



Eesti Teadusagentuur  
Estonian Research Council

# Smart Specialisation and Structural Funding

The Estonian Case: SSH Communities and Funding

## Instruments

Ülle Must

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Horizons for Social Sciences and Humanities

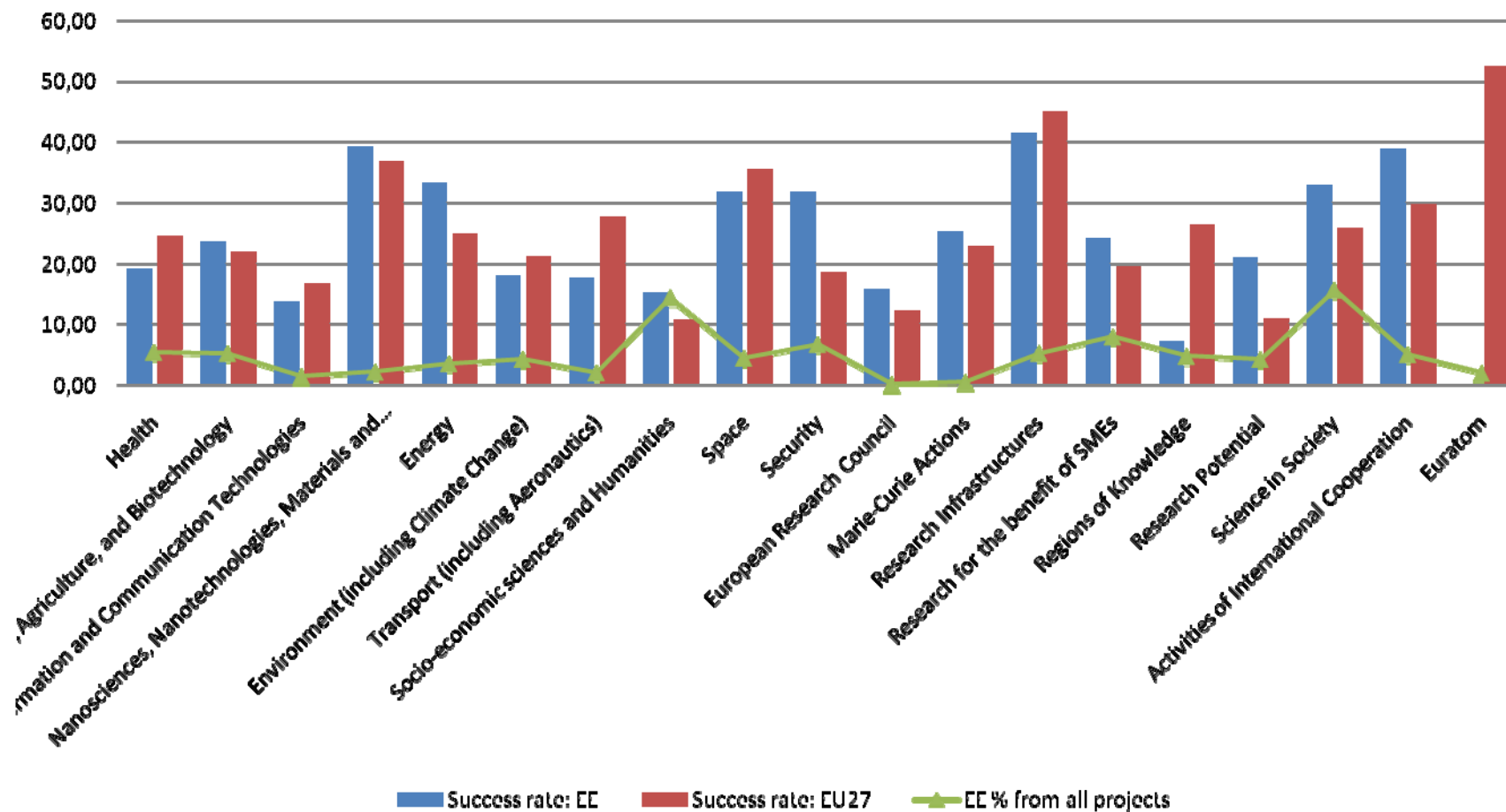
September 23-24, 2013

Mykolas Romeris University, Vilnius, Lithuania

## Three themes to the discussion:

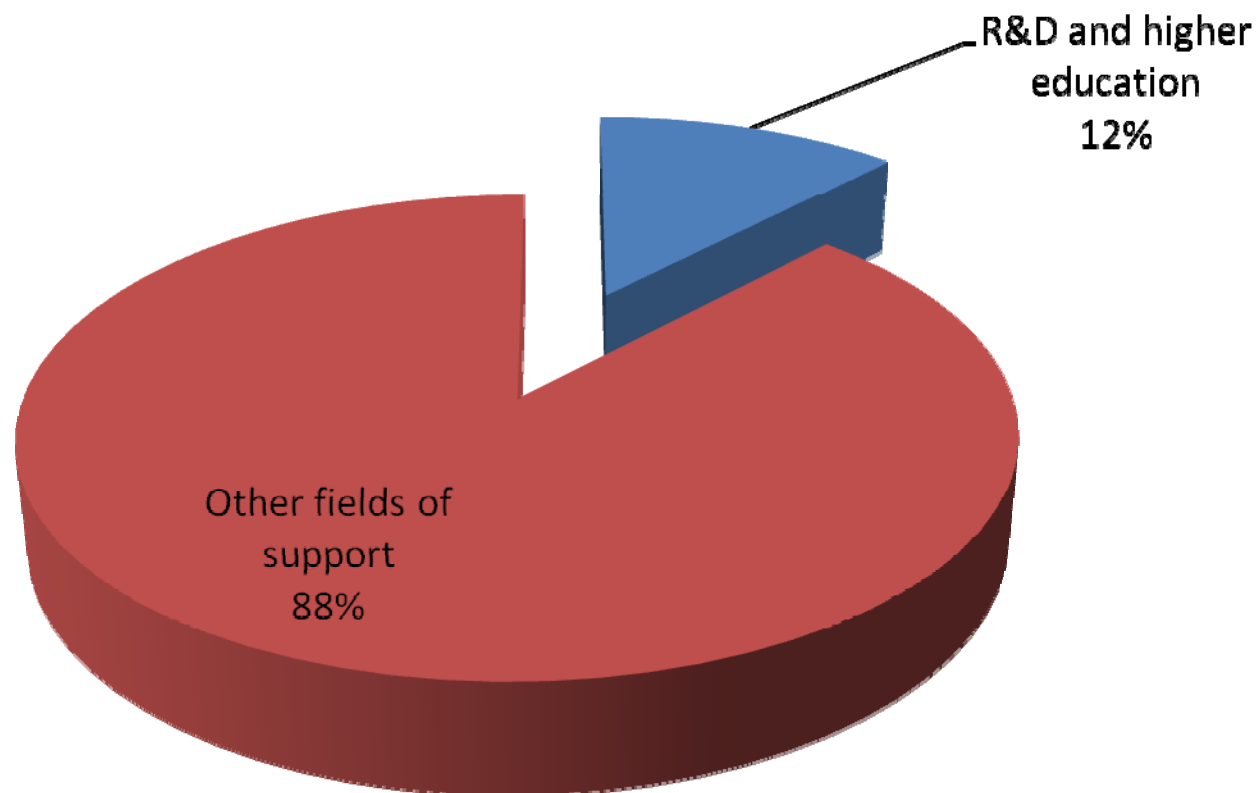
1. How the Estonian SSH communities – despite their traditionally individualistic working styles – have coped with comprehensive cooperation instruments, such as in the European Framework programmes;
2. How Estonian SSH communities found ways to deal with the bureaucratic aspects of structural funding;
3. The “playground” for the SSH communities in new Estonian strategy of RDI (incl Smart Specialization)

# EE participation in FP7





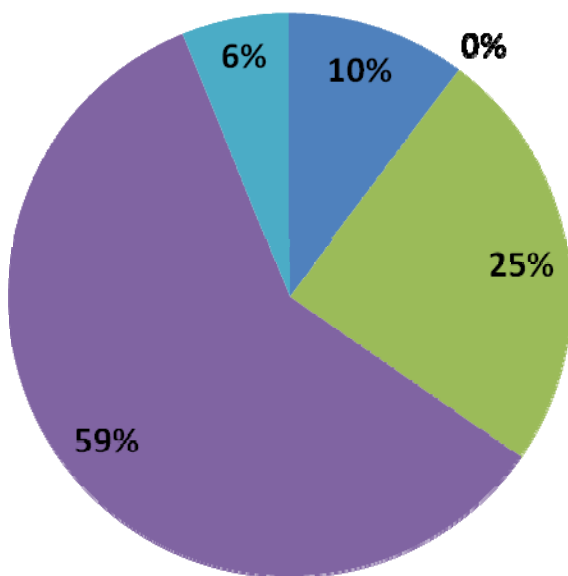
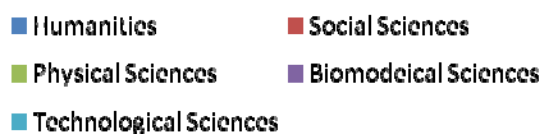
# Structural support for R&D and higher education 2007-2013



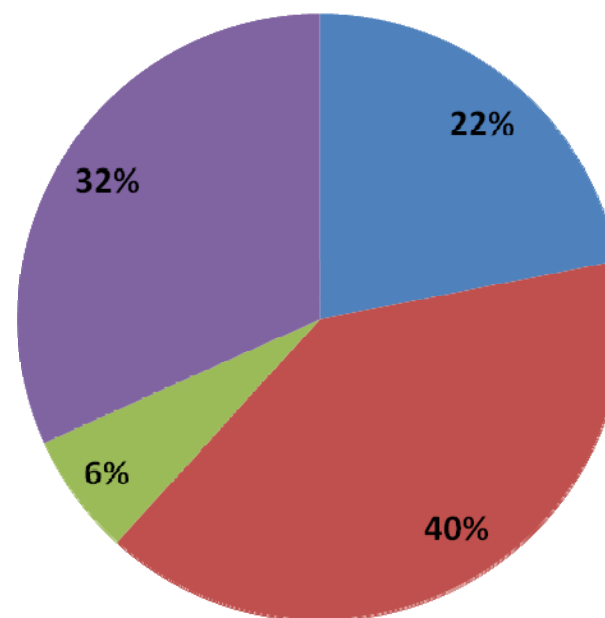
3 Operational Programmes (Human Resource Development-ESF, Development of Economic Environment - ERDF, Development of Living Environment), total structural support for Estonia **3 400 000 000** euros

## SF period 2007-2013 CoE=12 and DS=13

### Centres of Excellence



### Doctoral Schools



## SSH activities with highest impact

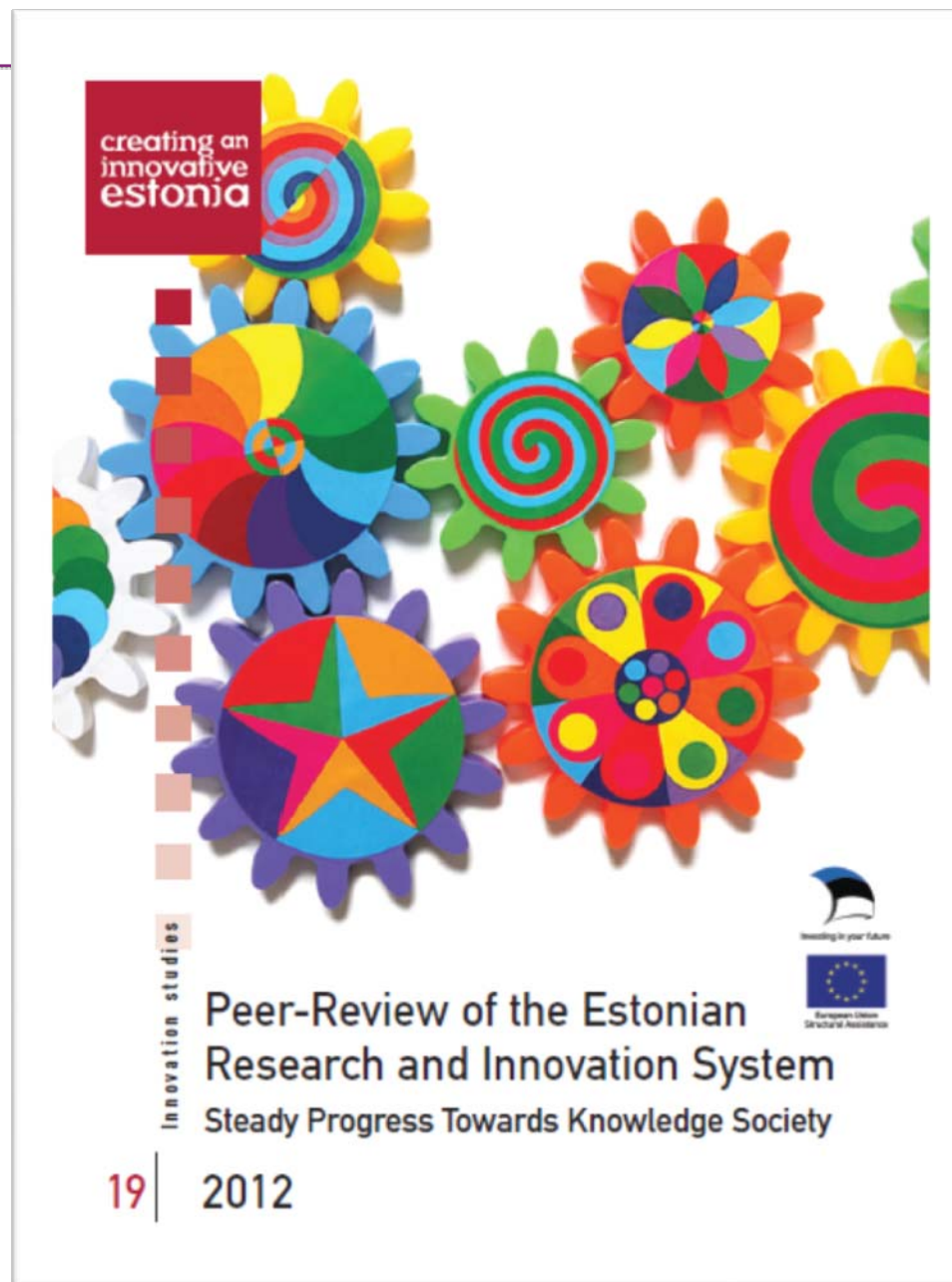
- **Centre of Excellence in Cultural theory** -Archaeology, Folkloristics, Ethnology, Semiotics, Religious Studies, Cultural Communication Studies, Landscape Studies, and Contemporary Cultural Studies.  
<http://www.ut.ee/CECT/eng.html>
- **Graduate School of Culture Studies And Arts**
  - <http://www.ema.edu.ee/ktkdk/?s=6>
- **Doctoral School in Educational Sciences**
  - <http://htk.tlu.ee/hkdk/>
- **Doctoral School in Economics and Innovation**
  - <http://www.doktorikool.mtk.ut.ee/en>
- **Doctoral School of Behavioral, Social and Health Sciences**
  - <http://www.doktorikool.ut.ee/kstt/en>
- **Graduate School of Linguistics, Philosophy and Semiotics**
  - <http://en.eki.ee/tegevusvaldkonnad/246.html>

# Estonian Research Infrastructures Roadmap

(<http://www.etag.ee/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Teekaart.pdf>)

- **2010-Total list: 20, among them 3 from SSH:**
  - Center of Estonian language resources (connect with CLARIN)
  - Estonia in European social survey (connect with European Social Survey)
  - Estonian e-repository and conservation of collections
- **Sept 2013 12 new applications, among them 3 from SSH**
  - Consortium (formerly Council) of European Social Science Data Archives, CESSDA
  - Infotechnological mobility observatory (IMO) - to build a data infrastructure for social studies that combines traditional (censuses, registers) and emerging (mobile phones, sensors) data sources
  - SHARE Estonia (Survey on Health, Ageing and retirement in Europe, the Estonian survey)- SHARE database provides knowledge - based input for innovative solutions in finance, labor market, health and social spheres





# “Outstanding progress, but not without challenges”

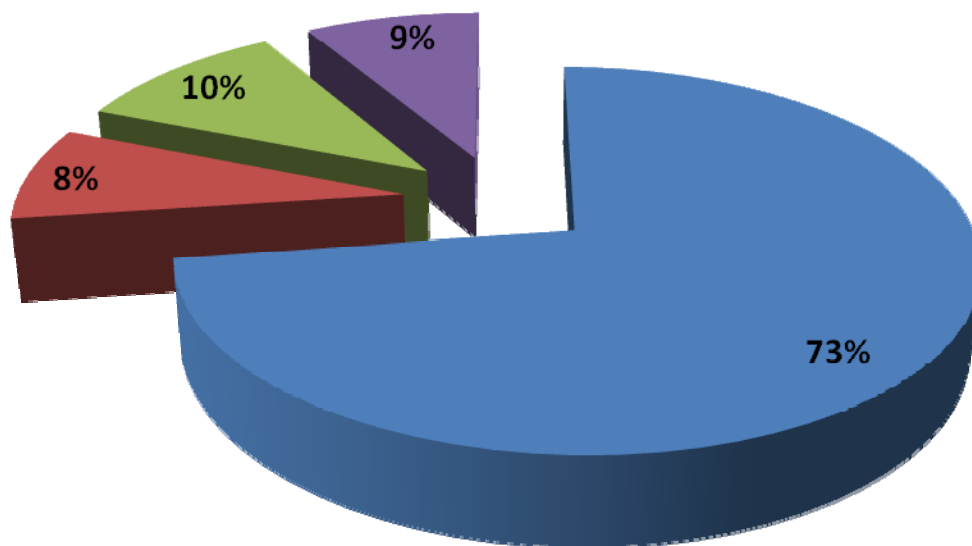
1. Perceive RDI as a means to achieve economic and societal goals;
2. More clear focus for Estonian RDI programmes;
3. Ensure coherent and systemic RDI policy;
4. Ensuring the availability of competent human capital;
5. Harness RDI measures to drive structural change in the economy;
6. Lessen RDI dependency on EU structural funds;
7. □ Increase the connectivity of the innovation system;
8. Extend the reach and variety of innovation instruments;
9. Monitoring the progress of the new strategy and its measures.

## The Estonian new RDI strategy 2014-2020

- **Main goal:** Good framework conditions for development and making social and economic effects of RD&I
- **Specific goals:** a) Research excellence and versatility; b) Increasing the socio-economic impact of R&D; c) Changing economic structure: *smart specialisation*; d) Estonia is active in international RD&I cooperation

# The Estonian new RDI strategy 2014-2020

- Scientific excellence and ensuring diversity,
- RTD societal and economic benefits
- Smart specialization
- Estonia's participation and visibility in the international R & D cooperation



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# Smart Specialisation

## Sectors with greatest R&D potential

- **ICT (horizontally through other sectors)**
- **Healthcare**
  - Biotechnology
  - E-health
- **Resources**
  - Materials science
  - “Innovative construction”
  - Functional food
  - Chemical industry (oil shale)

**Smart specialisation is not about picking the sector ... but finding the necessary activities**

## SSH in RDI strategy 2014-2020

- Main objective is to ensure a high level and diversity of research – SSH on horizontal level;
- Research and development serves the interests of the Estonian society and economy. According to the Estonian Constitution, there is obligation to keep and develop the research on Estonian language and culture: *„high-level support to be ensured in the Estonian language, history, culture research, and language technology solutions“* .

## To sum up

- *Be visible on horizontal level.*