

INNOVATION

MOMENTUM
OF

NRDI Office of Hungary –

enhancing value creating innovation

1

Mission

- to put domestic research, development and innovation on a growth path
- to strengthen the national innovation system
- to renew innovation policy
- to lay the foundation for long-term economic competitiveness

2

Objectives

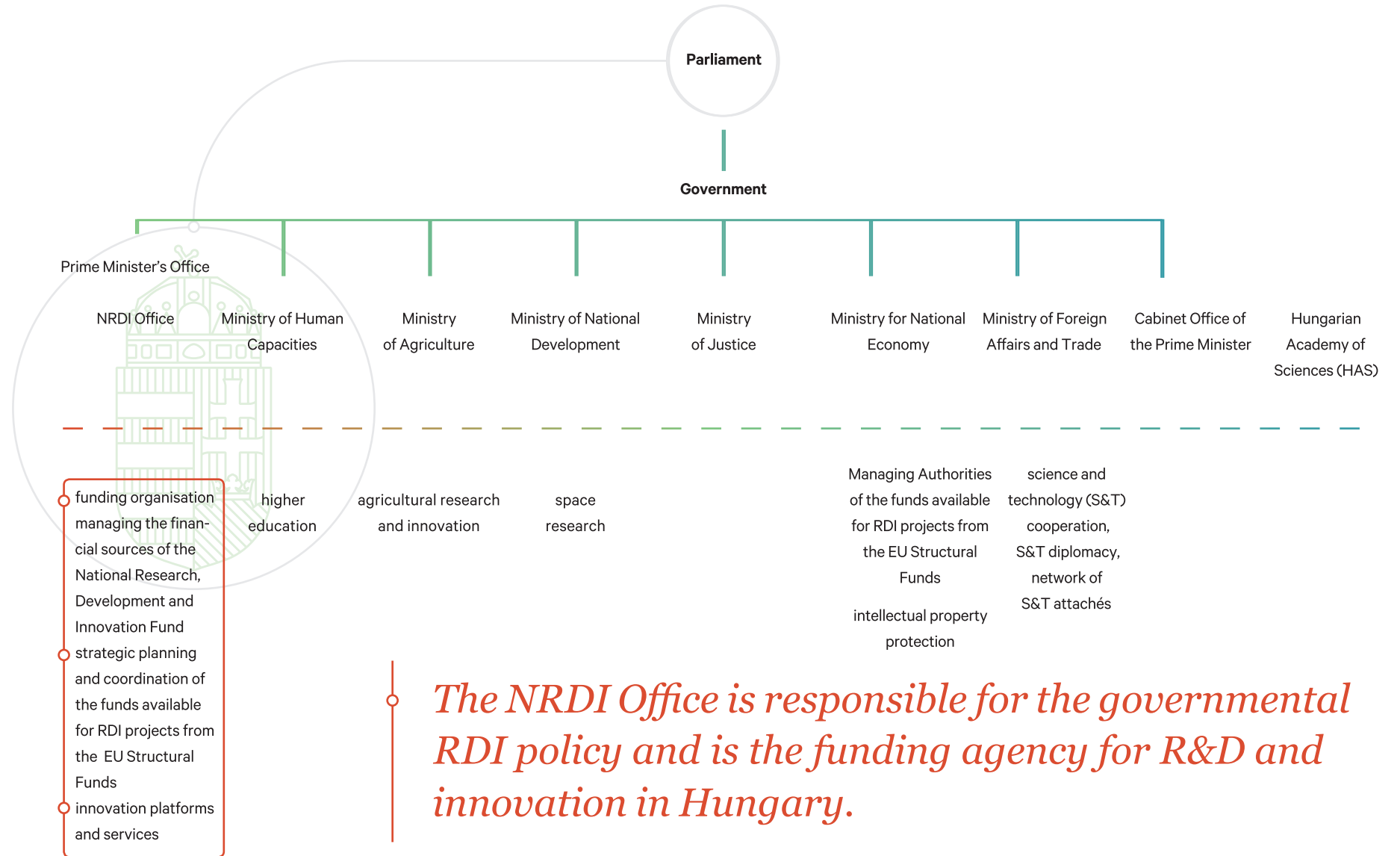
- coordinated, predictable and sustainable system of incentives for research funding
- implementation of promising programmes aimed at responsible economic and social policy objectives
- innovation environment also attractive for international participants
- stimulating dynamic cooperation between scientific centres, businesses and companies

3

Values

- excellence
- transparency
- impartiality
- trust

- strategic planning of calls for applications, coordinated management of the application procedure, operation of a programme evaluation and monitoring system
- managing the National Research, Development and Innovation Fund and being responsible for research, development and innovation (RDI) policy of the European Union funds
- governmental coordination of RDI issues and representation of Hungary in international organisations
- establishment of innovation services and collaboration platforms, maintenance of databases, preparation of strategic analyses



The engines of innovation –

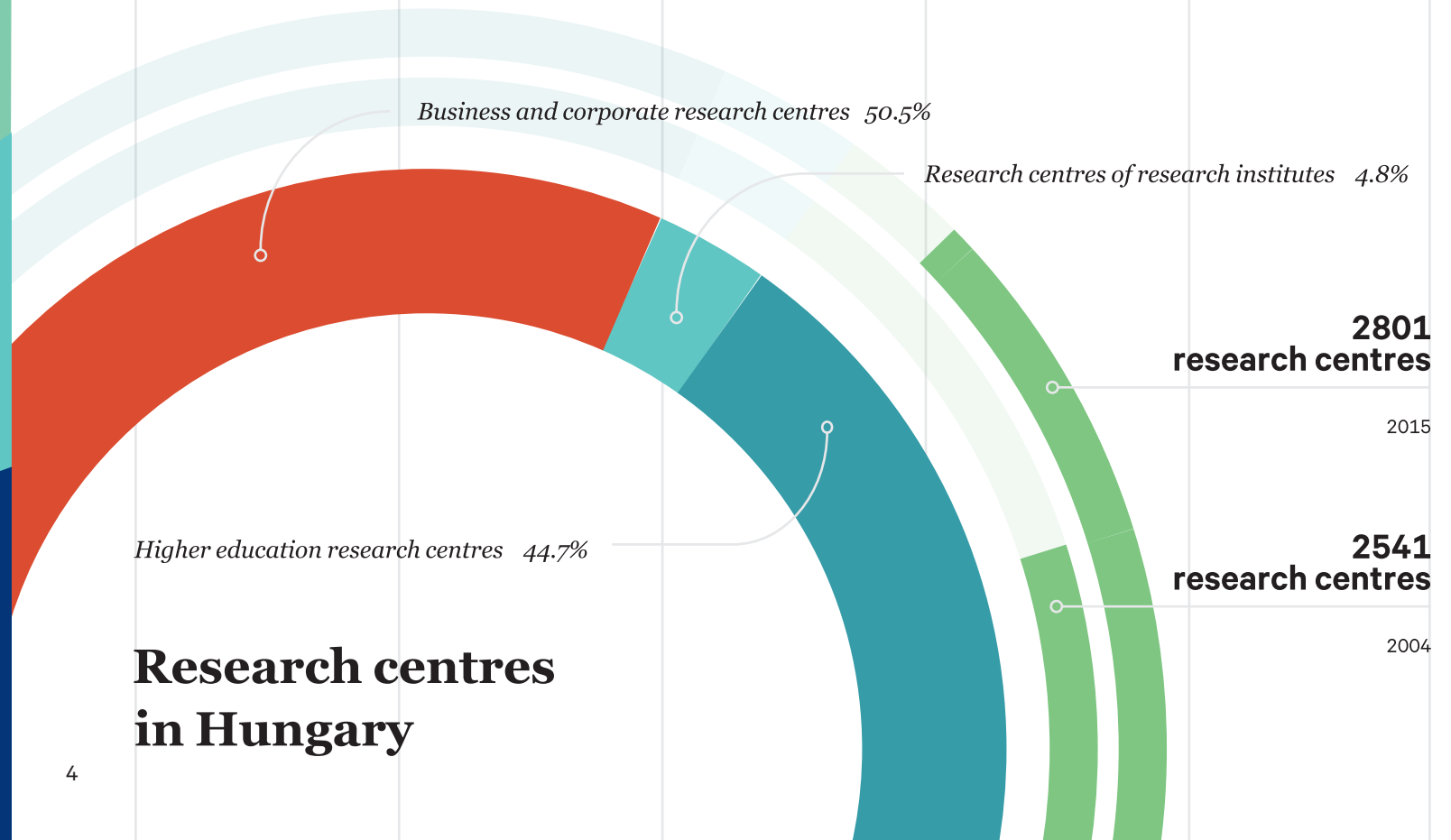
researchers, developers, project initiators, enterprises and companies

“Innovation, in my understanding, is a certain type of conduct: the spirit of creation. A scientific-exploratory-entrepreneurial mindset, that seizes the opportunity and builds a future. One that has direction and carries momentum.

Innovation is a process of research, interpretation and creation. It is a unique mix of Inspiration, Invention and Integration, in which a researcher’s discovery is combined with the solution of economic-societal challenges and social responsibility. Through this triple ‘I’ innovation can become the driving force of science, the engine of the economy, the success of a nation, the career path of young researchers and entrepreneurs, a stimulus of education and a global competitive edge.

Stimulating value-creating innovation is a great responsibility. The momentum of innovation enables our science, our society, our common future. Our mission is to serve all that.”

József Pálinkás, President of the NRDl Office



Research centres in Hungary

Source: Hungarian
Central Statistical Office
(2015)

Percentage of researchers in Hungary

49 615 persons

2004

56 235 persons

2015

*Business and corporate
research centres*
42.2%

*Research centres of
research institutes*
18.7%

*Higher education
research centres*
39.1%

0.39%

2004

0.6%

2015

Percentage of researchers in total number of employees

The growth path of innovation – the power of excellence in the system of competitive calls

Strategic planning aspects of calls

- responsible economic and social policy targets, regional specificities
- practical experience gained from former funding schemes
- RDI performance
- condition of infrastructure at research centres
- balanced support to discovery research, targeted research and innovative businesses

Assessment criteria of applications

- applicant's excellence, professional quality, global competitiveness
- investor's approach, innovative content, marketable projects
- priority of practical utilisation

Strategic development directions in the area of research, development and innovation

In order to ensure access to funds over HUF 700 billion (EUR 2.3 billion) available from the European Union Structural Funds for research, development and innovation in the 2014–2020 period, Hungary developed its National Smart Specialisation Strategy: R&D target areas and priorities defined in view of the country's capabilities, strengths and opportunities.

Learn more: nkfih.gov.hu/s3hungary

advanced technologies
in the vehicle and other
machine industries

*infocommunication
technologies
and services*

healthy society
and well-being

clean and
renewable
energies

Sectoral and *horizontal* priorities as defined in the National Smart Specialisation Strategy

sustainable
environment

*inclusive
and sustainable
society*

*viable
environment*

healthy local
food, agricultural
innovation

Development goals and responsible actors of innovation development

RDI calls for proposals stimulate

- the implementation of conceptual RDI project proposals,
- the harmonisation of applicants' targets with strategic development directions of the institutions,
- the preparation of prudent budget plans to ensure the efficient and sustainable utilisation of RDI funds.

Calls for researcher-initiated projects

Funding discovery research projects without thematic priorities

- supporting basic research projects initiated by researchers to achieve a better understanding of natural and social phenomena, which are expected to lead to new methods and practices
- strengthening scientific excellence centres through a system of post-doctoral incentives

Research infrastructure development

Providing cutting-edge tools and equipment for Hungarian research centres

- strengthening the RDI capacities of state-run knowledge centres of strategic importance
- network based development of research infrastructures by supplementing regional research opportunities and leveraging existing infrastructures

Corporate/Business RDI

Stimulation of large enterprises, SMEs and innovative start-ups to achieve their RDI objectives

- development of new marketable products, services, technologies of intellectual added value
- prototype development
- industrial property rights
- procurement of RDI services
- establishment of start-up incubators

Knowledge transfer

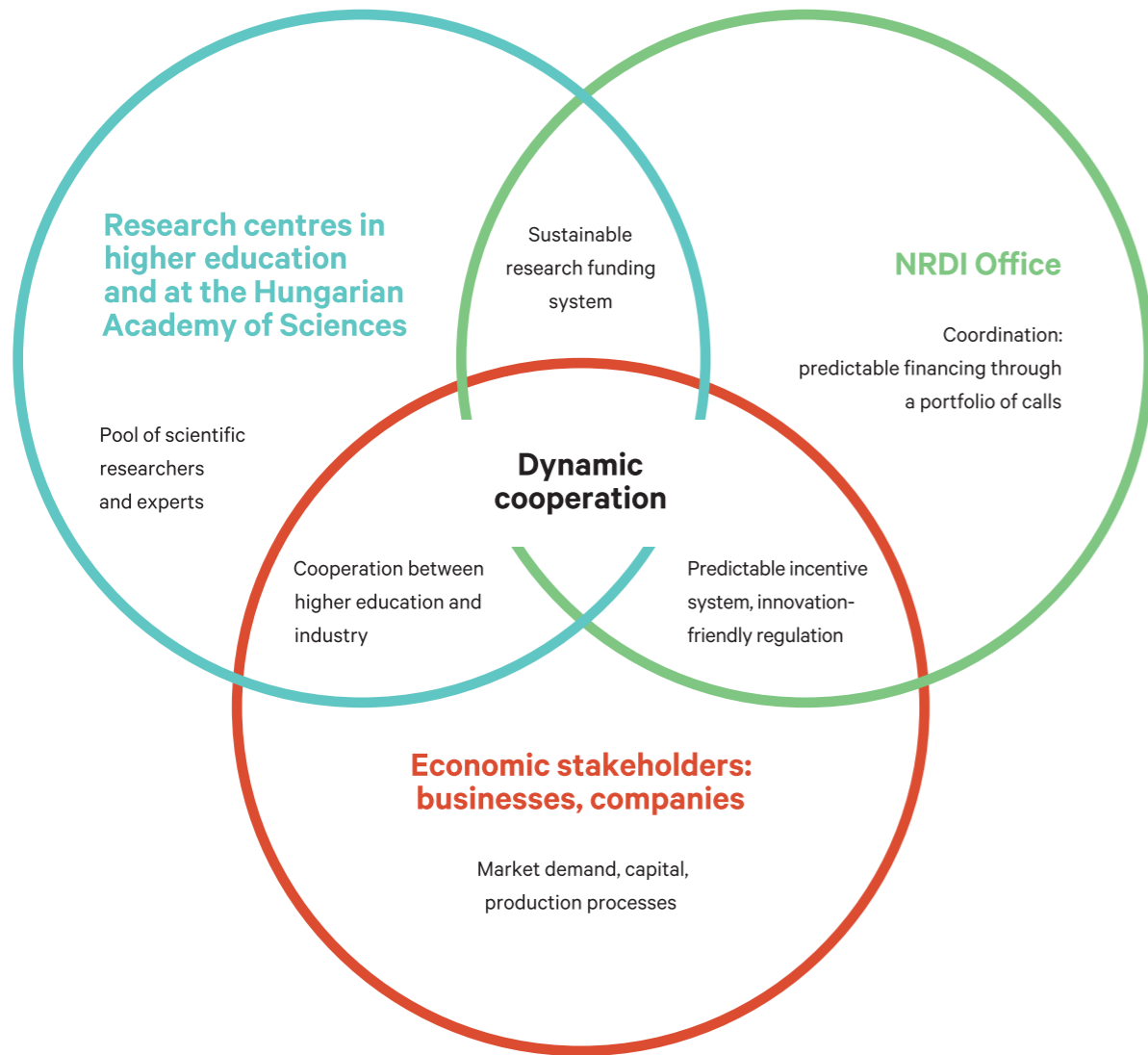
Supporting the commercialisation of scientific achievements

- cooperation to solve complex multi-disciplinary tasks of strategic importance
- ensuring research background for industrial development projects based on existing market demand, implementation of joint programmes in cooperation with excellent research centres in the respective field
- development of domestic research infrastructure and RDI capacities in the form of higher education and industry cooperation centres to create competitive products and services

International cooperation

Improving SME's competitiveness and their ability to access international financing

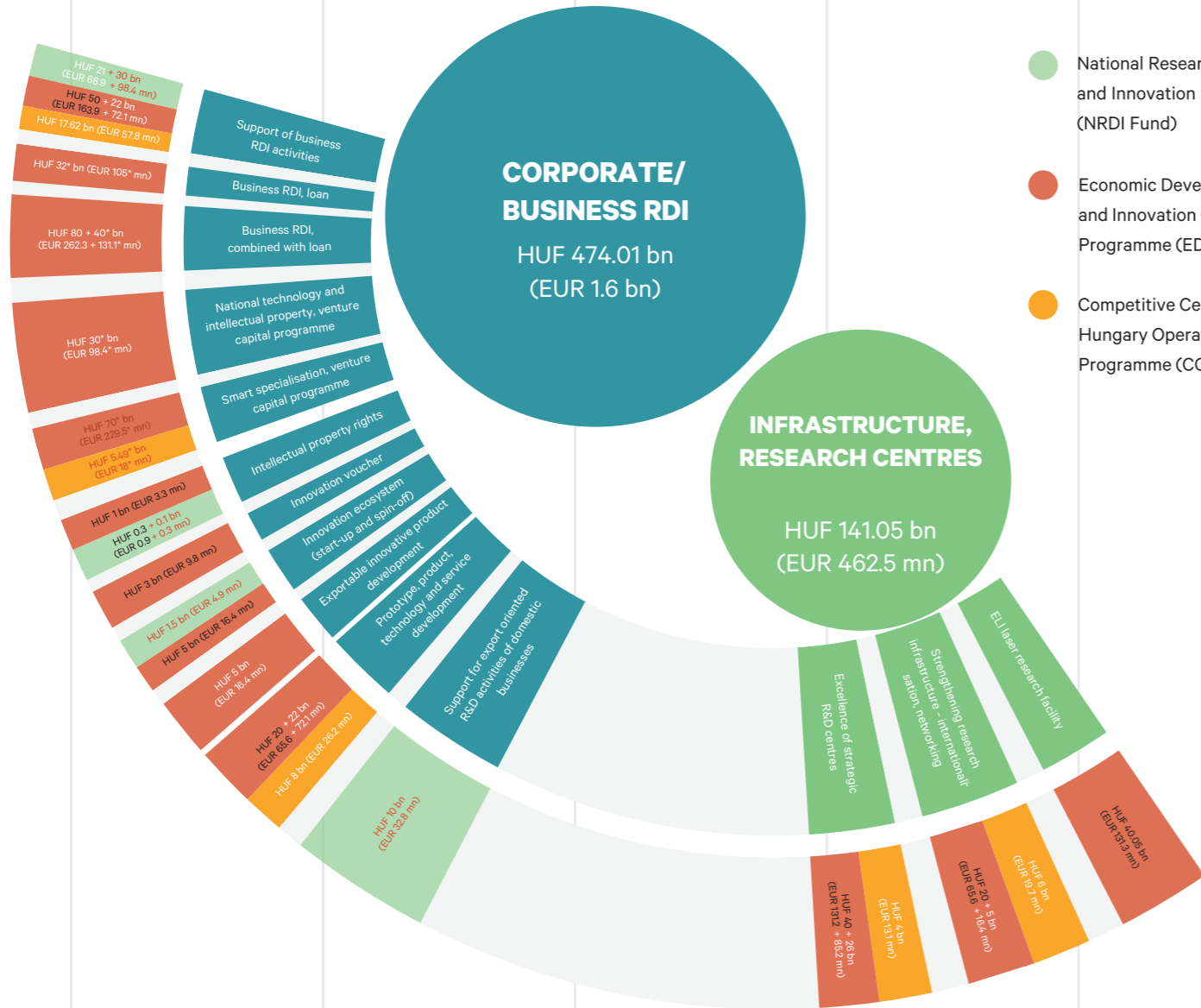
- joining co-financed international cooperation programmes
- facilitating consortium building activities
- supporting bilateral Science and Technology (S&T) cooperation, primarily through calls promoting project-based programmes



The system of sources to stimulate innovation

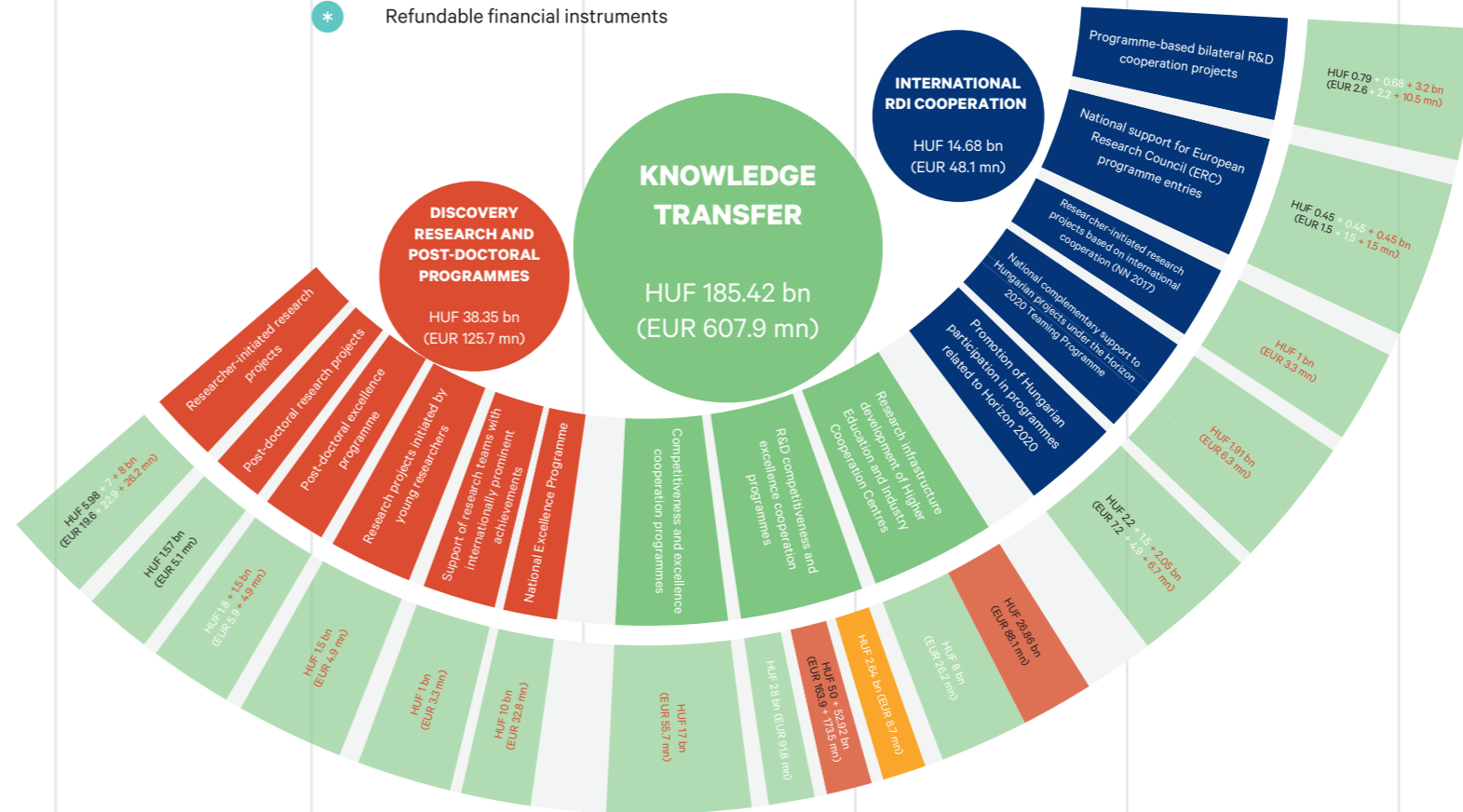
During the 2014–2020 period, a total of HUF 1200 billion (EUR 3.9 billion) is available from European and domestic sources to promote research, development and innovation.

The strategic objective of the portfolio of calls is to strengthen the Hungarian RDI ecosystem and to sustain its momentum beyond 2020.

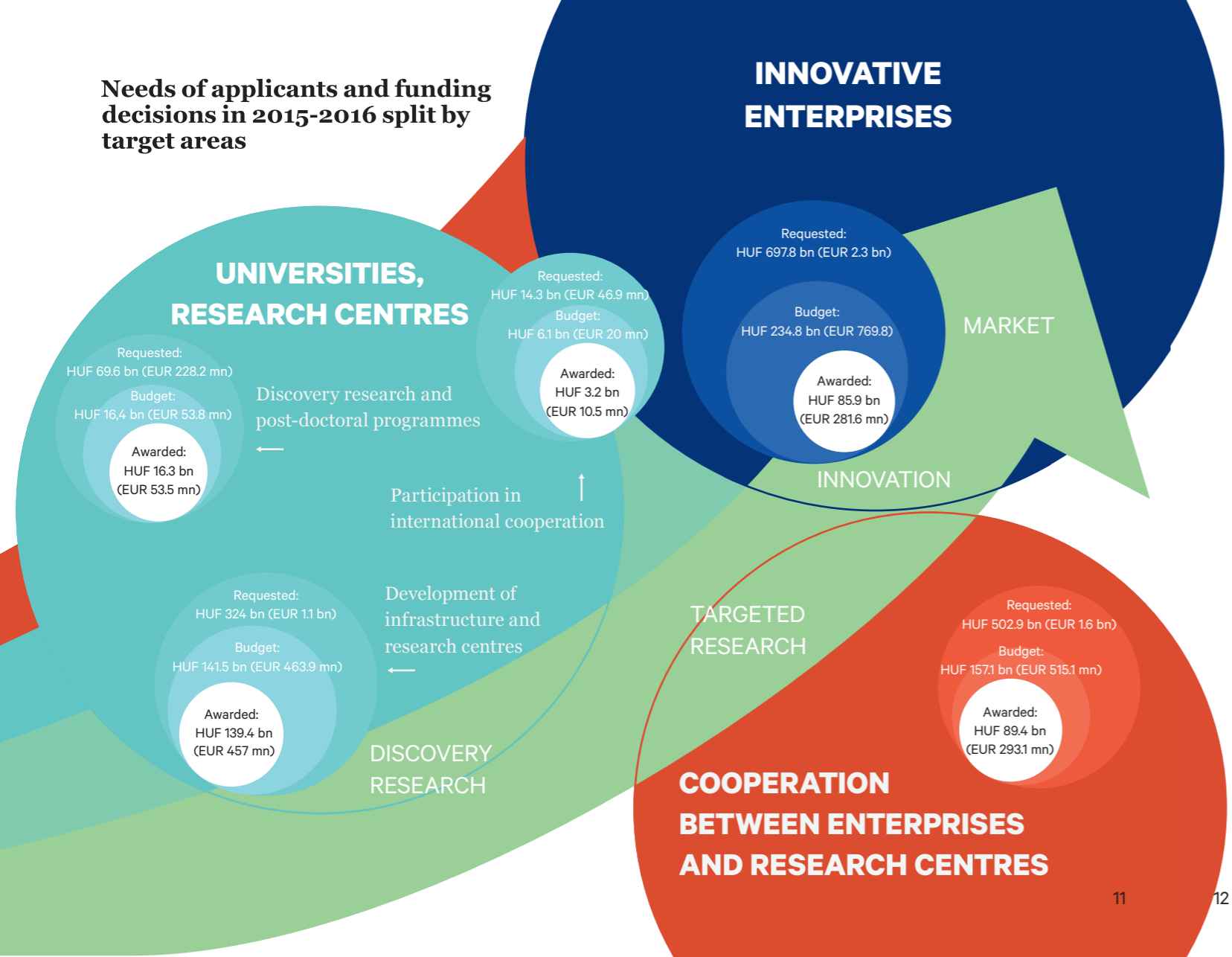


- National Research, Development and Innovation Fund (NRDI Fund)
- Economic Development and Innovation Operational Programme (EDIOP)
- Competitive Central Hungary Operational Programme (CCHOP)

- Call published in 2015
- Call published in 2016
- Call published or scheduled to be published in 2017
- Refundable financial instruments



Needs of applicants and funding decisions in 2015-2016 split by target areas



Evaluation system of innovation projects



- expanded database of peers
- an international database of 15,000 experts
- a set of evaluation criteria open to public

- 2 to 5 independent evaluations by programme/project proposals (depending on the type of the call) by anonymous peers

- comprehensive, multi-stage evaluation process
- transparent assessment procedures and clear set of criteria

**PANEL
ASSESSMENT**

DECISION

- panel assessment and decision
recommendation by steering committee
or disciplinary panel

International perspectives of fostering innovation - widening horizons, networking

International RDI programmes with the participation of the NRD Office

Horizon 2020 (H2020): the European Union's framework programme for research and innovation

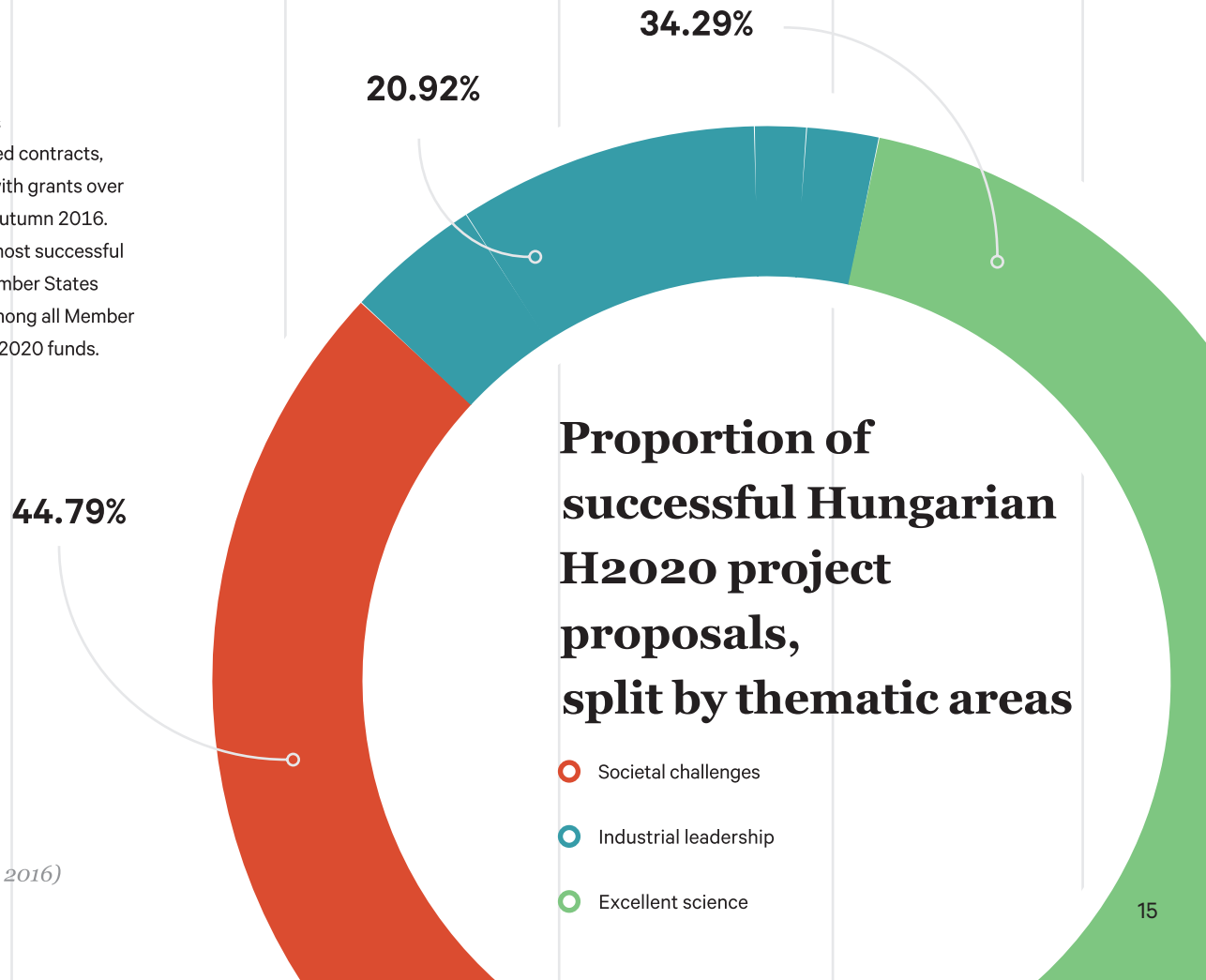
- Improving the success rate of Hungarian applications to access direct EU funding
 - Operating the network of National Contact Points (NCPs) for H2020 programmes
 - Participation in the thematic programme committees of the H2020 programme
- Coordination of thematic research and innovation programmes co-financed by the EU and the individual Member States
 - ECSEL – Electronic Components and Systems for European Leadership
 - AAL – Active and Assisted Living for the elderly
 - EUROSTARS – support for innovative small and medium-sized enterprises
 - ERA-NET – coordination of thematic research programmes of the Member States (e.g. FLAG-ERA – in the field of brain and graphene research)
- Multilateral cooperation:
 - EUREKA - intergovernmental initiative promoting international innovation project collaborations
 - COST – European cooperation in scientific and technology research
- Bilateral scientific and technological cooperation with 37 countries
 - Building international links and networking in the field of RDI
 - Increasing the number of calls to promote project-based cooperation

Participation in the work of international organisations

- Preparation and representation of the Hungarian position in the EU legislation process in the field of RDI
- Representation of the Hungarian RDI community in policy-making and strategic consultative fora, e.g. the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Science Europe, the cooperation forum of European research organisations and research funding agencies, the European Research Council (ERC), the European Network of Innovation Agencies (TAFTIE), the European Strategic Forum of Research Infrastructures (ESFRI)
- Participation in creating and operating international research infrastructures, including CERN (high-energy particle accelerator), ITER (fusion energy experiments) and ESS (neutron research)
- Participation in the coordination of the network of scientific and technological diplomats

Objective: to increase the international competitiveness of Hungarian RDI project proposals

Granted Hungarian applicants under Horizon 2020: 362 signed contracts, 437 supported organisations with grants over EUR 105 million in total, as of autumn 2016. Thus Hungary belongs to the most successful countries among the EU13 Member States and is in a catch-up position among all Member States in the competition for H2020 funds.



Source: E-Corda (October 2016)

Innovation services –

for researchers, entrepreneurs and start-ups

- providing information on programmes financed from the NRDl Fund and further application opportunities
- RDI Data Repository
- presenting best practices, communication of achievements
- organising professional events and information platforms

Network of National Contact Points

The staff of the NCP network coordinated by the NRDI Office provides information to applicants on the complex legal and financial rules, the eligibility criteria and content requirements of EU Horizon 2020 calls for proposals.

RDI Data Repository

- The RDI Business Register
- The National Research Infrastructure Register

National Research, Development and Innovation Office

Address H-1077 Budapest, Kéthly Anna tér 1

Mailing address H-1438 Budapest, Pf. 438

Central phone (+36 1) 795 9500

Central email nkfi hivatal@nkfi.gov.hu

Customer service for applicants nkfialap@nkfi.gov.hu

Call centre (+36 1) 795 9500

Mondays 9.00 – 16.00

Tuesdays 9.00 – 16.00

Wednesdays 9.00 – 16.00

Thursdays 9.00 – 16.00

Fridays 9.00 – 12.00

Press relations kommunikacio@nkfi.gov.hu

Document finalised February 2017
