Digital Innovation Hubs & Smart Specialisation

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Wallonia
Wallonia (BE)

- **Smart specialisation Strategy**
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- **Wallonia Digital Innovation Hub**
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>3.585.000 inh.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area</td>
<td>16.844 km²</td>
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</table>
GDP per capita = 86.7% UE 28.

- Decline of traditional industrial sectors but progressive growth of innovative sectors and new specialisation (life science/health).
- Little open economy: Good export dynamism and high level of attractiveness for foreign investors.
- High level of labour productivity and education but high level of (structural) unemployment.
- Relative lack of entrepreneurial spirit, but economic base largely composed of SME’s. Find more about start-ups dynamic: HERE

R&D-intensity (GERD/GDP): 2.47%

- High level of concentration, slow deployment of innovation
Smart Specialisation Strategy (S3) in Wallonia: a continuous process

2000-2010
- Progressive development of the Regional Innovation Strategy
- Creation of business clusters and Competitive Poles

2012-2013
- S3 Platform peer review and OECD Innovation policy peer review
- Evaluation of policies, Industrial value chains analysis

2015-2019
- Marshall Plan 4.0 and Smart Specialisation Strategy: consolidation of a regional industrial innovation policy
- Translation into policy tools (New research and innovation Decree, Competitive Poles policy, Structural funds, Digital agenda...) and improvement of the policy mix
2001:
- Launch of the business cluster policy, bottom-up

2006:
- 2006-2009: 1st Marshall Plan (1.6 billion €)
- Launch of the Competitive Poles policy, 280 millions € (5 poles created). Mix of top-down and bottom-up approaches

2009:
- Pursuing and deepening the Competitive Poles policy, 388 millions €
  - Creation of a 6th Pole (Green chemistry)

2015:
- Axis II: Deepening of S3 through Competitive Poles (316 millions €), new RDI Strategy, support to growth of enterprises
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industrial processes and new materials</th>
<th>Competitive Poles</th>
<th>Clusters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MECATECH</td>
<td>Mechanical engineering, materials and surfaces of the future, shaping of materials, additive manufacturing, microtechnology and mechatronics, intelligent maintenance and manufacturing</td>
<td>PLASTIWIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREENWIN</td>
<td>Green chemistry, environmental technologies, treatment and reuse of waste and effluents, waste water management, bio-sourced chemistry, management and storage of energy, sustainable building and renovation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOGISTICS IN WALLONIA</td>
<td>Transport, Logistics and Mobility: multimodality, sustainable logistics, supply chain security, internal logistics and management of industrial processes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SKYWIN</td>
<td>Composites and metal materials, industrial processes, embedded systems, airport services, space applications and systems, modeling and simulations</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOWIN</td>
<td>Biomarkers, Diagnostics in vitro and in vivo, innovative tools and equipment, medication administration systems, innovative therapies (cell therapy, protontherapy), IT applied to human health, medical equipment, drug discovery, innovative processes and organizational innovations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAGRALIM</td>
<td>Health and nutritional quality of food, industrial efficiency, packaging and sustainable agro-food industry</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

[http://clusters.waltonie.be/]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sustainable development</th>
<th>GREENWIN</th>
<th>Clusters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable building and energy</td>
<td>Green chemistry, environmental technologies, treatment and reuse of waste and effluents, waste water management, bio-sourced chemistry, management and storage of energy, sustainable building and</td>
<td>TWEED</td>
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<td>Development of sustainable energy sectors: renewable energy sources, development of new processes and products for energy saving and energy efficiency</td>
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<td>Transport and mobility</td>
<td>LOGISTICS IN WALLONIA</td>
<td>ECO-CONSTRUCTION</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Transport, Logistics and Mobility: multimodality, sustainable logistics, supply chain security, internal logistics and management of industrial processes</td>
<td>Green building and green renovation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SKYWIN</td>
<td>CAP 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Composites and metal materials, industrial processes, embedded systems, airport services, space applications and systems, modeling and simulations</td>
<td>Green building, low energy consumption building, energy-efficient building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>Horizontal approach for the Poles</td>
<td>INFOPOLE CLUSTER TIC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Big Data innovation Platform</td>
<td>TWIST</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3D stereoscopic imaging, serious games, digital media, Internet and mobile content, scanning and digital archiving, motion recognition</td>
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Consolidation and deepening of our Strategy

- Innovation, ICT, KET
- Competitiveness Poles, clusters
- Internationalisation, Europe
- Resource efficiency
- Creative economy, high potential SMEs
- New innovative value chains

European Commission

Creative Wallonia

La Wallonie soutient ses PME

New innovative value chains
Building an efficient Policy Mix

- Support to investment / financing
- Support to R&D in enterprises, Universities/research centers, collaborative research
- Universities and research centers
- Entrepreneurs
- Incubators / infrastructures
- Training centers
- Financial actors
- Competitiveness Poles and clusters
  => Priority domains (smart specialisation)
- Support to non-technological innovation
- Deployment of ICT – ICT infrastructures
- Support to skills and human resources development, education
- Entrepreneurship and creativity, support to SMEs (Walloon Small Business Act)
- Scientific and technological intermediation
- Commercialisation, market uptake (spin-offs, prototyping...)
- Internationalisation / attraction of FDI, involvement in international networks
Digital Economy

Transforming the business models of companies and reindustrialising Wallonia through digital

Smart & Connected Territory

Developing the attractiveness of Wallonia’s territory through broadband networks and a Smart Region approach

Skills & Education

Making digital a priority for school equipment, education for the younger generations and lifelong training

Digital Sector

Capturing the added value of digital transformation through a strong, international and innovative digital sector

Public Services

Engaging a real Open Government approach and developing innovation through the use of open data
Network/ecosystem approach:
Combination of different actors:
• competitive clusters,
• recognised research centres,
• training centers,
• professional federations,
• Etc...

and coherent mechanisms to support digital transformation and the creation of companies, open to all sectors of the industry:
• Digital Wallonia platform,
• business vouchers,
• Etc.

The Walloon DIH covers 28 actions in an integrative framework for support according to the five dimensions of the Industry 4.0, accompaniment by the Walloon DIH.
Wallonia Digital Innovation Hub

Mapping of provided services according to the level of maturity of the company

**DIAGNOSIS**
- 5/ Online maturity diagnosis
- 6/ Half day of free consultancy in the company
- 7/ Benchmarking

**AWARENESS**
- 1/ Roadshow
- 2/ Factory tour
- 3/ Videos of best practices
- 4/ Spreading information

**TRANSFORMATION PLAN**
- 8/ In-depth audit
- 9/ Definition of a transformation plan

**REALISATION**
- Transformation plan
- 10/ Specialised activities
- 11/ Strategic support
- 12/ Technological support
- 13/ Assistance to the development of research projects
- 14/ Matchmaking supply and demand

**TRAINING**
- 15/ Digital BoostCamp
- 16/ Industry 4.0 training

**GROWTH**
- 17/ Internationalisation
- 18/ Promotion of Champions
- 19/ Increased visibility
- 20/ Meetings of startups
- 21/ Transfer Project
- 22/ Exhibition & Awards

**FINANCING**
- Vouchers Industry 4.0 and digital transformation
- Digital Wallonia Hub

**INNOVATION**
- 23/ Demonstrators
- 24/ Startups booster
- 25/ Specialised workshops
- 26/ Living labs, Creative hubs, Fablabs
- 27/ Roadshow best practice
The Agence du Numérique (Digital Wallonia), play a role of orchestrator of this landscape. Through the Digital Wallonia Strategy, the DIH is a part of the Marshal Plan 4.0 (theme 5). It provides regular feedback and KPI to the S3 (twice a year).

⇒ The DIH is embedded in the S3 and its implementation
DIH stakeholders and actions embedded in the S3 policy mix
S3 main stakeholders (clusters, research centers) integrated into several DIH programs
Coordinating role of the Digital Agency but effective coordination is a challenge

Digital agenda as horizontal priority of the cluster policy
• Clusters involved in Industry 4.0 actions
• Cross-cluster collaboration: ICT-Infopôle cluster meets Competitive Clusters
• Start-ups feeding the innovation dynamics in the clusters
≡ Focus of the Digital Wallonia Strategy towards priority sectors of S3
Digital Wallonia Strategy overall budget:

- 44% Developing an strong digital sector
- 20% Digital transformation of the economy
- 19% Digitalisation of Public services
- 10% Smart and connected territory
- 7% ESIF 505 millions €

Connection between funding and services provided: Digital Wallonia allows specific funding to operators on a contract-based approach (Brand-Boost–Build).

Competitive calls limited to targeted audiences (e.g. clusters or Creative Hubs)

Open horizontal support measures for companies (vouchers)
Involvement of stakeholders in VI pilots
EU clusters collaboration projects
(COSME, INNOSUP)
INTERREG A
Partnership with French Tech
! Clusters as facilitator for collaboration, notably for SMEs

Challenges:
- Few EU funding for cluster collaboration
- Cross-sector/cross-cluster collaboration
- Synergies: efficient articulation between regional strategy and EU policies
- Developing new financing solutions/mixes for interregional demonstration networks
Topics for collaboration:

- Digital Maturity Benchmarking about SME’s
- Best practices exchanges about support to digital transformation of SME’s
- Cross-border partnerships / technology transfers
- Cross-cluster collaboration / building new value chains
- Interregional demonstration networks
- Interregional vouchers schemes
Thanks for your attention!

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http://economie.wallonie.be