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ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE

Part I – General information

Project: ELISE (European LIfe Science Ecosystems)

Partner organisation: Centre-Val de Loire Regional Council

Other partner organisations involved (if relevant) :

Country: France

NUTS2 region: Centre-Val de Loire

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Part II – Policy context

The Action Plan aims to impact:

- ■ Investment for Growth and Jobs programme
- ○ European Territorial Cooperation programme
- ○ Other regional development policy instrument

Name of the policy instrument addressed :

Centre-Val de Loire ERDF Operative Programme 2014-2020, Axis 1 Knowledge Society

Further details on the policy context and the way the action plan should contribute to improve the policy instruments:

In coherence with its economic development legal competence, the CVL Regional Council aims at increasing collaborative research and development projects and thus generating significant social and economic impact. Financial support is focused on the 5 Strategic domains (Specialization domains) of the Regional Innovation Strategy (RIS3). ERDF OP Axis 1 is combined with the Regional "Ambition R&D 2020" (ARD) policy instrument to support 5 major R&D programs closely linked to these strategic domains. Starting in 2013, these ARD programs received in total more than 60 M€ regional and about 6 M€ ERDF funds. One of these 5 ARD programs deals with "Biomédicaments" ("Biopharmaceuticals") and therefore pertains to Life science field, and more precisely to the Strategic Domain 2 of the RIS3: "Biotechnology and applied services for health".

Implementation of ERDF and ARD funds in the field of biotechnologies has resulted in projects of high scientific quality, involving both public laboratories and private companies. However, two

weaknesses have been identified. First, in many cases, the initiative of the projects comes mostly from academic partners, with private companies expressing global interest for potential scientific results rather than actively participating to the project. Second, supported projects are mostly independent from each other, while synergies between projects might induce a more coherent global program: a closer strategic monitoring at the level of the RIS3 Strategic domain would contribute to such a coherency.

A new ARD call has been launched mid-2019 for a further 4 years period, open to both current and new programs. It will provide the opportunity to cope with the two weaknesses identified (cf. above paragraph). Expected proposals will be required to include a detailed national and international cooperation strategy and action plan to implement it. Strong incentive will be considered in order to obtain private contributions to R&D strategy as well as funding. Again, ERDF and regional ARD funds will be combined. Proposals to answer this new ARD call are currently discussed within the ELISE project stakeholder group. Final decisions will be taken by regional authorities current mid-2020. In this context, the two actions described in Part II below will enable to select and to follow R&D projects with a stronger potential economic impact. For both of them, the "Biotechnology and applied services for health" strategic domain may be seen as a first practical case, to be generalized to the other present RIS3 domains and, on a longer term, to the future 2021-2027 RIS3 and ERDF OP.

Part III – Details of the actions envisaged

ACTION 1

TITLE OF ACTION: Fostering the dialogue between the public laboratories and companies in order to induce projects with a higher economic impact

1. Relevance to the project

Two CVL Region stakeholders attended the Staff Exchange Meeting in Bologna on the Good Practice SPARK Initiative organized by ART-ER. This method is a tool aimed at fostering the dialogue between companies and research by empowering researchers to think about research results from a market point of view based on the Business Model Canvas (BMC) to improve the marketability of research based products and services. It is an "open innovation" method which should be considered as a very powerful tool to enhance business relationship between companies and research. We

anticipate direct benefits of SPARK on our own program through the emulation of new research and innovation projects answering to crucial economic issues.

2. Nature of the action

- Define accurately the action thematic perimeter to be investigated (probably the whole "Biotechnology and applied services for health "- specialization domain).
- Set up a project organization and an action plan based on the SPARK ART-ER Good Practice
- Implement the project on the selected perimeter.

We plan to use SPARK (SCAN PLAN ACT REVOLUTIONARY KIT) approach mainly for measuring real feasibility of research activities with a marketable perspective. The implementation of this method will take place in three main steps:

- **SCAN** : analyse, and selection of topics (field of Life Sciences) and people to be involved;
- **PLAN** : Selection of projects (ARD Biopharmaceuticals project and also to a greater extent Life sciences project) by involving regional partners such as the Regional Economic Development Agency, the ARD program coordinator, and the Polepharma cluster.
-Then, we have to contact, obtain agreement and general commitment of each projects managers.
- Organisation of prepatory meeting: to define specific challenges to be addressed, to train researchers to pitch their project, ...
- **ACT :** Implementation of workshops stage and working with BMC method

SPARK method is a new approach in region CVL so it will take time to implement it, that means : time to learn and to train people about pitching projects, to apply BMC approach, to share know-how in interactive workshop.

After this first experimentation, we plan to evaluate it and then we will decide the perimeter, related to the others RIS3 strategic domains, of a second edition in 2021.

3. Stakeholders involved

All stakeholders/partners of the "Biomédicaments" (Biopharmaceuticals) ARD Program will be involved in the action 1 :

*Regional Innovation Agency : Dev'Up – Organization (dialogue, meeting) in relation with Region CVL

*University of Tours (Leader of "Biopharmaceuticals program) – participation to meetings and to the definition of the perimeter, coordination role in mobilizing researchers of various research public organizations.

*Pharmaceutical Cluster : POLEPHARMA – representative of pharmaceutical companies, role **in** informing pharmaceutical industry and in mobilizing companies in this action.

4. Timeframe

2019:

September : First meeting with the Innovation Agency Dev'Up to brainstorm and to exchange about the SPARK Method implementation

October - December: choice of the perimeter and topics in the RIS3 "Biotechnology and applied services for health" strategic domain; projects selection process; identification of people involved in the project selection committee; organization of the *preparatory* meeting. Investigations to find a consulting firm in charge of training on BMC method.

2020:

January – March: training of researchers (pitch method); training of people on BMC. Meeting to present the method and introduce workshops. Organization of workshops implementation.

From April to September: First Spark interactive workshop on the 3 projects selected.

September – December: evaluation and feedback on this first experimentation.

2021:

January – September: depending on evaluation results, further interactive workshops on new projects either "Biopharmaceuticals" and/or in other RIS3 strategic domains.

September–December: evaluation of the Spark method in relation to RIS3.

5. Costs

The cost of the action is not high, as it leverages the interest of all actors involved who contribute to the results with their own resources (work time, etc.) working in an open innovation logic.

Staff costs for organizing the activities and direct costs of hosting the event (catering, materials) are the ones to be considered.

To set up 1 complete SPARK action, about 50 days/man are needed.

About 5 000 € - 10 000 € for meeting, accommodation, travel, external expertise.

6. Funding sources

Most of staff costs are covered through the budget of the participating structures.

Additional costs including catering and materials might be financed through ERDF.

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ACTION 2

TITLE OF ACTION: Improving the governance of the RIS specialization domain in order to increase coherence and synergies between projects

1. Relevance to the project

A delegation of CVL stakeholders attended the Staff Exchange Meeting in Rostock (Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania) on the Good Practice "Board of trustees". The Board of Trustees is a consultative body placed below the authority of the President of the Region (Land), which brings together senior officials from the various actors of the Health Economy: Land and local authorities, companies, hospitals and health professionals, health insurance funds, research institutions, etc. The Board discusses the main practical actions to address the major health challenges and implement the long-term strategy developed by the Land. The Board of Trustees illustrates the interest of associating actors covering the entire value chain of the same sector in the same strategic management body. At the end of the chain, the involvement of healthcare professionals appears as a driving force to ensure the dynamics of many projects.

This model of Board organization brings ideas and inspire our reflexion on RIS3 future governance. The evolution of governance associated with the current Regional Innovation Strategy constitutes an opportunity to set up such strategic partnerships in CVL.

2. Nature of the action

The action consists in empowering a governing body, with the mission to construct a strategy and a roadmap of projects in the "Biotechnology and applied services for health" domain, and to monitor and evaluate these projects, both on an individual and a global level. It is expected that this process will provide a more coherent portfolio of projects, whose synergies will enable companies to get a stronger benefit.

3. Stakeholders involved

Main partners of the "Biopharmaceuticals" ARD program will participate to the governing body of the RIS3 "Biotechnology and applied services for health" specialization domain : academics (coordinated) by University of Tours), Professional Training Institute (IMT Tours), Polepharma pharmaceutical cluster, main companies involved in the biotechnology domain

For all of them : role of expertise and advice as representatives of their own organizations

As operational coordinator of the RIS3 in CVL, the Regional Economic Development Agency (Devup) will strongly contribute to the implementation of the action.

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4. Timeframe

Early 2020: exact definition of the governing body mission

First Semester 2020: identification of members of the governing body and of their specific roles (secretary, logistics of meetings, ...)

From second semester 2020: organization of 2 meetings of the governing body per year, with following outputs:

- Elaboration and validation of a global development strategy for the RIS3 specialization domain
- Construction and monitoring of a roadmap of projects
- Propositions of new public policies suited to support the strategy and the projects

5. Costs

Logistics (catering, materials, expert travelling costs)

Projects emerging from the roadmaps will be funded separately

6. Funding sources ((please describe how action 1 will be financed. Is it through the policy instrument(s) indicated in part II):

Internal resources (in kind contribution of entities represented in the governing bodies) + ERDF (logistic costs)

Date: 16 JAN. 2020

Orléans, le

Name of the organisation(s):

Conseil Régional Centre-Val de Loire / Centre-Val de Loire Regional Council

Signature:

Florence Peleau Labigne, General Director of Services

Pour le Président du Conseil Régional
Centre-Val de Loire et par délégation
La Directrice Générale des Services
Florence PELEAU-LABIGNE

Stamp of the organisation (if available):