



Innovation Success Stories



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Many Hands Make Light Work

Despite a solid reputation in the field of transgenic animal modelling, success in the fiercely competitive EU research and development funding program had remained a challenge for PolyGene. Now, with Euresearch's assistance, the company has had an outstanding result: obtaining five international FP7 Health projects – research funding worth €3,3 million.

To be involved in one FP7 Health project is a great achievement. So, for PolyGene to have success in five is exemplary. These projects will focus on atherosclerosis, bone and cartilage disease and cancer. The company's work will include developing ways of dealing with pancreatic cancer (Project CAM-PaC), and understanding the processes of rare skeletal diseases so as to deliver new therapeutic targets (Project SYBIL). Much of PolyGene's research is undertaken by collaborating and co-developing with key researchers – such as those made possible through the FP7 Health programme.



Stefan Selbert
Executive Director Business
& Development
PolyGene

provides an opportunity “for small companies to generate innovative and novel products.” To be competitive, Selbert says, Euresearch was the ideal contact point for obtaining information and advice in the shortest time: “Euresearch was extremely helpful in assuring us that we were doing things right.”

PolyGene was supported through the process via Euresearch's

“We appreciate Euresearch being a strong and trustworthy partner, giving PolyGene significant support in becoming a strong coordinator of competitive projects.”

Supported Success

PolyGene Executive Director Stefan Selbert says pursuing FP7 funding is important as it integrated structure: The Enterprise Europe Network linked PolyGene with potential

ABOUT THE COMPANY

For twelve years PolyGene has provided transgenic animal model development services to a worldwide research clientele. The Zurich-based company is equipped with state-of-the-art equipment for its molecular- and cell-biology procedures, as well as for optimal animal care. Through its research and development program, PolyGene invents and develops the most advanced technologies in genetics and related fields. Through adapting prokaryotic antibacterial defense mechanisms, the company has developed tissue-specific/inducible-expression systems that offer gene targeting or transgenesis in mouse, rat or rabbit models.

PolyGene AG
Riedmattstr. 9, 8153 Rümlang
Phone: +41 (0)44 818 88 03
E-mail: stefan.selbert@polygene.ch
www.polygene.ch

partners; National Contact Points provided background information on grant text; and Regional Offices gave administrative support with forms, budgets, etc. These distinct roles provided PolyGene with flexible, tailor-made support. PolyGene's funding success cannot be pinpointed to one element, but Selbert says Euresearch's backing was a constant.

Less detail, more direction

A great deal of work goes into filtering EU-linked funding possibilities, and not every call is of interest or might have hurdles. Instead of trawling through the labyrinthine paperwork, Selbert would often field advice from Euresearch, regarding what avenues to pursue. Even with success achieved, Selbert remains linked to Euresearch's knowledge: “I am receiving the Euresearch newsletter to stay informed about what is going on regarding FP7 and Horizon 2020.”

COMPANY'S BENEFIT

Thanks to EEN support, PolyGene:

- managed to find new partners and funding schemes to increase its business
- received funding for five FP7 projects in an environment where obtaining funding for one is considered a great achievement.

EEN SUPPORT

EEN supported PolyGene by:

- organising platforms and events that proved perfectly suitable for PolyGene
- making PolyGene's innovation plans and technologies available to the public
- allowing PolyGene to find suitable partners to boost its endeavours.



Swiss guide to European research & innovation

Euresearch is the Swiss network mandated by the federal government providing targeted information, hands-on advice and transnational partnering related to European research and innovation programmes.

We inform you on the European Research and Innovation opportunities.

We advise you on how to submit a project and once the financing get, we support you with the negotiation and management of the project.

We connect you with Research and Innovation partners in Europe.

Euresearch
Enterprise Europe Network - Switzerland
Effingerstrasse 19
CH - 3008 Bern
Tel: +41 (0)31 380 60 00
E-mail: info@euresearch.ch
www.euresearch.ch
www.swisseen.ch

Our services are free of charge for the Swiss organisations.



EEN supports you in finding the right partners for innovation and business across academia and industry in over 50 countries in Europe and beyond. In Switzerland, access to EEN services is provided by Euresearch and Osec.

R&D support

- Information and advice to access EU research projects.

Innovation support

- Innovation cooperation opportunities – online database of 5000 technology offers and requests.
- Promotion of your technology profile – proactive search of cooperation partners in 50 countries.
- Partnering events: pre-arranged face2face meetings with potential cooperation partners.

Business support

- Information on foreign markets & regulations.

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