

Risk management

INNOVATION IN THE SERVICE OF RISK MANAGEMENT IN PROVENCE-ALPES-CÔTE D'AZUR AND LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON

The cluster for the "Risk management and local vulnerability" was named as a competitiveness cluster in 2005 and regional cluster for innovation and mutually supportive economic development (PRIDES) in 2007. It is a network of businesses, research laboratories, training bodies, financiers and institutes mobilised around innovative projects in risk management, whether natural, technological, industrial or other risks.

The Risk Management Cluster is based in Aix-en-Provence and Montpellier, and has 187 members. Its aims are two-fold:

- sustainable, systemic, multi-risk, local innovation,
- responsible industrial innovation.

It aims to become a major player in the control of risks in Europe.

KEY FIGURES FOR THE SECTOR

- **20,000** jobs in the profession, with more than **2,800** engineers
- More than **100** businesses, 50% of which are small or medium-sized
- **2,600** research scientists and 70 research units in the two regions
- Nearly **100** training courses in the field of risk management

EXCEPTIONAL ADVANTAGES

- **A cluster that is unique in France and Europe.** In the sector of risks, this close collaboration between research and business is the only initiative of its kind in Europe.
- **Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur: long experience in risk control.** The regions of Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur and Languedoc-Roussillon are exceptional for their quality lifestyle, varied yet fragile. They have gained solid experience in risk control, in particular natural, industrial and chemical risks.
- **A growing Mediterranean market and a strong international reputation:** risk management is essential for the Mediterranean regions whose environmental characteristics demand new and custom-built solutions. France, and particularly Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur with its businesses and safety services, boast world-famous skills and abilities.
- **A broad spectrum of skills:** the Cluster acts in managing the different phases of risk: recognition, prevention, alert, crisis management and rehabilitation. Close interrelationships have been developed with other competitiveness clusters.

THE CLUSTER'S AXES OF EXCELLENCE

THE STRATEGIC AXES OF THE CLUSTER FOR 2009 / 2011:



ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEILLANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Harmonise the information system for environmental monitoring and risk management, develop systems of sensors, optimise environmental protection and prevention services, share crisis communication systems



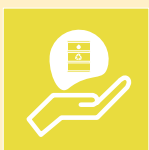
TRAINING IN THE MANAGEMENT OF MAJOR RISKS

Improve control over major risks by training in crisis management, train in collective crisis management, update training tools, encourage a shared culture of risk



CONTROL OF TECHNOLOGICAL RISKS IN THE STORAGE OF CO2

Identify, assess and manage risks to ensure as little an impact as possible on the health and safety of people, the environment and natural resources (methods of assessing safety and related tools)



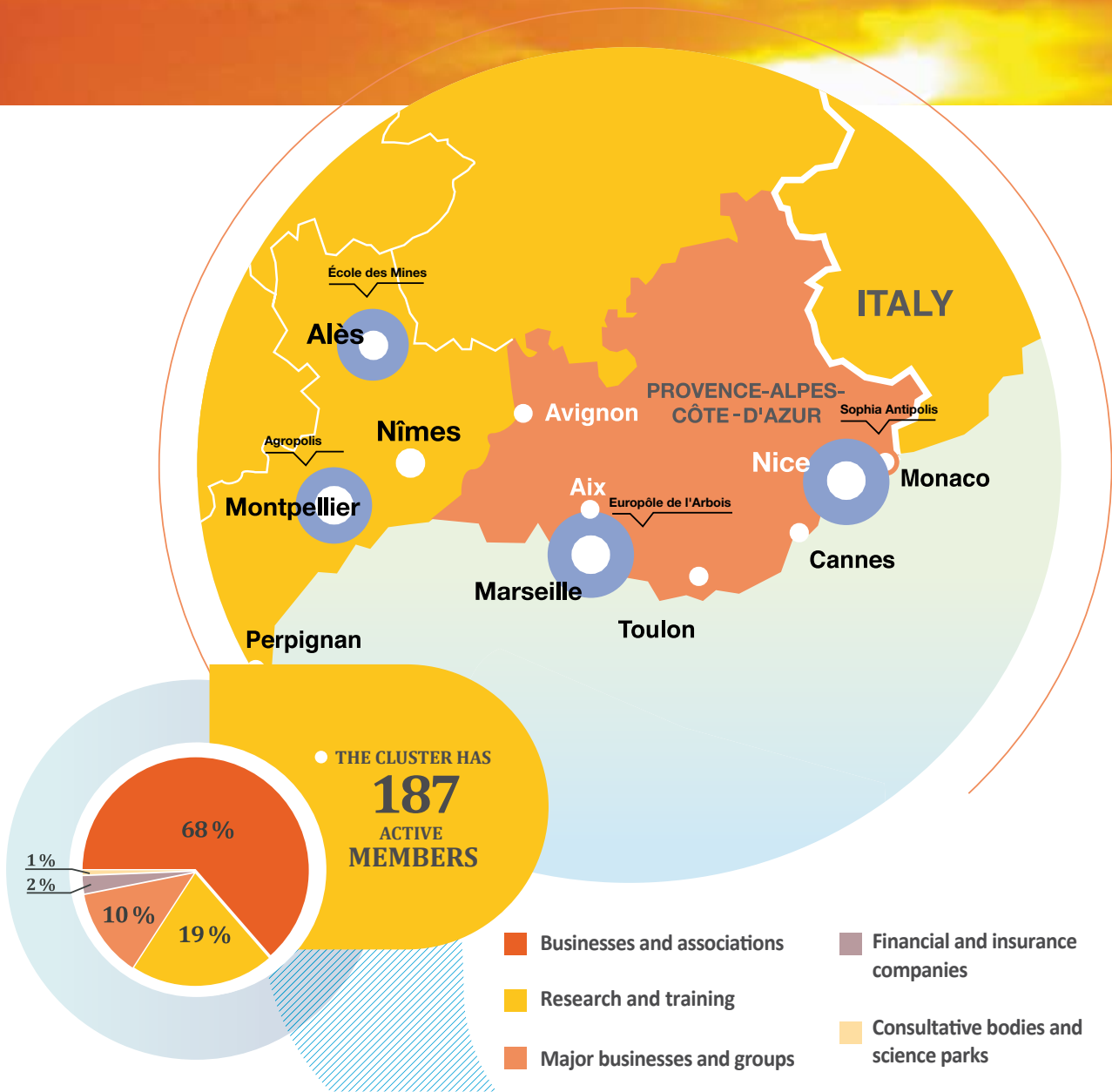
CONTROL OF TECHNOLOGICAL RISKS IN THE TREATMENT OF INDUSTRIAL WASTE

Control the environmental and technological risks related to waste recycling and treatment (reducing industrial, health, chemical and biological risks).

R&D PROJECTS

205 R&D partnership projects were set up between 2005 and 2009 including:

- 151 projects approved (77%)
- 63 projects financed (38%)
- more than 37 million euros obtained in aid (~40% of the overall project budget)
- more than 15 projects jointly approved



A CROSS-DISCIPLINARY CLUSTER

The Risk Management Cluster's life-blood is collaboration. What this means on the ground is joint projects with Pégase and Trimatec, two other clusters that have agreements with the Risk Management Cluster.

Other projects, at the Risk Management Cluster's initiative, have also been jointly approved with the Sea and SCS clusters, and partnerships signed with the Water and Myriapolis clusters, in Languedoc-Roussillon.

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

The Cluster's commitment to openness has already led to the signing of agreements and working with R&D clusters in Spain and Germany around innovatory technologies, as well as in Italy, Morocco, Tunisia and Brazil.

In 2011, this partnership policy will lead to the organising of a major Euro-Mediterranean conference on risk.

EXAMPLES OF INNOVATIVE PROJECTS



HYDROGUARD Project (FUI 2009): Consortium: Esecos Systems (manager), Armines, C2 Innovativ'Systems, Niscayah, Egis Eau. The HYDROGUARD project is part of an initiative for the effective and rational management of resources to prevent and combat flooding, pollution and sea encroachment. This project aims to develop autonomous equipment and technologies along dykes and coastlines to raise the alarm, carry out daily monitoring and continuously manage water resources.



SIMFOR Project (call for projects DGCIS 2009): Consortium: Pixim (manager), SII, Laboratoire LSIS. A platform for training in how to organise and plan interventions in the crisis management phase, whether of natural, chemical, nuclear or terrorist origin, in a realistic virtual urban environment.



ASTUCE & TIC Project (FUI 2007): Consortium: G2C. Environnement (manager), CEREGE, INRA, MEED SA. Anticipation of safe developments in urban and rural areas and their environment, using information and communication technologies.

Other projects:

RATCOM : Alarm network for tsunamis and coastal risks in the Mediterranean

RUN INNOVATION : Using the technique of phytoremediation using water-purifying bamboo to clean waste water and other effluents.

CONTACTS

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