



# The Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) monitoring report 2019



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Fair Societies**

## **SSH; the human factor in R&I**

- *Not a single discipline currently able to fully address very complex societal challenges, necessary inter-action between STEM and SSH fields (multi, trans and inter-disciplinarity)*
- *Cross-cutting key issue across many research and innovation areas*
- *Need to examine in the future the societal impact of science and research novel policies (e.g. behavioural change, public acceptance of new technologies, ethical dimension, etc.)*

# Social Sciences & Humanities monitoring report Principles

- *Monitoring SSH integration is an obligation under the FP*
- *Two-fold approach to SSH in Horizon 2020 (streamlining of cross-cutting issue and focus in SC6 'Inclusive, innovative and reflective societies')*
- *Quantitative and qualitative assessment of SSH integration*
- *This report describes the integration of SSH in the SSH flagged topics and projects of the year 2017 and is published in 2019*

# **Social Sciences & Humanities monitoring report**

## **Novelties**

*Analysis of the results for pillar 2 of the programme regarding SSH and inter-disciplinarity, adding information on:*

- *the European Research Council (ERC), as last year*
- *the Maria Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), new*
- *Research infrastructures (RI), new*
- *and Future Emerging Technologies (FET), new*

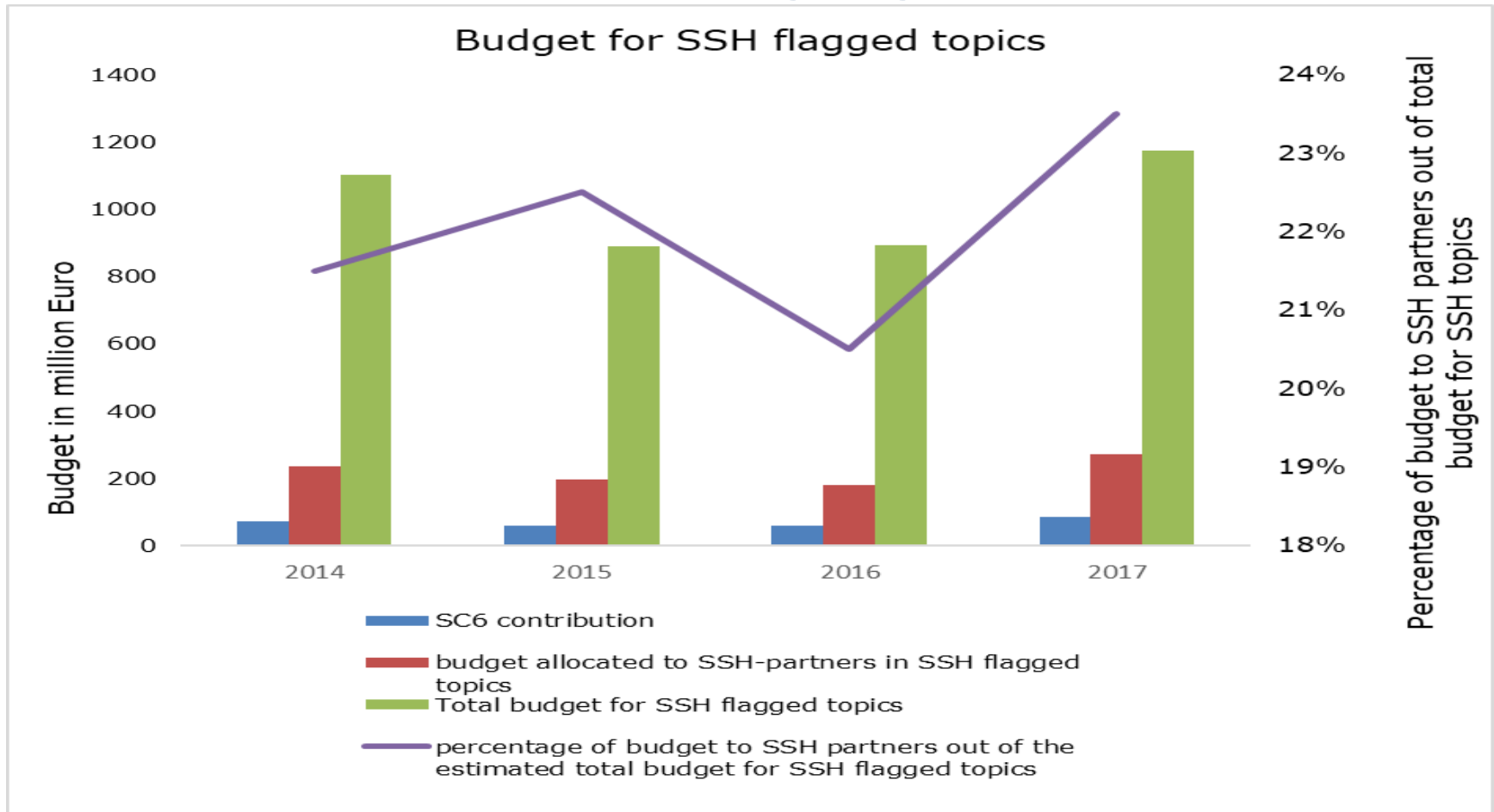
## **Social Sciences & Humanities monitoring report**

### **Main findings**

- *Monitoring reports are produced every year since 2014 to establish to what extent SSH disciplines/aspects/partners are involved in Horizon 2020*
- *More than 40% of topics flagged for SSH (more than 50-60% in several Societal challenges). Gradual increase since 2014.*
- *For funding the results are fairly stable. Over 20% of the budget allocated to projects under topics flagged for SSH goes to SSH partners.*
- *Quite large differences between programme parts, and from year to year.*

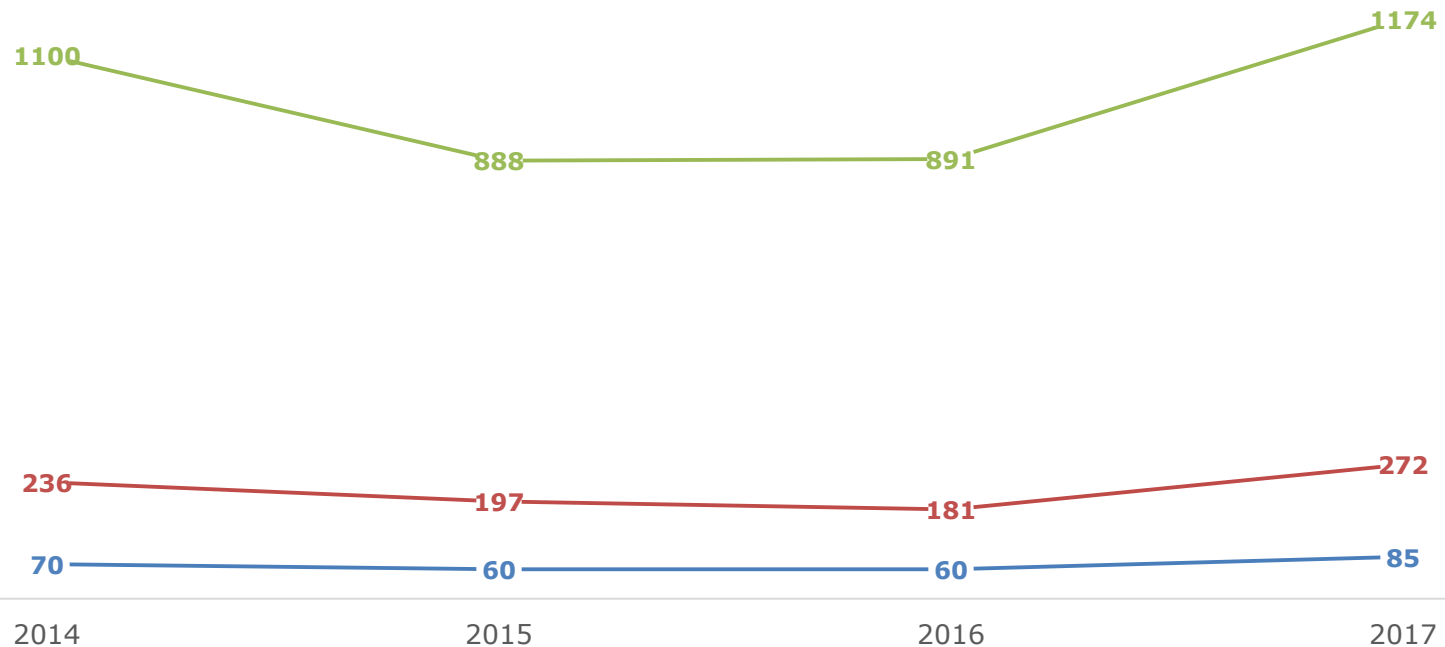
# Social Sciences & Humanities monitoring report

## Main findings (graph)



# The quantitative integration of SSH is clearly on the rise

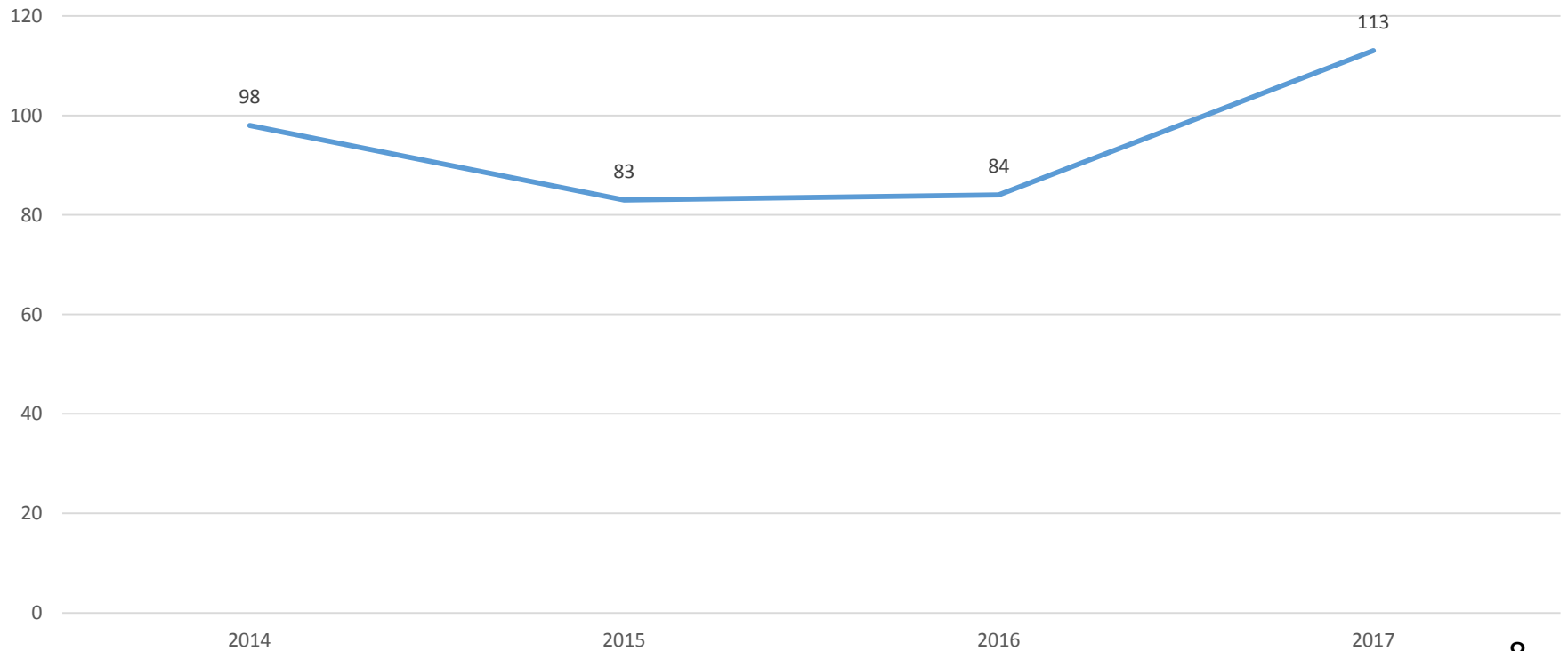
BUDGET FOR SSH FLAGGED TOPICS, IN MILLION EURO 2014-17



— SC6 contribution — budget allocated to SSH-partners in SSH flagged topics — Total budget for SSH flagged topics

# The flagging of SSH topics is increasing

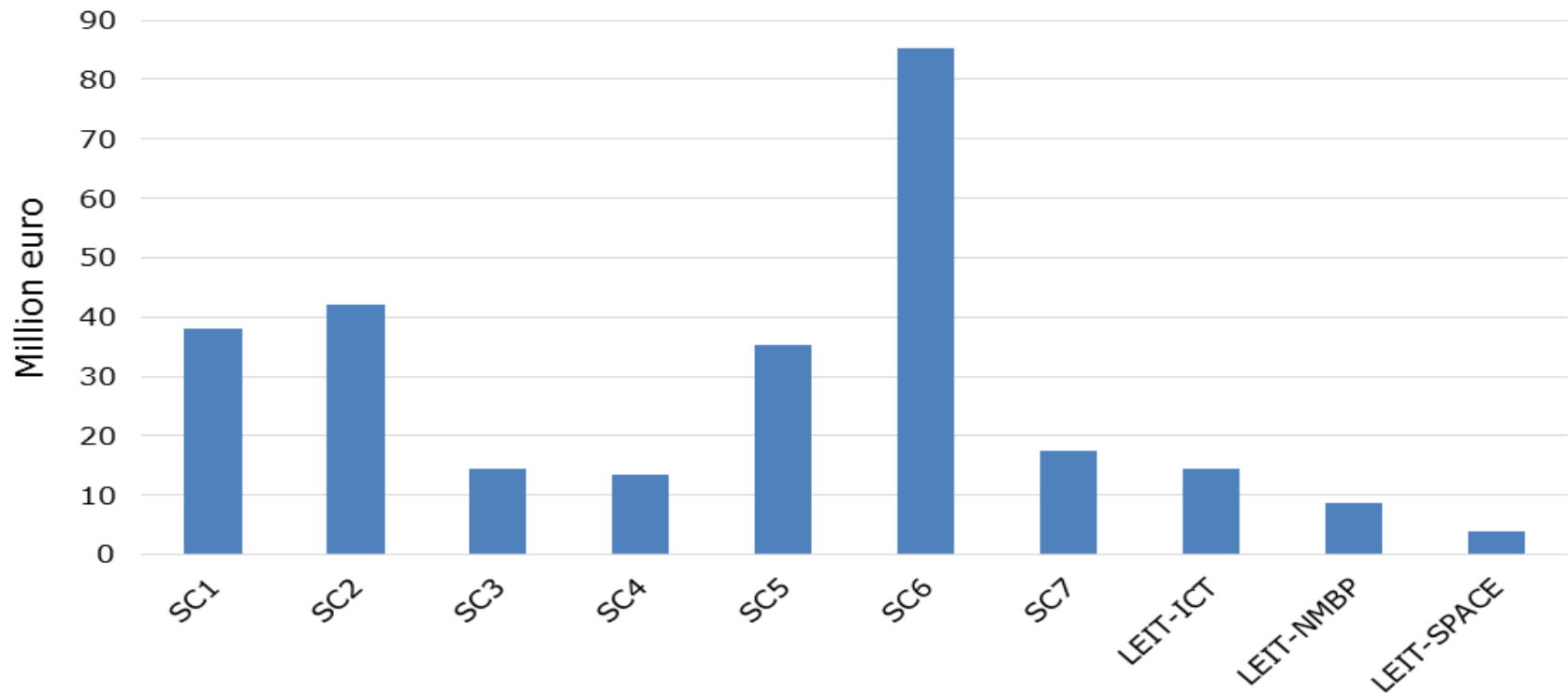
Number of SSH-flagged topics 2014-17





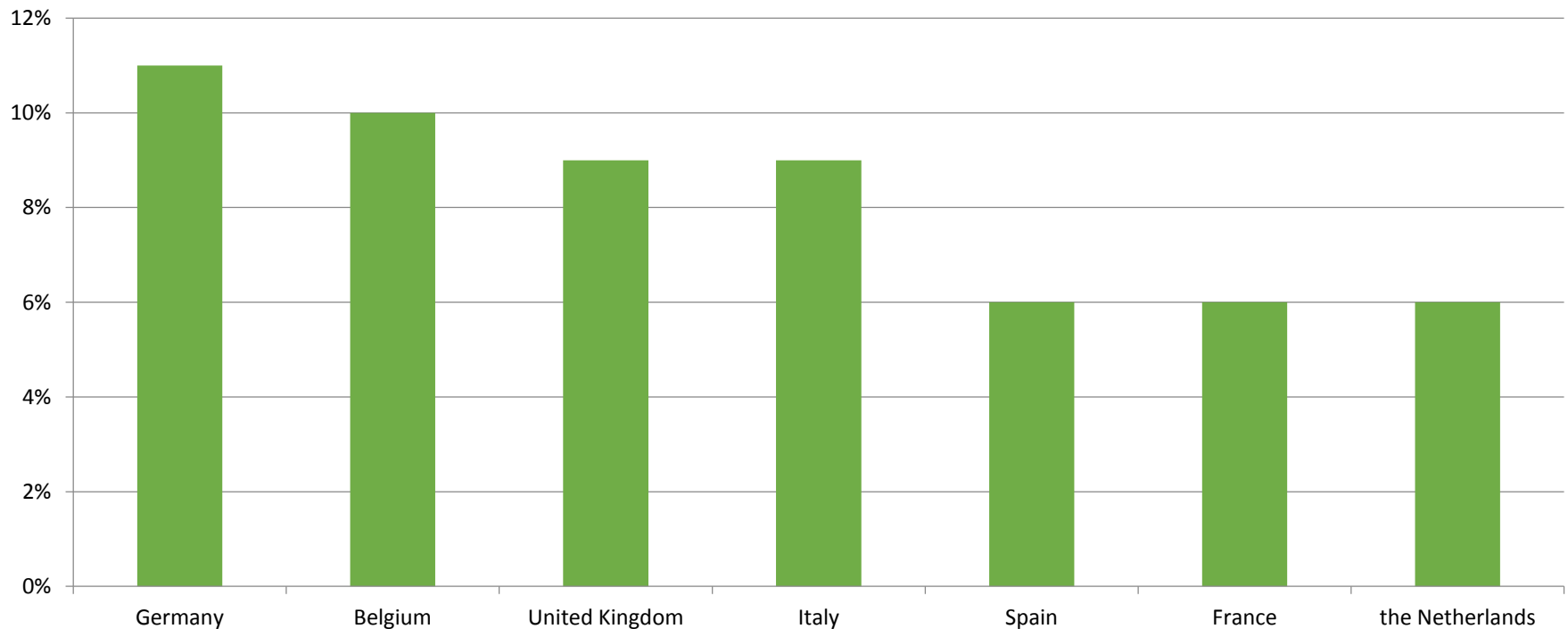
## But very strong differences by societal challenge

Budget going to SSH partners

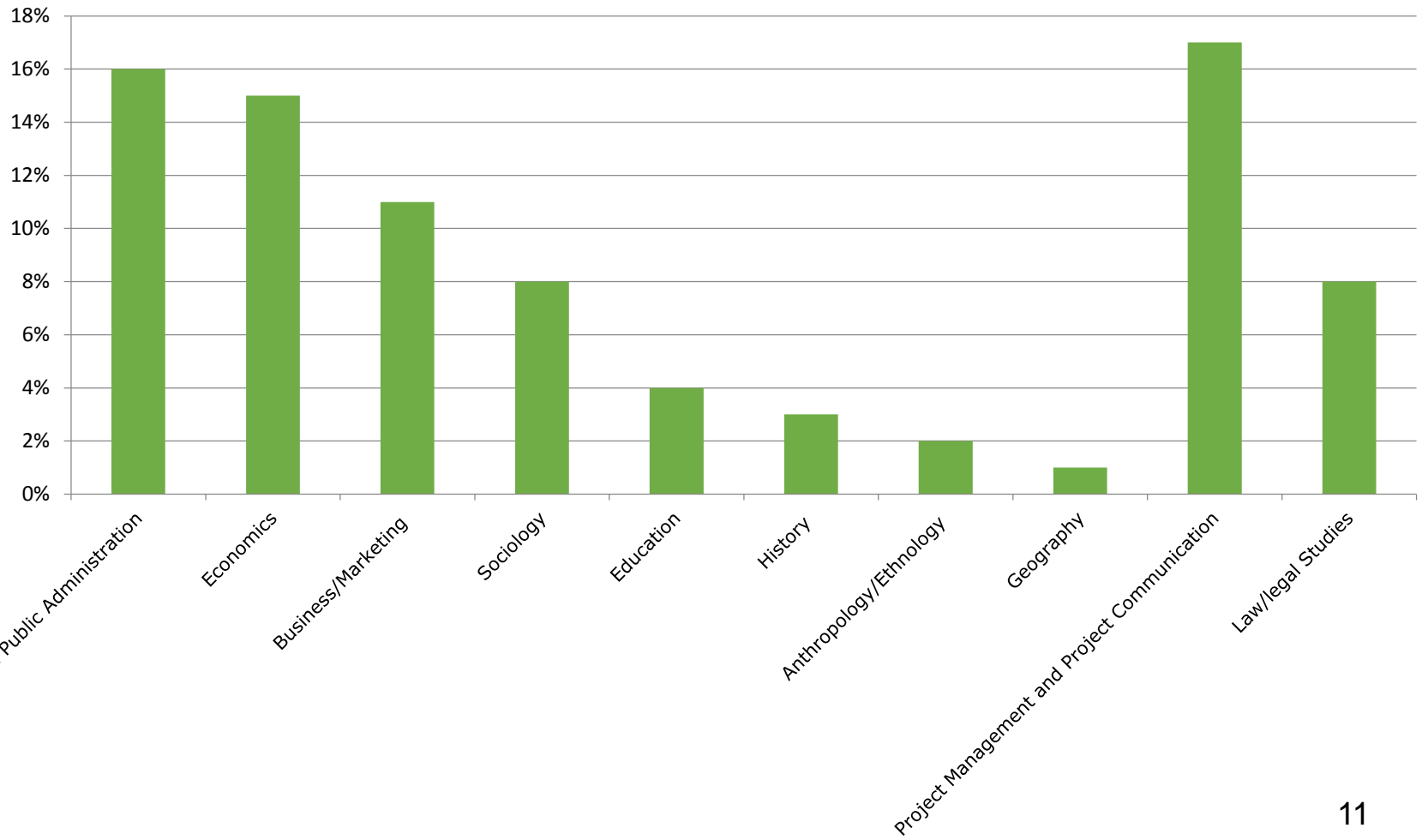


# SSH partners and coordinators by country affiliation

SSH partners come predominantly from these seven Member States in 2017



## Distribution by scientific disciplines



## Overview of funding for SSH integration

*Under societal challenges (SCs) the share of the total budget going to SSH is around 7-8% on an annual basis*

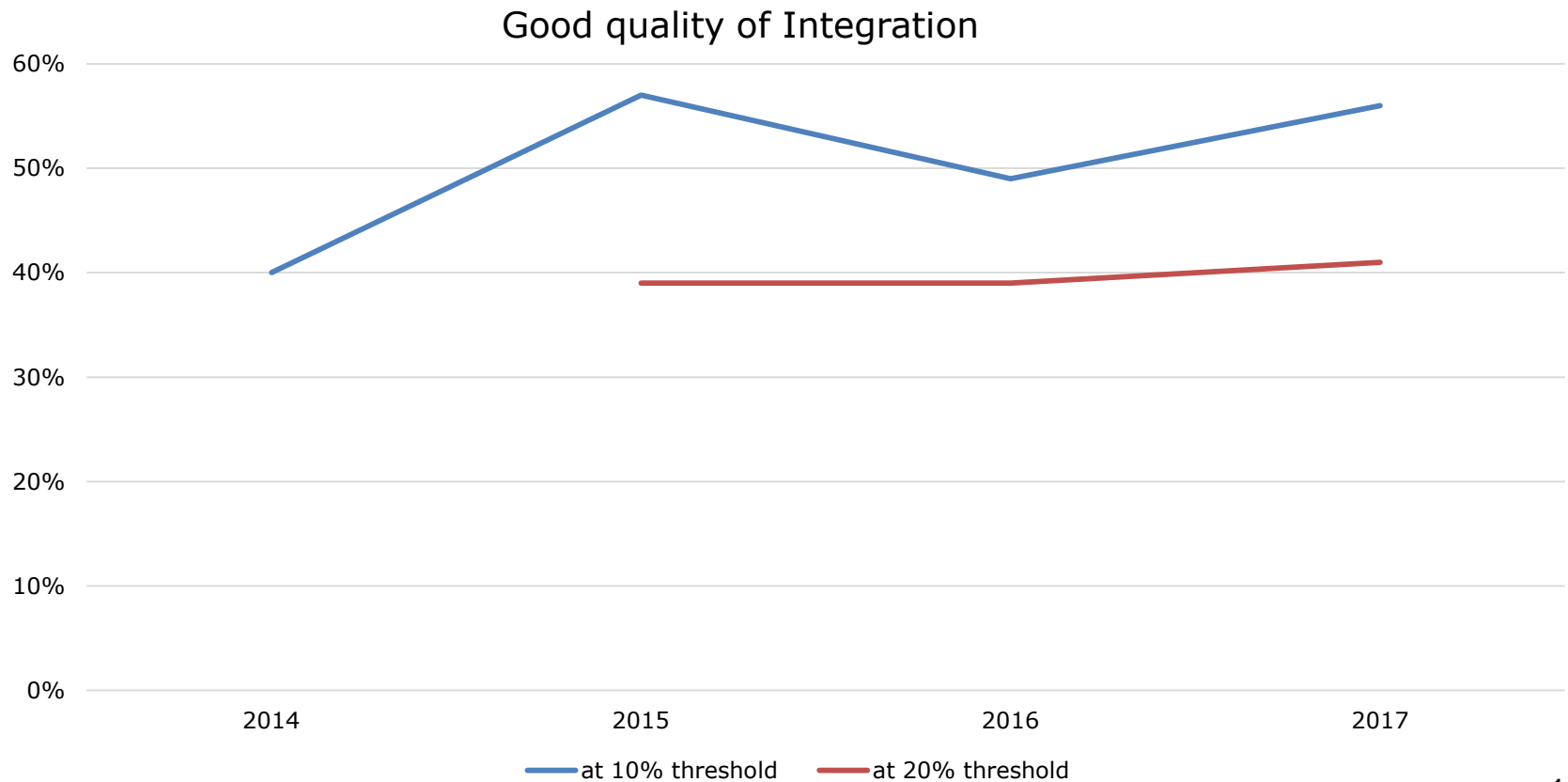
*European Research Council (ERC): 23% of the overall grant financing went to SSH related projects*

*Maria Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA): 15% of the total budget allocation was for SSH*

*Research infrastructures (RI): the SSH related share stood at c. 6.7 % of the general RI expenditure*

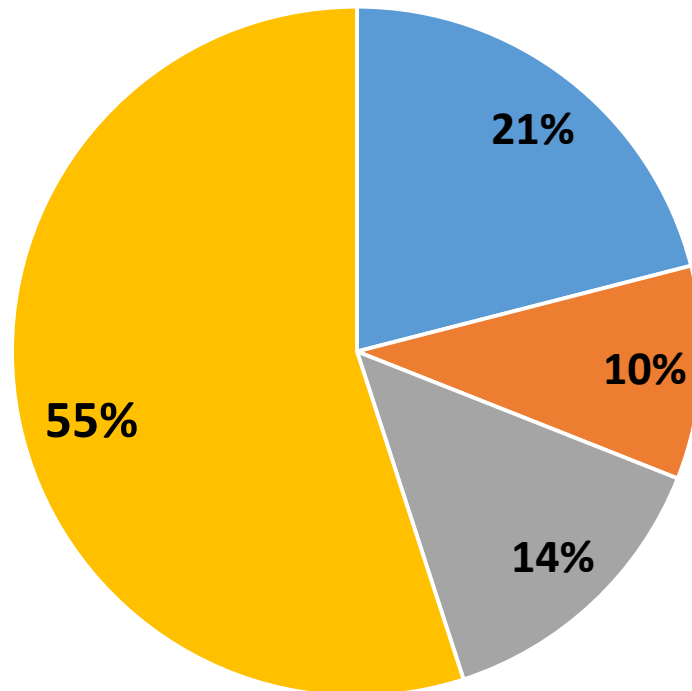
*Future Emerging Technologies (FET): c. 49.5% of total budget*

# The quality of SSH integration is improving only gradually



## The quality of SSH integration is uneven

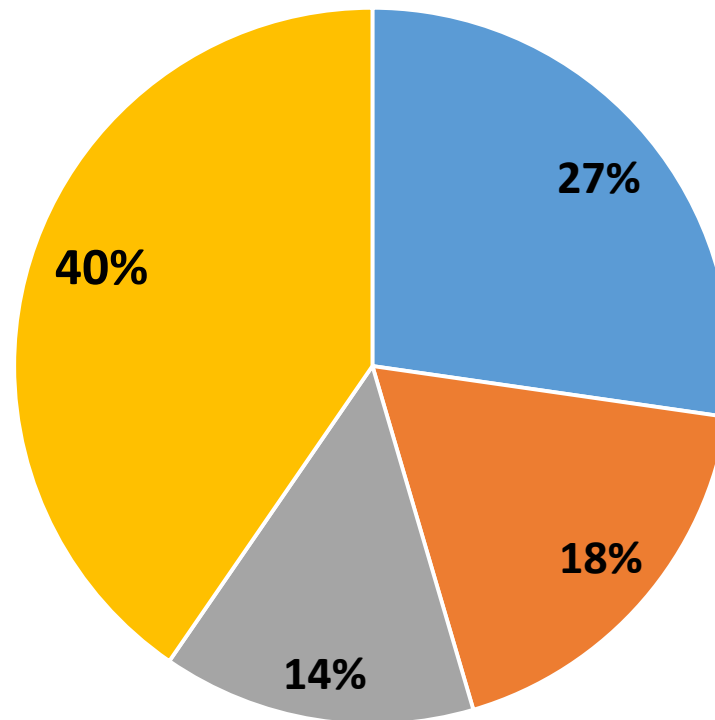
*With a 10 %  
threshold*



■ None ■ Weak ■ Fair ■ Good

## The quality of SSH integration is uneven ...

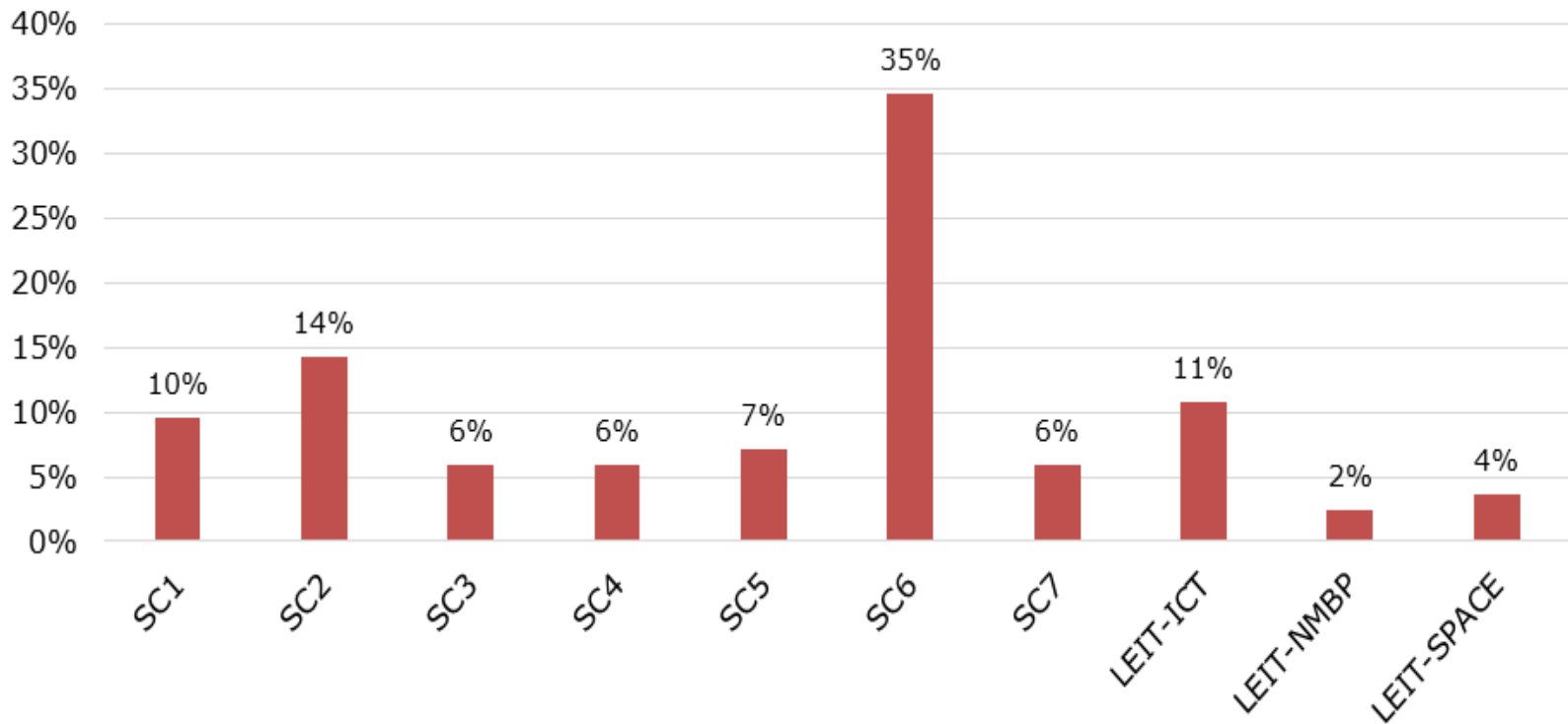
*With a 20 %  
threshold*



■ None ■ Weak ■ Fair ■ Good

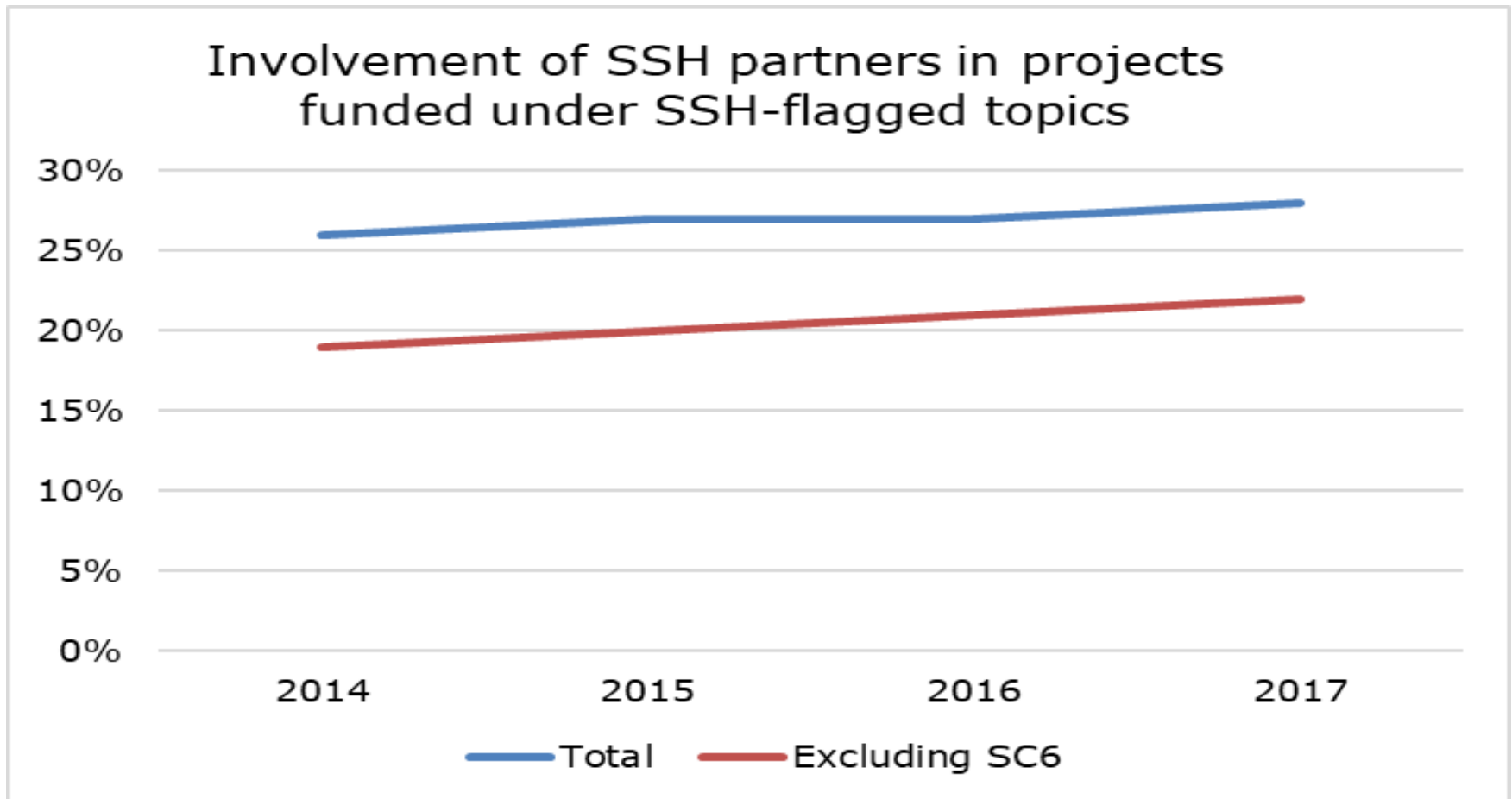
## The coordination by SSH partners is limited

Share of SSH coordinated projects





## The SSH Expertise is still largely unexploited



## Future of SSH Integration

- *Co-design/co-creation of topics*
- *Flagging*
- *Evaluation*
- *Internal network of SSH contact points (SSH liaisons) – and external outreach activities*
- *HE Missions and Partnerships*
- *Input from the different communities - humanities*

## **Co-creation and co-design process for SSH integration**

*Very useful network of SSH liaison officers in RTD and associated DGs, crucial for SSH embedding across H2020*

*For the 2020 WPs up-date: crucial informal pre-consultation with SSH liaison officers on initial inter-disciplinary input into WPs and co-creation of SSH related topics (October-November 2018), inclusion of drafting suggestions*

*Also key role of formal consultation phase and active involvement of unit B6 in this process inside DG RTD (December 2018-February 2019) for second round of SSH integration comments for topic drafters*

## Indication of SSH Evolution 2019-2020

*Total increase in the share of SSH flagged topics from c. 41 % in 2019 to possibly c. 46% in 2020 (+5 pp year on year)*

*Very strong foreseeable differences between SCs, with SC6 still in first position but other SCs gradually improving*

*Important variations from 2019 to 2020 for certain sectoral areas: e.g. notable increase in potential SSH flagging for health and climate, as well as energy and transport areas*

## **Good Practice Examples for sectoral SSH Integration 2018-20**

*Transport: "Accounting for the People" section under call 'Mobility for Growth'*

*Climate: "Protecting and leveraging the value of our natural and cultural assets – Heritage alive" section under the call 'Greening the Economy in line with SDGs'*

*Energy: "Smart and clean energy for consumers" section under the call 'Building a low-carbon, climate resilient future'*

## Horizon Europe and SSH

- *Inside and across Clusters, including Missions (social, economic, cultural, human aspects are essential for both impact and relevance)*
- *Continued monitoring while broadening the scope (the ambition is to cover practically the whole of Horizon 2020 and in the future Horizon Europe)*
- *Interdisciplinary approach and collaboration between STEM and SSH*
- *SSH monitoring is a precursor across the current programme for monitoring of key cross-cutting issue*

# Conclusions and Way Forward

- *Flagging in a realistic way*
- *Follow a holistic approach covering the entire cycle (from co-design to selection and implementation of project)*
- *Integrate SSH expertise in a more binding way*
  - *Drafting calls/topics*
  - *Concept & consortia projects*
  - *Evaluation & selection of project*
  - *Evaluators with SSH expertise*

## More On

*SSH Report published under:*

*SSH web page of DG RTD:*

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/index.cfm?pg=home>

*EU Bookshop :*

<https://publications.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/f094a641-30dd-11e9-8d04-01aa75ed71a1/language-en/format-PDF/source-86826299>