

REPORT TO THE WALLOON PARLIAMENT AID FOR RESEARCH IN THE WALLOON REGION



The Belgian Court of Audit audited the funding of applied research projects carried out by companies, universities and other tertiary education facilities, and approved research centres in Wallonia, focussing on the guiding principles for granting aid, the steering of the policy and the quality of the operational management of aid.

The audit identified weaknesses that may reduce the policy performance. The objectives pursued do not include measurable target values, which makes it impossible to assess the overall policy performance. The strategy of targeting aid reflects the government's difficulty of setting priority topics and ceasing to fund certain projects. The objective of research valorisation is approached broadly and does not impose many constraints on research units in terms of socio-economic impact for Wallonia.

The steering of the policy is based on resources rather than performance and results, and is not supported by any effective monitoring and evaluation system.

The administration's operational management of files complies with the regulations but can be improved nonetheless.