SRA

GENERAL ACTIVITY
REPORT OF THE
STATE RESEARCH
AGENCY 2022





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INTRODUCTION

Royal Decree 1067/2015, of November 27, created the State Research Agency (hereinafter the Agency) and approved its Statute. Its effective constitution took place on June 20, 2016, with the constitutive meeting of its Governing Council.

The Agency was created with the mission of contributing to the promotion of scientific and technical research in all areas of knowledge through the competitive and efficient allocation of public resources, the monitoring of funded actions and their impact, and advice on the planning of actions or initiatives through which the R&D policies of the General State Administration are implemented.

Article 23 of the Agency's Statute provides that the Director shall draw up and submit to the Governing Board for approval the general activity report for each financial year within the time limit laid down for this purpose in article 15.1 of the former Law 28/2006 of July 18 2006 on State Agencies for the Improvement of Public Services, i.e. before June 30 of the year immediately following.

In compliance with this forecast, the Agency's general activity report for the year 2021 has been prepared and submitted to the Governing Board for approval at its meeting of June 30, 2022.

The general activity report has been prepared in line with the objectives, programmes and activities contained in the Agency's Annual Action Plan 2021.

Accordingly, the general activity report 2021 reports on the activities carried out in the following areas (corresponding to the axes of the Annual Action Plan):

- Consolidation and structural development of the Agency.
- Management of financing instruments.
- Scientific and technical evaluation of proposals.
- Monitoring of aid.
- Management of agreements, management entrustment and provision of services.
- Communication, dissemination and representation in R&D forums.
- Measures to make gender equality effective in R&D&I funding activities.



ADOPTION OF THE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

During the year 2022, the Agency prepared a draft proposal for a management contract with the content determined by article 108 ter of Law 40/2015, of October 1, following the modification made by the thirty-fourth final provision of Law 11/2020, of December 30, on the General State Budget for the year 2021.

This draft proposal was submitted to the Ministry of Affiliation, with whose cooperation the final proposal has been shaped. However, this proposal could not be approved in 2022, so the approval by the Governing Council, which has already been carried out, was moved to the first quarter of 2023.

PROGRAMME 2. Human Resources Management

This programme aims to advance in the design of the general framework for action in the area of human resources, which focuses on determining the working conditions of the Agency's public employees, including aspects relating to the organisation, structure and framework for action in the area of human resources, remuneration, etc., with the participation of the relevant staff representatives and trade union organisations.

The activities envisaged under this programme in 2022 are as follows:

1. Reinforcement of the Management Support Unit

During 2021 the Agency undertook actions that required a reinforcement of the human resources available in the Management Support Unit, related to the support to the Director, the improvement of relations with the Ministry of Science and Innovation (MICIN) and other bodies, as well as the increase of institutional representation after the pandemic, without forgetting the coordination of the Agency's activities. During 2022, this Unit has been strengthened with a reinforcement of human resources and a change of procedures that include technical civil servant staff (1 level 29) and labour staff (call for permanent labour staff), staff contracted by tender (assistance in communication issues) and collaborators (incorporation of three new people).

2. Approval and implementation of a productivity system for meeting objectives.

During 2022, a proposal was drawn up for the implementation of a productivity system for meeting objectives (PCO) in line with the content of the management contract. However, it was not until the first quarter of 2023 that this proposal was endorsed by the Governing Council for processing by the Ministries of Finance and Public Administrations.

The aim of this programme is to encourage the productivity and performance of the Agency's staff, which will favour the fulfilment of its objectives, rewarding effort and dedication. It is also intended to make jobs at the Agency attractive, so as to help fill current vacancies and retain qualified staff currently on secondment.

The PCO is based on the definition of objectives to be met and on the indicators for the achievement of these objectives and will be remunerated on a small part of the income generated annually from the reimbursement of grants and the provision of services.

3. Development and implementation of the training plan

A Training Plan has been drawn up to improve the skills necessary for the correct functioning of the organisation and the efficient provision of services. The Plan was drawn up in coordination with the Ministry of Science and Innovation and with the participation of workers' representatives. During 2022, 18 courses have been given, with the following details:

	Summar	y of training actio	ons	
Title of the training action	No. of editions	No. of participants	No. of hours	Dates
English (2 levels)	2	21	64/cours e	15 January to 15 June 15 Sept. to 15 December
Basic equality course	1	28	15	18 February to 18 March
Fire fighting	1	12	6	21 February
Basic computing for the AGE	2	43	15/cours e	10 to 12 May 18 to 20 October
First aid	1	15	5	6 April
Financial control of national grants	1	21	28,50	2 to 14 November
Emergency plan and evacuation	1	23	5	18 May
Oracle Discoverer	2	49	15/cours e	25-27 April 24-26 October
Advanced Word	1	20	20	5 October to 25 November
Advanced Excel	1	20	20	5 October to 25 November
Publication of content web	2	40	5/course	20 April 1 June
Law 9/2017 on Public Sector Contracts	1	18	15	10 to 17 October
Audit of management and control systems for FEDER grants	1	15	25	17 to 26 May
Procedure joint administrative	1	20	26	25 May to 2 June
Social Security Applications	1	20	5	5 to 21 April
Decentralised Standard Payroll (Nedaes)	1	4	15	19-21 September
Justification and monitoring applications of aid	1	20	27	26 April to 5 May
Cybersecurity	3	74	5/course	15 November29 November13 December

4. Elaboration and implementation of the Social Action Plan 2022.

The Social Action Aid Plan for the Agency's employees for 2022 has been drawn up and implemented, which affects both individual measures (aid for staff studies, health protection, descendants and ascendants, transport, disability, situations of gender violence and exceptional situations) and collective measures (medical check-ups, canteen aid, etc.).

5. Measures to recruit new staff in the Agency

A specific competition for the filling of civil servant posts in the Agency was published in 2022, which led to the definitive filling of 36 job positions.

A study and proposal of positions to be included in the Public Employment Offer (OEP) for the year 2022 was presented. The posts that have been approved in this OEP have been:

- 4 positions in the scale of OPIS Specialised Technicians in the open shift.
- 5 positions in the Scale of Specialised Technicians of OPIS for internal promotion.
- 3 positions in the scale of Senior Specialised Technicians of OPIS (open shift).
- 4 positions in the scale of Senior Specialised Technicians of OPIS for internal promotion.

The positions of the OEP 2022 of the General Bodies of the General State Administration of free shift and internal promotion are still pending to be known.

In the year 2022 they have joined the State Research Agency, coming from posts called in the 2018-2019 EPO, 2019 EPO, 2020 EPO:

- 1 civil servant of the Senior Corps of Civil Administrators of the State (open shift) OEP 2019.
- 3 civil servants of the General Administrative Corps of the State Administration (open shift) OEP 2020.
- 1 civil servant from the General Auxiliary Corps of the State Administration (open shift), OEP 2020, who has not been incorporated.

In 2023, the incorporation of:

2 civil servants from the Civil Administration Management Corps (open shift) OEP 2019.

- 1 civil servant from the Civil State Administration Management Corps (internal promotion) OEP 2019, who has not been incorporated.
- 2 civil servants of the Auxiliary Corps of the State Administration (internal promotion), OEP 2019. 1 of them has not been incorporated.

In 2023, the incorporation of OPIS Technical Staff from the 2020 EPO is expected:

- 6 posts in the Scale of Specialised Senior Technicians of OPIs (internal promotion).
- 2 posts in the Scale of Specialised Technicians of OPIs (internal promotion).

Finally, the evolution of staff numbers during the year 2022 is detailed:

Type of staff	Jan-22		Dec-22		Average number 2022	
	V	М	V	M	V	M
TOP POSITIONS	1	0	1	0	1	0
CIVIL SERVANTS	66	125	66	118	66,0	117,2
GROUP A1	23	54	24	50	23,8	51,2
GROUP A2	16	41	19	39	16,6	38,2
GROUP C1	17	18	14	20	15,8	17,6
GROUP C2	10	12	9	9	9,8	10,2
GROUP E	0	0	0	0	0,0	0,0
LABOUR	8	5	8	16	8,8	12,0
GROUP 1/M3	5	0	5	11	5,8	7,0
GROUP 2/M2	0	0	0	0	0,0	0,0
GROUP 3/3G	0	1	0	1	0,0	1,0
GROUP 4/4G	2	0	2	0	2,0	0,0
GROUP 5/E1	1	4	1	4	1,0	4,0
OTHER STAFF						
TOTAL	75	130	75	134	75,8	129,2
TOTAL CIVIL SERVANTS	191		184		183,2	
TOTAL LABOUR	13		24		20,8	
TOTAL OTHER STAFF	1		1		1,0	
TOTAL BODY	205		209		205,0	

PROGRAMME 3: Consolidation of common services

During 2022, the necessary infrastructures have been implemented to share security and support services with the MICIN. The migration process from the systems of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Digital Transformation (MAETAD) concluded at the end of July 2022. Since then, all the support services, perimeter security, DPC backup, server management, databases, certificates, etc., necessary for the operation of research grant management applications and horizontal tools, have been migrated to the environment shared with the MICIN. In the first quarter of 2023, the migration of each of the Agency's staff positions to the Agency's own local area network connected to the MICIN network was completed, leaving them completely disconnected from MAETAD.

The work included in the contract with the company Tragsatec continued, analysing and designing the Agency's new call management tools. The preproduction and production environments have been prepared within the systems infrastructure shared with the Ministry of Science. The signature flow management system has been implemented, which will enable the use of the general state administration's signature holder, and the new Evaluator Payment application, which replaces the Inicia and Panama applications.

In June 2022, the Agency added 204 laptops to facilitate teleworking for all its staff. These computers were distributed to managers, were included in the domain, allow VPN connection to the MICIN network and remote desktop access. This infrastructure has allowed all the Agency's employees to telework in the best conditions.



The Agency's functions include the management of the programmes, instruments and actions awarded to it within the framework of the State Scientific and Technical Research and Innovation Plans, any others expressly assigned to it by the General State Administration or those deriving from collaboration agreements entered into with other entities or from other actions.

The calls managed are the core of the Agency's activity: the main instrument for research funding.

The implementation of a call is similar to a transmission mechanism, where each gear acts in synchronisation in order to start a machine. It starts with the publication of the call and ends with the scientific-technical and economic verification of the use of the awarded funds. It is, therefore, a process with a long life cycle, which remains alive for several years, starting with the approval of the regulatory bases and restarting each time a call for proposals is published.

During the 2022 financial year, various regulatory bases were approved. On the one hand, the regulatory bases were drawn up and approved for the granting of aid corresponding to various programmes and sub-programmes of the State Plan for Scientific and Technical Research and Innovation, PECTI, 2021-2023, which is managed by the State Research Agency. Furthermore, in 2022 new regulatory bases were drawn up and approved within the framework of the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan (PRTR), to include the eligibility aspects of the calls for proposals financed with funds from the Recovery and Resilience Mechanism (MRR).

The calls for proposals involve several successive phases that follow a timetable: the instruction, the evaluation of the proposals, the economic-budgetary management, and the monitoring and justification of the actions financed.

The Agency is responsible for the economic and budgetary management and economic and financial control of the instruments and actions for which it is responsible (Article 5(k) of the Statute). This line focuses on this point.

1 Instruction on the procedure for the award of calls

This heading includes not only the activities inherent to the instruction procedure, but also those necessary for the publication of the calls for applications, such as the preparation, approval, signing and sending for publication of the calls for applications for grants. During 2022, 18 calls for proposals were managed (6 calls for 2020 and 10 for 2021). 8 of the calls managed during 2022 are financed with funds from the Recovery and Resilience Mechanism and in four of them specific regulatory bases had to be prepared.

The necessary steps for the publication of a call for proposals begin with the drafting of the texts of the calls for proposals, the request for the relevant reports and their publication in the Official State Gazette and in the National Grants Database.

The management of these calls for applications in 2022 involved the processing of 21,472 files: review of applications, corrections, withdrawals and notifications of resolution. This heading also includes the maintenance of the system of entities, which is the repository where grant applicants must register and provide the necessary documentation to accredit their legal nature and the legal representatives who interact with the Agency throughout the life of the call. For this reason, it is necessary for it to be completely updated, and requests for modifications, additions and deletions, etc., are made on a very regular basis. Specifically, 2,329 have been made during 2022.

Activity	Estimate 2022	Executed
Drafting and publication of the calls	19	17
Instruction	23.300	21.472
Maintenance of the system of entities (registrations, modifications)		2.329
Advice to applicants of assistance	18.100	21.434

- **A) Drafting and publication of calls for proposals.** The initial forecast was for 19 calls. The deviation has been caused by:
- The call for applications for Juan de la Cierva- Incorporación has not been published, action that has been definitively integrated into the Ramón y Cajal action.

- The call has not been published for the Europe Research dynamisation actions, an action that has been integrated into the grants for the preparation and management of European projects.
- The call for grants to Severo Ochoa and María de Maeztu Centres and Units of Excellence in 2022 has not been published, and its launch has been delayed to the first quarter of 2023 following the reconfiguration of the call.
- A new call for grants has been published to encourage research consolidation, within the framework of the PRTR.
- **B)** Instruction. A total of 23,300 applications were expected to be processed. The deviation is mainly due, on the one hand, to the non-publication of certain calls for applications mentioned above and, on the other, to the fact that new actions linked to the PRTR were launched, to the difficulty in estimating the volume of applications that would be received.
- **C)** Maintenance of the entity system. It was foreseen that 2,100 actions would be managed through the entity system. The deviation is due to reasons similar to those outlined above for Instruction.
- D) Counselling for aid applicants. It was envisaged that the following would be attended to

18,100 mails. The upward shift is due to the fact that the launch of new actions has generated more enquiries than expected.

The following is a list of the calls managed in which the main phase or a relevant phase of the award procedure took place in 2022, indicating the year of the call, the budget and the amount awarded.

Calls managed in 2022 by the Agency

Lines of action	Year	Budget (€)	Grant (€)
Ramón y Cajal Grants	2021	152.918.450,00	150.082.250,00
Juan de la Cierva-training grants	2021	32.400.000,00	31.168.800,00
Grants for Technical Support Staff	2021	9.000.000,00	8.753.400,00
Torres Quevedo Grants	2021	15.000.000,00	14.563.846,95
Grants for the training of doctors in companies "industrial doctorates"	2021	4.000.000,00	3.579.071,84
Grants for pre-doctoral contracts	2021	110.038.260,00	106.508.160,00
Knowledge generation projects	2021	452,000,000.00	449,243,432.44
Proof of concept projects	2022	40.000.000,00	39.964.340,00
Projects in strategic lines in public-private partnership	2022	70.000.000,00	49.410.812,40
Public-public partnership projects private	2021	375.000.000,00	287.222.087,98
Europe Excellence Projects	2022	2.500.000,00	2.499.999,90
European project management	2022	11.900.000,00	11.899.817,63
Grants to Centres and Units of Excellence Severo Ochoa y María de Maeztu	2021	54.000.000,00	54.000.000,00
Green and Digital Transition Projects	2021	296.072.000,00	288.690.590,40
International Collaboration Projects-I	2022	18.108.347,29	17.907.095,16
International Collaboration Projects II	2022	27.321.896,00	27.321.896,00

2 Scientific and technical evaluation of proposals

The scientific-technical evaluation of the proposals and their internationally contrasted protocols are the fundamental pillars that guarantee the correct functioning of the competitive concurrence, based on criteria of excellence and the correct allocation of budgetary funds.

Moreover, the Agency has signed up to DORA (Declaration On Research Assessment) in April 2021, since its accession, the Agency has been working continuously on the gradual implementation of these principles in all assessments conducted by the Agency.

The aim is to ensure a rigorous and objective external evaluation system that allows contrasting the opinion of individual experts and prioritising all applications for funding, depending on the type of call, the quality and relevance of each proposal, the scientific-technical solvency of the responsible researcher and/or research team and the expected scientific and social impact of the results of the proposal.

Generally speaking, this evaluation process has two distinct stages:

- The remote assessment is carried out by individual experts with in-depth knowledge of the subject matter of the proposals submitted, who provide technical reports on the quality and relevance of each application submitted.
- The assessment and prioritisation of applications, carried out by a panel of
 experts who assess a significant number of applications, and in the light of
 all the technical reports available to the panel, assign by consensus a final
 assessment and prioritise the applications for the funding proposal.

Both stages are carried out in accordance with the evaluation criteria set out in the respective regulations and in the respective calls for applications.

A) Evaluations stemming from the Annual Action Plan

Activity	Workload estimation	Indicator on actual load of work	Target (%)	Executed	Executed (%)
Management of evaluations	24.000	No. of applications assessed	100	23.103	96,26
Management of the Technical Evaluation Commissions		No. of technical evaluation commissions held	100	201	91,36
Allegation and appeal reports	1.900	No. of allegation reports carried out	100	1.962	103,26

The deviations presented in this evaluation are justified by the variations in the number of applications received by the Agency in each call which is not possible to know a priori, and which is more evident in this year when there have been several new calls financed with funds from the RRM such as the calls for Projects in Strategic Lines or Green and Digital Transition Projects.

It is also necessary to make special mention of a new technical evaluation required in all actions financed with MRR funds, such as the evaluation of compliance with the Principle of Not Causing Significant Harm to the Environment (DNSH), which, although it does not represent an increase in the number of applications whose evaluation has been managed, it does represent an important number of reports carried out.

B) External evaluations

This point refers to the management of the evaluation of calls external to the Agency, both with public and private entities, with which a collaboration agreement has been previously signed for this purpose or in application of the order of public prices for evaluation activities. The evaluation procedure is the same as that followed in the Agency's internal calls for proposals, except for the stage of the expert commissions.

Activity	Workload estimation	Indicator on actual load of work	Target (%)	Executed	Executed (%)
Management of evaluations	5.800	No. of applications assessed	100	5.769	99,46
Allegation and appeal reports	90	No. of allegation reports carried out	100	373	374,4

Deviations are caused by a lack of a priori knowledge of the external evaluations that will be commissioned that year.

This increase is due to the increase in the number of allegations in specific calls which have increased the total number of allegations. In addition, external evaluations have increased. Quantitatively, the increase is not significant, as the number of registered allegations is low in relation to the total number of evaluated applications.

To conclude the section on evaluation, it should be noted that the evaluation protocols are continuously reviewed and changes are made, if necessary, in the light of experience, international practice and feedback from the Agency's stakeholders.

3. Economic and budgetary management. Payment.

Payment of the aid granted is generally made in annual instalments. The first annual payment is made on the occasion of the award resolution and the remaining annual payments are normally made once the beneficiary's status has been reviewed in order to be able to proceed with payment and, where appropriate, scientific justification within the deadlines established by the different calls for applications, following a positive assessment of the reports submitted. Payment requires prior verification of the requirements that Law 38/2033, General Law on Subsidies, demands of beneficiaries, an activity that involves reviewing all the responsible statements and certificates provided by applicants, as well as, with prior explicit authorisation, compliance with their obligations to the Tax Agency and Social Security by telematic means. The data for 2022 are:

Activity	Estimate 2022	Target (%)	Executed	Executed (%)
Prior audit of calls for proposals that require it	3	100	3	100
Review of eligibility requirements and payment of multiannualities	7.000	100	9.314	133.05
Issuance of derived accounting documents of the concession	30.000	100	41.981	139.94
Payment of aid	17.000	100	26.379	155.17
Advice to beneficiaries	800	100	1.046	130,8

The obligations recognised in 2022 amounted to 1,280,427,385.93 euros, corresponding to calls from previous years and, if applicable, to calls published and resolved in the same year.

	Subsidy	Loan	FEDER advance	TOTAL
EQUIPMENT	120.000.000,02			120.000.000,02
EUROPE EXCELLENCE	2.499.999,90			2.499.999,90
PROOF OF CONCEPT	38.763.397,31			38.763.397,31
STRATEGIC LINES	5.394.968,44	2.007.583,91		7.402.552,35
ECOLOGICAL TRANSITION Y DIG.	148.319.792,95			148.319.792,95
ACC. PROGRAM. JOINT	23.132.810,11			23.132.810,11
RAMON Y CAJAL	23.432.311,60			23.432.311,60
DOCTORS INDUSTRIALS	894.915,87			894.915,87
JUAN DE LA CIERVA TRAINING	18.251.421,93			18.251.421,93
TORRES QUEVEDO	4.362.917,68			4.362.917,68
JUAN DE LA CIERVA INCORP.	8.643.636,90			8.643.636,90
INDUSTRIAL DOCTORS	1.655.299,21			1.655.299,21
JUAN DE LA CIERVA TRAINING	3.827.397,28			3.827.397,28
AID PREDOCTORALS	77.637.259,96			77.637.259,96
INIA PREDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS	503.538,76			503.538,76
RAMON Y CAJAL	49.149.620,11			49.149.620,11
Total TORRES QUEVEDO	6.742.298,69			6.742.298,69
Total JUAN DE LA CIERVA INCORP.	8.114.753,89			8.114.753,89
Total TECHNICIANS SUPPORT	6.224.325,89			6.224.325,89
INCORP. STABLE DOCTORS	53.141,58			53.141,58
INIA DOCTORS	605.906,82			605.906,82
YOUNG EMPLOYMENT PROMOTION	293.968,17			293.968,17
CHALLENGES COLLABORATION	17.020.597,24	24.529.143,25		41.549.740,49
INIA CHALLENGES	364.287,00			364.287,00
ACC. PROGRAM. CONJUNTA	4.401.405,65			4.401.405,65
RESEARCH CHALLENGES	3.604.809,54			3.604.809,54
PLATFORMS TECHNOLOGICAL	1.905.875,44			1.905.875,44

EUROPEAN PROJECTS MANAGEMENT	8.329.872,34			8.329.872,34
PROJECTS EXCELLENCE	2.803.228,70			2.803.228,70
NETWORKS EXCELLENCE	140.758,00			140.758,00
ACC. DYNAMIZ. INTERNATIONAL	1.254.084,05			1.254.084,05
PROJECTS RESEARCH	507.617.125,82		106.841.231,86	614.458.357,68
EXCELLENCE CENTRES	50.949.999,94			50.949.999,94
PCT OFFSETS	153.700,12			153.700,12
Grand total	1.147.049.426,91	26.536.727,16	106.841.231,86	1.280.427.385,93

4. Monitoring of aid

The monitoring of grants approved by the Agency includes both the management of incidents (changes related to the initial application, changes in the award decision) and the verification, monitoring and evaluation of the activities financed both during and at the end of the period of execution of these activities. This monitoring is carried out from a scientific-technical and also economic point of view, as determined in the calls for proposals and as required by the regulations.

A. Scientific and technical monitoring of the implementation of aid

The scientific-technical monitoring process is carried out following two different protocols for the assessment of the scientific-technical reports, depending on what is indicated in each of the calls for proposals:

- The reports are assessed by external scientific/technical partners and reviewed and validated by Agency staff.
- The reports are assessed by the Agency's technical staff. Once the report
 has been assessed and validated, the assessment information is sent to
 the beneficiary of the aid.

In both cases, once the report has been assessed and validated, the assessment information is sent to the aid beneficiary.

In the case of interim reports, and depending on what the call dictates, whenever the assessment is favourable, the corresponding certificates of conformity necessary for the release of subsequent payments will be issued. On the other hand, in cases where the assessment is unfavourable, the processing of the corresponding forfeiture of the right to payment or the files for the reimbursement of the aid, as the case may be, will be initiated. In the

case of final reports, failure to submit or a negative assessment of the report will give rise to the initiation of partial or total reimbursement of the aid.

In addition, throughout the year, online monitoring sessions have been held for the presentation and intermediate monitoring of the state of implementation of the projects funded with the collaboration of the scientific collaborators of the thematic areas of the SRA. Inpublic-private collaboration projects, on-site visits have been carried out by Agency staff.

The monitoring of grants includes the assessment and management of modifications to the conditions of the grants, both modifications to the grant resolution (extension of the execution period, change of beneficiary entity, change of principal investigator, etc.) and other modifications that do not require changes to the resolution (modifications to the research team, changes in the percentage of subcontracting, etc.). For the assessment of some of these modifications, the collaboration of the collaborators of the thematic areas of the SRA is available.

The scientific-technical monitoring is approached from two points of view depending on the type of call:

1) Calls with scientific-technical fields having a thematic orientation defined in the state plans, responding to the needs of the scientific community and the main social and economic challenges of the country, exercised by the Scientific-Technical Thematic Programmes Subdivision ¹.

Grants for pre-doctoral contracts for the training of PhDs; R&D Excellence Projects; R&D+i Projects; Research and Knowledge Generation Challenges; "Explore Science" and "Explore Technology" Projects; "Networks of Excellence" Dynamisation Actions; Challenges-Collaboration; R&D+i Challenges Projects; R&D+i Projects for young researchers without or with temporary ties; Technological Platforms; Proof of Concept Projects; R&D+i Projects in strategic lines.

Activity	Workload estimate 2022	Actual workload indicator	% Target	Estimated number of dossiers 2022	Executed 2022	% on Target
Management of the scientific-technical monitoring of aid	12.280	No. of grants object of monitoring	50	6.140	8.797	143
Assessment of aid in follow-up meetings	2.308	No. of aid assessed in follow-up meetings	30	692	370	53
Follow-up visits in situ	189	No. of on-site visits	25	47	37	78
Decisions authorising/refu sing changes to the conditions of aid	6.790	Number of decisions modifying the conditions of the aid	100	6.790	5.244	77
Citizen information and user relations	10.000	No. of mails answered over the no. of mails received	100	10.000	11.664	117

A) Management of the scientific and technical monitoring of grants.

Throughout this period, efforts have been made to reduce the number of projects which, having completed their implementation, were awaiting final scientific and technical evaluation of the follow-up.

B) Assessment of aid in follow-up meetings.

The density of the calendar of calls managed by the Agency during 2022 and the workload supported by both the Agency's civil servants and teams of collaborating staff made it impossible to hold the Monitoring Days for the call for Knowledge Generation Projects 2019 (PID 2019) initially planned for autumn 2022. Instead, the decision was taken to carry out the Monitoring Workshops for the Proof of Concept 2021 grants, as this is a new call, whose projects are only halfway through their execution and it was considered important to learn first-hand about their particularities, not only to improve their execution, but also to help improve possible future calls. In this case, all funded projects were called.

C) On-site monitoring visits.

In the case of the forecast of on-site monitoring visits, it was carried out on the number of 4-year projects from the 2017 Challenges-Collaboration call and 2-year projects from the 2019 Challenges-Collaboration call. Finally, it was not possible to carry out on-site monitoring of the 2019 call projects as they had requested an extension of the implementation period.

D) Decisions authorising/refusing modifications to the conditions of aid.

The forecast of the number of modifications of the grant conditions was made on the basis of the number of grants under implementation. Most of the modifications usually correspond to requests for extension of the implementation period which can be requested up to two months before the final implementation date. The observed deviation is due to the fact that the projects of the IDP2019 call started their implementation on 01 June 2020, contrary to the previous calls which had a start date of 1 January. Consequently, the end date of implementation has also been shifted, with the three-year PID2019 projects ending on 31 May 2023 and most of the extension requests having been submitted during the first months of 2023.

The activities carried out and not reflected in the table above include the uploading of the funding granted in the calls for proposals into the corresponding computer applications.

The staff also participates in the organisation of the ex-ante evaluation in those calls that require a scientific-technical panel evaluation:

- Validation of the proposed experts and
- Advising on the monitoring of projects in the technical commissions.
- Review of the reports produced by the Scientific and Technical Commissions.
- 2) Calls with scientific-technical areas that do not have a defined thematic orientation, but are oriented to strengthen the Spanish Science and Technology System2 exercised by the Transversal Scientific-Technical Programmes, Strengthening and Excellence Subdivision.

Managers"; International Joint Programming Actions Enlace; Dynamisation Action "Europe Excellence".

^{2.} Aid for technical support staff contracts; Juan de la Cierva training and incorporation contracts; Aid for Ramón y Cajal contracts; Aid to encourage the stable incorporation of doctors (IED); Aid for contracts for the training of researchers in companies; Aid for Torres Quevedo contracts; Aid for the Promotion of Youth Employment and Implementation of the Youth Guarantee in R+D+i; Grants for the recruitment and training of technologists in the Business Sector; Support for "Severo Ochoa" Centres of Excellence and "María de Maeztu" Units of Excellence; Technology Centres; Equipment in Science and Technology Parks; Acquisition of Scientific and Technical Equipment; Horizonte Pyme; Dynamisation Action "Europa Investigación"; "Europa Redes y

Activity		Actual workload indicator	Target	Executed 2022	% of target
Follow-up management scientific-technical aid	2.750	No. of grants object of monitoring		2.550	92.73
Assessment of aid in follow-up meetings	232	No. of aid assessed in follow-up meetings	100%	232	100
On-site monitoring visits	13	No. of on-site visits	100%	13	100
Decisions authorising/refusing changes to the conditions of aid	1.383	No. of decisions modifying the conditions of aid	100%	1.383	100
Citizen information and user relations	12.112	No. of mails answered over the number of mails received	100%	12.093	99.84

B Financial monitoring of the implementation of aid.

This procedural phase focuses on the economic and financial control and monitoring of the actions financed, in particular:

- The administrative review of the supporting account and economic audit of the expenditure of all files. Depending on the result, the procedure for the reimbursement of the amounts that have not been justified or whose justification has not been adequate is initiated. This procedure includes the issuing of a request for information, the agreement to initiate the procedure, the opening of the hearing, the assessment of the allegations presented by the beneficiary and notification of the final decision.
- Reimbursements. This procedure includes the issuing of the agreement to initiate reimbursement, the opening of the hearing, assessment of the allegations presented by the beneficiary and notification of the final decision on reimbursement and, where appropriate, the loss of the right to payment of outstanding annual payments. Likewise, it also includes the issuing of the payment document form 069 of the Tax Agency, if applicable.

- Cancellation of guarantees and seizure of guarantees. The procedure for cancellation of guarantees submitted to the Caja General de Depósitos includes the issuance of the cancellation order and referral to it, as well as notification to the beneficiary that the referral has been made so that the beneficiary may proceed to cancel the guarantee.
- The procedure for the seizure of guarantees includes notifying the beneficiary of the start of the procedure, as well as the opening of the hearing, the assessment of the allegations and, in the event that these are rejected, issuing the request for seizure and sending it to the Delegated Comptroller for audit and to the General Deposit Fund (Caja General de Depósitos).
- Certification of European Structural Funds. The State Agency manages European Regional Development Funds (FEDER) and European Social Fund (FSE) - EIE Funds - with which some of the calls managed by the Agency are co-financed. This entails the submission to the Managing Authorities of the European Regional Development Fund and the European Social Fund of the eligible expenditure of the co-financed projects so that the European Commission can proceed with the payment of aid from these funds.

In the year 2022, the following actions have been carried out:

Activity	Indicator on actual load of work	Workload estimation 2022	Executed 2022	%
Implementation of a new, simplified and sample-based financial justification system.	Implementation in the regulatory bases	1		100
Administrative review of the supporting account and audit of expenditure	No. of files reviewed	40000	10153	25,38
Follow-up visits	No. of visits made	190	130	68,42
Refund decisions	No. of reimbursement decisions	28000	9500	33,93
Analysis of reconsideration appeals	No. of reports sent to the General Secretariat	620	360	58,06
No. of cancelled/seized files	No. of guarantees cancelled in full or in part or seized	800	727	90,88
Certification of EIE funds	No. of certified operations	7000	12374	176,77
Advice to beneficiary organisations	Number of emails answered	20500	13.649	66,58

With regard to the deviations that occurred during 2022, there was a change in the technical assistance work team, with new staff being hired, to which was added a period of three months in which there was no external support for the review. In addition, there has been a high turnover of civil servants, which has drastically affected the performance of reviews. As an action measure, a great effort has been made to reinforce the staff and several people, including reinforcement staff, have been hired to support the PRTR management aid.

With regard to the indicator "Monitoring visits", in order to unify criteria, the number of visits carried out for which a provisional visit report has been issued has been counted. The objective of carrying out the on-site visit has been met, but the visit report has not been issued for several of them, so they have not been included in the indicator.

With regard to the indicator "Analysis of appeals for reconsideration", firstly it should be noted that during 2022 there have been regulatory changes that have resulted in a slowdown in the issuing of reports as the review of the supporting account has to be carried out at this stage of the procedure, as well as additional steps. Likewise, during 2022 a large number of reports have been prepared in relation to the Collaboration Challenges call, which require a complex calculation and procedure with the added difficulty of the lack of staff in the corresponding area for consultation.

In addition, computer applications had to be adapted and other issues had to be resolved, which were resolved in the second half of the year.

Finally, with regard to the certification of EIE Funds, in previous years there was an accumulation of delays for various reasons, which made it necessary to make an effort to make up for lost time, taking into account that the FEDER and FSE period will end in 2024. 2022 has been a priority objective.



The Agency is responsible for carrying out the activities or providing the services entrusted to it by the General State Administration or by virtue of contracts, agreements and, in general, legal business, by other entities (Article 5 i) of the Statute. Also, for the exercise of its functions, the Agency may take on assignments in its capacity as an own means of the General State Administration (Article 24 of the Statute).

The activities carried out in this section are as follows:

Activity	Estimate 2022	Executed
Evaluation agreements, management entrustments and other legal instruments	12	14
Provision of scientific-technical evaluation services.	12	98

Details of the agreements are given in Annex 1 of this report.

Details of the external evaluations carried out are given below:

External calls managed in 2022	Total
Calls open in 2021 and finalised in 2022	16
Open and closed calls in 2022	64
Calls open in 2022 and ending in 2023	16
Cancelled calls	1
Calls that were not evaluated in the end	1
TOTAL	98

IV. COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND REPRESENTATION IN R&D&I FORUMS.

The communication and dissemination activities aim to give visibility and transparency to all the Agency's actions through participation in events by its management and technical staff, presence in the media, social networks and other actions. In short, the aim is to disseminate the Agency's activities in order to improve the vision of its work in the scientific community and the rest of Spanish society, and to adopt the necessary measures to guarantee maximum transparency in the exercise of its functions. The activity of the year 2022 has been:

Activity	Indicator	Objectiv e 2022	EXECUTED
Media references	No. of references	2	1700 ³
Press releases	No. of press releases	19	113
Social networks: Agency activity and dissemination of R&D&I projects	No. of content on social networks	300	576
Media interviews	No. of interviews	2	0

In addition, a communication strategy has been planned in which actions have been carried out for the first time in the Agency towards different audiences, such as the celebration for the first time of activities within the framework of the Science Week of the Community of Madrid.

Other activities carried out include the improvement of web content according to user interest, subscription to call information on the website and access to call information up to one month before the opening of the application period.

In addition, the Agency's activity has been reported through institutional meetings, regular meetings and strategic committees, including the following:

^{3.} In 2023, a media monitoring system is in place that has made it possible to see the impacts on media.

- Institutional visits with heads of territorial governments, universities, research centres and representative R&D&I entities at regional and national level.
- Meetings with other public or private entities such as representatives of research staff or sectors related to Research.

Within the activities related to coordination and advice with SECTI agents, meetings have been held with:

Management Forum, made up of management representatives from most of the public and private beneficiary institutions of the Agency's grants.

- Beneficiary Committee, made up of high-level institutional representatives from representative Spanish institutions.
- Technology Platforms Committee, made up of representatives of beneficiaries of the Technology Platforms and Technology Grants.
- The number of news items published on the main page of the website has increased to 113, due to the increase in the type of content and communication efforts.

In terms of social networks, data from Twitter in 2022 is given.

9,634 new followers.

Retweets achieved: 6.720

Tweet impressions: 4,254,809

Visits: 17,653 (profile clicks)

Likes: 10,689Mentions: 26,177

Followers as at December 31, 2022: 51,060

With reference to the State Investigation Agency's informative events and meetings, the Agency has participated in national and international events and various forums. Annexes II and III list the participation and representation in forums, commissions and national and international events of the Management of the State Investigation Agency and the Agency's staff.

With reference to transparency measures in accordance with section 4.2 of the State Research Agency's Communication and Transparency Plan, the following actions have been carried out:

Activity	Indicator	Obtective 2022	Executed
Website advertising: updating and adding new features contents.	No. of publications	19	17
Database Advertising National Grants	No. of publications	19	17
Translation into English of documents relevant to the company's activity. Agency.	No. of documents	2	0
Publication on the Transparency Portal of the relevant documents on the activity of the Agency.	No. of documents	2	2
Annual Accounts of the State Agency Research	No. of documents	1	1

- A) Publicity on the website: updating and inclusion of new content. The new content item is considered to be each new call sheet and all its associated content (publication of the call sheet and all the information associated with each call: PRP, PRD, requirements for correction, etc.) which, as a whole, exceeds the 2021 target.
- B) Publicity in the National Grants Database: Each call that is uploaded, with all its associated content prior to the opening of the application period, is considered as a publicity item in the NSDB. After the awarding of the grant, the grants awarded to each beneficiary entity are published.
- C) Translation into English of documents relevant to the Agency's activity: With the incorporation of a Communication Service delayed to 2023, the Annual Action Plans 2022 and 2023 and the corresponding General Performance Reports will be translated into English during 2023.
- **D)** Publicity on the Transparency Portal. 2 documents have been published: the Annual Action Plan 2021 and the General Activity Report 2020 on the transparency portal.
- **E)** Annual accounts. They have been published in the BOE.

On the other hand, it is worth mentioning the webinars of the calls for proposals in which the general aspects, novelties and relevant information and the evaluation and monitoring of the calls for proposals for R&D&I grants are made known.

- Webinar for the presentation of the new call for public-private partnership projects 2021.
- Webinar for the presentation of the new call Severo Ochoa and María de Maeztu 2021
- Webinar for the presentation of the new call for proposals for grants for the preparation and management of European projects 2022
- Webinar for the presentation of the new call for Proof of Concept Grants 2022.
- Webinar for the presentation of the new call for Strategic Lines Projects PLE 2022
- Webinar for the presentation of the new Research Consolidation Call 2022
- Webinar for the presentation of the new call for Knowledge Generation Projects 2022

V. MEASURES TO MAKE GENDER EQUALITY EFFECTIVE IN R&D&I FUNDING ACTIVITIES

In 2021, the Agency's First Gender Equality Plan 2021-2023 was approved for R&D&I funding activities. The areas of action contemplated in this document refer to the R&D&I funding activities carried out by the Agency and complement and coordinate with the objectives and measures of the III Equality Plan of the General State Administration.

Among these activities for 2022 were planned:

Activity	Indicator	Target	Executed
Alignment of the Equality Strategy Group (ESG) with the activities in the field of equality. Agency's Equality Programme		2	2
Organisation of a course on gender equality in the different calls.	Course delivery	1	1
Self-training activities for evaluators.	Making of 4 videos explanatory	4	4
Analysis of the inclusion of descriptors and sections on gender perspective in the evaluation and monitoring report templates.	Preparation of the document	1	04
Analysis of the evolution of the gender balance of staff and experts involved in the evaluation.	•	1	1

^{4.} Both the application forms and the evaluation and monitoring forms incorporate gender aspects, in 2023 in the framework of the monitoring of the SRA Equality Plan during 2023 this analysis is being carried out.

The Equality Strategy Group has continued to ensure that gender equality is adequately addressed in the Agency. The evolution of this group into the future Equality Unit of the Agency is planned for 2022. In addition, a reorganisation of the coordination of equality activities has started, including the attribution of this function to other units and the extension of the application of the principle of equality to all the Agency's actions in the proposal for a new statute approved by the Governing Board at the beginning of 2023. This statute has not yet been approved.

In 2022, new equality provisions have been introduced in the Agency's activities by Law 17/2022 of 5 September on Science, Technology and Innovation.

- In the assessment of curricular merits and in the calls for applications where a period of eligibility of applicants is foreseen, new assumptions have been included, such as new situations such as work flexibility and conciliation assumptions.
- The evaluation criteria for actions related to R&D&I projects include the
 assessment of the gender dimension in research, within the criterion of
 the scientific-technical and social impact of the project results. A specific
 section on the gender dimension of the research is included in the
 application and report of these proposals, as well as in the format of the
 scientific-technical report.
- 5 training modules on different aspects of gender equality have been developed and published on the SRA website. Collaboration and evaluation teams involved in both management and evaluation of EIG actions are obliged to do at least one of these modules.
- Parity is encouraged both in the group of SRA collaborators and in the composition of the technical commissions for the evaluation of SRA actions.



Article 19 of Law 7/2022 on Science, Technology and Innovation establishes that public funding agents and their bodies, agencies and entities may temporarily assign, on a full or part-time basis, career civil servants who are researchers, experts in technological development or specialists in the field of research, to collaborate in the preparation, management, monitoring and evaluation of scientific and technical research programmes, with the prior authorisation of the competent bodies and the entity in which the research personnel provide their services.

The Agency makes use of this fundamental authorisation for the evaluation and scientific-technical monitoring of the actions financed by the Agency within the State R&D&I Plan.

There are two types of secondment:

- Temporary collaborators who carry out continuous and part-time technical support and advisory tasks in the evaluation and scientific monitoring of grants. This collaboration has an average duration of 3 years.
- Evaluators, who are assigned on an ad hoc basis the scientifictechnical evaluation of proposals submitted to the Agency's and external calls for proposals for grants.

In 2022, the Agency had 17.394 evaluators and 413 different collaborators, of which a total of 327 have been directly assigned to the scientific-technical areas, the rest being directly assigned to management, to the Coordination, Evaluation and Monitoring Division for specific tasks outside the areas (call for strategic lines, I3 programme, evaluation of the DNSH principle, support for monitoring of PEJ, international calls or European projects), or to other units of the Agency (Management Support Unit, Subdirectorate of Justification or the Subdirectorate of European Funds).

The monthly average number of collaborators has been 311, although in some months this figure has increased as a result of the need to reinforce the number of collaborators due to the increase in some of the evaluation and/or scientific-technical monitoring tasks on an ad hoc basis.

As part of the coordination activities with collaborators, working meetings have been held with the presidents of the scientific-technical areas, and this year for the first time a joint meeting was held between the members of the SRA Scientific-Technical Committee and the area presidents.

Activity	Indicator	Objective 2022	Executed
Conference with the chairpersons and coordinators of the scientific areas	No. of days	3	1
Conference with the presidents of the scientific areas	No. of days	2	2
Joint conference of scientific area presidents and members of the CST	'	_	2



Since its creation, the Agency has participated in more than 50 programmes, initiatives and projects at European and international level in various fields of knowledge, ranging from the humanities to quantum technologies, environmental sciences, animal and human health, advanced materials and raw materials, agriculture and many others, with the main objective of cofinancing international collaborative R&D projects through the International Collaboration Projects (ICP) call for proposals.

During 2022, the Agency has maintained its participation in the current ERA-Nets Cofunds of Horizon 2020 (Framework Programme 2014-2020), and has also been involved in the definition, preparation and management of the main co-funded partnerships of Horizon Europe (Framework Programme 2021-2026),

Under several of the initiatives/programmes, there have been joint calls for projects funded through the PCI calls (196 projects in PCI 2022).

The management of these initiatives requires the Agency's staff to attend more than 300 meetings per year, both face-to-face and remote, which it is not appropriate to list in a general Agency report.

Within Horizon 2020, the following programmes can be distinguished by their main activity (non-exhaustive list).

- AMR2 cofund on antimicrobial resistance.
- NEURON COFUND 2, neuroscience research.
- ICRAD, on animal health
- CHANSE cofund on social and cultural transformations.
- GENDERNET Plus, on gender research.
- CHISTERA 3 and 4 cofund, on emerging communication technologies and information systems.
- QUANTERA 1 and 2 on quantum technologies.
- FLAG-ERA cofund, a project to support the European Graphene Flagships and the European Brain Project (HBP).
- M-ERA cofund 2, advanced materials research.
- ERA-Min cofund, on raw materials and recycling.
- · BiodivClim, on biodiversity and climate change
- · Aquatic Pollutants, on pollutants in marine and inland waters.
- ACT, on CO capture₂.
- · CSP cofund, on concentrating solar power.
- SOLAR, on solar energy.
- · Geothermica, on geothermal energy.
- ENUTC, on urban planning research

- SUSCROP, on sustainable agriculture and agrobiodiversity.
- SUSFOOD, on sustainable food.
- ForestValue, on forestry research.
- PRIMA for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean area based on Art. 185 TFEU, with participation of non-European Mediterranean countries in the areas of water, agriculture and food.

In the framework of Horizon Europe, the following partnerships should be highlighted (complete list of active partnerships and those defined and submitted in 2022 to the European Commission for evaluation):

Assets in 2022:

- Key Digital Technologies Joint Undertaking (KDT-JU) and is based on Art. 187 TFEU.
- European Partnership or Joint Undertaking on High Performance Computing (EURO-HPC JU), which funds European High Efficiency Computers and associated projects and is based on Art. 187 of the TFEU.
- Driving Urban Transitions DUT, European partnership on urban transition towards a sustainable future.
- Clean Energy Transitions Partnership CETP, European Partnership for Clean Energy Transitions.
- Biodiversa +, a European partnership for the rescue of biodiversity in order to safeguard life on Earth.
- Water4All, European partnership for water security for the planet.
- Sutainable Blue Economy Partnership, SBEP, a European partnership for a climate-neutral, sustainable and productive blue economy.
- ERA4Health, a European partnership on human health.
- THFS, European partnership on improving health services.

Defined and presented in 2022:

- Agroecolgy, European partnership on agroecology and living labs.
- Agro-DATA, European partnership on data in agriculture.
- AH&W, European partnership for animal health and welfare.
- PSFS, European partnership on food systems.

Within and outside the institutional framework of the European Commission, the Agency participates in the following governing bodies:

- GPC-ERAC: European Research Area (ERA) High Level Group for the definition of Joint Programming. Set up by the European Council and the European Commission. The SRA participates in this group together with the CDTI.
- Partnerships Knowledge Hub PKH: High Level Group for the coordination of Horizon Europe partnerships.
- Joint Programming Group: Created in 2016 on the recommendation of the Spanish roadmap towards the European Research Area (ERA). The SRA is in charge of coordinating the Group, which is made up of representatives of the SRA itself, CDTI, ISCIII, INIA, FECYT and with the participation of the Ministry of Science and Innovation.
- **JPI WATER:** Joint Programming Initiative related to water research. The ERA participates in the governing board and the executive board. Three European projects running until 2022 are managed under this JPI: Waterwords 2015, Waterworks 2017 and Aquatic Pollutants.
- **JPI OCEANS:** Joint Programming Initiative related to ocean research. The SRA participates as a partner country. In relation to this JPI, the call 'Underwater Noise 2022', on underwater noise in the marine environment and an ERA-Net cofund BLUEBIO have been managed.
- **JPI CLIMA:** Joint Programming Initiative related to climate observation. The SRA participates as a partner country. Two European projects, ERA4CS and line on climate services, are managed under this JPI.
- JPI CULTURAL HERITAGE: Joint Programming Initiative related to European cultural heritage research. The SRA participates as an associated country. In relation to this JPI, the call 'Cultural Heritage, Society and Ethics 2022' has been managed, and the Agency participates in the ARCHE action.
- JPI HDHL: Joint programming initiative related to diet and healthy living.
 The SRA participates in its governing bodies together with the ISCIII. In
 relation to this JPI, the SRA has participated in the call NUTRIMMUNE
 2022, on the nutritional responsiveness of the immune system and in two
 European projects HDHL and INTIMIC.
- **JPI MYBL:** Joint Programming Initiative related to research on ageing. The SRA participates in the governing board together with ISCIII.
- JPI AMR: Joint Programming Initiative related to antimicrobial resistance research. The SRA participates in its governing bodies together with the ISCIII. Two European projects are managed under this JPI with the joint call DRUID 2022.
- JPND: Joint Programming Initiative related to research on Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases. CDTI participates in its governing bodies together with ISCIII. The SRA maintains a monitoring position.

- JPI URBAN: Joint Programming Initiative related to research on the global management of cities, including social and sustainability aspects. The SRA participates as an observer. The European ENUTC project is managed under this JPI.
- KDT-JU Key Digital Technologies Joint Undertaking (KDT-JU). This JU follows on from the ENIAC and ECSEL programmes, in which the Agency also participated. The SRA has participated in the definition of the KDT programme together with the Secretary of State for Digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence (SEDIA- MAETD), and in the 2021 and 2022 calls. SRA funds the participation of academic entities, while SEDIA funds the participation of the private sector.
- **Euro-HPC-JU:** Joint Undertaking for European High Performance Computing. The ERA participates in the governing board together with the MCIN and the CDTI.

Internationally, beyond the European Union, the Agency maintains partnerships in the following programmes:

- CRCNS Programme. Collaboration agreement with the United States on computational neuroscience, signed by the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Department of Energy (DOE) of the United States and by the Agencia Estatal de Investigación and the Instituto de Salud Carlos III, on the Spanish side. In 2018, the SRA and the Instituto de Salud Carlos III signed a tripartite collaboration agreement with the US National Science Foundation (NSF) that gave access to the CRCNS programme. This is a highly competitive programme in which only four countries participate, in addition to Spain and the US: Japan, France, Germany and Israel.
- CYTED. Science and Technology for Development Programme, created by the governments of Ibero-American countries to promote cooperation in science, technology and innovation for the harmonious development of Ibero-America.
- European Interest Group (EIG) EU-CELAC. Composed of 28 funding agencies from Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe willing to collaborate on bi-regional science, technology and innovation (STI), and the implementation of the EU-CELAC Common Research Area through joint actions.
- European Interest Group (EIG) Concert Japan. for collaboration with Japan in various scientific and technical areas.



Overall, the objectives and percentages foreseen in the State Research Agency's Annual Action Plan 2022 have been more than met.

There have been some deviations from what was planned, which in no case have had a relevant influence on the fulfilment of the Agency's mission, functions and operational objectives.

Among the deviations are the following:

- Delays in the implementation of the management contract and the productivity bonus for objectives. In 2023, the proposal for both documents has been approved by the Governing Board.
- Changes in calls due to mergers and synergies with existing calls, new funding availability, or change in science policy strategy.
- Lower than expected target for economic monitoring, both in terms of documentary checks and visits, due to several factors, such as the complexity of the process, the shortage of human resources, the delay in the incorporation of audit contracts and regulatory change. In 2022, means have been put in place to simplify the review and economic monitoring of aid.

On the other hand, it should be noted that:

- The largest budget in the Agency's history so far has been managed.
- The arrival of the MRR funds has meant that the Agency is the managing body for three PRTR projects, which has meant that in 2022 eight calls have been financed with these funds, and that for four of them specific regulatory bases have had to be drawn up and approved with the specifications of the MRR regulation.
- In order to reduce the number of calls to be managed, some calls have been unified:
 - Some actions to stimulate Europe Research have been included in the call for proposals for grants for the preparation and management of European projects.
 - The call for Juan de la Cierva Incorporation Grants has been integrated into the call for Ramon y Cajal Contracts.
 - The call for pre-doctoral contracts for the training of doctors has been integrated into the call for Knowledge Generation Projects.
 - The procedure for assessing compliance with the Principle of No Significant Harm to the Environment (DNSH) has been implemented for all calls financed with PRTR funds.

- A great effort has been made in the evaluation and validation of scientific and technical monitoring reports of completed projects, which will allow a correct justification of the FEDER funds of the Spanish Multi-regional Operational Programme 2014-2020.
- Agency actions on communication and equality have been launched and reinforced.
- In economic monitoring, delays in the justification of aid with European Funds have been recovered.
- Face-to-face activity has been recovered, highlighting institutional activity and coordination at different levels of the Agency's staff with other institutions.



Scientific and technical evaluation agreements signed in 2022.

Provision of services

1.- Agreement with the CRIS Foundation for Research to Conquer Cancer, for the scientific-technical evaluation of the scientific projects of the CRIS Foundation against cancer.

Objective: Scientific/technical evaluation of calls for proposals Duration: Until

December 31, 2022 Amount: €3,268

2. - Agreement with the Scientific Foundation of the Spanish Association Against Cancer, for the scientific-technical evaluation of calls for research grants in cancer 2022.

Objective: Scientific/technical evaluation of calls for proposals

Duration: Until December 31, 2022

Amount: 104.049,25 €.

3. - Agreement with the One in a Hundred Thousand Foundation for the scientific-technical evaluation of the 9th Research Grant in the field of Childhood Leukaemia.

Objective: Scientific/technical evaluation of calls for proposals

Duration: Until December 31, 2022

Amount: €2,874

4. - Agreement with the Inocente, Inocente Foundation for the scientifictechnical evaluation of the 2022 call for grants for research projects related to childhood cancer.

Objective: Scientific/technical evaluation of calls for proposals

Duration: Until December 31, 2022

Amount: 26.55,25 €.

5. - Agreement between the State Research Agency and the Nuclear Safety Council, for collaboration in the management of the evaluation of R&D&I projects

Objective: Scientific/technical evaluation of calls for proposals

Duration: Until July 12, 2026

Amount: No amount (framework agreement)

Other agreements

1.- Agreement between the State Research Agency and the General Intervention of the State Administration, for the adhesion to the departmental systems of the IGAE.

Purpose: Accession to the IGAE's departmental systems (SOROLLA2 and CANOA).

Duration: February 7, 2026.

Amount: €36,000

2. - Agreement between the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Digital Transformation (General Secretariat for Digital Administration) and the State Research Agency for the allocation of portable equipment within the framework of the smart workplace initiative of the plan for the digitalisation of public administrations 2021-2025 (1st agreement).

Object: Provision to the Agency of portable IT equipment Duration:

April 6, 2027.

Amount: Free of charge

3. - Agreement between the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Digital Transformation (General Secretariat for Digital Administration) and the State Research Agency for the allocation of portable equipment within the framework of the smart workplace initiative of the plan for the digitalisation of public administrations 2021-2025 (2nd agreement).

Object: Provision to the Agency of portable IT equipment Duration:

June 5, 2027.

Amount: Free of charge

International administrative agreement

Administrative Arrangement between the State Research Agency of the Kingdom of Spain and the Joint Undertaking for Key Digital Technologies, based on Article 12(2) of Regulation 2021/2085, done at Madrid and Brussels, on September 12 and 22, 2022.

Purpose: Instrumentalisation of rights and obligations with the Joint Undertaking in the granting of support for international collaboration projects

Ordering

1.- Order of the State Research Agency to Tecnologías y Servicios Agrarios S.A., S.M.E., M.P. (TRAGSATEC) for the performance of support tasks for the organisation and execution of training tasks of the State Research Agency of February 7, 2022.

Purpose: Support for the organisation and implementation of training tasks of the State Investigation Agency.

Duration: until February 28, 2023. Amount:

50.401,43 €.

2. - Extension of the contract with the Sociedad Mercantil Estatal de Gestión Inmobiliaria de Patrimonio, M.P.S.A. for the custody of certain documentation and other services in the Administrative Documentation Storage Centre, dated 6 September 2022.

Object: Custody of documentation and other related services.

Duration: until November 30, 2023.

Amount: €70,667.48.

3.- Commissioning of Tecnologías y Servicios Agrarios S.A., S.M.E., M.P. (TRAGSATEC) for the execution of actions of a technical administrative nature, within various procedures related to the activity of the State Research Agency, dated 6 July 2022. Purpose: Support in tasks related to administrative and judicial appeals.

Duration: until September 17, 2023. Amount: €321,421.50.

4.- Commissioning of Tecnologías Y Servicios Agrarios S.A., S.M.E., M.P. (TRAGSATEC) for the technical support office service for works and infrastructures for the building at c/ Torrelaguna, 58 bis, dated 25 May 2022. Purpose: Technical support office service for works and infrastructures for the building at c/ Torrelaguna, 58 bis.

Duration: until September 15, 2023. Amount: €165.839.26.

5.- Extension of the assignment of the State Research Agency to Tecnologías y Servicios Agrarios S.A., S.M.E., M.P. (TRAGSATEC) to carry out consultancy and maintenance tasks for the information systems (web and intranet) of the State Research Agency, 8 May 2023.

Subject: Consultancy and maintenance of the information systems (web and intranet) of the State Research Agency, 3 June 2021.

Duration: until June 14, 2023. Amount: €33,707.72.

ANNEX 2: Participation and representation in national and international commissions and events

Trusteeships, commissions and expert networks

EUROPEAN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION COMMITTEE (ERAC).

A policy strategy advisory committee whose mission is to assist the European Commission and the Council of the European Union in carrying out the tasks of these institutions in relation to research and technological development within the European Research Area (ERA). ERAC has representation from all member and associated countries of the European Union and is co-chaired by a representative of the European Commission's DG Research and a representative of the member states.

IBERIAN NANOTECHNOLOGY LABORATORY (INL). The Laboratory Iberian Nanotechnology is a joint Spanish-Portuguese centre located in Braga, Portugal. On the INL Governing Board

GRC. The Global Research Council is a virtual association of funding agencies worldwide. It meets once a year at regional level (Europe) to propose topics for the annual global meeting. Among the topics chosen by the different regions, two are chosen by consensus and are the ones that are discussed at the global meeting, reaching agreements that are adopted by all the agencies for a better functioning.

SCIENCE EUROPE

Science Europe is the umbrella organisation representing the main public organisations funding or conducting excellent cutting-edge research in Europe. It brings together the expertise of some of Europe's largest and most respected research organisations to jointly push the boundaries of how scientific research is produced and reaches society.

EUROPE HORIZON

It is the European Union's framework programme for research and innovation for the period 2021-2027. It is the key instrument for implementing EU R&D&I policies. The overall objective of the programme is to achieve a scientific, technological, economic and societal impact of EU investments in R&I, thereby strengthening its scientific and technological bases and fostering the competitiveness of all Member States.

It participates in several committees: Strategic configuration for HE, European Research Council, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, Digital , Industry and Space; Climate, Energy and Mobility; Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment, Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area; Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment.

OTHER

- Alliance for Energy for Innovation (ALINNE).
- PROFARMA Programme of the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism. Vice-presidency of the Technical Committee.
- Genetically Modified Organisms. Interministerial Council.
- Fundación Círculo para las Tecnologías de Defensa y Seguridad.
 Executive Committee.
- Transfiere Forum. Organising Committee.
- COCSABO. Member.
- National Biosafety Commission, MAPAMA.
- · Spanish Polar Platforms Committee.
- Spanish Committee of the MaB Programme.
- National Water Council.
- National Climate Council.
- Andalusian Wetlands Committee, Junta de Andalucía.
- GBIF Node Monitoring Committee.
- Marine Data Working Group.
- · Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group.
- Open Science Strategy Technical Commission.
- PEICTI Coordination and Monitoring Committee.
- Office Advisory Council C.
- Inter-ministerial Commission for Food Management.
- IPR Committee European Lifewatch infrastructure.
- FECYT Board of Trustees.
- Inter-ministerial Committee for the Plan for the Attraction and Retention of Scientific and Innovative Talent.

Agency representatives in the following Science and Technology Platforms

- Aerospace Platform.
- Spanish Road Technology Platform.
- Integrated Logistics, Intermodality and Mobility Technology Platform -LOGISTOP.
- Spanish Railway Technology Platform PTFE.
- Spanish Automotive and Mobility Technology Platform (Move to Future)
 M2F.
- Spanish Water Technology Platform PTEA.
- Food For Life-SPAIN Technology Platform.
- Spanish Technological Platform for Fisheries and Aquaculture PTEPA.
- Spanish Forest Technology Platform PTFE.
- Spanish Technological Platform for Plant Biotechnology BIOVEGEN.
- Technological Platform for the Protection of the Coast and the Marine Environment - PROTECM.

- Technology and Innovation Platform for Sustainable Chemistry -SusChem-Spain.
- · Spanish Robotics Technology Platform HISPAROB.
- National Technology Platform Fotónica21.
- Spanish Construction Technology Platform.
- Spanish Technology Platform for the Science Industry -INDUCIENCIA.
- · Spanish Advanced Manufacturing Platform MANUKET.
- Spanish Technological Platform for Advanced Printing 3NEO.
- Spanish Packaging Technology Platform PACKNET.
- Technology Platform for Traditional Manufacturing Sectors -PLATECMA.
- Tourism Technology and Innovation Platform-THINKTUR.
- Spanish Steel Technology Platform PLATEA.
- Spanish Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technology Platform PTE HPC.
- Technology Platform of the Spanish wind energy sector REOLTEC.
- Spanish CO2 Technology Platform.
- Spanish Technological Platform for Electricity Networks FUTURED.
- Biomass for the Bioeconomy Technology and Innovation Platform -BIOPLAT.
- Spanish Technological Platform for Energy Efficiency PTE-ee.
- Geothermal Technology and Innovation Platform GEOPLAT.
- Concentrated Solar Power SOLAR CONCENTRA.
- Spanish Photovoltaic Technology Platform FOTOPLAT.
- Nuclear Fission Energy R&D Technology Platform CEIDEN.
- Spanish Low Temperature Solar Thermal Energy Technology Platform - SOLPLAT.
- BATTERYPLAT Technology Platform.
- Spanish Technological Platform for Advanced Materials and Nanomaterials -MATERPLAT.
- Radiation Protection Technology Platform PEPRI.
- Spanish Platform for Innovation in Health Technologies
- Innovative Medicines Platform.
- Spanish Nanomedicine Platform NANOMED.
- Technological Platform for Innovation in Medical and Health Technologies - ITEMAS.
- Biotechnology Markets Technology Platform.
- Spanish Technological Platform for the adoption and dissemination of technologies.
- Electronics, Information and Communication Technologies PLANETIC.
- SmartLivingPlat Technology Platform.
- Spanish Wine Technology Platforms.
- Spanish Health Technology Platform Anima

Participation in National and International Events

Relevant events in which we have participated are listed below. Not all of them are listed, either because they are internal meetings or events of a confidential nature. Thus, if an event is not listed, this does not indicate that it has not taken place.

National events

Address

Governing Board of the Agency - January 31

Visit CITMAGA - Galician Centre for Mathematical Research and Technology - February 8

Visit to the Technology Centre of Catalonia - February

8

Transfiere Trade Fair - February 17

Meeting University Castilla la Mancha (Albacete) - February 23

Debate with young researchers at the PRBB in Barcelona - February 24

Visit to the National Supercomputing Centre - Mateo Valero - February 25

Meeting of the Spanish Royal Mathematical Society - March 1

Agency's Scientific and Technical Committee - March 2

Visit to the José Carreras Leukaemia Research Institute - March 8

INNOVADORAS Event (International Women's Day) - March 8 FEDIT

Meeting Spanish Technology Centres - March 8

Presentation of the CIAC Foundation Technology Centre - March 15

Visit to CIEMAT - March 16

XIII CPAN Days - March 21

Visit of Research Counsellor of the Embassy of Switzerland in Spain - March 23

Final conference of the H2020 SUPERA project - March 25 Visit

to INTA - March 28

Nuclear Safety Council Meeting - March 29

ICREA Meeting - March 29

Visit of the Research Counsellor of the German Embassy in Madrid - March 30th

Round Table: "The Challenge of Participating More and Better" - April 6

Meeting with the Spanish Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology - April

7

Meeting of the Directorate General for Gambling Regulation - April 13

Visit to the Chinese Embassy - April 20

Conference on Astronomical Instrumentation in Spain - April 21 María

de Maeztu Kick-off-Meeting - April 22

Meeting with young researchers of the Spanish Royal Society of Mathematics - April 25

Institutional Visit Seville - April 28

Talk - Colloquium Rector of the Complutense University - May 4 Visit

Dean of the Faculty of Physical Sciences -- May 4

Joint ECFA-APPEC-NUPECC Seminar - 5 May

Visit to the Institute of Theoretical Physics Universidad Autónoma de Madrid -

May 10

CIEMAT Meeting - May 10

Institutional visit Santiago de Compostela - May 23

Meeting with the French Embassy in Spain - June 6

Visit Minister of Science and Innovation of Brazil - June 7

Presentation of the CaixaResearch Institute's Scientific Project - June 8

Visit to the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office -

June 9

Institutional visit Bilbao - June 15

Meeting of the National Agency for Quality Assessment and Accreditation - June 20

Women and Leadership in the AGE: Women Leaders Event - June

21

Lilly Foundation Biomedical Research Awards 2022 - June 20 Camba

Public Affairs- June 21

Institutional visit Valencia- June 28

Round Table Menéndez Pelayo International University - July 7

Physics Biennial - July 13

CataloniaBio@HealthTech visit - July 21

Spanish Mathematics Network Meeting - July 27

Visit University Institute of Applied Ophthalmology IOBA - August 31

Visit German Delegation with DFG - September 8

Biodiversa Conference - The Essential Biodiversity Variables: an operational

perspective - September 13

Plenary Session of the Women, Science and Innovation Observatory -

September 13

Meeting with EMBL - September 14

7th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Círculo Foundation -

September 14

ACTA Spanish Day - September 20

Reception of the German Ambassador Maria Margarete Gosse - September

Forestvalue - September 28

Jltana project meeting - September 28

Red Fundaciones Universidad Empresa REDFUE - Antonio Aracil García - September 29th

COSCE Science for a sustainable world - Partnership Day - September 29

Visit to CIMNE (International Centre for Numerical Methods in Engineering) - September 30

Institutional visit Zaragoza - May 6

Closing ceremony AMIT XXI General Assembly of the Association of Women Researchers and Technologists - October 7

RSME-Fundación BBVA Awards Ceremony - 10 October Institutional visit Valencia - October 19

Conference "The cyber threat as a vector of attack on national security -- October 25

CRUE Conference - October 26

Visit to JCISAT headquarters - October 27

Farewell to the Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of Switzerland and welcome to his successor - October 27

Conference on European Horizon Europe Partnerships - October 28

100XCIENCIA.6 Congress - November 3

CRUE Valencia Conference - Plenary Session - November 11

Farewell ship Hespérides - November 11

Institutional visit Complutense University of Madrid - November 15

Science and Innovation Week Madrid in the SRA 2022 - November 19

Institutional visit Zaragoza - November 19

SCIENCE FEST - First Science Festival - November 29th

Presentation of the Declaration "Spain in the face of the energy transition" - November 30

Inauguration of the National Radiation Protection R & D Platform Conference
- December 13
Institutional visit to Navarre December 15
Science Diplomacy Days - December 20

National events

Senior Management.

Transfiere Forum 2022 - March 16

Awards "Women and Innovation in Safety" - FORO SICUR -Receiving and handing over awards- (Organised by PESI - Spanish Technological Platform for Industrial Safety), January 24.

eVIA, eNEM platforms opening day - Thinktur - January 23

b2b online digital & sustainable - agriculture meeting organised by the Disruptive platform - April 7

Inauguration of the PTEPA (Spanish Technological Platform for Fisheries and Aquaculture) Annual Conference - May 12th

37th Spanish Polar Committee Meeting - May 13

Closing Event: Technical Seminar on "R+D+i in Materials for hydrogen distribution and storage" MATERPLAT - May 24

Conference organised by PESI (Plataforma Tecnológica de Seguridad Industrial). "MICINN 2022 calls for proposals and Intellectual Property in R&D&I projects" - May 26

Webinar: PTCO2 Day - 2022 Strategic Lines impulse day - June 14th

IX General Assembly of the P.T. PLANETIC: Conference on Smart Tourist Destinations and Data Spaces- June 16

GEOPLAT Annual Meeting - June 21

Online b2b meeting "Digitalisation in advanced materials & new manufacturing techniques" - organised by the Spanish technology platform for disruptive technologies - June 22

Innova Evia Awards Ceremony INNOVA EVIA AWARDS GIVING CEREMONY - June 23

Assembly/Day PROTECMA - July 12

XVI Meeting Molecular Plant Biology - September 15

Assembly 2022 Photonics21 - September 28

FUIT ATTRACTION Day: Biotechnology and innovation for the agriculture of the future - October 5

VII Meeting PTE DISRUPTIVE- October 19

ALIBETOPIA 2022 - October 27

Pompeu Fabra University's UPF Transfer Conference - November 8

Presentation of the Spanish Antarctic Campaign 2022-2023 - November 9

XVII PTFE Assembly - Spanish Railway Technology Platform - November 22nd

20th Anniversary Spanish Hydrogen Association - November 22

PTECO2 Assembly 2022 - November 23

FEDIT Report Presentation Conference: Economic, social and technological impact of the first call for networks of excellence Cervera - November 24

B2B online meeting of the year (Safe, connected and sustainable mobility) - November 29

Assembly of the Spanish Energy Efficiency Technology Platform - November 29th

eNEM Assembly: "Opportunities for financing the cultural and creative industries" - December 2

Thinktur Technology Transfer Annual Meeting - December 15

Info Day PTECO2 - December 19

General Assembly eVIA Technology Platform. - December 20

2nd Scientific Conference PTI+ Global Health CSIC - October 5th

CRUE Meeting - November 28

EFSA Workshops - November 29

International events.

<u>Address</u>

Technical Meeting Recovery Plan Components Transformation and Resilience and C17, C20 and C21 - February 3

Stakeholder Assembly "Reforming Research Assessment" - from March

Science Europe, Spring General Assembly - May 17

Annual Global Research Council Meeting - May 27

Member Workshop Science Europe - September 14 ERA

Science Europe (Zurich, Switzerland) - November 22

Senior Management.

EPSO ERIC Conference - February 6

GENDERNETplus Final Conference - January 13

GENDERACTIONplus General Assembly - January 15

Net4SocietyHE's first network meeting, September 22

CitSciComm Lab NEWSERA, November 3