

Research Council of Finland

Flagship program and reflections from the 6G perspective

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Excellent research and expertise make Finland a leading country in sustainable growth

Forge

We fund research environments that strengthen cutting-edge science

Spark

We provide long-term funding for bold research ideas

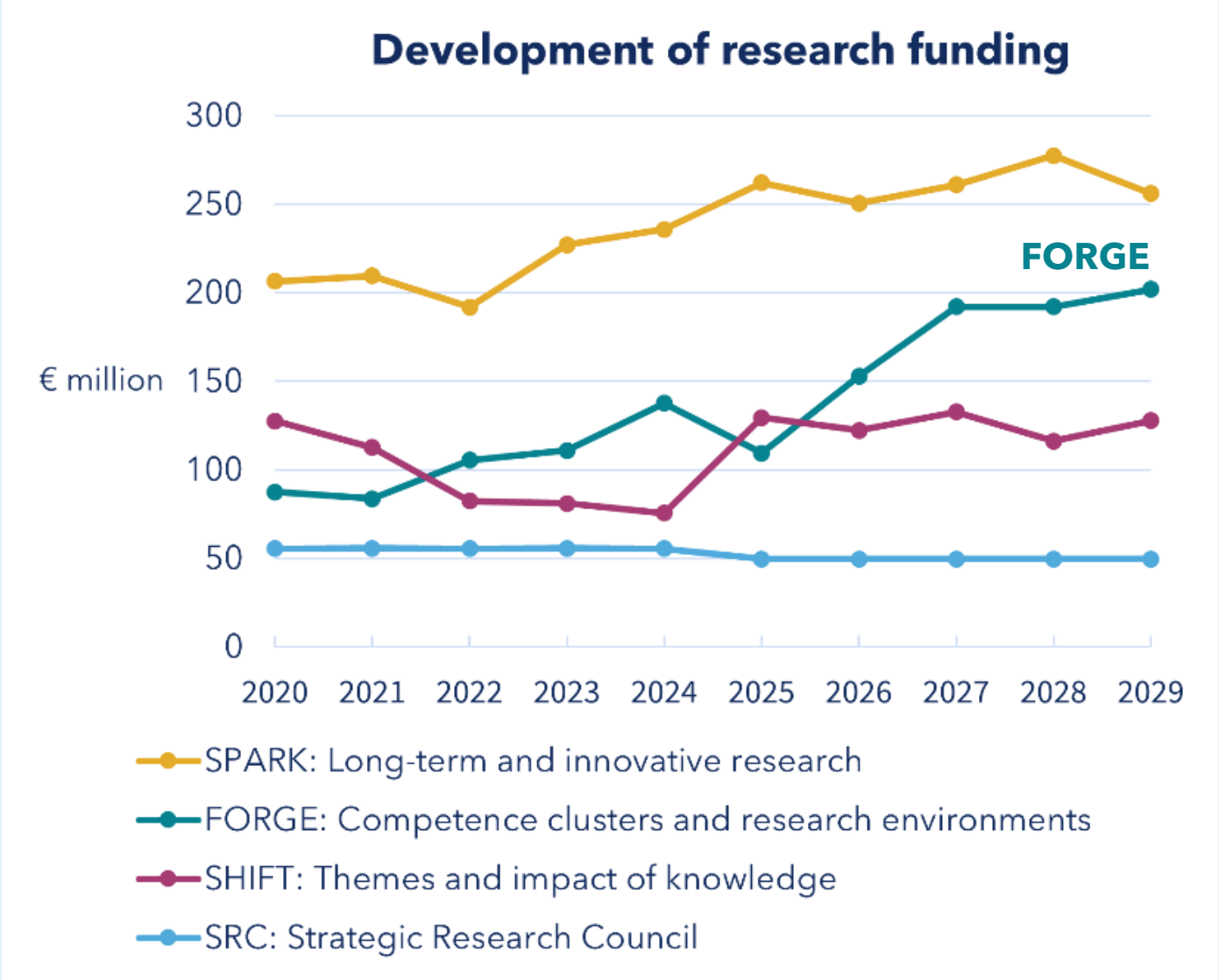
Shift

We fund research that helps solve societal challenges together



Research Council of Finland

Forge funding strongly increasing in line with national RDI policy goals



Source: RCF and SRC; General Government Fiscal Plan 2026–2029.

Significant investments and expectations of the Flagship Programme



Forge

Strengthening existing and supporting the generation of new **internationally** attractive research environments for scientific **excellence** that produce knowledge and expertise for use in **society**.

FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME

240 M€

The Flagship fleet is topically and geographically spread

2018–2026

6G
6G-Enabled Wireless Smart Society & Ecosystem

FCAI
Finnish Centre for Artificial Intelligence

FinnCERES
Competence Centre for the Materials Bioeconomy

iCAN
Digital Precision Cancer Medicine Platform

INVEST
Inequalities, Interventions and New Welfare State

PREIN
Photonics Research and Innovation



2020–2028

ACCC
Atmosphere and Climate Competence Center

GeneCellNano
Gene, Cell and Nano Therapy

InFLAMES
Innovation Ecosystem based on the Immune System

UNITE
Forest-Human-Machine Interplay

2024–2031

DIWA
Digital Waters Flagship

EDUCA
Education for the Future

FAME
Flagship of Advanced Mathematics for Sensing, Imaging and Modelling

FQF
Finnish Quantum Flagship Aalto University

Fifth round of funding is about to wrap-up

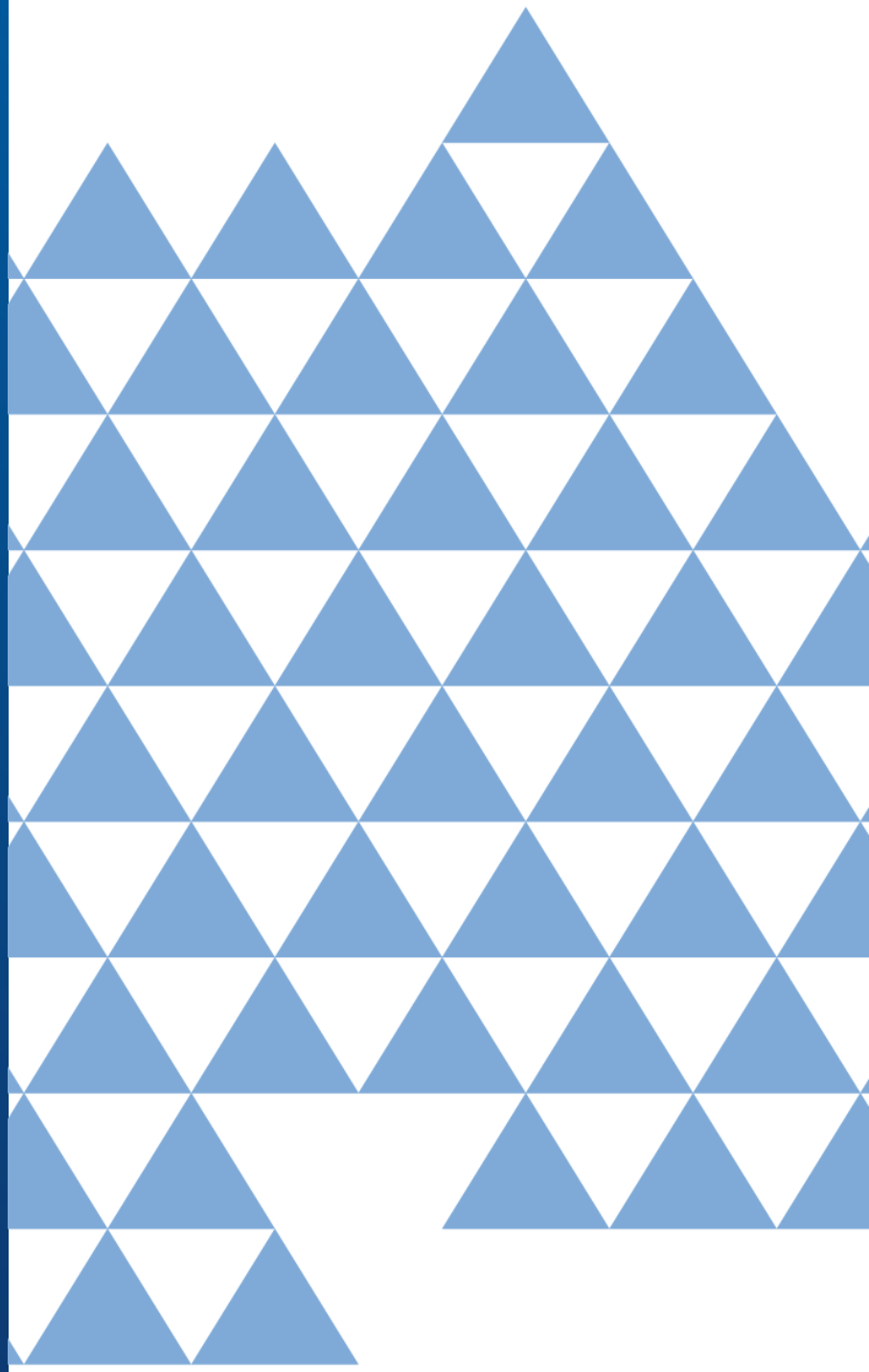
Call was open in March 2026

Review panel in Helsinki September

Decisions will be made **on 18 November**

Funding period: first period 1 Jan 2027–30 Apr 2031, second period (after mid term evaluation) 1 Jan 2031–31 Dec 2034, total 8 years

Funding up to 60 M€ for period 1 (total max 120 M€)



Flagships generate impact in various forms

Disruptive technologies

New disruptive technologies and their commercialisation

Examples: AI, quantum technology, wireless networks, bioeconomy

Environment and natural resources

Sustainable use of natural resources and solving ecological crises

Examples: solutions for combating climate change

Health and welfare

Development of public services and support for evidence-based policy

Examples: Novel health technologies and treatments,

Democracy, knowledge and resilient society

Growth of citizens' broad understanding and critical thinking, global cooperation, trust in society, confidence in the future

Examples: New learning methods

Final reflections from the 6G perspective

Communication of Finland's leadership in wireless network technologies, both nationally and internationally.

- Understanding of opportunities arising from 6G research.
- Collaboration between research and different actors.
- Visibility of the Flagship Programme and Finnish research environments.

Flagships with a major role in advancing national research policy goals and as Finland's business cards in international research collaboration.