

About the Foundation

Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation's mission is supporting innovative, international standards high quality scientific research development in Georgia and integrating Georgian scholars and young scientists in international research area.

Main goals of the Foundation are improving the quality of scientific research, internationalization of the research, promoting scientific excellence of young scientists and popularization of science in Georgia.

Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation is a legal, autonomous entity of public law under the governance of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia. The foundation aims to maintain rational spending of the amount allocated to science funding, to create a unified system of science funding and to build society's trust towards the system;

In order to attain its goals, the Foundation administers 27 grant programs and 2 international targeted programs, out of which there are 19 national programs, 6 bilateral programs and 3 multilateral projects under the EU Framework Program.

Since July 2015, the Foundation is being managed by the International Supervisory Board. The Board comprises of outstanding international and Georgian scientists, as well as representatives of the Georgian Government. The Board is responsible for strategic issues and the review of the

action plan. Competences of the Supervisory Board includes: discussion and approval of the Foundation's action plan (strategy), relevant amendments and main directions.

Annual budget of the Foundation in 2016 is 32 404 300 GEL.

Structure of the Foundation consist of three departments, five services, forty full-time and seven part-time employees. Administrative share is 4.95% of the Budget.

Submitted projects are being evaluated by international and local independent experts. For evaluation of the research project proposals the Foundation is collaborating with international scientific and research agencies and with experts of the Foundations.

Scientific fields funded by SRNSF programs in accordance with OSCD/EUROSTAT classification are:

1. Natural Sciences;
2. Engineering and Technology;
3. Medical and Health Sciences;
4. Agricultural Sciences;
5. Social Sciences;
6. Humanities

The Foundation declared Georgian Studies as priority. In 2016 share of Georgian Studies was 2 598 234 GEL.

The Foundation is financing:

- Basic and Applied Research;
- International Joint Research;
- Popularization of Georgian Studies in Academic Spheres;
- Development of Young Scientists and International cooperation;
- Interdisciplinary research and long-term, targeted projects in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM);
- Scholar mobility for attending international scientific events;
- Schoolchildren participation in research and innovative projects;
- Scientific information and technology infrastructure development and accessibility to international bases.

International Cooperation:

- Bilateral scientific programs with scientific foundations and centers (Italy, France, Ukraine, USA, Germany, Turkey, Estonia, Azerbaijan);
- International Cooperation programs (CERN - European Organization for Nuclear Research, JINR – The Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, ISTC - International Science and Technology Center, International publishers of ELSEVIER's scientific information electronic database, ISTC - the International Science and

Technology Center, STCU - The Science and Technology Center in Ukraine);

- Multilateral projects funded under the EU Framework Programs (FP7, IncoNET EaP, H2020, Black Sea Horizon, IncoNet EaP+);
- Employees of the Foundation act as National Contact Points (NCPs) for European Research Council (ERC);
- Cooperation in science management and evaluation of the submitted project proposals with US NSF and other agencies (SRDF Global, ORAU).

Challenges and perspectives for scientists:

- Enhancing participation of Georgian scholars in the EU Research and Innovation Framework Program “H2020” calls and ensuring their full access to the programs;
- Innovation and development;
- Research, technologies and innovation transfer and commercialization;
- Long term, interdisciplinary research;
- Inter-institutional and international cooperation;
- New joint programs with the Foundations of Germany (DAAD, VW) and of Japan(JSPC).

2016 Calls and Programs administered by the SRNSF

In 2016, the Foundation administered 21 grant and targeted programs, out of which there were 16 national programs, 5 international bilateral programs and 3 multilateral projects under the EU Framework Program.

SRNSF Priority Areas and Programs:

1. **Supporting Scientific Research:** Basic/fundamental Research grants (FR), Applied Research grants (AR), Research grants with participation of compatriots residing abroad (DI);
2. **Promoting Young Scientists' development:** Research grants for Post-Docs, Research grants for PhD Students, Research grants for MA students, Grants for Young Scientists' research internship abroad, Institutional Grants for Seasonal Schools; Call for development of structured PhD programs.
3. **Supporting International Cooperation and mobility of researchers:** Individual Travel grants, International Conference Grants for institutions;
4. **Supporting Georgian Studies popularization:** Research of Georgia's cultural and material heritage, Supporting Georgian Studies' centers and programs development abroad; Targeted conferences aiming at presenting and popularizing Georgian Studies;
5. **International Cooperation:** Juelich Center, Oxford, CNRS, STCU, Tubitak and multilateral projects funded under the EU Framework Programs (FP7, IncoNET EaP, H2020, Black Sea Horizon, IncoNet EaP+);
6. **Development of Science Information and Technology Infrastructure:** ELSEVIER BV, Scopus, access to electronic journals for the state universities and research institutions/centers; Two Georgian electronic journals (Annals of Agrarian Science and Transactions of Andria Razmadze Mathematical Institute) are hosted in the database of ELSEVIER from 2016;
7. **Science Popularization:** Program for young inventors and researchers "Leonardo Da Vinci", research projects with participation of secondary school students, Scientific Prize for outstanding scientists/groups of scientists, participation of Georgian pupils in international olympiads (selection tours and training activities).

Definitions of the Abbreviations

Programs and Calls of the Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation

Programs and Abbreviations	Programs
FR	Basic Research Grants
AR	Applied Research Grants
DI	Collaborative Research Projects (Compatriots) Grants
YS	Postdocs Research Grants
MR	Master students' Research Grants
PhD F	PhD scholarships
IG	Internship grants for young researchers
SS	Seasonal Schools
PhD P	PhD Program Call
GEO CONF	Targeted conference in Georgian Studies
OXFOR GSP	Supporting Georgian Studies' Centers and programs abroad
TG	Travel Grants
CONF G	Conference Grants
STCU	Science and Technology Center in Ukraine
Juelich Center - MA, PhD	Juelich Center program for PhD/Msc students
CNRS PICS	The French National Center for Scientific Research
TUBITAK	The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey
AA	SRNSF Prize for outstanding scientists/groups of scientists
LEO	Program for secondary and high school students - young inventors and researchers "Leonardo da Vinci"
CERN	European Organization for Nuclear Research
DUBNA	The Joint Institute for Nuclear Research

2016 Program Costs and Success Index by programs:

No	Programs	2016 Budget	2016 Total Budgets of the Funded Projects	2016 Transfers	Number of Submitted Projects	Number of Funded Projects	Success Index:
1	Supporting Scientific Research:						
1.1	FR	2,664,660	14,639,172	2,662,163	472	86	18.2%
1.2	AR	1,473,300	5,945,686	1,473,221	129	26	20.2%
1.3	DI	771,602	2,250,273	771,602	38	12	31.6%
	Total (1)	4,909,562	22,835,131	4,906,986	639	124	19.4%
2	Promoting Young Scientists' Development:						
2.1	YS	390,000	1,441,409	379,746	98	26	26.5%
2.2	MR	245,531	306,913	245,531	134	58	43.3%
2.3	PhD Fellowships	747,000	2,044,000	746,284	238	76	31.9%
2.4	IG	420,000	484,593	408,243	55	30	54.5%
2.5	SS	500,000	496,915	472,805	53	13	24.5%
2.6	New PhD Programs	500,000	1,746,463	212,282	18	8	44.5%
	Total (2)	2,802,531	6,520,293	2,464,891	596	211	35.4%
3	Supporting Georgian Studies:						
3.1	GEO CONF	40,000	39,850	37,100	2	1	50.0%
3.2	OXFOR GSP	179,940	174,768	174,768	13	2	15.4%
	Total (3)	219,940	214,618	211,868	15	3	20.0%
4	Supporting International Cooperation and Mobility of Researchers:						
4.1	TG	445,000	449,803	411,531	304	130	42.8%
4.2	CONF G	360,000	359,950	332,525	83	11	13.3%
	Total (4)	805,000	809,804	744,056	387	141	36.4%
5	Joint International Collaborative Programs:						
5.1	STCU (Results of the 2015 Call)	560,558	980,944	560,221	83	11	13.25%
5.2	JULICH CENTER - MA, PhD	20,200	94,732	20,116	2	2	100.00%
5.3	CNRS PICS (France) (Results of the 2015 Call)	26,857	80,571	26,857	2	1	50.00%
	Total (5)	607,615	1,156,247	607,194	87	14	16.1%
6	Science Popularization:						
6.1	AA – Annual Award	20,000	20,000	20,000	68	4	5.88%
6.2	LEO	17,469	12,970	12,970	42	4	9.5%
	Total (6)	37,469	32,970	32,970	110	8	7.3%
	Total (Costs of the Programs)	9,382,117	31,567,063	8,967,965	1,834	501	27.3%

Results of the 2016 Call will be announced in 2017:

Programs:	2017 Budget:	Submitted Project Proposals	Interim Results
STCU	600,000	62	Moved to second stage 25
TUBITAK (Turkey)	65,000	23	Moved to second stage 7
CNRS PICS (France)	53,000	4	Evaluation in progress 4
Total	718,000	89	

Development of Science Information and Technology Infrastructure:

International Fees	2016 Budget	2016 Money Transfer
<i>Supporting science infrastructure development</i>		
ELSEVIER - DATA BASE	656,500	637,091
ELSEVIER - hosting 2 Georgian electronic journals	343,700	343,642
Total	1,000,200	980,734
<i>Membership fee in International Institutions/Centers</i>		
CERN - European Organization for Nuclear Research	358,000	355,011
DUBNA -The Joint Institute for Nuclear Research	915,950	913,999
Horizon 2020 – membership fee	3,840,000	3,548,976
Total	5,114,000	4,817,985

Administering 2016 Calls: Expertize and Efficacy Evaluation

Type of Expenditure	2016 Budget	2016 Expenses
Project's expertize by local experts (part-time employees)	76,250	70,470
Project's expertize by International organizations/Experts (FR;AR;DI;YS)	766,000	765,829
Efficacy and Outcome Evaluation	30,550	30,507
Total (administering/expertize)	872,800	866,806

SRNSF Scientific Prize for Outstanding Scientists/groups of Scientists

Aim of the Call is encouraging involvement of Georgian and International Researchers in the fields of Science and Technology, acknowledging their exceptional contributions in Georgian Studies and promoting science in Georgia. The prize will be awarded in four categories:

1. 2016 Outstanding Foreign-National Scientist in Georgian Studies;
2. 2016 Outstanding Young Scientist;
3. 2016 Outstanding Scientist;
4. 2016 Outstanding Research Group.

- Total Budget – 20 000 GEL;
- Submitted proposals - 68;
- Funded - 4 project, 7 scientists.



Ivane Abiatari

John A. Graham

Vladimir Elisashvili, Aza Kobakhidze, Mikheil Asatiani,
Eva Kachlishvili

Bezhan Chankvetadze

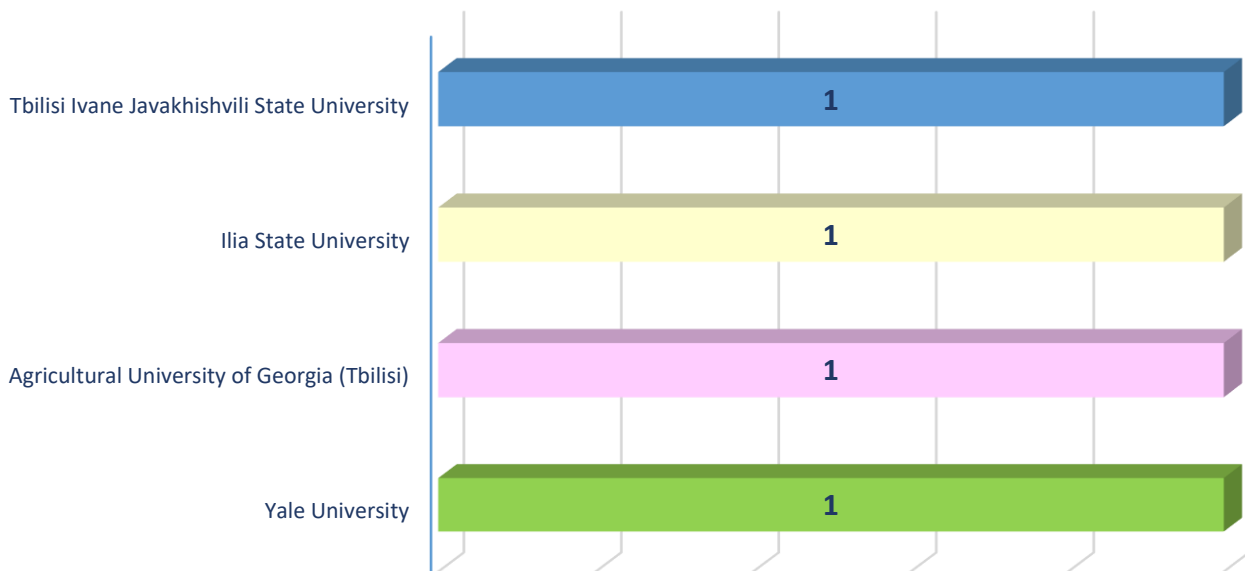
Outstanding Young Scientist

Outstanding Foreign-National
Scientist in Georgian Studies

Outstanding Research Group

Outstanding Scientist

Distribution of Funded Projects by Institutions



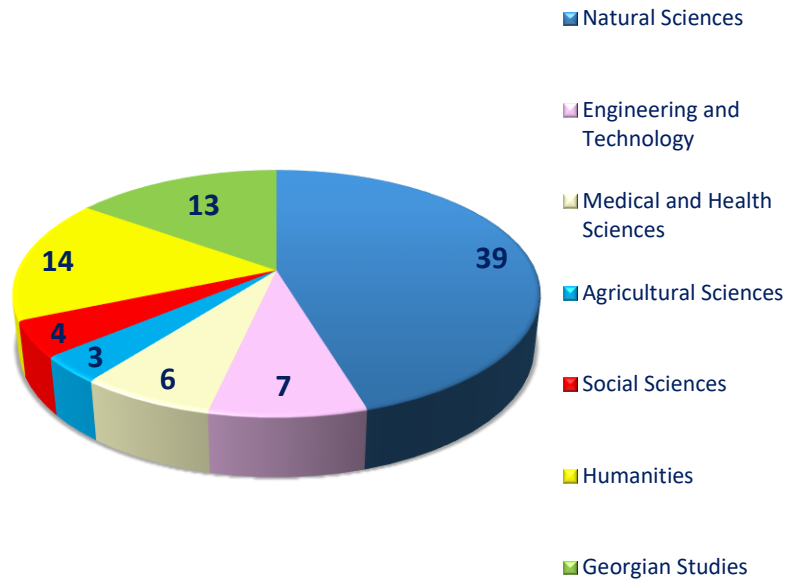
Basic Research Grants

Basic Research Grant aims to support the development of basic scientific research, to generate a new knowledge, to research and analyze with experimental and theoretical methods, new ideas and conceptions, facts and phenomenon, theories and models. Proposed project does not have to be commercially beneficial; however, in the long term it should have potential for further socio-political, cultural or/and technological development. Call for Basic Research Grants supports creating of specific research environment, developing a high quality research works, research internationalization and its compliance with international standard, integration of research process into higher educational institutes and increase potential of young scientists by their inclusion into research activity.

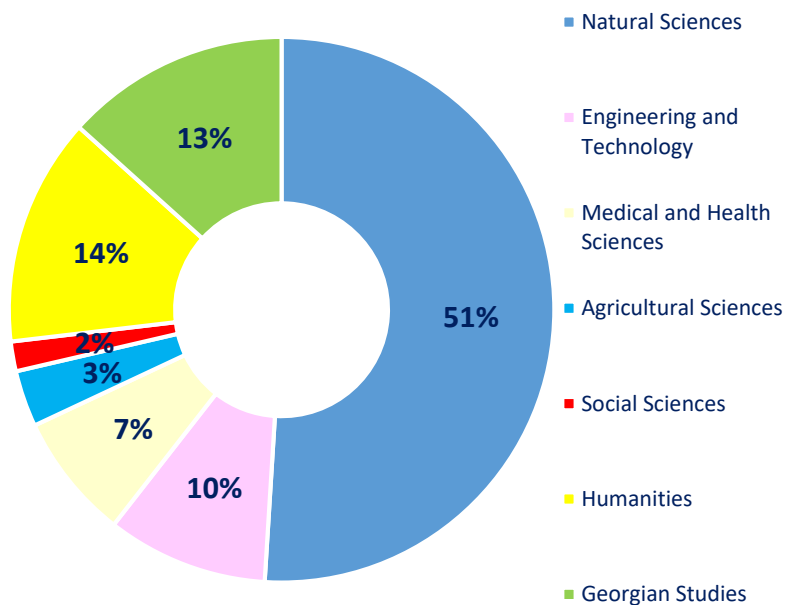
Target groups: Scientists from the Universities, Scientific-research Centers and Independent Research Centers

- Total Budget - 14 639 172 GEL;
- 2016 Budget - 2 662 163 GEL;
- Submitted proposals - 472;
- Funded - 86 projects, 392 scientists;
- Project duration – 15/01/2017-15/01/2020

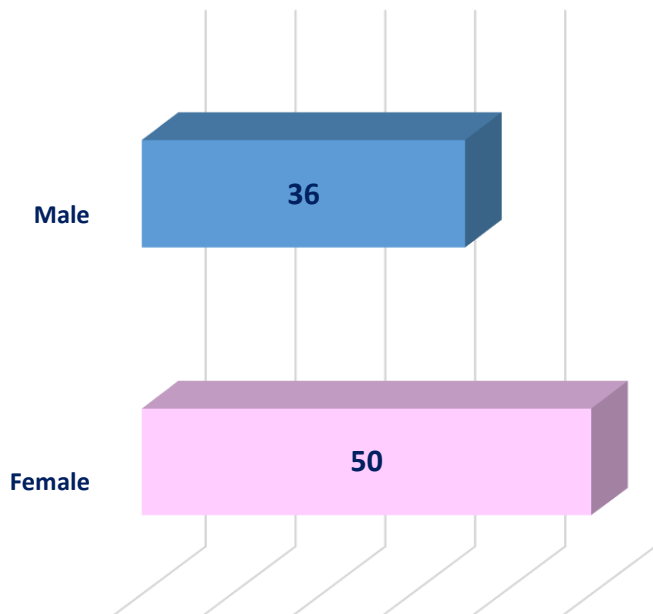
Distribution of Funded Projects by Fields



Distribution of Funds by Fields

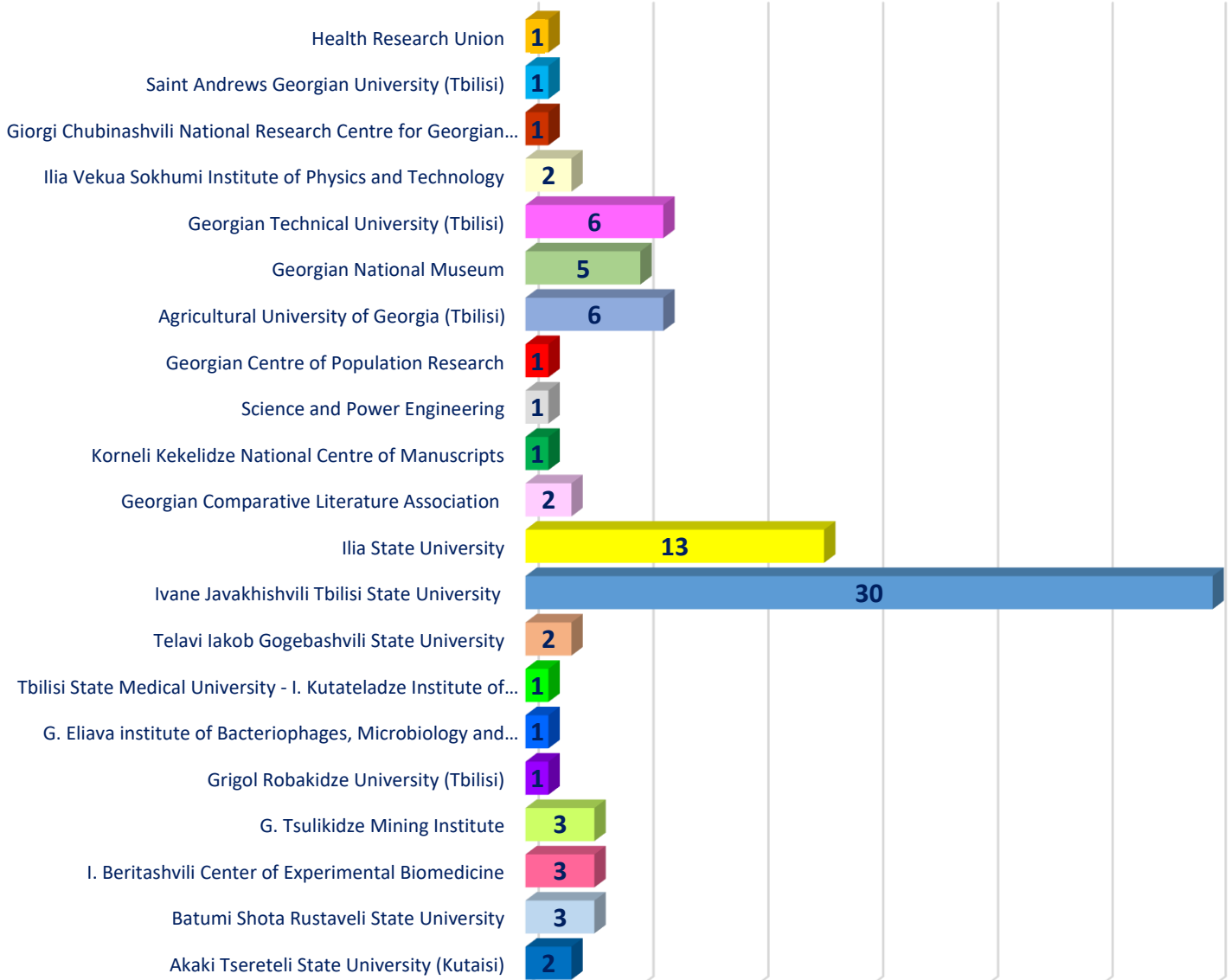


Gender Distribution of PI

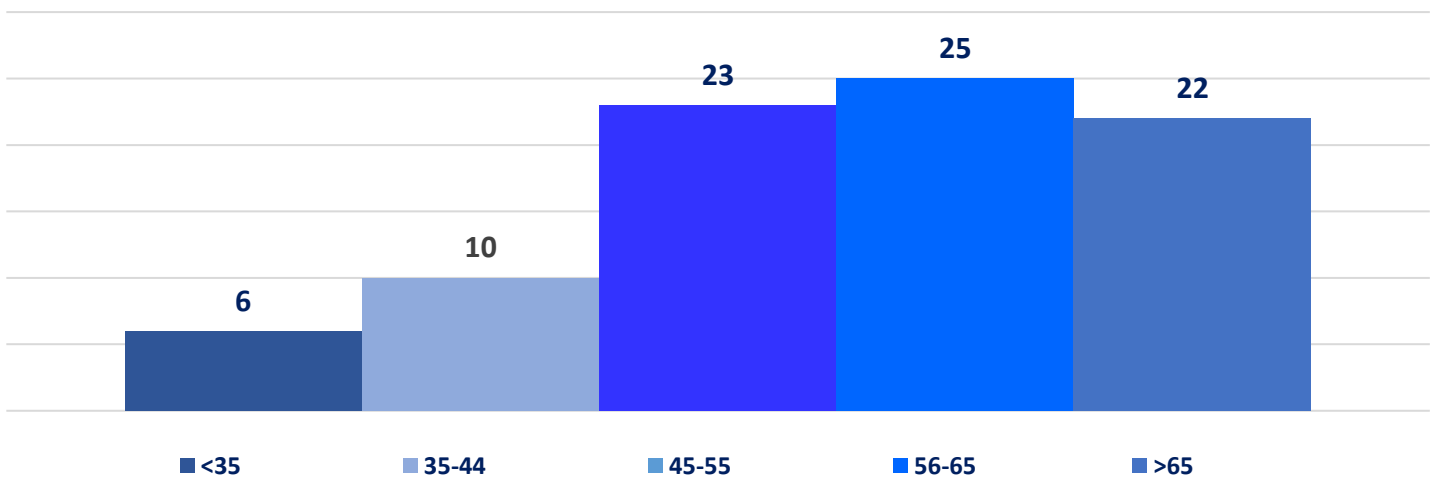


Basic Research Grants

Funded Projects by Institutions

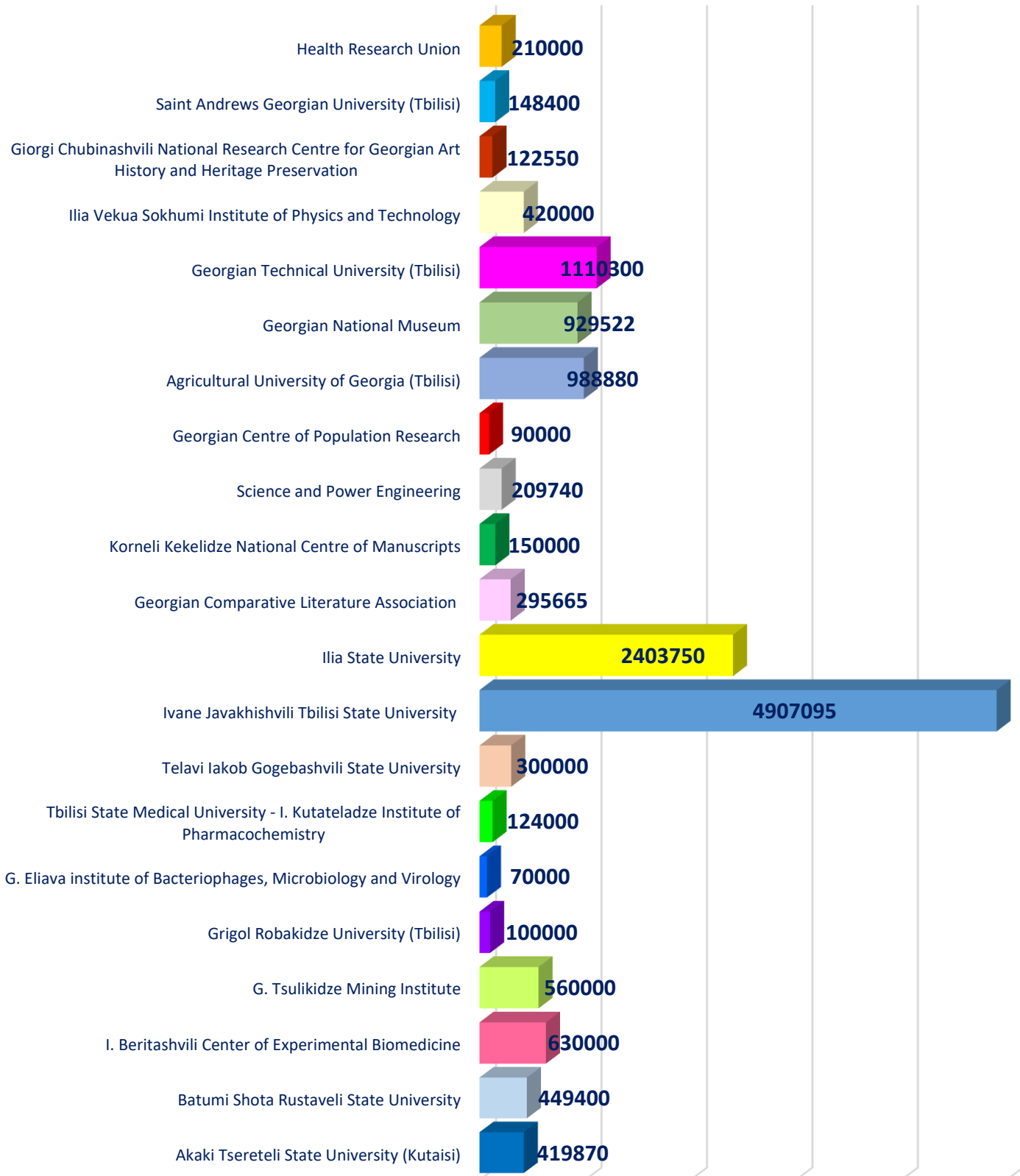


PI Age Distribution



Basic Research Grants

Budget Distribution by Institutions

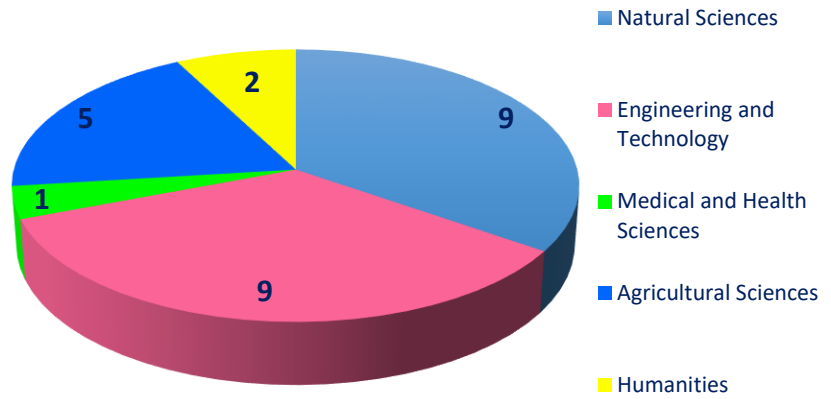


Applied Research Grants

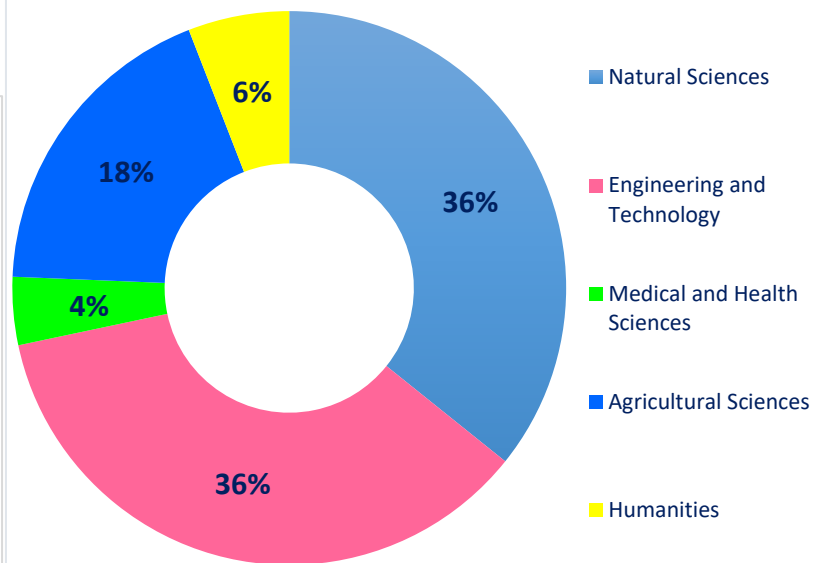
Applied Research Grant call aims to support the development of applied and technological research, and to select and fund applied research projects through transparent call procedures. Special focus is on innovative research, which results in high quality products demanded on local and international markets and solutions to practical problems created during the new technology development processes. It is of utmost importance to identify proposals with the potential of commercialization: those who may result in creating a prototype, developing advanced programs, equipment, medical products, construction materials and the related technology. Target Groups: Georgian higher educational organizations, scientific-research centers and scientists working there.

- Total Budget - 5 945 686 GEL;
- 2016 Budget - 1 473 221 GEL.
- Submitted proposals - 129;
- Funded - 26 projects, 142 scientists;
- Project duration – 12-24 months, 1/01/2017-1/01/2019

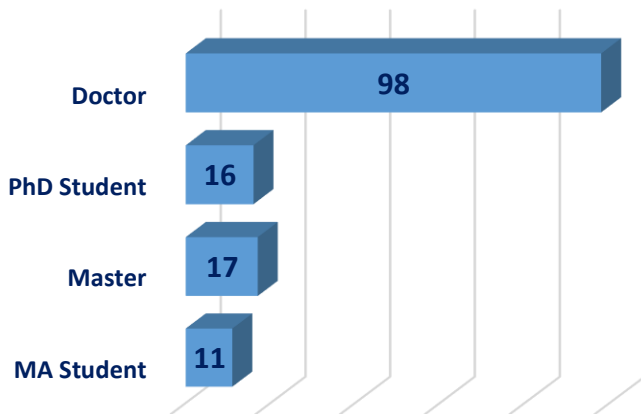
Distribution of Funds by Fields



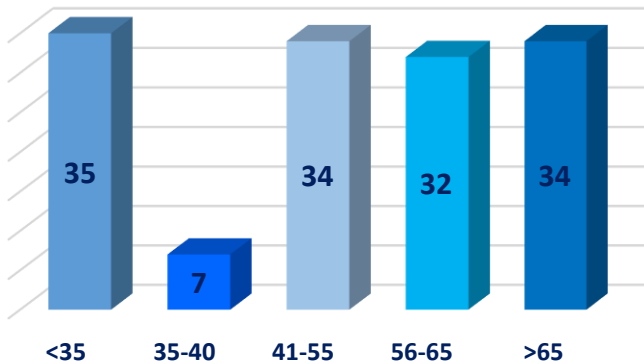
Distribution of Funded Projects by Fields



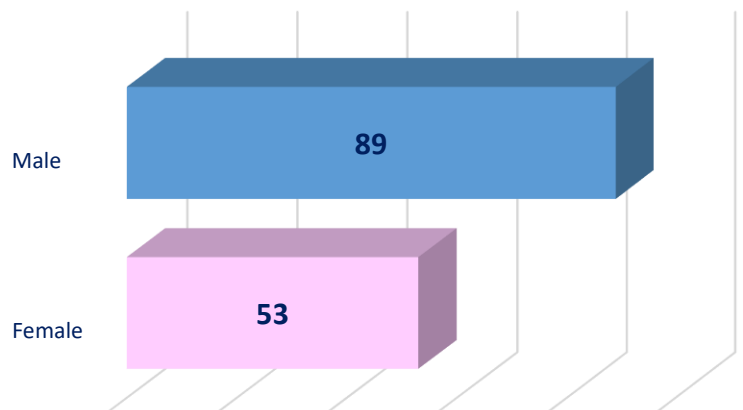
Degree Distribution of the Key Personnel



Age Distribution of the Key Personnel

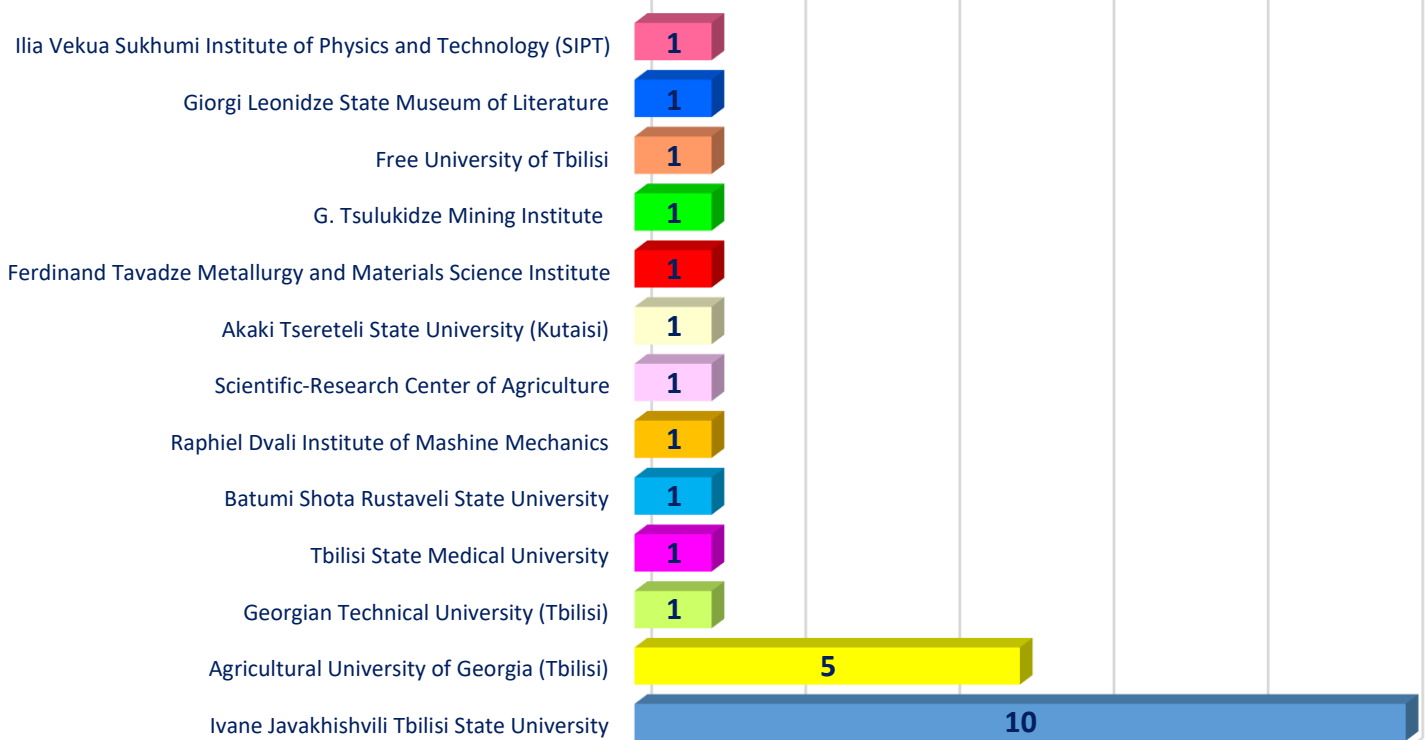


Gender Distribution of the Key Personnel

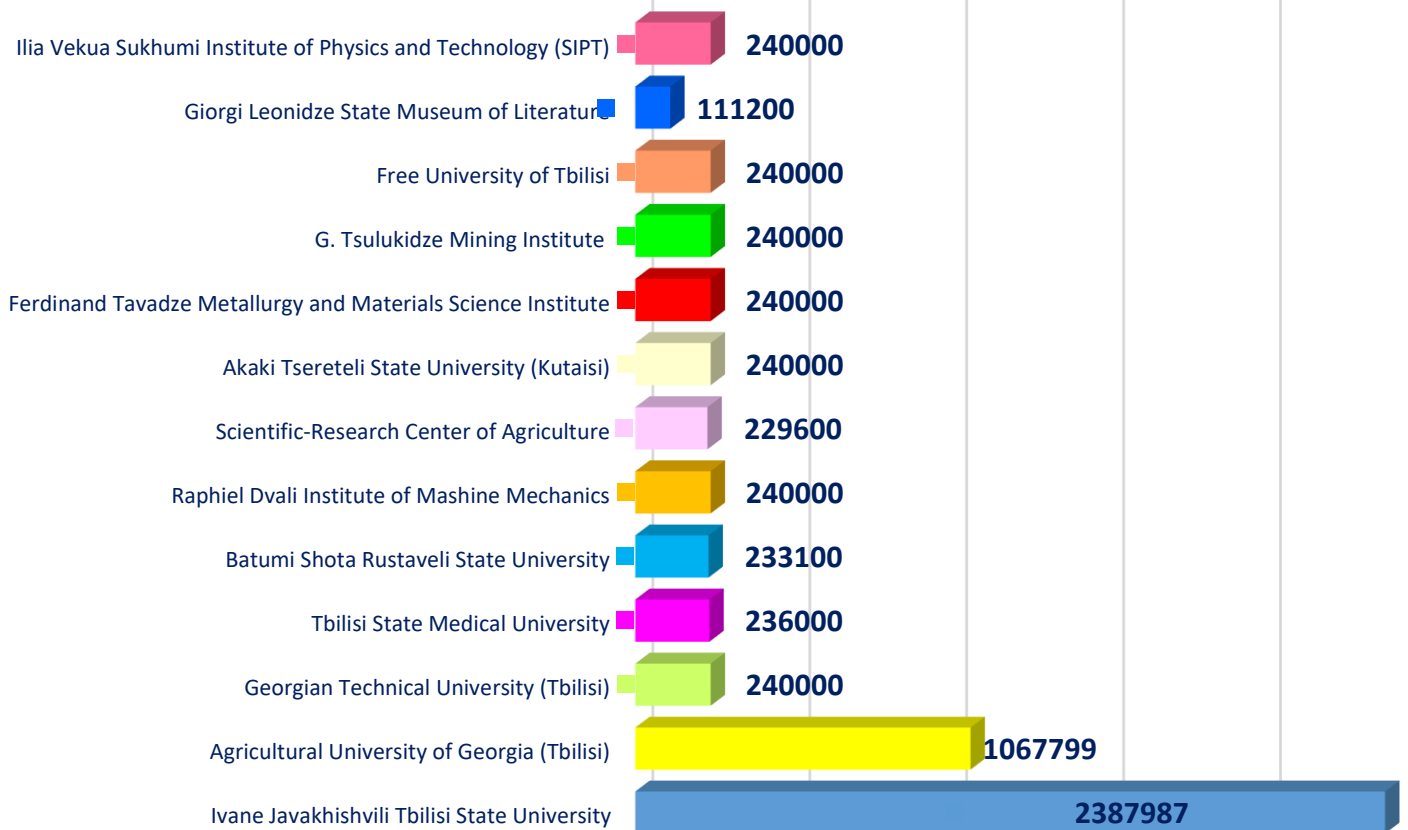


Applied Research Grants

Distribution of Funded projects by Institutions



Budget Distribution by Institutions

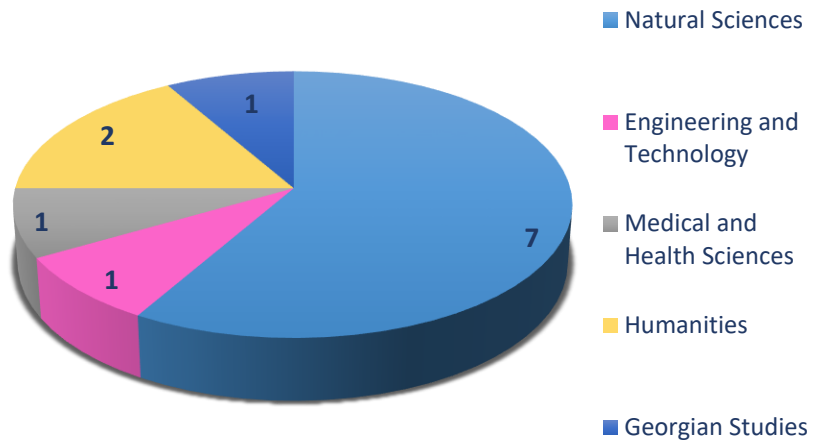


Collaborative Research Grant with Compatriots

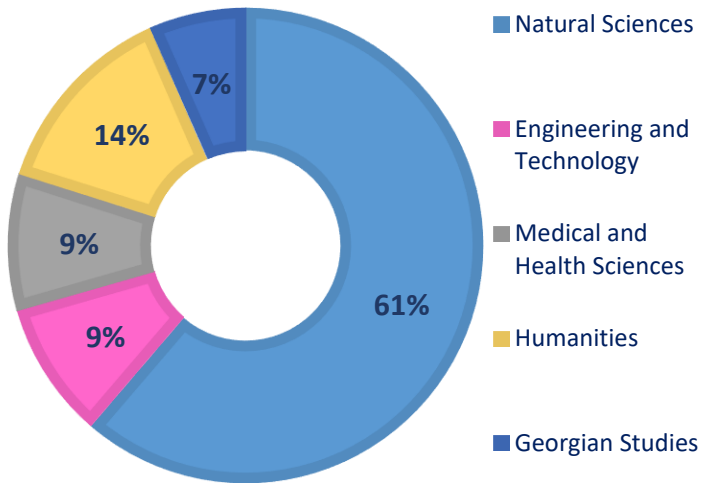
Collaborative research grant with compatriots is an opportunity for the collaboration between scientists from Georgia with their compatriots. The overall objective of the Collaborative Research Projects calls (Compatriots Call) is to intensify the process of involvement of successful Georgian scientists working abroad into joint activities in order to improve standards of research in Georgia.

- Total Budget - 2 250 273 GEL
- 2016 Budget per project - 771 602 GEL.
- Submitted proposals - 38;
- Funded - 12 projects, 67 scientists;
- Project duration – 24-36 months, 1/01/2017-1/01/2020

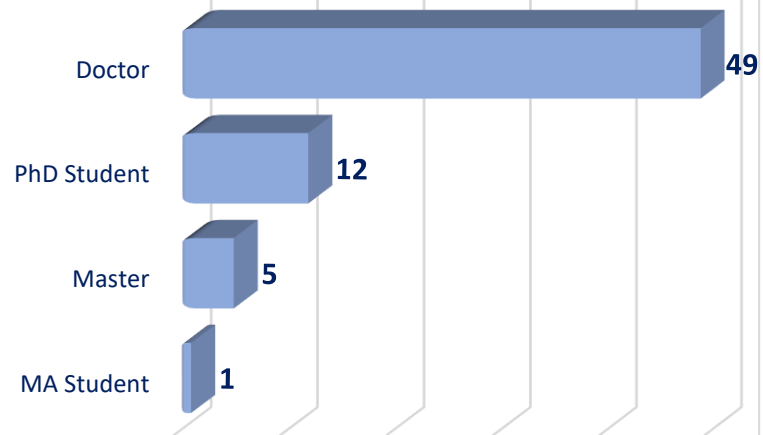
Distribution of Funds by Fields



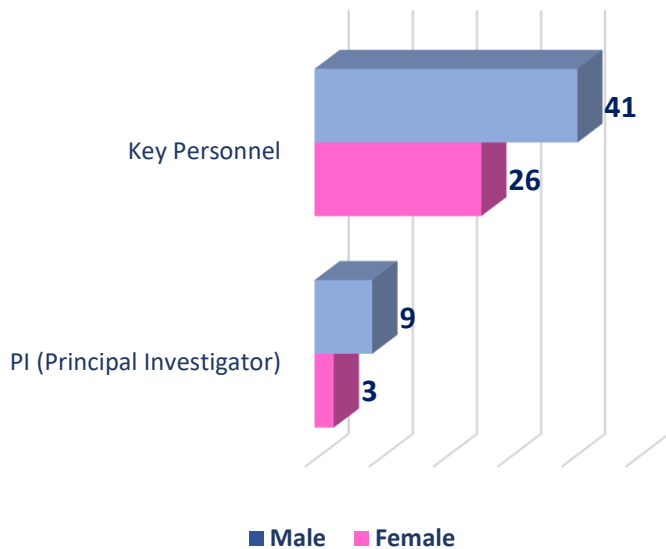
DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDED PROJECTS BY FIELDS



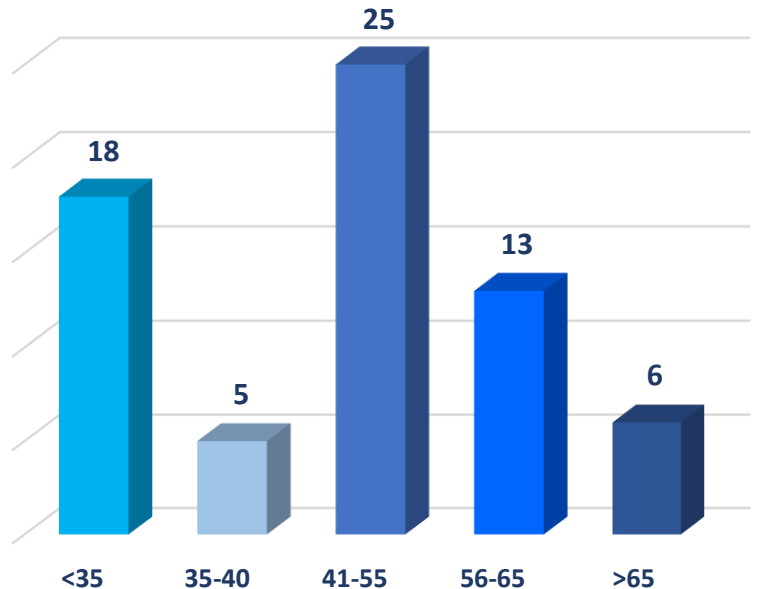
Degree Distribution of the Personnel



Gender Distribution of the Personnel

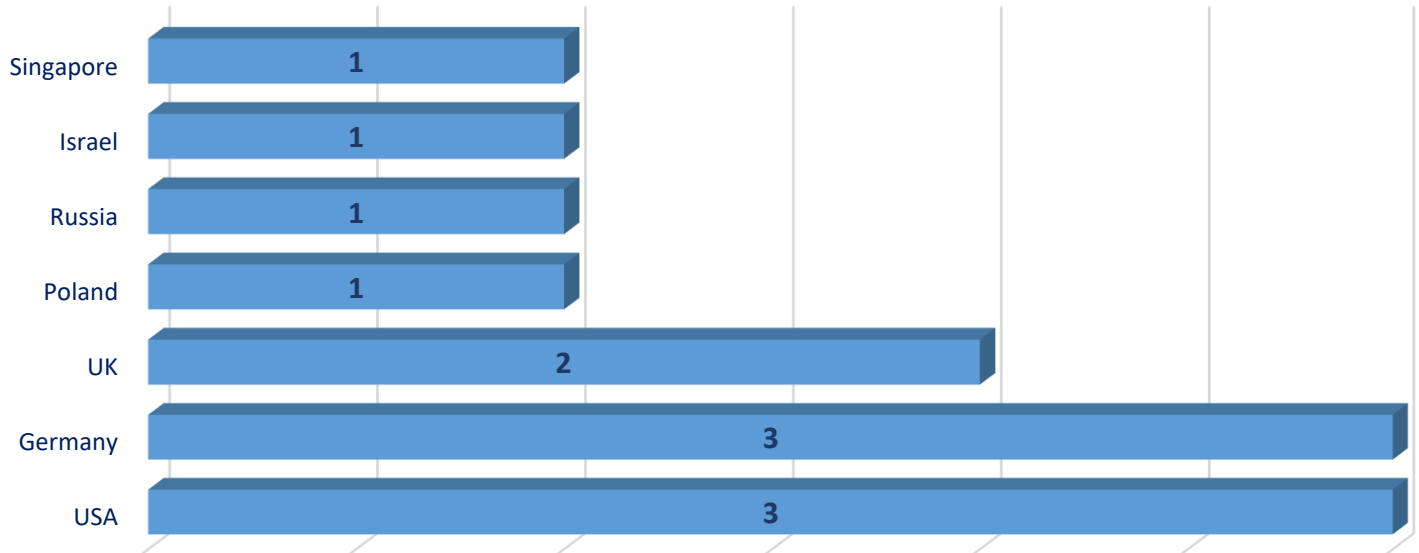


Age Distribution of the Personnel

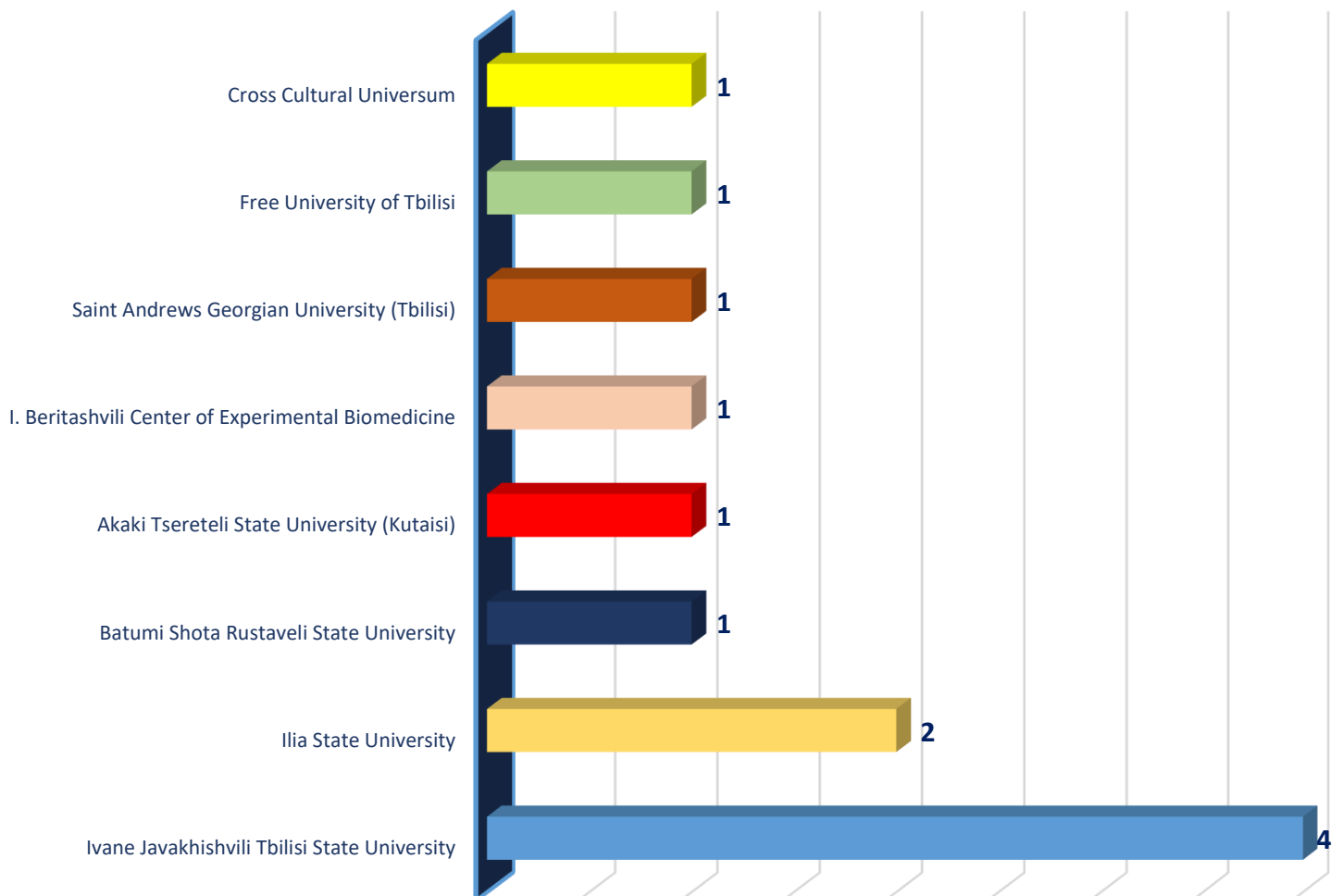


Collaborative Research Grant with Compatriots

International Mobility by Countries

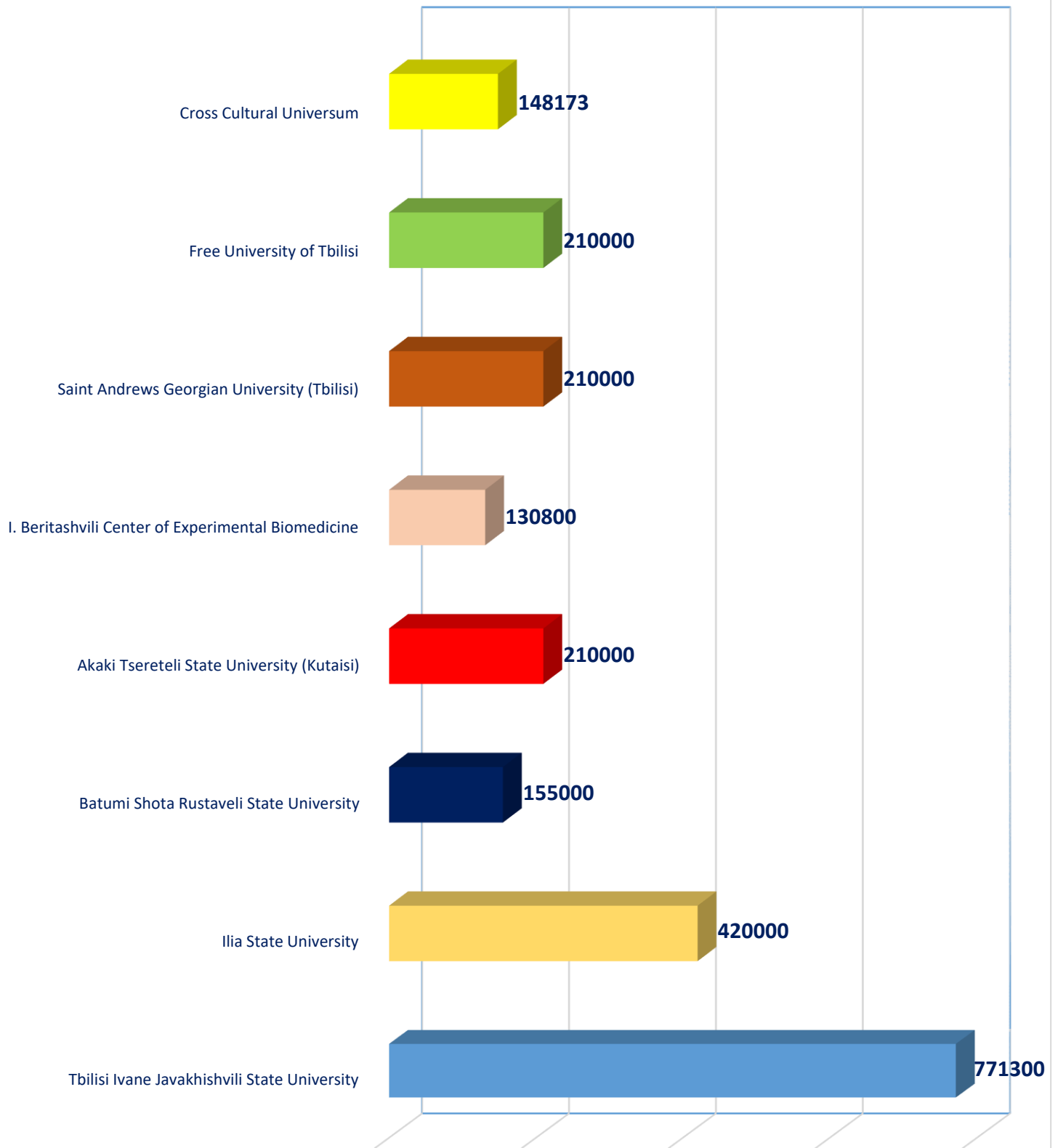


Distribution of Funded Projects by Institutions



Collaborative Research Grant with Compatriots

Budget Distribution by Institutions



Call for Young Scientists

The aim of the program is to support the enhancement of research quality thought promoting research projects; to develop research skills and thematic or interdisciplinary collaboration; to improve and strengthen Georgian higher educational institutions' research activities.

Total Budget - 1 441 409 GEL

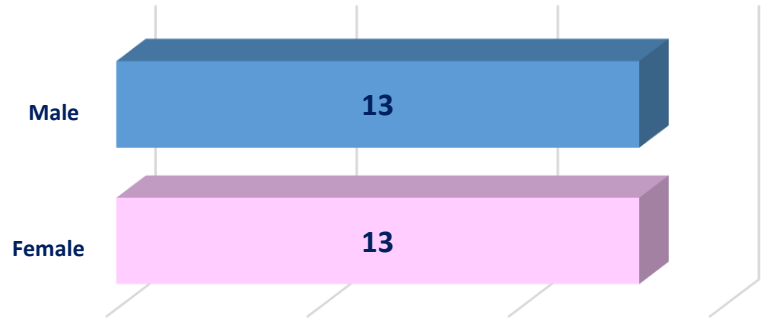
2016 Budget - 379 746 GEL.

Submitted proposals - 98;

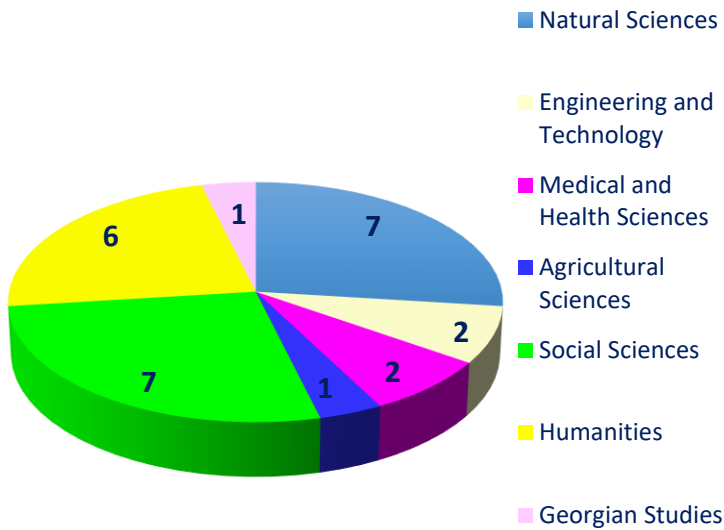
Funded – 26 projects, 26 scientists;

Project duration – 24 months, 05/01/2017-05/01/2019.

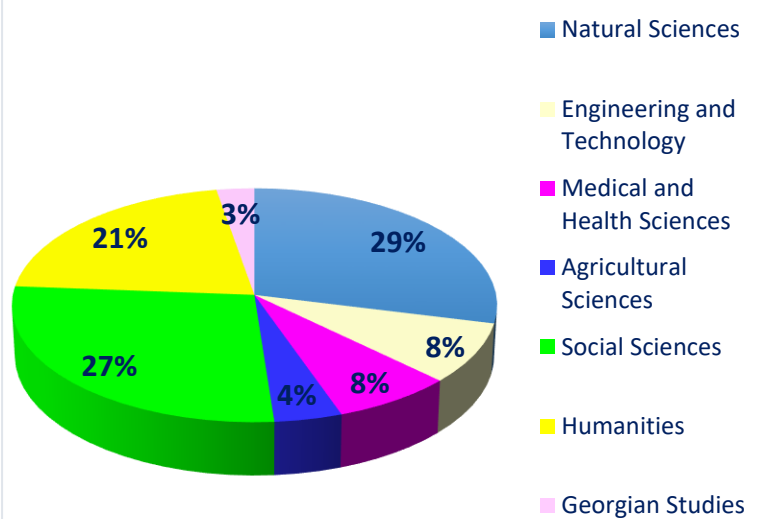
Gender Distribution of the Grantees



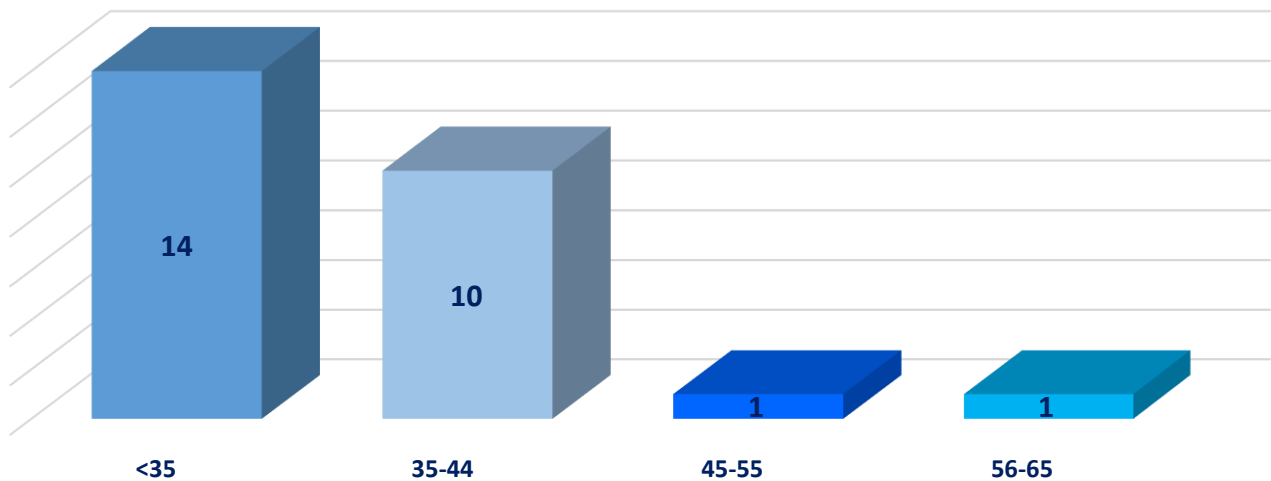
Budget Distribution by Fields



Distribution of Funded Projects by Fields

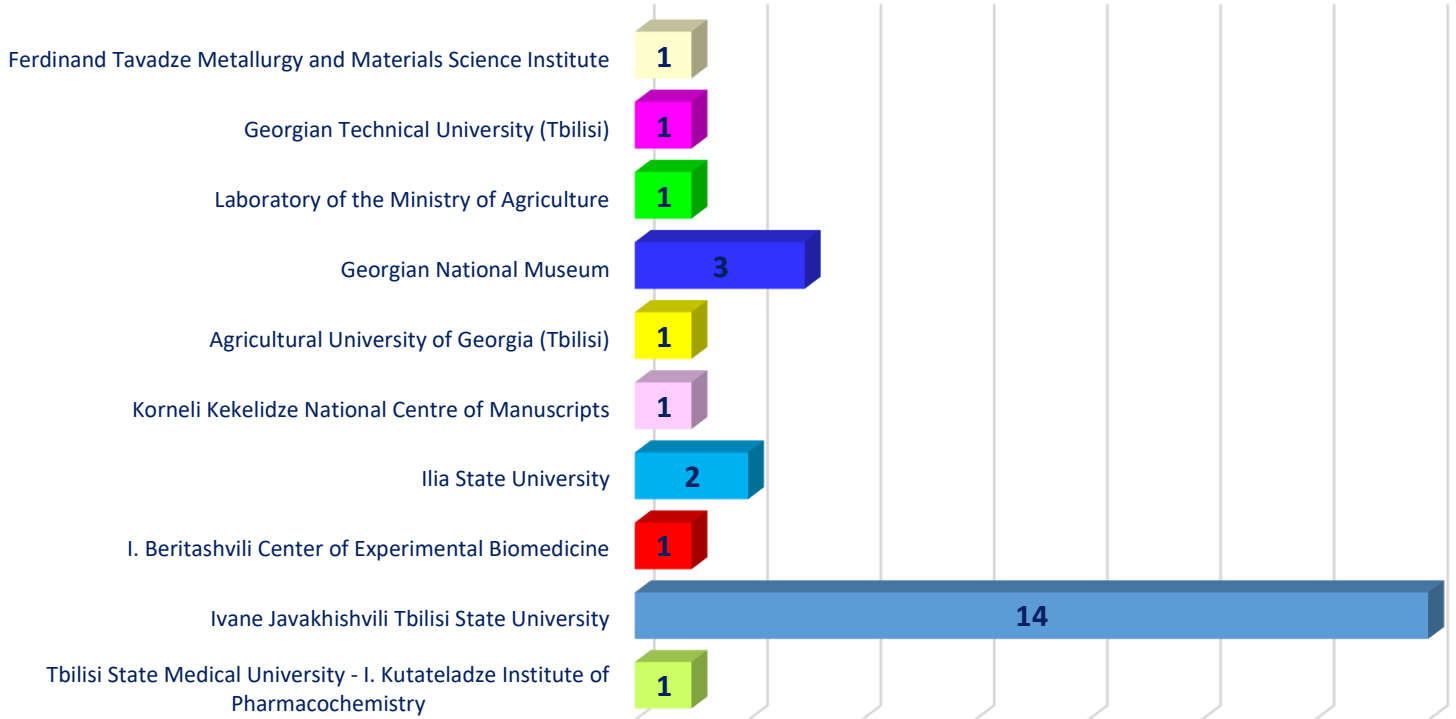


Age Distribution of the Grantees

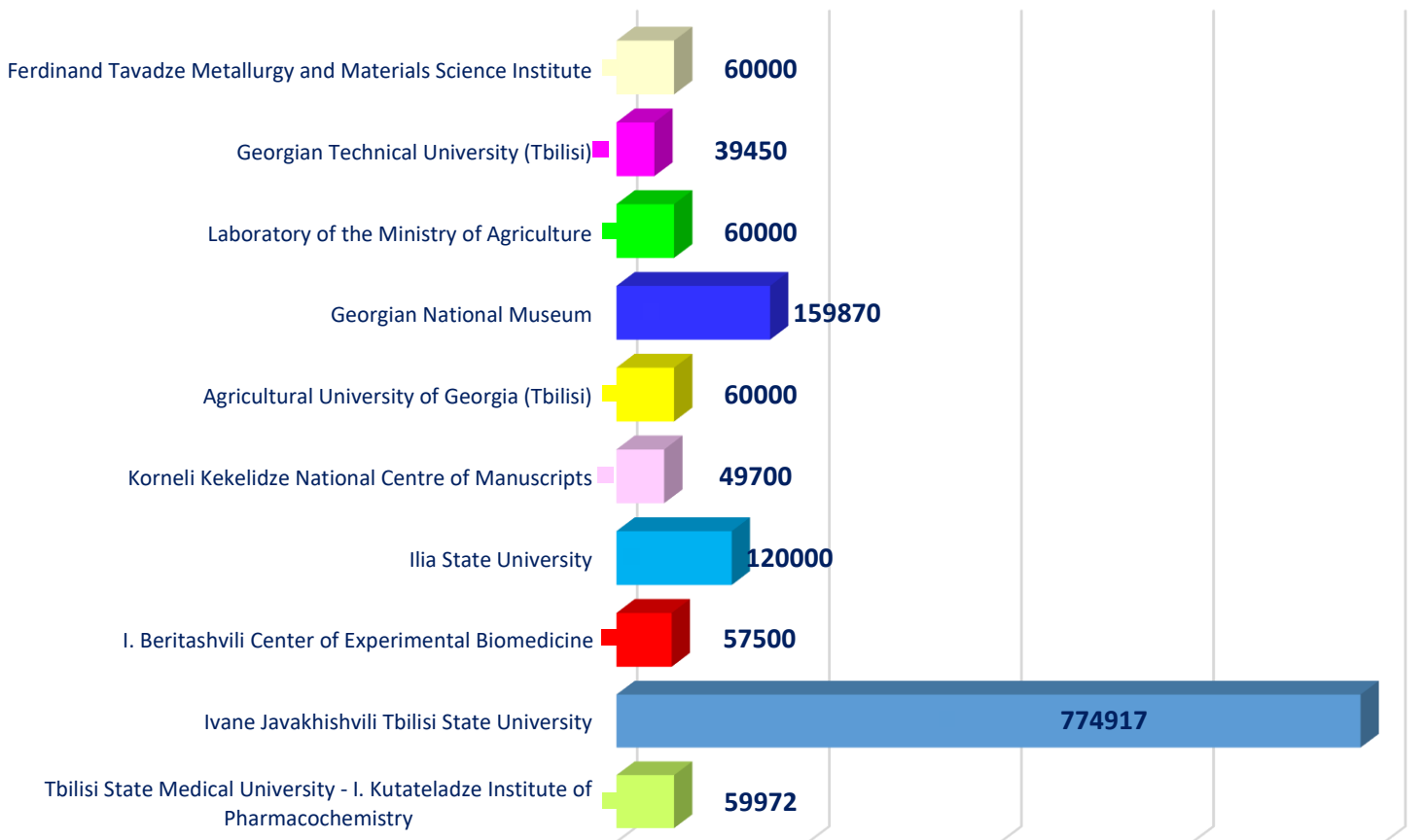


Call for Young Scientists

Distribution of Funded Projects by Institutions



Budget Distribution by Institutions

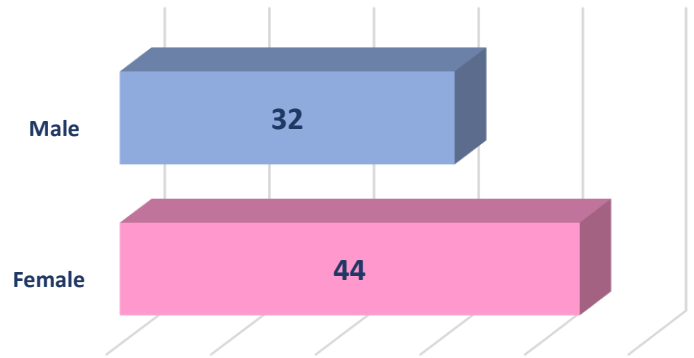


Call for Development of Doctoral Programs

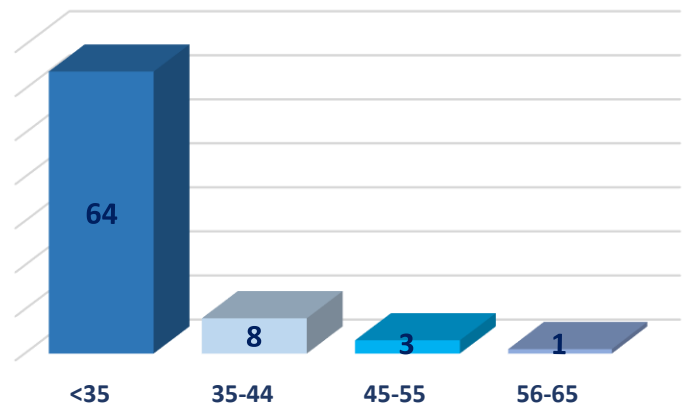
The aims of the call for development of doctoral programs are enhancing academic quality of scientific research and training of new academic staff in higher educational institutions and scientific research centers, on the bases of the existing scientific potential; enhancing the quality of PhD programs in line with international standards by means of developing new doctoral programs in higher educational institutions; strengthening interdisciplinary scientific cooperation of higher educational institutions and supporting development of multidisciplinary PhD programs; promoting inter-institutional and intra-institutional cooperation at the doctoral level of education; providing early career support for young scientists and PhD students; supporting internationalization of doctoral education through strengthening international cooperation of higher educational institutions.

- Total Budget - 2 044 000 GEL;
- 2016 Budget 746 284 GEL;
- Submitted proposals – 238;
- Funded - 76 projects, 76 scientists;
- Project duration – 6-36 months, 1/01/2017-1/01/2020

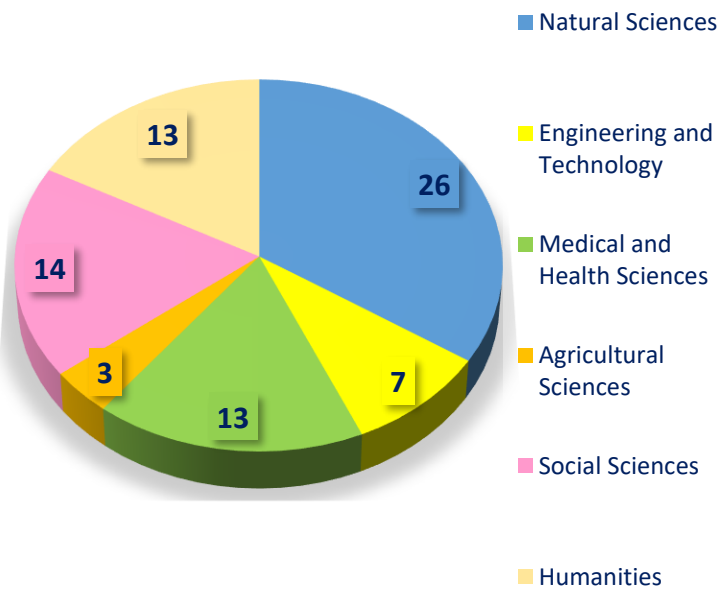
Gender Distribution of the Grantees



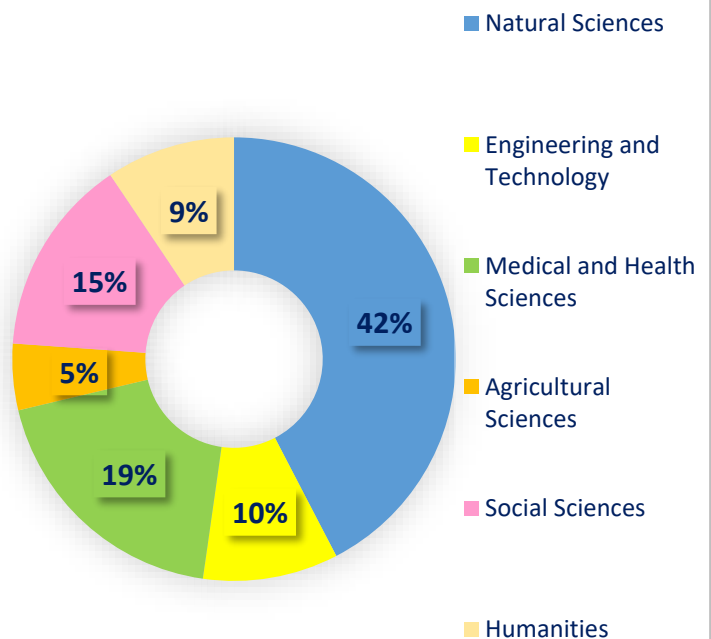
Age Distribution of the Grantees



Distribution of Funded Projects by Fields

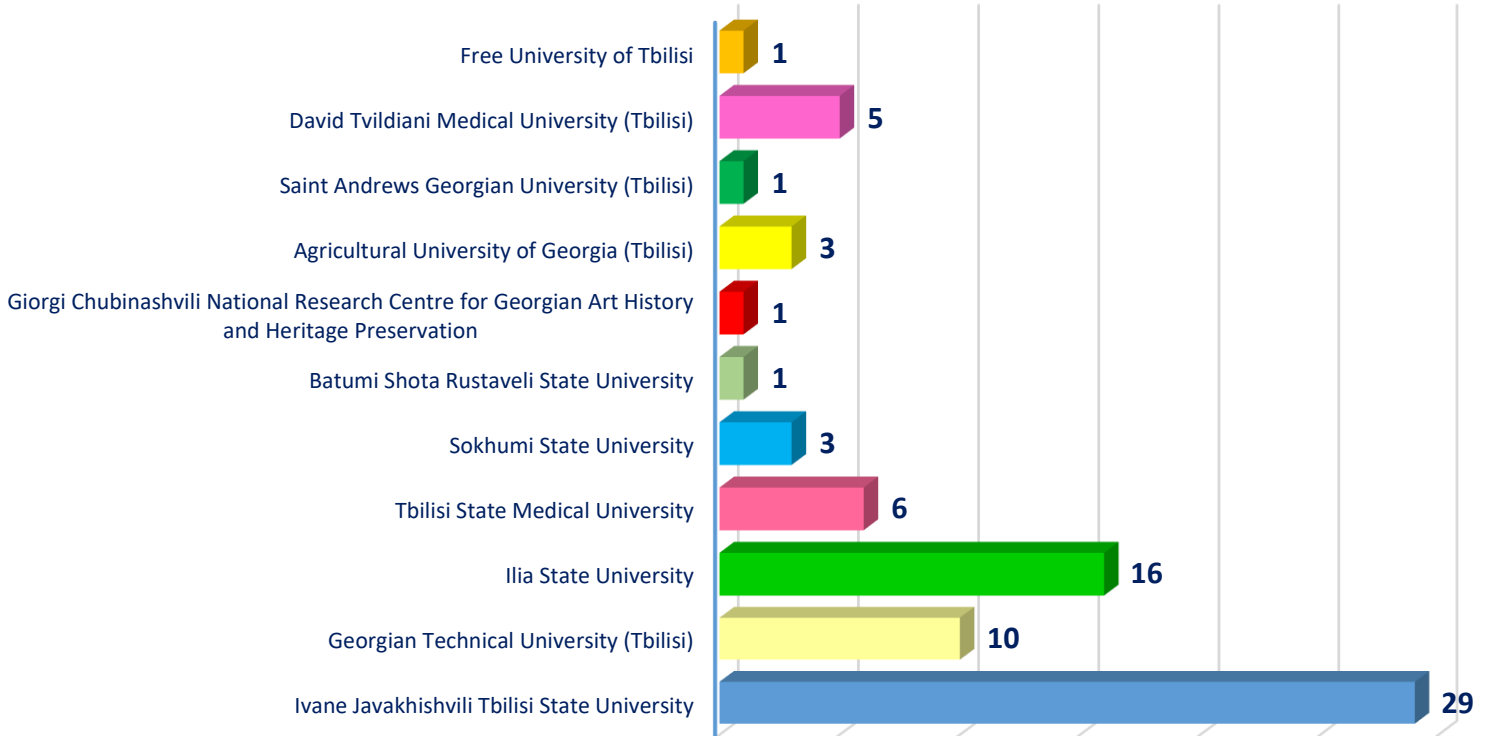


Budget Distribution by Fields

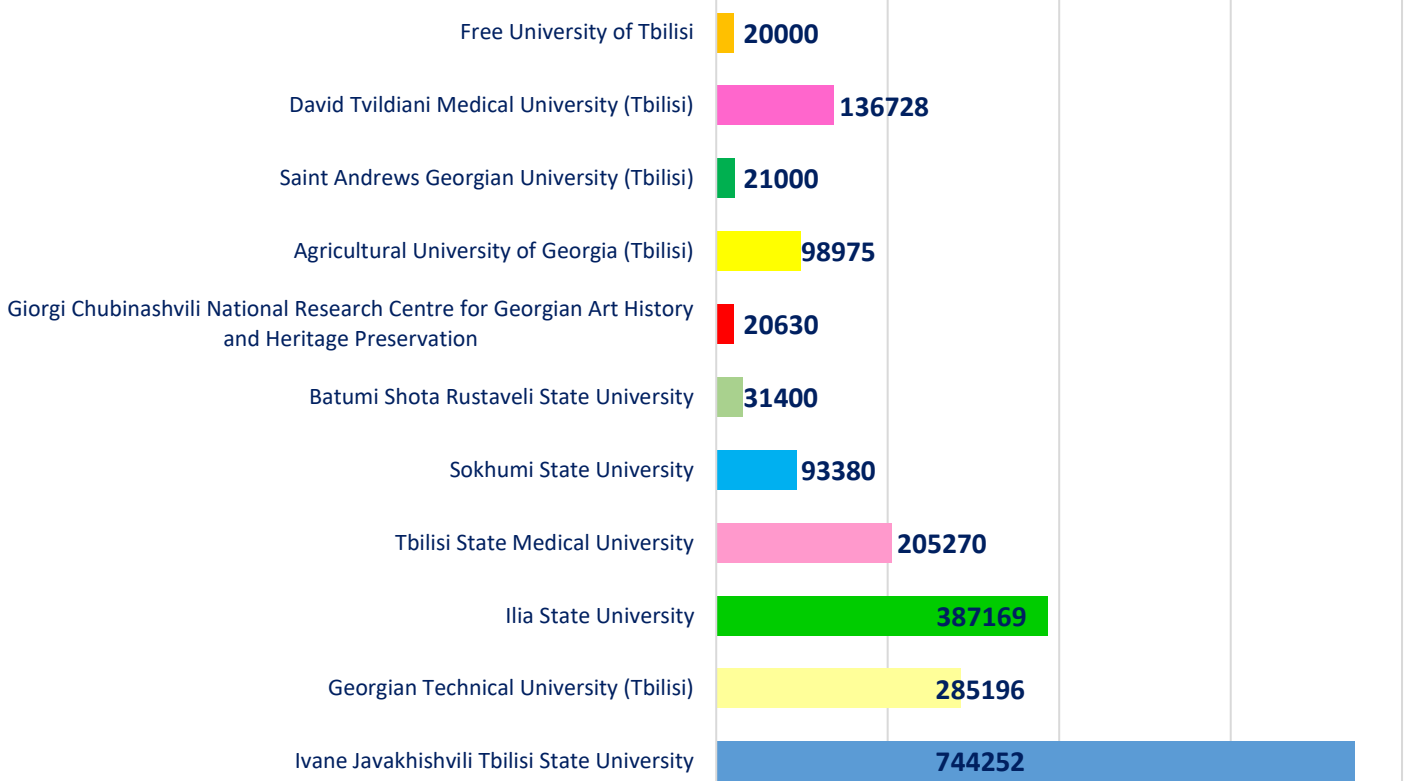


Call for Development of Doctoral Programs

Distribution of Funded Projects by Institutions



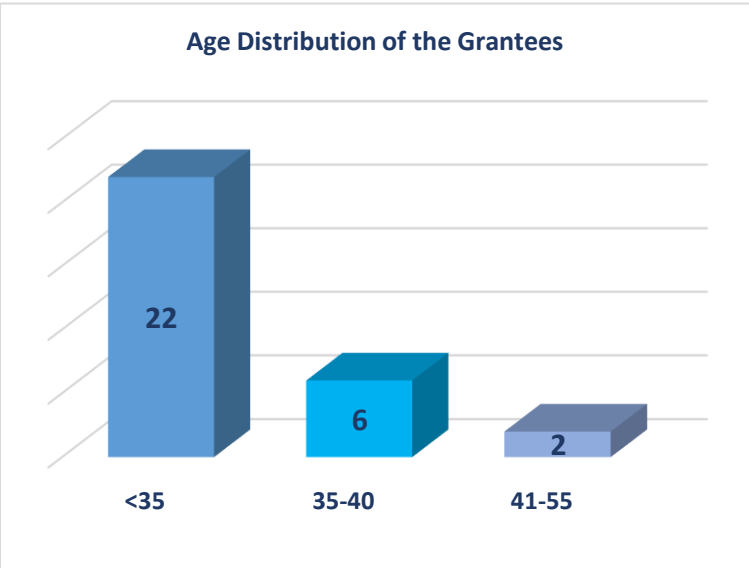
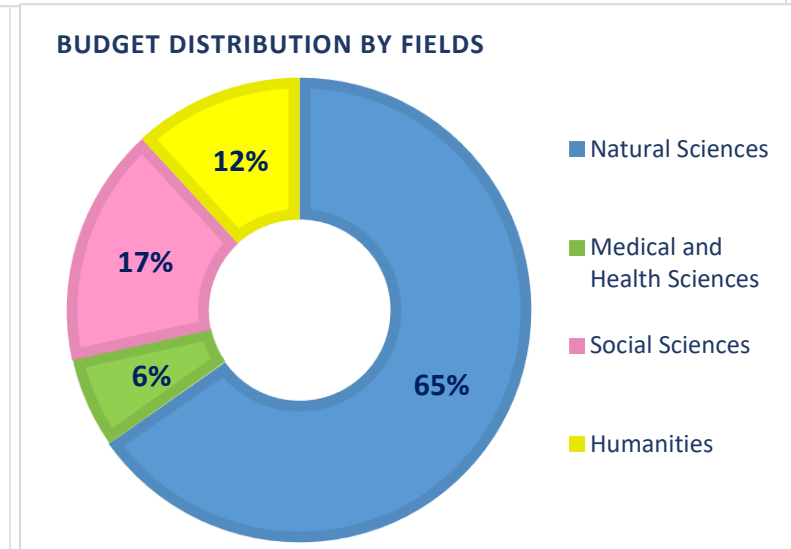
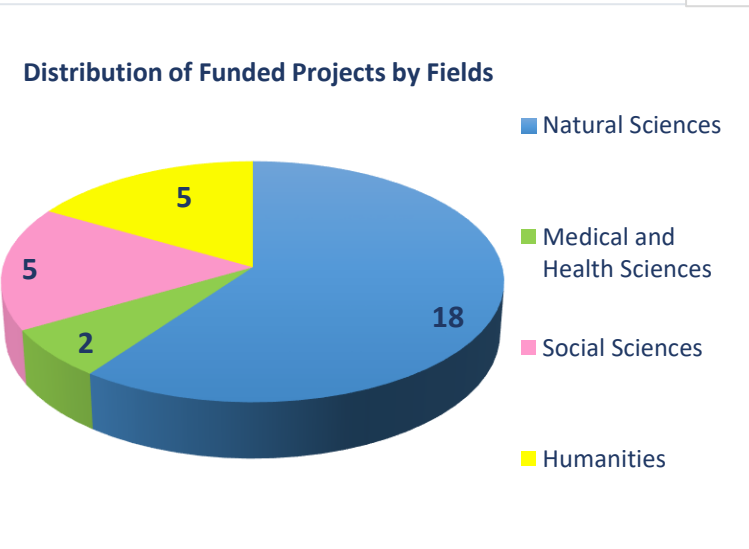
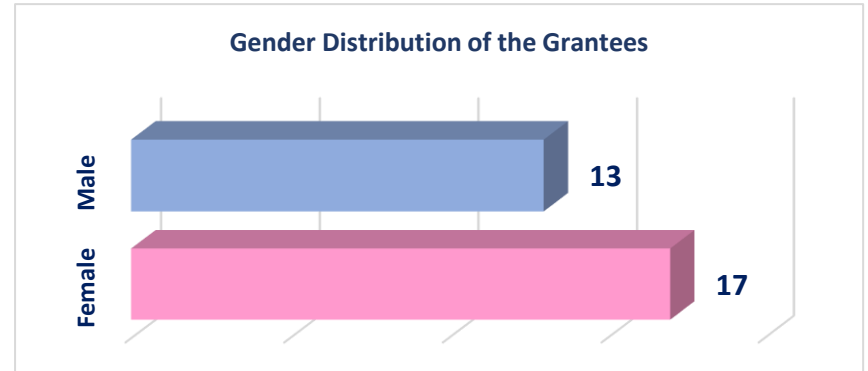
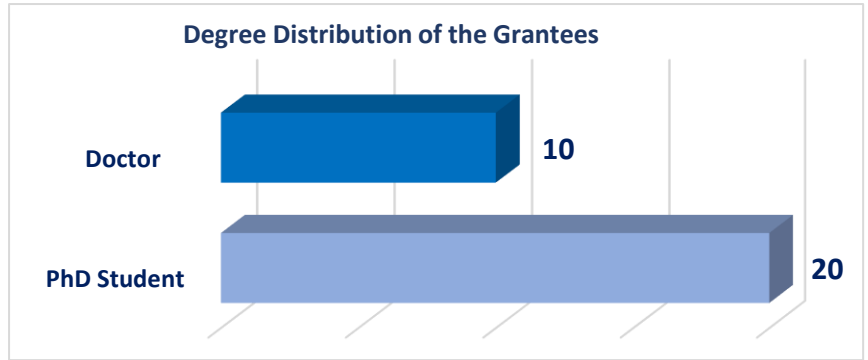
Budget Distribution by Institutions



State Science Grants for Young Scientists' Research Internship Abroad

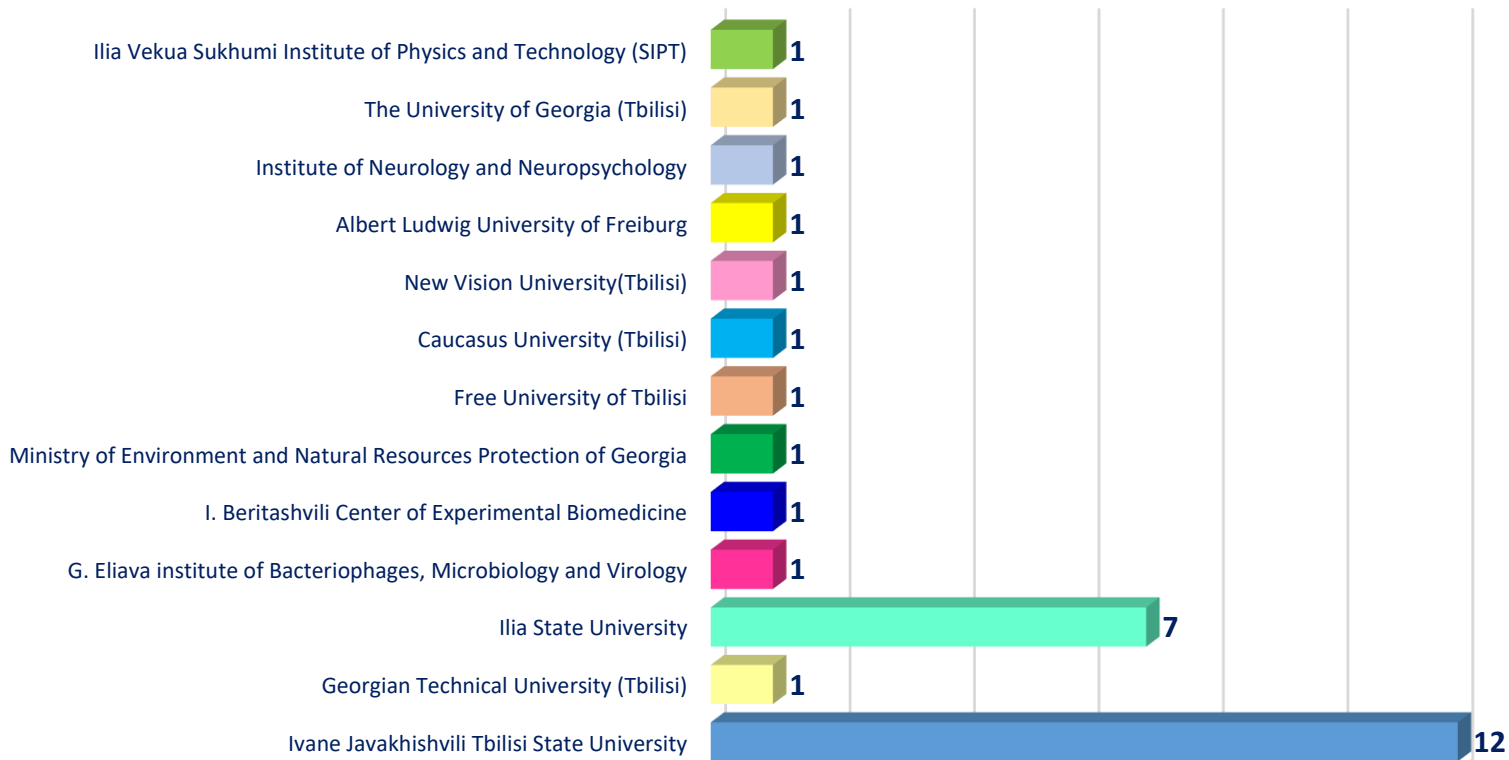
The goal of the competition is to finance research [i]nternships of young scientists at the leading international scientific centers and universities abroad, to grant experience for and advance qualification of the young scientists, to encourage young scientists to improve their professional qualifications, establish international scientific contacts and expand their experience.

- Total Budget – 484 593GEL;
- 2016 Budget 408 243 GEL;
- Submitted proposals – 55;
- Funded - 30 projects, 30 scientists;
- Project duration – 6-36 months, 10/01/2016-11/01/2017

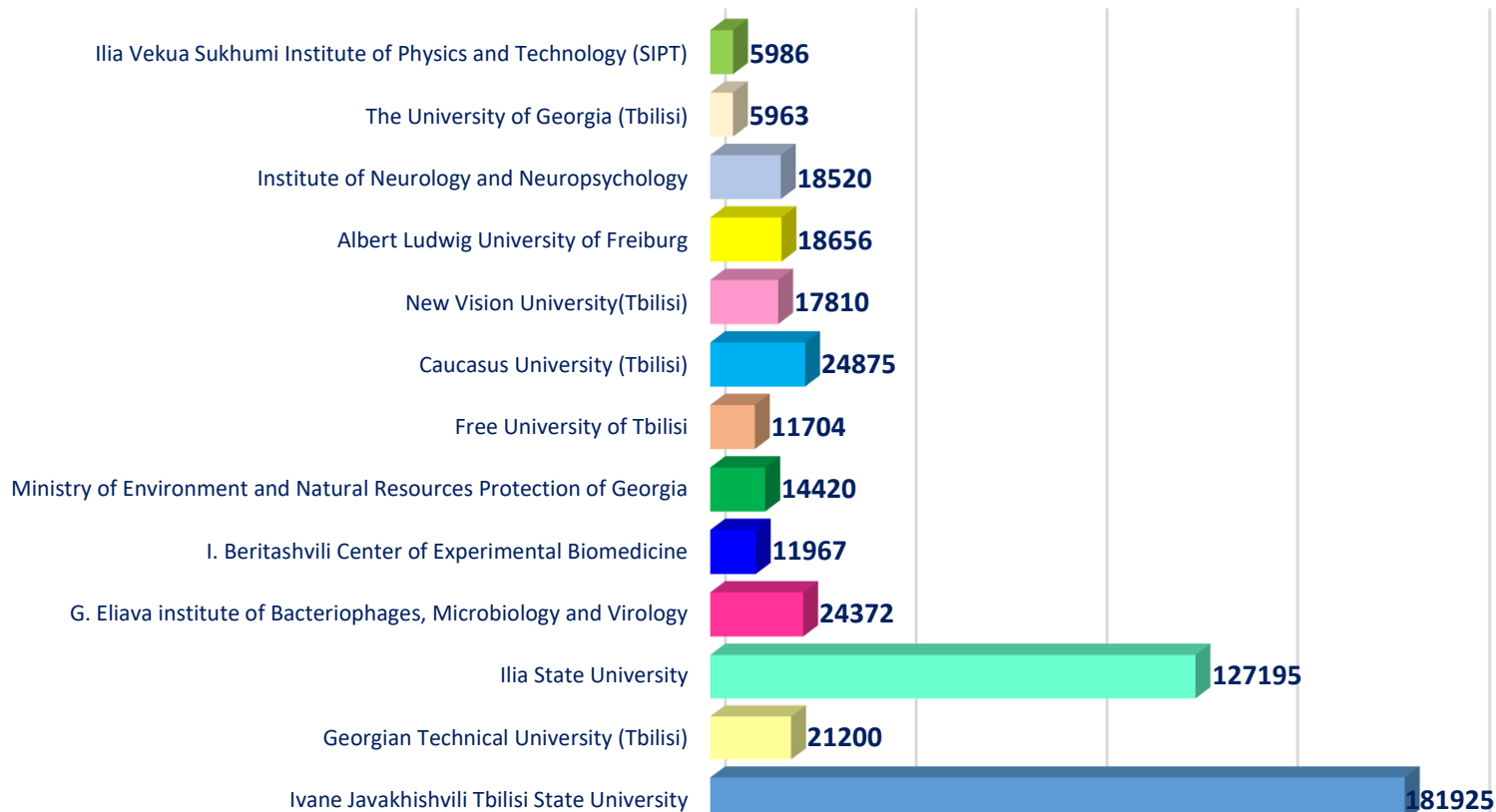


State Science Grants for Young Scientists' Research Internship Abroad

Distribution of Funded Projects by Institutions



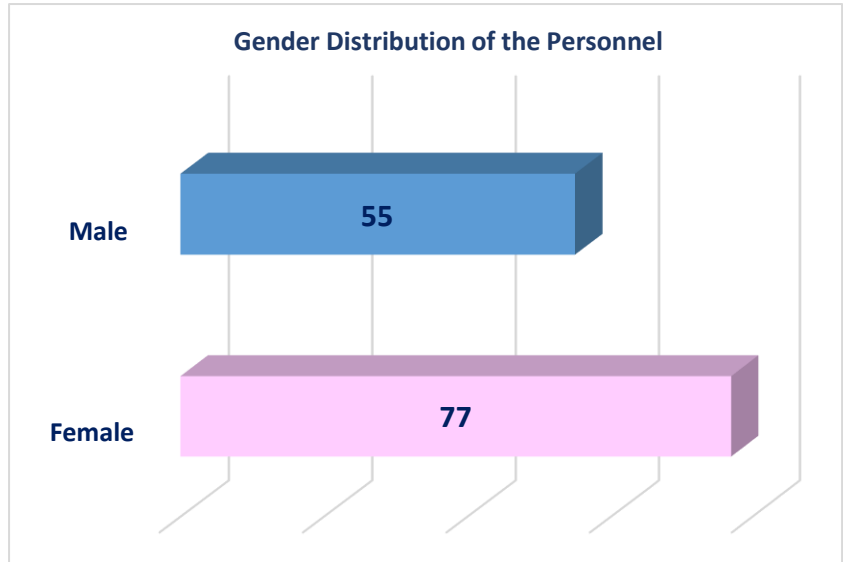
Budget Distribution by Institutions



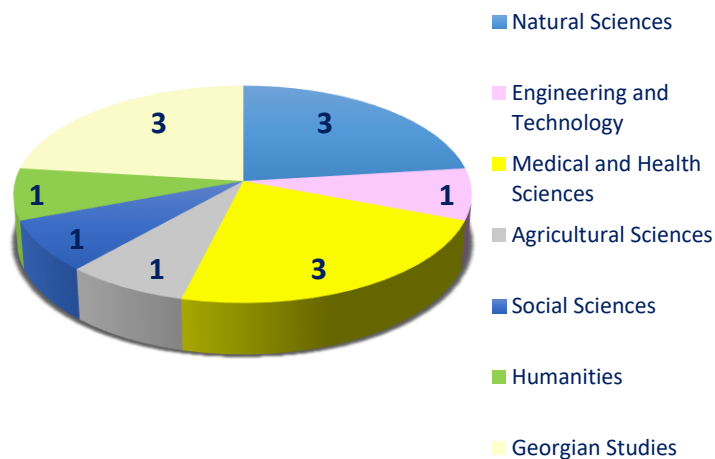
Seasonal schools/camps

The aims of the call are organizing the seasonal schools/camps for young scientists and students of science and supporting functioning of the seasonal schools; supporting the development and the popularization of Georgian science; attracting new staff in science, improving young scientists' qualifications through trainings, encouraging trainings, transferable skills development and interdisciplinary cooperation in research; encouraging international cooperation and integration of Georgian science in the international scientific space.

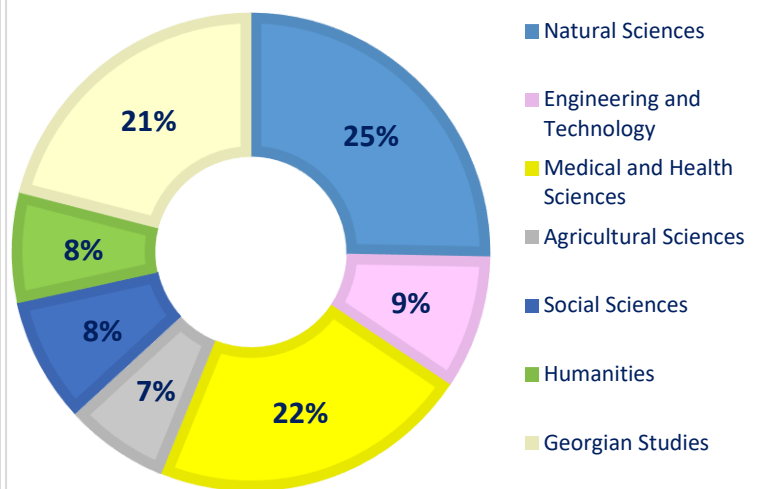
- Total Budget - 496 915 GEL;
- 2016 Budget - 472 805 GEL;
- Submitted proposals – 53;
- Funded - 13 projects, 132 scientists;
- Project duration – 31/05/2016-31/05/2017



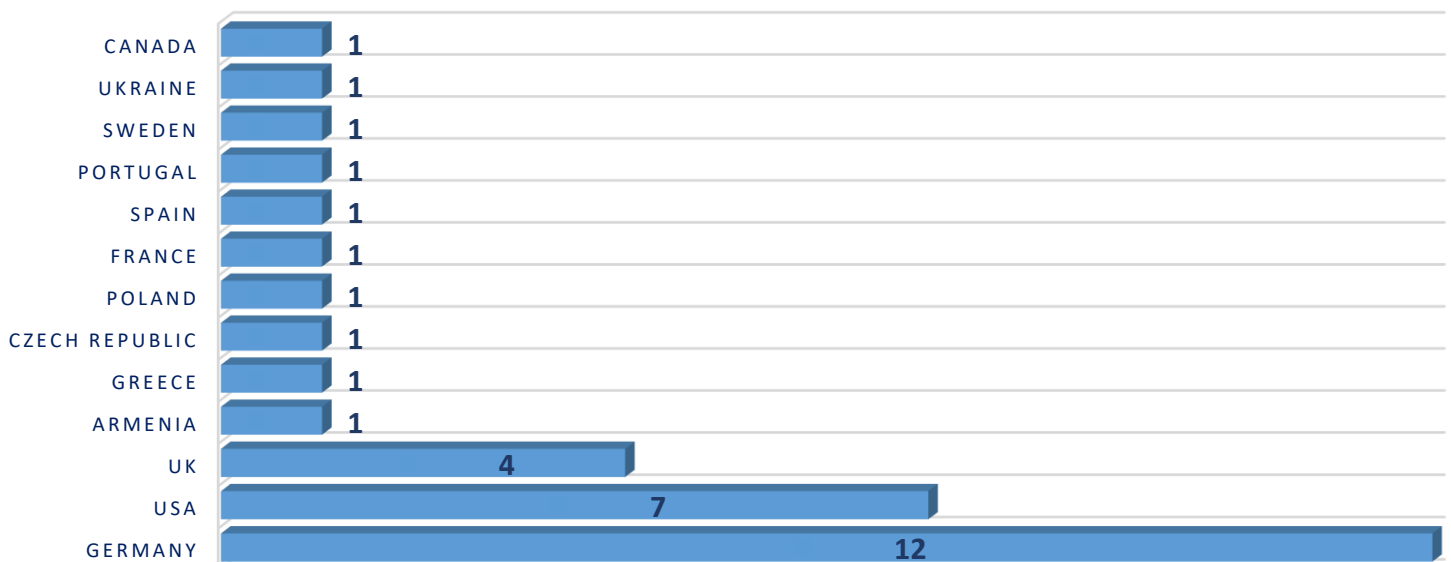
Distribution of Funded Projects by Fields



BUDGET DISTRIBUTION BY FIELDS

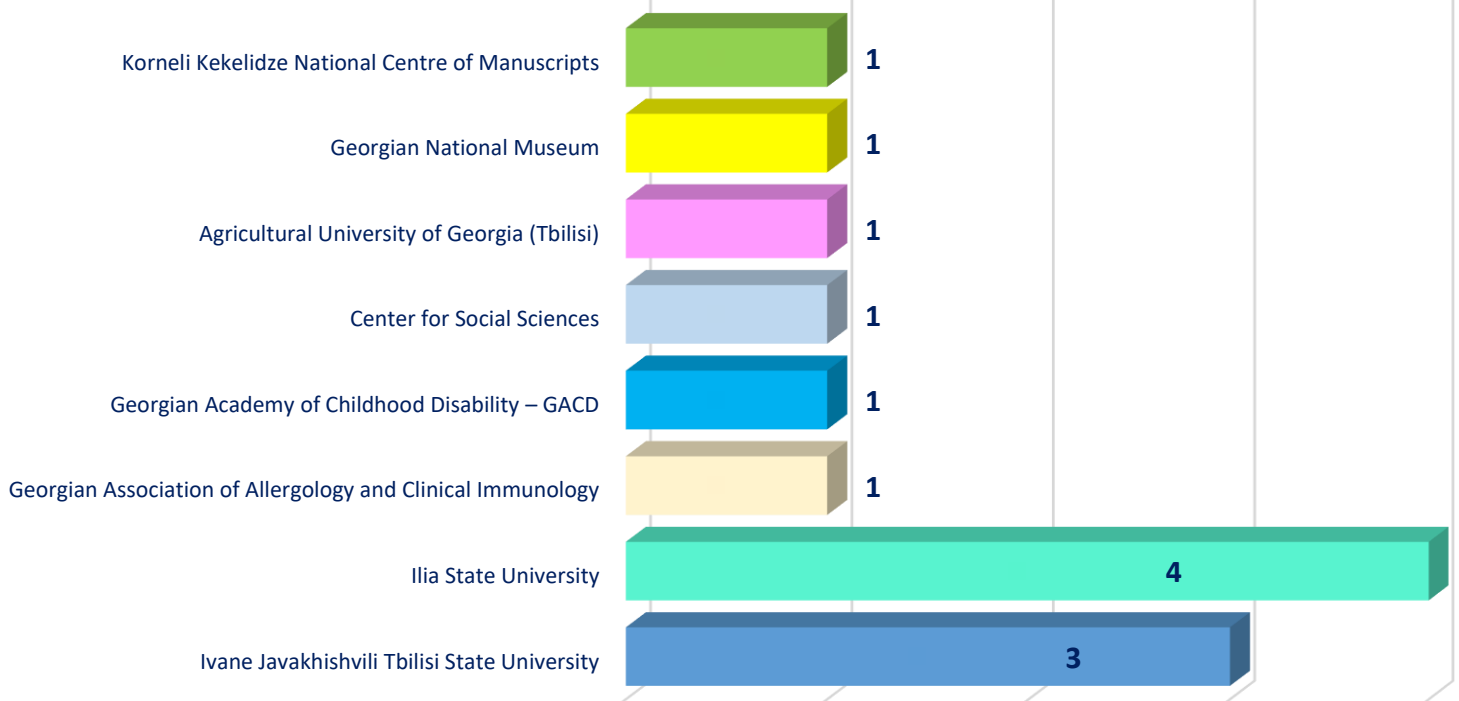


DISTRIBUTION OF INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY BY COUNTRIES

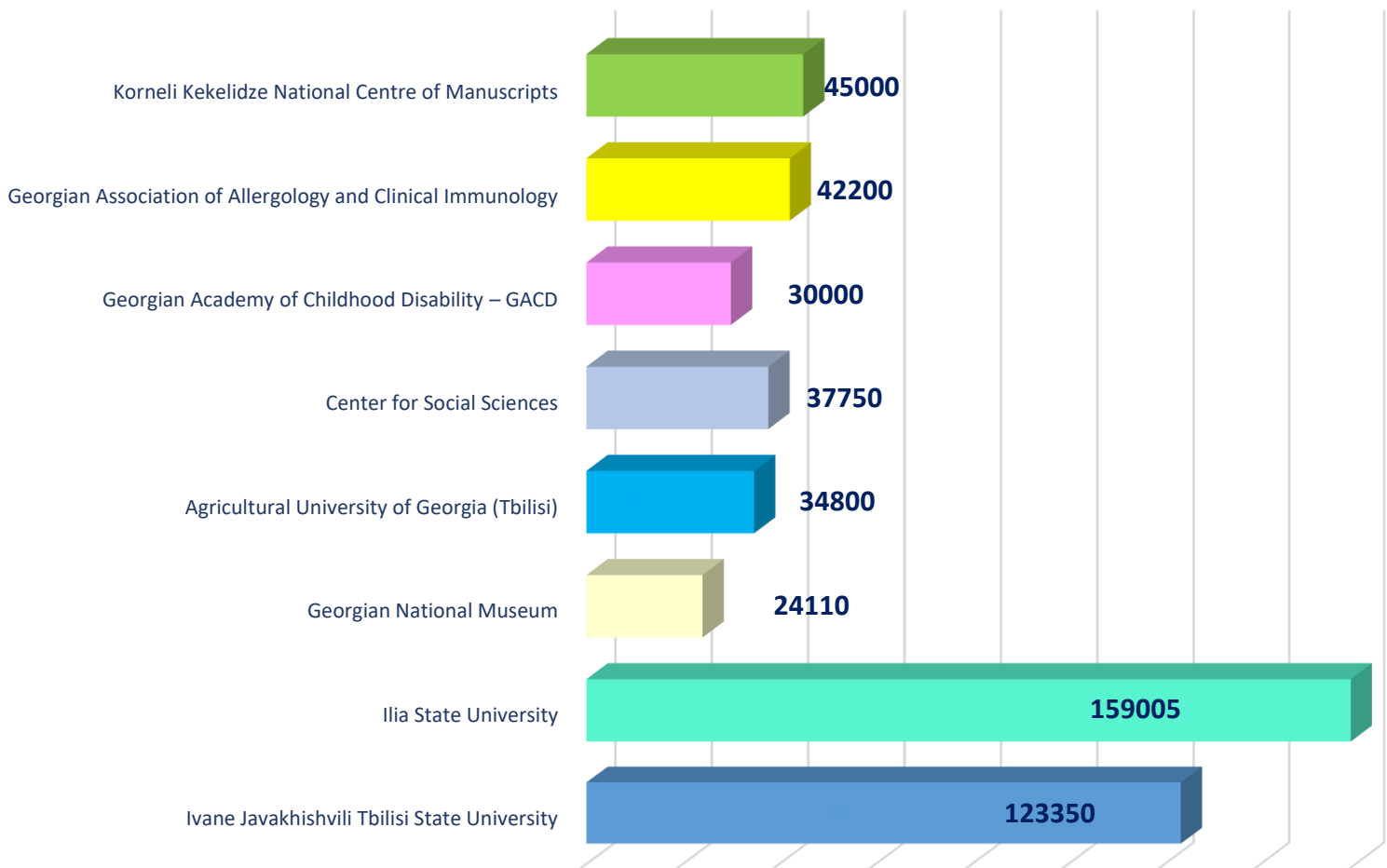


Seasonal schools/camps

Distribution of Funded Projects by Fields



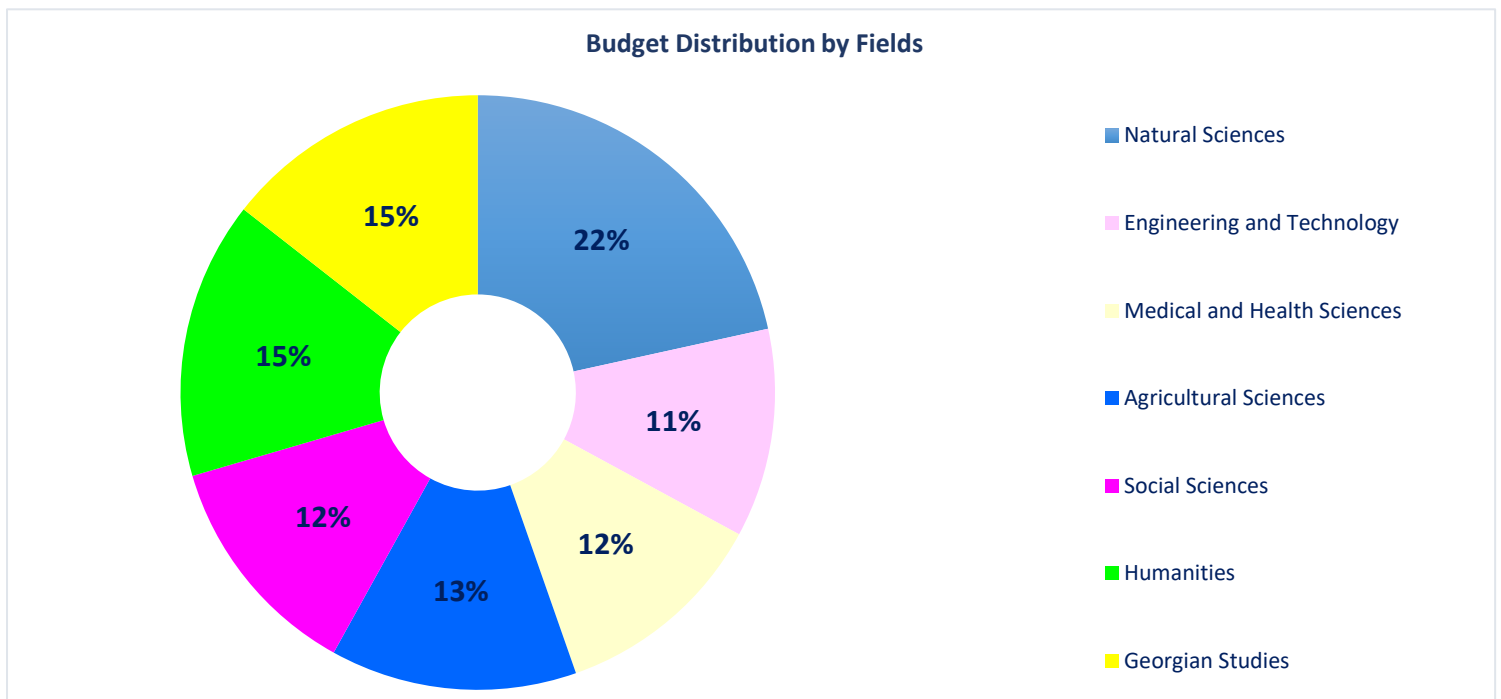
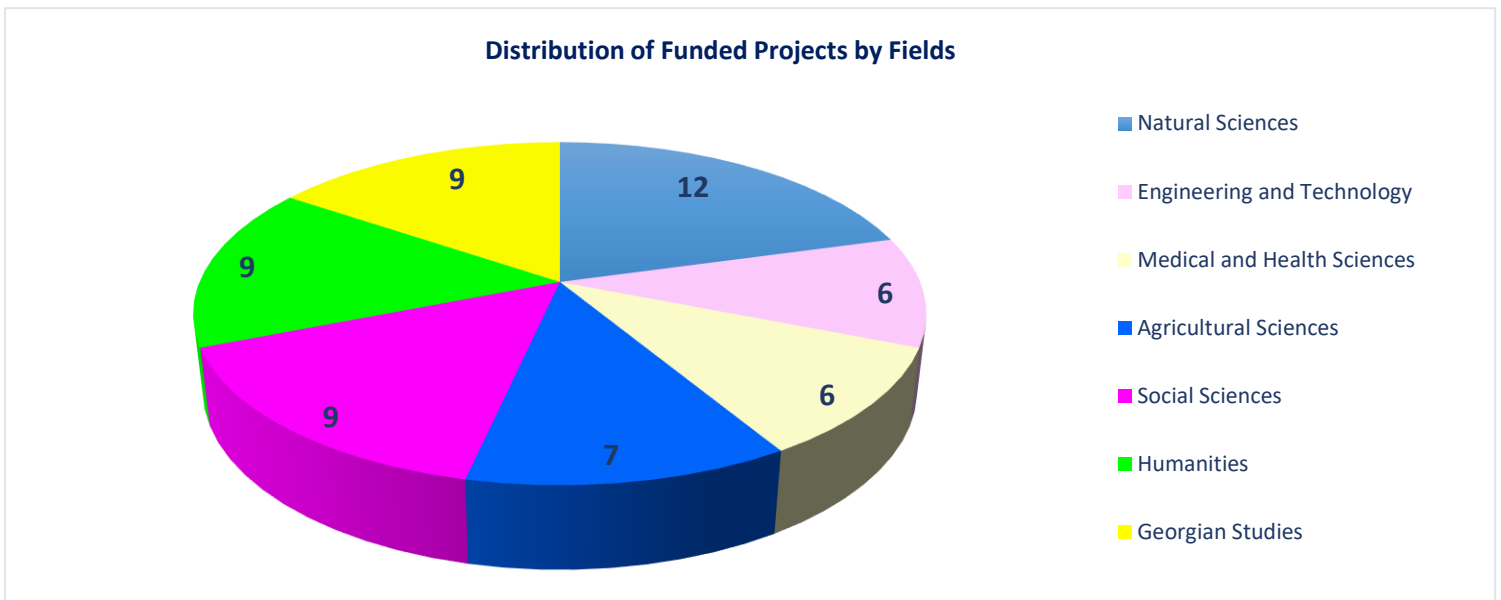
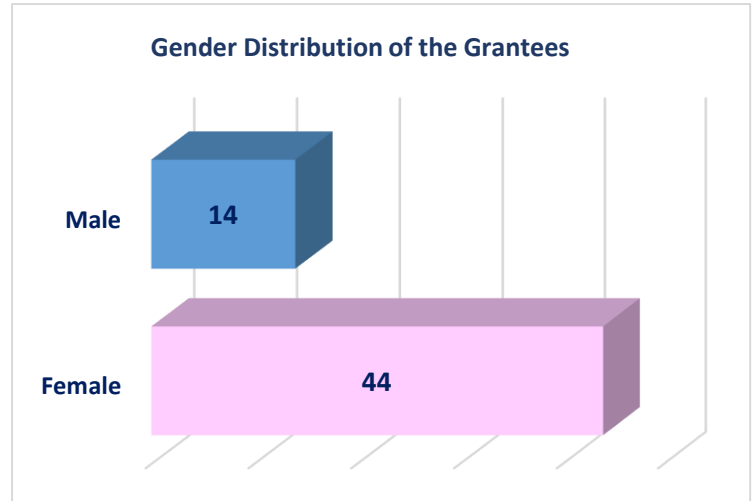
Budget Distribution by Fields



Grant Competition for Promoting Research in MA Programs

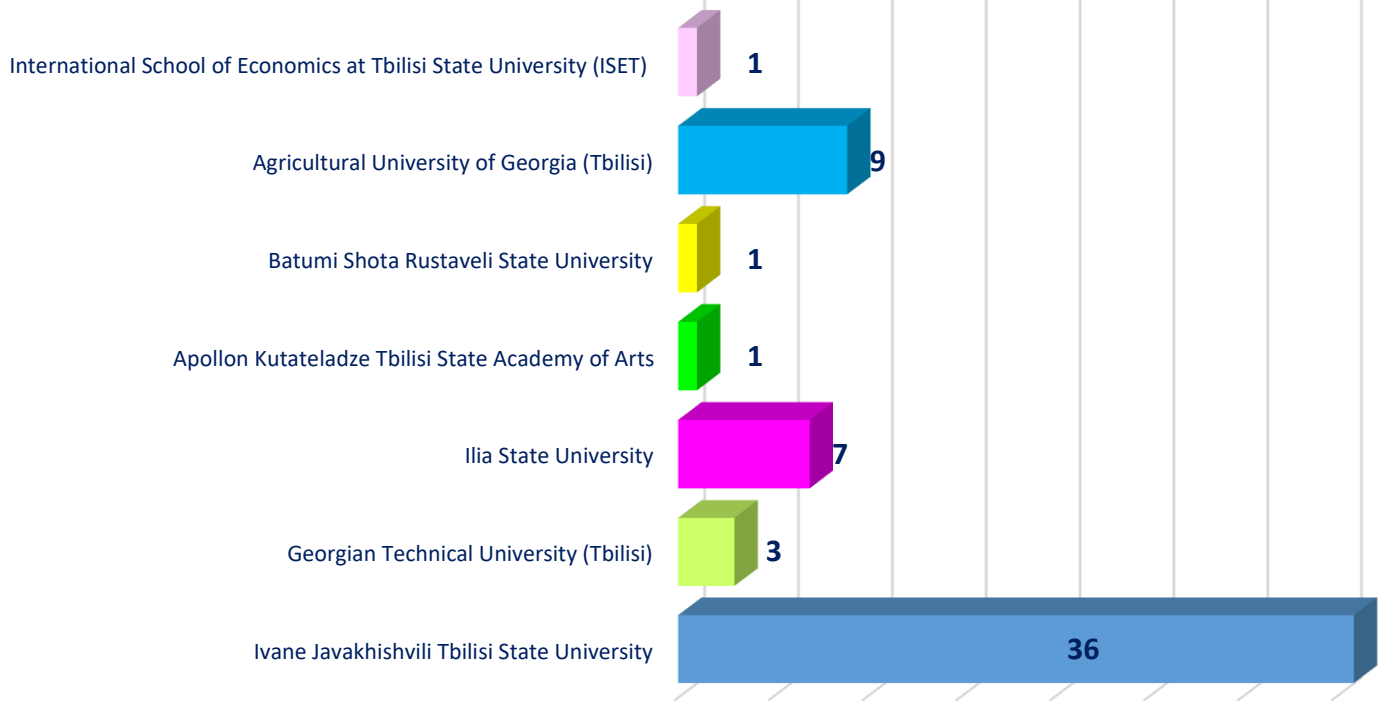
The goals of the competition are supporting quality enhancement in scientific studies, raising academic level and development of research skills - related to the master's thesis of students enrolled at the accredited Master's educational program, as well as supporting the improvement of higher educational institutions research capacity and integration of research in learning processes supporting the development of thematic and/or interdisciplinary research activities.

- Total Budget - 306 913 GEL;
- 2016 Budget - 245 531 GEL;
- Submitted proposals – 134;
- Funded - 58 projects;
- Project duration – 4-10 months, 01/01/2017-31/12/2017

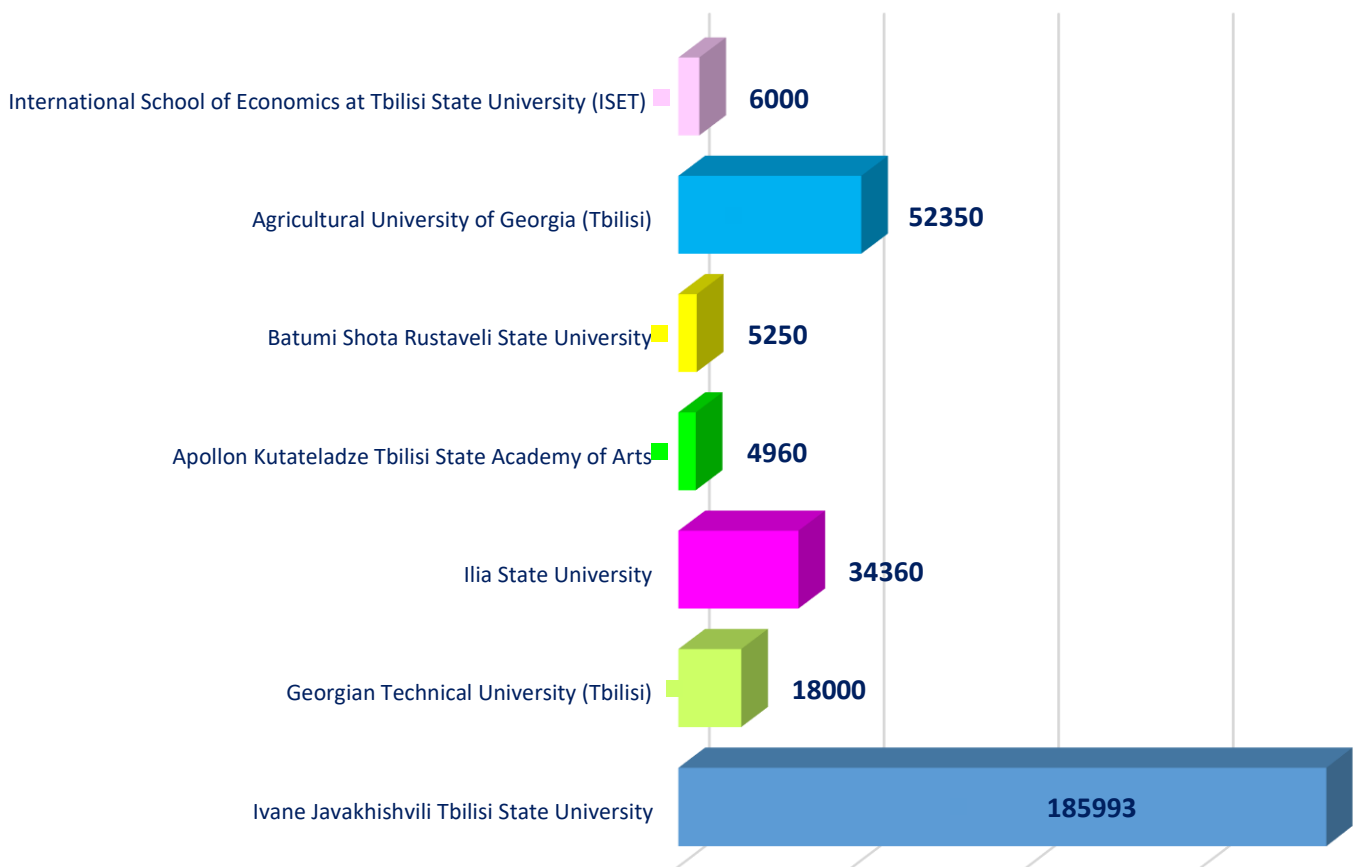


Grant Competition for Promoting Research in MA Programs

Distribution of Funded Projects by Fields



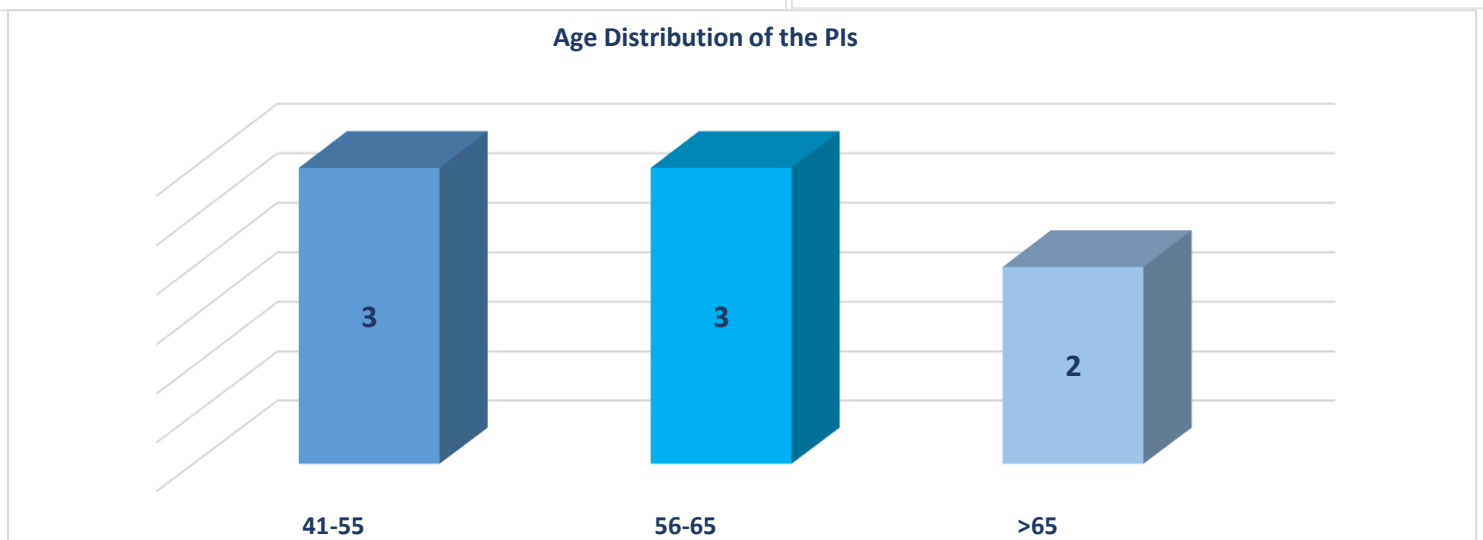
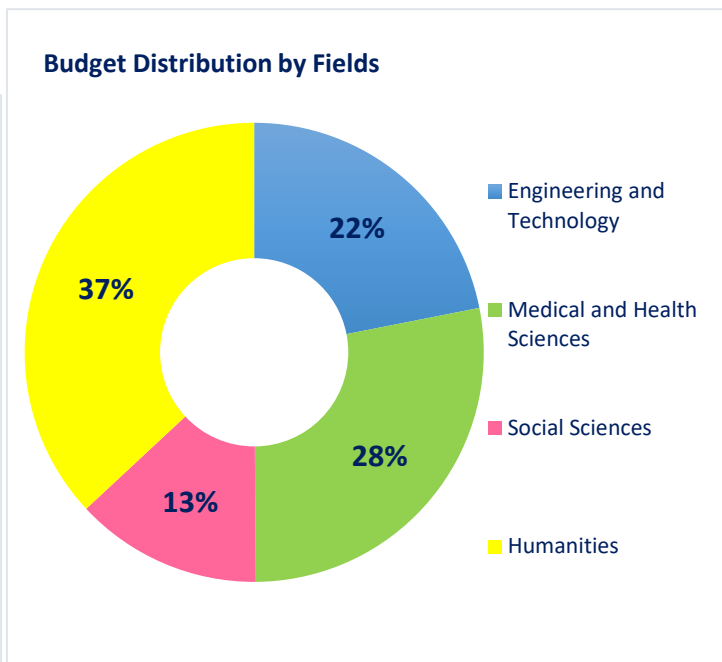
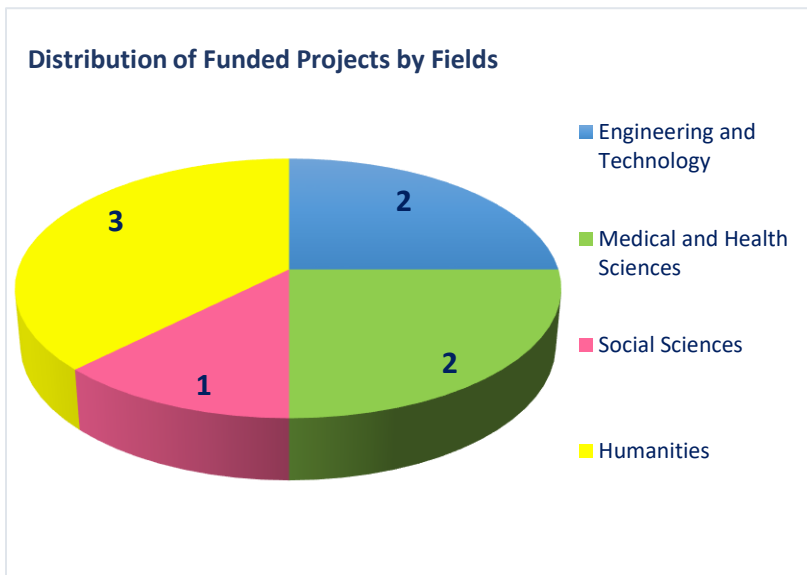
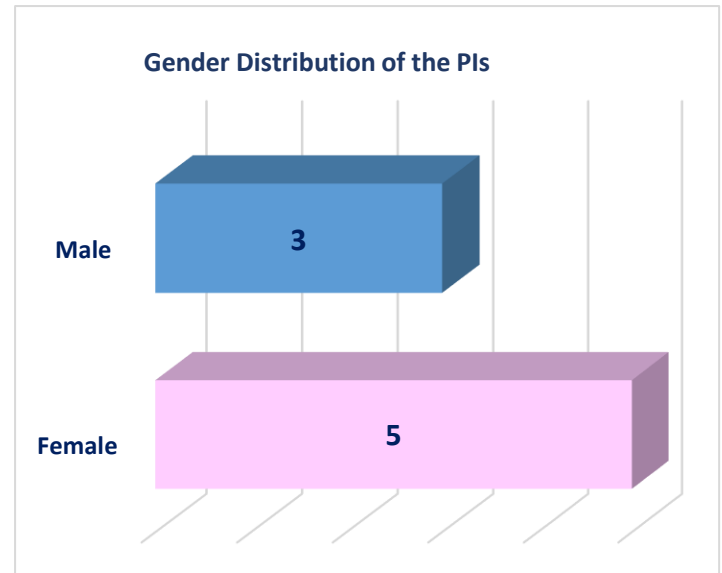
Budget Distribution by Fields



Call for Development of Structured PhD programs

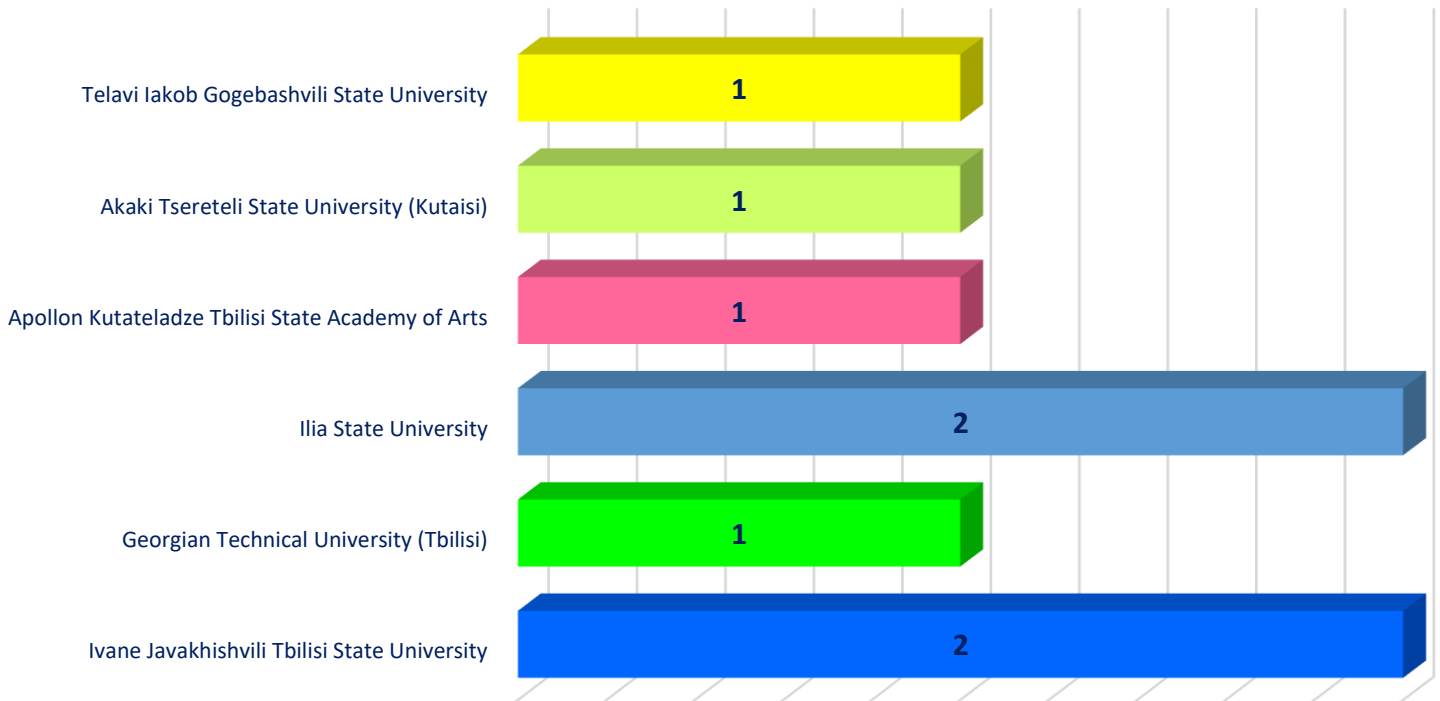
Aims of the call for development of doctoral programs are enhancing academic quality of scientific research and training of new academic staff in higher educational institutions and scientific research centers, on the bases of the existing scientific potential, enhancing the quality of PhD programs in line with international standards by means of developing new doctoral programs in higher educational institutions, strengthening interdisciplinary scientific cooperation of higher educational institutions and supporting the development of multidisciplinary PhD programs, promoting inter-institutional and intra-institutional cooperation at the doctoral level of education, early career support of young scientists and PhD students and supporting internationalization of doctoral education through strengthening international cooperation of higher educational institutions.

- Total Budget – 1 746 463 GEL;
- 2016 Budget –212 282 GEL;
- Submitted proposals – 18;
- Funded - 8 projects, 8 scientists;
- Project duration – 15/12/2016 – 15/12/2020

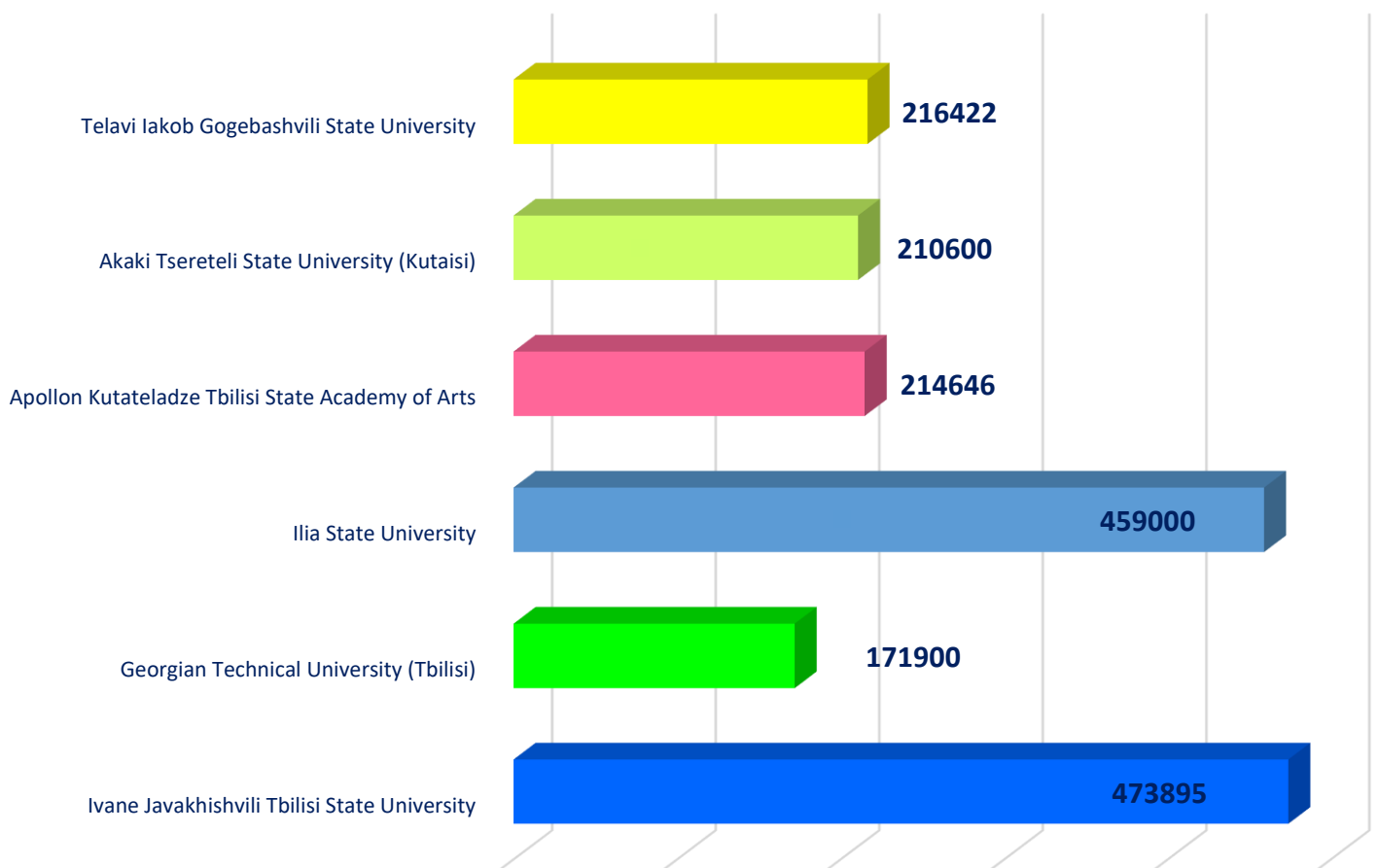


Call for Development of Structured PhD programs

Distribution of Funded Projects by Institutions



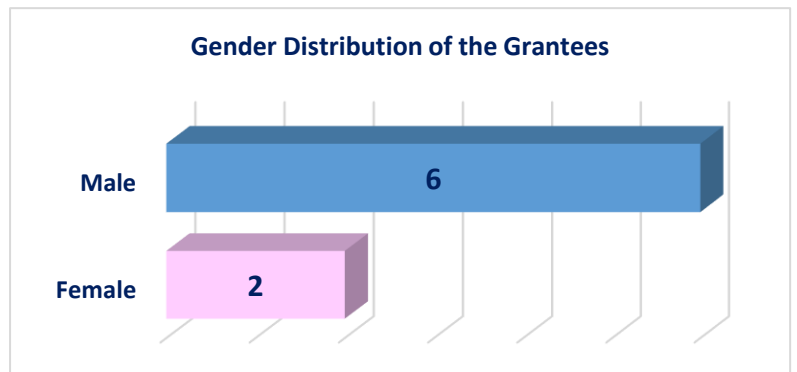
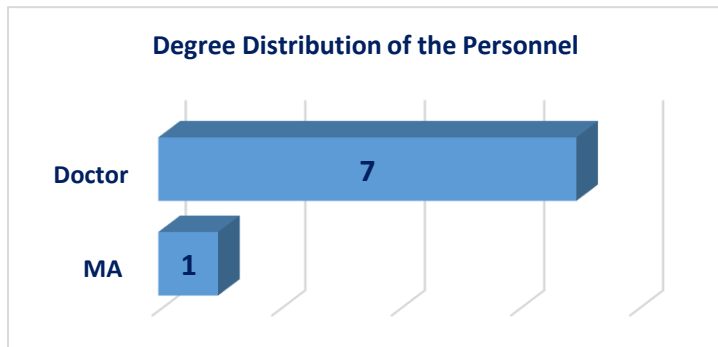
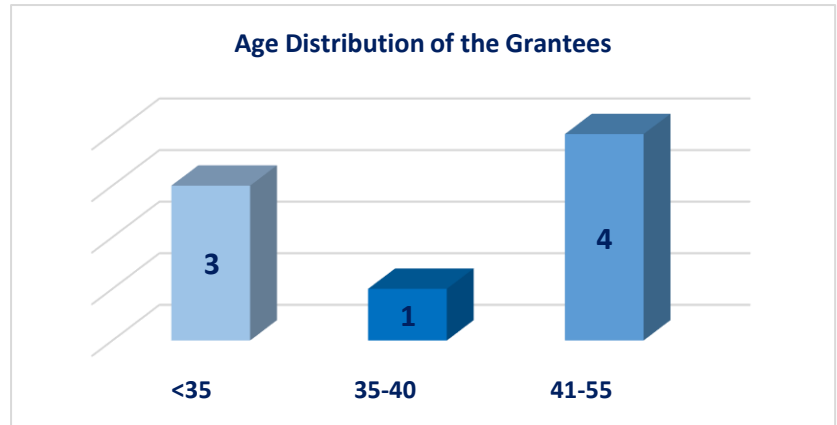
Budget Distribution by Institutions



Targeted Conferences of Georgian Studies

The Call aims to finance International Conferences in Georgian Studies; Georgian Studies' popularization and its integration into the international science, to develop Georgian Studies directions and dissemination of research outcomes; to facilitate experience sharing among Georgian Studies centers, groups of scientists and individual researchers; to promote International collaboration and to attract young scientists to pursue research in Georgian Studies.

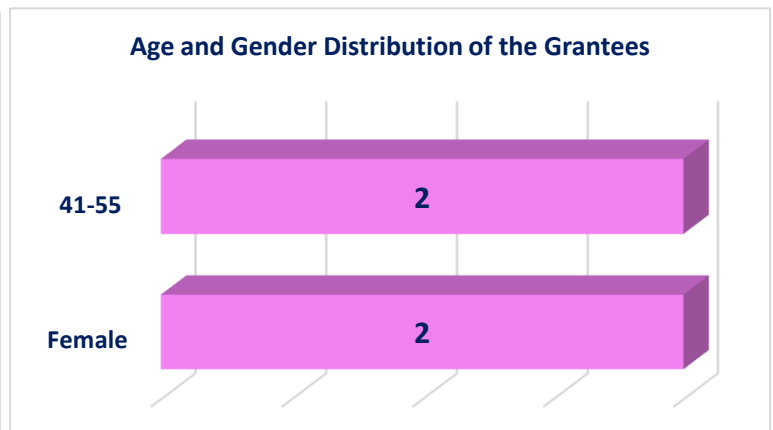
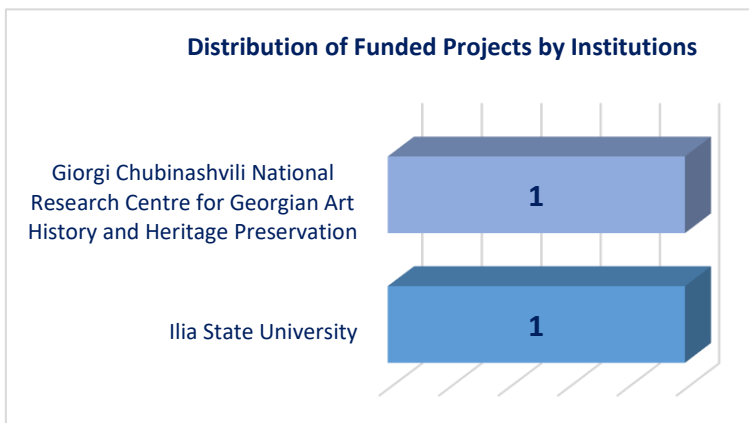
- Total Budget – 39 850 GEL;
- 2016 Budget – 37 100 GEL;
- Submitted proposals – 2;
- Funded - 1 project, 8 scientists;



Supporting Georgian Studies' Centers and Programs Abroad

SRNSF and The University of Oxford joint call aims to support the development and popularization of interdisciplinary research in Georgian Studies in line with international standards; to increase the motivation of young scientists and developing their research potential. The program also aims to disseminate information among international academic networks on current research related to Georgia's history, culture, language and literature, archeology and arts, religion, social, economic and political transformation. Georgian Program seeks to support the development of collaborative links and creation of research consortium in order to maintain multilateral sustainable international cooperation.

- Total Budget – 174 768 GEL;
- 2016 Budget - 174 768 GEL;
- Submitted proposals – 13;
- Funded - 2 projects;
- Project duration – 12 months, 10/01/2017-10/01/2018

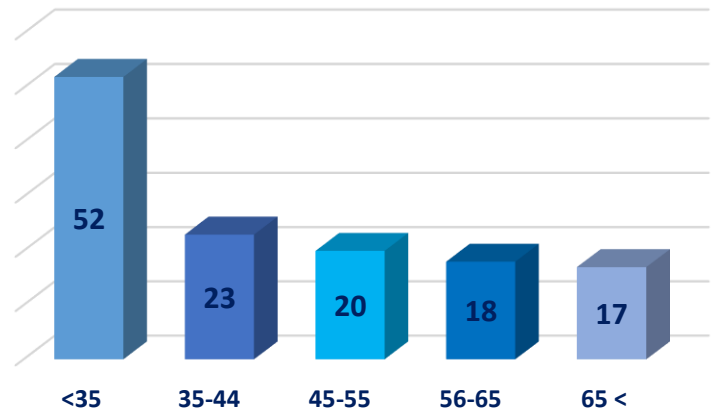


Short-term Individual Travel Grants

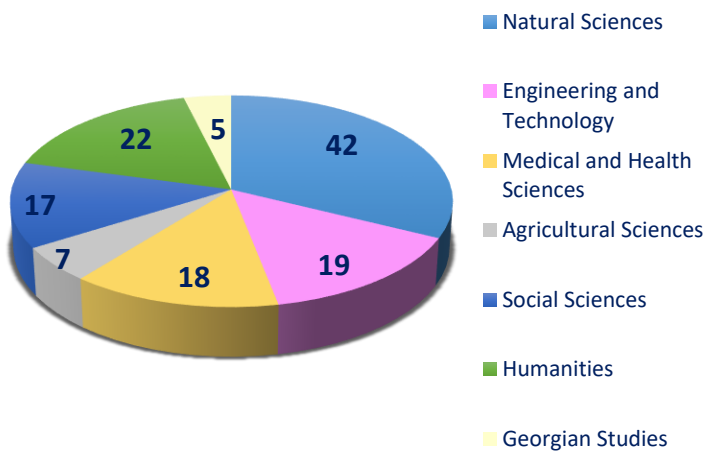
The goal of travel grants is to support Georgian scientists to participate in international activities in order to strengthen the local scientific potential by exchanging information and experience between Georgian and international scientists. Thus, to help Georgian scientists to integrate into international scientific communities. Travel Grants will enable scientists of Georgia to participate in international scientific activities worldwide.

- Total Budget – 447 854 GEL;
- 2016 Budget – 411 531 GEL;
- Submitted proposals – 304;
- Funded - 130 projects, researchers - 130;
- Project duration – 15/03/2016-15/03/2017

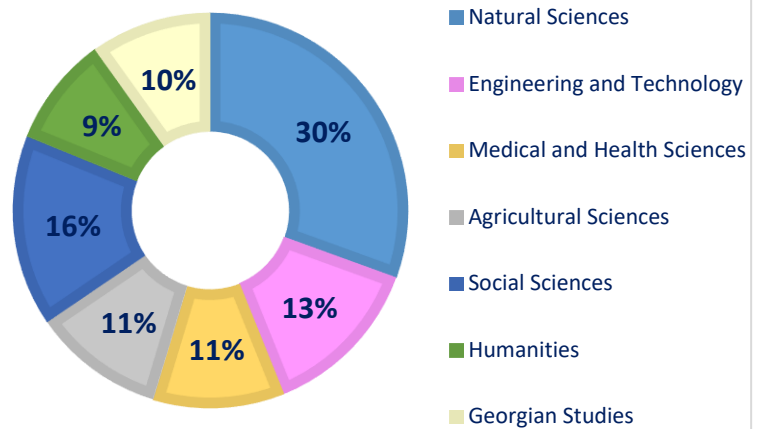
Age Distribution of the Grantees



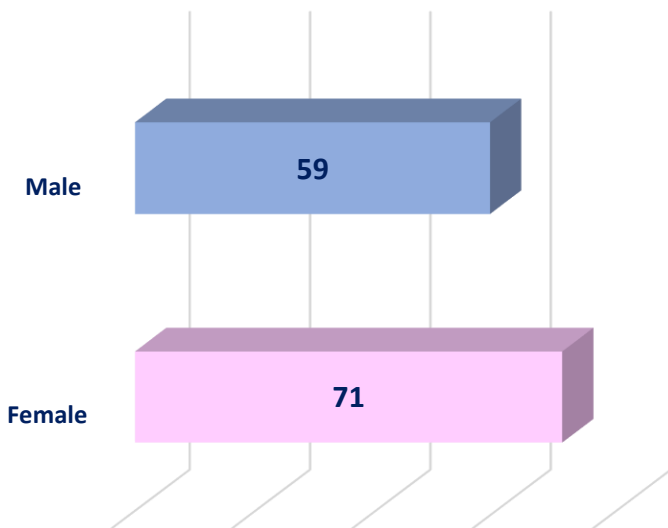
Distribution of Funded Projects by Fields



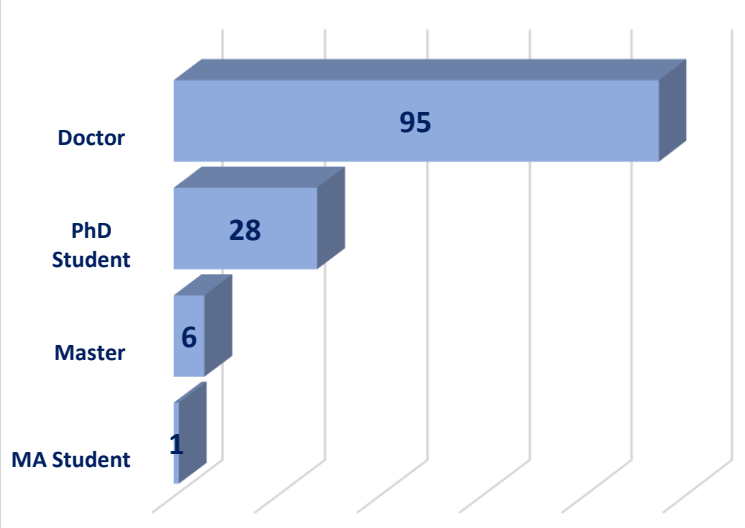
BUDGET DISTRIBUTION BY FIELDS



Gender Distribution of the Personnel

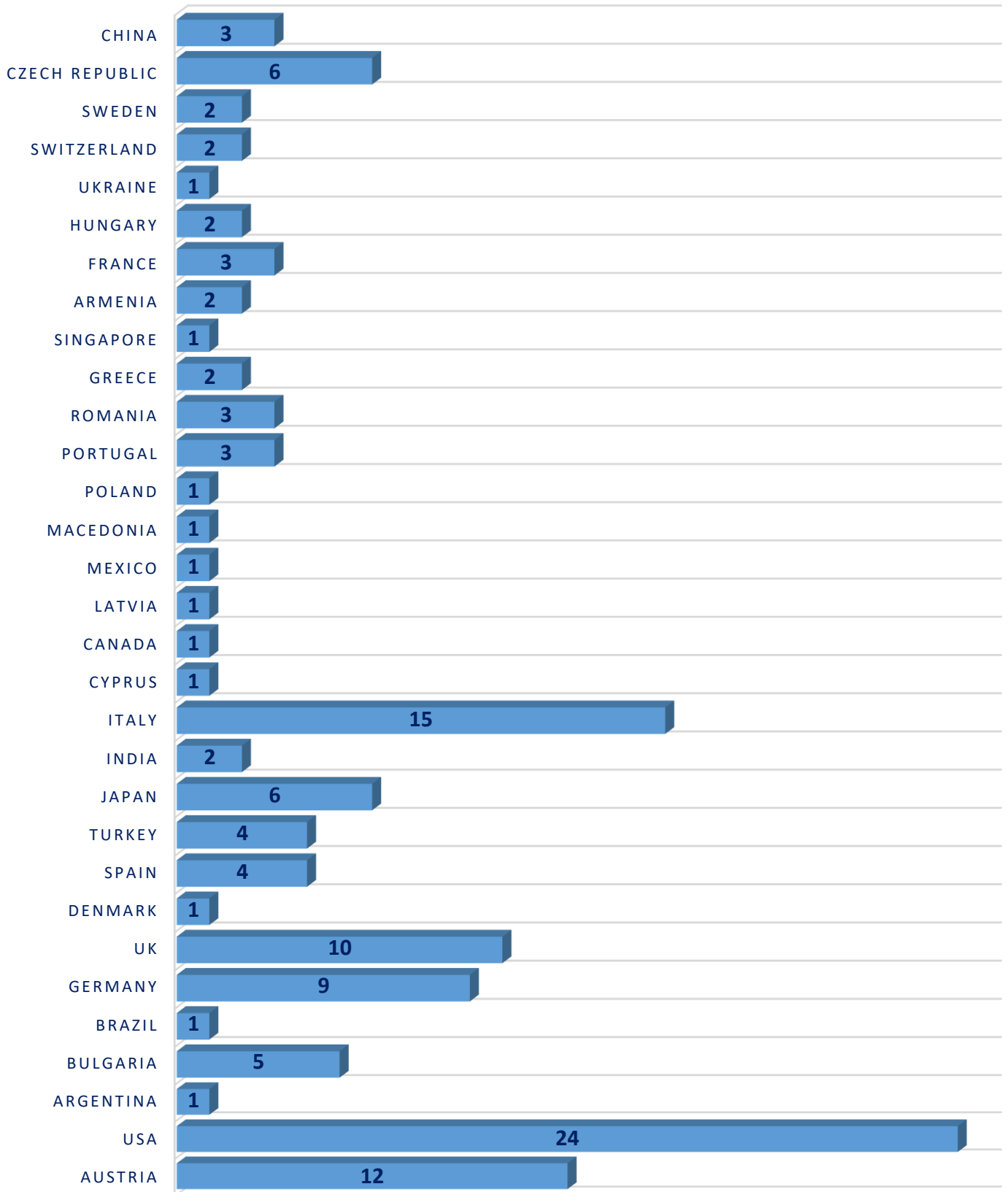


Degree Distribution by Personnel



Short-term Individual Travel Grants

MOBILITY BY COUNTRIES

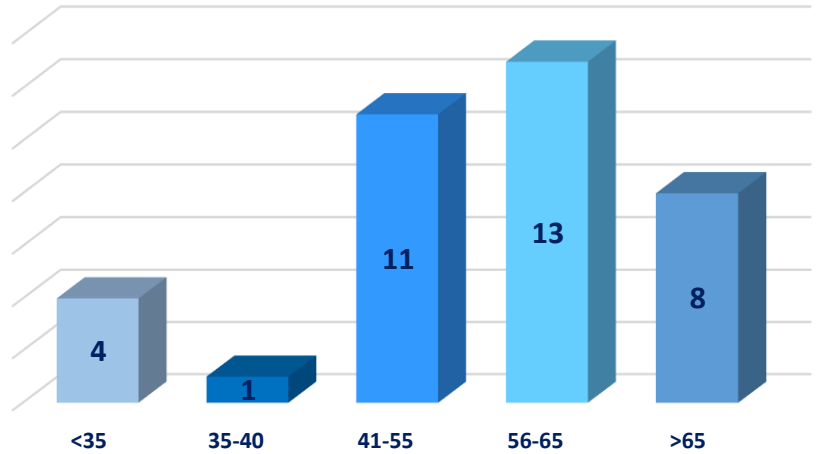


Conference Grants

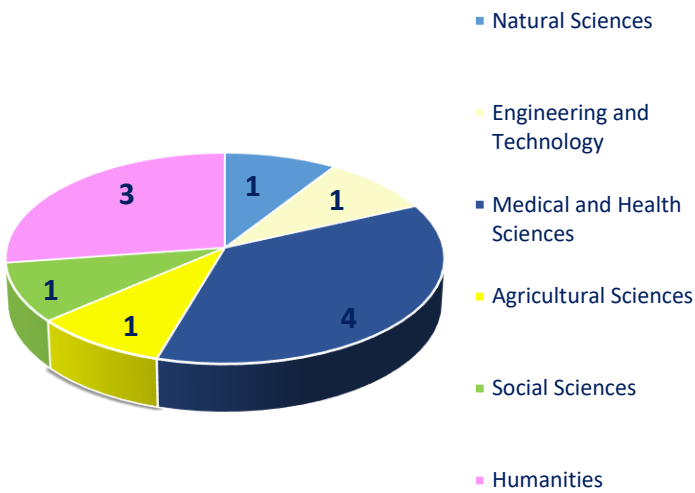
Call for Conference grant aims to support Georgia in implementing international and regional scientific conferences, congresses, forums, symposiums and seminars, exchanging information and sharing experience, developing scientific research, popularizing Georgian scientist's scientific works in international journals and scientific collections, and integration of Georgian scientists in international research area.

- Total Budget –359 950 GEL;
- 2016 Budget – 332 525 GEL;
- Submitted proposals – 82;
- Funded - 11 projects, researchers - 37;
- Project duration –10/04/2016-10/04/2017

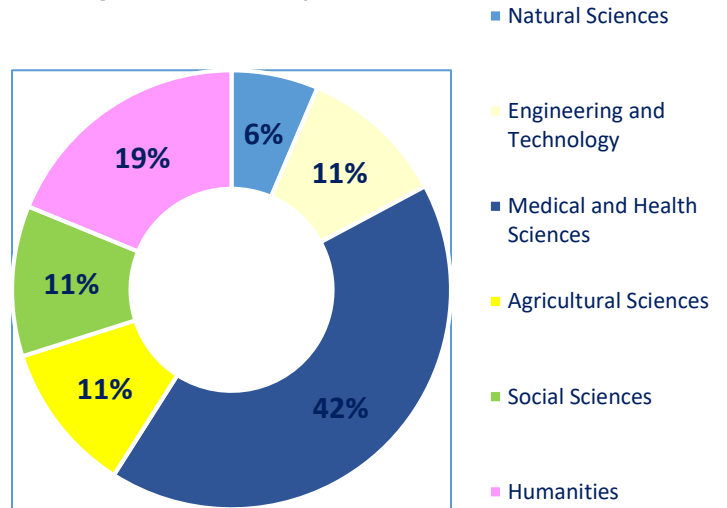
Age Distribution of the Personell



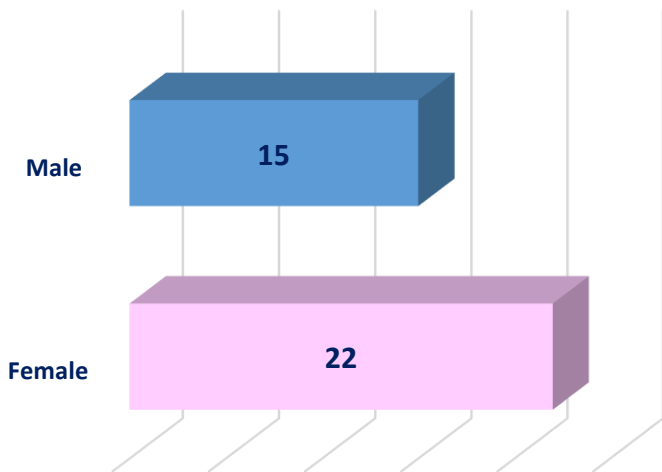
Distribution of Funded Projects by Fields



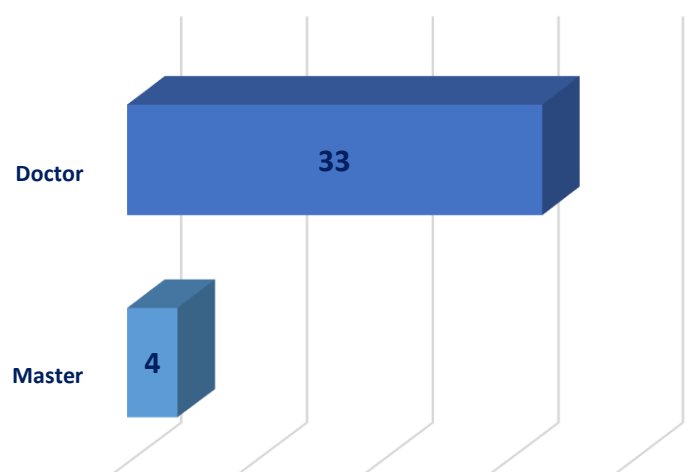
Budget Distribution by Fields



Gender Distribution of the Personnel

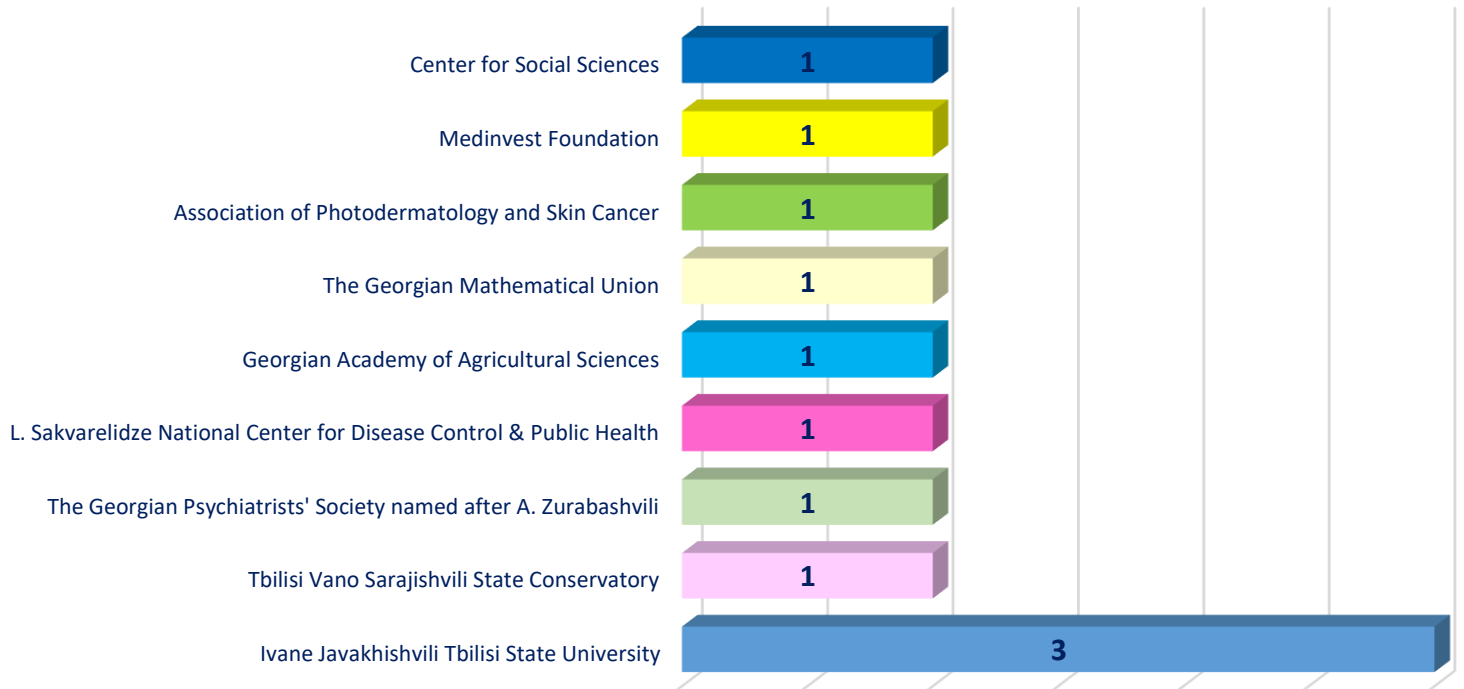


Degree Distribution by Personnel

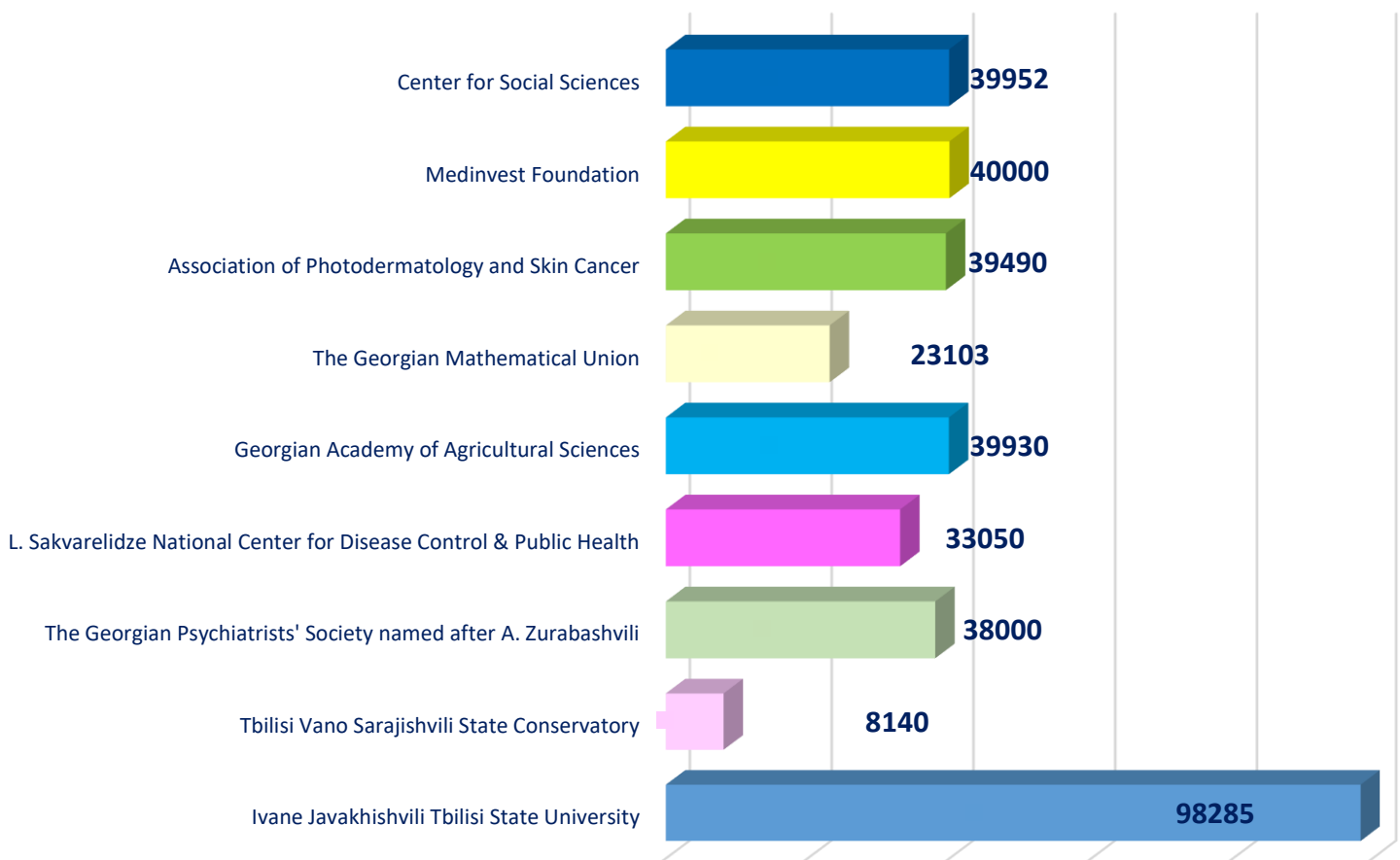


Conference Grants

Distribution of the Funded Projects by Institutions



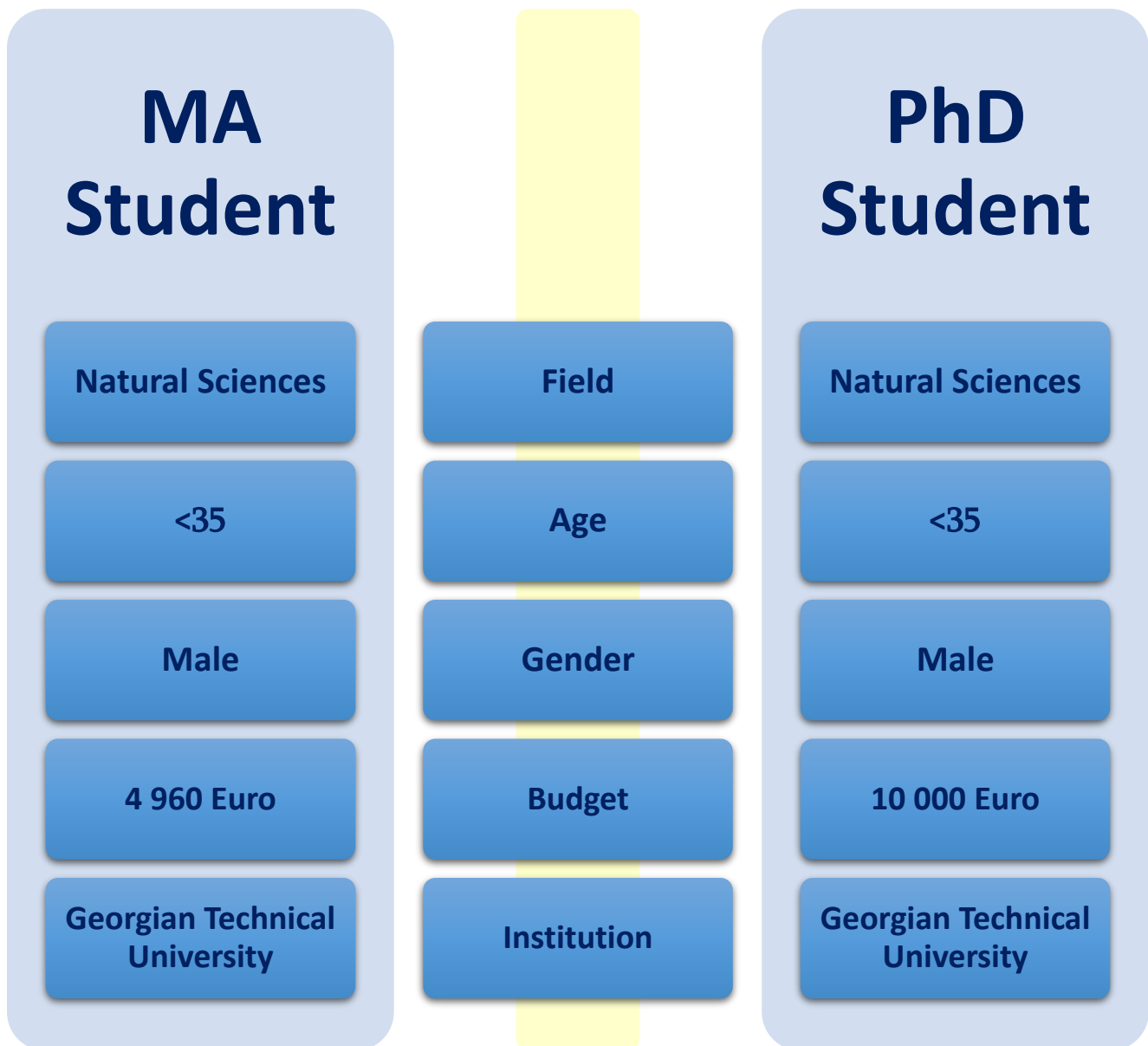
Budget Distribution by Institutions



Georgian Master and PhD students granted by SRNSF and Juelich

Purpose of the joint program is to enable Georgian students the access to the world-leading scientific research center Juelich to experience and conduct frontier research in fundamental and applied sciences; assist Juelich in recruiting the best and the brightest students from Georgian universities and prepare Master and PhD theses for further progress of Georgian science.

- 2016 Budget for both Calls - MA and DO 94 732 GEL;
- Submitted proposals –2;
- Funded both projects - 2 projects, 2 scientists;
- Project duration – MA - 4-8 months, DO – 6-36 months, MA - 01/11/2016 - 01/07/2017 and DO - 01/02/2017-31/01/2020.



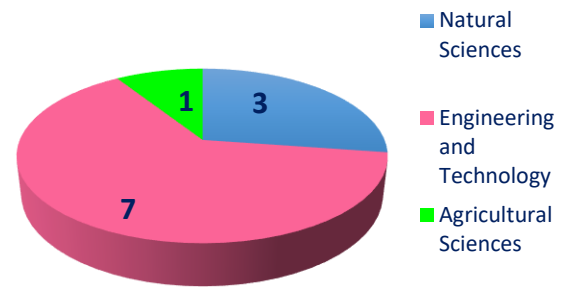
Targeted Researches and Development Initiative Program 2015

Aim of the Call is to select and fund scientific projects from the prioritized scientific fields within the agreement between LEPL - Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation and Science and Technology Center in Ukraine (STCU): Biotechnologies and Life sciences; Informational and Communion technologies; New Materials and Nanotechnologies.

- Total Budget - 980 944 GEL;
- 2016 Budget - 560 221 GEL;
- 50 % of the Budget shared by SRNSF and STCU;
- Submitted proposals – 83;
- Funded - 11 projects, 72 scientists;
- Project duration – 12 – 24 months, 01/04/2016-01/04/2018

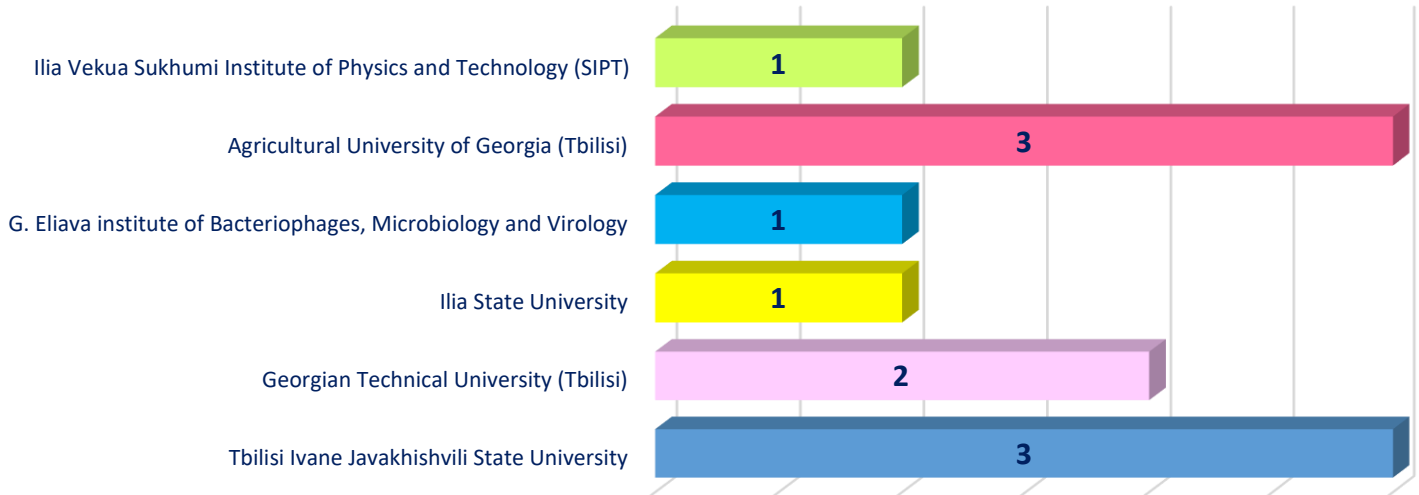


Distribution of Funded Projects by Fields

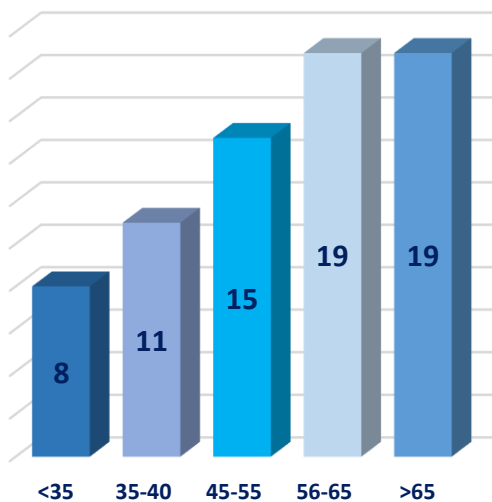


Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation issued 2016 Call for proposals within the framework of the Targeted Research and Development Initiatives Program. Results will be available in February. 62 projects were registered and 25 projects passed to the second stage

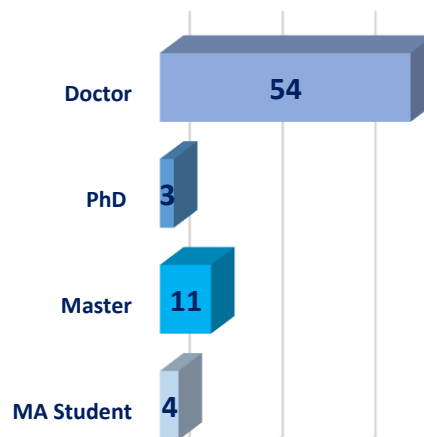
Distribution of Funded Projects by Institutions



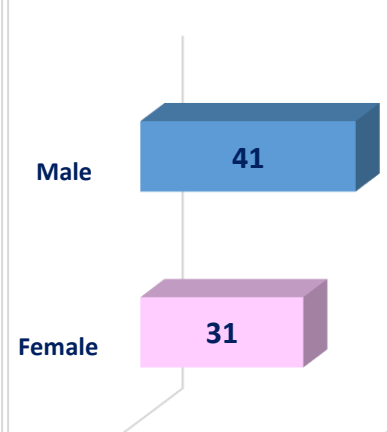
Age Distribution of the Personnel



Degree Distribution of the Personnel



Gender Distribution of the Personnel



Joint call 2015 for proposals in the frame of “International Program for Scientific Cooperation” (PICS) of the Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation (SRNSF) and the French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS)

The Competition aims to create a basis for scientific cooperation between two countries, to enhance the scientific potential of Georgia and to enlarge bilateral activities that includes: Joint scientific projects; Exchange of researchers; Trainings of young scientists, etc.



- Total Budget - 80 571 GEL;
- 2016 Budget - 26 857 GEL;
- Submitted proposals – 2;
- Funded - 1 project, 2 scientists;
- Project duration – 36 months, 01/03/2016-31/12/2018

Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation (SRNSF) and the French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS) announced a joint call for proposals in the frame of “International Program for Scientific Cooperation” (PICS) in 2016. Results will be announced in February 2017. Four submitted project proposals are currently under evaluation.

Joint call for Proposals by the Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation (SRNSF) and the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)

The call aims to develop cooperation between Turkish and Georgian higher educational institutions, scientific and research centers, to strengthen collaboration between the team of researchers, to facilitate scientific and research mobility of the two countries' scientists. The call offers funding for two categories: Joint research and development projects and short term exchange of individual scientists



- 2017 Budget - 52 000 GEL;
- Submitted proposals – 23;
- Passed to the second stage – 23;
- Duration of joint projects – 24 months;
- Visit duration – up to 10 days.

TÜBİTAK and SRNSF had examined and evaluated project proposals submitted to them in accordance with their internal procedures. Both organizations will notify each other of their decisions on the projects examined and the projects that both institutions consider appropriate will enter into force in April 2017.

International Scientific Research Programs for Georgian scientists (CERN, DUBNA)

The Aim of the Program: To give an opportunity for leading Georgian scientists (physicists, engineers and technicians) to participate in international state-of-the-art research projects and deepen scientific-technical ties by cooperation with European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) and Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (JINR). It is worthy to mention that researchers will use the outcomes resulted from the cooperation only for nonmilitary purposes. The involvement of Georgian scientists in international projects of the abovementioned centers will be possible by sharing of human resources, as well as by provision of access to Georgian scientists selected on a competitive basis for the necessary technology, equipment, materials and infrastructure.



2016 Membership Fee for CERN is 355 011 GEL and for DUBNA - 913 999

IncoNet EaP



Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation together with 18 organizations from EU and the Black Sea region is involved in the implementation of the project "BLACK SEA HORIZON" (BSH), which was funded under the EU Framework Program for Research and Innovation (Horizon 2020). IncoNet EaP is funded by European Union Research and Technological development program (FP7).

The main objective of the project is to support cooperation between EU and Eastern Partnership Countries in STI (Science, Technology and Innovation): Thematic priorities are the three societal challenges targeted by the project, namely: "Health", "Energy" and "Climate Change". Project duration: 01/09/2013 - 31/12/2016. IncoNet EaP Events

In 2016 the SRNSF has administered different scientific events in the framework of the project according to IncoNet EaP schedule

- **Participation of Georgian scientists in the brokerage events and scientific conferences in the EU Member States (thematic priorities: "Climate Change", "Energy" and "Health").**

According to the results of the 2016 Call: Participation of Georgian scientists in the brokerage events and scientific conferences in the EU Member States, five scholars received funding to participate in events, indicated by the applicants in their project proposals.

- **Info Day and Seminar of the EU Research and Innovation Framework Program 'Horizon 2020' for Georgia National Contact Points (NCP).**

Info Day and Seminar (workshop) of the EU Research and Innovation Framework Program 'Horizon 2020' was held in Tbilisi for Georgian scientists and Georgia National Contact Points (NCP).

- **Eastern Partnership Science, Technologies and Innovation (STI) Evaluation Platform Meeting**

The Foundation has organized an international Seminar on 'Eastern Partnership Science, Technology and Innovation Evaluation Platform'. The event was planned as part of the IncoNet EaP Project. The main goals of the platform are facilitating the exchange among the participating organizations exploring the potential of evaluation in the STI domain and setting concrete actions that facilitate learning from current practice and improved utilization of the potential of STI evaluation.

The core objective is to allow the sharing of experiences in the Eastern Partnership countries and learning from existing practice in EU Member States or in/with other relevant world regions.

As part of the workshop, a Memorandum of Understanding on establishing the 'Eastern Partnership Regional Platform on STI Evaluation' was signed. The purpose of this memorandum is to express the availability and the commitment of each of the signing parties to participate in joint activities which aim to create a regional Eastern Partnership platform on science, technology, and innovation evaluation.

The audience of the workshop consisted of representatives from each of 6 Eastern Partnership countries, a small number of IncoNet EaP partners and invited external speakers. Representatives of Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus, Armenia and Azerbaijan and Georgia took part in event.

- **Seminar on the Policy Mix Peer Review (PMPR) of the Science, Technology and Innovation System (STI) Evaluation Platform and Action Plan**

The Foundation has organized an international Seminar for representatives of Georgia's State Higher Education Institutions, Scientific-research Centers and target institutions involved in development of Science, Technology and Innovation System in Georgia in Shekvetili, Ozurgeti.

The Seminar was dedicated to evaluation of the Policy Mix Peer Review of the Georgian Science, Technology and Innovation System and elaboration of the recommendations for submission to the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia.

➤ **Conference and Training dedicated to Horizon 2020**

The purpose of the conference organized by Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation was discussing practical aspects of participation in the program Horizon 2020 by Georgian scientists with policy maker institutes and organizations in the field of technology and innovation. The event was attended by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia, Mr. Aleksandre Jejelava, partner institutions of the Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation and representatives of EU Research and Innovation directorate, directly involved in the developing of collaboration with Eastern Partnership countries.

Training was conducted by scientists from Estonia (Estonian Research Council), Moldova, Poland (Institute of Fundamental Technological Research Polish Academy of Sciences), International Organization - Centre for Regional and International Studies and local stakeholders: researchers of the Georgian scientific research institutions, interested to participate in H2020 projects. The final part of the training was dedicated to individual consultations for Georgian scientists.

The final part of the training was dedicated to individual consultations for Georgian scientists.

➤ **Winter School on “Energy Efficiency: International Project Management – from Theory to Practice”**

In the context of the project, the Winter School on “Energy Efficiency: International Project Management – from Theory to Practice” was held in Vienna under the organization of Centre of Social Innovation (ZSI)- IncoNet Eap coordinator Austrian organization.

The main focus of the winter school will be on providing the participants with insights about H2020 funding opportunities, proposal writing and international project management.

➤ **Black Sea Horizon (BSH)**

Since beginning of 2015 Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation together with 18 organizations from EU and Black Sea Region has been involved in implementation of the project “BLACK SEA HORIZON” (BSH), which was funded under the EU Framework Program for Research and Innovation (Horizon 2020).

The main objectives of the BLACK SEA HORIZON are to support the EU’s external relations with the target region by significantly contributing to ongoing bi-regional and regional STI policy dialogues, and by increasing the knowledge base about the EU’s external environment. Besides, it aims to stimulate bi-regional STI cooperation and to strengthen the EU’s economic competitiveness and contribute to the establishment of supportive framework conditions by facilitating the pooling of resources and by identifying challenging thematic areas for mutual STI cooperation. The project started in 01/02/2015 and it will run until 31/01/2018. Total budget of the project: 1,499,503.75 Euros. 22,431 Euros are Foundation expenses. According to the BSH schedule, SRNSF has organized different events in the framework of the project:

❖ **Conducting the Webinars**

Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation had disseminated information concerning the virtual meetings and webinars providing information and good practices about Horizon 2020 in general and on specific calls launched thereunder in particular with potential for bi-regional cooperation. The goal of the webinars is to promote and enhance the participation of researchers from academia and industry from the Black Sea countries in Horizon 2020.

❖ **Registration of the scientific projects in the Database of Evaluators**

Registration of the scientific-research projects in the Database of Evaluators was carried on in the framework of project. The Database will be available to science donor institutions and registered experts become searchable for the purpose of project proposal evaluation.

Georgian Experts' National Database currently is open and scientists may register in it.

- ❖ **Participation of Georgian researchers in brokerage events and scientific conferences related to H2020 in the EU Member States or Associated Countries. (Thematic priorities of the are the following three topics: Sustainable agriculture; Resource efficiency in relation to water and water management; and applied chemistry and smart materials).**

In 2016 one Georgian scholar was chosen and got financed to participate in the Black Sea Horizon Grant Scheme to facilitate the participation in brokerage events in the EU Member States.

- ❖ **Two Concept documents were elaborated concerning strengthening cooperation between regions in the spheres of science and innovation.**
- ❖ **“Workshop for the Participation of Non-EU Black Sea and EaP Countries in Thematic COFUND ERANETS & JPIs”.**

Employees of the Foundation took part in “Workshop for the Participation of Non-EU Black Sea and EaP Countries in Thematic COFUND ERANETS & JPIs” in 2016, in Baku.

The aim of the workshop was to discuss on the modalities of participation in thematic COFUND ERANETS. The event brought local funding agencies interested in participating in specific ongoing or forthcoming ERANETS & JPIs (Joint Programming Initiatives) in touch with the ERANETS' & JPIs' coordinators to discuss the potential inclusion of these countries in ERANETS & JPIs.

This event marked an important step towards the association of Black Sea and Eastern Partnership countries to Horizon 2020. It served both as an informative meeting for ERANET/JPI schemes, as well as a networking event with EU Member State funding agencies in view of increasing the participation of Black Sea/EaP countries in ongoing or forthcoming co-funding schemes.

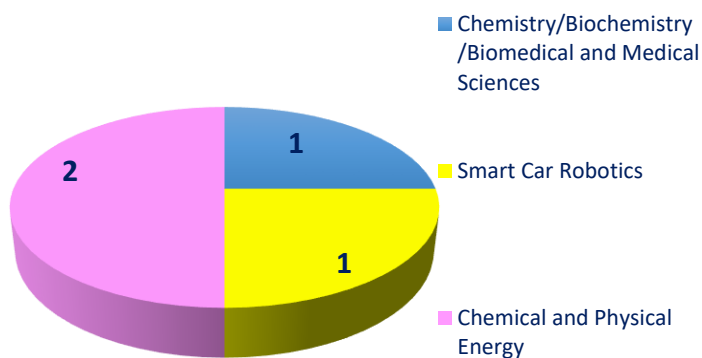
Program for Young Inventors and Researchers “Leonardo Da Vinci”

Program “Leonardo Da Vinci” aims to support ongoing reforms at General Educational Institutions; to stimulate and improve learning process and raise pupils’ interest towards learning; to raise interest towards innovation and technology; to develop creative thinking and practical skills.

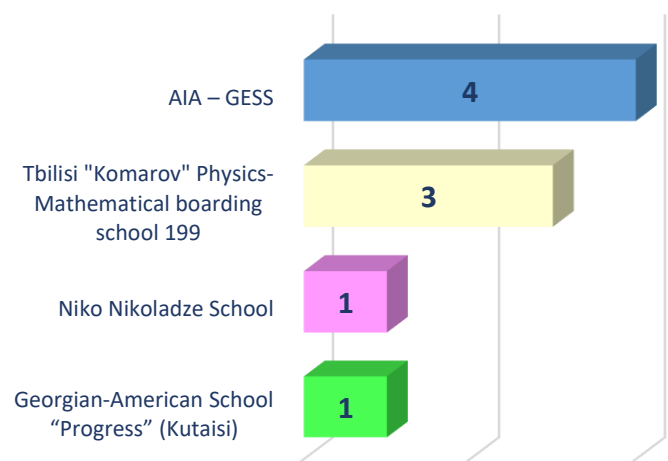
The winners (I, II and III place) will be awarded with cash prize (10 000 GEL), grand prix holders will be sent abroad to participate in a study tour.

- Total Budget - 12 970 GEL;
- 2016 Budget - 12 970 GEL;
- Submitted proposals – 42;
- Participants – 95;
- Funded projects – 4;
- Project duration – 31/05/2016-31/05/2017

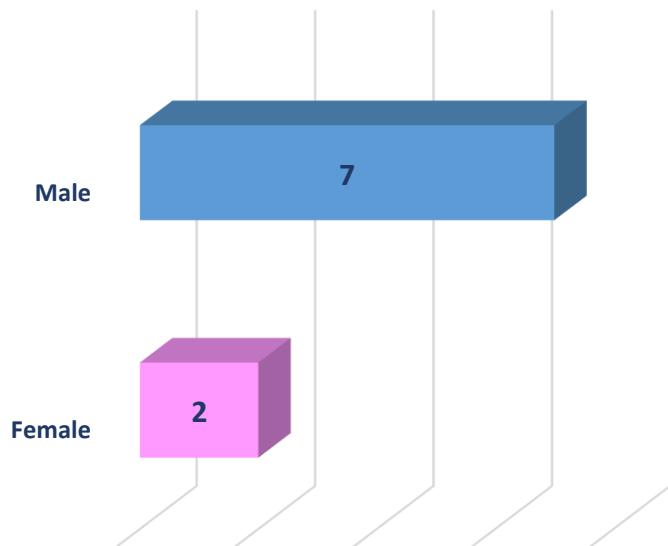
Distribution by Fields



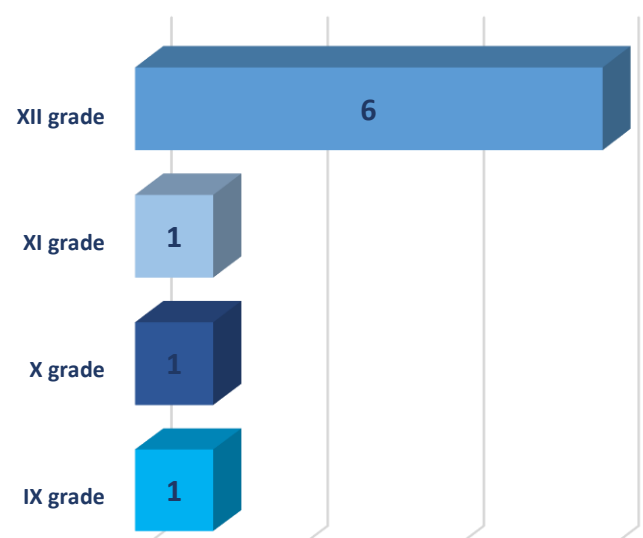
Distribution of Funded Projects by Schools



Gender Distribution of Winners



Distribution of Winners by Grades



Selection tours of the International Olympiads, administered by the Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation in 2016”

Competition aims to support ongoing reforms at general educational institutions; to stimulate and improve learning process and raise pupils’ interest towards learning; to raise interest towards innovation and technology; to develop creative thinking and practical skills.

Georgian National Team candidates in the fields of Physics, Mathematics, Informatics and Chemistry have been selected based on the results of the International Olympiads. Georgian National Teams participated in the following World Olympiads: International Physics Olympiad (held in Zurich), International Mathematics Olympiad (held in Hong Kong), International Chemistry Olympiad (held in Tbilisi) and International Olympiad in Informatics (held in the Kazan). Winners of Georgian National Team Members have been awarded in various forms:

- 2016 Budget - 202 483 GEL;
- Submitted proposals – 53;
- Registered – 80;
- Participants – 23;
- Winners – 11;
- Funded - 13 projects, 132 scientists;
- Project duration – 18/03/2016-19/08/2016.

