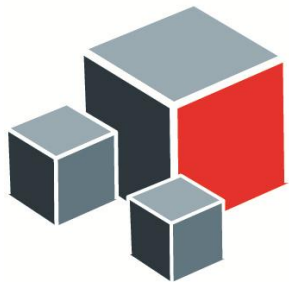


Croatian Science Foundation: Action Plan for 2013

Dario Vretenar
President of the Board



CROATIAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION (HRZZ)

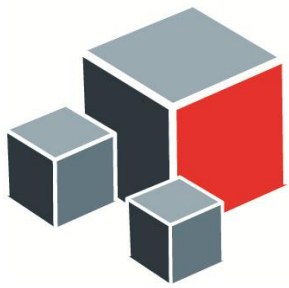
- ▶ established by the Croatian Parliament in December 2001
- ▶ according to the HRZZ Act of 2012 - the Foundation is the Croatian main agency for funding research and graduate training

MISSION

to promote and support basic, strategic and applied research, and postgraduate training, thereby contributing to the development of society and economic competitiveness of Croatia

- ✓ supports high-quality basic, strategic, and applied research projects
- ✓ fosters international cooperation, and helps the realization of scientific programmes of strategic interest for the Republic of Croatia





The History of HRZZ

2001

The Croatian Parliament established the National Foundation for Science, Higher Education and Technological Development

2003

The first Board of HRZZ constituted

2005

Initial call for project proposals

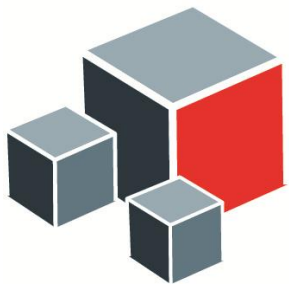
2011

10th year anniversary – 450 project funded

2013

April – the Parliament elects the members of the new Board
October – new call for project proposals

November 2013 – HRZZ Strategic Plan 2014 – 2018



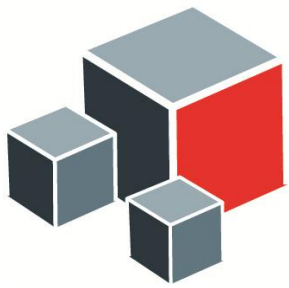
About HRZZ

- ▶ Board of the HRZZ: seven members, distinguished scientists that represent major scientific fields. Responsible for the preparation, implementation and review of strategies, operational plans and research programmes.
- ▶ Elected by the Croatian Parliament; 5 years mandate.
- ▶ Members elect the President of the Board.
- ▶ Executive Director – responsible to the Board; plans, directs and coordinates daily operational activities.



- two offices – in Zagreb and Opatija
- 14 employees





International cooperation

Member of the **Kowi** network since 2006.



Member of the **European Science Foundation** since 2008.



Member of the **European Molecular Biology Organization** since 2007 (Installation Grants).



Member of the **ApPEC** consortium since 2012.



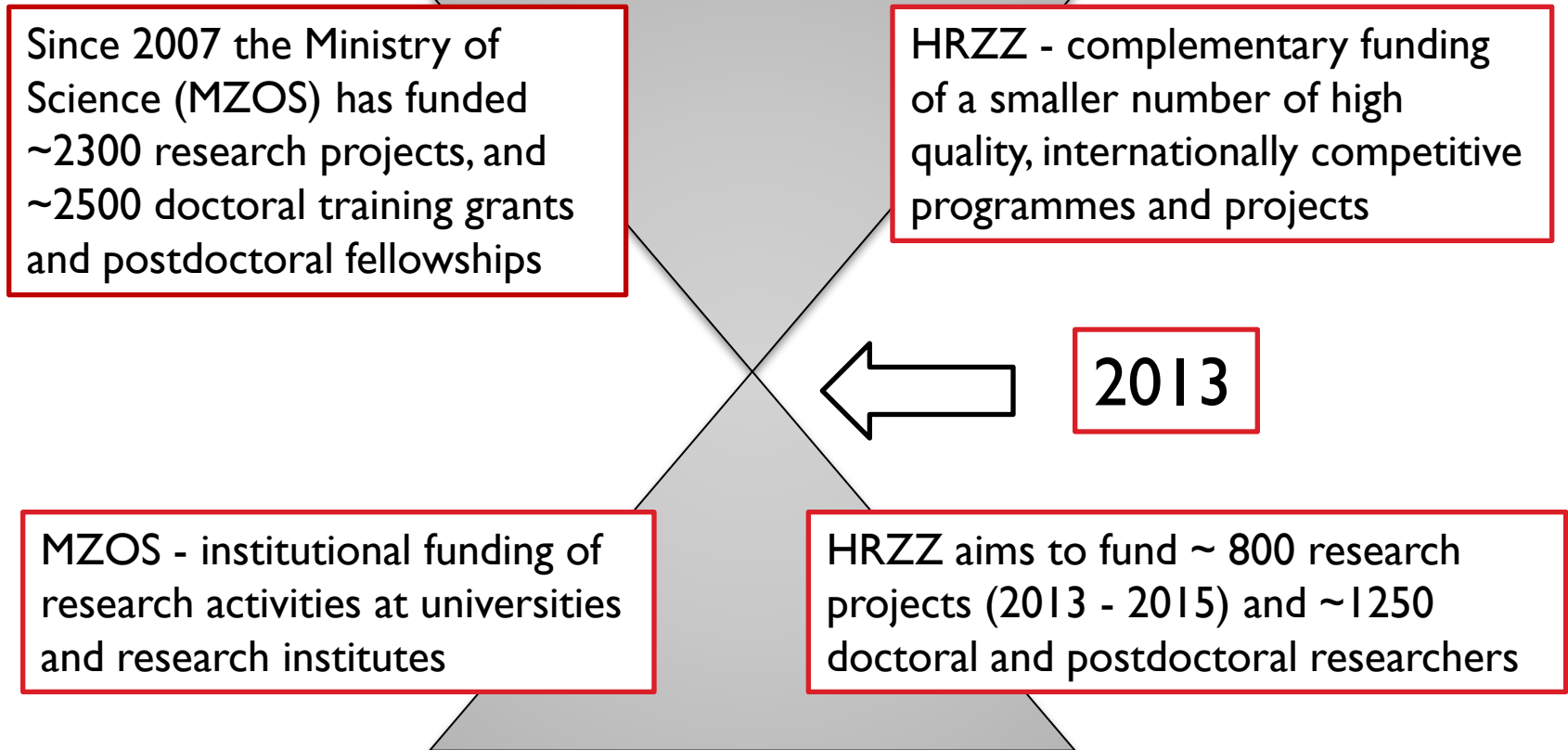
Member of **Science Europe**, May 2013.



In May 2013 HRZZ was awarded the **HR Excellence in Research** logo by the European Commission.

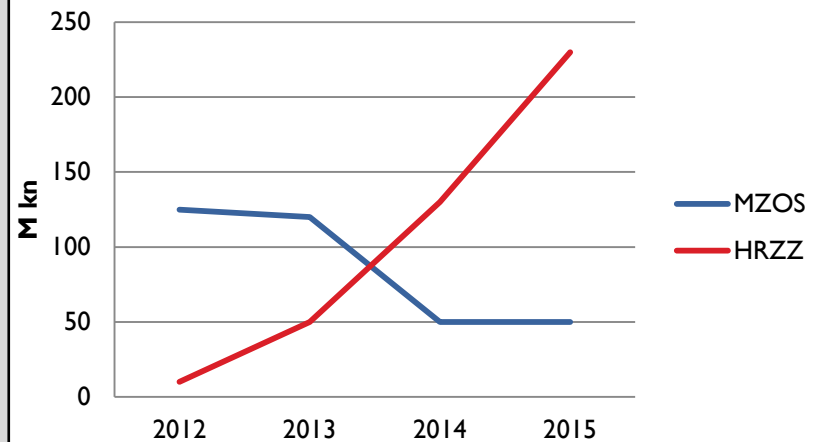


Funding research projects in Croatia

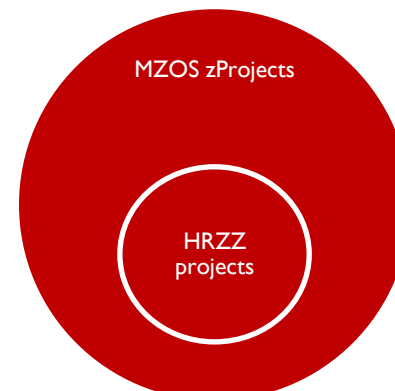


Research funds starting from 2013

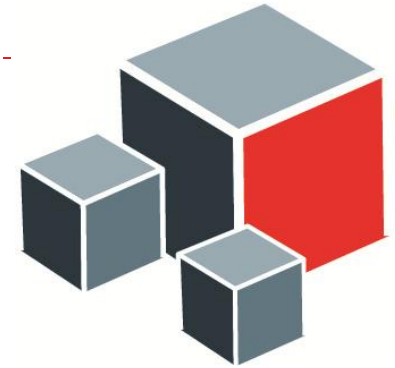
2013 - transition in policy of funding research and postgraduate training: institutional funding (MZOS) and funding of competitive research projects (HRZZ)



2007-2013: zProjects (MZOS) – 2.3 researchers per project, often working on two projects.
Future HRZZ projects: teams of ~5 researchers working on a single project.



HRZZ programmes:



- ▶ HRZZ funds for:
 - ▶ Best scientists and excellent projects
 - ▶ Career development grants
 - ▶ Project conducted in cooperation with industry
 - ▶ Support for participation in EU scientific and innovation projects
 - ▶ Networking programmes



Programmes in 2013 (I)

HRZZ Installation Grants

- ▶ talented researchers with 2-7 years of postdoctoral experience, to establish a team and start independent research;
- ▶ to encourage young scientists to develop their research careers in Croatia and to enhance the competitiveness of our country in the ERA;
- ▶ research conducted in a public or private research organization; Commitment of the host institution!
- ▶ all scientific fields;
- ▶ funding: up to 1 m kuna for a grant of 3 years (600.000 kn for social sciences and humanities);
- ▶ **app 50 Installation Grants will be awarded in 2013.**



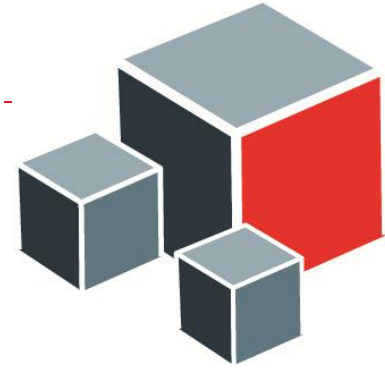
Programmes in 2013 (II)

HRZZ Research Grants

- ▶ to create new and enhance existing knowledge;
- ▶ to provide funding to research groups that are working on internationally competitive projects, and whose PIs have established themselves as independent research leaders;
- ▶ to support high quality projects in the field of social sciences and the humanities;
- ▶ any field of science;
- ▶ funding: up to 1m kuna for a grant of 4 years (600.000 kn for social sciences and humanities);
- ▶ **app 200 research grants will be awarded in 2013.**



Basic Criteria



- ▶ scientific quality and innovativeness of the project proposal
 - ▶ competence of the PI/research team
 - ▶ feasibility of the research plan
 - ▶ international cooperation
- ▶ training and promotion of professional careers in research

...to promote science and technological development in Croatia.

