /Dep WEWIS / [dries.maes@vlaanderen.be](mailto:dries.maes@vlaanderen.be)**



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Agreement No 101135166



# Institutional set-up of Belgium



## Indicators for Flanders

- Population (2024) : 6.82 mill. pers. (58.0% of BE)
- GRP (2023) : 357.2 G€ (59.9% of BE)
- Global expend R&D (GERD) (2022) : 11.64 G€ (58.8% of BE)
- R&D intensity (% GERD / GDP): 3.52% (2022)
- Total R&D personnel: 83 274 FTE (2023) (61.6% of BE)
- Patents : 2073 (2023) (73.8% of BE)





**BIOTECHNOLOGY**

**BIORESOURCE**

**BIOECOLOGY**

Pharmaceuticals

Agricultural biotech

Bioenergy

Remediation

Industrial Biotech

Non-food crops  
& forestry

Valorisation of  
organic waste

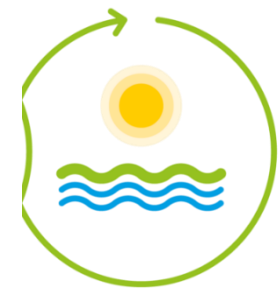
Nature and landscape  
management



BIOTECHNOLOGY



BIORESOURCE



BIOECOLOGY

2009



2012



2013

2018

2020

2021



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# Flemish Bioeconomy strategy 2013

SD1: Developing a coherent Flemish policy that supports and facilitates a sustainable bioeconomy.

SD2: Putting Flanders at the top for education and training and research and innovation in future-oriented bioeconomy clusters.

SD3: Biomass is produced and used optimally and sustainably across the entire value chain.

SD4: Strengthening markets and competitiveness of the bio-economic sectors in Flanders.

SD5: Flanders is an important partner within European and international partnerships.

Permanent operation of the Interdepartmental Working Group on Bioeconomy (IWG)

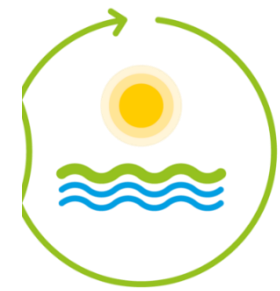




BIOTECHNOLOGY



BIORESOURCE



BIOECOLOGY

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2025...

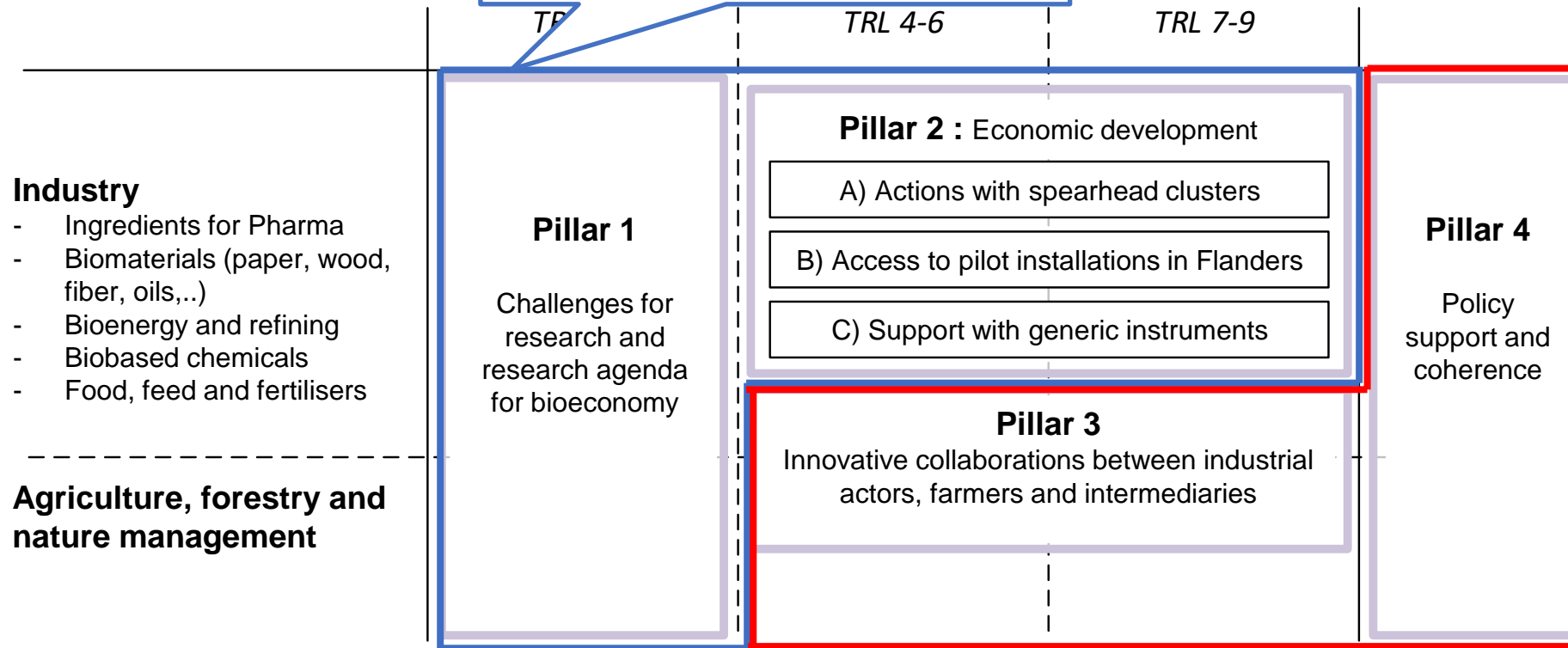


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# 18/12/2020 : Flemish Bioeconomy Policy plan (VR 2020 1812 D)

Impulse programme bioeconomy  
20 M€ R&D projects (RRF Funds)



Structural support  
1 M€/y



# Flemish spearhead clusters



- CATALISTI
  - Research track on biobased value chains
  - Moonshot on biobased chemicals & Circular Carbon
- Flanders' Food
  - Research track on bioeconomy
- MEDVIA
  - New spearhead cluster on biotechnology
- Blue Cluster
  - Spearhead cluster for all marine-related developments





# Bioeconomy: focus on industrial upscaling with Open Pilot Plants



Fermentation



Industrial processing and transformation



Advanced bioaromatics



Vegetable processing



Vertical farming



Large scale lignine-based bioaromatics



Marine biology



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# 18/12/2020 : Flemish Bioeconomy Policy plan (VR 2020 1812 DOC.1464/4BIS)

- Structural support for :

*VLAIO team policy advisors*



**B2BE Facilitator,  
matchmaker in  
bioeconomy**

**Annual monitor on the  
Flemish bioeconomy**



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# 10/07/2020 : Circular Flanders (VR 2020 1007 MED.0240/1BIS)

## 6 thematic agendas

Public-private collaborations with specific dynamics, targets, lead partners and actions



circular construction



chemistry & plastics



water loops



bioeconomy



food chain



manufacturing

## 7 strategic levers

Accelerators for overcoming barriers and spreading good practices

Policy and policy measures

Circular procurement

Communication

Research

Innovation & entrepreneurship

Financing

Jobs & skills

# 10/07/2020 : Circular Flanders (VR 2020 1007 MED.0240/1BIS)



bron: MADE

## Bio- hub



## Biobased building

Working parties on

- Quality and certification
- Policy
- Value chains



bron: vergroenjeleven.nl

## CCUF

Flemish platform on  
Carbon removal & Carbon  
Farming



bron: <https://www.sadanduseless.com/>

## Bioeconomy communication

Website, LinkedIn,  
Newsletters, etc..

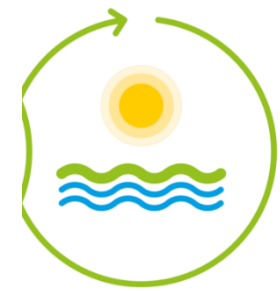




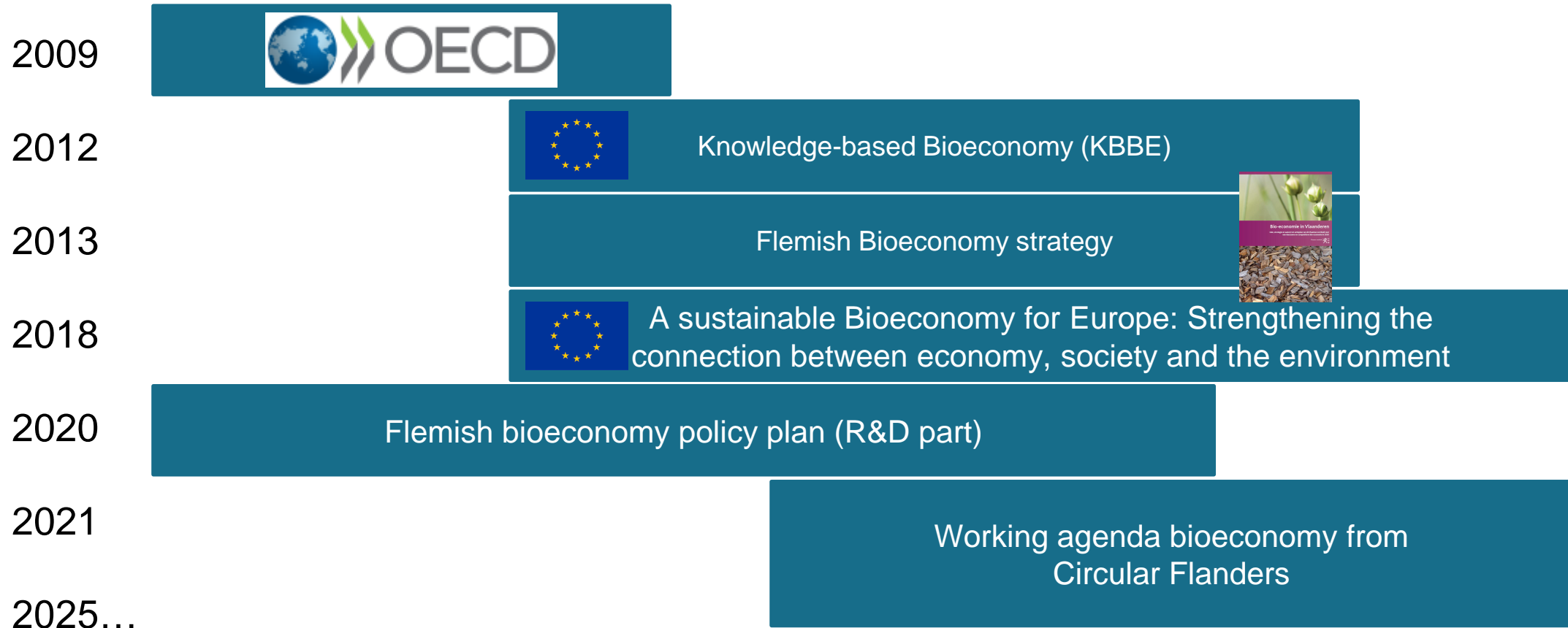
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