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SRDA ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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2022



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REPORT 2022

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SLOVAK RESEARCH
AND DEVELOPMENT
AGENCY



MINISTRY
OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE,
RESEARCH AND SPORT
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

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- 5 SRDA BUDGET
- 6 HUMAN RESOURCES
- 7 AUDIT ACTIVITIES
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- 9 EVALUATION OF THE SRDA ACTIVITIES IN 2022



01 / On the Slovak Research and Development Agency

The Slovak Research and Development Agency (hereinafter referred to as “the Agency “ or “SRDA”) is a national grant agency and the only dominant grant agency providing the state budget – based support to research and development in Slovakia in all fields of science and technology.

1.1 Identification of the Organisation

Name Slovak Research and Development Agency
Registered office Address Mýtina 23, 811 07 Bratislava Mýtina 23, P. O.BOX 839 04 839 04 Bratislava
Contact e-mail +421 2 57 20 45 01 agentura@apvv.sk
www www.apvv.sk

Established by

Act No. 172/2005 Coll. on the Organisation of State Aid Support for Research and Development and Amendment to Act No. 575/2001 Coll. on Organization of the Activities of the Government and of the Organization of the Central State Administration as amended. (hereinafter referred to as “Act No. 172/2005 Coll.”).

Form of management

A budgetary organisation linked to the budget of the Slovak Republic through the chapter of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic.

Sector

Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic.

The SRDA bodies

Director of the SRDA
The SRDA Presidium
The SRDA Council

1.2 SRDA Mission

The Agency’s main mission lies in promoting excellent basic research, applied research and development in all fields of science and technology, including interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research conducted by universities, state research and development sector, business and non-profit research and development sector, and natural R&D persons in terms of the Trade Licensing Act.

Support for research and development is performed through research and development projects selected by the Agency bodies under the open calls launched by the Agency. Both national legal and natural persons can submit their research and development projects. The quality of the submitted project applications is critical for allocating the research and development support. Another mission of the Agency lies in stimulating the participation of R&D entities in the Slovak Republic in international and European programmes and initiatives as well as supporting them for bilateral and multilateral cooperation in science and technology.

The Agency is established to support research and development through project funding as follows:

- Bottom-up based support – these are general calls for submitting projects in individual groups of science and technology disciplines (with no thematic limitation), while the intents, objectives, and substance of the research and development project are determined by the Applicant – Act No. 172/2005 Coll. § 12 Article 2 a)
- Special-purpose form of support based on the Government-approved Agency programs (top-down system), reflecting the requirements to fulfil the selected intents and objectives in accordance with the long-term intent of National Science and Technology Policy – 172/2005 Coll. § 12 Article 2 b)
- Support based on the general calls open under the international agreements and international programs and initiatives, including the costs of their preparation – Act No. 172/2005 Coll. § 12 Article 2 c)

The following organisations are the funds’ recipients:

- public, state, and private universities,
- state research and development sector,
- business research and development sector,
- non-profit research and development sector,
- natural persons of research and development in terms of the Trade Licensing Act.

In terms of the medium-term perspective, the Agency is committed to fulfilling the tasks arising from Act No. 172/2005 Coll. on the Organisation of State Aid Support for Research and Development, as amended, and on the Statute of the Agency. The Agency plays an important role as a tool for fulfilling the Manifesto of the Government of the Slovak Republic as The Agency is concerned directly with several objectives of point 5 of the Manifesto of the Government and the related tasks.

The 2021 binding indicators for the Slovak Research and Development Agency were defined under the O6K K National Science and Technology Development Program and the sub-program “O6K11 – Research and Development Tasks supported by the Slovak Research and Development Agency” (hereinafter referred to as “O6K11”). The sub-program is aimed at an “Effective system of research and development support by project funding, and increasing the success of Slovak entities in the international scientific and technical cooperation”.

Given the wide scope and importance of the Agency, the following 5 objectives were set at the sub-program level:

- 1) to support projects of international scientific and technical cooperation solved within the international programs / organisations / agreements co-financed by the Agency’s funds,
- 2) to support projects co-funded from the off-budget resources (e.g. private and foreign),
- 3) to support projects with applied output in practice,
- 4) to support basic research projects whose findings are published in international Current Contents Journals,
- 5) to support the interconnection of the research and development with the market and the econovalorization of research and development outcomes in the form of projects aimed at transferring the research and development outcomes by universities and state institutions to the business sector, as well as in the form of projects aimed at supporting the research and development in small and medium-sized enterprises

The main Agency’s Statute – based tasks are, in particular:

- to support excellent basic research, applied research and development in all fields of science and technology including interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research;
- to ensure the development and implementation of new forms of supporting research in the Slovak Republic with regard to increasing cooperation between basic and applied research and development and their user application;
- in cooperation with the MŠVVaŠ SR, to ensure the development and implementation of new programs and forms of supporting international R&D cooperation;
- to support the participation of R&D organisations from the Slovak Republic in the European research and development programmes and initiatives;
- to participate in the promotion of research and development outcomes within the Slovak Republic, and to popularise the importance of research and development for the needs of the society;
- to cooperate with the MŠVVaŠ SR on developing and implementing the National Science and Technology Policy.

Strong support for research and innovation essentially requires the Agency to continue the regular opening of so-called general calls. These calls include support for projects in individual groups of science and technology (with no thematic limitation), while the Applicant determines the project’s intents, objectives, and substance.

The Agency intends to continue to pay attention to support for activities resulting from intergovernmental bilateral or multilateral agreements on international scientific and technical cooperation, namely supporting the researchers’ mobility and supporting the participation of R&D entities in international projects, programs, and initiatives. The Agency continues to focus on improving the evaluation and funding of the projects in order to increase the objectivity and transparency of the evaluation process. The SRDA joined the cooperation in the GRANted research project with Joanneum Research Forschungsgesellschaft mbH by signing a memorandum of understanding. The cooperation resulted in the concept of the GC 2020 analysis from the aspect of applying the gender equality principles in the Call. The cooperation will continue with a focus on proposing possible measures for keeping compliance with non-discriminatory measures in the process of evaluating the submitted applications for project funding.

02 / Bodies of the Slovak Research and Development Agency

2.1 SRDA Bureau

As of 31 December 2022

Director

JUDr. Stanislav Mydlo

Management Members:

Ing. Alena Bokrošová

Head of the Director's office

RNDr. Silvia Plesníková

Head of Department of Projects

Mgr. Lucia Orviská

Head of Department of International Cooperation and State Aid

Ing. Viera Dojčárová

Head of the Department of Economics and Internal Operations

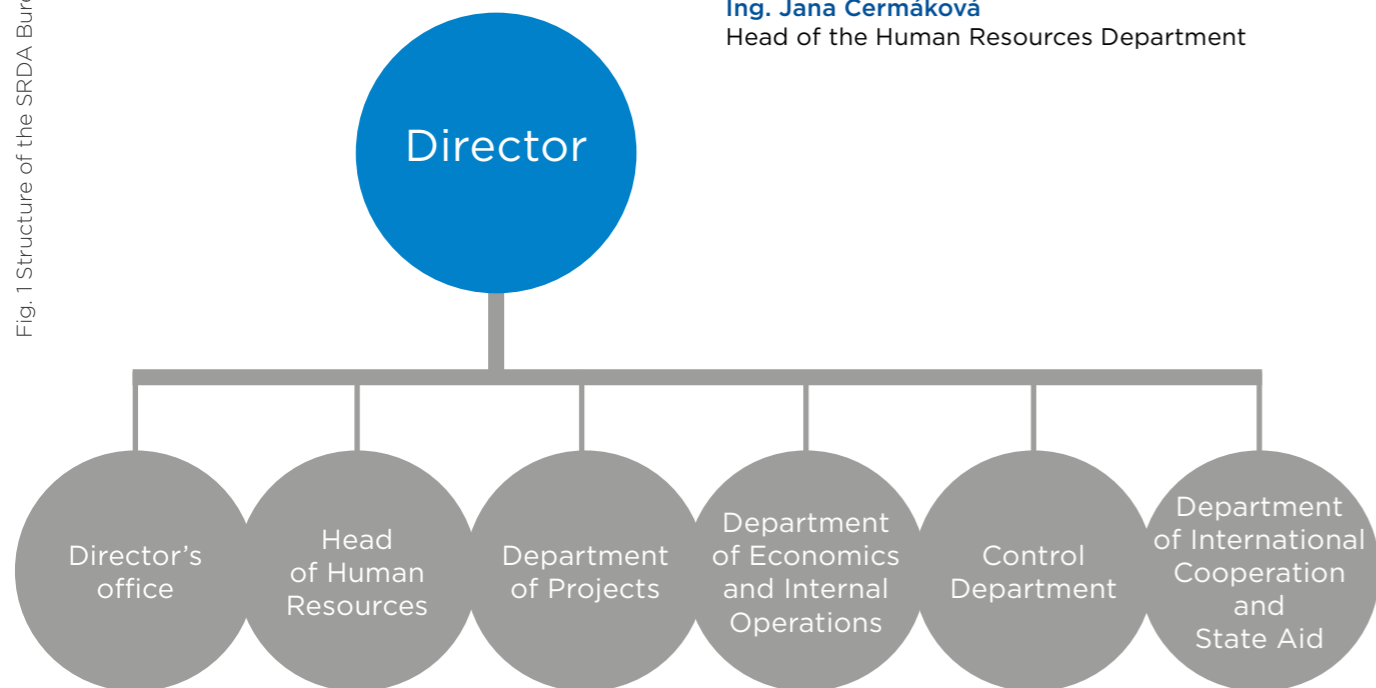
Ing. Monika Tarabová

Head of the Control Department

Ing. Jana Čermáková

Head of the Human Resources Department

Fig. 1 Structure of the SRDA Bureau



2.2 SRDA Presidium

The Agency Presidium is a top expert body of the SRDA. Act No. 172/2005 Coll. establishing the Agency governs fulfilling the Presidium's tasks. The Presidium members are appointed and withdrawn by the Government upon the proposal of the Minister of Education. The term of the Presidium members is four years, with two consecutive terms in maximum. The Presidium of the Agency consists of 13 members, 11 members of which are significant nationwide respected experts in science and technology, and two members are representatives of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic.

The main activities of the Agency's Chairman include the management of the Presidium as the Agency's expert body, and the representation of the Agency nationally and abroad in the areas directly related to the Agency's activities, as well as in other areas related to the research and development in Slovakia.

Activities of the Presidium are governed by the Agency's Main Tasks Plan, prepared by the Agency's Director, on the basis of the Agency's concept of activity for the relevant period, and is approved by the Presidium.

Presidium members as to 31 december 2022

Chairman

Dr. Ing. Robert Mistrík
Bitmoderna, s. r. o., Bratislava

Vice-Chairman

Dr. h. c. Ing. Peter Fodrek, PhD., host. prof.
Prvá zväračská a. s., Bratislava

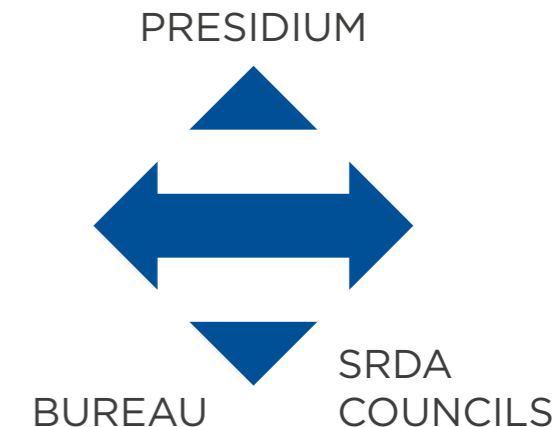
Members

RNDr. Imrich Barák, DrSc.
Institute of Molecular Biology SAS, v. v. i, Bratislava

prof. M. Phil. Jozef Batora, PhD.
Faculty of Arts, Comenius University in Bratislava, Department of Political Science

Ing. Štefan Boháček, PhD.
Výskumný ústav papiera a celulózy, a. s., Bratislava

Fig. 2 Structure of the SRDA



prof. Ing. Marián Brestič, CSc.
Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra

doc. MUDr. Ing. RNDr. Peter Celec, DrSc., MPH
Institute of Molecular Biomedicine, Faculty of Medicine, Comenius University in Bratislava

Ing. Mgr. Tibor Gregor
Klub 500, Bratislava

prof. Mgr. Martin Lysak, PhD., DSc.
Masaryk University, Central European Institute of Technology, Brno

PhDr. Zdenka Mansfeldová, CSc.
Institute of Sociology of the Czech Academy of Sciences v. v. i., Prague

PhDr. Slavomír Michálek, DrSc.
The Institute of History of SAS

prof. RNDr. Peter Moczo, DrSc.
Faculty of Mathematics, Physics and Informatics of the Comenius University in Bratislava

Mgr. Robert Ševčík, PhD.
Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sports of the Slovak Republic, Bratislava

Secretary

Ing. Alena Bokrošová

2.3 SRDA Councils

At its meetings in 2022, the Presidium discussed the strategic tasks arising from the Agency's Statute.

The most discussed and debated topics were:

- SRDA's Main Tasks Plan;
- Approval of the 2022 General Call (GC) as well as bilateral calls;
- Approval of PP MSCA PF 2022 Call;
- Re-nomination of the members of the Councils with their mandate in termination and addition of the new Slovak and foreign members of the Councils;
- Approval of members to the newly established Council for periodic evaluation of research, development, artistic and other creative activities;
- Ensuring the full project funding under the 2017 GC, 2018 GC, 2019 GC, 2020 GC, and 2021 GC Calls;
- the possibility to involve the SRDA in VEGA/KEGA grant schemes;
- Communication with the Office of the Government of the Slovak Republic regarding the possible involvement of SRDA in the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF);
- Amendment to Act 172/2005 Coll.;
- The 2021 SRDA Annual Activity Report and 2021 SRDA Annual Management Report ;
- Budgeting for the next program period,
- Preparing a code list of science & technology branches;
- Current budget drawdown during the year;

Agency Council is an expert body of the Agency set up for a particular area to assess and approve applications for solving the Agency-funded research and development projects, and to control solutions of the Agency-funded projects.

The Council comprises at least seven members who are significant experts in the field of the Council's competence. At least one foreign expert is a member of the Council.

In 2022, these Councils of the Slovak Research and Development Agency worked as follows:

Council for Natural Sciences

Chairman of the Council
prof. RNDr. Peter Samuely, DrSc.
Institute of Experimental Physics SAS, Košice (until 16.3.2022)

Chairman of the Council
prof. RNDr. Michal Zeman, DrSc.
Comenius University in Bratislava, Faculty of Natural Sciences (from 16.3.2022)

Council for Technical Sciences

Chairman of the Council
Dr. h. c., doc. Ing. Juraj Wagner, PhD.
Association of Industrial Research and Development Organizations, Bratislava

Council for Medical Sciences

Chairman of the Council
RNDr. Ján Sedlák, DrSc.
Biomedical Center SAS, Institute of Experimental Oncology (until 16.3.2022)

Chairman of the Council
prof. RNDr. Silvia Pastoreková, DrSc.
Biomedical Center, v. in. i. (from 30.3.2022)

Council for Agricultural Sciences

Chairman of the Council
prof. MVDr. Štefan Faix, DrSc.
SAS Center for Biosciences, Institute of Livestock Physiology SAS (until 16.3.2022)

Chairman of the Council
prof. Ing. Vladimír Tančín, DrSc.
Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra (from 31.3.2022)

Council for Social Sciences

The chairwoman of the Council
prof. Ing. Marta Orviská, PhD.
Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica, Faculty of Economics

Council for Humanities

Chairman of the Council
PhDr. Matej Ruttkay, CSc.
Institute of Archeology SAS, Nitra (until 16.3.2022)

Chairman of the Council
prof. Ing. Peter Markovič, PhD.
University of Economics in Bratislava, Faculty of Business Management (from 29.3.2022)

Council for International Scientific and Technical Cooperation (MVTS)

Chairman of the Council
prof. Ing. Gregor Rozinaj, PhD.
Slovak Technical University in Bratislava, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Informatics (until 12.12.2022)

Chairman of the Council
Ing. Zuzana Ciesarová, CSc.
National Agricultural and Food Center Lužianky (from 13.12.2022)

Council for SRDA Program to Manage the Coronavirus Pandemic and its Effects

Chairman of the Council
doc. MVDr. Norbert Žilka, DrSc.
Institute of Neuroimmunology SAS, Bratislava

Council of the Program for Strengthening the Participation of the Slovak Republic in European Cooperation in Research & Development

The chairwoman of the Council
Mgr. Tatiana Zachar Podolinská, PhD.
Institute of Ethnology and Social Anthropology of the Slovak Republic

03 / The SRDA activities in 2022

3.1 Activities in 2022

Based on the Agency's Main Tasks Plan and within the mentioned financial resources, these Calls were open, and/or launched in 2022:

- General Call GC 2022 for submitting applications for research & development projects in individual groups of fields of science and technology;
- International bilateral call for supporting scientific-technical cooperation SK-FR 2022;
- multilateral call to support scientific and technical cooperation DS-FR 2022;
- public call for submission of applications within the program "Strengthening the Participation of the Slovak Republic in European Cooperation in Research & Development". "titled PP MSCA PF 2022;

The Agency's activities during 2022 included also the following additional tasks:

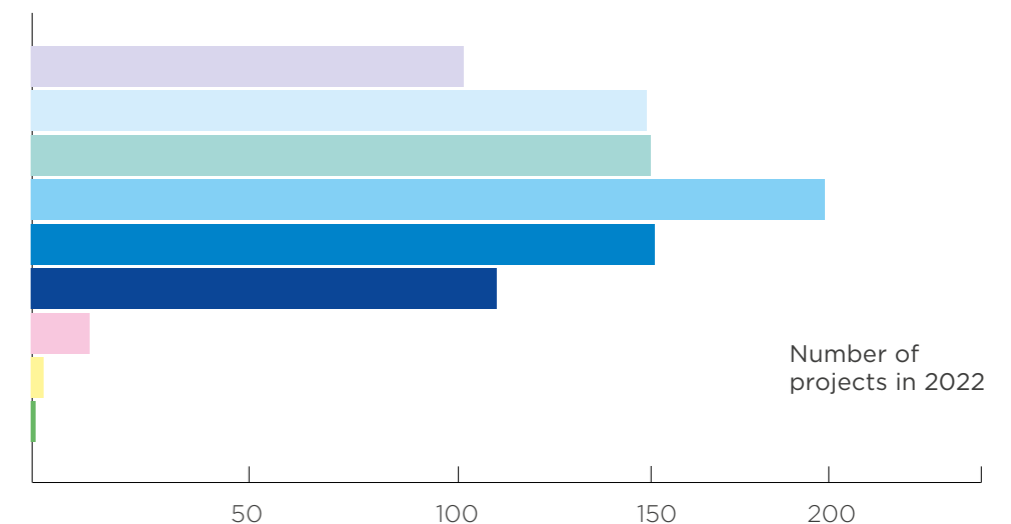
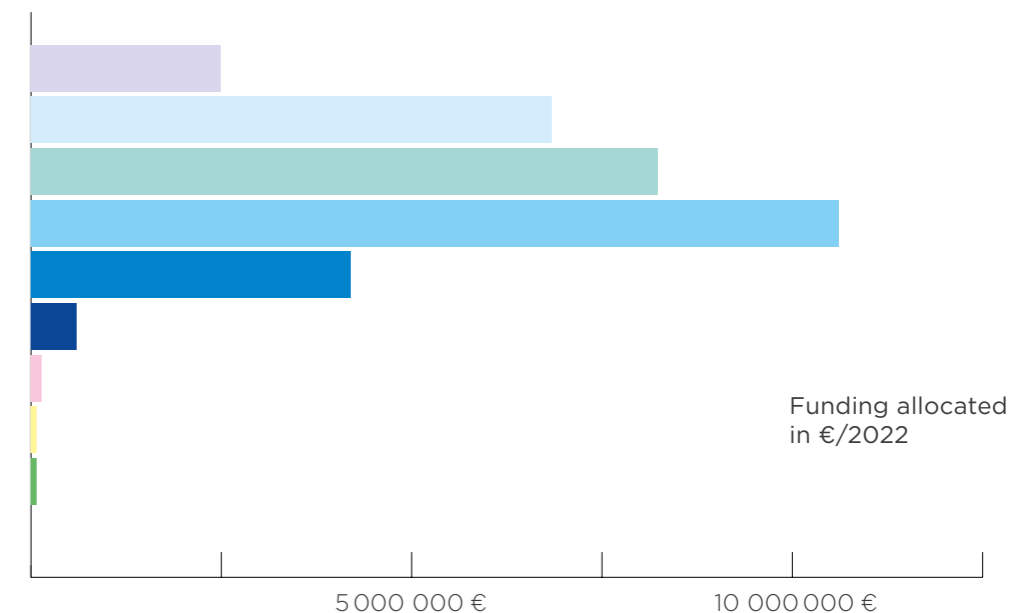
- monitoring projects outputs after their completion in order to obtain relevant data on the project benefits (impacts) on social and economic practice;
- funding of the ongoing projects, i.e. projects with funding, and therefore the solution, started already in previous years and continued in 2022;
- launching the new calls and assessing the applications for financial support submitted under these calls in 2022;

Tab. 1 Project Funding in 2022

Call	Number of projects in 2022	Funds allocated in €/2022
GC 2017	104	2 702 420
GC 2018	148	7 431 673
GC 2019	149	8 948 068
GC 2020	191	11 535 496
GC 2021	150	4 569 907
Bilateral calls	112	651 998
DS-FR 2019	14	72 420
Horizon Europe	3	17 935
MSCA	1	24 870
Total	872	35 954 787

- GC 2017
- GC 2018
- GC 2019
- GC 2020
- GC 2021
- Bilateral calls
- DS-FR 2019
- Horizon Europe
- MSCA

Fig. 3 Amount of Funding and the Total Number of Projects Financed Under the Individual Types of Grant Schemes for 2022



3. 1. 1. Announcement of General Call GC 2022



This activity of the Agency was related to the evaluation of the applications submitted under General Call GC 2022 launched in 2022, with the funding for the selected successful projects starting in 2022. The maximum project period is 48 months.

Characteristics of GC 2022

General Call GC 2022 did not limit the material intent of the projects anyhow. The Applicant determined the intents, objectives, and substance of the research and development project. Legal entities and natural persons - entrepreneurs without any restrictions on their research and development sector, could submit their applications.

Basic information concerning the GC 2022

- Basic information concerning the GC 2022

Basic information about the applications registered:

- total number of applications received / **612**
- of which basic research project applications / **398**
- of which applied research project applications / **206**
- of which development project applications / **8**
- amount of required funds / **140 452 ths. €**
- financial contribution of applicants / **5 956 ths. €**
- total amount of funds / **146 408 ths. €**

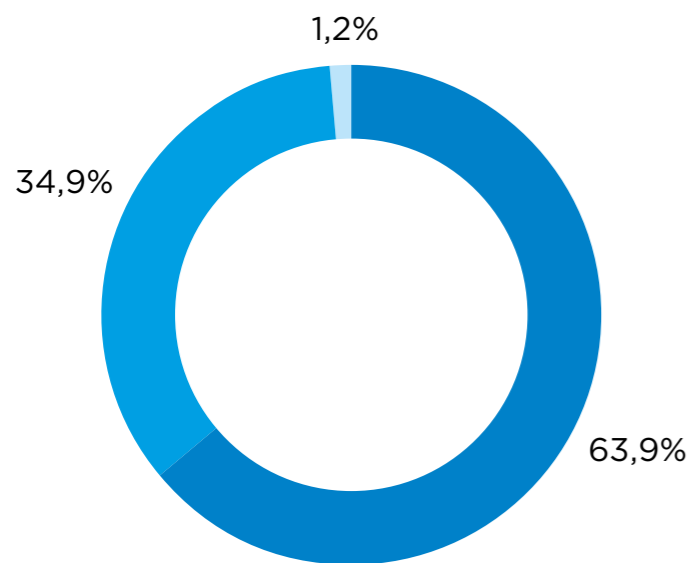


Fig. 4 Registered Applications by Character of Their Research in %

Basic Research	89 737 ths. €
Applied Research	48 982 ths. €
Development	1 733 ths. €

Tab. 2 Number of Applications Registered and Applicants' Financial Requirements / Research

Research	Number of applications submitted	Requirements from SRDA (in ths. of €)
Basic Research	398	89 737
Applied Research	206	48 982
Development	8	1 733
Total	612	140 452

Field of Science	Applications Registered
Natural Sciences	127
Technical Sciences	188
Medical Sciences	74
Agricultural sciences	63
Social Sciences	110
Humanities	49
Artistic sciences	1
Total	612

Tab. 3 Number of Registered Applications/ Field of Science

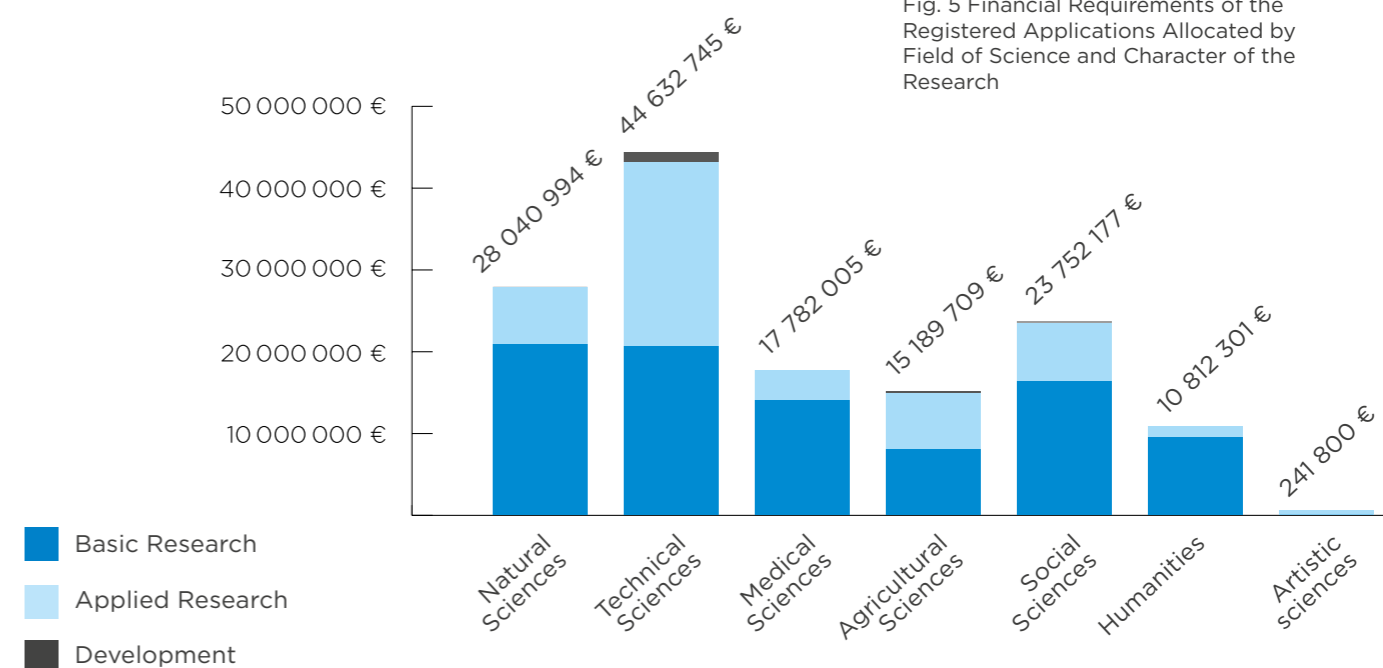


Fig. 5 Financial Requirements of the Registered Applications Allocated by Field of Science and Character of the Research

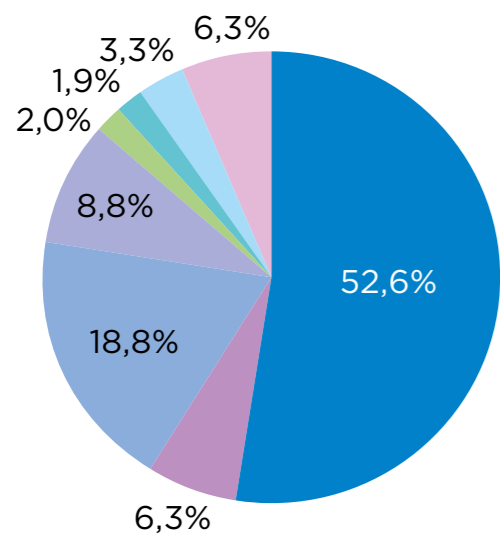


Fig. 6 Funding Requirements by Region

Banská Bystrica Region	6,3%	39 projects	8 802 959 €
Bratislava Region	52,6%	320 projects	73 931 202 €
Košice Region	18,8%	114 projects	26 418 263 €
Nitra Region	8,8%	53 projects	12 352 022 €
Prešov Region	2,0%	12 projects	2 747 827 €
Trenčín Region	1,9%	14 projects	2 612 402 €
Trnava Region	3,3%	21 projects	4 670 082 €
Žilina Region	6,3%	39 projects	8 916 974 €

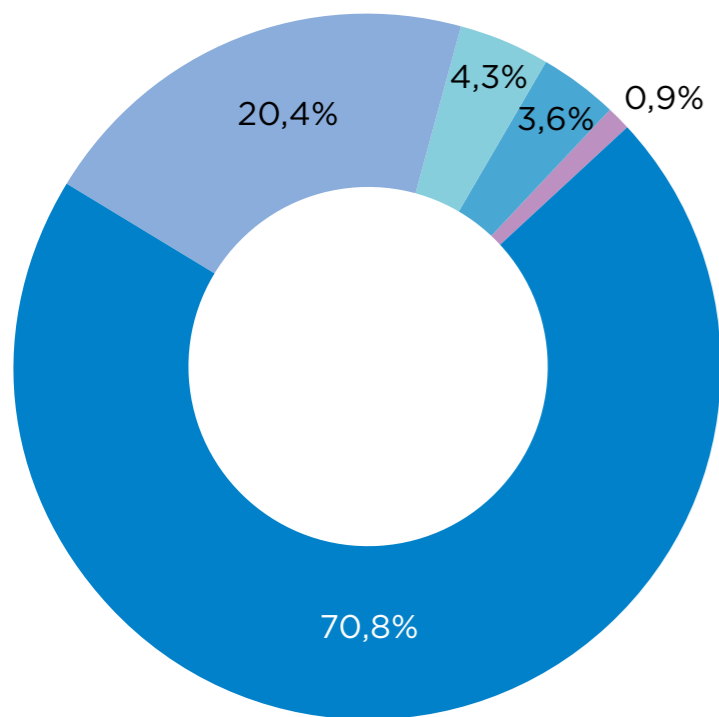


Fig. 7 Financial Requirements for the Applications Submitted under GC 2022 by Sector

Universities	99 375 827 €	439 projects
SAS	28 628 341 €	122 projects
State (SAS excluding)	6 095 266 €	25 projects
Business	5 130 796 €	21 projects
Non-profit	1 221 501 €	5 projects

3. 1. 2. International Cooperation

In 2022, the Agency announced 3 calls within the international scientific and technical cooperation. At the same time, based on the consent of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sports of the Slovak Republic and after mutual agreement with the partner country, the Agency extended the SK-AT 2020 project period by one year until the end of 2023. In connection with the situation in Ukraine and the related support for Ukrainian scientists, the Agency has updated the Binding Conditions for Managing Funds during the SK-UA 2021 project implementation. The stated Binding Conditions for Managing Funds entered their validity and effectiveness on 01.06.2022 and in their entirety replaced the previous Binding Conditions for Managing Funds during the SK-UA 2021 project implementation. Bilateral call projects are international cooperation projects aimed at establishing new or intensifying the existing scientific and technical cooperation, using mainly the following tools:

- preparation of joint international projects;
- preparation of joint publications and other outputs;
- active participation in conferences;
- organisation of joint scientific events;
- mutual use of instruments and laboratory techniques;
- collecting research materials,
- involvement of Ph.D. students, and/or young R & D personnel (aged under 35).

New challenges for bilateral cooperation in 2022

In 2022, the Agency announced a bilateral call with the French Republic with an amount of funds allocated to the supported projects for the entire project period in the amount of € 86,000. The total amount of funds provided by the Agency for the solution of one project was limited to a maximum amount of € 5,300 for the entire project period, and a maximum of € 2,650 for the calendar year of the project. The projects will be solved in the years 2023 - 2025 with the beginning of the solution from 01.07.2023. Under the Call, 19 applications were submitted. In 2022, the Agency announced a multilateral call named Danube Strategy-France 2022 for joint projects supporting cooperation between organizations in Slovakia,

Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Montenegro, Austria, Serbia and France with a volume of funds allocated to the supported projects for the entire project period in the amount of €200,000. The total amount of funds provided by the Agency per project was limited to a maximum amount per calendar year according to the number of countries involved in the project. The projects will be implemented between 2023-2025 with the 1 July 2023 as the beginning of the implementation period. Under the call, 38 applications were submitted.

3. 1. 3. PP MSCA PF 2022 Call Announced

In 2022, the Agency announced a public call for applications under the program "Strengthening the Participation of the Slovak Republic in European Cooperation in Research & Development". The main purpose of the PP MSCA PF 2022 Call was to support for Postdoctoral Fellowships Marie SkłodowskaCurie Actions projects, which received the "Seal-of-Excellence" rating from the European Commission. These were projects that were evaluated by the European Commission as high quality, but did not receive financial contributions. The intention was to support the excellent research of the principal investigator carried out within research and development organizations in the Slovak Republic. Support within this Call was implemented in the form of providing financial resources under specified conditions for the solution of projects that achieved the "SealofExcellence" certificate within the Horizon Europe grant call, Marie SkłodowskaCurie Actions Postdoctoral Fellowships. Project support was intended for all R&D sectors in accordance with Act no. 172/2005 Coll. as amended, including research enterprises (micro, small and medium, large) and the non-profit sector. The total amount of funds intended for the entire period of evaluation and solution of the projects supported in this Call was a maximum of €600,000. The total amount of funds provided by the Agency for one project is at most the amount that was approved for the applicant in the Horizon Europe MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships project as part of the "Seal of Excellence" assessment, while it is limited to a maximum amount of €300,000 for the entire project duration. In the Call, 1 application was submitted, which was funded.

3.2 General Call GC 2021

This activity of the Agency related to the evaluation of the applications submitted under General Call GC 2021 in 2021, while funding for the selected successful projects started in 2022 with maximum project period until 2026.

Characteristics of GC 2021

GC 2021 General Call did not limit the substance of the projects anyhow. The Applicant determines the intents, objectives and substance of the research and development project. Legal entities and natural persons - entrepreneurs without any restriction on their R & D sector, could submit the applications.

Basic information concerning the GC 2021

- Deadline for submitting the applications: 10. 09. 2021 - 11. 11. 2021

Basic information about the applications registered:

- total number of the applications received / 518
- of which basic project applications / 333
- of which applied research project applications / 172
- of which development project applications / 13
- the amount of funds requested / € 119,987
- financial contribution of applicants / € 6,428
- total amount of funds / € 126,415

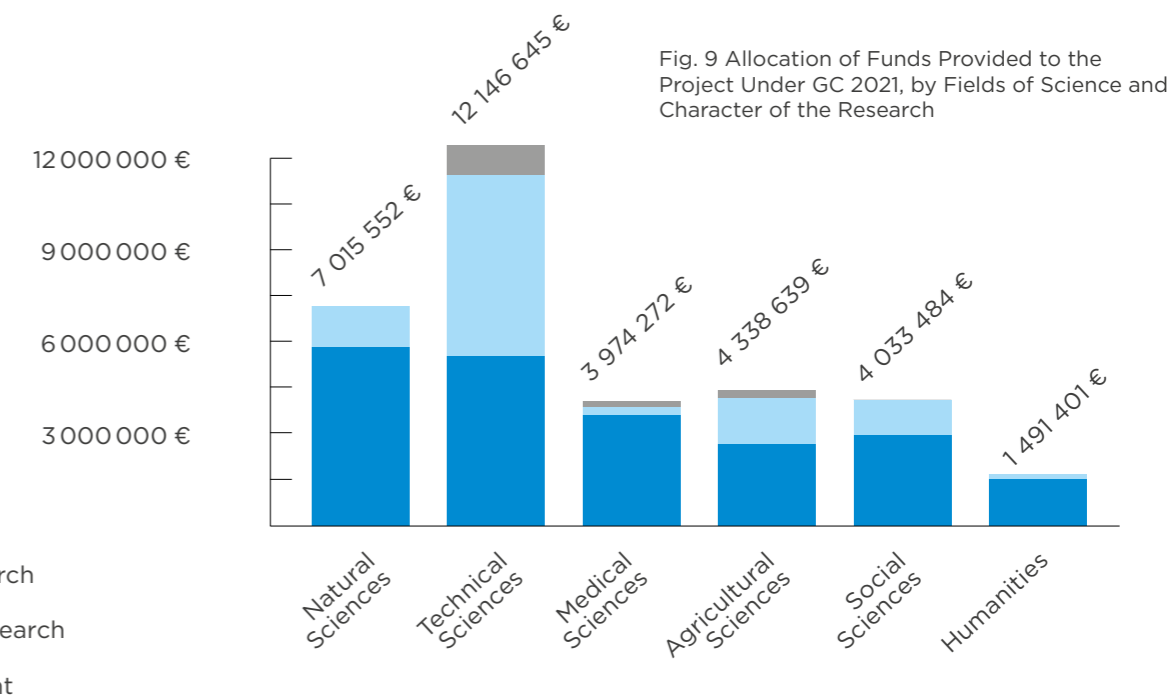
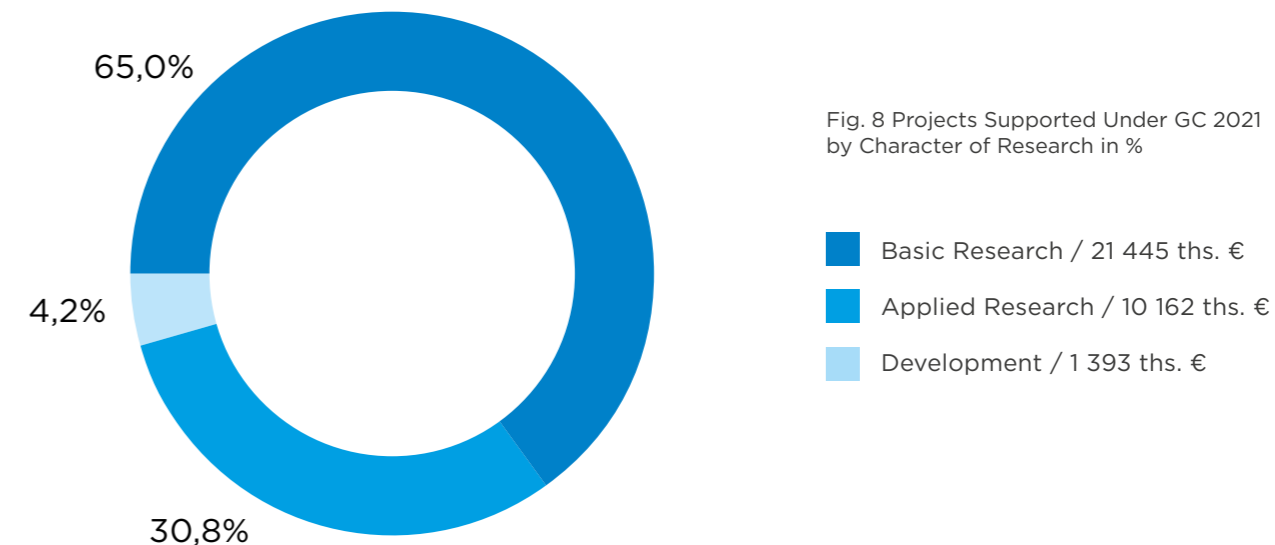
Basic information concerning the assessment process:

- deadline for application assessment / **May 2022**
- total number of applications / **521**
- number of applications rejected (technical and formal control) / **11**
- number of applications withdrawn by the Applicant / **3**
- number of applications under expert assessment/ **507**
- number of applications with funding provided / **150**
- of which basic research projects applications / **100**
- of which applied research projects applications / **44**
- of which development project applications / **6**
- average success rate of applications submitted in % / **28.96 %**
- funding approved in total / **33,000 €**
- funding provided in 2021 / **4,570 €**

Under the General Call GC 2021, a total of 521 applications for funding for research and development projects were submitted. After a technical and formal control, 11 applications were rejected. 507 applications were submitted to an expert assessment, based on which 150 applications were funded. Slovak Research and Development Agency allocated amount of 33 mil. € for General Call GC 2021. The latest project completion date is June 30, 2026.

Tab. 4 Number of Applications Supported, by Character of Research

Research	Number of Projects Funded	Funding Approved in ths. €
Basic Research	100	21 445 404
Applied Research	44	10 161 605
Development	6	1 392 984
Total	150	32 999 993



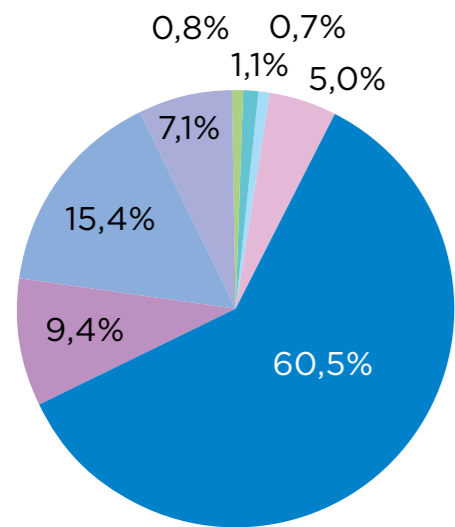


Fig. 10 Allocation of Funds, by Region

Banská Bystrica Region	/ 9,4%	/ 13 projects	/ 3 093 833 €
Bratislava Region	/ 60,5%	/ 92 projects	/ 19 967 211 €
Košice Region	/ 15,4%	/ 24 projects	/ 5 081 983 €
Nitra Region	/ 7,1%	/ 10 projects	/ 2 349 482 €
Prešov Region	/ 0,8%	/ 1 project	/ 244 507 €
Trenčín Region	/ 1,1%	/ 2 projects	/ 369 502 €
Trnava Region	/ 0,7%	/ 1 project	/ 230 851 €
Žilina Region	/ 5,0%	/ 7 projects	/ 1 662 624 €

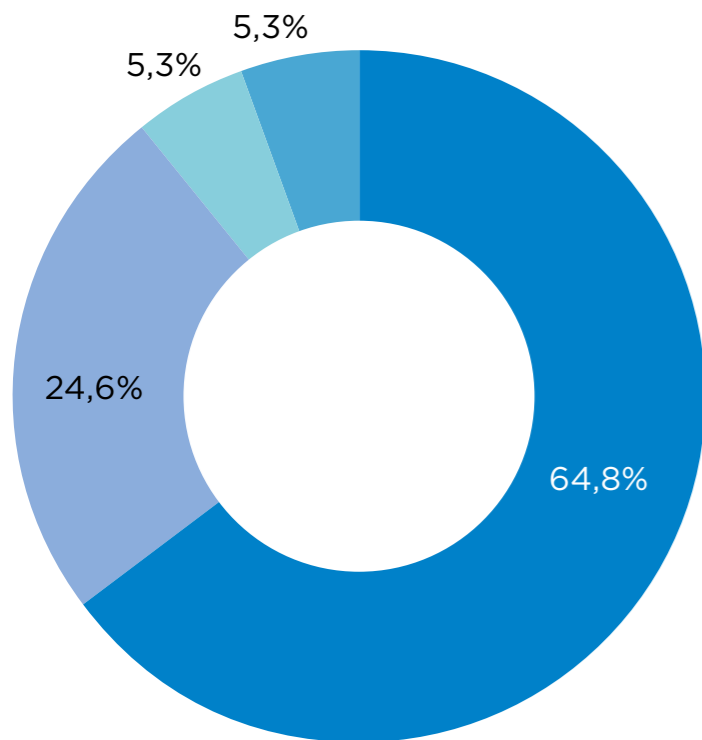


Fig. 11 Funds Provided, by Sector in %

Universities	/ 21 403 790 €
SAS	/ 8 116 203 €
State (SAS excluding)	/ 1 740 461 €
Business	/ 1 739 539 €
Non-profit	/ 0 €

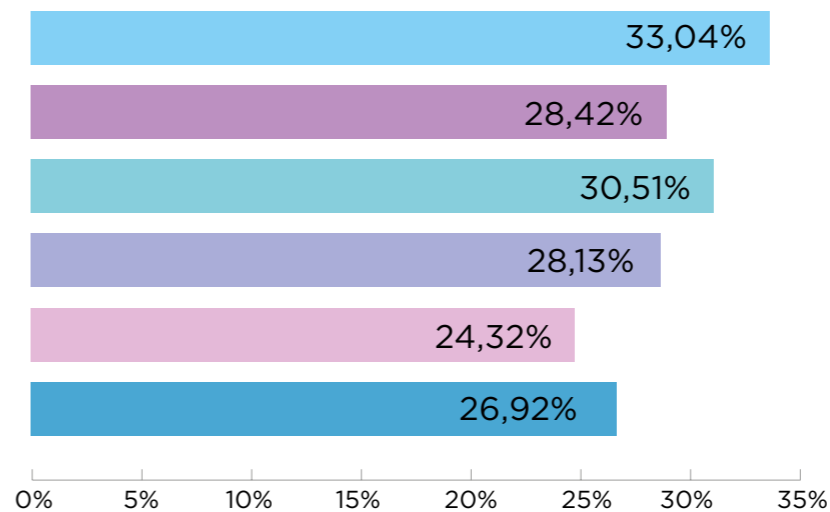


Fig. 12 Success Rate of the Applications Submitted, by Field of Science

Natural Sciences
Technical Sciences
Medical Sciences
Agricultural Sciences
Social Sciences
Humanities

Fig. 13 Success Rate of Submitted Applications, by Character of Research in %

Basic Research
Applied Research
Development

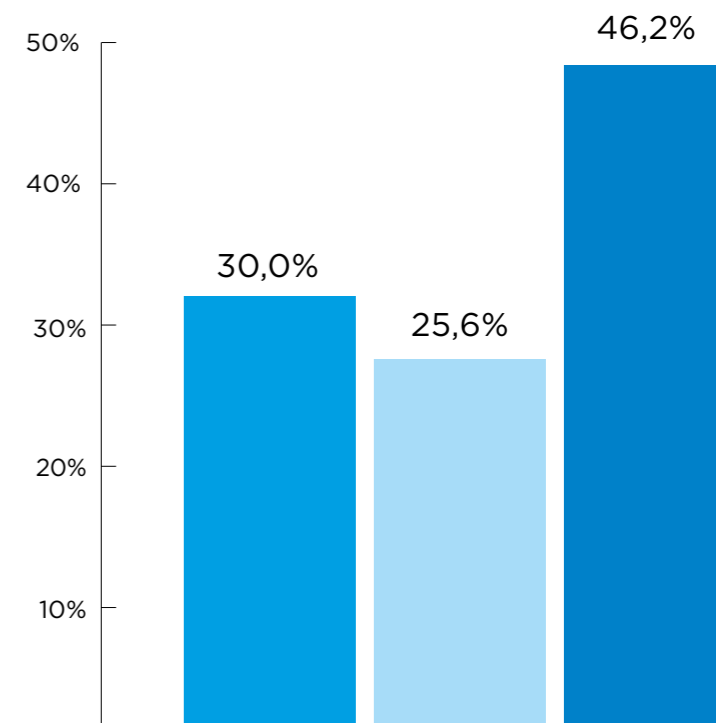
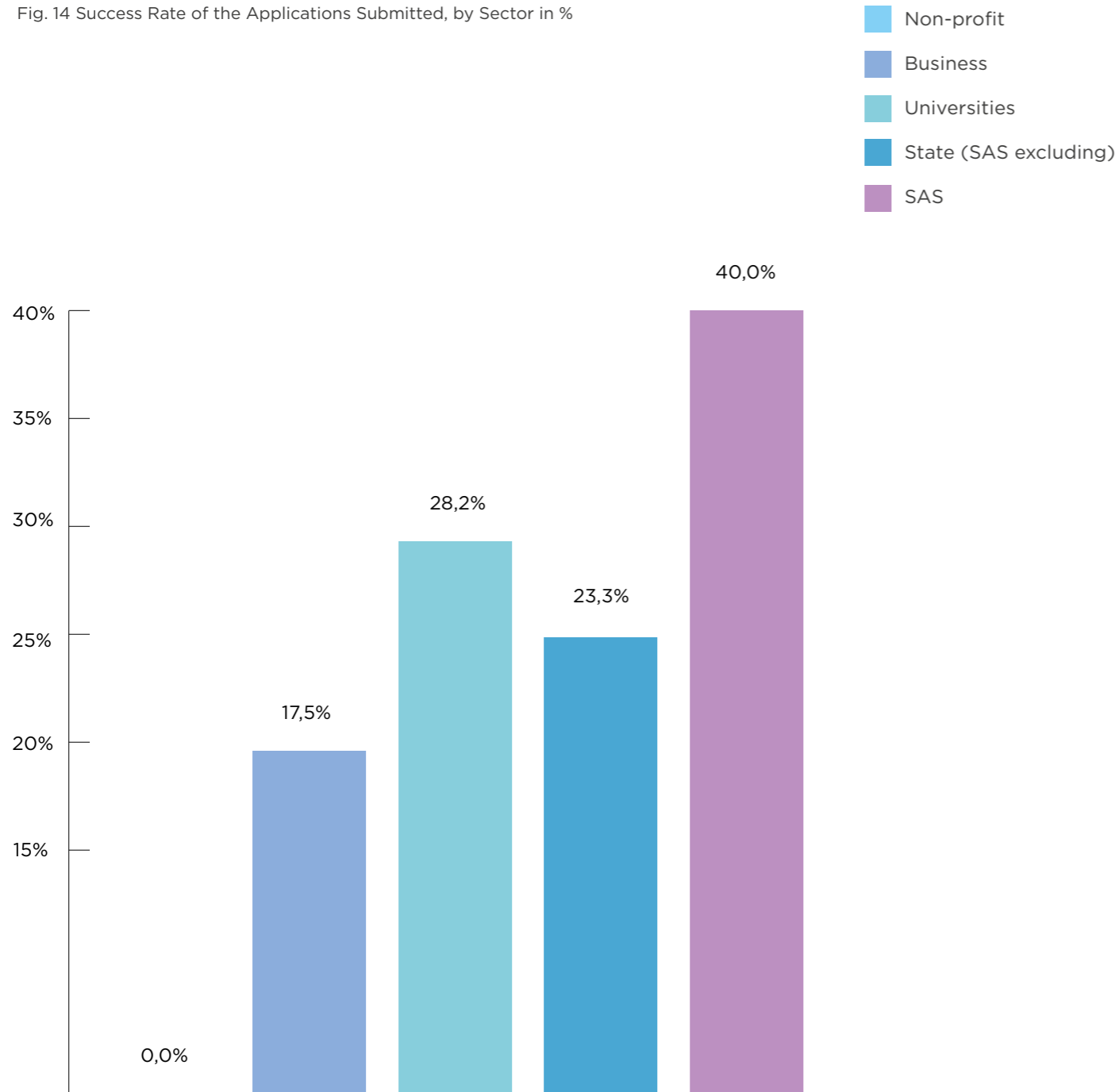


Fig. 14 Success Rate of the Applications Submitted, by Sector in %



3.3 Funding of the Ongoing Projects

A very important but also costly task was the funding of the ongoing projects, i.e. the projects whose funding and solution had started already in the previous years and continued in 2022. The funding of the ongoing projects was carried out under the conditions stated in Act No. 172/2005 Coll.

The Agency may always allocate funding for the project solution for a maximum period of one financial year. The Agency provided funds for the ongoing projects under the general and bilateral calls in the next project year, based on the of annual project reports evaluated by the SRDA Councils and upon their approval to continue them. The annual report comprises an expert section presenting the expert findings in accordance with the project schedule, and a financial part with an overview of the drawings of the funds provided for the given financial year.

In the period from March to May 2022, the projects, recommended by the SRDA Councils for continuing their solution, were provided funds for the given year according to the approved project budget. During April, May and June 2022, the funding was provided to the projects that were suspended and called upon by the SRDA Councils to amend their annual reports and then were subsequently re-approved to continue their solution.

Tab. 5 Funding of the Ongoing Projects in General Calls

Call	Number of Projects	Funding started in
GC 2017	104	2018
GC 2018	148	2019
GC 2019	149	2020
GC 2020	191	2021
GC 2021	150	2022

Tab. 6 Funding Provided in 2022 for the Ongoing Projects in General Calls

Call	Number of Projects	Current exp.	Capital exp.	Total
GC 2017	104	2 702 420	0	2 702 420
GC 2018	148	7 431 673	0	7 431 673
GC 2019	149	8 948 068	0	8 948 068
GC 2020	191	11 535 496	0	11 535 496
GC 2021	150	4 569 907	0	4 569 907
Total	742	35 187 564	0	35 187 564

Information on the Bilateral and Multilateral Cooperation Projects

Evaluated in 2018, 2019 with Funding Continued in 2022

In 2022, the Agency continued to fund bilateral research projects SK-BY-RD 2019, classic bilateral projects SK-PT 2018 and SK-FR 2019, and multilateral projects DS-FR 2019 submitted in 2018 and 2019. The projects were submitted within international scientific and technical cooperation with the Portuguese Republic, the French Republic and the Republic of Belarus.

The total amount of funds provided in 2022 was € 232,476 with € 29,596 for 11 projects under the SK-PT 2018 Call, € 25,600 for 10 projects under the SK-FR 2019 Call, € 104,860 for 4 projects under the SK-BY-RD 2019 Call, € 72,420 for 14 projects under DS-FR 2019 Call.

Evaluated in 2020 with funding continued in 2022

In 2022, the Agency continued funding the bilateral SK-AT 2020 projects. The projects were submitted within international scientific and technical cooperation with the Republic of Austria. The total amount of funds provided in 2022 amounted to € 33, 381 for 10 projects under the SK-AT 2020 Call.

Submitted in 2021 with funding in 2022

In 2022, the Agency started funding of the bilateral projects SK-CN 2021, SK-PL 2021, SK-SRB 2021, SK-UA 2021, and SK-TW 2021. The projects were submitted within international scientific and technical cooperation with the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Serbia, Ukraine, and the Republic of China (Taiwan).

The total amount of funds provided for 13 bilateral research projects under the SK-CZ-RD 2021 Call was €231,283. The total amount of funds provided in 2022 for bilateral projects was €227,278, namely €72,000 for 13 projects under the SK-CN 2021 Call, €20,000 for 4 projects under the SK-TW 2021 Call, €64,050 for 10 projects under the SK-UA 2021 Call, €39,278 for 17 project within the SK-SRB 2021 Call, and €31,950 for 16 projects under the SK-PL 2021 Call. Bilateral research projects under the SK-RU-RD 2021 Call were suspended. The Agency provided funding for the reimbursement of eligible costs spent in 2022 for the preparation of the project proposal in the Horizon Europe program in the amount of 17,935€ for 3 projects.

3.4 Projects Completed in 2022

In 2022, the Agency finally evaluated 124 projects with their project period expiring by December 31, 2021. The Agency's Councils evaluated the project outcomes considering the pre-defined criteria and then they closed the projects.

Projects under the General call

In 2022, the Agency's Councils evaluated the GC 2016 projects with extended project period due to the Covid19 pandemic situation, part of the GC 2017 projects and also the GC 2018 project, i.e. 87 projects in total. Not all final project reports under the GC 2017 Call were evaluated, in this case the project period of projects under this Call was allowed to be extended due to the Covid-19 pandemic situation.

Projects of Bilateral Cooperation

In 2022, the Council of the Agency for International Scientific and Technical Cooperation evaluated project under SK-IL-RD 2018 (3), SK-CN-RD 2018 (3), SK-SRB 2018 (16), and SK-PL 2018 (15) Call, 37 project in total.

The Council of the Agency for International Scientific and Technological Cooperation will evaluate projects of bilateral and multilateral cooperation, for which the solution period ended on July 31, 2022 and on December 31, 2022 in the first quarter of 2023. These are the projects under the SK-PT 2018, SK-FR 2019, DS-FR 2019, and SK-BY-RD 2019 Calls.

3.5 Monitoring of the Projects Completed in the previous years

As per the wording of the Agreement, for a period of three months from the end of the project the researcher of General Call and SF7FP project is obliged to inform the Agency on the social and economic benefits of the project findings in the form of a Monitoring Report.

Most of the projects under the SK-IL-RD 2018 Call, specifically SK-IL-RD-18-0005, 0008, are expected to submit a monitoring report for the period from 1 October 2021 to 31 December 2022 by 31 March 2023. Projects under the SK-CN-RD 2018 Call, namely SK-CN-RD-18-0005, 0006 and 0015, will also submit their first monitoring report for the period from 1 October 2021 to 31 December 2022 by 31 March 2023.

The projects of the SK-BY-RD 2019 Call, namely SK-BY-RD-19-0008, 0011, 0014 and 0019, with project period expired on 31.7.2022, will submit the first monitoring report for the period from 1.8.2022 to 31.12.2023 by 31.3.2024.

These are the main project outputs categories:

Category 1	Publications & Citations
Category 2	Patents, Inventions, and Utility Models
Category 3	Applied outputs with defined economic indicators
Category 4	"Education & Popularization of Science" Outputs
Category 5	Other outputs
Category 6	Research & Development Project Added value

Tab. 7 Projects monitored after their completion

Call	Funding of the Call Finished in (year)	Number of the Projects Monitored
GC 2014	2019	142
GC 2015	2020	267
GC 2016	2021	49
GC 2017	2022	4
SF7FP	Call finished	2

Tab. 8 Benefits and outputs of the projects completed

Call	Number of Projects with International CC Publications	Number of New SCI Citations	Number of Projects with Applied Output	Number of Applied Outputs
GC 2014	33	2 915	11	36
GC 2015	106	5 565	22	60
GC 2016	73	1 837	36	81
GC 2017	79	1 248	44	126
Total	291	11 565	113	303

04 / State Aid

Providing financial support from public sources to the entities that carry out an economic activity, irrespective of their legal status and the way of financing, is considered as State aid. These entities are allowed then to promote the most efficient process of research exploitation, interlinking the research with market, and the resulting economic and social development of the country. It contributes to increasing the competitiveness of enterprises, increasing their production and quality of their products and services, creating new jobs, etc.

In 2022, the Agency provided State aid to research and development projects under the Research and Development Support Scheme by the Slovak Research and Development Agency (State Aid Scheme) as by Addendum 1 to SA. 49175, and based on the Research and Development Support Scheme by the Slovak Research and Development Agency (State Aid Scheme) as by Addendum 1 and Addendum 2 to SA. 58654.

On 25 September 2017, the European Commission registered, under the current legislation, updated Research and Development Support Scheme by the Slovak Research and Development Agency (State Aid Scheme), as amended by Addendum 1 (State Aid Scheme SA.49175). The Scheme expired on December 31, 2020.

On August 27, 2020, On 27.08. In 2020, the Research and Development Support Scheme of the Slovak Research and Development Agency (State Aid Scheme) was published in the Official Journal, as amended by Addendum 1 and 2 (State aid scheme SA.58654), entering thus into force and effect. The aid under this scheme is implemented by providing the state budget funds in the form of a non-repayable financial contribution on the basis of a contract concluded in writing. The Scheme applies to the provision of aid only for research and development projects under Article 25 of EU Commission Regulation No. 651/2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market pursuant to Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty. The wording of the said State aid scheme is valid until December 31, 2023.

4.1 Evaluation of the SRDA- Provided State Aid

In 2022, 24 entities were provided aid under the State Aid Scheme. The total amount of the aid provided amounted to € 1,947,530.

Financial resources were provided to individual entities for funding several projects on the basis of three state aid schemes, namely SA.42450, SA.49175, and SA.58654 (several public calls).

State aid was provided to 36 recipients through 34 projects for 24 entities, of which 3 entities had their co-financing only from state-funded sources.

Within 24 entities, 8 entities were micro enterprises, 8 entities were small enterprises, 6 entities a medium-sized enterprise and 3 entities large enterprise. One entity changed in the size classification, therefore it was included in two size categories. Within individual schemes, the entities repeated in the size category.

Regional distribution of total state aid, by regions, was as follows:

Within the regions, the aid was provided to 12 entities in the Bratislava Region, 2 entities in the Košice Region, 1 entity in the Nitra region, 2 entities in the Banská Bystrica Region, 2 entities in the Trenčín Region and 4 entities in the Žilina region.

Tab. 9 Regional Distribution of the Total State Aid Provided

Scheme	Based on NUTS III							
	Bratislava region	Trnava region	Trenčín region	Nitra region	Žilina region	Banská Bystrica region	Prešov region	Košice region
SA.49175	0,53 mil.	0 mil.	0,07 mil.	0 mil.	0,08 mil.	0,01 mil.	0 mil.	0,03 mil.
SA.42450	0,75 mil.	0,12 mil.	0,04 mil.	0,04 mil.	0,16 mil.	0,03 mil.	0 mil.	0,09 mil.

	Amount in €
Bratislava Region	1 279 764
Trnava Region	116755
Trenčín Region	113222
Nitra Region	40775
Žilina Region	240579
Banská Bystrica Region	41047
Prešov Region	0
Košice Region	115388
Total	1 947 530

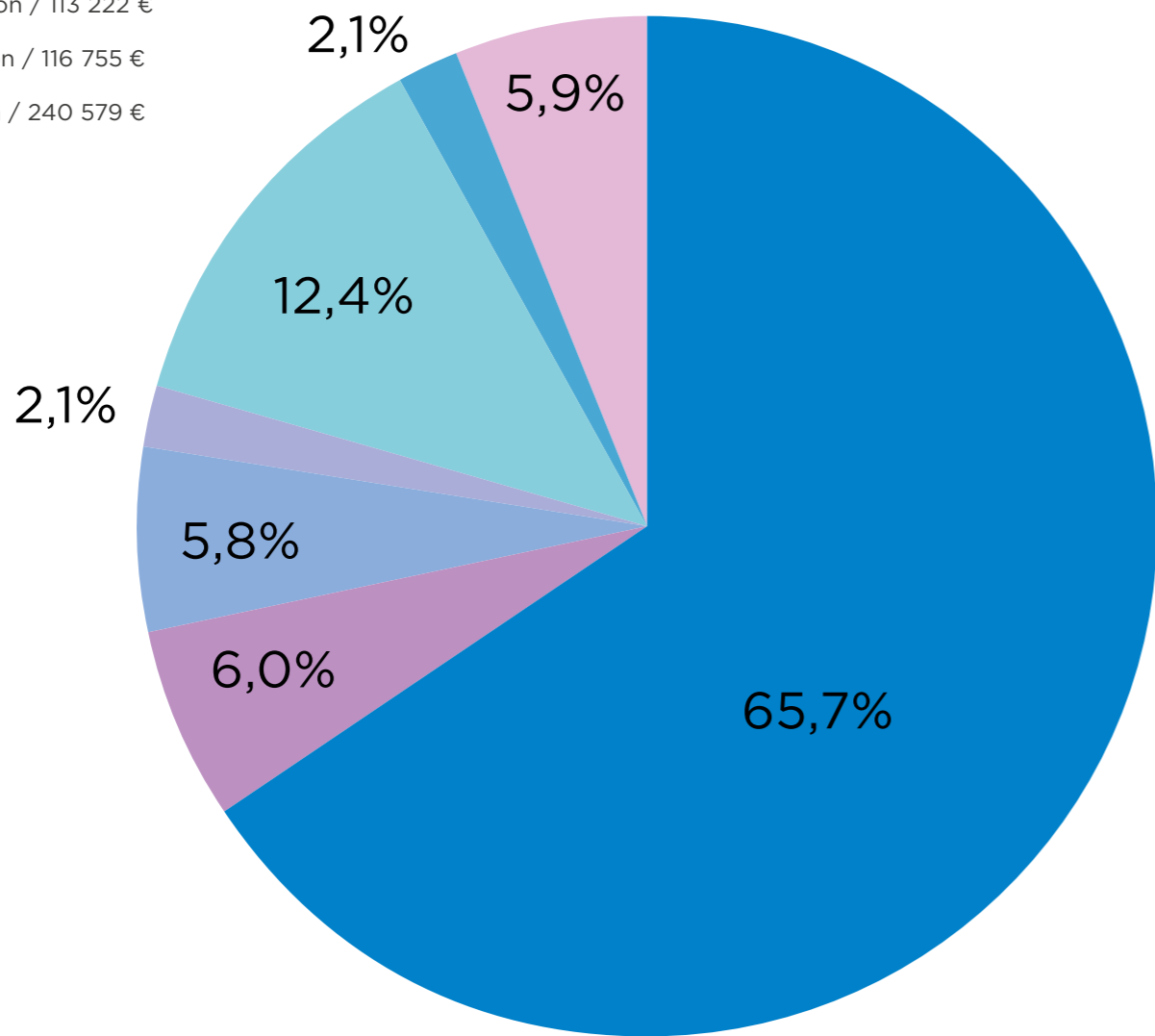
Tab. 10 Regional Distribution of Total State Aid

4.2 Further Actions in the SRDA – Provided State Aid

In the next period, the Agency will continue to provide the State aid to new projects under the Research and Development Support Scheme by the Slovak Research and Development Agency (State Aid Scheme), as by Addendum 3 to SA.104223, the wording of which is valid until December 31, 2023. The Ad hoc de Minimis Aid rules govern any aid provided for the projects not covered by the approved State Aid Scheme.

- Banská Bystrica region / 41 047 €
- Bratislava region / 1 279 764 €
- Košice region / 115 388 €
- Nitra region / 40 775 €
- Prešov region / 0 €
- Trenčín region / 113 222 €
- Trnava region / 116 755 €
- Žilina region / 240 579 €

Fig. 15 Regional distribution of the total aid provided at the regional level



05 / SRDA budget

In order to carry out the activities as specified by Act No. 172/2005 Coll., budget amounting totally to € 41,537,662 was approved for 2022 in the form of a binding indicators breakdown by the MŠVVaŠ SR to finance the Agency's operation and to finance the projects, i.e. to support research and development.

Under the 06K11 sub-program, a budget of € 1,573,931 was approved as to January 1, 2022 for the Agency's operation and € 39,963,731 for project funding (to support research and development).

During this year, the MŠVVaŠ SR additionally adjusted the Agency's budget by the 9 budgetary measures. Their purpose was to ensure the funding of research and development projects as well as the operation of the Agency in the scope of the performed activities, due to an increase in revenues, valorization of wages and salaries, increase of current expenses for rewards in accordance with the Collective Agreement of a higher level, return of current expenses from the projects, reclassification of current expenses to capital expenses and binding of current expenses from 2022 to 2023. A breakdown of the approved budget, adjusted budget, and budget utilization as of 31.12.2022 is listed in Tab. 11.

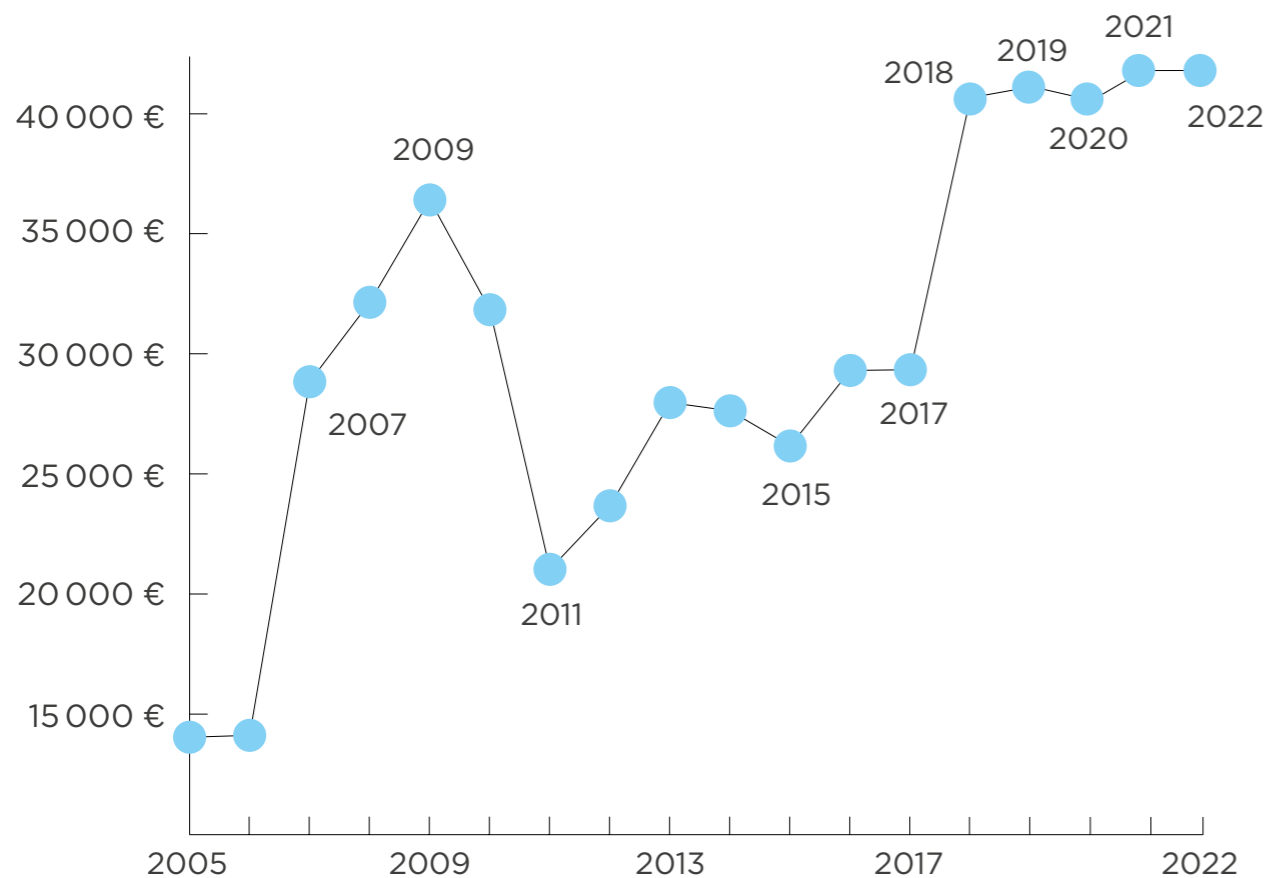


Fig. 16 Development of the Agency's Budget during 2005 - 2022 in thousands of euros

Tab. 11 Budgeted funds and their drawdowns in 2022 in €

06 K 11 Program	Approved as of January 1, 2022	Budget as of December 31, 2022	Drawdown as of December 31, 2022
Operation of the Agency	1 573 931	1 612 605	1 612 605
Current	1 573 931	1 605 419	1 605 419
Capital	0	7 186	7 186
Support for Research and Development	39 963 731	36 464 367	36 366 015
Current	39 963 731	36 464 367	36 366 015
Capital	0	0	0
SRDA Budget in Total	41 537 662	38 076 972	37 978 619

Tab. 12 Overview of the Projects Supported by Individual Calls / Programs, and Amount of Financial Support Provided in 2022 in €

Call / Program	Current Expenditure	Capital Expenditure	Total
General Call - GC 2017	2 702 420	0	2 702 420
General Call - GC 2018	7 431 673	0	7 431 673
General Call - GC 2019	8 948 068	0	8 948 068
General Call - GC 2020	11 535 496	0	11 535 496
General Call - GC 2021	4 569 907	0	4 569 907
Bilateral Projects	651 998	0	651 998
Danube Strategy 2019 DS-FR	72 420	0	72 420
PP-H-EUROPE 2020	17 935	0	17 935
PP MSCA PF 2022	24 870	0	24 870
SRDA Budget in Total	35 954 787	0	35 954 787

Tab. 13 Structure of Funding Provided for the Projects Supported in 2022/Sector in €

Type of Organisation	Current Expenditure	Capital Expenditure	Total
State Organisations and SAS	1 809 522	0	1 809 522
Public Universities	21 353 124	0	21 353 124
Public research institutions	10 335 682	0	10 335 682
Non - profit organisations, OZ, nadácie Civic associations, foundations	168 626	0	168 626
Business entities (s. r. o., a. s.)	2 244 820	0	2 244 820
Private university colleges	43 013	0	43 013
Total	35 954 787	0	35 954 787

As clear from the structure of the R&D recipients, the grants were provided mostly to public universities, followed by the SAS, and state organizations.

06 / Human resources

6.1 SRDA Bureau

Development of the number of the SRDA staff depends on the funds allocated for wages, and on the provision of processes at all organizational units.

The average registered number of the SRDA employees as of December 31, 2022 was 35.

The average recalculated number of employees for 2022 was 33.6.

The registered number of employees as of December 31, 2022 was 35.

During the year 2022, the Agency's staffing capacities were comprised by its core members and 171 top

representatives of science and technology of the Slovak Republic, who worked in the SRDA professional bodies. Personnel capacities are provided with a view to implementing processes in the area of projects under the General Calls, projects of bilateral cooperation, projects within the "Strengthening the Participation of the Slovak Republic in European Cooperation in Research & Development" in accordance with the resolution of the Government of the Slovak Republic no. 707/2020 and of the program.

The average age of the SRDA employees in 2022 was 41,9 years.

Remuneration of the SRDA staff is governed by Act No. 553/2003 Coll. on Remuneration of Certain Employees During Performance of Works of Public Interest.

Tab. 14 Number of Employees by Organizational Structure

Organizational units	Number of employees as of 1. 1. 2022	Number of employees as of 31. 12. 2022
Director's office	8	9
Control Department	4	4
Department of Human Resources	2	2
Department of Projects	12	11
Department of Economics and Internal Operations	5	4
Department of International Cooperation and State Aid	3	5
Total	34	35

Tab. 15 Structure of the SRDA Employees by their Qualification as of December 31, 2022

Level of Education	Number of Employees	Of which women
Secondary Education	5	3
Higher Education - 1st Level	1	1
Higher Education - 2nd Level	25	17
Higher Education - 3rd Level	4	3
Total	35	24

6.2 SRDA Social Policy

SRDA has concluded employers' contracts with three supplementary pension companies: NN Tatry Sympatia, UNIQA, STABILITA, and DDS Tatra banka. As of December 31, 2022, 71.4% of the staff was involved in the supplementary pension savings scheme. Services under the Multisport Program were available for the SRDA staff in 2022.

6.3 Education and Trainings of the Employees

In order to increase and deepen the professional qualifications of the employees, the Agency enables them to attend trainings, courses, and specialised seminars organised by vocational training institutions.

The Agency's staff trainings were available upon the Agency's financial situation. Specialized seminars, trainings and courses covered mainly legislative changes of generally binding legal regulations and regulations governing the SRDA's activities in areas as budget rules of public administration for purchasing the public administration IT, IT law, for changes in social and health insurance, changes in the salaries and in the area of implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility and the Law on Complaints.

The group of expert trainings focused on legislative changes related to amendments to the Labour Code and changes in the application of the tax bonus. In connection with the provision of health protection at work and fire protection in the SRDA, pre-medical first aid training was held in 2022.

In order to improve the quality of employees' communication in foreign languages, the SRDA organised language courses in 2022 online due to the pandemic situation related to the coronavirus.

07 / Audit Activities

7.1 External Audit Activities

In 2022, the SRDA conducted on-site financial controls in accordance with Act no. 357/2015 Coll. on financial control and audit and on amendments to certain laws.

The on-site financial controls were aimed at verifying compliance with the principles of economy, efficiency, effectiveness and expediency in managing the public finances and adherence to the conditions for their use during the project period.

In compliance with the 2022 Audit Plan - the On-site Financial Controls (continuously amended by Amendment 1 and Amendment 2 during 2022), 24 financial on-site controls were scheduled and conducted in the monitored period of 2022.

An overview of the on-site financial controls is given in Tab. 16.

Overview of On-Site Controls in 2022

Number of controls planned	24
Number of controls carried out	24
Number of controls completed to 31.12.	22
Shortcomings found - number of controls	17

In 2022, on-site financial controls included control of the correctness of expenditure drawdowns in the total amount of € 4,463,580. The on-site financial controls found a violation of financial discipline amounting to € 40, 885.76. In total, the authorised person imposed 45 measures to address the shortcomings identified and the causes of their occurrence.

Reasons for violating the financial discipline were as follows:

1. unauthorised drawdown of public funds used in contradiction to the valid legislation of SR, rules and conditions based on which the public funds were provided;
2. use of public funds beyond the scope of the authorisation, resulting in an over-use of the public funds;
3. applying higher expenses / costs than the expenditure / costs actually incurred;
4. applying expenses / costs for purpose other than the project solution;
5. applying expenses / costs outside the settlement period.

7.2 Internal Audit Activities

In accordance with the approved 2022 Audit Plan, the SRDA Control Department performed ten internal controls in the evaluation year, focusing on:

1. compliance with internal procedures in accordance with the directive "Asset Declaration of Senior Employees"
2. compliance with internal procedures in accordance with compliance with the SRDA decisions on "Establishment of the SRDA Decommissioning and Liquidation Commission" and the appointment of its members, Establishment of the "SRDA Damages Commission" and the appointment of its members
3. compliance with internal procedures in accordance with the "SRDA Concept of the OSH Management System" directive, control of fire protection and OSH trainings
4. compliance with internal procedures in accordance with the Methodological Instruction titled Representing employees during their absence from the workplace
5. compliance with internal procedures in accordance

Tab. 16 The SRDA On-Site Financial Controls Carried Out in 2022

Name of the Liable Person	Total Amount of Funds in € audited by the SRDA
Comenius University in Bratislava (APVV-15-0111)	249 942,00
National Forest Centre (APVV-15-0531)	249 733,00
Institute of Experimental Physics SAS, v.v.i. (APVV-15-0665)	159 885,00
Comenius University in Bratislava (APVV-16-0062)	200 000,00
Comenius University in Bratislava (APVV-16-0612)	210 000,00
University of Žilina in Žilina (APVV-16-0276)	249 997,00
Comenius University in Bratislava (APVV-16-0330)	121 726,00
The National Agricultural and Food Centre (APVV-17-0150)	179 660,00
Comenius University in Bratislava. (APVV-17-0536)	228 531,00
Slovak Technical University in Bratislava (APVV-17-0006)	249 958,00
Technical University of Košice (APVV-17-0167)	249 314,00
Center for scientific and technical information (APVV-17-0662)	249 982,00
University of St. Cyril and Methodius in Trnava (APVV-17-0064)	182 359,00
MEDIREX GROUP ACADEMY n.o. (APVV-17-0526)	249 868,00
Slovak Technical University in Bratislava (APVV-17-0666)	246 050,00
Research Institute of Paper and Cellulose a.s. (PP-COVID-20-0103)	399 910,00
Slovak Technical University in Bratislava (PP-COVID-20-0020)	352 223,00
Comenius University in Bratislava (PP-COVID-20-0102)	284 977,00
University of Constantine the Philosopher in Nitra (SK-FR-19-0010)	5 300,00
SAS Institute of Polymers, v.v.i. (SK-BY-RD-19-0011)	119 315,00
University of Constantine the Philosopher in Nitra (SK-PL-18-0036)	3 900,00
University of Žilina in Žilina (SK-FR-19-0003)	5 300,00
University of Žilina in Žilina (SK-SRB-18-0002)	7 050,00
Institute of Experimental Physics SAS, v.v.i. (DS-2016-0046)	8 600,00



- with the “SRDA Organization and Management of the Agency’s Motor Vehicles” directive
7. compliance with internal procedures in accordance with the “SRDA Circulation of accounting documents” directive
 8. compliance with internal procedures in accordance with the „Managing the SRDA Personnel and Salary Issues“ directive
 9. compliance with the internal regulation “General Internal Procedure for Providing Targeted Financial Support for the SRDA Grant Schemes“
 10. compliance with the “SRDA Rules of Procedure of the SRDA Councils“

Based on the audit findings, recommendations were made to correct the identified deficiencies. Some of the control group’s recommendations were removed during the audit itself.

7.3 Audits Carried Out by External Audit Bodies

In 2022, external audit bodies carried out two audits in the SRDA

1. The Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic - the Slovak National Archives carried out control of the registry management on 17.05. and 18.05.2022.
2. On April 4, 2022 the Prague Social Security Administration inspected the fulfillment of the employer’s obligations in sickness insurance, pension insurance and the payment of social security premiums and contributions to the state employment policy for the period from January 1, 2020 to October 31, 2021.

7.4 Complaint Handling

APVV recorded one filing of complaint in 2022, which was adjourned in accordance with § 4 par. 3 in conjunction with the provisions of § 4 par. 1 letter d) Act no. 9/2010 Z. z. on Complaints.



08 / Goals and Overview of Their Fulfilment

Post- Completion Monitoring of the Projects Supported

For the projects duration of which had expired, monitoring of outputs on social and economic benefits (impacts) of the project outcomes was carried out over the next three years after their completion. All the activities related to the process of administering and evaluating the project outputs were carried out within the General Calls launched in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and Call SF7FP.

Annual and Final Project Evaluation and Ongoing Projects Funding

In 2022, the following calls were evaluated and funded: general calls GC 2016, GC 2017, GC 2018, GC 2019, GC 2020. In 2022, the Agency funded 130 projects of international scientific and technological cooperation.

During the ongoing evaluation, professional bodies assessed the fulfillment of partial project goals and compliance with the established schedule, as well as the planned outputs of the projects for the given period. In the final evaluation, they also evaluated the overall level of the project solution. The final project cards of all the completed projects, showing the most significant project findings and outputs, are available on the SRDA website.

Funding of New Projects

In 2022, funds were allocated to these calls launched in 2021: General Call GC 2021 and bilateral cooperation projects with the People's Republic of China, Taiwan, the Republic of Serbia, the Republic of Poland, Ukraine, the People's Republic of China, research bilateral projects with the Czech Republic and a project within the program "Strengthening the Participation of the Slovak Republic in European Cooperation in Research & Development" titled PP MSCA PF 2022.

New Calls launched and Initial Assessment of the Submitted Projects

In 2022, the Agency launched General Call GC 2022. The expected deadline for publishing the results is May 2023. In 2022, the Agency announced a mobility bilateral call for cooperation with the French Republic as part of international scientific and technical cooperation (the expected date of publication of the results is the first quarter of 2023). In 2022, the Agency also announced a multilateral mobility call for applications for joint projects supporting cooperation between organizations in the Slovak Republic, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Montenegro, the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Serbia, and the French Republic as part of international scientific and technical cooperation (the estimated date of publishing the results is in the first quarter of 2023).

Specific tasks focused on running the Agency

Performing the specific tasks in 2022 included also the development of the following documents:

- 2022 SRDA Main Tasks Plan;
- 2021 Annual SRDA Activity Report;
- 2021 Annual SRDA Management Report;
- 2021 State Aid Report;
- 2021 Annual SRDA Accounts.

09 / Evaluation of the SRDA activities in 2022

In 2022, the Agency's activities were based on the objectives of the 06K National Science and Technology Development Program, 06K11 Research and Development Tasks sub-program supported by the Slovak Research and Development Agency in order to meet the basic objectives defined by the sub-program, and to achieve defined measurable indicators. The sub-program is intended to build an effective research & development support system by providing funds for project solution and for increasing the competitiveness of Slovak entities in the international scientific and technical cooperation.

Process of preparing the concept and defining the main activities and tasks of the Agency reflected the tasks resulting from the Decree of the Government of the Slovak republic and from the intents and objectives of the National Science and Technology Policy. The Agency's mission was governed by Act No. 172/2005 Coll. § 12 on supporting the projects within grant schemes of general calls and international cooperation calls (bilateral, multilateral) and under the SRDA programmes.

The following general calls were opened, and/or launched in 2022:

- General Call for submitting applications for research & development projects in individual fields of science and technology - GC 2022;
- Call for supporting bilateral cooperation on the basis of an intergovernmental agreement with the French Republic with the funding period from 2023;
- a call for the support of multilateral cooperation on the projects supporting cooperation between organizations in the Slovak Republic, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Montenegro, the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Serbia, and the French Republic with the beginning of funding in 2023 titled "DSFR 2022"
- public call for applications within the program "Strengthening the Participation of the Slovak Republic in European Cooperation in Research & Development" titled "PP MSCA PF 2022"

In the GC 2022 public call, the SRDA presidency made fundamental changes in the forms for basic research compared to last year, determined a new procedure for evaluating applications and adjusted the conditions for drawing financial resources for projects. When modifying the basic research forms, they were fundamentally simplified, especially with regard to their content page, while the data necessary for evaluating the quality of the project stayed unchanged. When evaluating the application, one additional opinion will now be required.

The Agency's activity included the fulfillment of these basic tasks:

- monitoring of the project outputs after completing the project in order to obtain relevant data on the project's impacts on social and economic practice;
- funding of the ongoing projects, i.e. the projects with funding and solution started already in the previous years and continued in 2022;
- announcing the new calls and evaluating the applications for financial support submitted under these calls;
- funding the projects with their solution started in 2022.

The Agency introduced various project funding and management-related measures with a view to:

- increase the objectivity and transparency of the assessment process;
- ensure an effective R&D support system by providing project funding, and increase the success of Slovak entities in the international scientific and technical cooperation;
- improving the SRDA- provided services to the recipients, as well as to the individual project researchers, with an electronic form prevailing in communication with applicants and project research team members through the Central Government Portal.

The Agency appears publicly and communicates via its website www.apvv.sk

List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

06K11	The National Program for the Development of Science and Technology Subprogram – Research and development tasks supported by the Slovak Research and Development Agency	PP-COVID 2020	Support for research and development focusing on coping with a pandemic coronavirus and its effects on period 2020 – 2021
7. RP	Seventh Framework Programme	PP H-EUROPE	Support for Strengthening the Participation of the Slovak Republic in European Cooperation in Research & Development
SRDA (APVV)	The Slovak Research and Development Agency	PP MSCA PF	Support for Postdoctoral Fellowships Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
BOZP	Occupational safety and health		
CC publications	Publications in Current Contents Journals		
SF7FP	Open general call for supplementary funding applications for FP7 projects		
DS-FR	The Strategy for Danube Region – France		
EC	European Community		
EURATOM	European Atomic Energy Community		
MŠVVaŠ SR	Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic		
IT	information technologies		
SAS	Slovak Academy of Sciences		
SCI citations	Citations in foreign publications registered in citation indexes		
GC	General Call		
SK-AT	Slovakia – Austria Bilateral Call		
SK-FR	Slovakia – France Bilateral Call		
SK-PL	Slovakia – Poland Bilateral Call		
SK-SRB	Slovakia – Serbia Bilateral Call		
SK-TW	Slovakia – Taiwan Bilateral Call		
SK-PT	Slovakia – Portugal Bilateral Call		
SK-CN	Slovakia – China Bilateral Call		
SK-UA	Slovakia – Ukraine Bilateral Call		
SK-IL-RD	Slovakia – Israel Bilateral Research Call		
SK-CN-RD	Slovakia – China Bilateral Research Call		
SK-BY-RD	Slovakia – Belarus Bilateral Research Call		
SK-CZ-RD	Slovakia – Czech Republic Bilateral Research Call		
SK-RU-RD	Slovakia – Russian Federation Bilateral Research Call		

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