

## A FEW FIGURES FOR THE FIRST TWO FORUMS IN 2012 AND 2013:<sup>135</sup>

### SELECTION OF PROJECTS

	2012 forum	2013 forum
APPLICATIONS	98	118
CANDIDATES CHOSEN AT THE PRE-SELECTION STAGE	60	49
START-UPS PRE-SELECTED FOR TRAINING	34	29
START-UPS SELECTED FOR "PITCHING DAYS"	20	20

### PROFILE OF PROJECTS PRESENTED

	2012 forum	2013 forum	Total
TOTAL AMOUNT SOUGHT	€10.5	€6.2	€16.7
BUSINESSES IN DEVELOPMENT PHASE	12	9	21
BUSINESSES IN COMMERCIALISATION PHASE	8	11	19
JOBS ULTIMATELY CREATED	82	109	191

### TO WHAT EXTENT CAN THIS GOOD PRACTICE BE ADOPTED IN OTHER CROSS-BORDER TERRITORIES?

Financial support to SMEs is a problematic area for cross-border cooperation programmes since the extremely strict State aid regulations greatly restrict businesses' abilities to benefit from European funds. However, public stakeholders (territorial authorities, investment banks, consular chambers, etc.) wish to address this issue in their strategic thinking and operational projects. Private equity funds are therefore emerging on all of the EU's borders as a possible solution to support (through financial, tax and legal expertise, etc.) and provide private finance for economic activity in cross-border territories.

It should be noted that a similar initiative has been implemented on the French-Belgian border, with co-financing from the INTERREG IV A France-Wallonia-Flanders programme: the French-Walloon Business Angels Platform.

### POUR PLUS D'INFORMATIONS:

<http://www.seed4start.org/>

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<sup>135</sup> Source : <http://www.seed4start.org/fr/entrepreneurs>