



KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT
LEUVEN



Brain mobility

An added value to
Young Researchers' Careers

EWI Focus, 22 juni 2012
An Jansen, Dienst Onderzoekscoördinatie

YouReCa: Young Researchers' Careers

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Flemish Government – Minister Lieten: funding for “the support of young researchers”, KU Leuven: 1.5 M€ (2011-2012)

Aim of YouReCa: improving and widening the career perspectives of KU Leuven's young researchers

Three target groups:

PhD students – postdocs – assistant professors

Three levels of organisation:

1. Central (RCO, HR, DUO, ILT, IO, ...)
2. Doctoral Schools
3. “Grassroots”: initiatives by young researchers

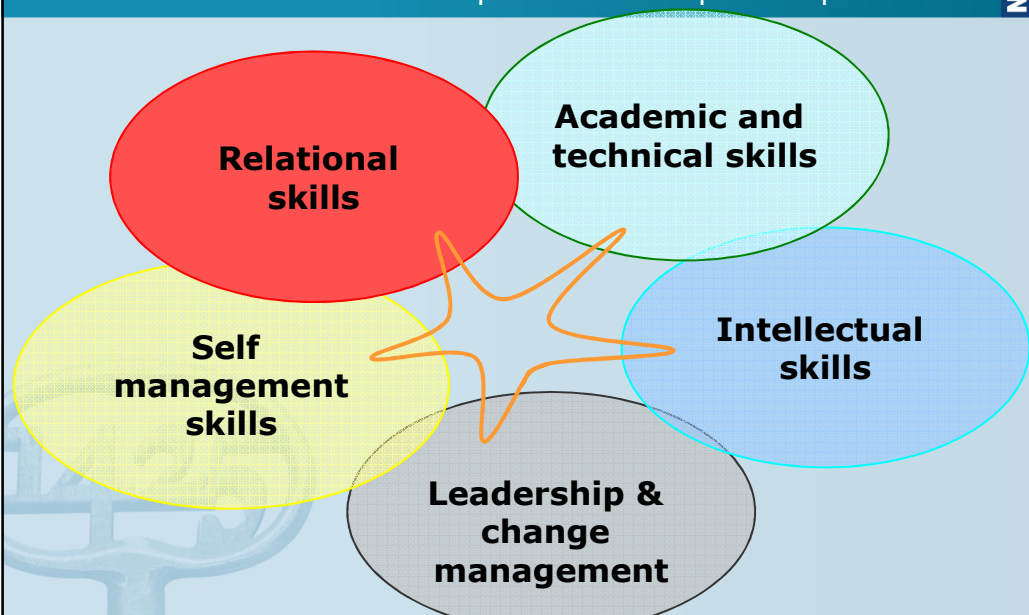
YouReCa: Young Researchers' Careers

Three pillars:

1. **Training and education** in transferable and thematic skills
2. Personalized **career development** and the improvement of career prospects
3. Strengthening the **international orientation** of researchers' careers
 - *Junior Mobility Programme*
 - *Marie Curie Actions COFUND*

1. YouReCa – Training and education

A need for broad skill development: the competence profile



1. YouReCa – Training and education

Training and education in transferable and thematic skills:

- Increasing the existing offer of **transferable skills** courses, as well as developing new trainings;
- Increasing the existing offer of high level **technical and thematic courses** (“hands-on”), as well as developing new courses;
- Development of several high-level **summer schools**;
- Several **seminars and PhD symposia**, offering young researchers the opportunity to present their work and get in contact with international experts;
- Several initiatives are in co-operation with other Flemish universities and renowned research centres.

2. YouReCa – Career development

YouReCa **Career Centre** for young researchers providing insights on **careers inside and outside academia**:

- **General career guidance** by organizing career events and job fairs;
- **Individual, personalized career guidance**;
- Improve and increase **the (practical) support** for incoming and outgoing researchers.



3. YouReCa – International mobility

Why mobility?

International mobility ... for the university

- Fresh blood
- Fresh insights in sciences
- Complementary expertises
- International network
- Academic career: research stay of at least 6 months outside of Belgium is a formal requirement



3. YouReCa – International mobility

'Incoming mobility': Young researchers @ KU Leuven

<i>Data 2011-2012</i>	Total	Share of non-Belgians
PhD students	4.592	1.812 (39%)
PhD diploma's	626	232 (37%)
Postdocs	1.067	390 (37%)



3. YouReCa – International mobility

Why mobility?

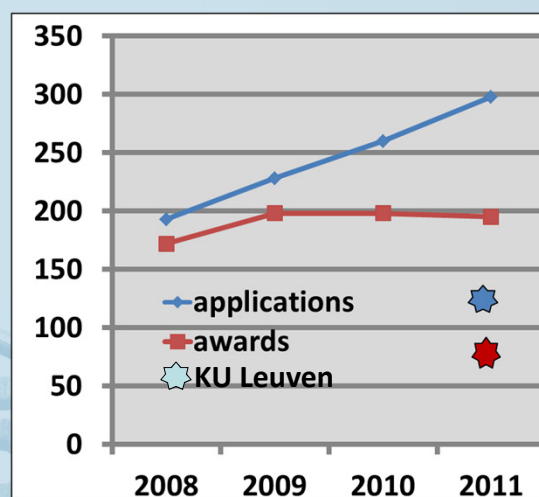
International mobility ... for the researcher

- Increased independence
- Exploration of new research domains, technologies and cultures
- Enlarging your network



3. YouReCa – International mobility

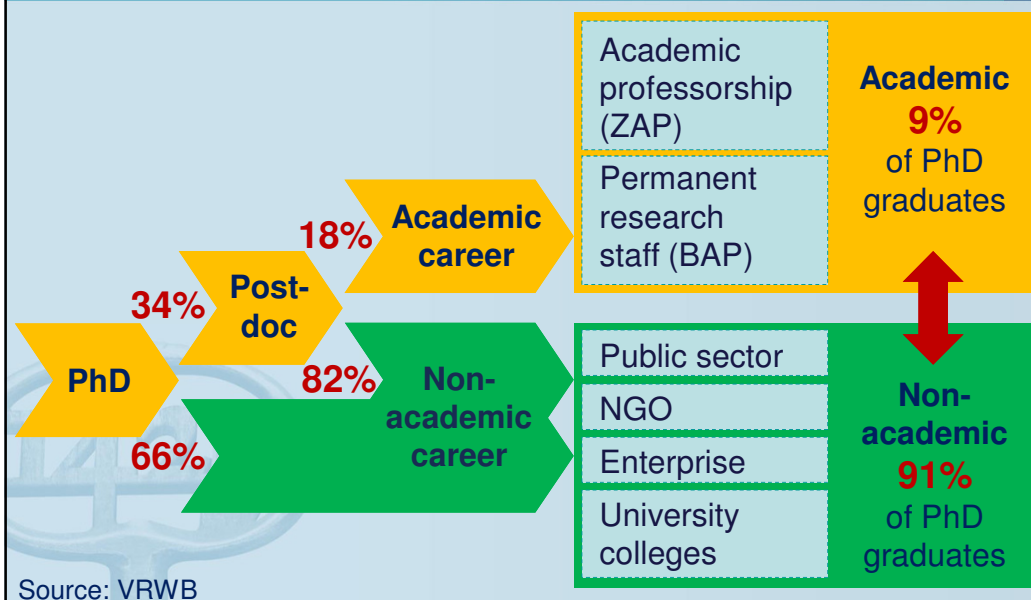
'Outgoing mobility': Young researchers @ KU Leuven



Evolution FWO travel grants for long stays abroad (5 weeks – 1 year)

3. YouReCa – International mobility

A need for intersectoral mobility



3. YouReCa – International mobility

Rationale

- **Stimulate international and intersectoral mobility** of young KU Leuven researchers:
 - Increased efforts to inform researchers about funding opportunities, to stimulate applications and to provide support during the application phase

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Rationale

- **Stimulate international and intersectoral mobility** of young KU Leuven researchers:
 - Increased efforts to inform researchers about funding opportunities, to stimulate applications and to provide support during the application phase
 - Establishing a new funding programme:

JuMo – Junior Mobility Programme: stimulating the outgoing mobility of young researchers @ KU Leuven

3. YouReCa – International mobility

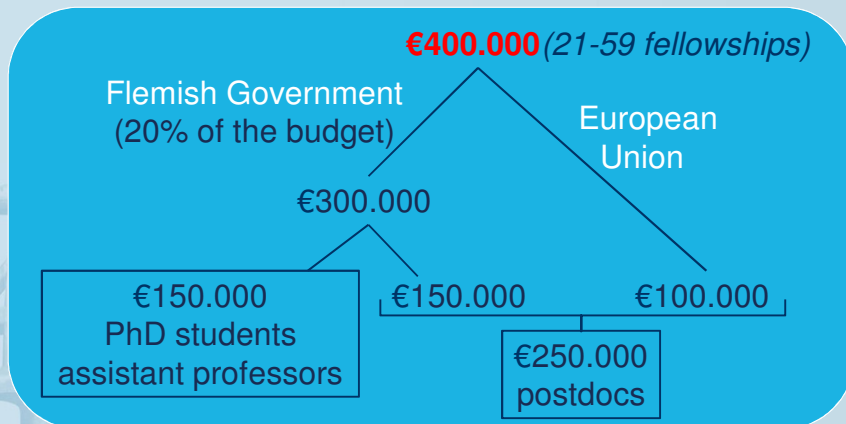
JuMo – Junior Mobility Programme

- **International** and **intersectoral** mobility
- **Financial support** for research stays outside of Belgium in a high-quality environment:
 - A monthly mobility allowance on top of the researcher's own scholarship or salary:
 - Max. 1.000 euro/month for singles
 - Max. 1.500 euro/month when having a family
 - Min. 6 to max. 12 months
 - Reimbursement of travel expenses
- If eligible, researchers should also apply for an FWO travel grant
- Three deadlines each year (2011-2012: two deadlines)

3. YouReCa – International mobility JuMo – Junior Mobility Programme

Yearly budget:

- 2011-2012: €150.000 (10% of the FG budget)
- From 2012 onwards:



3. YouReCa – International mobility JuMo – Junior Mobility Programme

Marie Curie Actions COFUND programme

- Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes intended to stimulate the transnational mobility of experienced researchers (postdocs)
- Programmes are co-funded for up to 40% of their fellowships costs
 - €150.000 earmarked for postdocs (60%)
 - €100.000 of the Marie Curie Actions COFUND (40%)
- 5 years
- *Ranked 7th out of 89 proposals, top 33 will be funded!*

YouReCa and JuMo: more information

YouReCa: www.kuleuven.be/onderzoek/youreca

JuMo: www.kuleuven.be/gedocumenteerd/k/s/oproep/35488.html

Contact: an.jansen@doc.kuleuven.be



Thank you!