



Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia

November 2024

About the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia

Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia (SFRS) is a public organization established in 2019 by the RS Government based on the Law on the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia.

SFRS:

- Programs - expected to provide **high-level research, competitiveness at the international level, innovative results, and relevance to society in general.**
- **Supports fundamental and applied scientific research** and their potential for **commercial** utilization.
- Project evaluation - **competitiveness, transparency, independence and objectivity.**
- Procedures are **aligned with the procedures followed by other funding agencies within EU.**

#trustinscience

SCIENCE FUND TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT ON RESHAPING SCIENCE IN SERBIA



Fostering research excellence



New capital equipment for scientific research organizations



Competitive research funding



Strengthening of researcher's capacities



Empowering young researchers and postdocs



Contribution to research policy making at international level



Support of the development of artificial intelligence



Encouraging multidisciplinary collaborations



Connecting Serbian science with scientific Diaspora



Supporting projects which address societal challenges

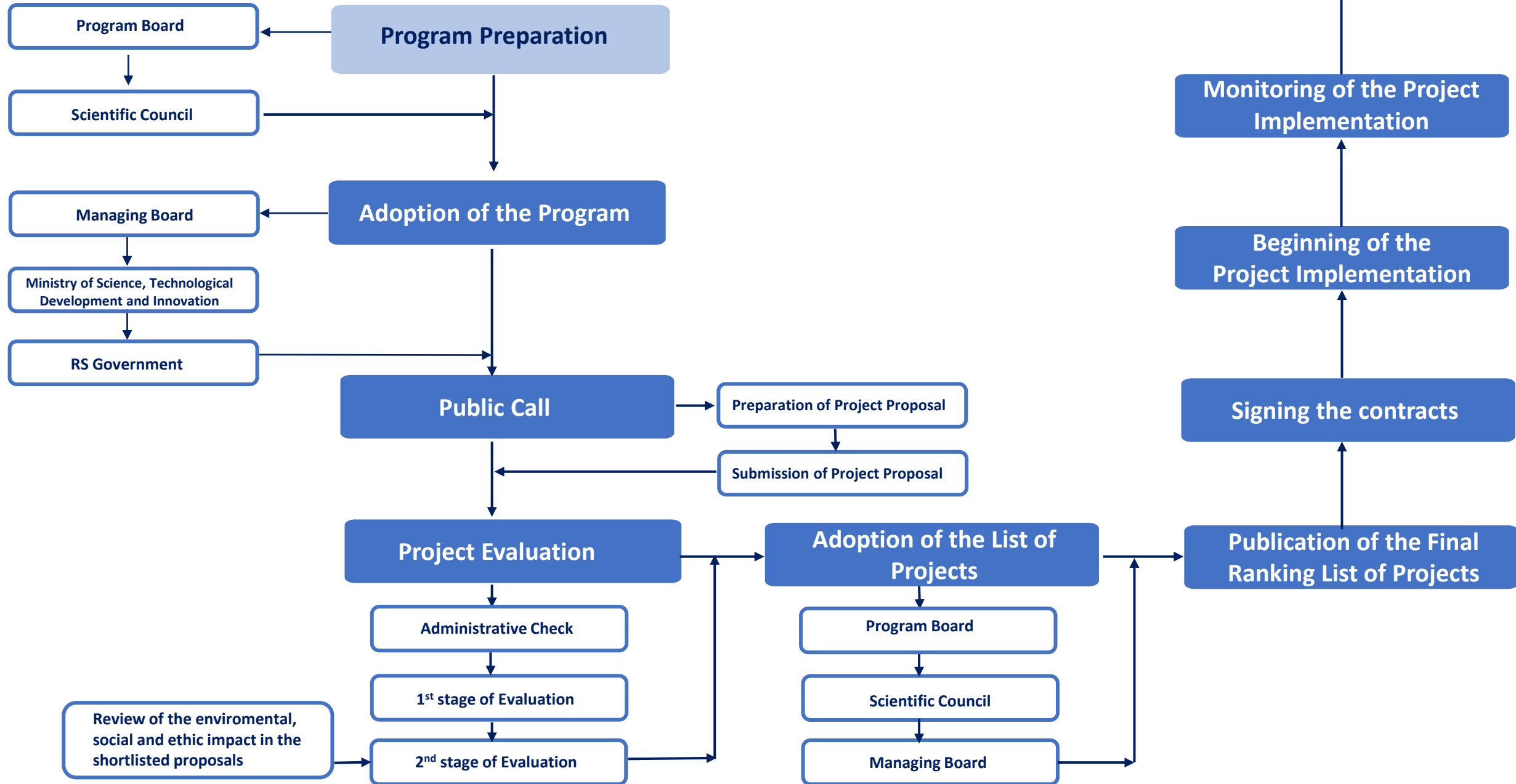


Additional funds for scientific work, publications, international collaboration



Greater visibility of researchers and their work in the public

PROGRAM CYCLE



SELECTION PROCEDURES

Administrative check of project proposals is conducted by SFRS team.

2-stage evaluation process - **international experts:**

Stage 1: International peer reviewers

Stage 2: Expert panels (international experts and diaspora)

Final Ranking List: proposed by Expert panels, validated by Scientific Council and adopted by the Managing Board.

Objectivity and transparency of process:

- Evaluation results are sent to the applicants,
- **SFRS publishes Final Ranking list and all results** on its website and social networks.

Project evaluation is based on:

Excellence



Impact



Implementation



EXPERTS FOR PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION

Our peer reviewers are international experts from 63 countries, and we continuously keep expanding our pool of experts for new programs in 2024.

1300+

Total number of peer reviewers

60+

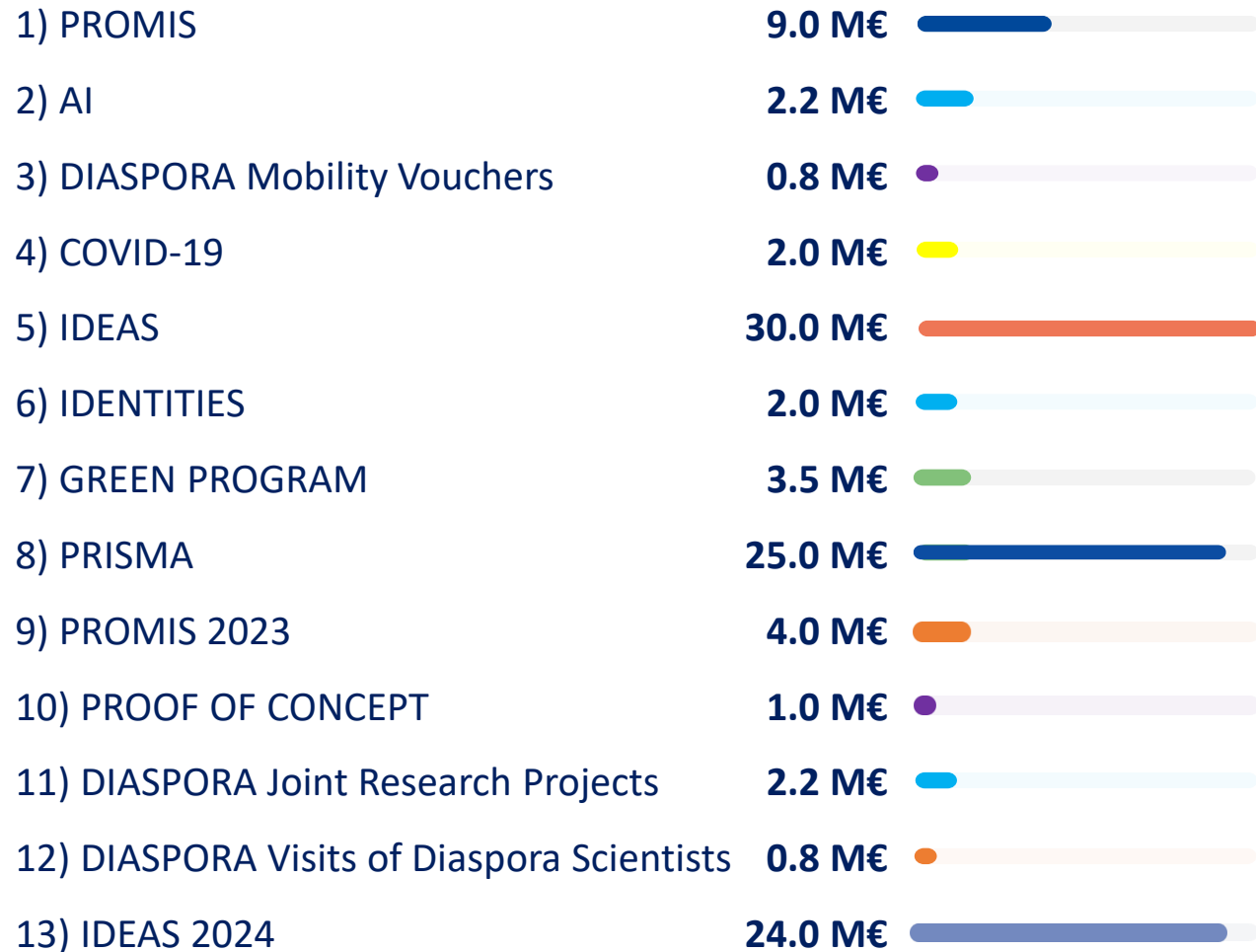
Countries

SFRS Call for expression of Interest for Peer Reviewers is permanently open and published on official website.

USA	Montenegro	France
Ukraine	Mauritius	Finland
UK	Malta	Ethiopia
Uganda	Macedonia (North)	Estonia
Turkey	Luxembourg	Denmark
Thailand	Lithuania	Czech Republic
Switzerland	Lebanon	Cyprus
Sweden	Latvia	Croatia
Spain	Kuwait	Colombia
South Africa	Korea	China
South Korea	Japan	Chile
Slovenia	Italy	Canada
Slovakia	Israel	Bulgaria
Russia	Ireland	Brazil
Romania	Iran	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Portugal	Indonesia	Belgium
Poland	India	Azerbaijan
Pakistan	Hungary	Austria
Norway	Greece	Australia
New Zealand	Germany	Argentina
Netherlands	Georgia	Albania

SFRS PROGRAMS FUNDING

SFRS programs are designed to meet the needs of the scientific community in the Republic of Serbia and challenges of society in general.



106,5 M€

Total budget for 13 programs

Programs are funded by:



SFRS PROGRAMS

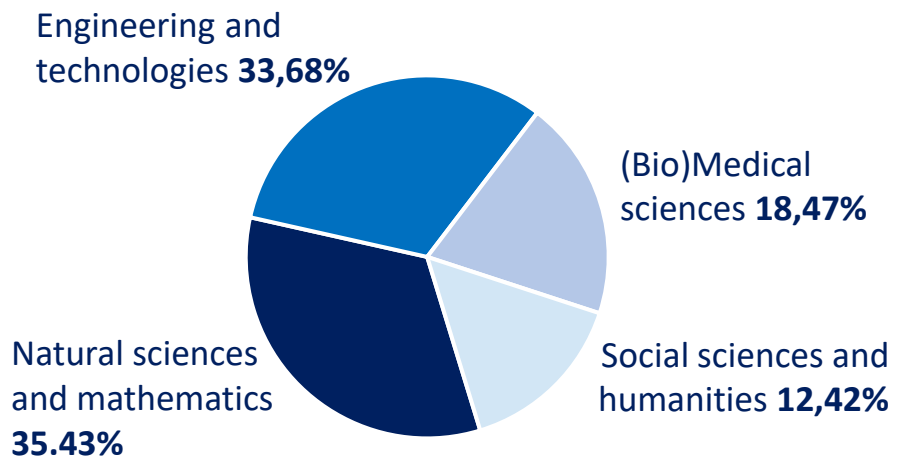
The programs and projects of the Science Fund have been formed to help some of the identified needs and challenges of modern Serbian society.

No. of submitted project applications (for 11 programs)	3294
No. of approved projects	508
Total approved budget (for 13 programs).....	106,5 M€
No. of Scientific Research Organizations	145
No. of researchers from Serbia	3422
No. of young researchers	656
No. of researchers from diaspora	227
No. of scientific papers/in international journals/M21+M21a	3855/1875/647
Success rate on SFRS Programs	15,8%

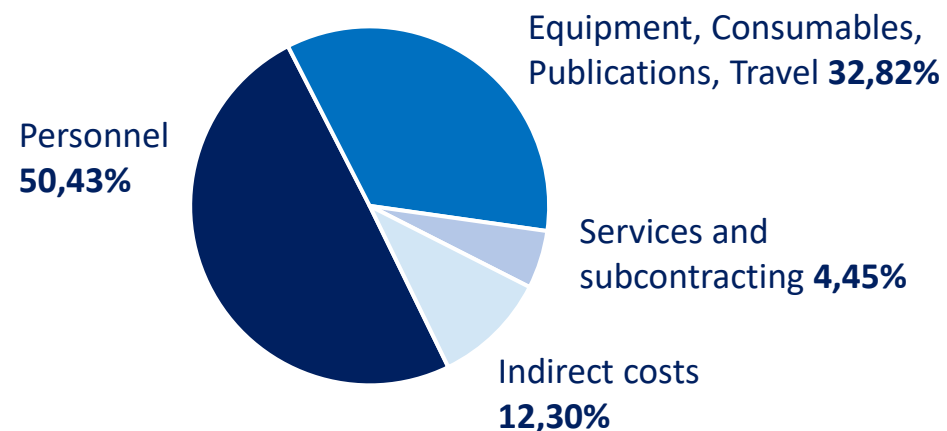


SFRS PROGRAMS – Allocation of Funds

1) By research discipline



2) By cost type

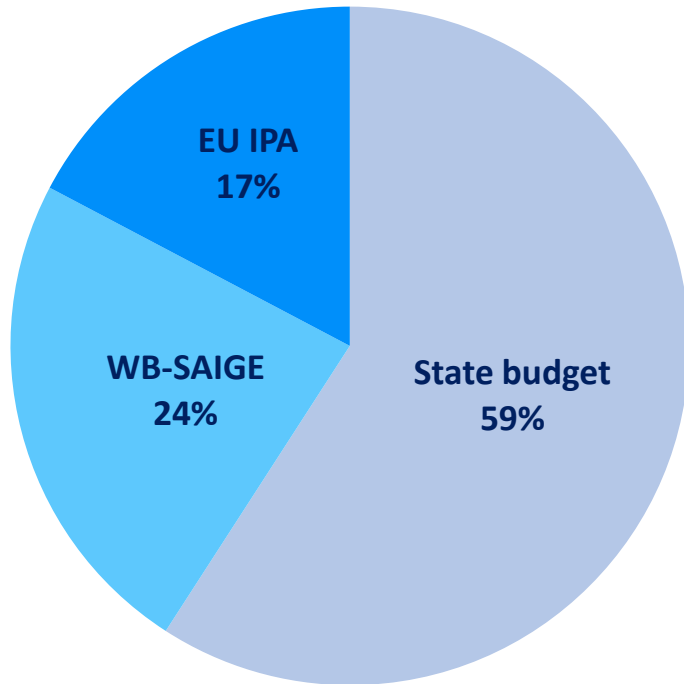


3) Geographic distribution (# of funded projects)

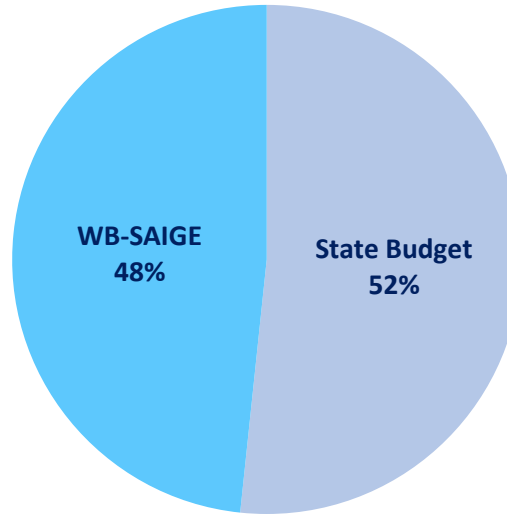


FUNDING

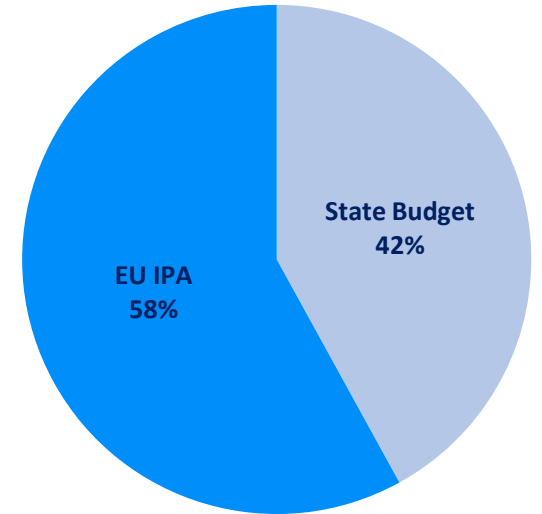
**TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET
BY FUNDING SOURCES
2019-**



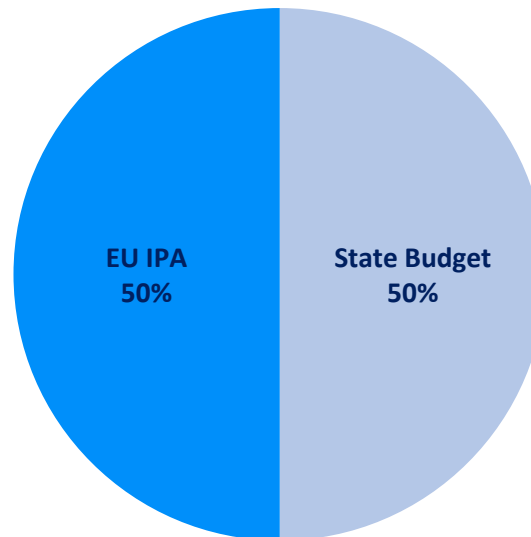
Budget for Program IDEAS



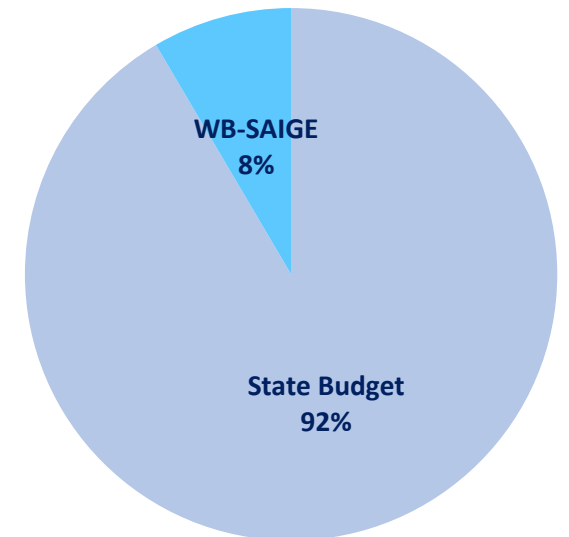
Budget for Program PRISMA



Budget for Program PROMIS 2023



Budget for Program IDEAS 2024



FUNDING

Programs	Total Program Budget (EUR)	State Budget (EUR)	WB-SAIGE (EUR)	EU IPA (EUR)	Approved Projects	Completed Projects
PROMIS	8,9 M	8,9 M	/	/	59	59
AI	2,24 M	2,24 M	/	/	12	12
DIASPORA	0,79 M	0,79 M	/	/	87	87
COVID-19	2 M	/	2 M	/	14	14
IDEAS	30 M	15,5 M	14,5 M	/	105	2
IDENTITIES	2 M	2 M	/	/	16	-
GREEN PROGRAM	3,5 M	3,5 M	/	/	20	-
PRISMA	25 M	10,5 M	/	14,5 M	97	-
PROMIS 2023	4 M	2 M	/	2 M	30	-
PROOF OF CONCEPT	1 M	/	1 M	/	52	-
DIASPORA 2023	2,2 M	/	2,2 M	/	-	-
DIASPORA MOBILITY GRANTS	0,8 M	/	0,8 M	/	-	-
IDEAS 2024	24 M	21,97 M	2,03 M	/	-	-

Support for projects in all fields of science

Program IDEAS

Supporting Excellence in All Scientific Fields

- Supporting researchers in implementing scientific research in all fields of science based on outstanding ideas that can have a significant impact on the development of science and research, economy and society.
- Basic and applied research
- By 2024, SFRS created 3 cycles of the program:

1. IDEAS

105 supported projects | 1041 researchers

2. PRISMA

97 supported projects | 898 researchers

3. IDEAS 2024

Open Public Call



Program PROMIS

Program for Excellent Projects of Young Researchers

- Supporting excellent projects of young researchers
- Young researchers have an opportunity to become project managers, form their own teams, develop innovative ideas and strengthen professional capacities.
- Basic and applied research in all scientific fields
- By 2024, SFRS created 2 cycles of the program:

1. PROMIS

59 supported projects | 317 researchers

2. PROMIS 2023

30 supported projects | 156 researchers



SFRS Strategic Programs

Program AI - Support for Projects in the Field of AI

- Basic and applied research
- Thematic areas of research include: General AI, Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, Knowledge Reasoning, Computer Vision and Speech Communication, and Intelligent Systems
- **12 supported projects | 119 researchers**

Green Program of Cooperation Between Science And Industry

- Research include Reducing pollution of air, water and soil; Sustainable industry; Waste management.
- Goals: developing technology, products or services
- **20 supported projects | 215 researchers**

Program COVID-19 - Special Research Program on COVID-19

- Program supported projects that developed an effective scientific response to the COVID-19 pandemic caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus
- **14 supported projects | 128 researchers**

PROOF OF CONCEPT - Support for projects with commercialization potential

- Financial and business support for testing scientific ideas or assumptions with potential for commercial application
- **52 supported projects | 232 researchers**

Program IDENTITIES - Social sciences and humanities

- Research of ethnic, cultural, religious, social, economic, and other identities in Serbia and the way they shape our society.
- **16 supported projects | 115 researchers**

SERBIAN SCIENCE AND DIASPORA COLLABORATION PROGRAM

Serbia is proud of having a large community of distinguished scientists around the world who represent us in the best possible way

SFRS aims to enable formal cooperation among researchers from Serbia and diaspora by introducing collaboration programs

Cooperation with the Serbian scientific diaspora is supported through 3 different SFRS programs

DIASPORA Mobility Vouchers -

Knowledge exchange vouchers for short-term visits to experts from diaspora

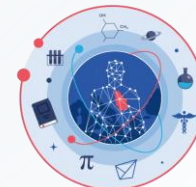
- Basic and applied research in all research areas
- Collaboration with researchers and scientific research organization from 22 countries
- **92 supported projects | 268 researchers**



DIASPORA Joint Research Projects -

Supporting joint research project in all research areas

- Basic and applied research in all research areas
- Collaboration with researchers and scientific research organization from 16 countries
- **11 supported projects | 134 researchers**



Support for Visits of Diaspora

Scientists - Grants for visits to Serbia by researchers from the diaspora

- Basic and applied research in all research areas
- Program will support collaboration between researchers from Serbia and Diaspora
- **Open Public Call by December 31, 2024**



Research in the field of Physics

SFRS supports projects in this scientific area within different programs.

Project HIGHTONE-P

Program IDEAS

The focus of the Project will be on a novel topic of CP violation in the Higgs sector at CLIC, ILC and CEPC, delivering World's first results of Higgs factories' capabilities to measure it.

Project ATTOPLASMAS

Program IDEAS

Breakthroughs in the ultrafast-laser developments have allowed for the opening of new horizons in the ultrafast atomic, molecular and optical (AMO) physics. Project will combine, for the first time, state-of-the-art laser and laser-driven attosecond sources with state-of-the art plasma sources.

Project DisSFusionMat

Program PRISMA

Project will cover a comprehensive research on the development of novel, dispersion strengthened materials based on copper and steel which could be used as construction materials in reactors.

Project BOWIE

Program PROMIS

Project aims to uncover the fate of space dust which surrounds black holes by confronting the observations from state-of-the-art telescopes with advanced numerical simulations.

Project Key2SM

Program PROMIS

Improving understanding of the strange metals through systematic numerical simulation of the Hubbard model, comparison of results with quantum simulations and phenomenological and gravitational theories.

Project DYNAMIQS

Program PROMIS 2023

Goal of this project will be to tune the properties that affect the instability of the Fermi surface in transition Metal Trichalcogenides by applying uniaxial strain.

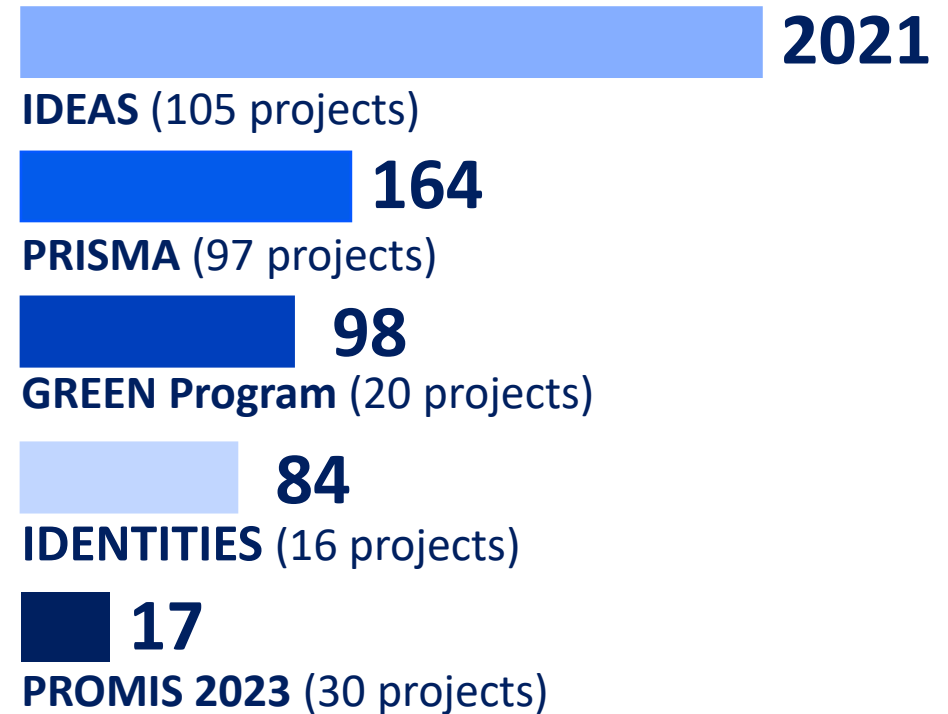
SCIENTIFIC OUTCOMES

3855 scientific papers (total of 11 programs)

1875 scientific papers in international journals

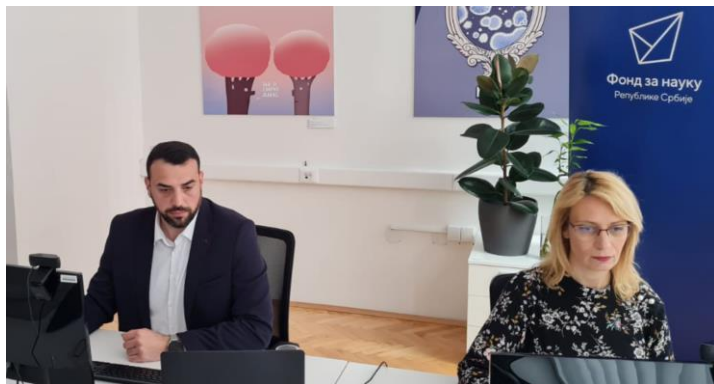
647 scientific papers in top international journals (M21 and M21a)

Scientific publications within the 5 ongoing programs, whose projects started its implementation in the period 2022-2023.



COOPERATION WITH SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY

Communication, openness and support



Online Open-door sessions for researchers



Meetings with representatives of Universities in Serbia and Scientific and Research organizations



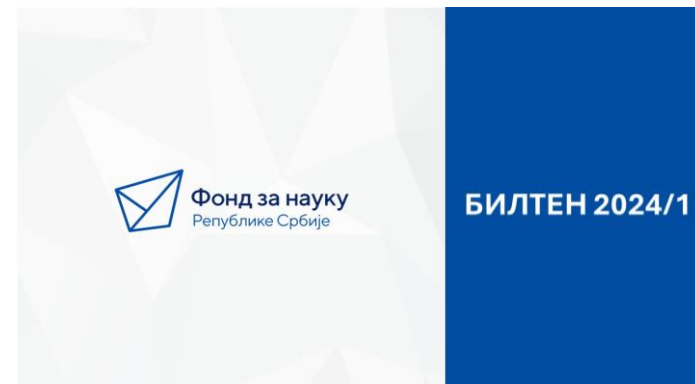
Meeting with Principal Investigators of projects funded within SFRS Programs



Info days for researchers



Meeting with Association of Institutes of Serbia



Quarterly SFRS Newspapers

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Since 2022, Science Fund has been a member of Science Europe, an international organization that brings together the most important national agencies and research organizations for research funding in Europe.

Since 2023, The Science Fund has been part of the Global Research Council, an international organization that brings together the most prominent science agencies and funds from around the world.

The Science Fund **was accepted as a full member** of the organizations Science Europe and Global Research Council, after analyzing the SFRS programs, procedures, project evaluation procedures and results.



*SFRS international cooperation within organizations
Science Europe and Global Research Council*



FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

1) STABLE SYSTEM OF PROJECT FUNDING

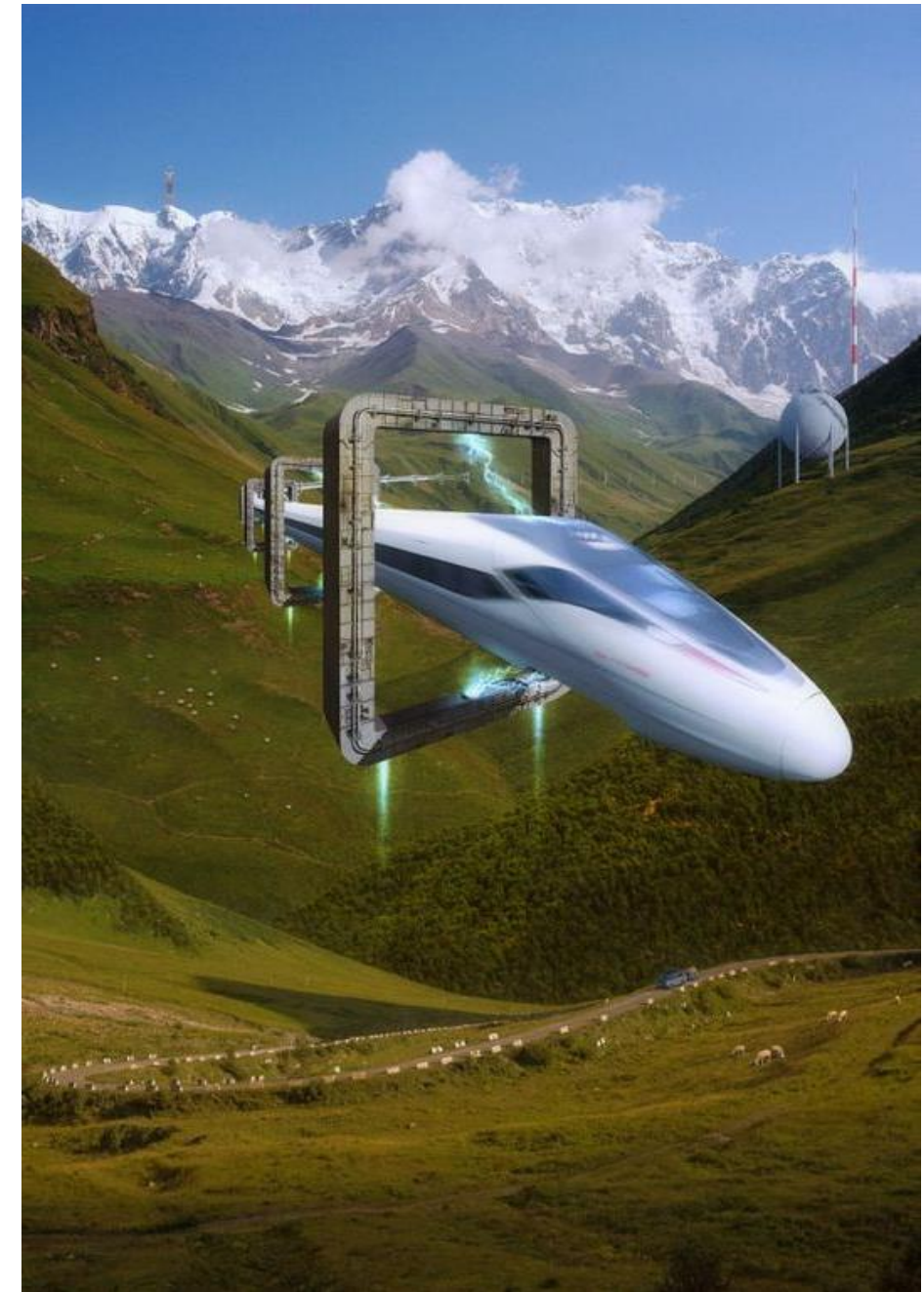
- 1 public call for **3-year program** (annually) intended for all areas of science. Goal is to support up to 100 projects and 1000 researchers.
- **2-3 smaller thematic programs** in accordance with the budget and national strategies.

2) DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- Participation in the development of **networking platforms for researchers**.
- **Bilateral and multilateral collaboration** through joint programs - collaboration with funds from region, EU and China.
- Participation in **HORIZON EUROPE** program together with funds from region and EU.

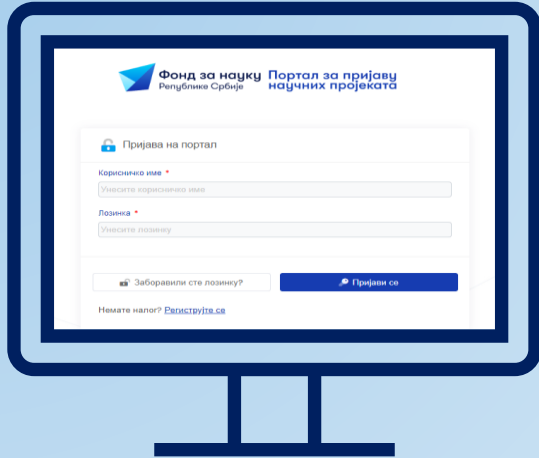
3) YOUNG TALENTS

- Integration with the **Fund for Young Talents**, institution dedicated to development of young talents and investing in excellence.
- **Identifying exact number of young researchers** in area of AI and biotechnology in Republic of Serbia. Developing a plan to build an integrated talent ecosystem that matches the skills of young researchers with the demands of the market, focusing on the transition between academia and industry.



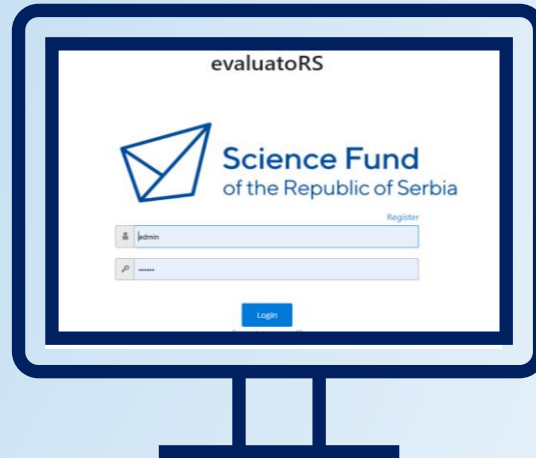
FURTHER DEVELOPMENT - DIGITALIZATION

Portal for Submitting Scientific Projects



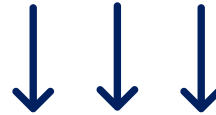
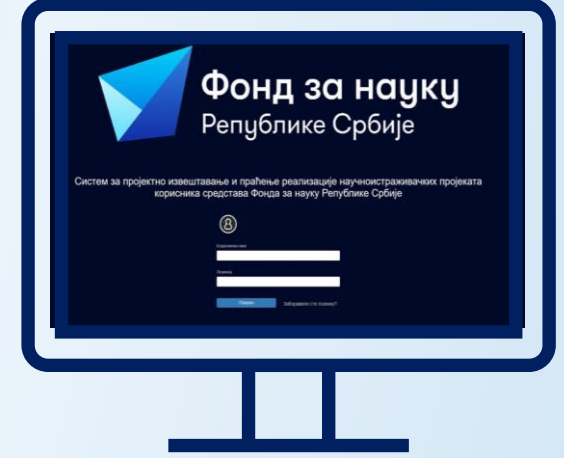
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Portal for Evaluation of Scientific Projects



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Portal for Project Reporting and Monitoring of Project Implementation



Benefits of Integrated Portal:
Digital Signature / Data standardization /
Data base digitalization / Digital archive

Integrated System

Data Analytics
Data Statistics

PROMOTION OF PROJECTS AND RESULTS

One of the SFRS goals is to raise the awareness of the public about the importance of science and its results for economical, technological, social and cultural development of the Republic of Serbia.

4589 Total number of press releases between 2021-2024:



3599
Internet



540
Print Editions



416
TV



34
Radio



Researchers and projects funded within SF Programs on front pages of magazines and newspapers

WOMEN IN SCIENCE

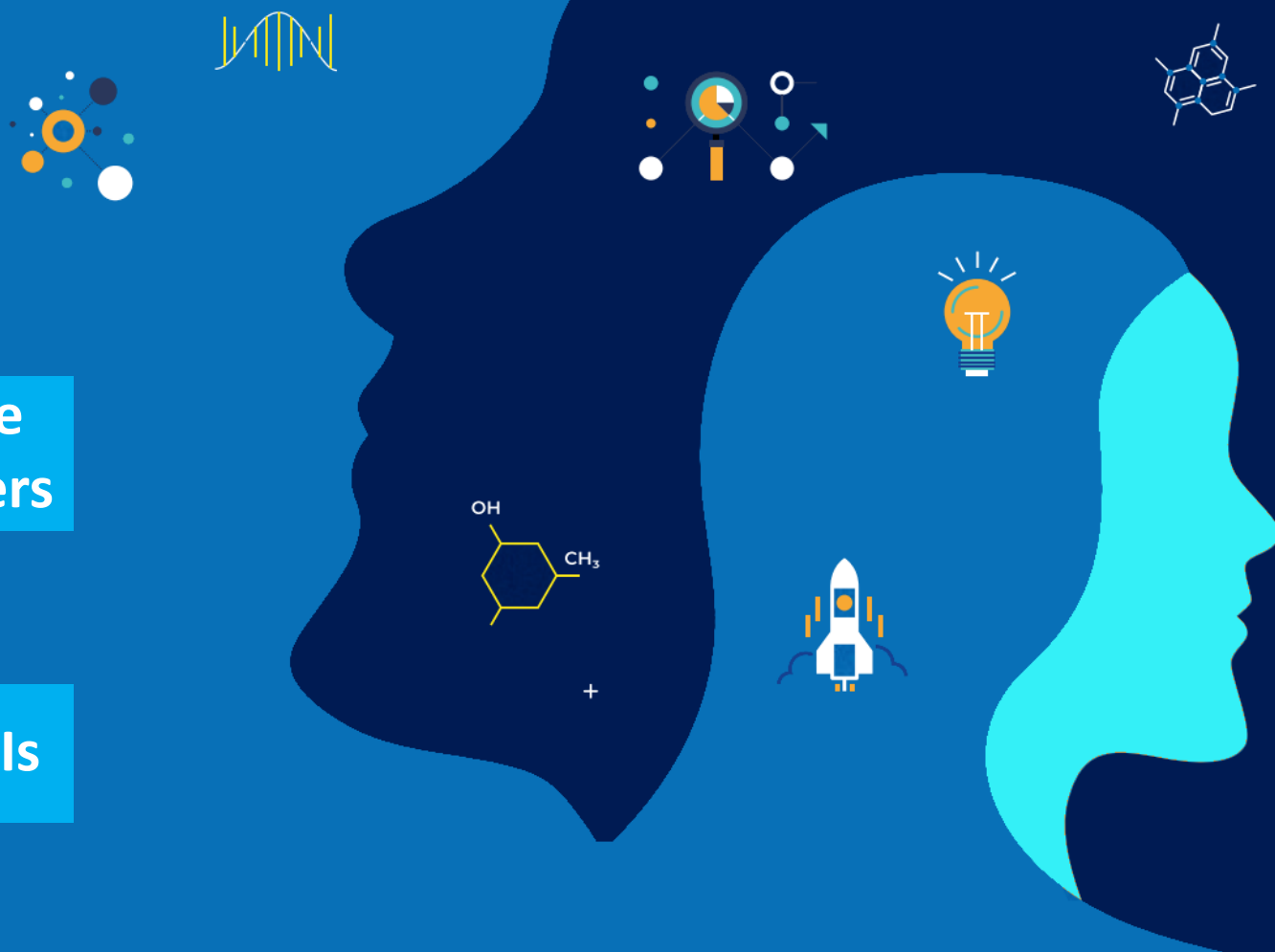
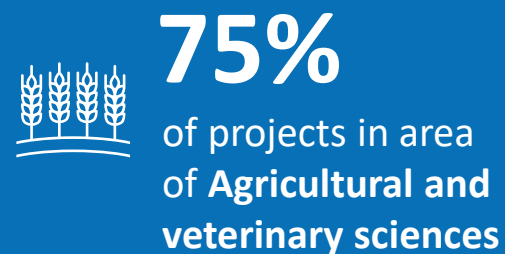
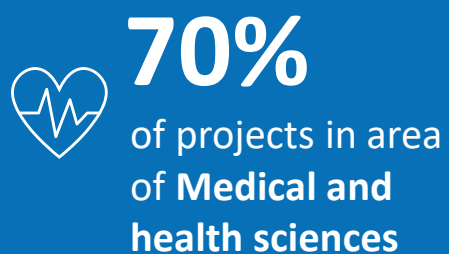
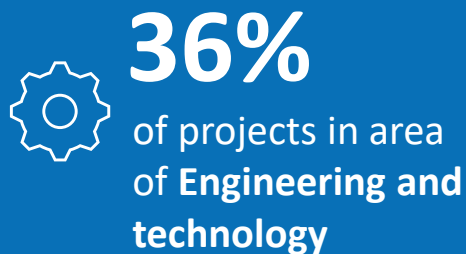
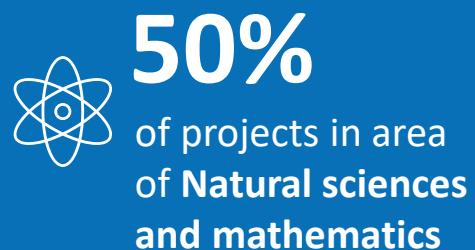
Out of **3422** researchers participating in SFRS programs



Out of **508** principal investigators



Women are principal investigators on:





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