SMART SPECIALISATION STRATEGY SERBIA

Smart Specialisation in Serbia: Key achievements and challenges

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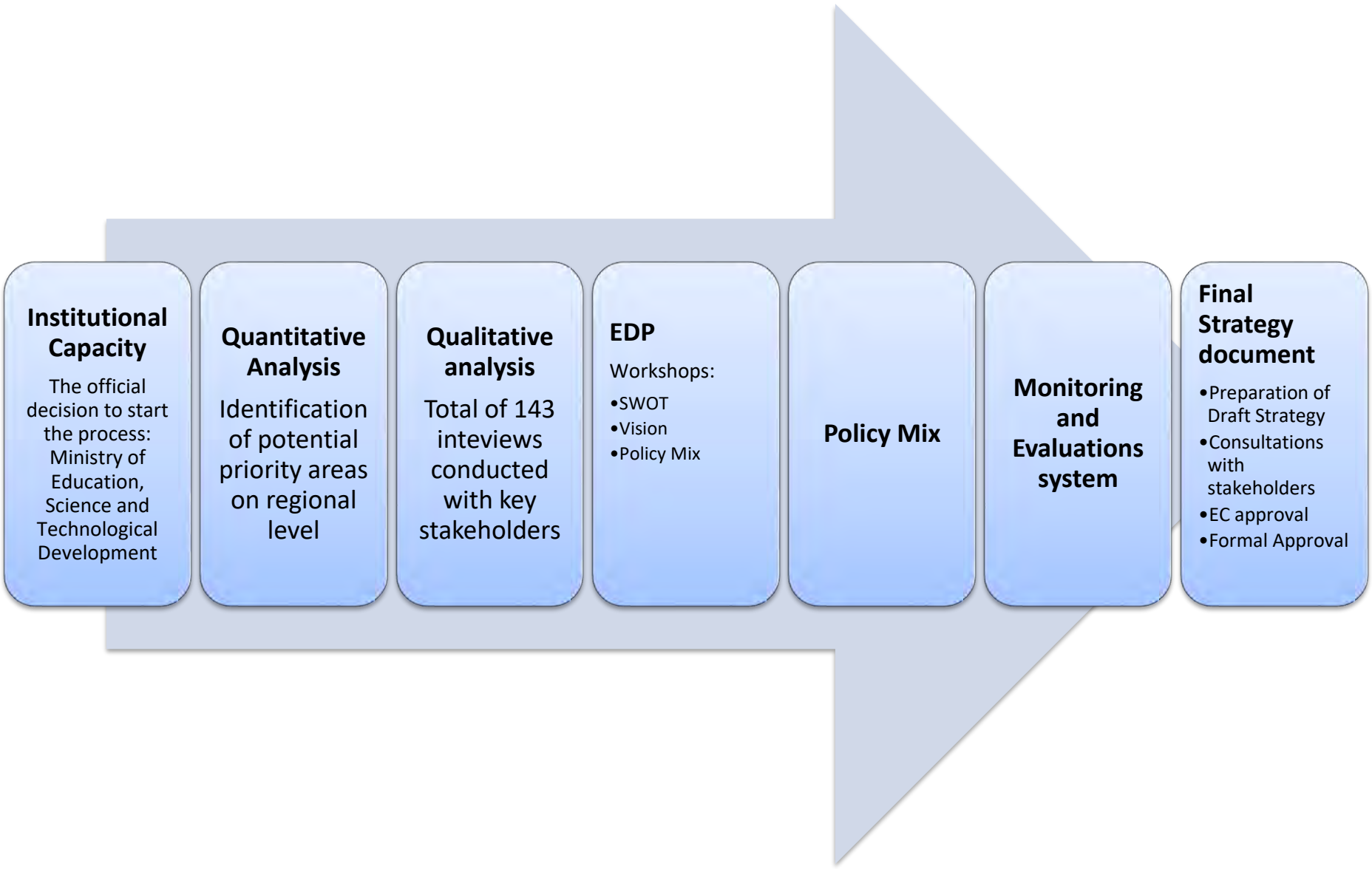
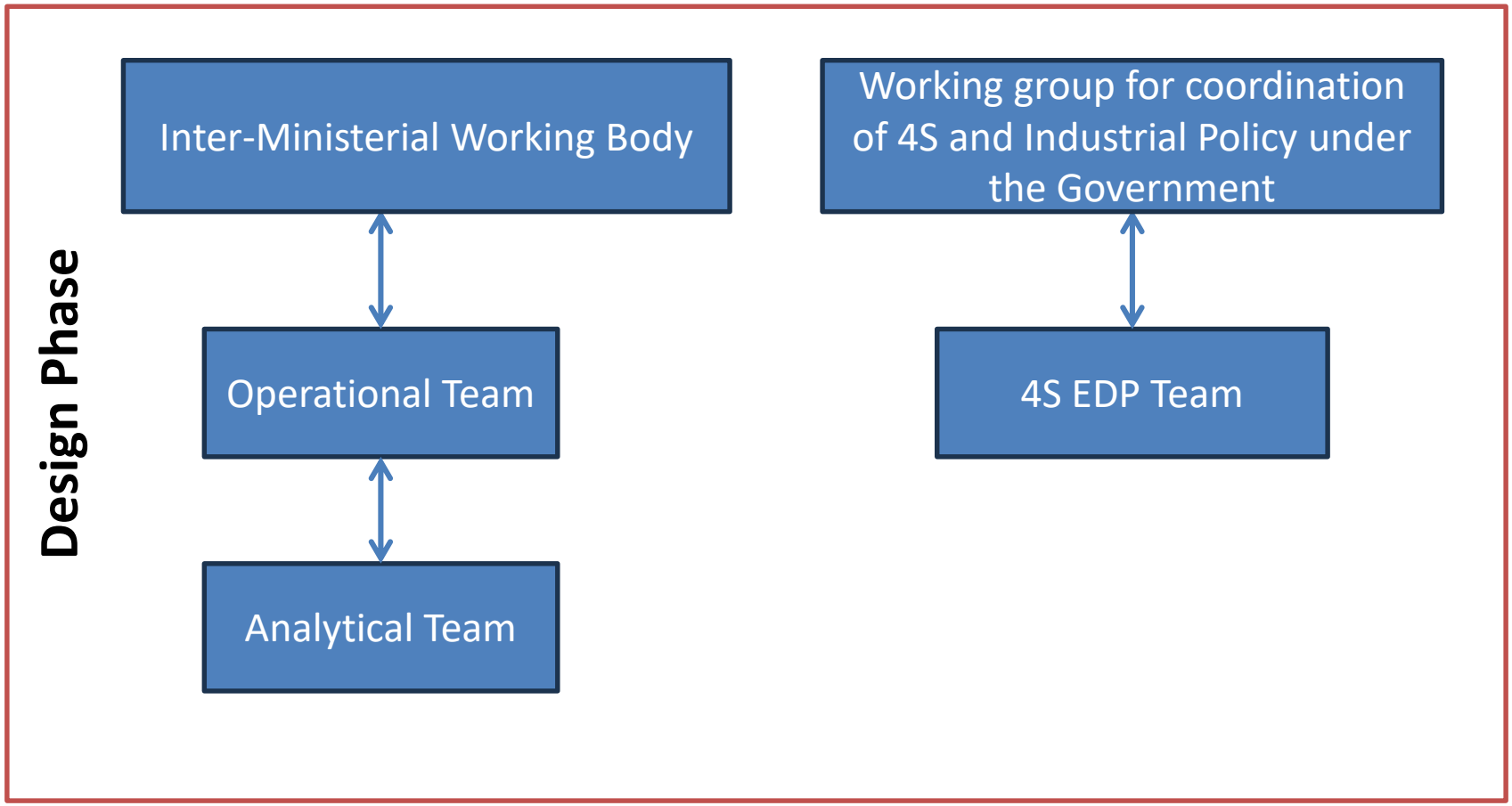
S3 Process


Institutional Capacity
The official decision to start the process: Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development
Quantitative Analysis
Identification of potential priority areas on regional level
Qualitative analysis
Total of 143 inteviews conducted with key stakeholders
EDP
Workshops:
•SWOT
•Vision
•Policy Mix
Policy Mix
Monitoring and Evaluations system
Final Strategy document
•Preparation of Draft Strategy
•Consultations with stakeholders
•EC approval
•Formal Approval

Governance structure



Mapping phase

Qualitative analises: Mapping of economic, innovative and scientific potential in Serbia

Belgrade

Existing core:
Computer programming and ICT
R&D and technical consultancy
Creative economy
Potentially emerging:
Beverages
Pharmaceuticals
Electrical components
Transport Equipment

Vojvodina

Existing core:
Automotive Suppliers
Agricultural economy including processing industries
Petrochemical Industry
Plastics Industry
Potentially emerging:
Agricultural Machinery
Measurement Instruments

Sumadija and Western Serbia

Existing core:
Agri-Horti Economy
Automotive
Textile Industry
Plastics Industry
Metal Industry
Potentially emerging:
Special Purpose Machinery

Southern and Eastern Serbia

Existing core:
Agri-Horti Economy
Textile Industry
Rubber Industry
Electrical Engineering
Potentially emerging:
Food products
Medical and Dental

From Quantitative to Qualitative analysis

- Limitations of quantitative analysis related to statistical data
- Official decision on national dimension

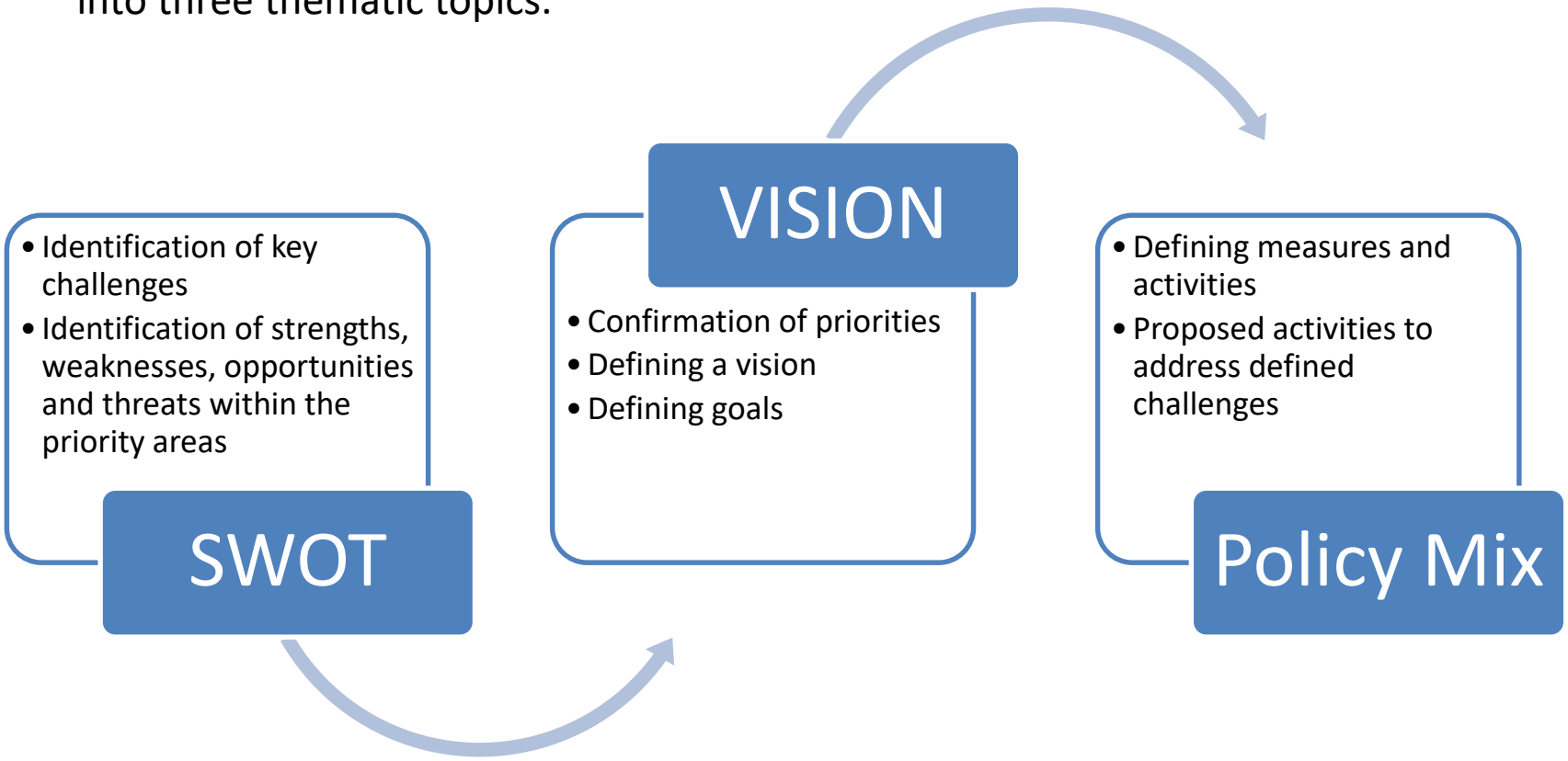
} the necessity of conducting a qualitative analysis

- Creation of EDP team in charge of conducting qualitative analysis and organizing and facilitating EDP workshops:
  - RIS3 development process coordinator
  - EDP external advisor
  - analytical advisor
  - coordinators and co-coordinators for each preliminary priority area

- The protocol for data documentation and communication in the team, as well as a timetable, was developed.

Entrepreneurial Discovery Process (EDP)

- To identify and confirm the final priorities of the Smart Specialization Strategy of the Republic of Serbia, a total of **17 workshops were held** between March and May 2019.
- The process of organizing workshops to **identify the final priority areas** was divided into three thematic topics.



Entrepreneurial Discovery Process (EDP)

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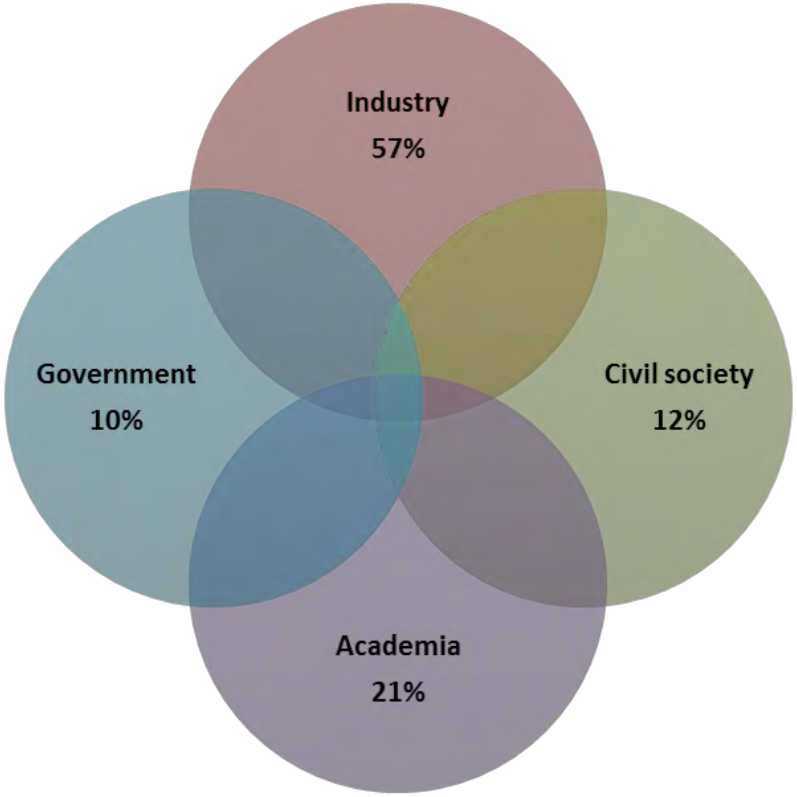
- A total of **17 workshops** attended by **more than 500 participants**.
- More than half of the participants in EDP workshops were business sector representatives.
- The workshops were held in the following cities of Serbia: Belgrade, Novi Sad, Nis, Kragujevac, Kraljevo and Gornji Milanovac.
- The main output of the EDP workshops was: **confirmed priority areas, vision, goals and measures to address the identified challenges.**



Process in numbers

- ✓ Number of conducted inteviews: **178**
- ✓ Number of organized EDP workshops: **17**
- ✓ Number of EDP workshop participants: **550**
- ✓ Number of EDP team internal meetings: **16**
- ✓ Number of Coordinating body internal meetings: **19**

4S: Priority domains

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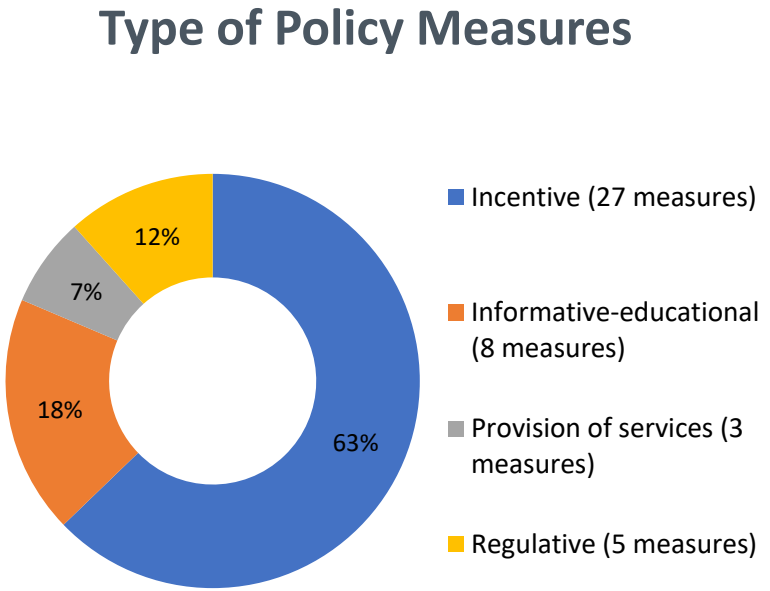
Vertical	Horizontal
Food For Future • High-Tech Agriculture • Value Added Food Products • Sustainable Agrifood Production **Information and communications technologies** • Custom Software Development • Software Solutions Development **Future Machines and Manufacturing Processes** • Machines for specific purposes • Information in the Smart Management Service - Industry 4.0 • Smart Components and Tools **Creative industries** • Creative audio-visual production • Video Games and Interactive content • Smart Packaging	**Key Enabling Technologies (KET) and Emerging Technologies** • Photonics • Advanced materials • Advanced manufacturing technologies and electronics • Industrial biotechnology • Blockchain technologies • Autonomous driving, aerospace systems and engineering **Energy Efficient and Eco-Smart Solutions** • Eco-Smart Energy Sources

4S Implementation (2021-2022)

- 43 Policy Measures



- **Institutions responsible for the implementation of Policy Measures:**
  - Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development
  - Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Water Management
  - Ministry of Economy
  - Innovation Fund
  - Science Fund
  - Public Policy Secretariat
  - The Center for the Promotion of Science
  - Ministry of Culture and Information
  - Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Implementation in progress

Action Plan 2021-2022:

- **Total Budget Allocation**: 150 Million Euros
- **Donor Funds**: More than 2 Million Euros (USAID, UNDP, Philip Morris International)
- **Expenditure**: Approximately 110 Million Euros Spent

Action Plan 2023-2025:

- **Approval:** Expected Government Approval in October 2023
- **Total Budget Allocation**: more than 800 Million Euros

Implementation in progress

Some of the implemented policy measures in the period 2021-2022 include the following:

- **The programmes of the Innovation Fund**
  - Mini Grants Programme
  - Matching Grants Programme
  - Collaborative Grant Scheme Programme
  - Programme Katapult
  - Innovation vouchers
- **The Science Fund programmes**
  - programme for the development of projects in the field of artificial intelligence
- **Entrepreneurship curriculum development**
- **Research and development incentives** and **IPARD programme for agriculture**
- Support **programmes for internationalisation**
- Popularisation of **R&D tax incentives** for private companies
- Adopting regulations, legal frameworks, procedures
- Programmes managed by **donor organisations** such as USAID, UNDP, Philip Morris International/NALED, etc.

New Action Plan 2023-2025

Introduced new policy measures:

- Programme to foster excellent research ideas in 4S areas
- Investment in research and innovation infrastructure: specifically targeting biomedicine, biotechnology, and bioinformatics.
- Initiative to establish the portal and enhance visibility of research infrastructure
- New innovative support programs: geared towards startups and fostering collaboration between scientific research and businesses.
- Development of interdisciplinary master's programs: focused on the practical application of artificial intelligence in bio-tech.
- Digital transformation support program
- ICT infrastructure investments: including the construction of an optical broadband network in rural areas of the Republic of Serbia and enhancements to the State Data Center.

New Action Plan 2023-2025

Institutions responsible for the implementation of AP measures	Number of measures
Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation	15
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management	4
Ministry of Economy	4
Ministry of Education	4
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	1
Ministry of Information and Telecommunications	1
Government Office for IT and e-administration	3
Office for Dual Education and the National Qualifications Framework	1
Innovation Fund	6
Science Fund	2
Center for the Promotion of Science	1

Key Challenges in the Upcoming Period

Resource Allocation

- Efficient allocation of resources, ensuring that funding and support are directed towards projects and initiatives with the highest potential for innovation and societal impact.

Adapting Priority Domains

- Aligning existing priority domains with rapidly changing market demands, ensuring they remain relevant and impactful.

Responding to Global challenges

- Shifting focus to transformative innovation
- Incorporating Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into innovation policies, fostering projects that address environmental and societal challenges.

Skills Development

- Addressing skill gaps and ensuring the workforce is equipped with the necessary competencies for emerging technologies and innovative practices.

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THANK YOU

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