

A UNIQUE EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM

FOCUS-4R brings together **11 academic and non-academic partners** from:

Reunion Island (FR) • Canary Islands (ES)
• Madeira (PT) • France • Portugal •
Spain • Norway • Netherlands

Through 90 secondments, mentoring programmes and workshops, the project fosters brain circulation and long-term collaboration.



EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Strengthened R&I human capital
- Balanced talent circulation
- Increased scientific excellence
- Stronger academia–industry collaboration
- Improved employability and sustainable careers



FOSTERING OUTERMOST REGIONS CAPABILITIES IN R&I AND UPGRADING SKILLS

COMPLYING WITH **4R PRINCIPLES**

Replacement, Reduction,
Refinement, Responsibility



F^{4R}CUS-4R

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Coordinated by CYROI
focus-4r-project.eu

CONTEXT & CHALLENGES

Bridging the R&I Gap for Outermost Regions

The EU Outermost Regions (ORs) - Reunion Island, Canary Islands and Madeira - possess strong potential in biomedical Research & Innovation, particularly in :

- **Natural products**
- **Tropical diseases**
- **Chronic and metabolic diseases**

However, structural barriers persist:

- **Remoteness** Logistical complexities and isolation from advanced scientific networks.
- **Brain Drain** Shortage of trained professionals and youth unemployment reaching 40% in Reunion Island and exceeding 50% in the Canary Islands.
- **Infrastructure Gaps** Limited access to advanced scientific networks, innovative funding models, and specialized intersectoral partnerships.

As a result, these regions struggle to build a competitive biomedical ecosystem capable of generating sustainable jobs and innovation.

FOCUS-4R is here to reverse this trend, creating a relevant path for testing emerging biomedicines while boosting regional autonomy and competitiveness.

FOCUS-4R

A STRATEGIC RESPONSE

FOCUS-4R strengthens Research & Innovation capacities in Outermost Regions through:

- Cross-sectoral mobility
- Advanced training
- Knowledge transfer
- Mentoring programmes
- Entrepreneurship development



By integrating emerging biomedical technologies complying with the 4R principles (**Replacement, Reduction, Refinement, and Responsibility**), the project builds a sustainable and ethical innovation pathway.

THE 4R PRINCIPLES



Replacement

Promoting New Alternative Methods (NAMs) to reduce animal experimentation



Reduction

Optimizing experimental design to minimize the number of animals used.



Refinement

Improving procedures to reduce suffering and enhance scientific quality.



Responsibility

Ensuring ethical standards, transparency and regulatory compliance to improve scientific quality.