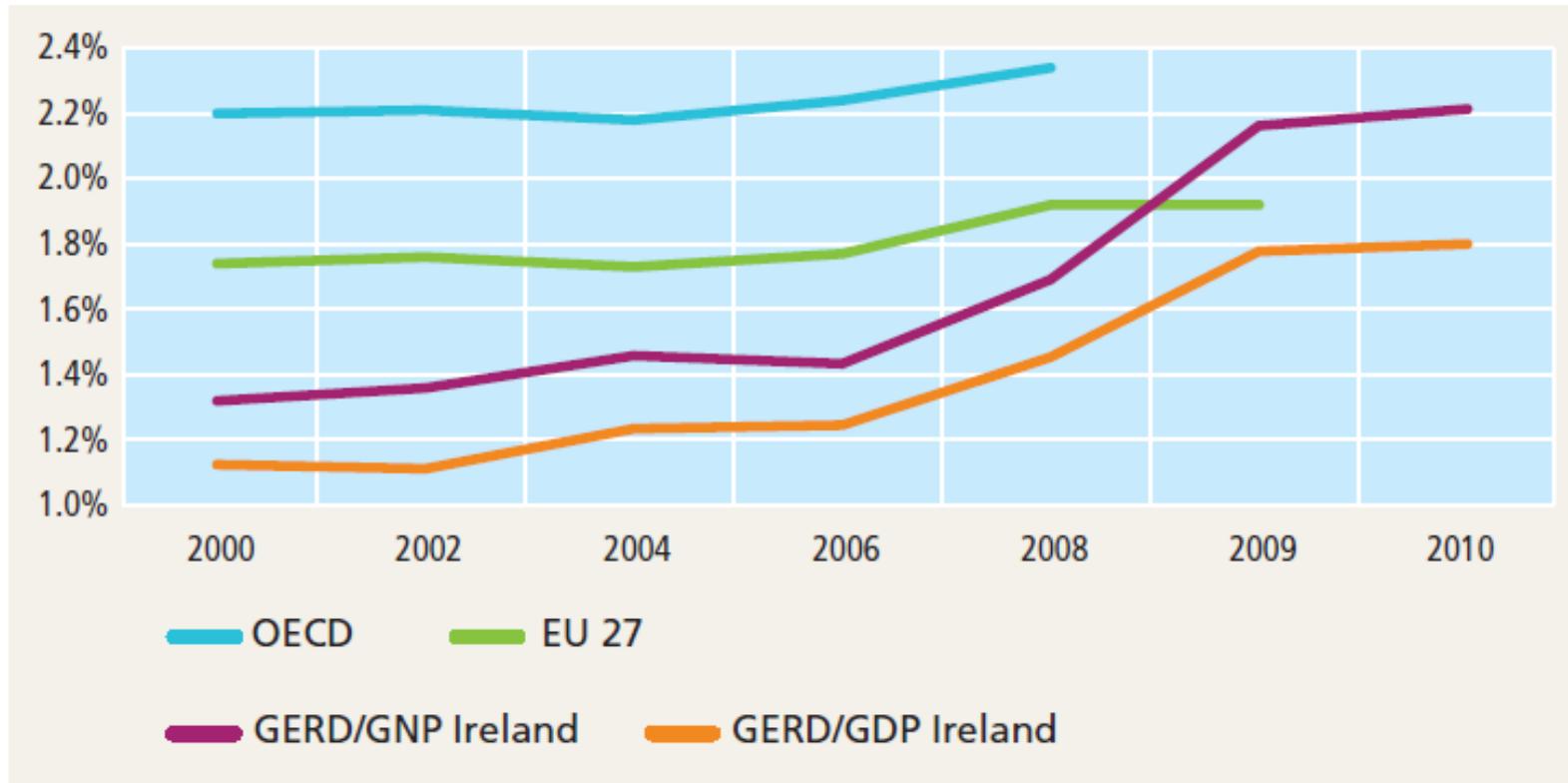


10th International Workshop on Accountability in Science and Research Funding

Paris, 20th – 21st June 2012

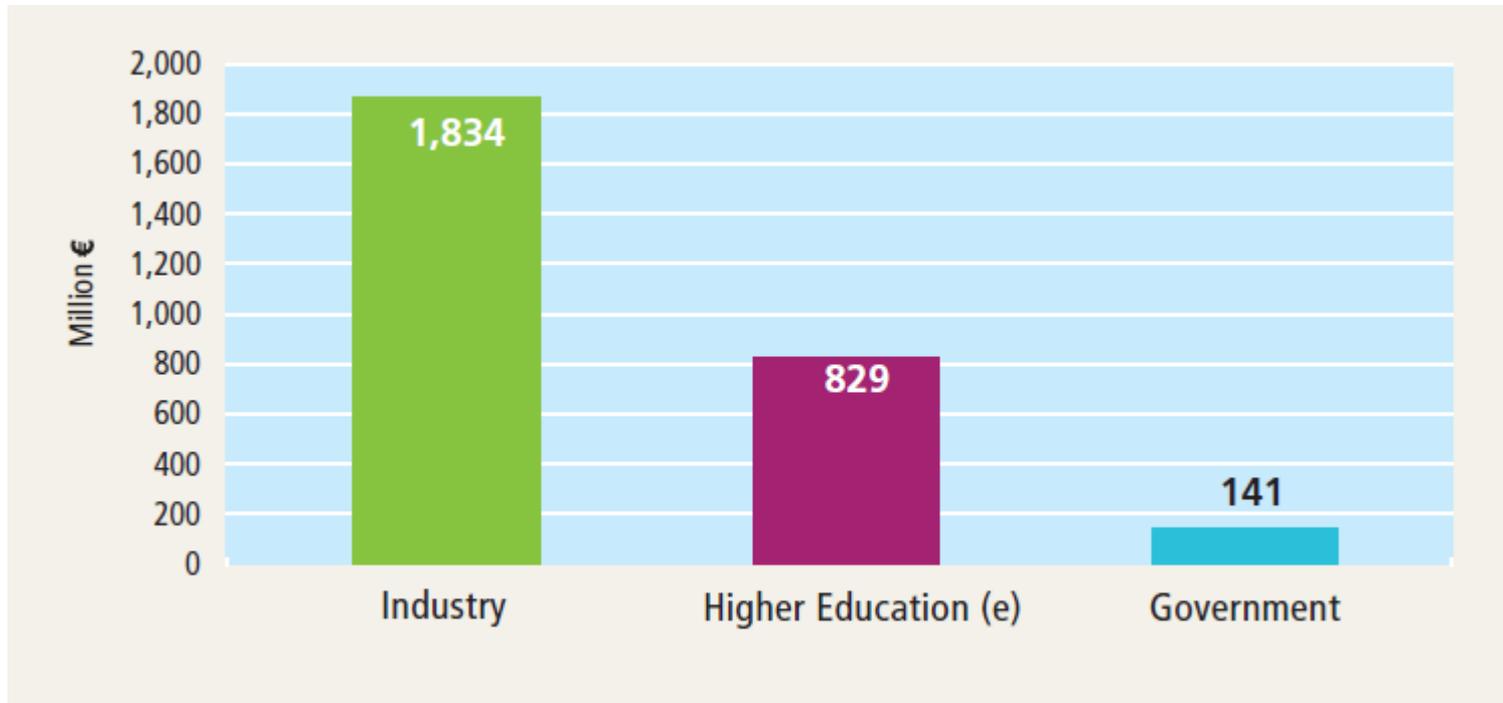


Gross Expenditure on R&D(GERD) as a Percentage of GDP/GNP- Ireland, EU and OECD 2000-2010



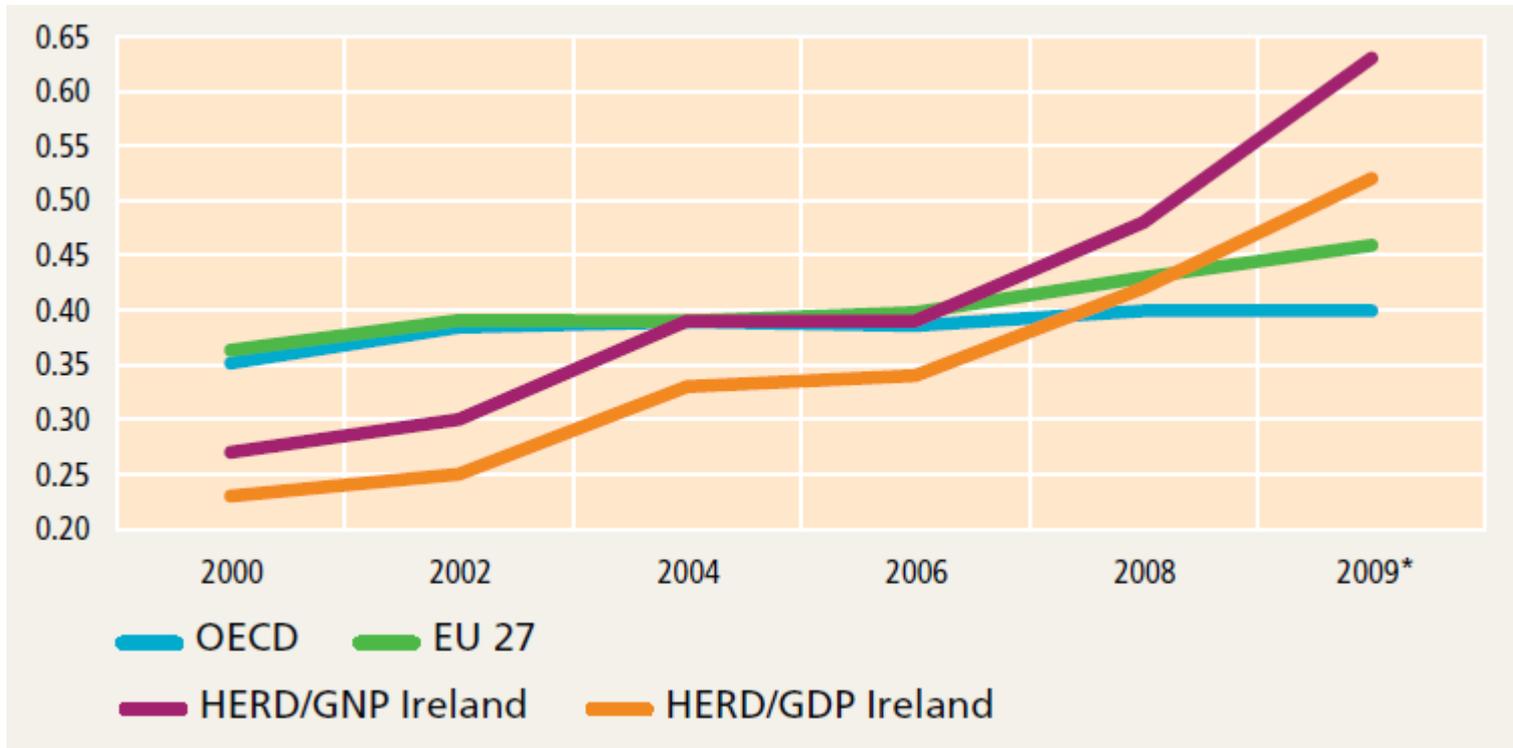
Source: Forfás – Statistics at a Glance, 2011

Gross Expenditure on R&D(GERD), Performers, 2009



Source: Forfás – Statistics at a Glance, 2011

Higher Education Sector-Performed R&D(HERD) as a Percentage of GDP/GNP, Ireland, OECD and EU27, 2000-2009 (Estimate)

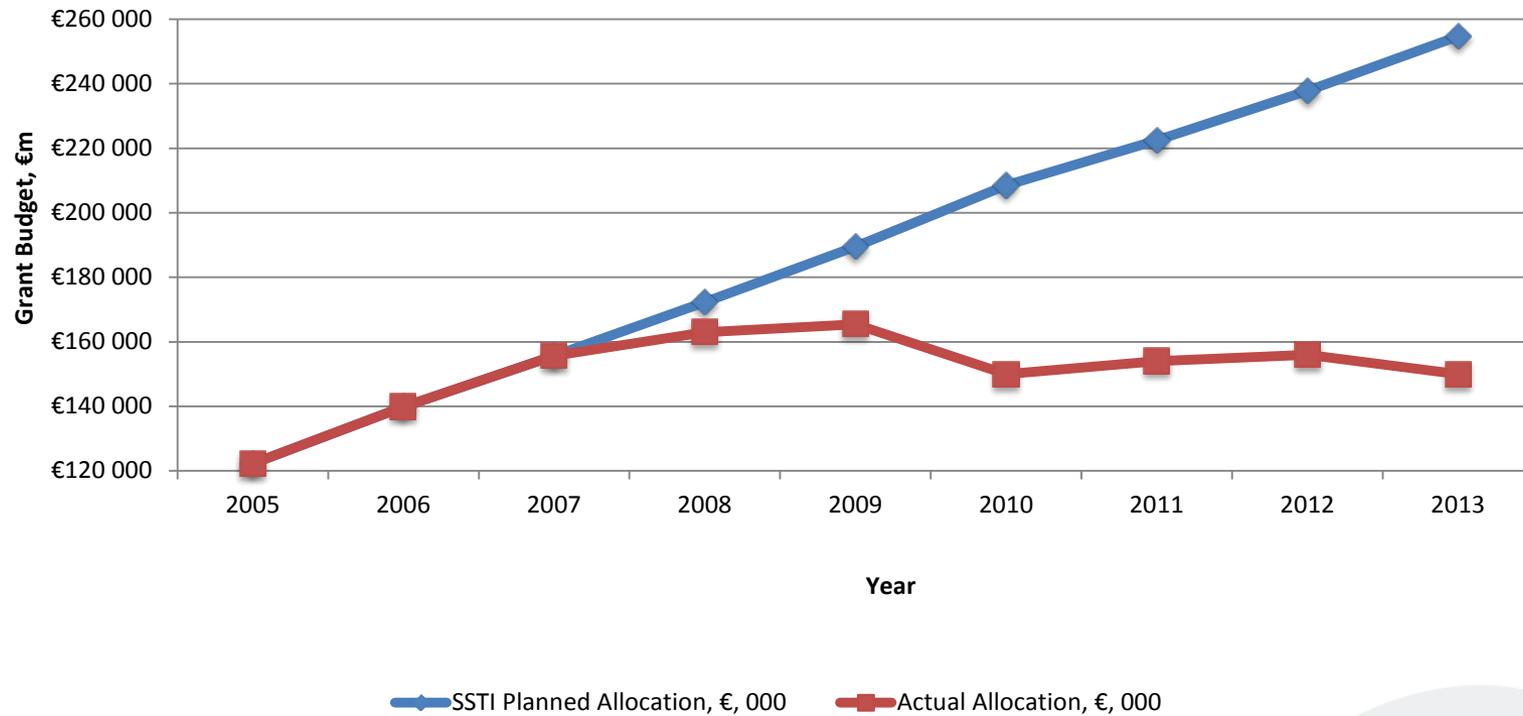


Source: Forfás – Statistics at a Glance, 2011

SFI Grants Budget: SSTI vs Actual



SFI Grants Budget: SSTI v Actual 06-12 (Likely 2013)



SSTI V's Actual Outcome.....



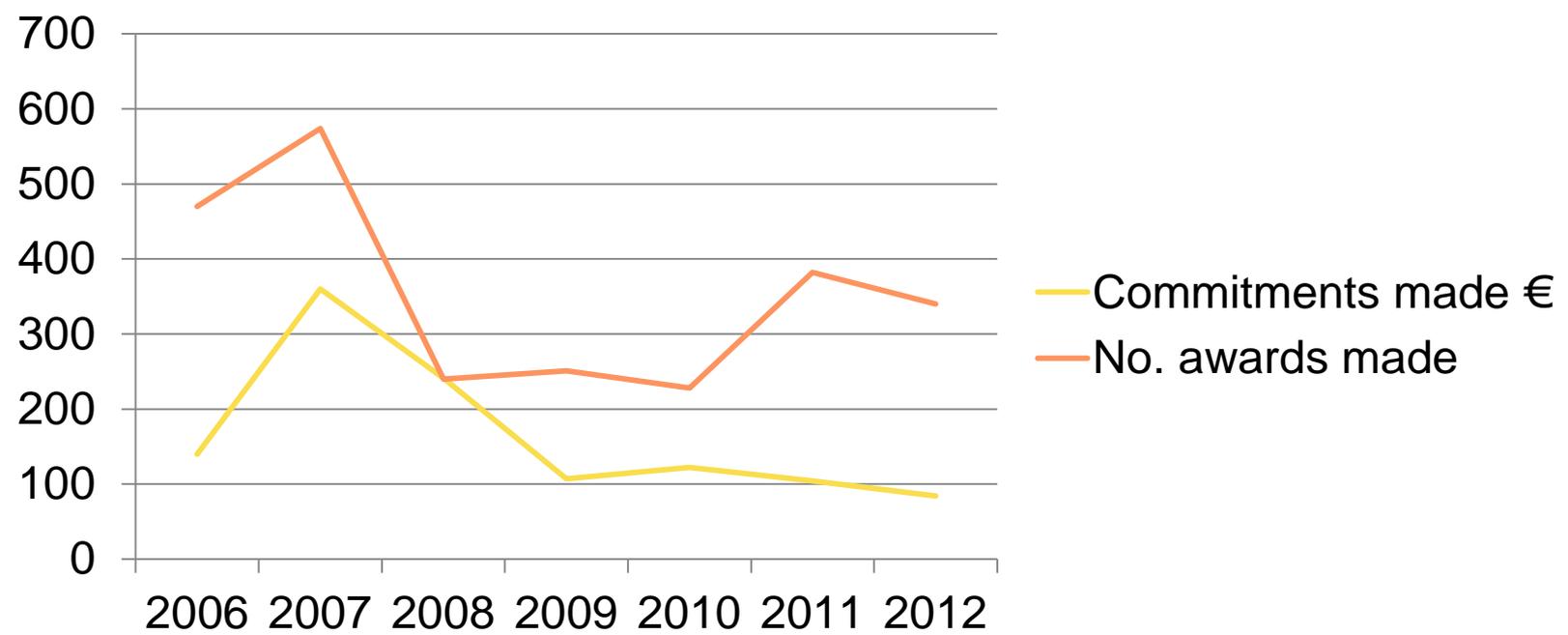
- **Government Strategic Plan – called SSTI**
- **7 year term (2007-2013)**
- **“Certainty” of Funding**
- **Allows medium term planning**
- **Target driven**
 - Double no. Ph D students through Structured PhD programmes
 - Net extra 30 PIs p.a.

But in reality.....

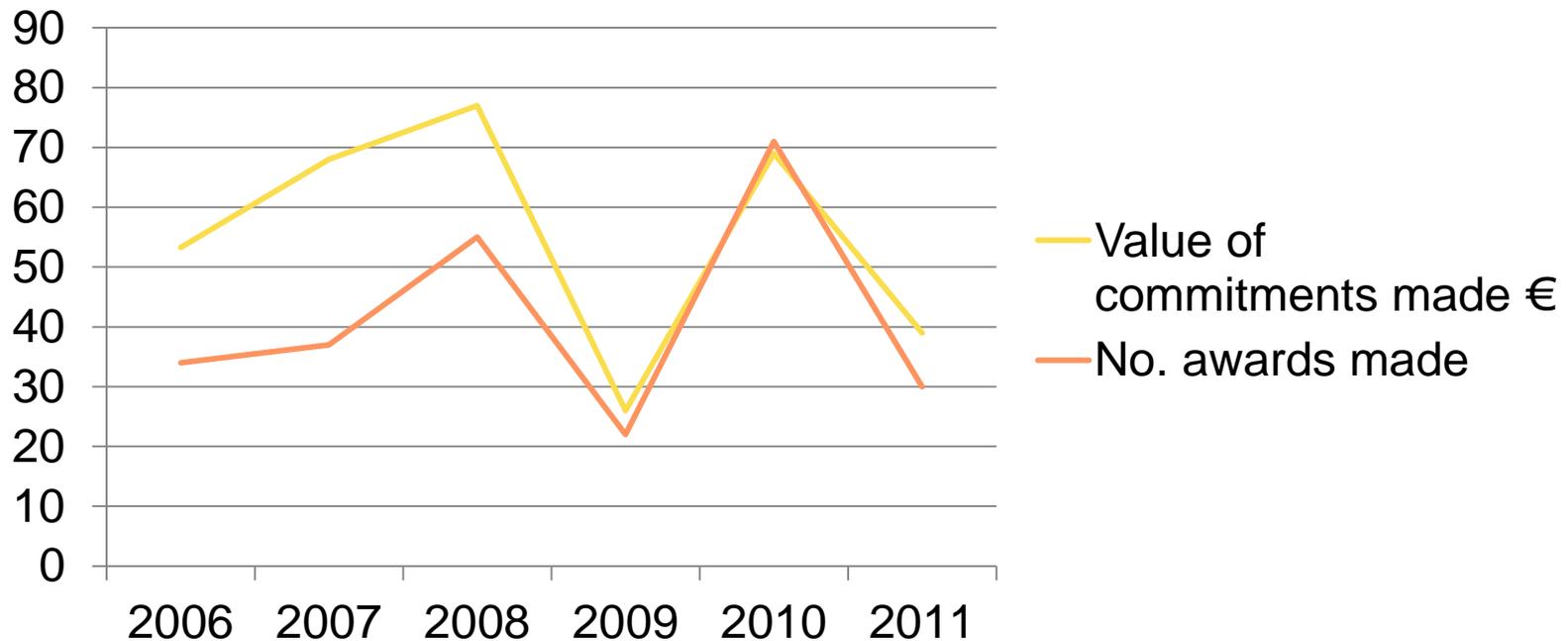
- **Financial problems - Plan paused**
- **Budget “Certainty” removed**
- **Reality – budget cuts including staff nos. at SFI**
- **Posed problems in context of “Multi-Annual” commitment model**
- **Reduced amounts available to leverage new commitments**
- **Extra costs transferred to SFI e.g. Pension contributions**



Value of commitments and no. awards made from 2006 – 2012



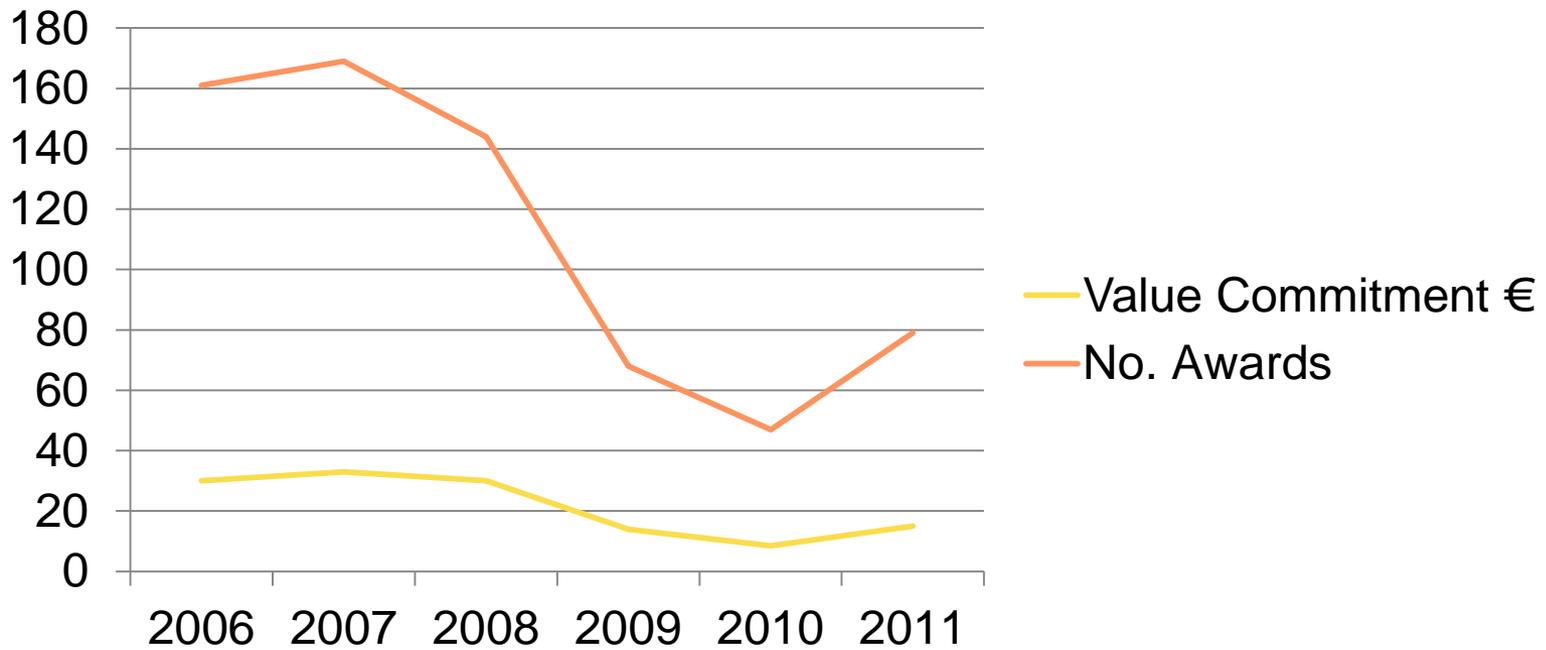
Value of commitments and no. awards made from 2006 – 2011 Principal Investigator Programme



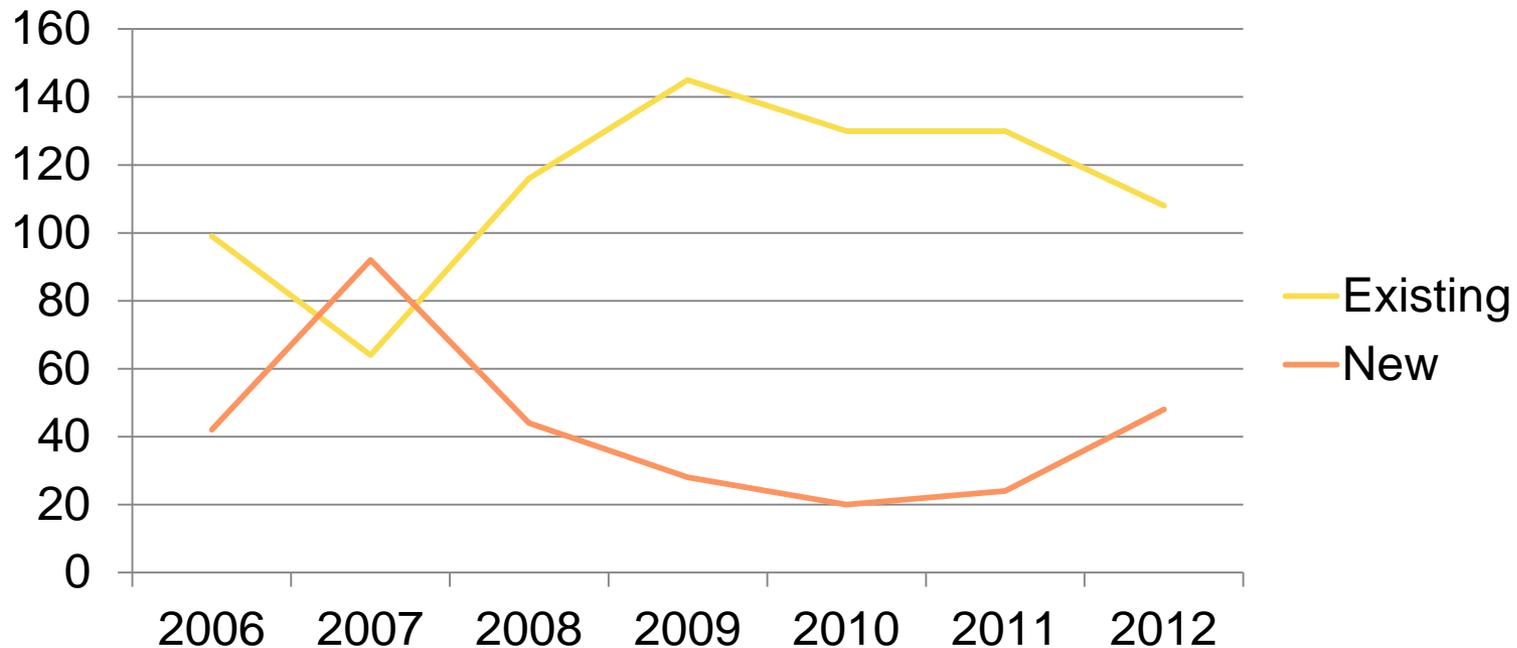
Average value of award has fallen from €1.5m in 2006 to €1.3m in 2011 (including overheads)

Value of commitments and no. awards made from 2006 – 2011

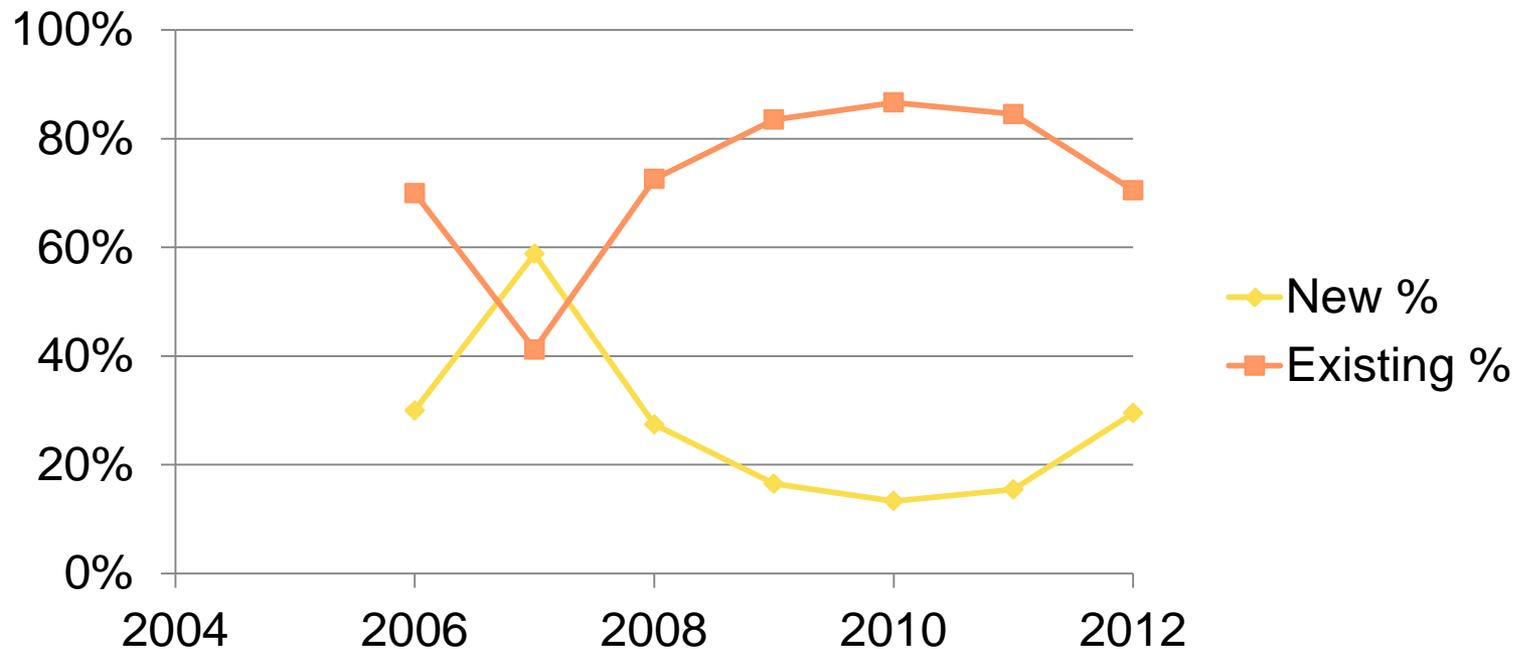
Research Frontier awards



Split of actual spend between Existing and New commitments from 2006 to 2012



Split of % spend between Existing and New commitments from 2006 to 2012



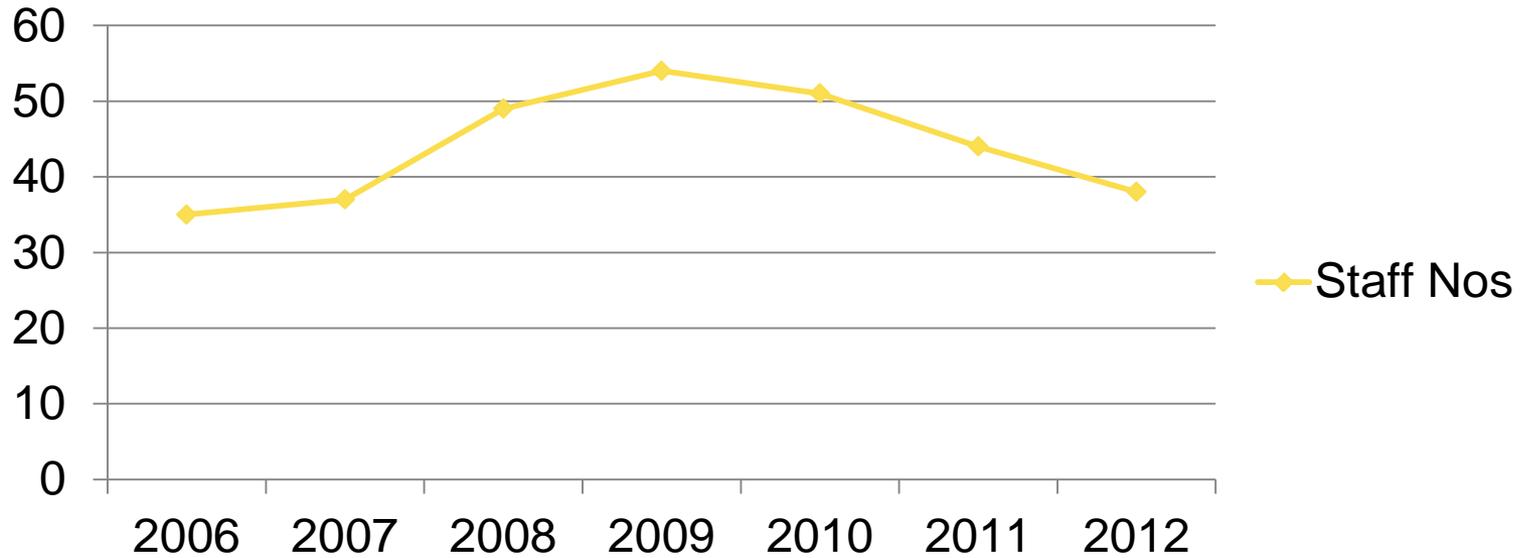
Financial planning – example of type of model used to project funds available for new / existing awards



Financial Plan 2011 - 2022												
Financial Profile												
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	09-22 SubTot
	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000
Income:												
Total	156,000	150,000	145,000	145,000	145,000	145,000	145,000	145,000	145,000	145,000	145,000	1,771,800
Expenditure:												
Existing Commitment at 31-12-11 - baseline	96,112	64,365	37,670	9,531	3,108	-	-	-				210,785
Cash req'd from 2011 commitments	14,102	22,123	19,246	14,193	6,783	4,562						81,009
Cash req'd from 2012 commitments		9,109	10,005	7,690	6,925	2,268	1,950	-				37,947
Cash req'd from 2013 commitments			36,369	46,374	43,945	34,468	15,667	16,054				192,876
Cash req'd from 2014 commitments				23,315	34,228	32,175	26,938	12,750				129,406
Cash req'd from 2015 commitments					13,736	23,476	21,600	18,350	7,675			84,837
Cash req'd from 2016 commitments						20,142	14,945	23,317	22,734	16,920	8,743	106,800
Existing Commitments (Rolling)	110,214	95,597	103,290	101,103	108,725	117,090	81,099	70,471				787,598
New Awards	46,104	40,509	30,099	27,748	20,142							188,702
Total	156,318	136,105	133,389	128,851	128,867	117,090	81,099	70,471				976,300
Surplus/(Shortfall)	(318)	13,895	11,611	16,149	16,133	27,910	63,901	74,529				360,500
												0
Commitments - New Awards	84,050	233,385	169,095	116,225	112,780							820,795

Trend in staff numbers at SFI from 2006 to 2012

Staff Nos



SFI Response to Austerity.....



- **Reduced value of awards in certain key programmes**
- **Lengthened term of certain awards**
- **Cut number of awards made in key programmes**
- **Consolidated certain programmes**
- **Stopped certain programmes e.g. Waltons / Stokes**
- **Reduced level of commitments into future**
- **Moved substantially to fixed calls with defined budgets**
- **Engaged in joint programmes with other Agencies**

SFI Response to Austerity cont'd



- **Peer Review Processes streamlined and now largely consist of combined calls**
- **In some programmes have implemented “Virtual” panels**
- **Move towards a “Risked Based” approach to carrying out site reviews of research to reduce costs e.g.;**
 - With proven Investigators with good track record to date – move towards a desk review of scientific progress of research
 - While with new investigators – will need to continue with site reviews.

Current Developments

- **Pressure building to justify what we are getting for our investment – demonstrate “Impact”.**
- **National Research Prioritisation exercise completed.**
- **SFI Agenda 2020 Strategy being finalised with Strategic Goals, steps to take to achieve goals and measurable KPIs plus “Annual Stocktake” to measure progress.**
- **Organisation has been streamlined, divisions merged, in light of reduced staffing at all levels and in particular Scientific staff.**

Current Developments – Cont'd



- **Further consolidation of Programmes/Awards e.g. new “Centres” call will see a smaller number of larger Centres funded.**
- **Government Department putting in place a Service Level Agreement with Key Agencies to include measurable targets.**
- **Some PIs departing Ireland, including some recruited into the country by SFI.**

But it is not all bad news.....

- **New Grants Administration System (SESAME) successfully implemented and has delivered significant time savings and efficiencies for both SFI and the Universities.**
- **Possible remit change for SFI to include some Applied Research.**
- **Evidence that Research System has reached saturation point.**
- **A steady budget of €150m - €160m p.a. would probably suffice**
- **If we had €250m in 2012 we would have a problem spending it!**