



Ministry of Science
and Education

“Unity through Knowledge Fund”

**" Competitive financing for Science,
Technology & Innovation"**

Alessia Pozzi, Program Manager

“Human capital, especially in science and technology, is of growing importance for innovation and technology-led economic growth. In the new economy where knowledge is the source of wealth creation, human capital becomes as important as financial capital.”

Source: OECD report 2009

- ❑ Idea of networking knowledge- 2004 and 2007 Congress of Croatian Scientists from the Homeland and Abroad
- ❑ In 2007 the Ministry of Science and Education has established Unity through Knowledge Fund
- ❑ **Mission:** to unite scientific and professional potential in Croatia and Diaspora in development of the knowledge based society
- 10 **Goals:**
 - Supporting research that is competitive on international level
 - Fostering research that creates new values in Croatian economy
 - Supporting projects that help the development of research infrastructure in Croatia.
- ❑ **From its establishment until October 2017, the Fund financed 128 scientific and technological projects.**

STP I 2007-2011

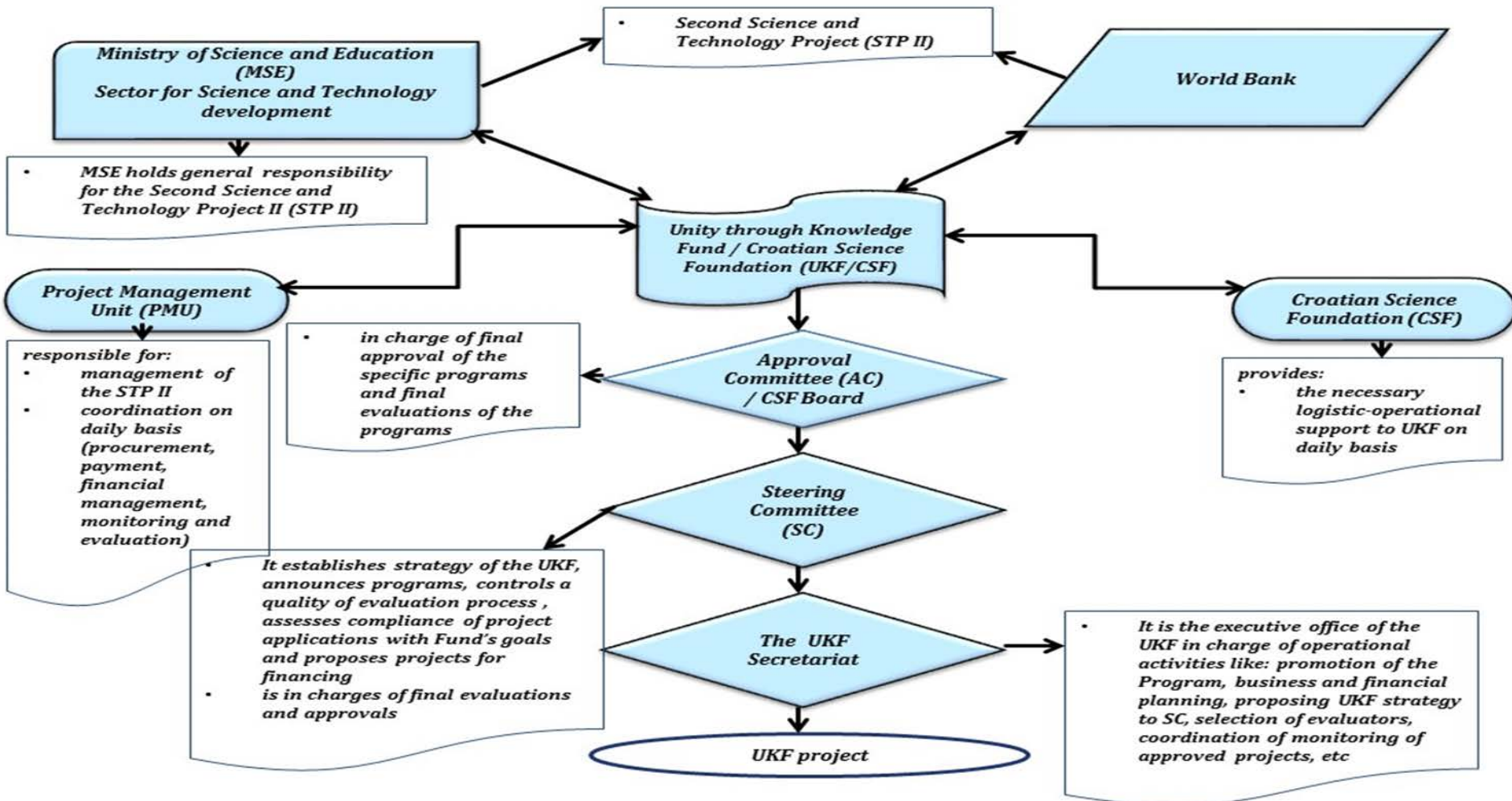
***funds for projects 5,1 mil. EUR
operational costs 9 % of all
costs***

***Project Preparation
Advance
2012-2013***

***STP II 2013 (August)
- 2019 (March)
funds for projects
4,77 mil EUR***

Institutional framework

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KNOWLEDGEFUND



UKF Programs /Grants-STP I and STP II

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UKF

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graph TD; UKF[UKF] --> Cooperability[Cooperability program<br/>200.000 EUR<br/>duration 1- 3 years]; UKF --> Connectivity[Connectivity Program<br/>10 000 EUR<br/>6 months]; UKF --> Young[Young Researchers and Professionals<br/>up to 100 000 EUR<br/>duration 1 - 2 years]; Cooperability --> CooperabilitySub[1A "Homeward"<br/>1B "Crossing Borders"<br/>1C" My first collaboration"]; Connectivity --> ConnectivitySub[2A "Gaining Experience"<br/>2B "Homeland Visit"]; Young --> YoungSub[3A "My first research"<br/>3B "Reintegration"<br/>3C "Research in industry"];
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Cooperability program
200.000 EUR
duration 1- 3 years

Connectivity
Program
10 000 EUR
6 months

Young Researchers
and Professionals
up to 100 000 EUR
duration 1 - 2 years

1A "Homeward"
1B "Crossing
Borders"
1C" My first collaboration"

2A "Gaining
Experience"
2B "Homeland
Visit"

3A "My first research"
3B "Reintegration"
3C "Research
in industry"

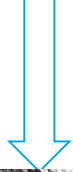
UKF Programs /Grants-STP I and STP II

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1A “Homeward”



12-36 months



1B “Crossing Borders”



12-36 months



**Private
sector
domestic
and
foreign**

Diaspora



UKF Programs /Grants-STP I and STP II

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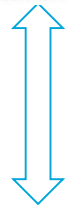
1C "My first
collaboration"

2A "Gaining
Experience"

2B "Homeland Visit"



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15 months

Diaspora



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6 months

**Diaspora and
foreign**



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Diaspora

6 months



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3A “My first
research”

3B “Reintegration”

3C “Research
in industry”



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12-24 months



***Diaspora and
foreign***



12-24 months

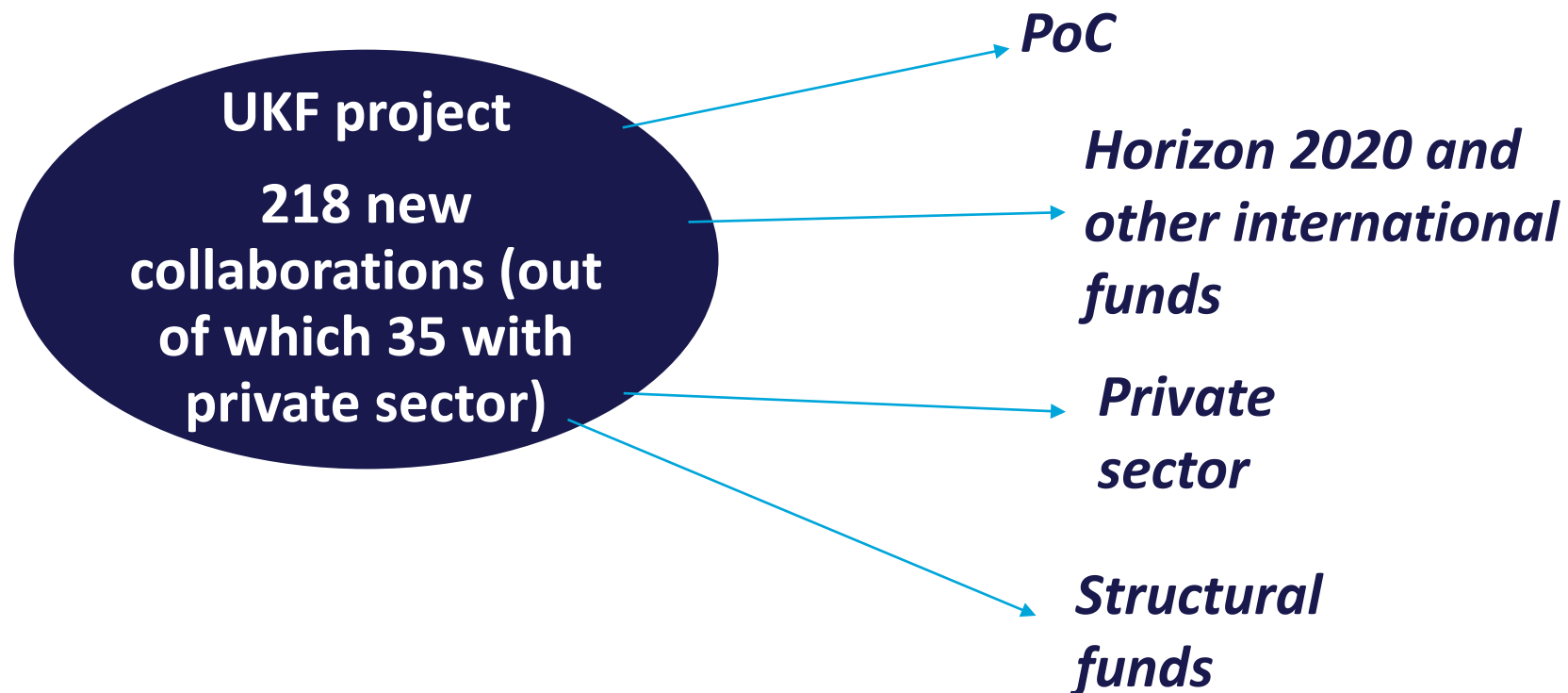


12-24 months



Sustainability of UKF results

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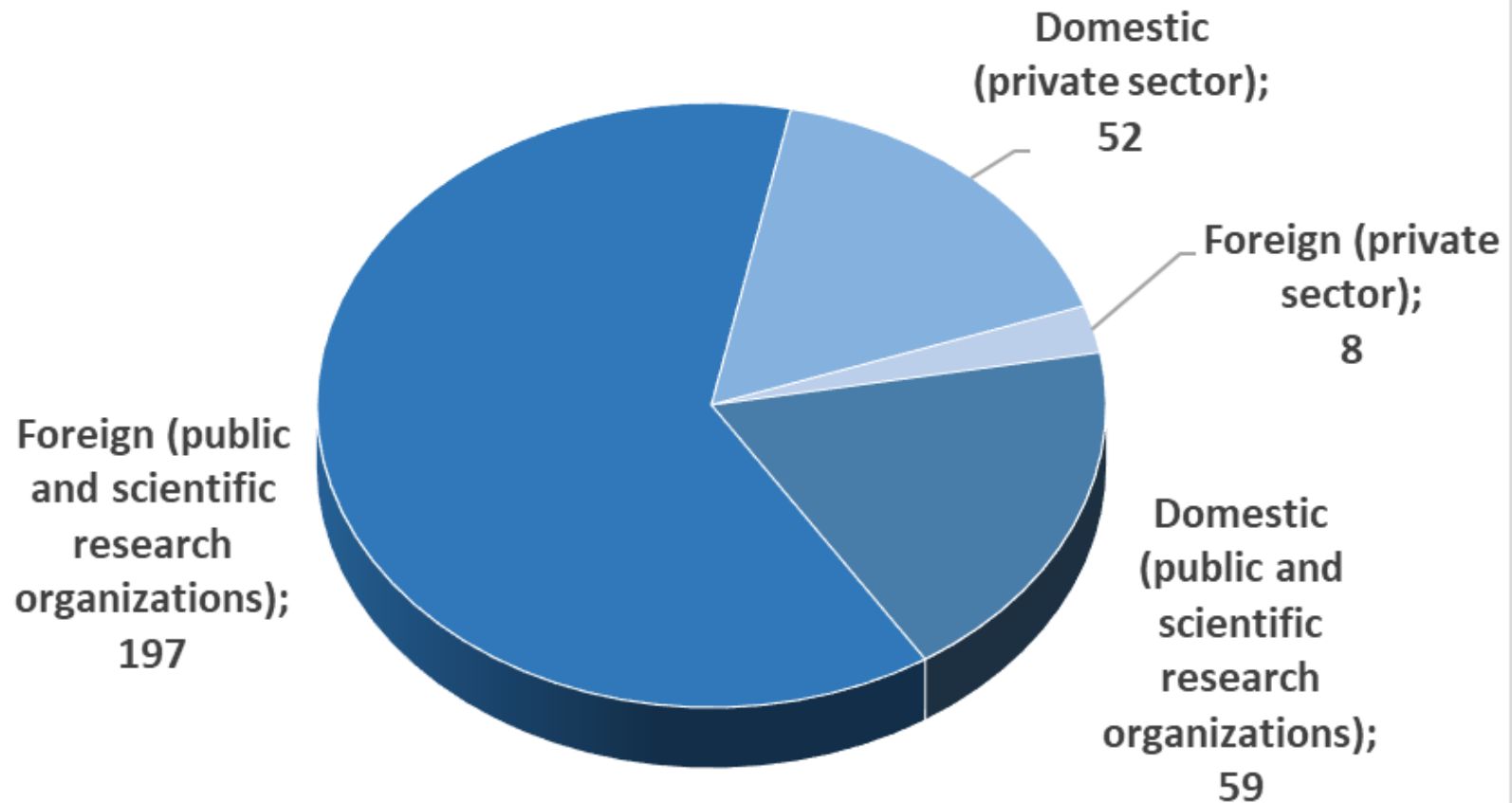


Transfer of knowledge

- 316 organizations – STP I + STP II

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A total of 316 organizations participated in the implementation of 128 projects



Transfer of knowledge -STP I + STP II

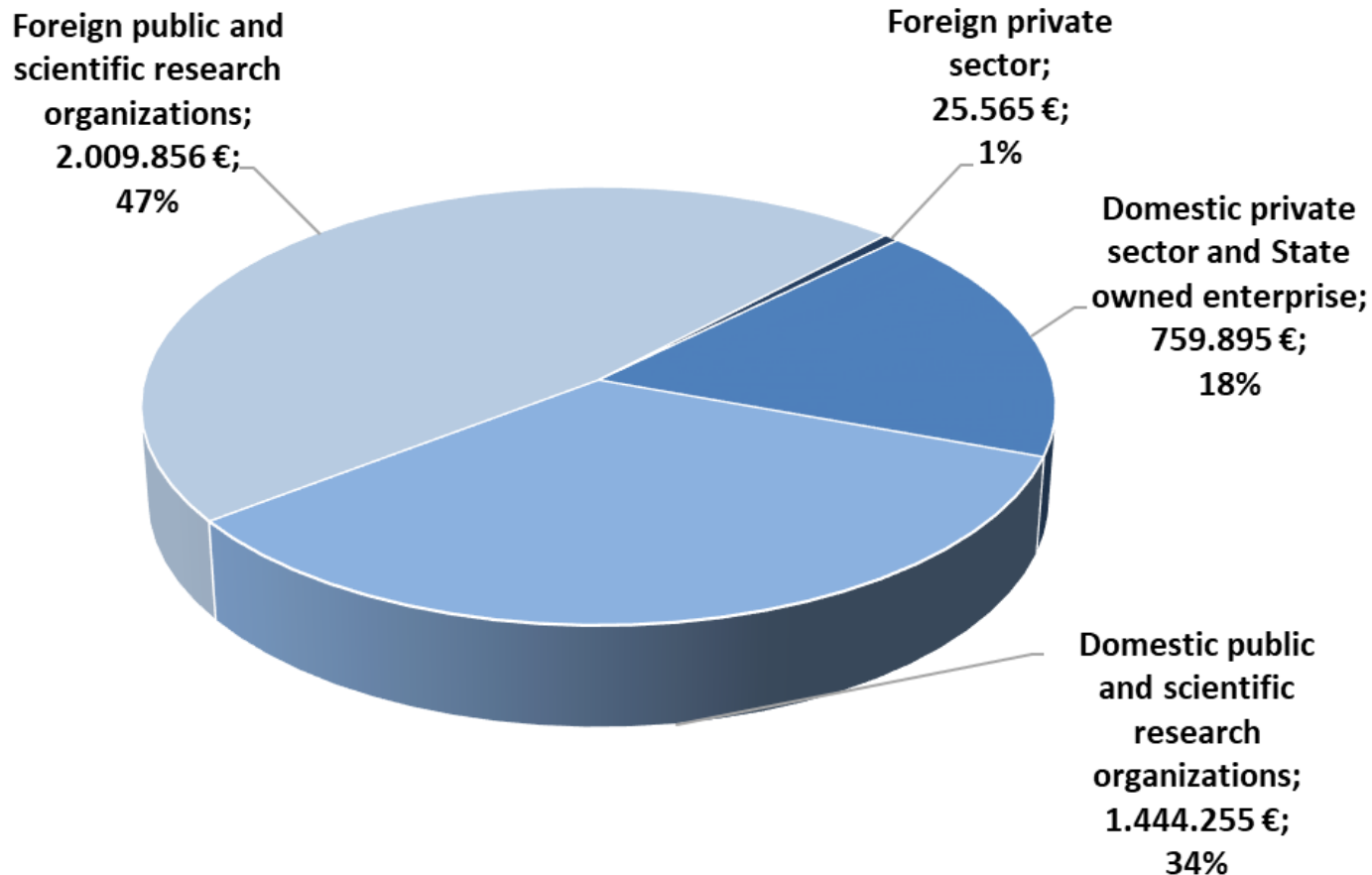
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- **197 foreign institutions**
- Yale University-USA, Harvard Medical School-USA, Stanford University-USA, Max-Planck-Institute for Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics-Germany, Institute of Biochemistry II Goethe University Medical School-Germany, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL), Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH), Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Royal Institute of Technology (KTH)-Sweden, Johns Hopkins University-USA, Laval University-Canada, Academy of Fine Art-Austria, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, University of Oxford-UK, National Cancer Institute-USA, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)-USA, Imperial College London-UK, European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL)-France ..
- **In 128 projects: 905 scientists in total, out of which:**
 - 84 from Diaspora
 - 233 foreign scientists

Co-financing by organizations-STP I + STP II

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Co-financing - amount and percentage according to the sources of funding (4.239.570 €)



Number of new technologies STP I + STP II

*Number of technologies transferred
from the international to Croatian
institutions*

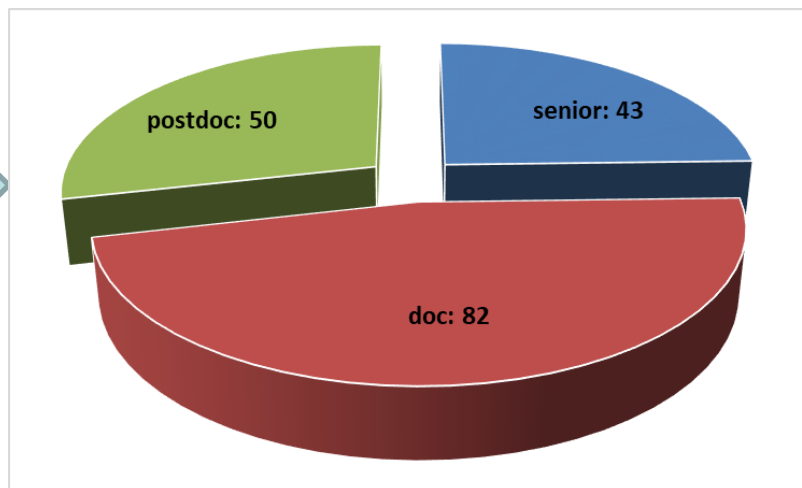
50

*Number of technologies developed
by Croatian institutions*

42

Long and short term mobility - STP I + STP II

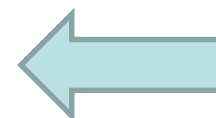
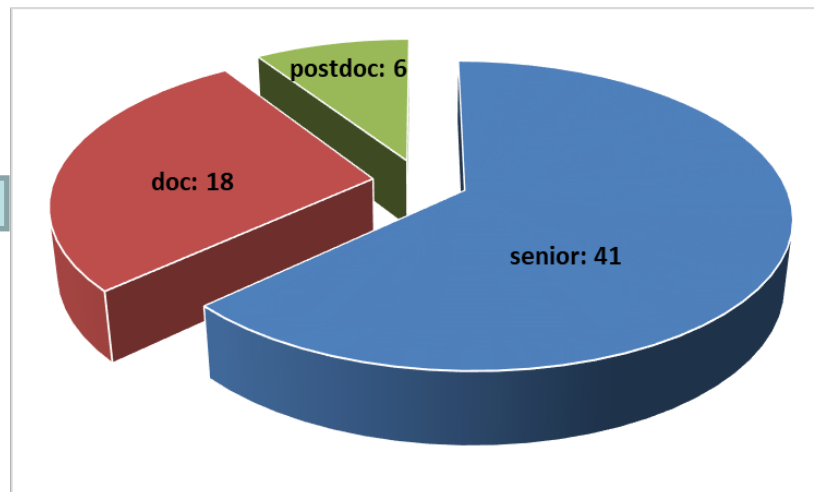
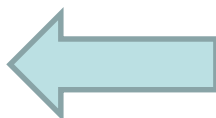
**Domestic
scientists
(175)**



WORLD

■ senior
■ doc
■ postdoc

CROATIA



**Foreign
scientists
(65)**

Benefit to Croatian economy- STPI and STPII

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2,8 million Euro invested in projects oriented towards industry



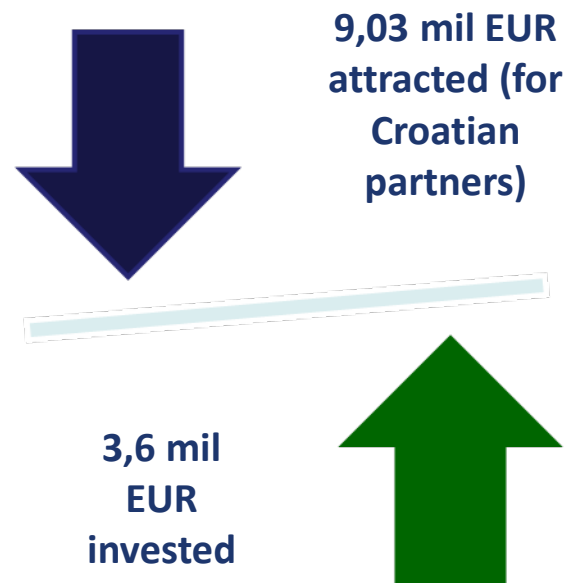
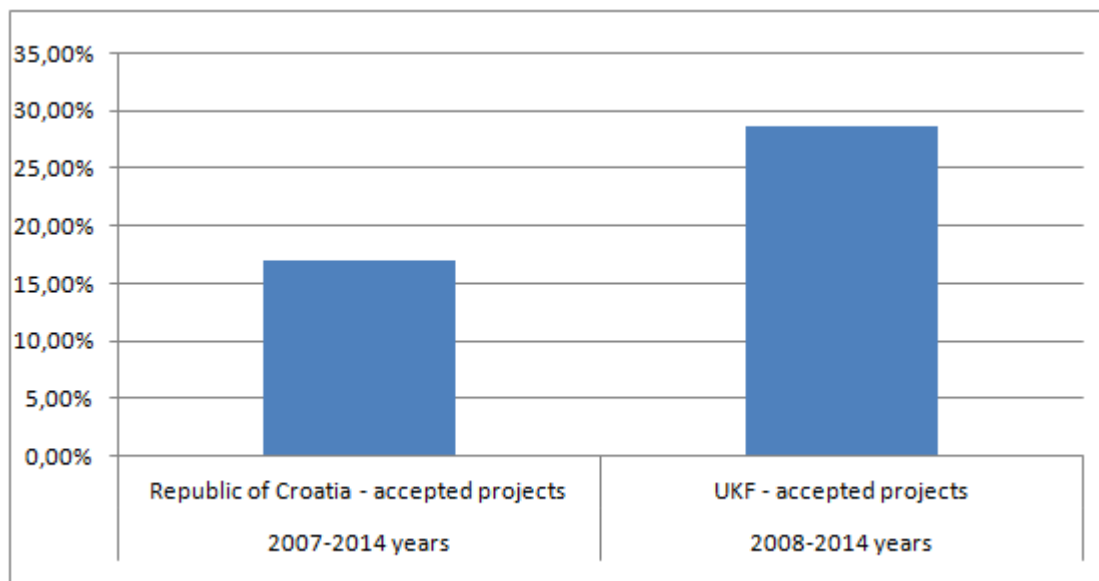
***62 partners from industry
invested 807.463,54 EUR***

Participation in international calls (FP7)-STP I

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- Increased absorption capacity of Croatian Scientific and Technology community for EU funds

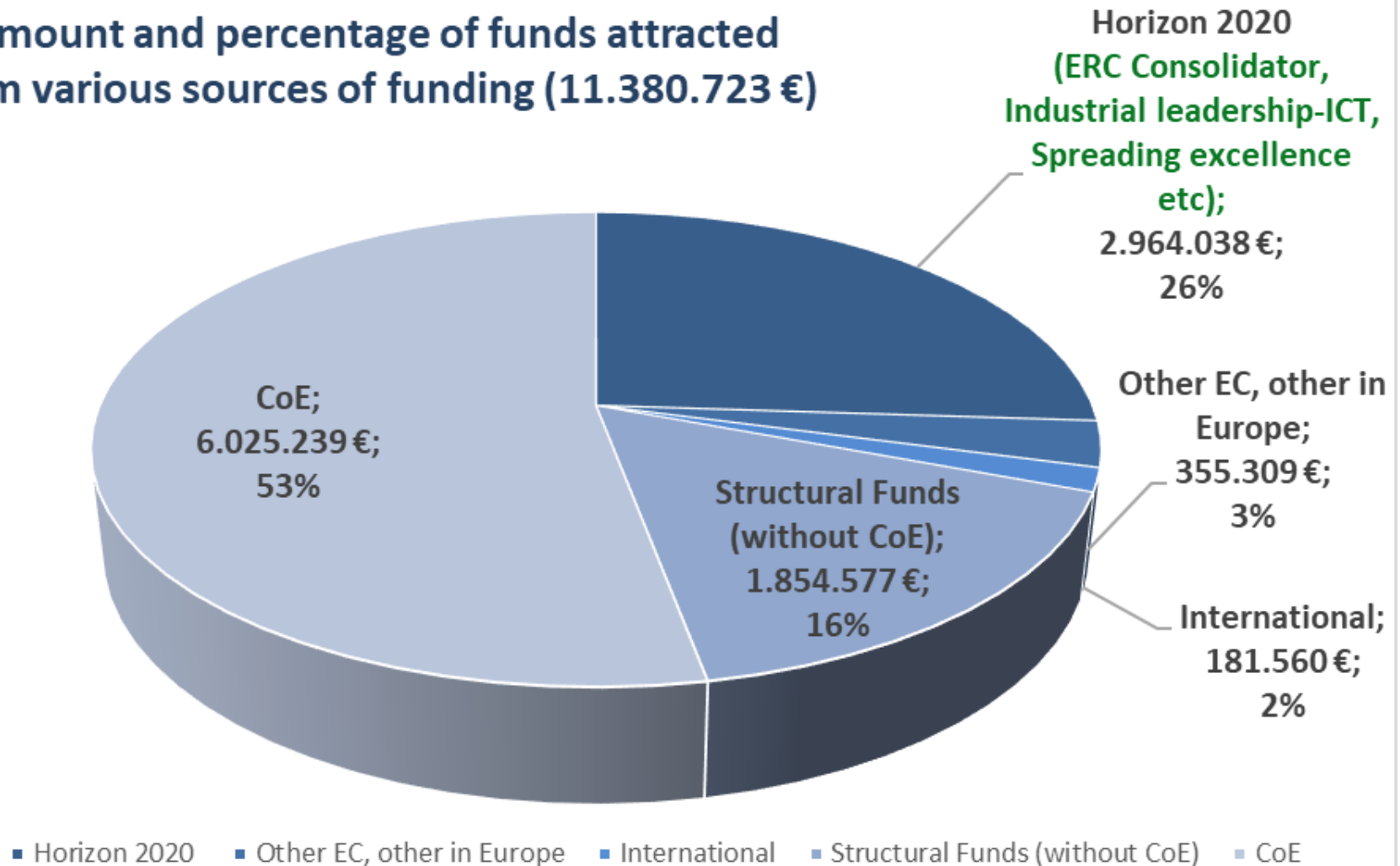
Success rate of UKF projects in getting EU 7th Framework Program (FP7) funds compared to national projects



Attracting of funds from European, International and Structural funds – STP II

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Amount and percentage of funds attracted
from various sources of funding (11.380.723 €)



Scientific output of UKF projects STP I and STP II

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For the purpose of this statistics only medium scale projects within the Research Cooperability and Young Researchers Programs are calculated, in 76 total projects -> Out of 648 scientific publications – 431 were articles in peer-reviewed publications (of which 364 with IF), 74 books/book chapters and also 179 conference abstracts

Articles published in prestigious international journals : 'Nature' (IF 40.137), 'Science' (IF 33.61) Journal of the American Chemical Society' (IF 8.585), 'Chemical Reviews' (IF 47.928), 'Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA' (IF 9.5), 'the American Journal of Psychiatry' (IF 12.5), 'Public Library of Science Pathogens' (IF 9.709), 1 article in 'Molecular & Cellular Proteomics' (IF 8.354)



International acknowledgements

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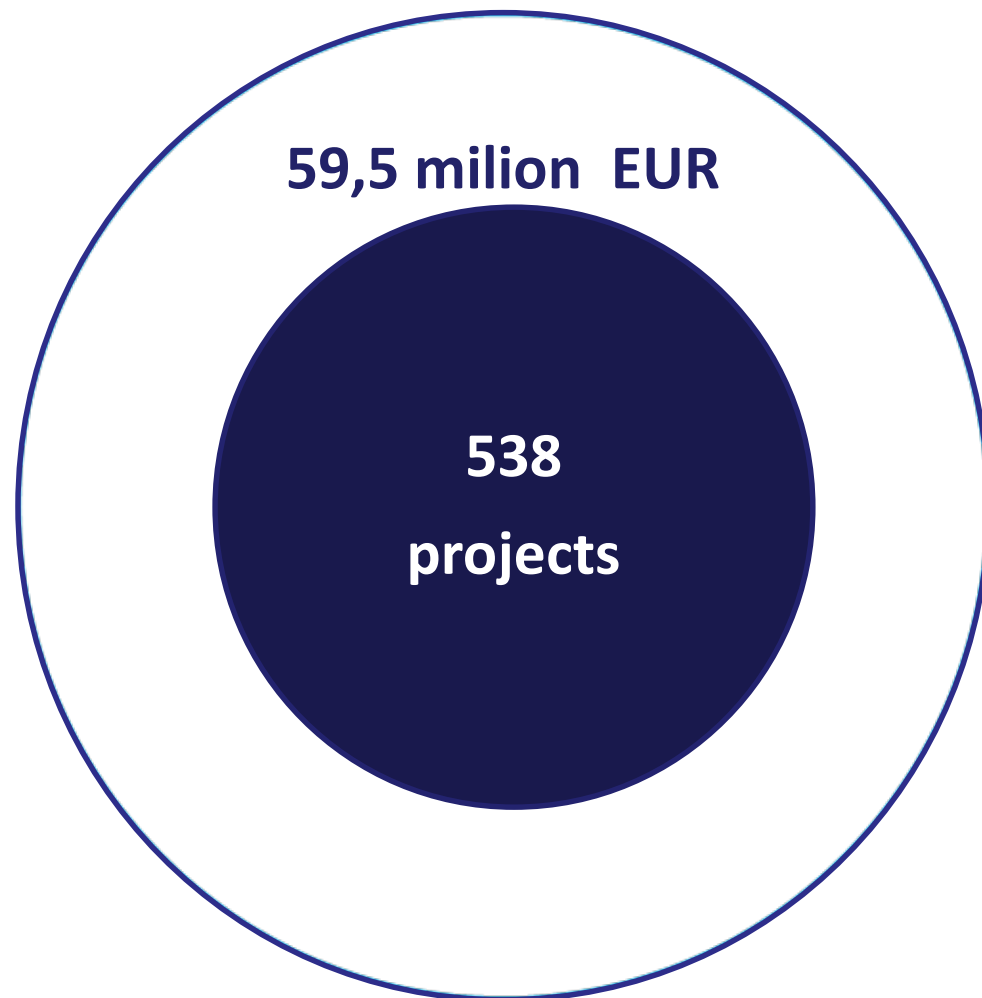


EREF '09

European
Regional
Economic
Forum

Project pipeline-STP I + STP II

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Main findings and recommendations

- new idea and concept
- complementary with another initiatives and programs of the MSE and other policy creators
- openness to candidates and public
- avoidance of conflict of interest, confidentiality and transparent decision making
- partnership with beneficiaries even after completion of projects
- minimization of administrative burdens on beneficiaries
- well-designed and flexible programs and substantial financing provided for single projects (collaboration with Diaspora)
- fostering return has been dropped as an explicit target
- private sector showed interest in projects with prestigious foreign institutions
- well selected members of Steering Committee
- financial guarantee on legislative level
- highly backed by both the Ministry of Science and Education and the World Bank

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