

FRANCE – SERBIA

**Scientific impact of the program PAVLE SAVIC
(2006-2020)**

MESRI-DAEI / MEAE

2021

<http://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr>

GENERAL PRESENTATION OF THE PROGRAM

Creation : 2003

The purpose of this program is to develop excellence scientific and technological exchanges between the French and Serbian laboratories, by promoting new scientific collaborations and integrating in the projects young researchers and PhD students.

Total budget (France + Serbia) : around 80 000 € / year

>> French budget : around 40 000 € / year

>> Serbian budget : around 40 000 € / year

Average budget per project (France + Serbia) : around 4 000 € / year

Average number of new funded projects per year : around 17

From 2006 to 2020 :

353 applications submitted

134 projects funded

DATA SOURCES

Campus France (2006-2020)

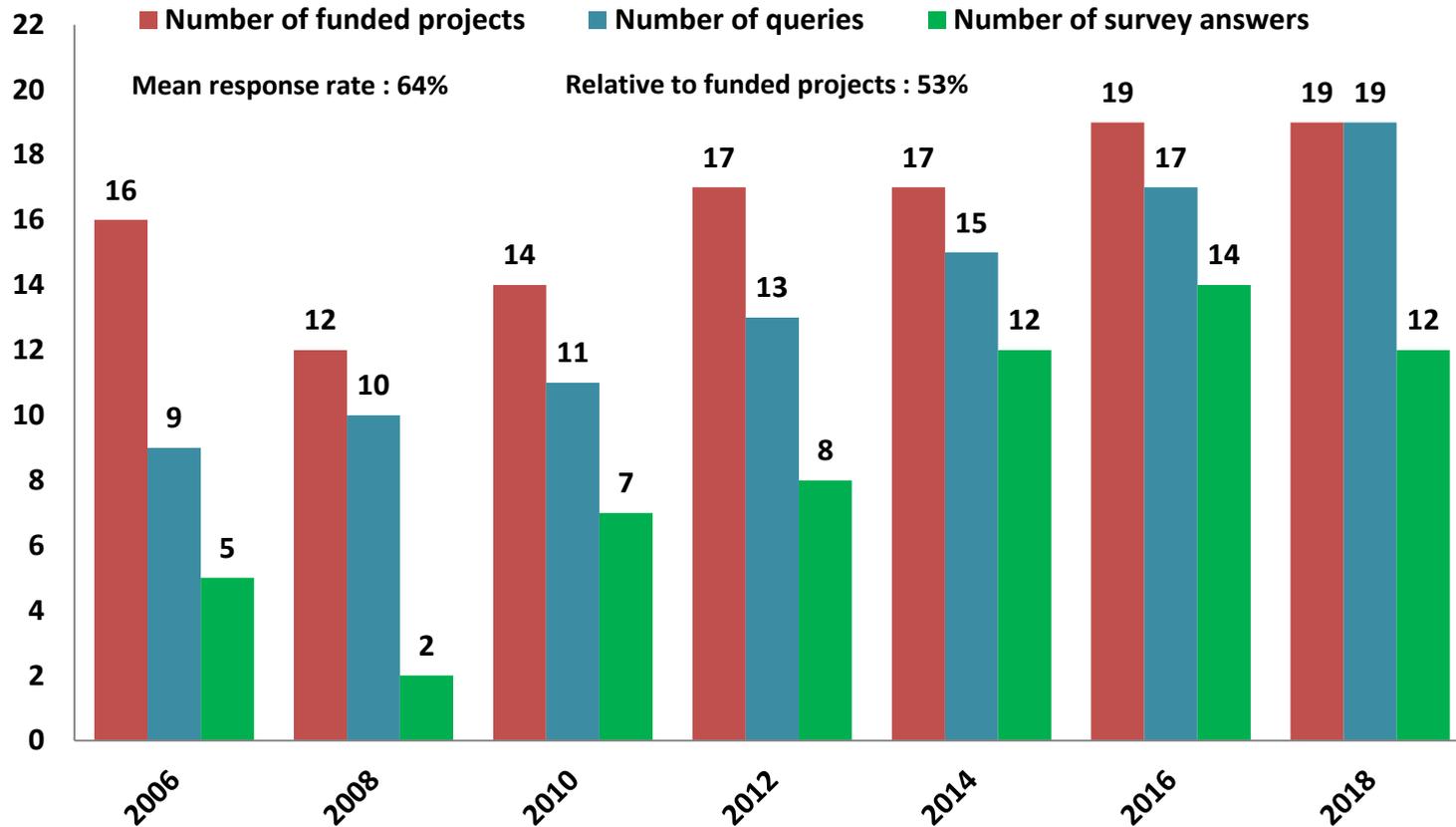
- Information about the PHC Pavle Savic applications
- List of mobilities (from France to Serbia and from Serbia to France)

Survey (2006-2018)

- Target : French Principal Investigators of selected projects between 2006 and 2018
- Survey duration : 7 weeks between November 2020 and January 2021
- **64%** response ratio (60 respondents for 94 queries)

ANSWERS TO THE SURVEY

Average response rate to the survey : **64 % (60 answers)**



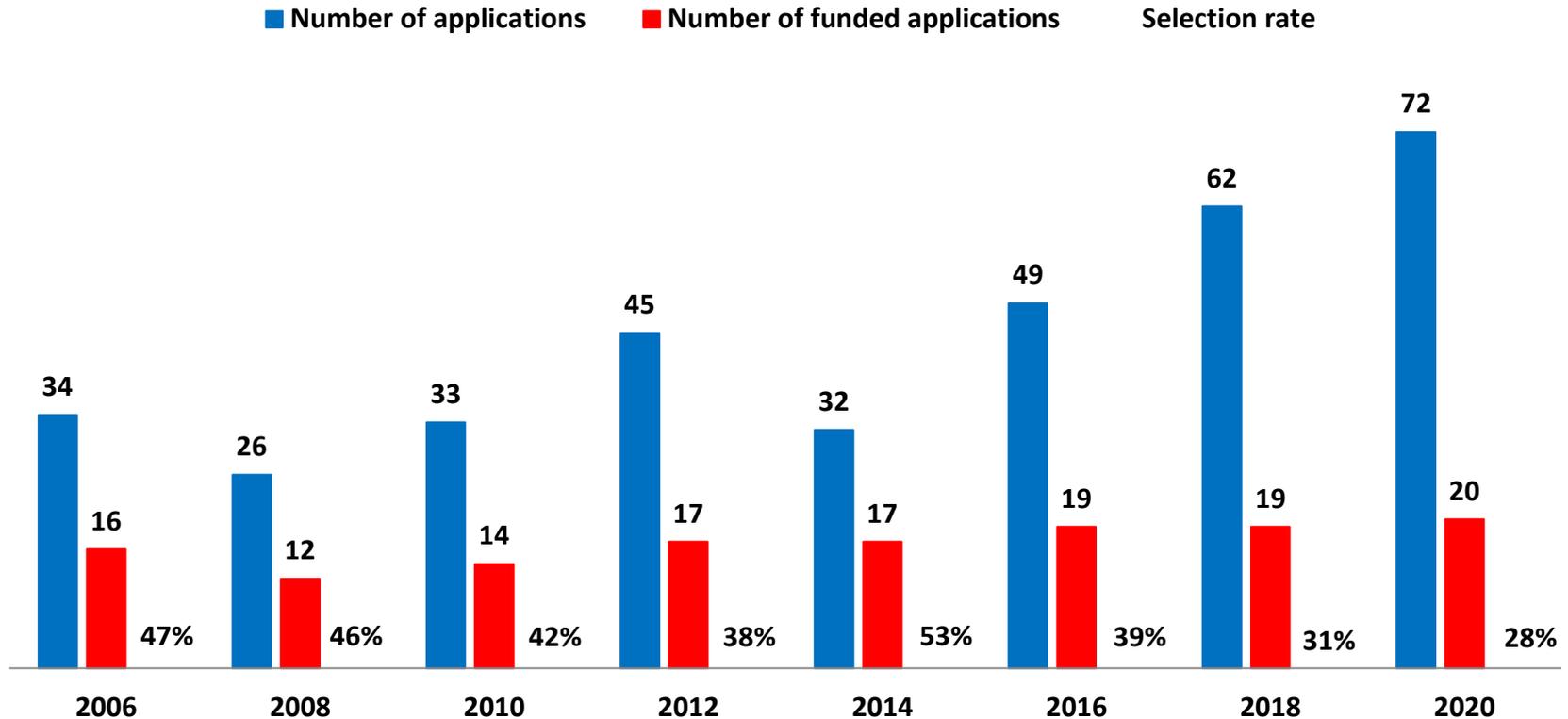
114 funded projects between 2006 and 2018, 94 valid email addresses

2006-2020

Key Points

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS AND SELECTION RATE

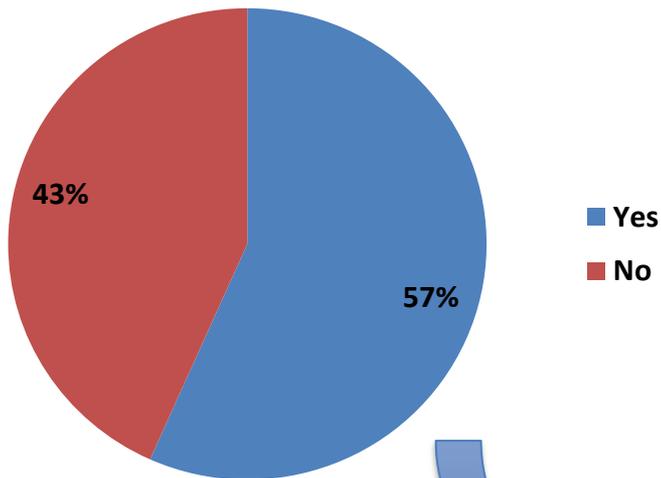
Average selection rate from 2006-2020: **38%**



Regular increase in the number of applications since 2014

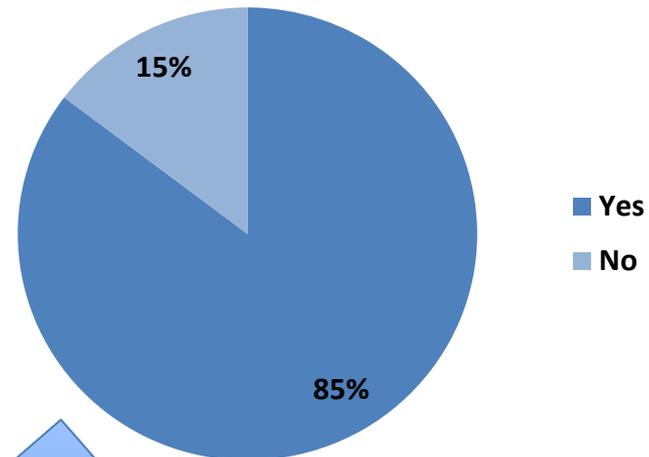
BEFORE THE PAVLE SAVIC PROJECT (1/2)

Did you already cooperate with Serbia in the past ?



Data from 60 responses

If yes, was it with the same partner?



Data from 34 responses

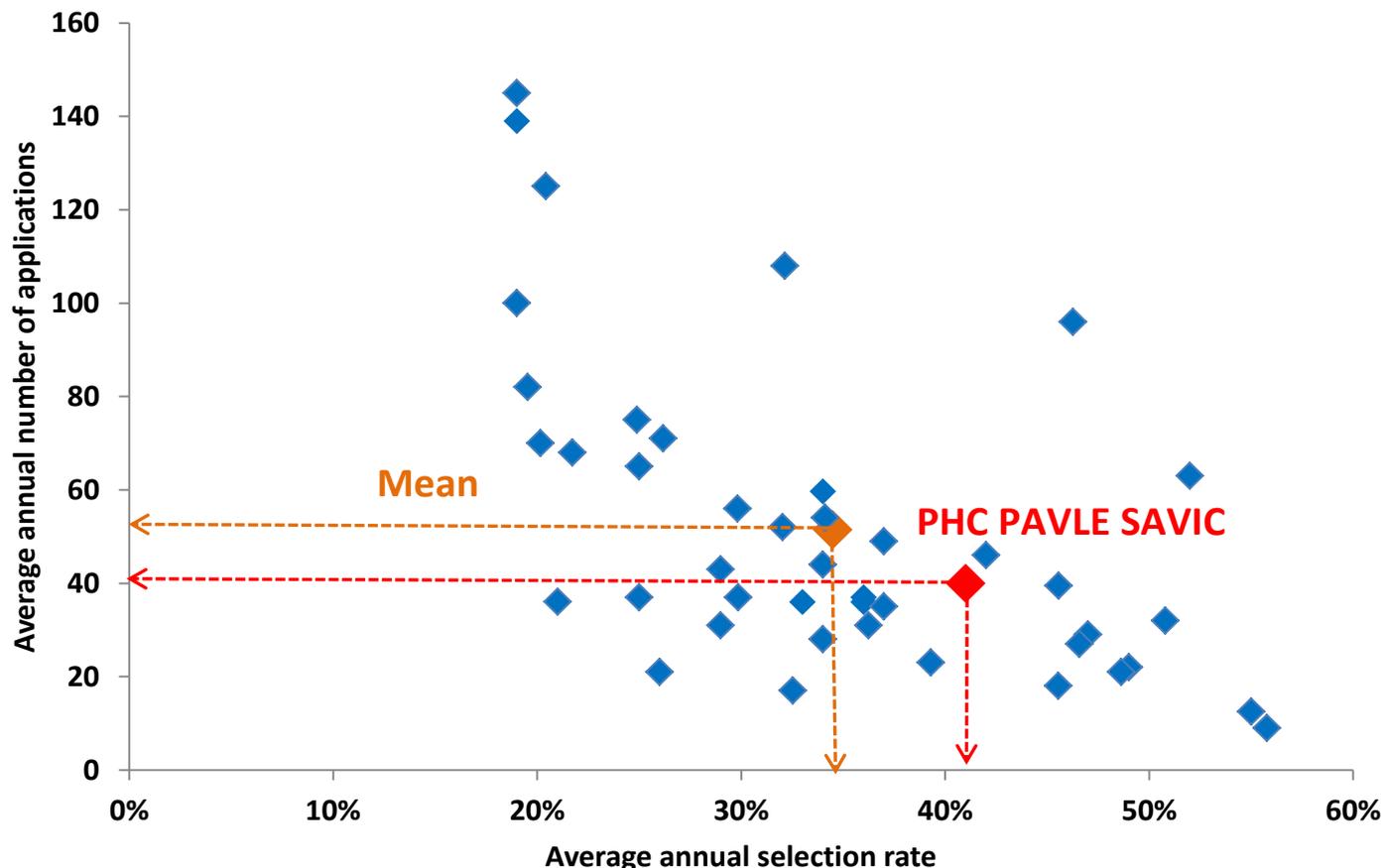
BEFORE THE PAVLE SAVIC PROJECT (2/2)

With which scientific collaboration program ?	
PHC Pavle Savic	53%
CNRS Joint Research program (PRC)	8%
French Government grants	4%
Cofunding with serbian institutions	2%
CNRS Scientific Coperation International Programme (PICS)	2%
European 7th PCRD	2%
Other	29%

Plus 41 previous cooperations based on other exchanges (co-publication, meetings, joint PhD...)

Data from 51 responses

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS VS SELECTION RATE (COMPARISON BETWEEN 44 DIFFERENT BILATERAL PROGRAMS)

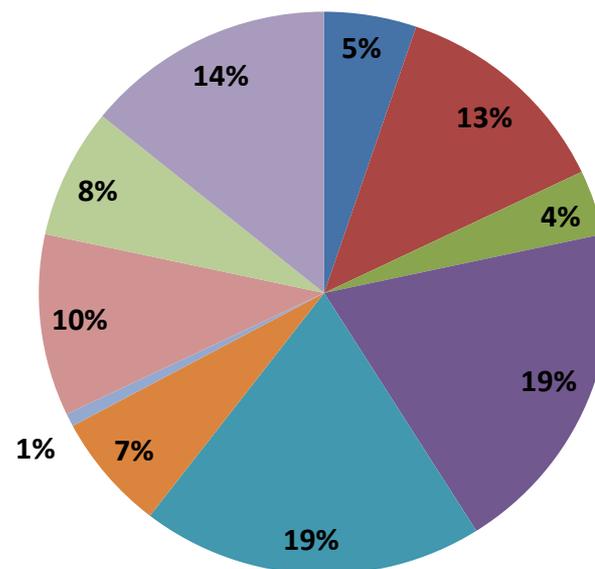
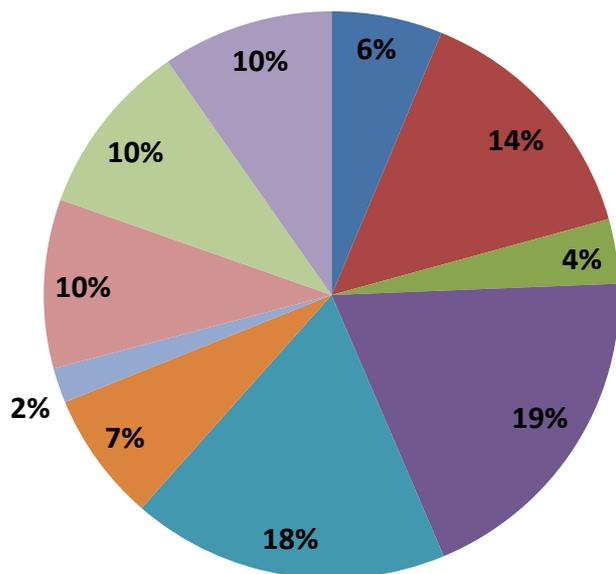


Average selection rate for 2006-2020 : 41% vs 34% mean
Average annual number of applications 2006-2020 : 40 vs 51 mean

SCIENTIFIC DOMAINS OF PROJECTS 2006-2020

Number of applications : 353

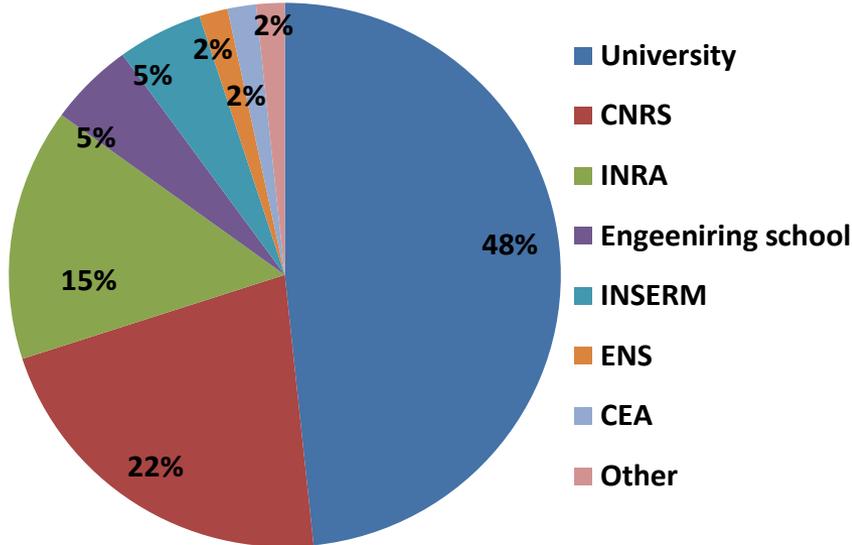
Number of funded projects : 134



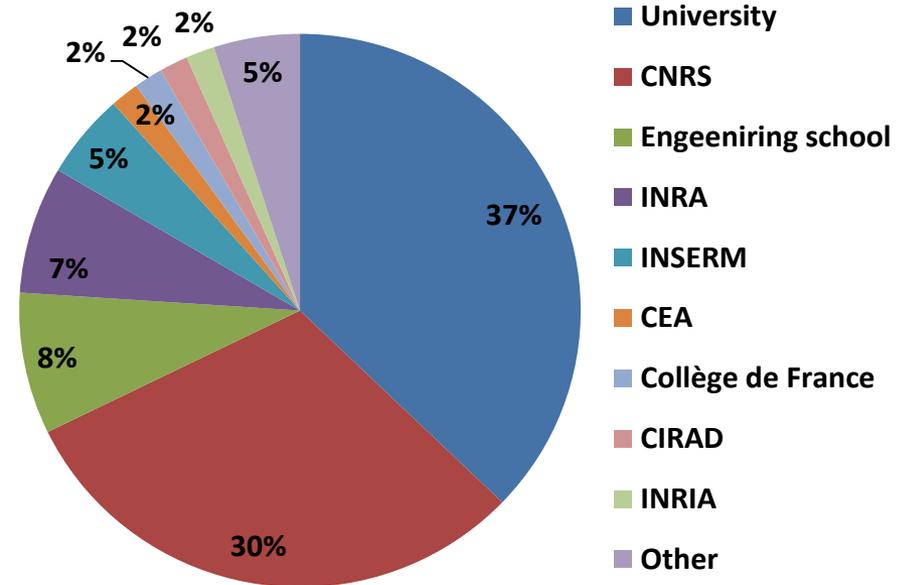
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Marine/Earth/Planet Sciences
- Chemistry
- Biology and Health
- Humanities
- Social Sciences
- Engineering Sciences
- Information Technology
- Agronomy/Ecology

FRENCH PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS 2006-2018

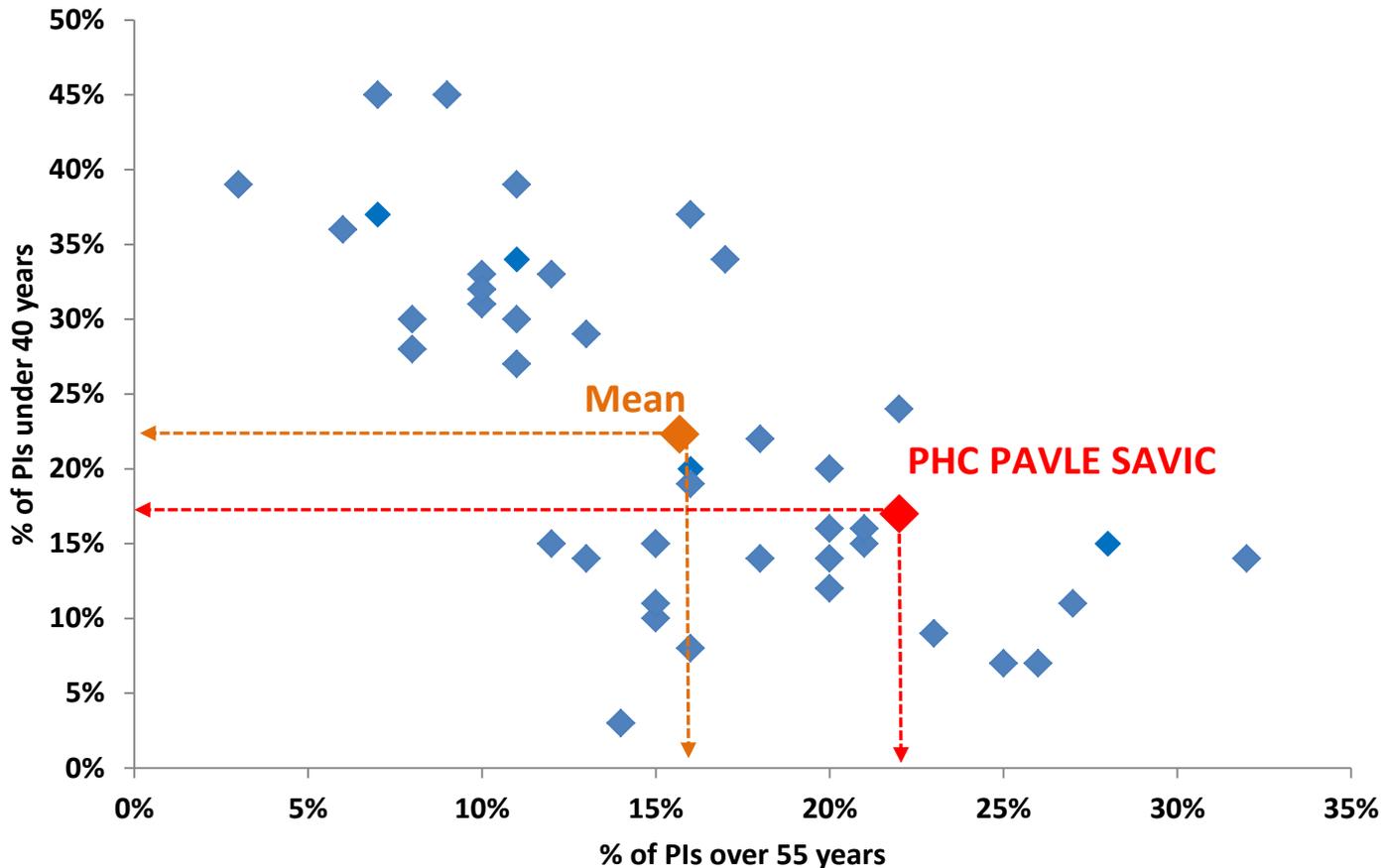
PI's employers



Laboratories authorities



AGE OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS (PI) (COMPARISON BETWEEN 44 DIFFERENT BILATERAL PROGRAMS)



PIs under 40 years : 17% vs 22% mean

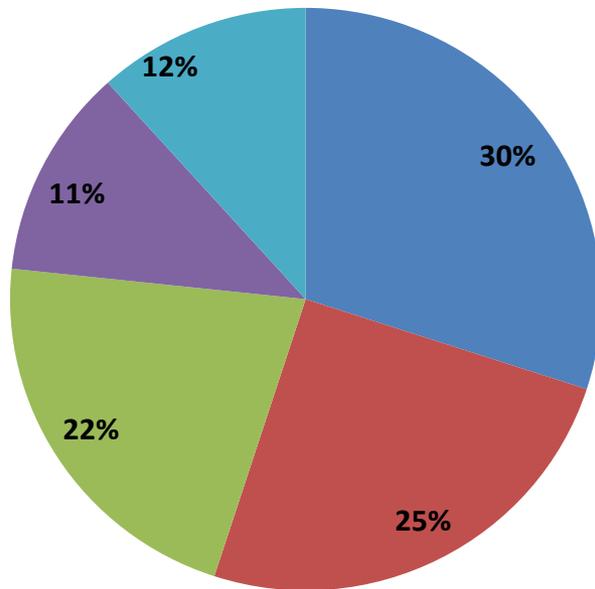
PIs over 55 years : 22% vs 16% mean

61% of the PIs are between 40 and 55 years

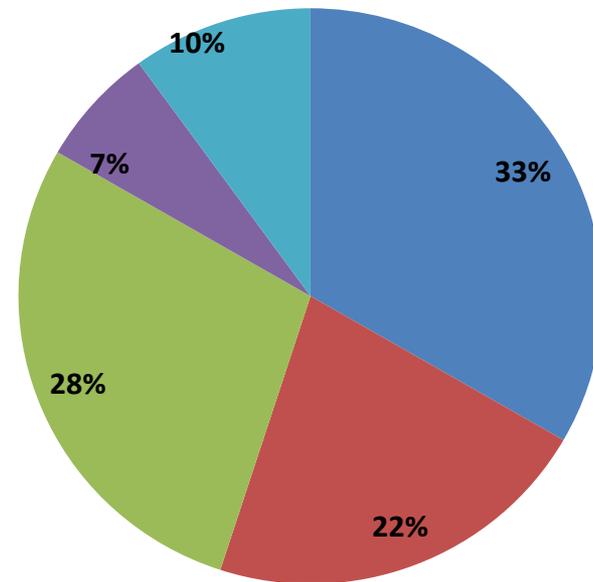
Data from 79 responses

FRENCH PIS (PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS) : STATUS

**Previous professional status
(at the beginning of the project)**

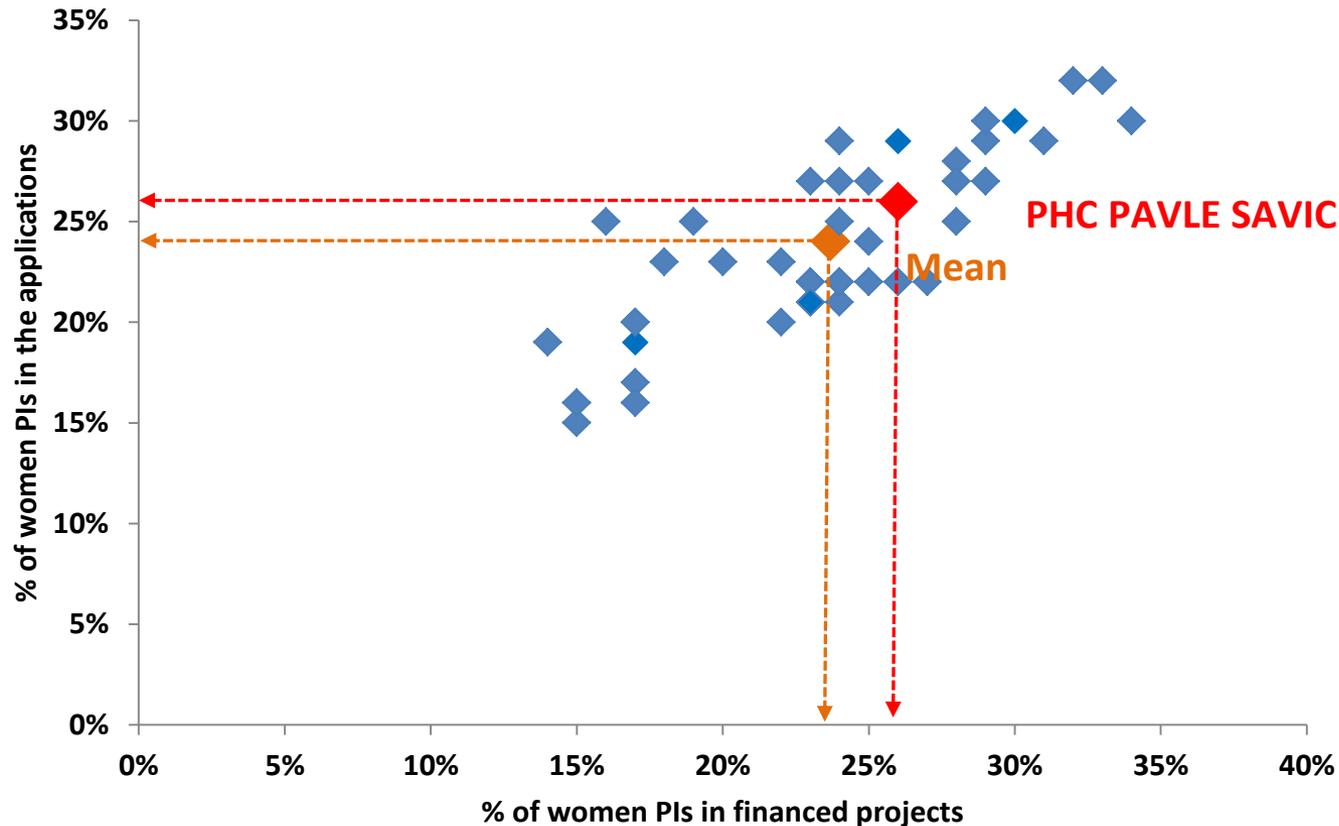


Current professional status



IMPLICATION OF WOMEN (FRANCE)

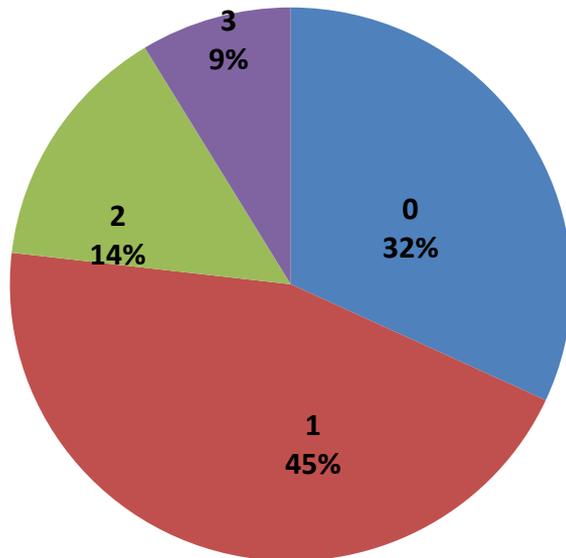
(COMPARISON BETWEEN 44 DIFFERENT BILATERAL PROGRAMS)



% of women PIs in the applications : 26% vs 24% mean
% of women PIs in the selected projects : 26% vs 24% mean

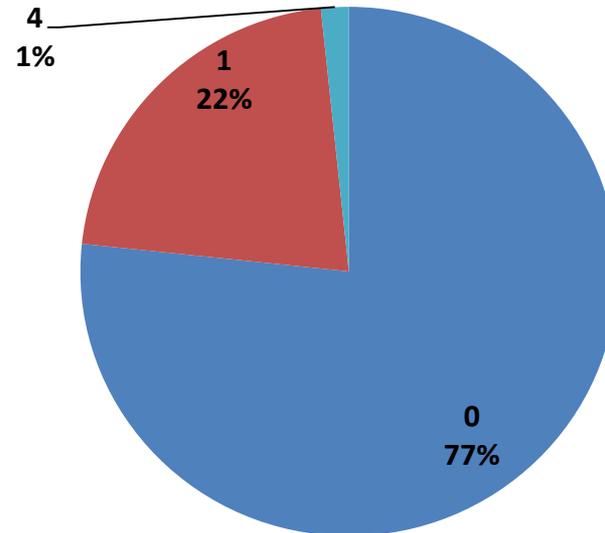
PARTICIPATION OF FRENCH YOUNG RESEARCHERS

Number of French PhD students



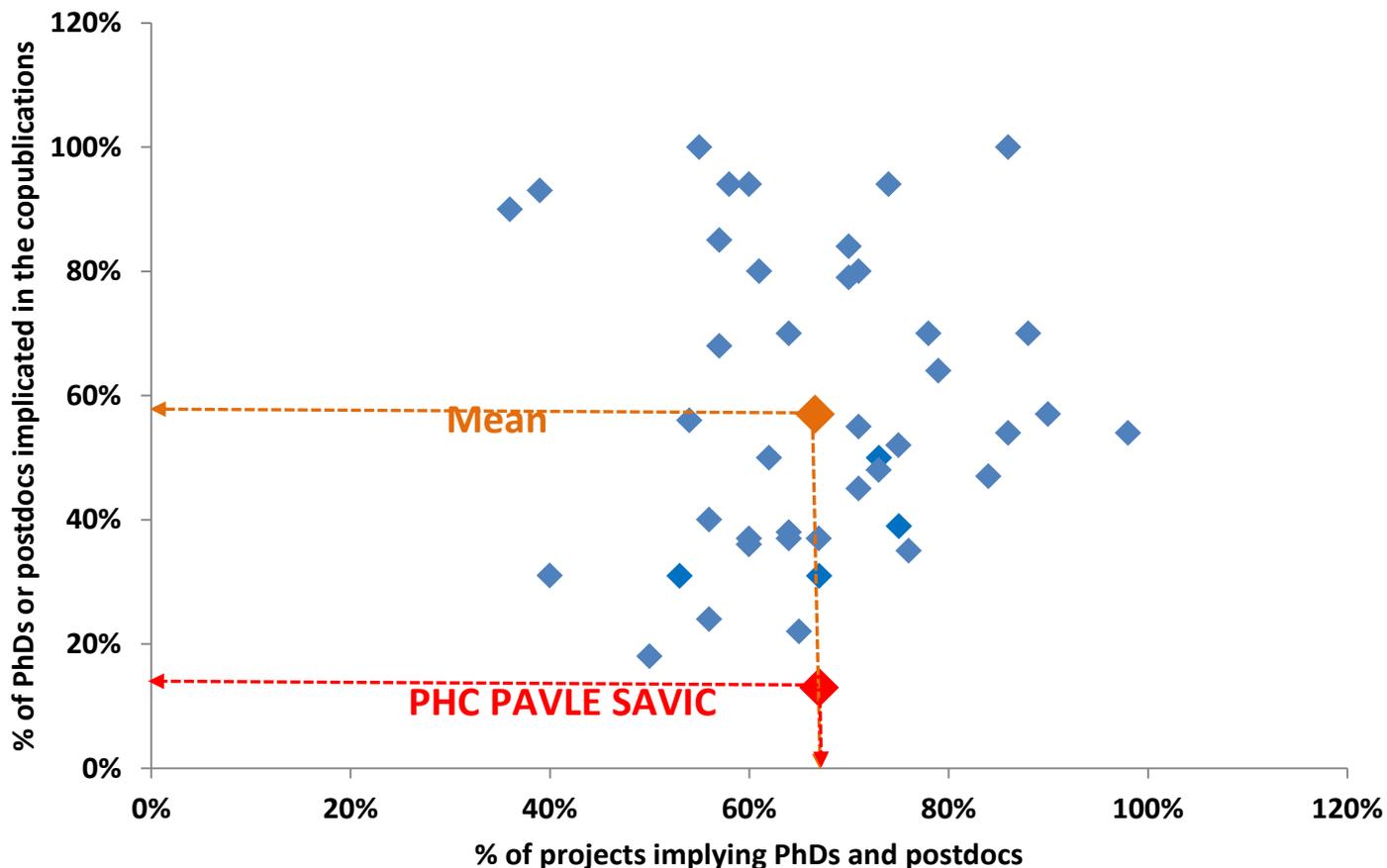
63% of projects involve at least one French PhD student

Number of French post-doctoral researchers



23% of projects involve at least one French post-doctoral researcher

IMPLICATION OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS (COMPARISON BETWEEN 44 DIFFERENT BILATERAL PROGRAMS)



% of projects implying young researchers : 67% vs 67% mean

% of PhD or postdoc implicated in the copublications : 13% vs 57% mean



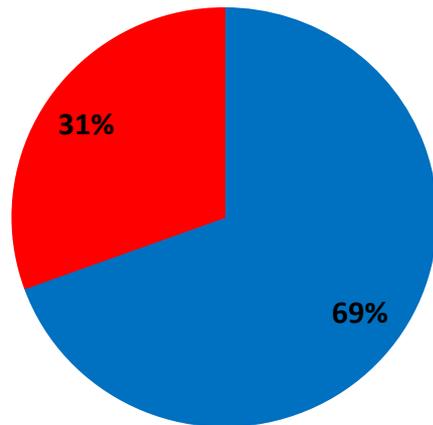
Data from 59 responses



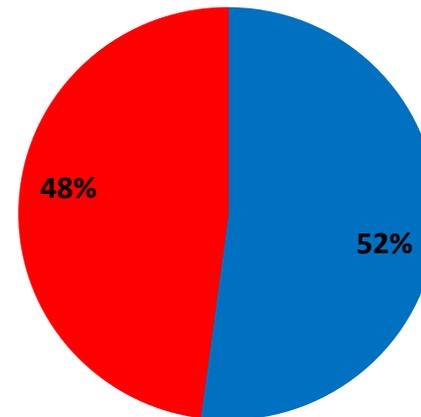
MOBILITY 2006-2019

MOBILITY : GENDER DISTRIBUTION

France → Serbia



Serbia → France

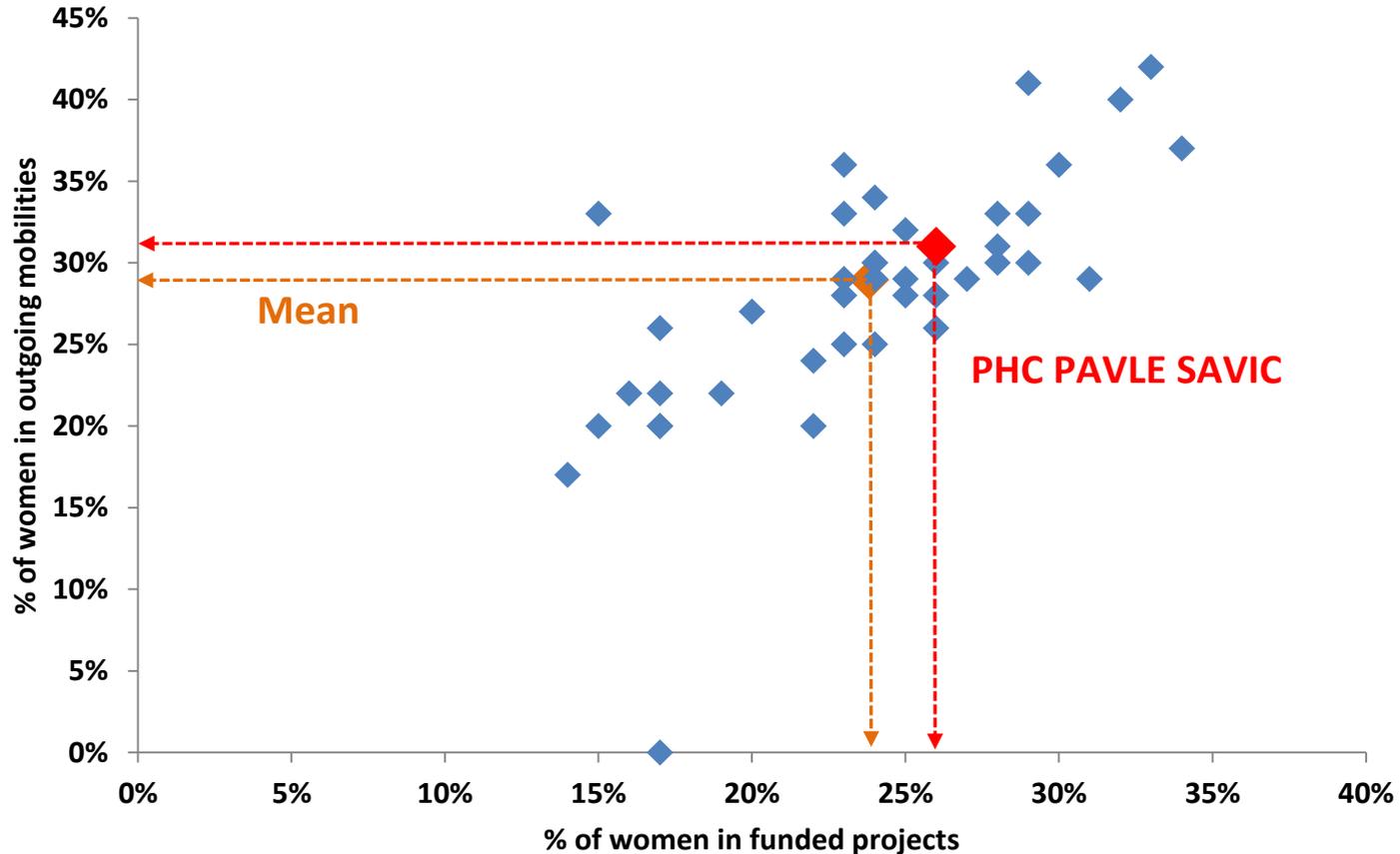


■ Men ■ Women

Data from 114 funded projects

FRENCH WOMEN MOBILITY FRANCE – SERBIA

(COMPARISON BETWEEN 44 DIFFERENT BILATERAL PROGRAMS)



% of women researchers in the selected projects : 26% vs 24% mean

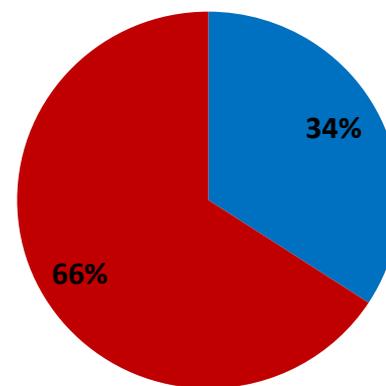
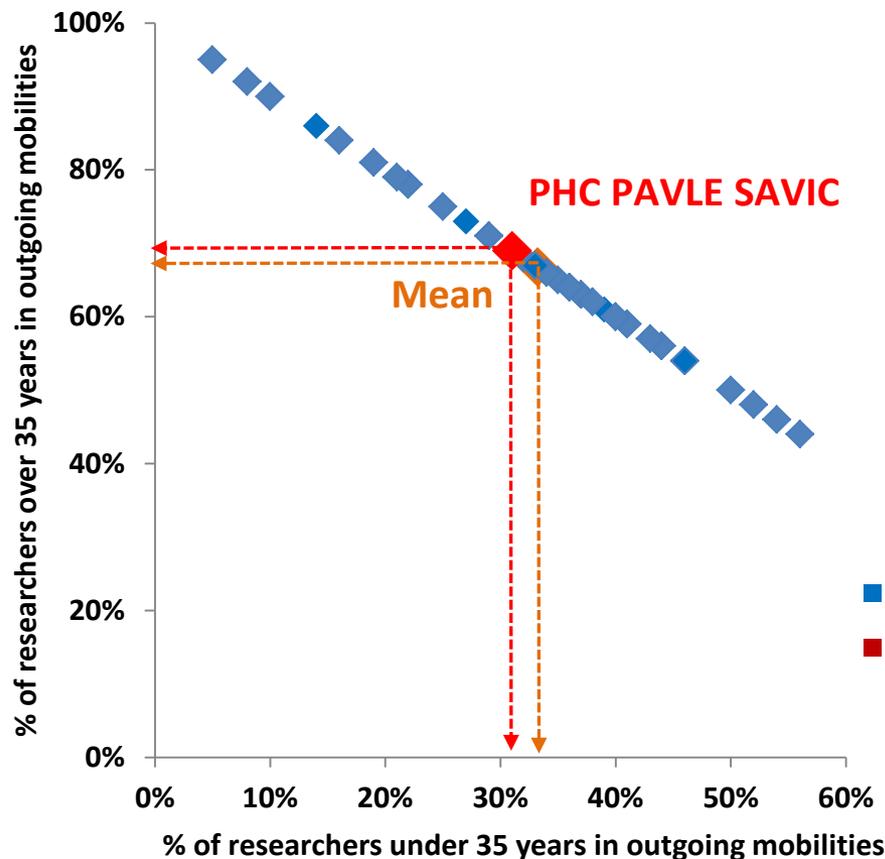
% of women researchers in outgoing mobilities : 31% vs 29% mean

YOUNG RESEARCHERS' MOBILITY

(COMPARISON BETWEEN 44 DIFFERENT BILATERAL PROGRAMS)

France → Serbia

Serbia → France



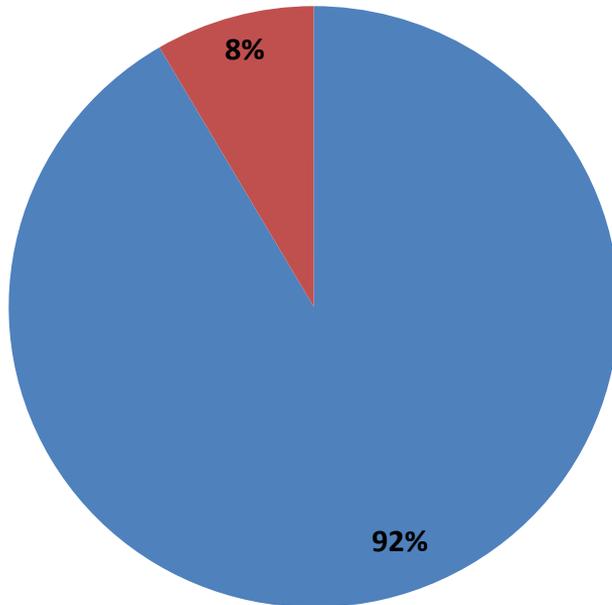
- % of researchers under 35 years in incoming mobilities
- % of researchers over 35 years in incoming mobilities

% of French young researchers in outgoing mobilities : **31% vs 33% mean**

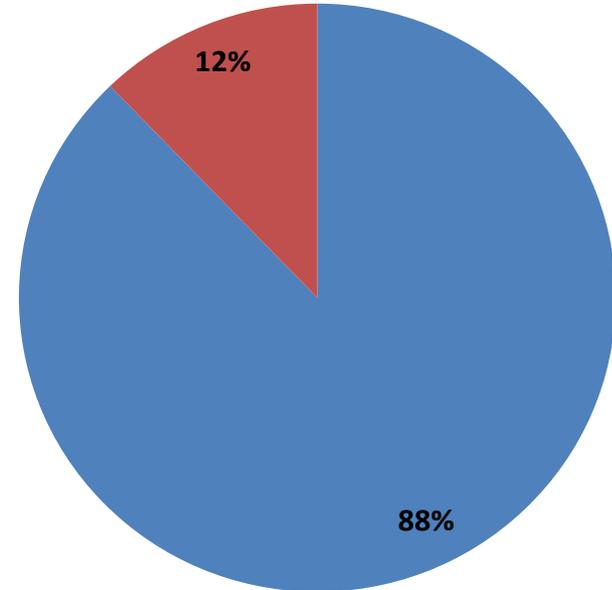
% of Serbian young researchers in incoming mobilities : **34% vs 44% (from 16 programs)**

MOBILITY : DURATION

France → Serbia



Serbia → France



■ < 15 days

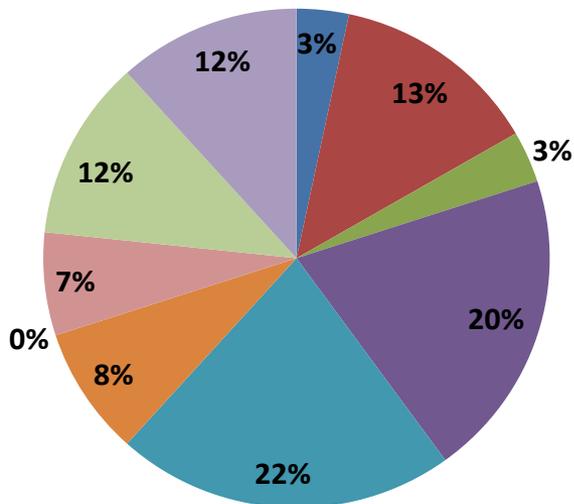
■ between 15 days and 3 months



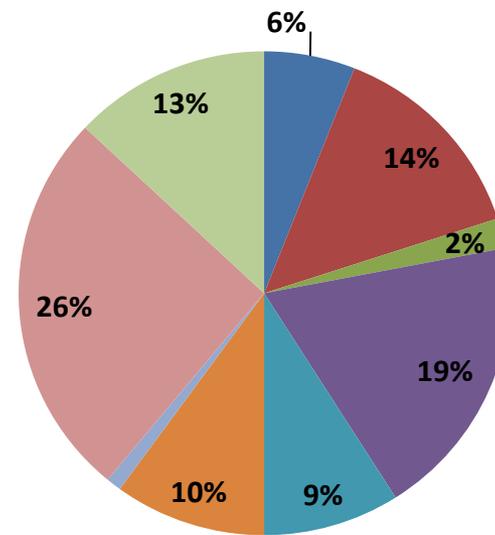
SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTION 2006-2017

SCIENTIFIC OUTPUT (1/2)

Funded projects with responses to the survey (60)



Percentage of copublications



- Mathematics
- Physics
- Marine/Earth/Planet Sciences
- Chemistry
- Biology and Health
- Humanities
- Social Sciences
- Engineering Sciences
- Information Technology
- Agronomy/Ecology

SCIENTIFIC OUTPUT (2/2)

Data from 60 funded projects

	Number of financed projects in the survey	Average number of co-publications per project
Mathematics	2	3,00
Physics	8	1,75
Marine/Earth/Planet Sciences	2	1,00
Chemistry	12	1,58
Biology and Health	13	0,69
Humanities	5	2,00
Social Sciences	-	-
Engineering Sciences	4	0,25
Information Technology	7	3,71
Agronomy / Ecology	7	1,86
TOTAL	60	1,67

Overall average **annual** number of copublications per project : **0,83 vs 0,93 mean**

57% of funded projects led to one co-publication at least

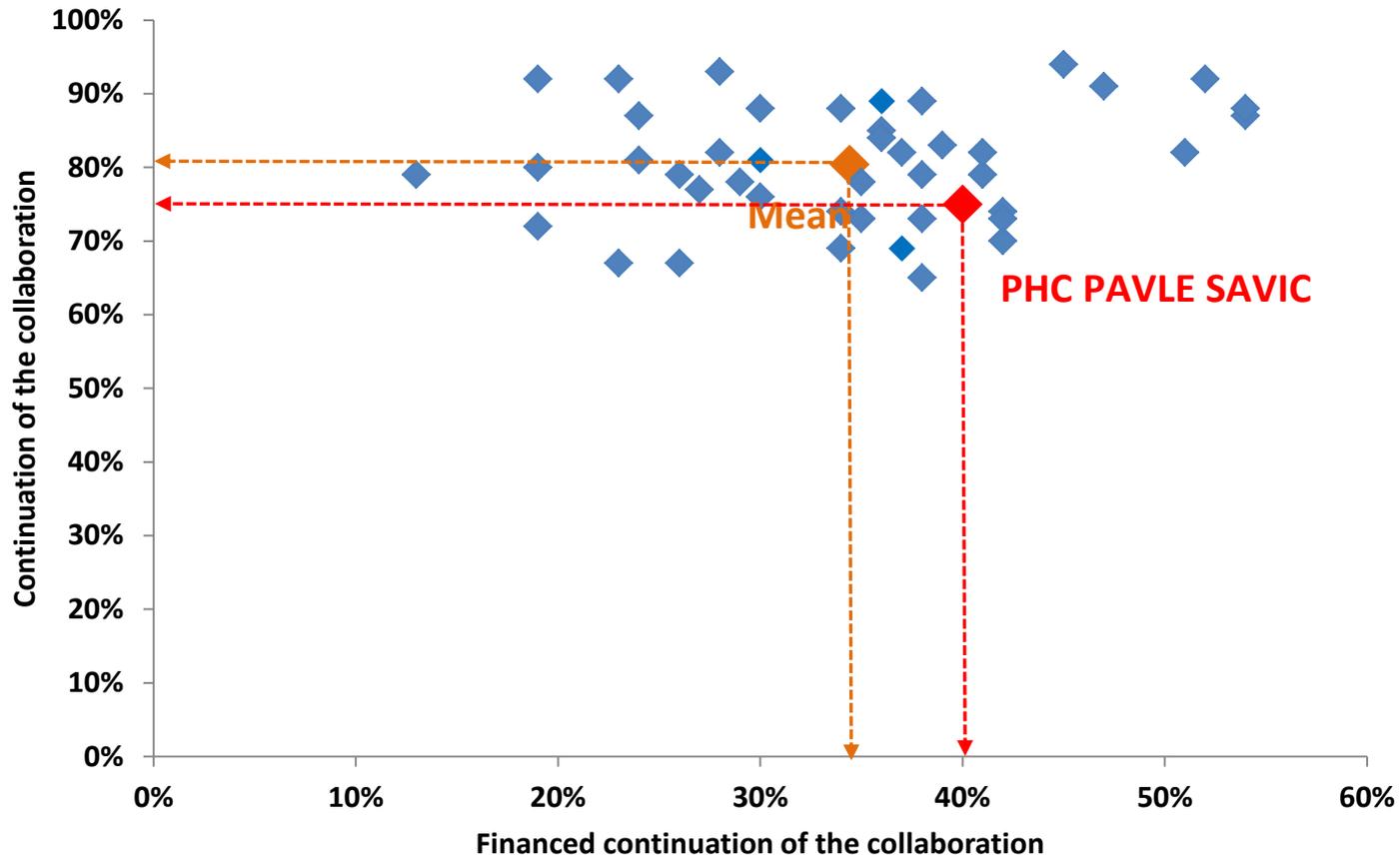
16% of copublications include at least 1 PhD or PostDoc

The average annual rate of publication for young researchers involved in the projects is **0,13**

The average annual rate of publication for young researchers involved in the publications is **1,00**

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER A PAVLE SAVIC PROJECT ?

CONTINUATION OF THE COLLABORATION (1/5) (COMPARISON BETWEEN 44 DIFFERENT BILATERAL PROGRAMS)



Continuation of the collaboration : **75% vs 80% mean**

Continuation of the collaboration with other sources of subvention : **40% vs 34% mean**

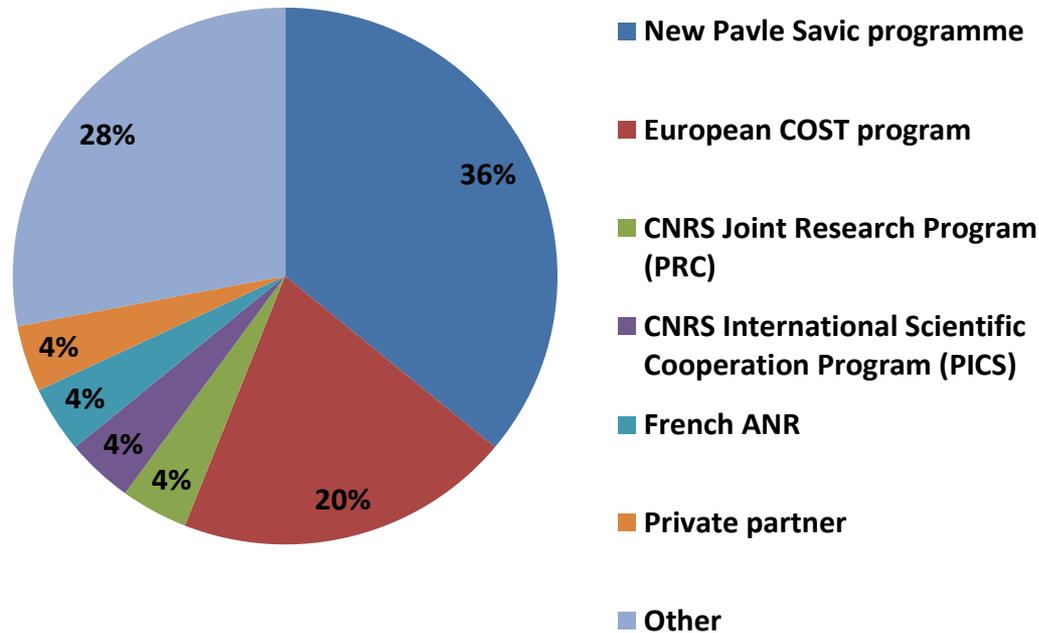
CONTINUATION OF THE COLLABORATION (2/5)

75% of the collaborations continued after the Pavle Savic project

Which activities?	
Collaborative research	70%
Co-publications	70%
Researchers' mobility	45%
Joint participation to conferences	43%
PhD mobility	30%
Co-organisation of scientific events	30%
Joint participation to PhD thesis	11%
Joint diplomas	2%
Other	11%

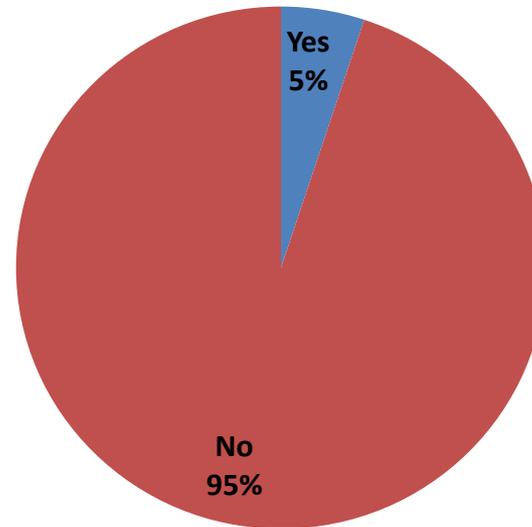
CONTINUATION OF THE COLLABORATION (3/5)

What kind of funded collaborations after the Pavle Savic project ?



CONTINUATION OF THE COLLABORATION (4/5)

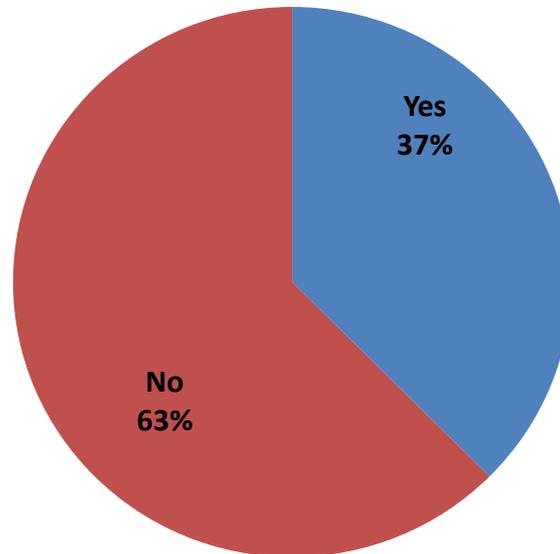
Has the Pavle Savic project led to the set-up of joint structures?



2 International Research Groups

CONTINUATION OF THE COLLABORATION (5/5)

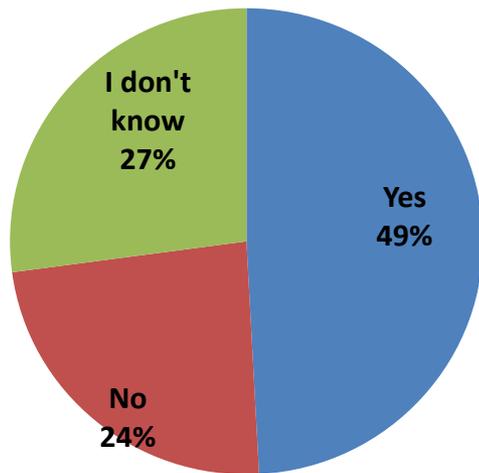
Has the French-Serbian collaboration involved new partners?



For a total of 36 new partners from 18 different countries

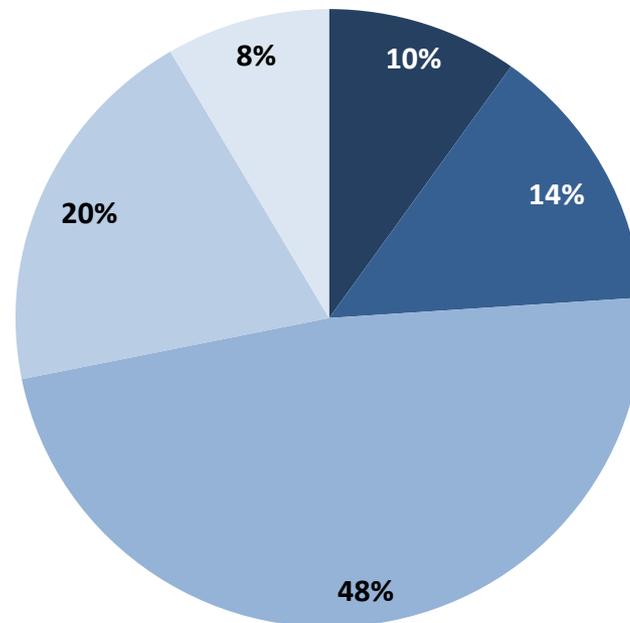
IMPACT ON YOUNG RESEARCHERS' CAREER (1/2)

Was french young researchers' career impacted by the Pavle Savic program ?



Data from 59 responses

Type of impacts

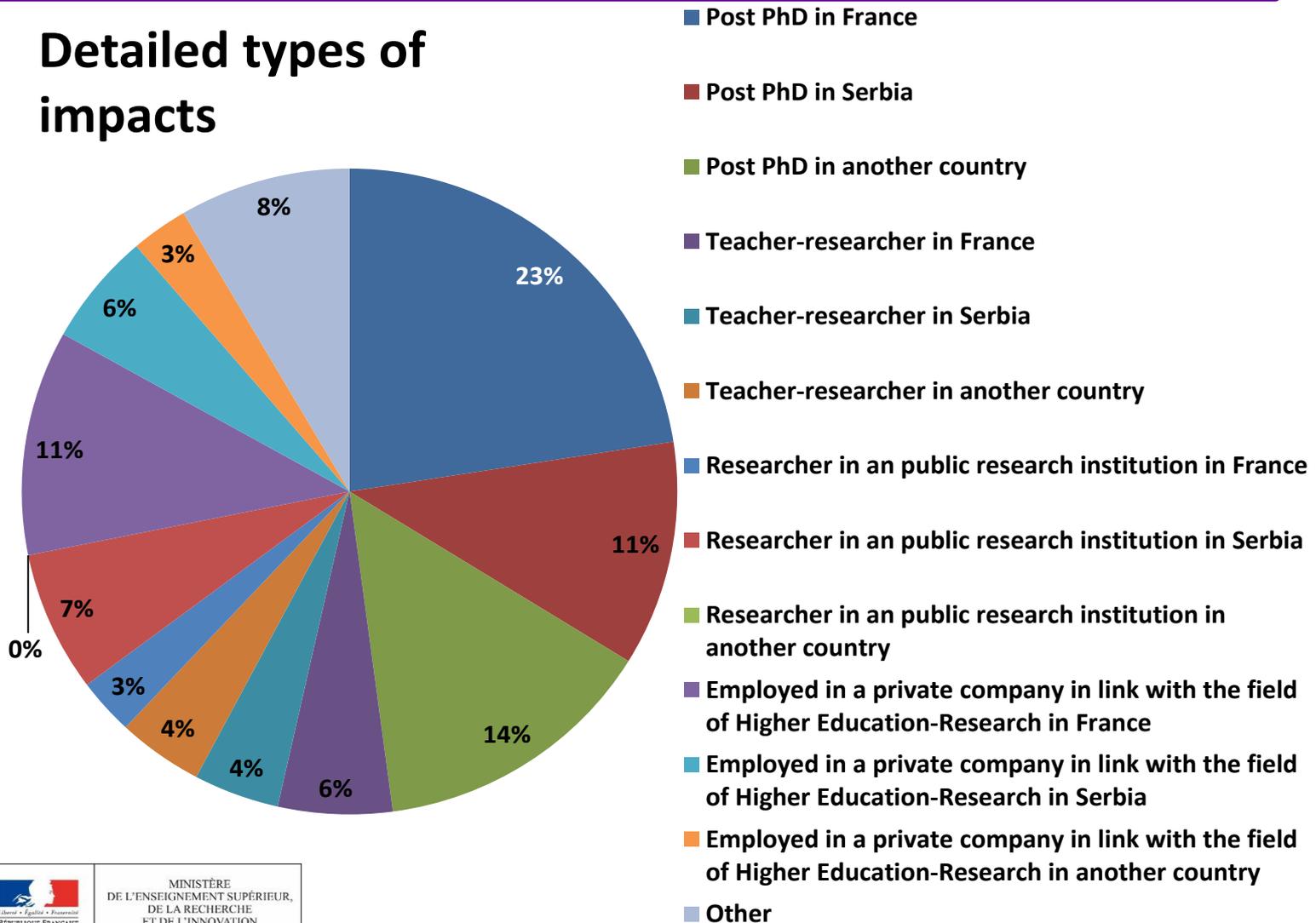


- Researcher in a public research institution (permanent position)
- Teacher/Researcher (permanent position)
- Postdoc/Teacher/Researcher (temporary position)
- Employed in a private company in link with the field of Higher Education - Research
- Other

Data from 29 positive responses for a total of 71 young researchers

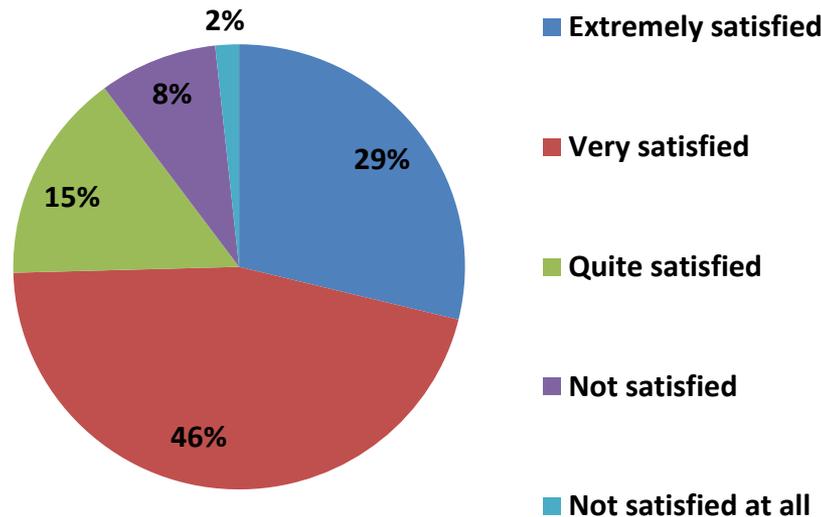
IMPACT ON YOUNG RESEARCHERS' CAREER (2/2)

Detailed types of impacts



GENERAL OPINION OF FRENCH PIS ON THE PROGRAM

90% of French principal investigators are satisfied



Data from 78 responses

GENERAL OPINION OF FRENCH PIS ON THE PROGRAM (2/3) POSITIVE COMMENTS

SURVEY OF 59 FUNDED PROJECTS



Strengths of this program	Number of occurrences (out of 357)	% (out of 59)
Fostering researchers' mobility	45	75%
Fostering an international research collaboration	45	75%
Simplicity of the project application process	36	60%
Helping to know the partner country	36	60%
Fostering exchanges enabling scientific production	35	58%
Fostering the training of young researchers	31	52%
Easy implementation (administrative flexibility)	24	40%
Sufficient financial means for the mobility costs	18	30%
Good scientific-added value on financial investment	18	30%
Financial autonomy towards your institution	16	27%
Sufficient amount of mobility time given to collaborate	15	25%
Sufficiently long duration of the projects	13	22%
Helpful to initiate other fundraising	11	18%
Transparency of the selection process	5	8%
Timetable for implementation	4	7%
No strenght point	3	5%
Other	2	3%
Total number of occurrences		

GENERAL OPINION OF FRENCH PIS ON THE PROGRAM (3/3) NEGATIVE COMMENTS

SURVEY OF 59 FUNDED PROJECTS



Weaknesses of this program	Number of occurrences (out of 149)	% (out of 59)
Insufficient financial means to cover a project	22	37%
Difficult to continue the collaboration	18	30%
Length of support too short	17	28%
Too short duration of mobilities	15	25%
Lack of transparency in the selection process	13	22%
Financial means insufficient for the expenditure of mobility (transport)	10	17%
Financial means insufficient for the expenditure of mobility (per diem)	9	15%
Too low number of mobilities	9	15%
No weakness	8	13%
Administrative heaviness of the missions management	8	13%
Heaviness of the process of applications	6	10%
Insufficient communication on the evaluation's results	4	7%
Financial autonomy towards your institution	1	2%
Timetable for implementation	1	2%
Flexibility of the program for actions co-financed with the partner	0	0%
Too long duration of mobilities	0	0%
Other	8	13%
Number of occurrences		

PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS

Preliminary conclusions suggest that the funding scheme has efficiently contributed to create (or to maintain) fruitful and long-term cooperation, despite the relatively low financial support, which is to be considered as “seed money”.

Regular increase in the number of applications since 2014

Implication of women PIs in the applications (26%) and the selection (26%) slightly better than the general mean (24%)

Implication of French young researchers in 67% of the projects identical to the general mean

Implication of French young researchers in the mobilities (31%) close to the general mean (33%)

75% of the projects led to a continued collaboration and 40% of them benefited from a sustained financing

57% of the PIs have already collaborated with Serbia and 85% of them have already benefited from a Pavle Savic program

17% of the applicants are under 40 years, a score lower than the general mean (22%)

43% of funded projects with no eligible co-publications

Only 13% of co-publications involve a french young researcher

Only 16% of the young researchers involved in the projects are also involved in the co-publications

Annual rate of publication of young researchers involved in the projects too low (0,13) even though this rate of publication for young researchers involved in the co-publications is correct (1/year)

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Promote newer cooperations between France and Serbia**
- **Encourage young PIs to apply to the program**
- **Encourage French PIs to increase the implication of young researchers in the co-publications**
- **Increase the number of projects leading to co-publications**
- **Consider a “Pavle Savic +” program to help PIs at the end of their financing to continue the collaboration and to apply to international programs ?**

French national ministries (MESRI / MEAE) will provide a complete analysis of the survey. It will be sent to the recipients of the funding and participants in this symposium.

CONTACTS

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Thank you for your attention