FRANCE – THAILAND

Scientific impact of the programme SIAM (2007-2020)

MESRI-DAEI / MEAE

2020

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

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GENERAL PRESENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME

Creation : 2007

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

Total budget (France + Thailand) : around 350 000 € / year

>> including budget from the French part : around 175 000 € / year

>> including budget from the Thai part : around 175 000 € / year

Average budget per project (France + Thailand) : around 17 500 € / year

Number of new funded projects per year : around 10

From 2007-2020 :

499 applications submitted

144 projects funded

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DATA SOURCES

Campus France (2007-2020)

- Information about the PHC Siam applications
- List of mobilities (from France to Thailand and from Thailand to France)

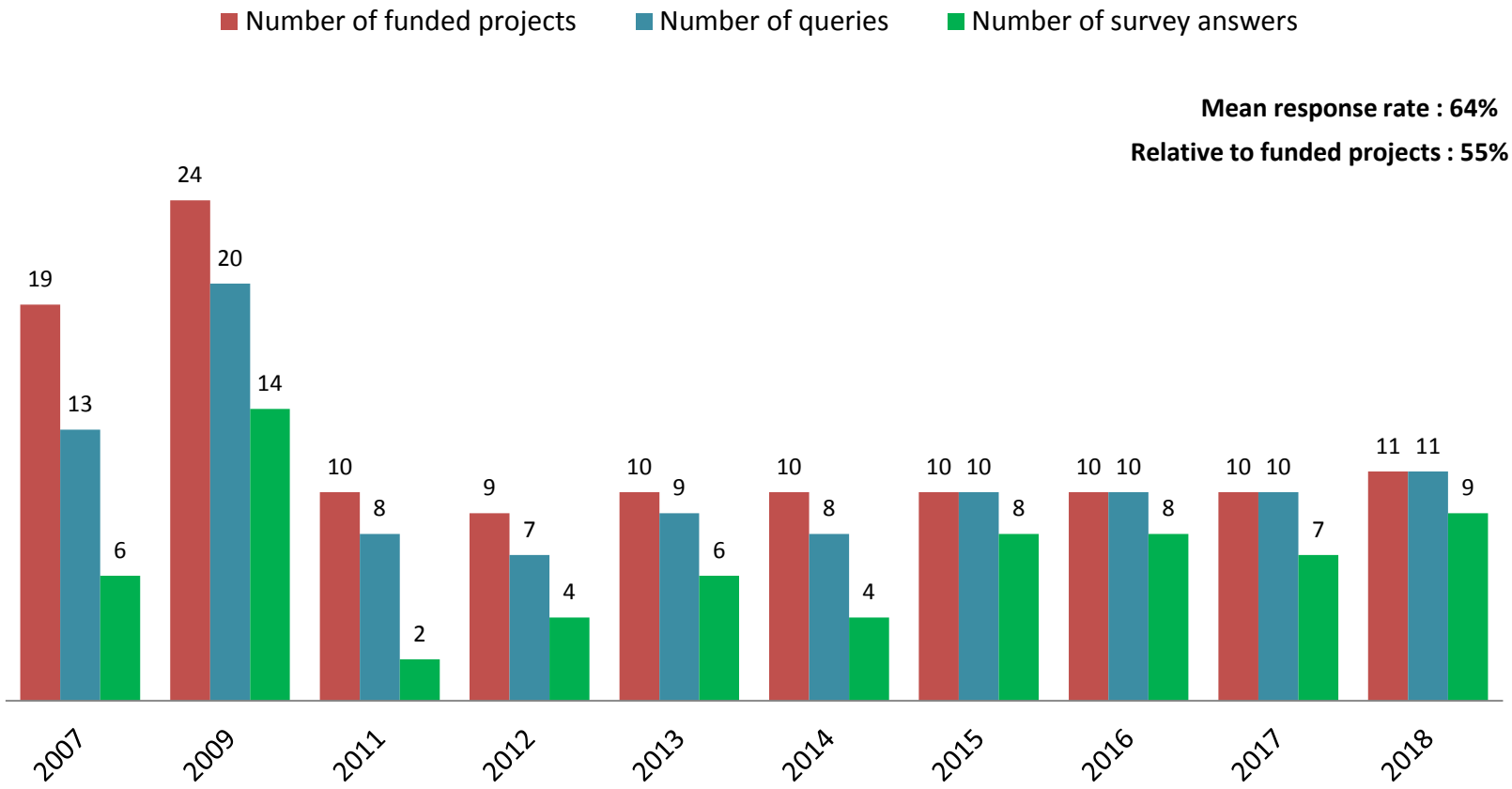
Survey (2007-2018)

- Target : French Principal Investigators of selected projects between 2007 and 2018
- Survey duration : 6 weeks between May and June 2020
- **64%** response ratio (68 respondents for 106 queries)

ANSWERS TO THE SURVEY

OK

Average response rate to the survey : 64 % (68 answers)



123 funded projects between 2007 and 2018, 106 valid email adresses

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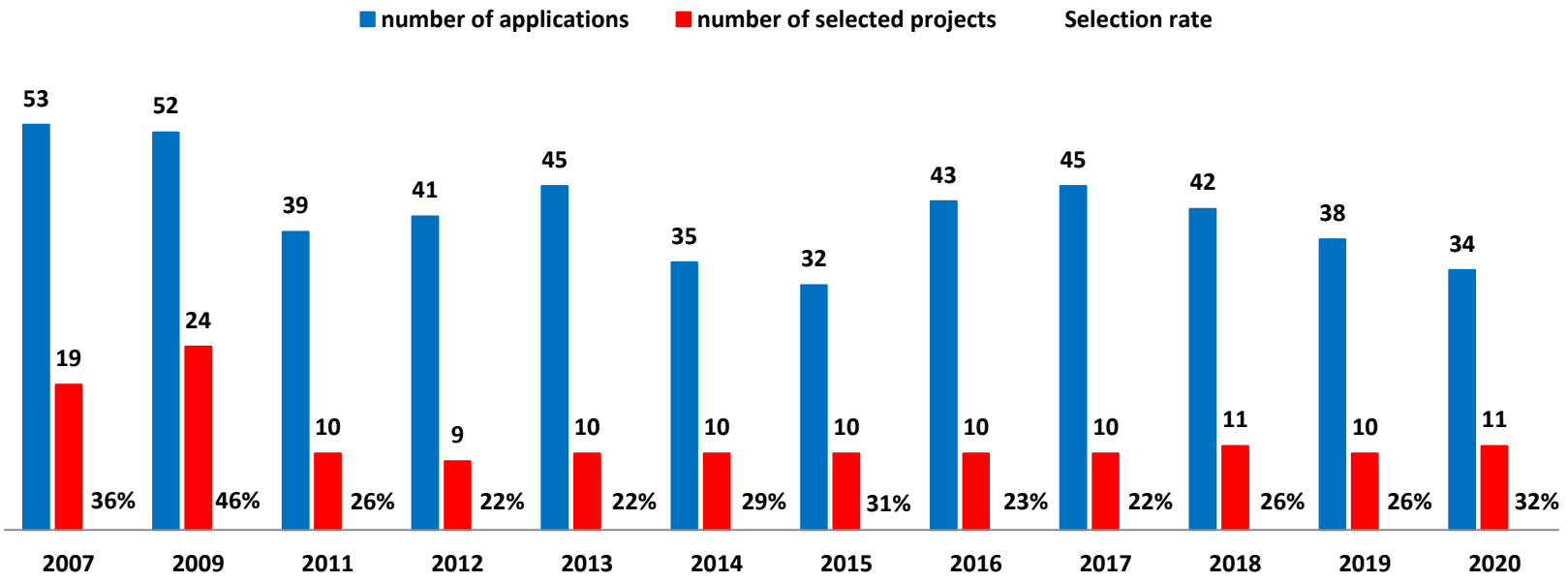
2007-2020
Key Points

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS AND SELECTION RATE

Average selection rate from 2007-2020: 29%



Persistent decrease in the number of applications since 2017

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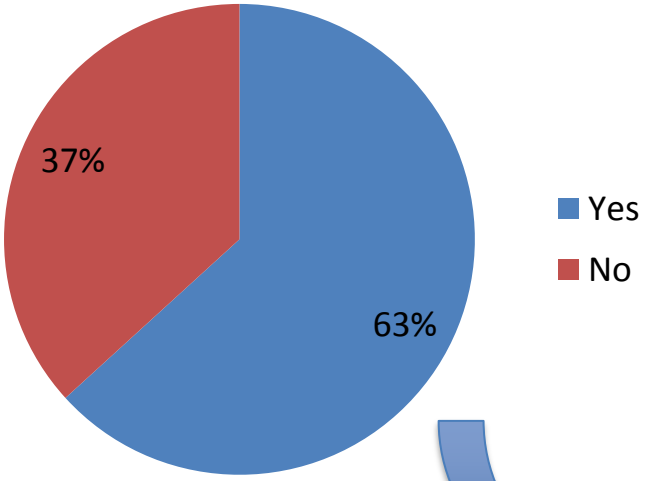
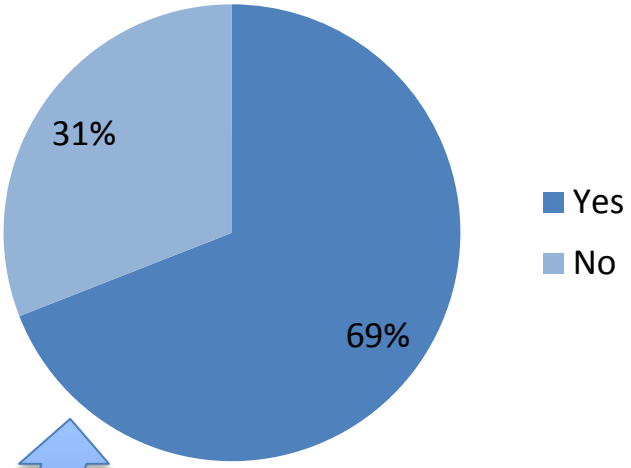
BEFORE THE SIAM PROJECT (1/2)

Did you already cooperate with Thailand in the past ?



Data from 68 responses

If yes, was it with the same partner?



Data from 42 responses

BEFORE THE SIAM PROJECT (2/2)

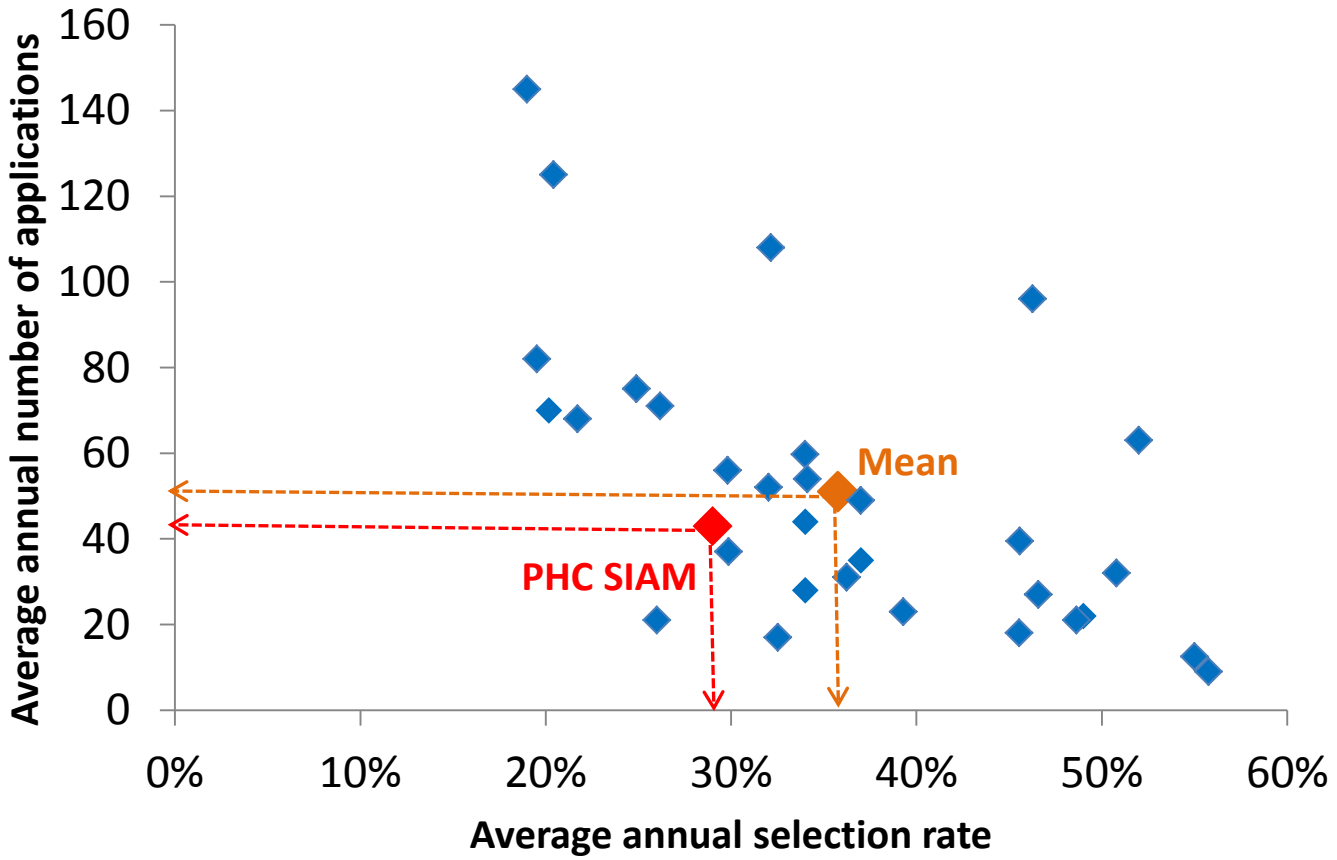
Data from 53 responses

With which scientific collaboration programme ?	
PHC Siam	28%
Co-funding with Thai institutions	25%
BGF (French government grants)	9%
PhD or postdoc fundings	8%
CNRS fundings	6%
Private sector	6%
Others	6%
ANR (French National Research Agency)	4%
BioAsie programme	4%
IFRD (International Foundation for Research and Development)	4%
European FP7	2%

Plus 50 previous cooperations based on other exchanges (co-publication, meetings, joint PhD…)

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS VS SELECTION RATE

(COMPARISON BETWEEN 32 DIFFERENT BILATERAL PROGRAMMES)



Average selection rate for 2007-2018 : 29% vs 36% mean
Average number of applications 2007-2018 : 43 vs 51 mean

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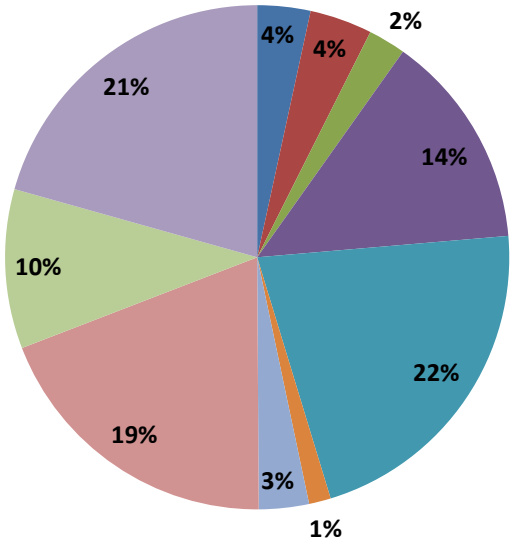
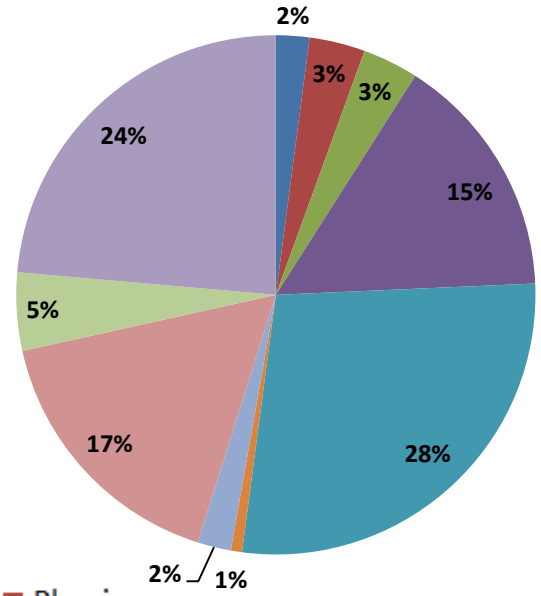
SCIENTIFIC DOMAINS OF PROJECTS

Number of applications : 499



Number of funded projects : 144



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

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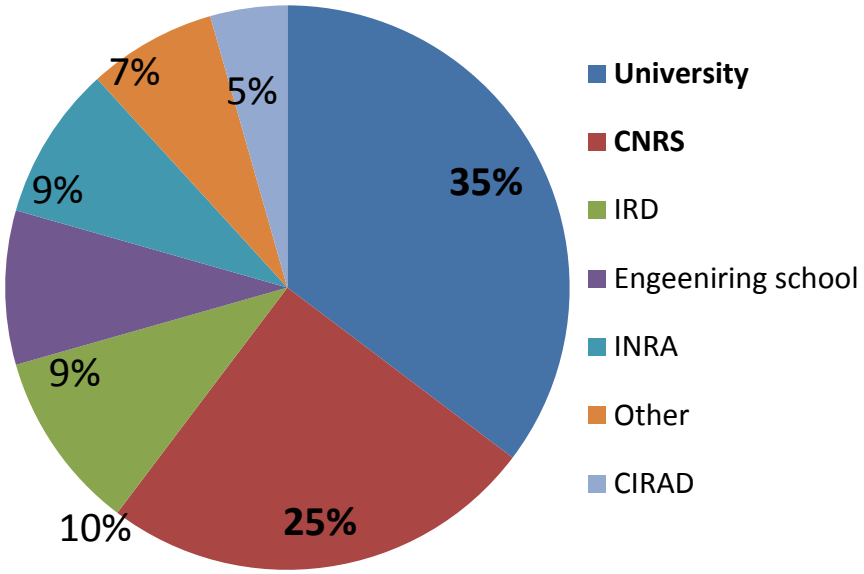
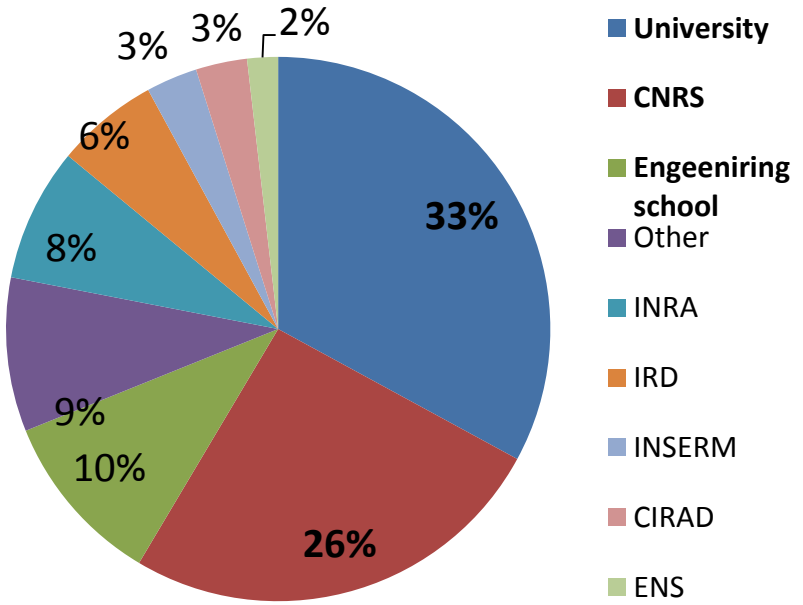
FRENCH PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

PI's employers



Laboratories authorities



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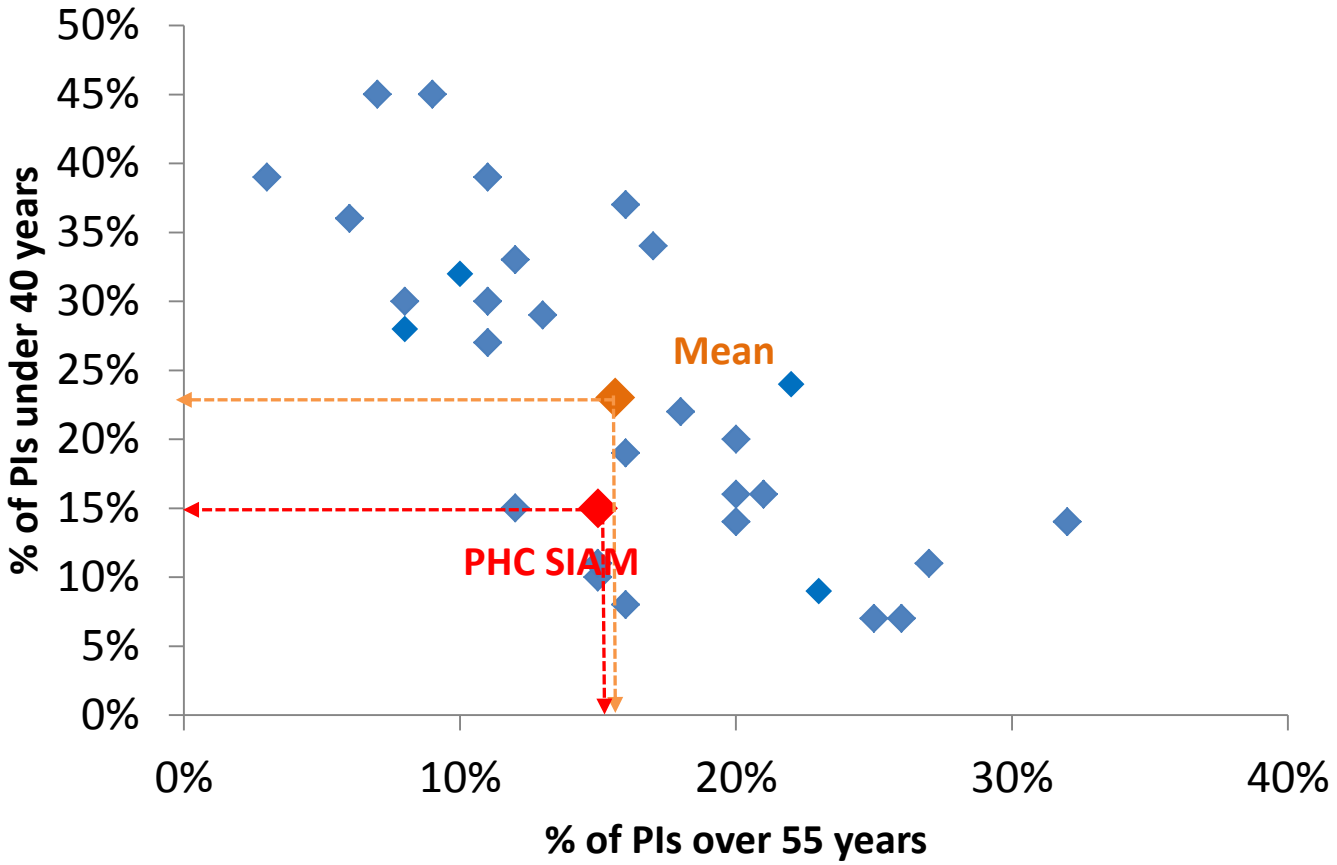
Data from 68 responses

AGE OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS (PI)
(COMPARISON BETWEEN 32 DIFFERENT BILATERAL PROGRAMMES)

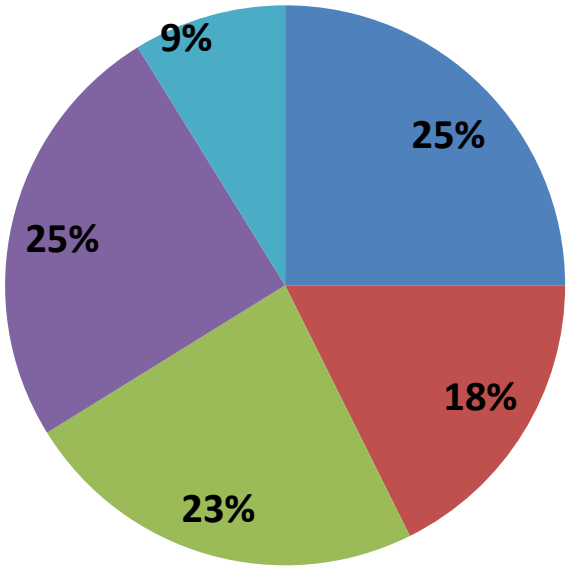


PIs under 40 years : 15% vs 23% mean
PIs over 55 years : 15% vs 16% mean
70% of the PIs are between 40 and 55 years

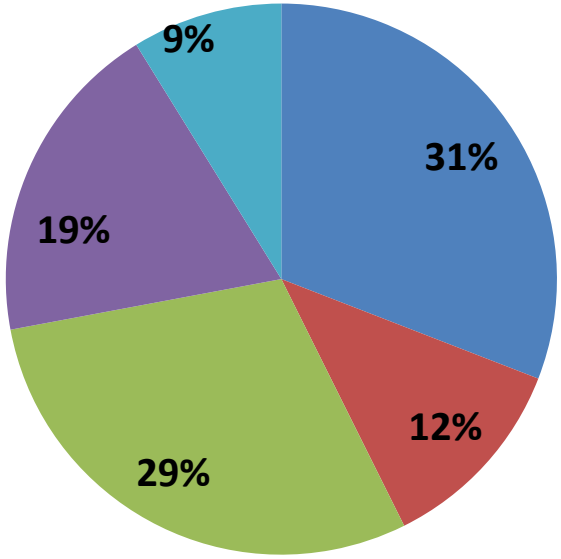
Data from 68 responses

FRENCH PIS (PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS) : STATUS

Previous professional status (at the beginning of the project)



Current professional status



Full professor
Assistant professor
Senior researcher
Junior researcher
Other

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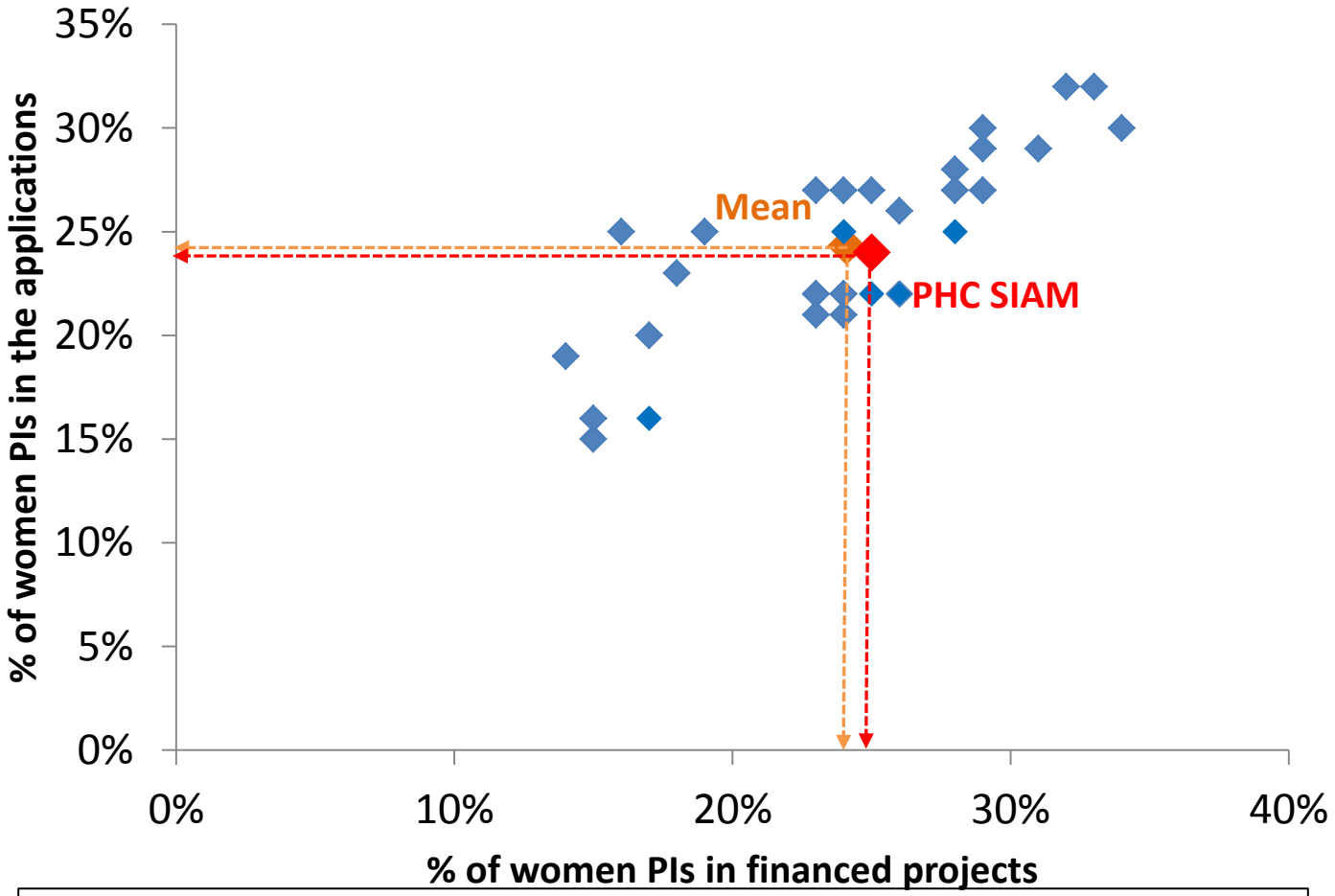
Data from 68 responses

IMPLICATION OF WOMEN (FRANCE)

(COMPARISON BETWEEN 32 DIFFERENT BILATERAL PROGRAMMES)



% of women PIs in the applications : 25% vs 24% mean

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

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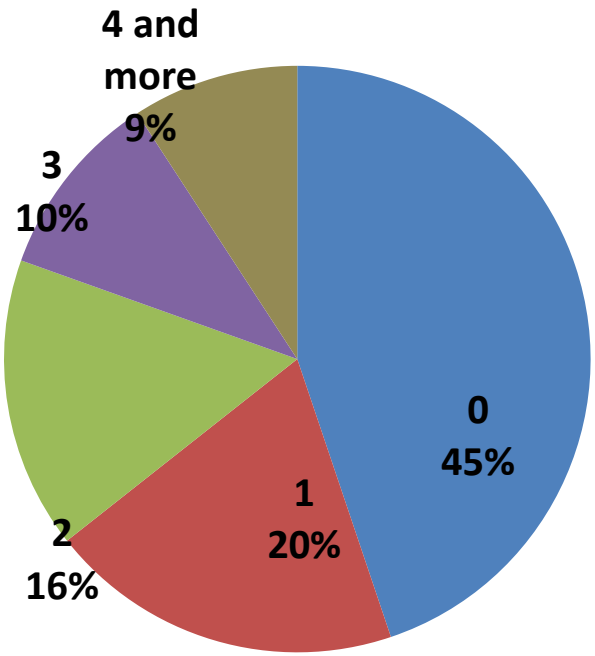
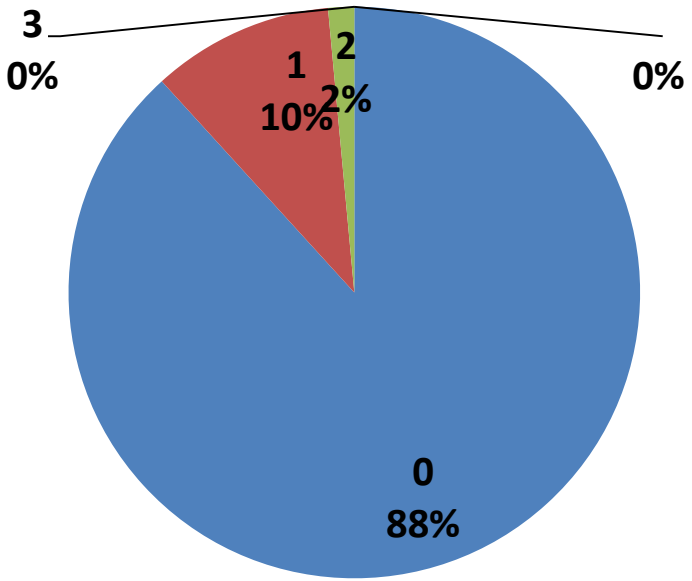
PARTICIPATION OF FRENCH YOUNG RESEARCHERS

Number of PhD students



43% of projects involve at least one PhD student

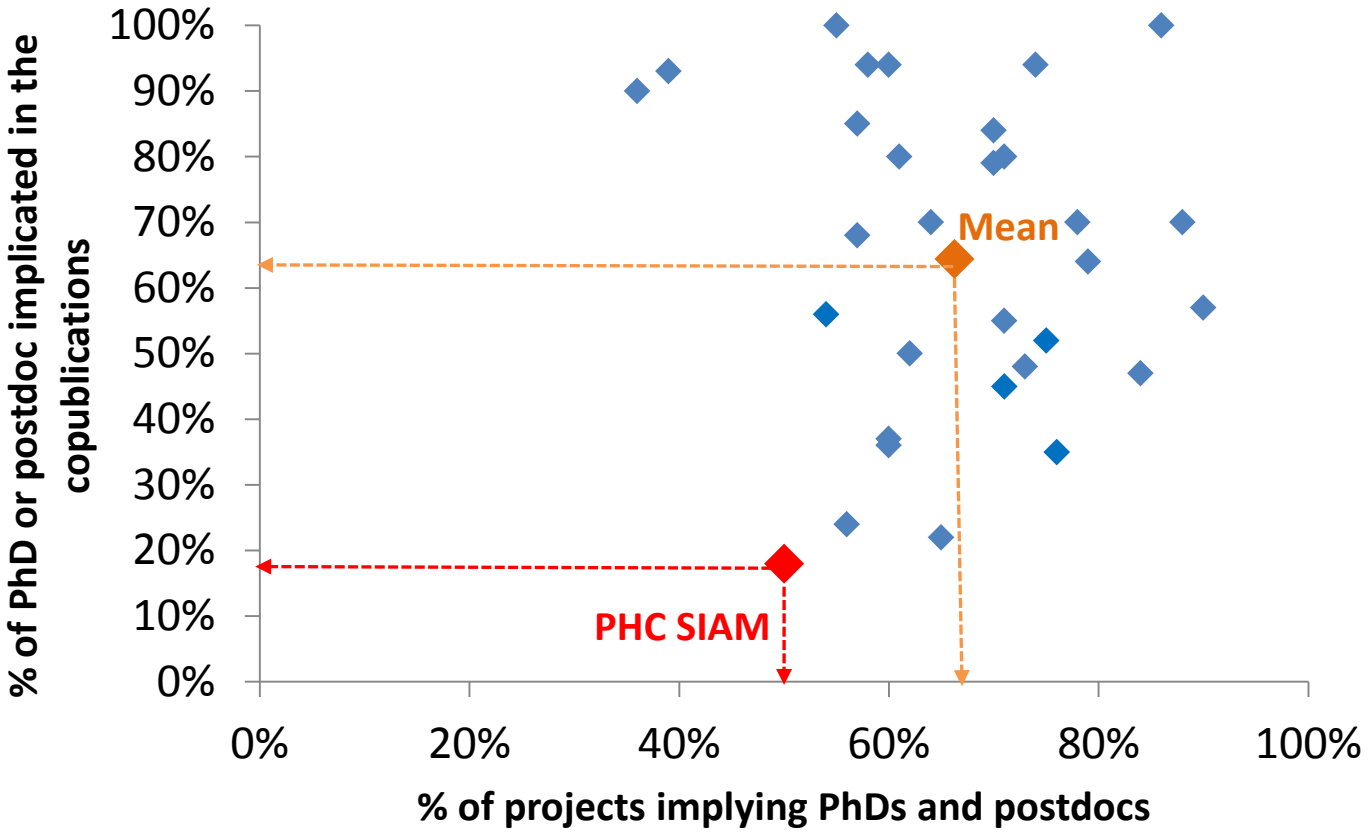
Number of post-doctoral researchers



12% of projects involve at least one post-doctoral researcher

Data from 67 responses

IMPLICATION OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS
(COMPARISON BETWEEN 32 DIFFERENT BILATERAL PROGRAMMES)



% of projects implying young researchers : 50% vs 67% mean
% of PhD or postdoc implicated in the copublications : 18% vs 64% mean

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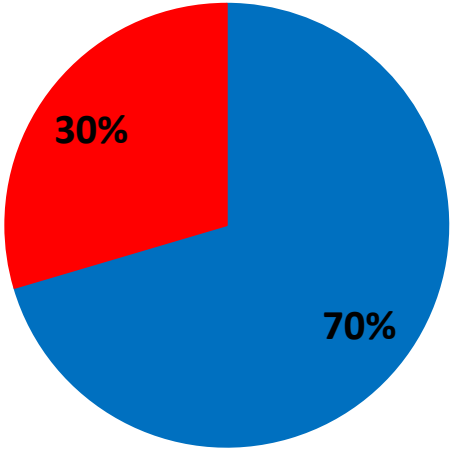
Data from 67 responses

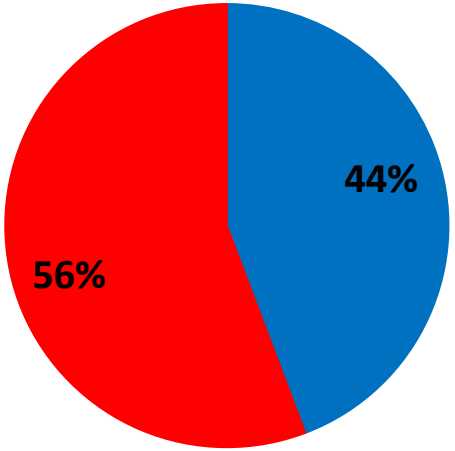
MOBILITY

MOBILITY : GENDER DISTRIBUTION

France → Thailand



Thailand → France



Men Women

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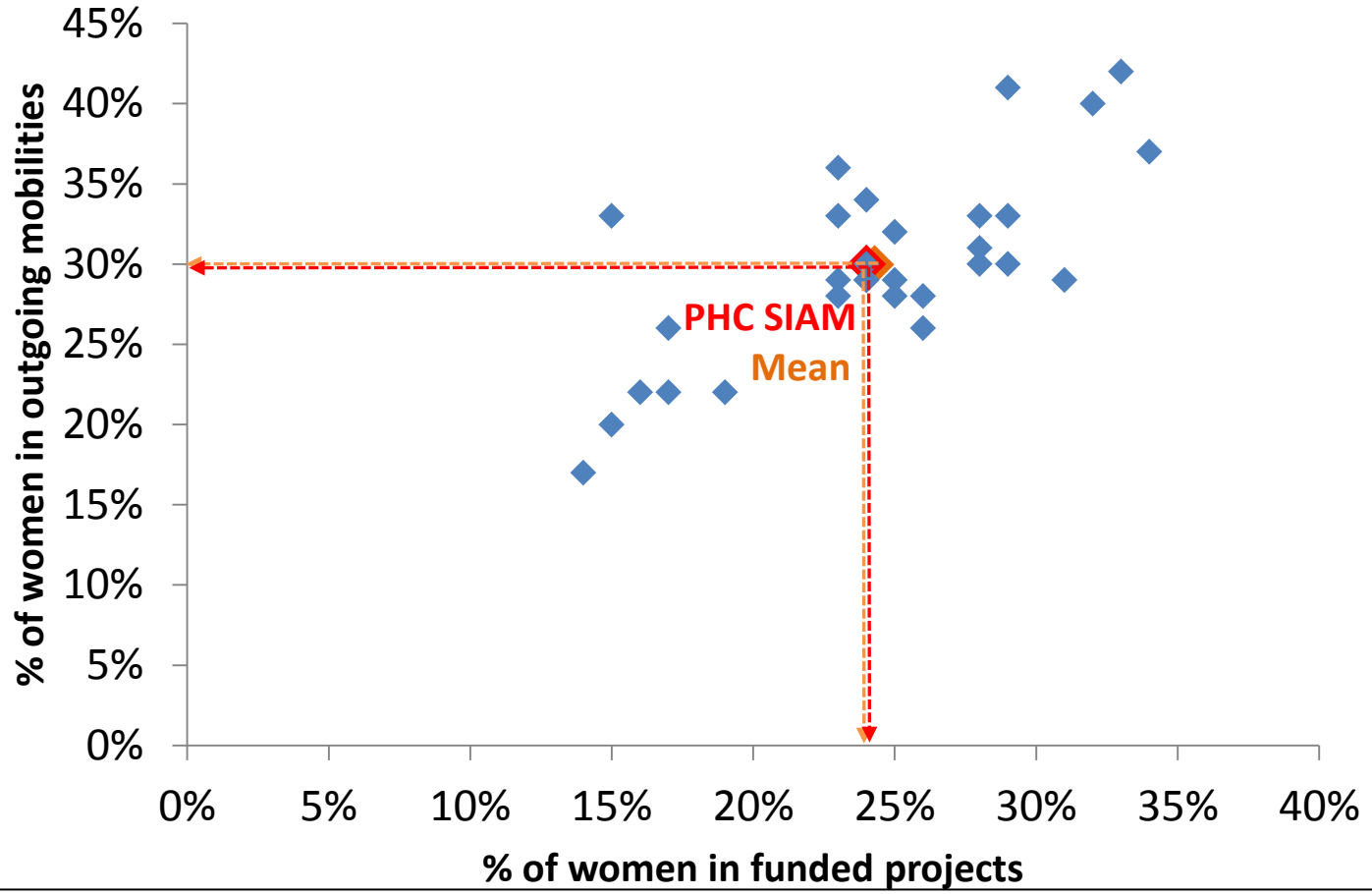
Data from 144 funded projects

WOMEN MOBILITY
FRANCE – THAILAND
(COMPARISON BETWEEN 32 DIFFERENT BILATERAL PROGRAMMES)



% of women researchers in the selected projects : 24% vs 24% mean
% of women researchers in outgoing mobilities : 30% vs 30% mean

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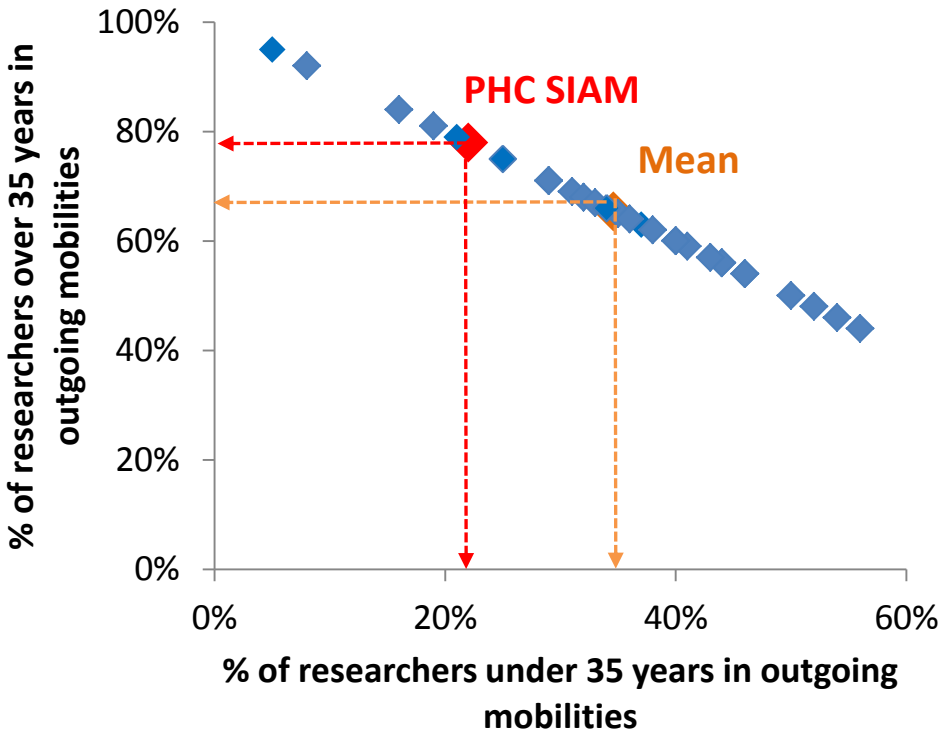
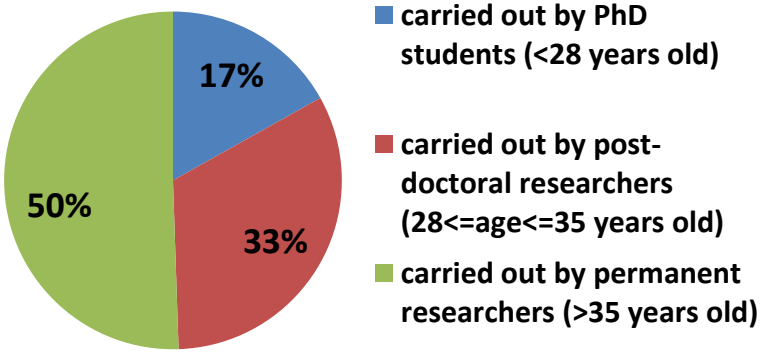
Data from 144 funded projects

YOUNG RESEARCHERS MOBILITY
FRANCE – THAILAND
(COMPARISON BETWEEN 32 DIFFERENT BILATERAL PROGRAMMES)

France → Thailand



Thailand → France



% of french young researchers in outgoing mobilities : 22% vs 35% mean
% of thai young researchers in incoming mobilities : 50%

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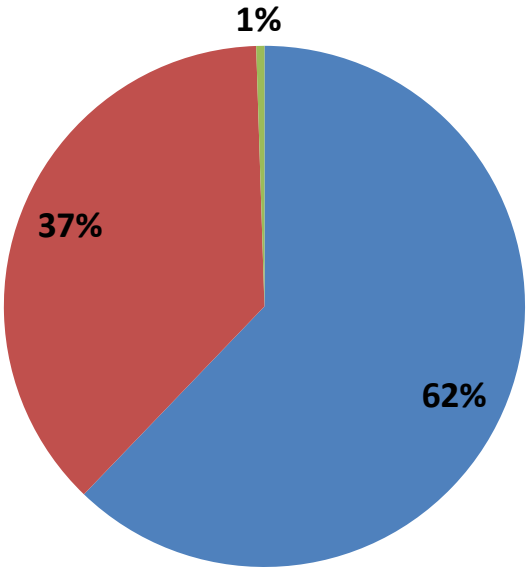
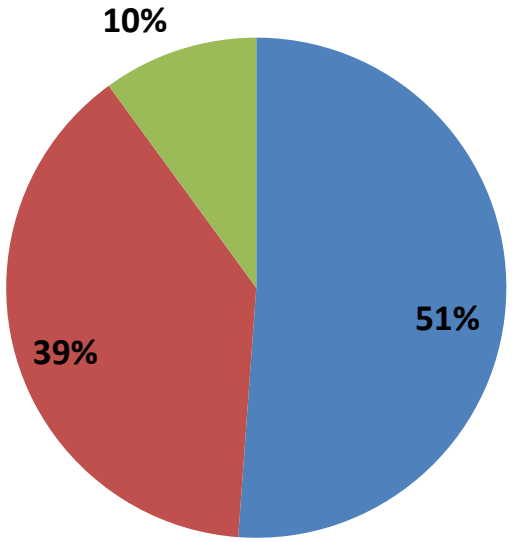
Data from 144 funded projects

MOBILITY : DURATION

France → Thailand



Thailand → France



< 15 days

between 15 days and 3 months

> 3 months

Data from 144 funded projects

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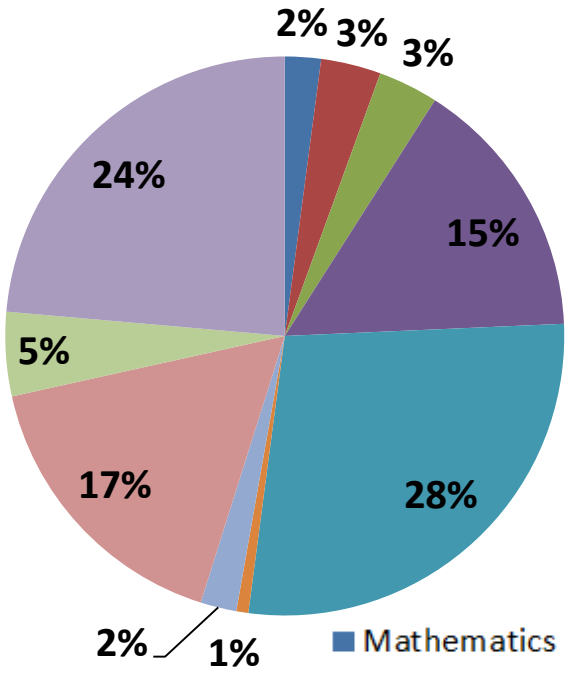
SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTION

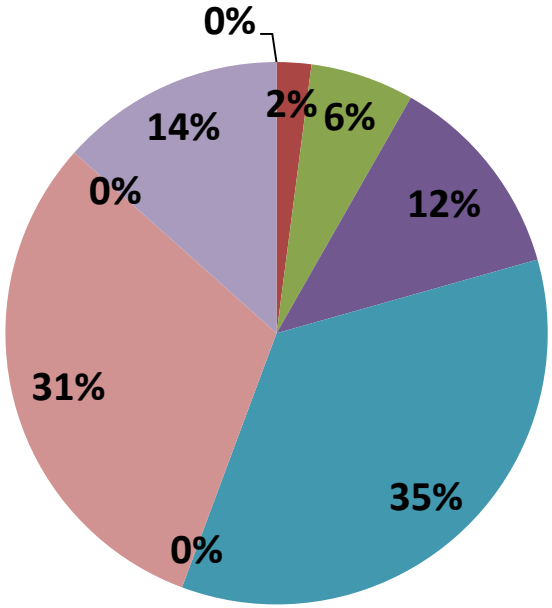
OK

SCIENTIFIC OUTPUT (1/2)

Number of funded projects : 144



Percentage of copublications (67 responses)



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

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SCIENTIFIC OUTPUT (2/2)

Data from 68 funded projects

	Number of financed projects in the survey	Average number of co-publications per project
Mathematics	2	0
Physics	1	2
Marine/Earth/Planet Sciences	3	2
Chemistry	11	1,1
Biology and Health	18	1,9
Humanities	1	0
Social Sciences	1	0
Engineering Sciences	10	3
Information Technology	4	0
Agronomy / Ecology	17	0,8
TOTAL	**68**	**1,4**

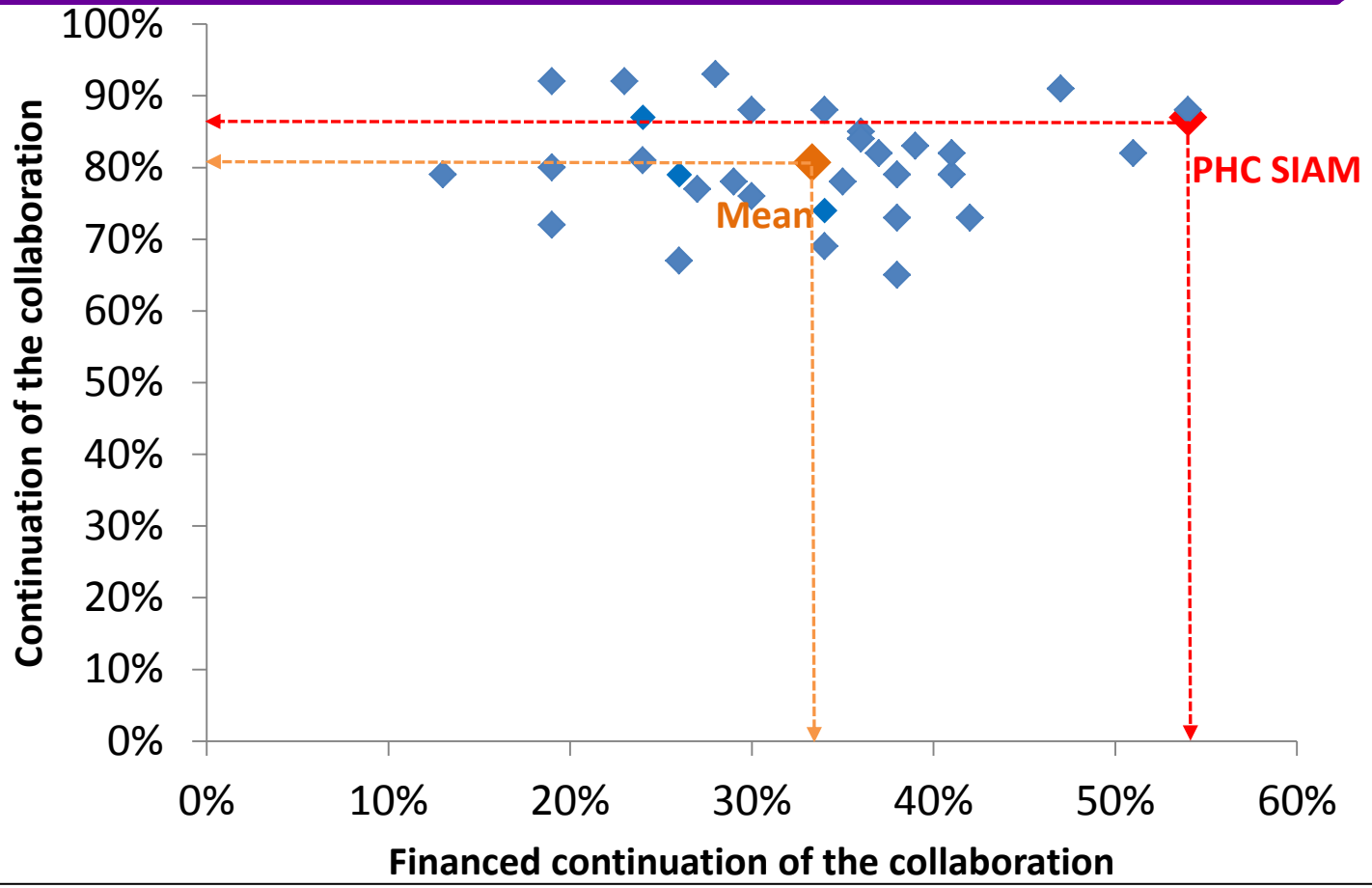
Overall average annual number of copublications per project : 0,70 vs 0,93 mean

34% of funded projects led to one co-publication at least

36% of copublications include at least 1 PhD or PostDoc

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER A PHC SIAM PROJECT ?

CONTINUATION OF THE COLLABORATION (1/5)
(COMPARISON BETWEEN 32 DIFFERENT BILATERAL PROGRAMMES)



Continuation of the collaboration : 87% vs 81% mean

Continuation of the collaboration with other sources of subvention : 54% vs 33% mean

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Data from 67 responses (continuation) and 54 responses (financing)

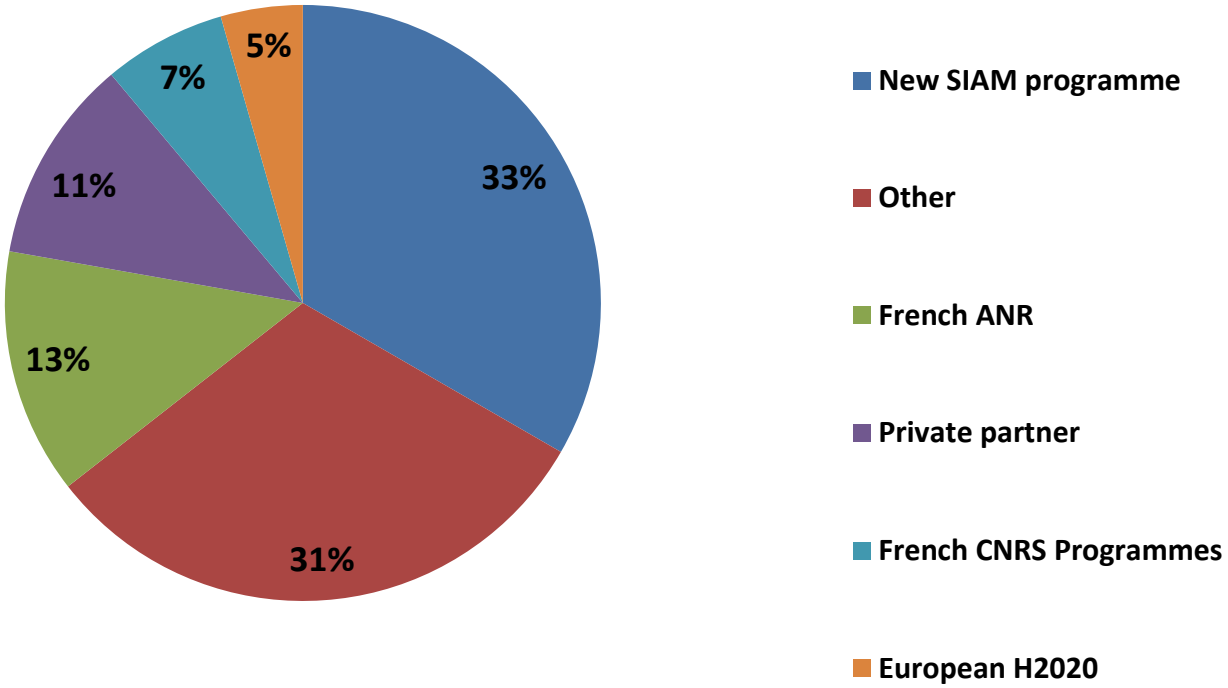
CONTINUATION OF THE COLLABORATION (2/5)

87% of the collaborations continued after the Siam project

Which activities?	
Co-publications	72%
Collaborative research	71%
Researchers mobility	52%
PhD mobility	43%
Joint participation to PhD thesis jury	38%
Joint participation to conferences	36%
Co-organisation of scientific events	29%
Others	17%
Joint diplomas (Master, PhD…)	5%

CONTINUATION OF THE COLLABORATION (3/5)

What kind of funded collaborations after the Siam project ?



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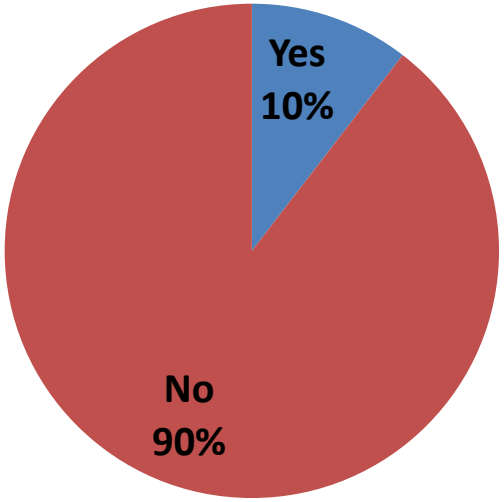
Data from 45 responses

CONTINUATION OF THE COLLABORATION (4/5)

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



2 International Mixed Laboratories (LMI)
1 CNRS International Research Network (IRN)
3 Associated Young Teams (IRD)

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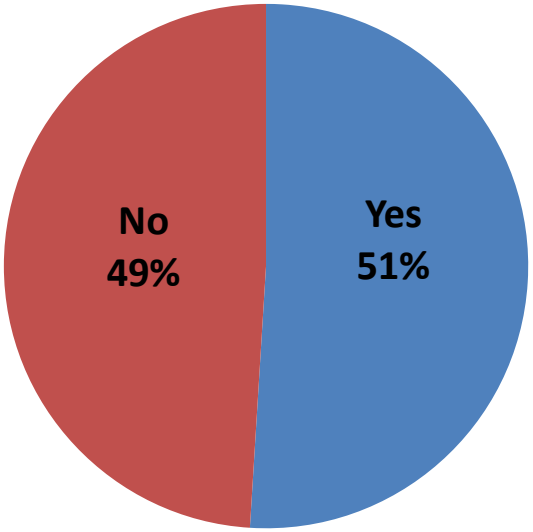
Data from 67 responses

CONTINUATION OF THE COLLABORATION (5/5)

Has the French-Thai collaboration involved new partners?



For a total of 38 new partners from 14 different countries

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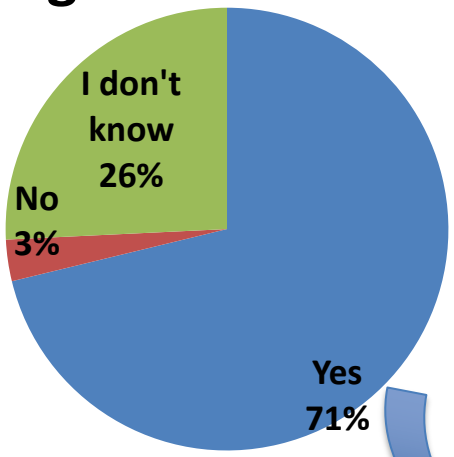
Data from 51 responses

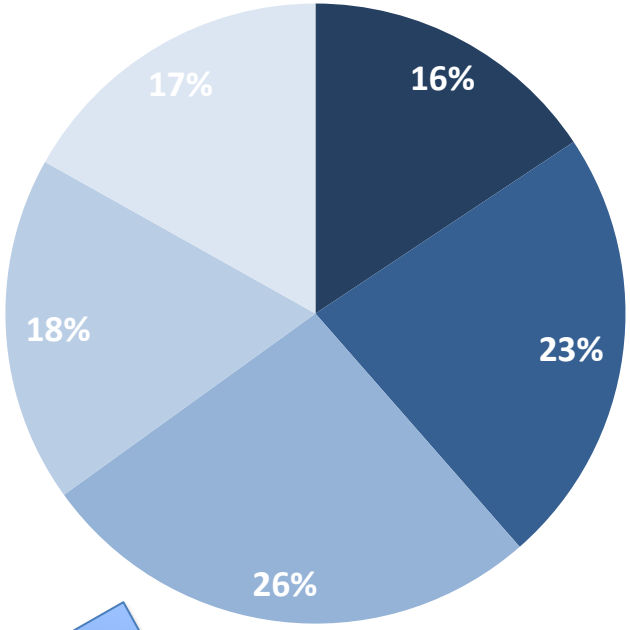
IMPACT ON YOUNG RESEARCHERS' CAREER (1/2)

Was young researchers' career impacted by the Siam programme ?



Data from 66 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 47 positive responses for a total of 83 young researchers

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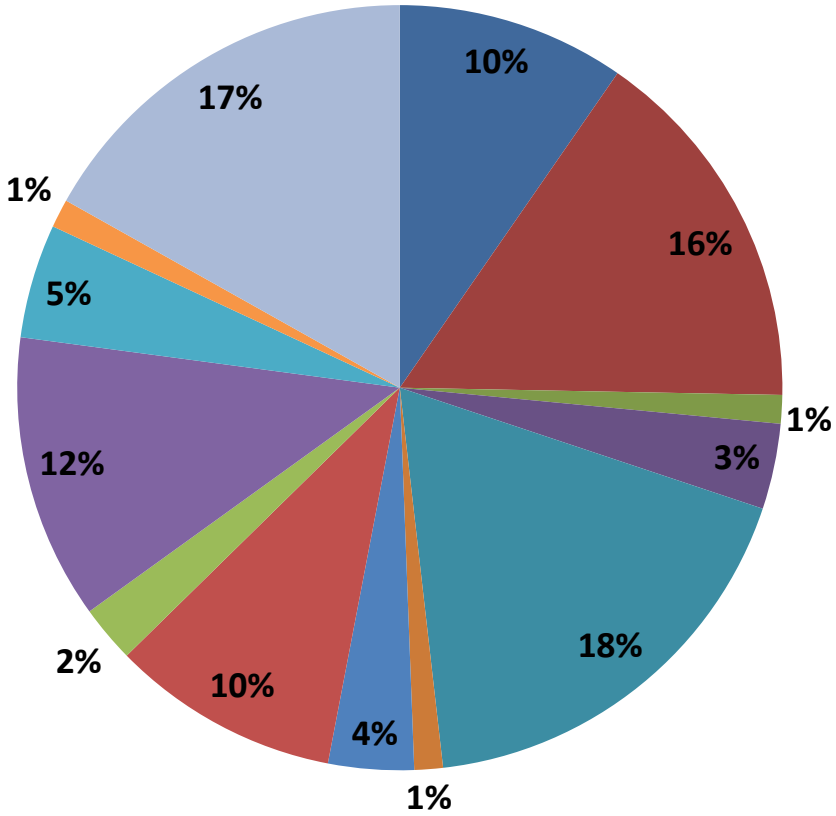
IMPACT ON YOUNG RESEARCHERS' CAREER (2/2)

Detailed types of impacts



- Post PhD in France
- Post PhD in Thailand
- Post PhD in another country
- Teacher-researcher in France
- Teacher-researcher in Thailand
- Teacher-researcher in another country
- Researcher in an public research institution in France
- Researcher in an public research institution in Thailand
- Researcher in an public research institution in another country
- Employed in a private company in link with the field of Higher Education-Research in France
- Employed in a private company in link with the field of Higher Education-Research in Thailand
- Employed in a private company in link with the field of Higher Education-Research in another country
- Other

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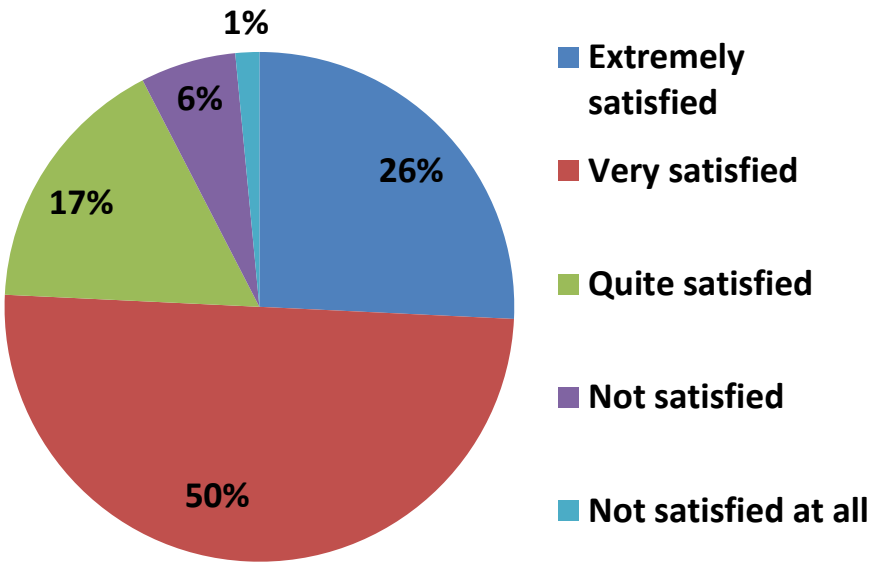
GENERAL OPINION OF FRENCH PIS ON THE PROGRAMME

93% of French principal investigators are satisfied



Data from 113 responses

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

SURVEY OF 66 FUNDED PROJECTS

Strengths of this program	Number of occurencies (out of 451)	% (out of 66)
Allows the mobility of the researchers	58	85%
Allows an international scientific collaboration	57	84%
Allows the training of the young researchers	47	69%
Allows exchanges which allow a scientific production	41	60%
Allows a knowledge of the country partner	38	56%
Simplicity of the application process	35	51%
Easy implementation (administrative flexibility)	34	50%
Financial means sufficient for the expenditure of mobility	27	40%
Good scientific appreciation compared to the financial investment	25	37%
Is used as starting for raising other funds	21	31%
Financial autonomy towards your institution	20	29%
Duration of mobilities adapted to the needs	17	25%
Sufficiently long duration of the projects	15	22%
Timetable for implementation	9	13%
Transparency of the methods for selecting the projects	5	7%
Others	2	3%
No strenght point	0	0%
Total number of occurencies	*451*	

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

SURVEY OF 66 FUNDED PROJECTS

Weaknesses of this program	Number of occurencies (out of 171)	% (out of 66)
No funding of the operation and capital expenditures	39	57%
Too short duration of the projects	31	46%
Difficult perpetuation of collaboration	20	29%
Lack of transparency on the methods of projects selection	15	22%
Too short duration of mobilities	12	18%
Other	9	13%
Financial means insufficient for the expenditure of mobility (per diem)	8	12%
No weakness	6	9%
Insufficient communication on the evaluation's results	6	9%
Financial means insufficient for the expenditure of mobility (transport)	5	7%
Too low number of mobilities	5	7%
Administrative heaviness of the missions management	5	7%
Heaviness of the process of applications	3	4%
Flexibility of the programme for actions co-financed with the partner	3	4%
Financial autonomy towards your institution	2	3%
Timetable for implementation	2	3%
Too long duration of mobilities	0	0%
Number of occurencies	*171*	

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".

Participation of women PIs in the mean but could be encouraged
Mobilities of young Thai researchers (50%)
High percentage of new fundings after a Siam Project (54%)

Siam programme initiates only 37% of new collaborations
66% of funded projects with no co-publications and scientific production below the mean (0,70 vs 0,93)
Insufficient implication of french young researchers in the scientific production (18% vs general mean 64%) and outgoing mobilities (22% vs general mean 35%)
Only 36% of co-publications include at least one young researcher
Tow low implication of both PhDs (43% vs general mean : 65%) and postdocs (12% vs general mean : 23%)
Quite low percentage of young PIs (15%) as compared to the mean of 23%

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Promote more new cooperations**
- **Promote co-publications**
- **Encourage PIs to increase the implication of young researchers in the publications and the mobilities**
- **Increase the participation of young researchers in the projects**
- **Encourage women researchers to apply**
- **Encourage young PIs to apply**
- **Consider a “SIAM +” programme to help PIs at the end of their financing to develop a European application ?**

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.

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Thank you for your attention