

The policy mix for science-industry knowledge transfer in Finland

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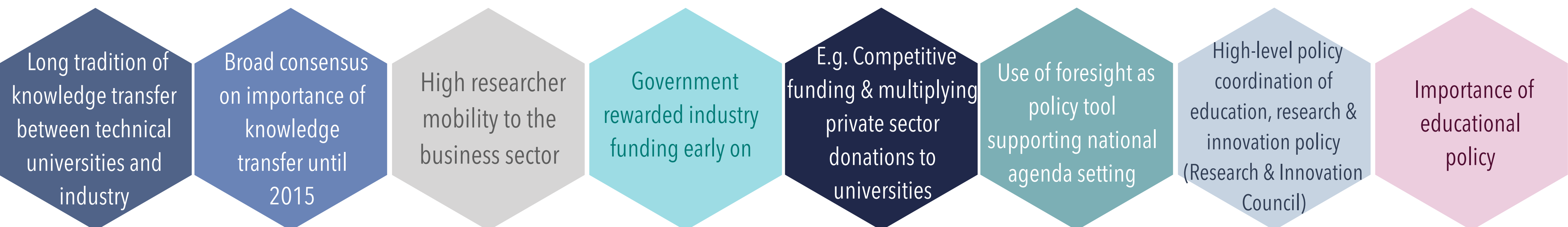
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The case study provides an analyst perspective on the policy mix supporting knowledge transfer in Finland, describing its main instruments, actors, history, current trends, and providing recommendations.

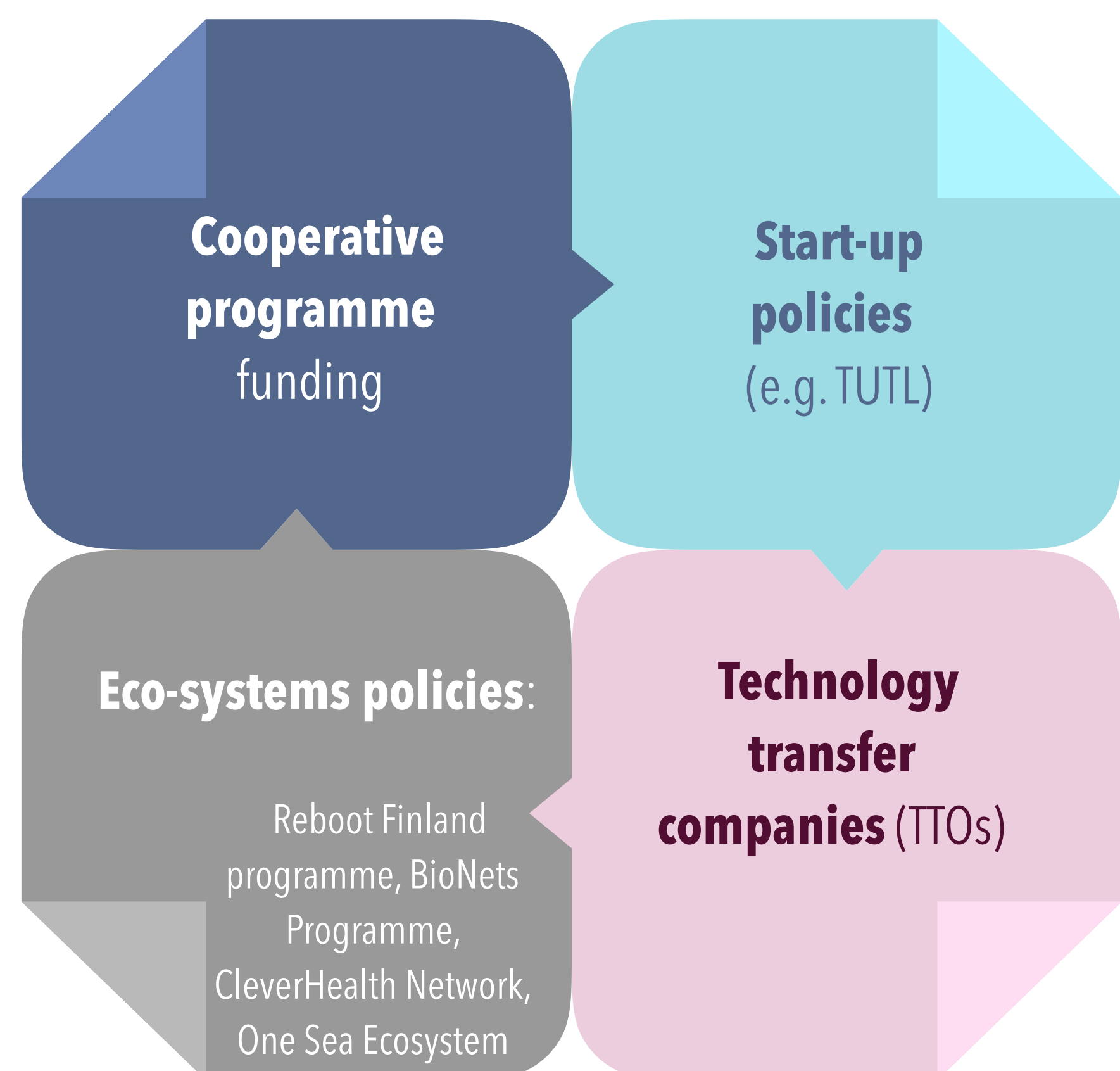
Topics covered

Policy mix, ecosystem policies, governance reforms

History of knowledge transfer and policies



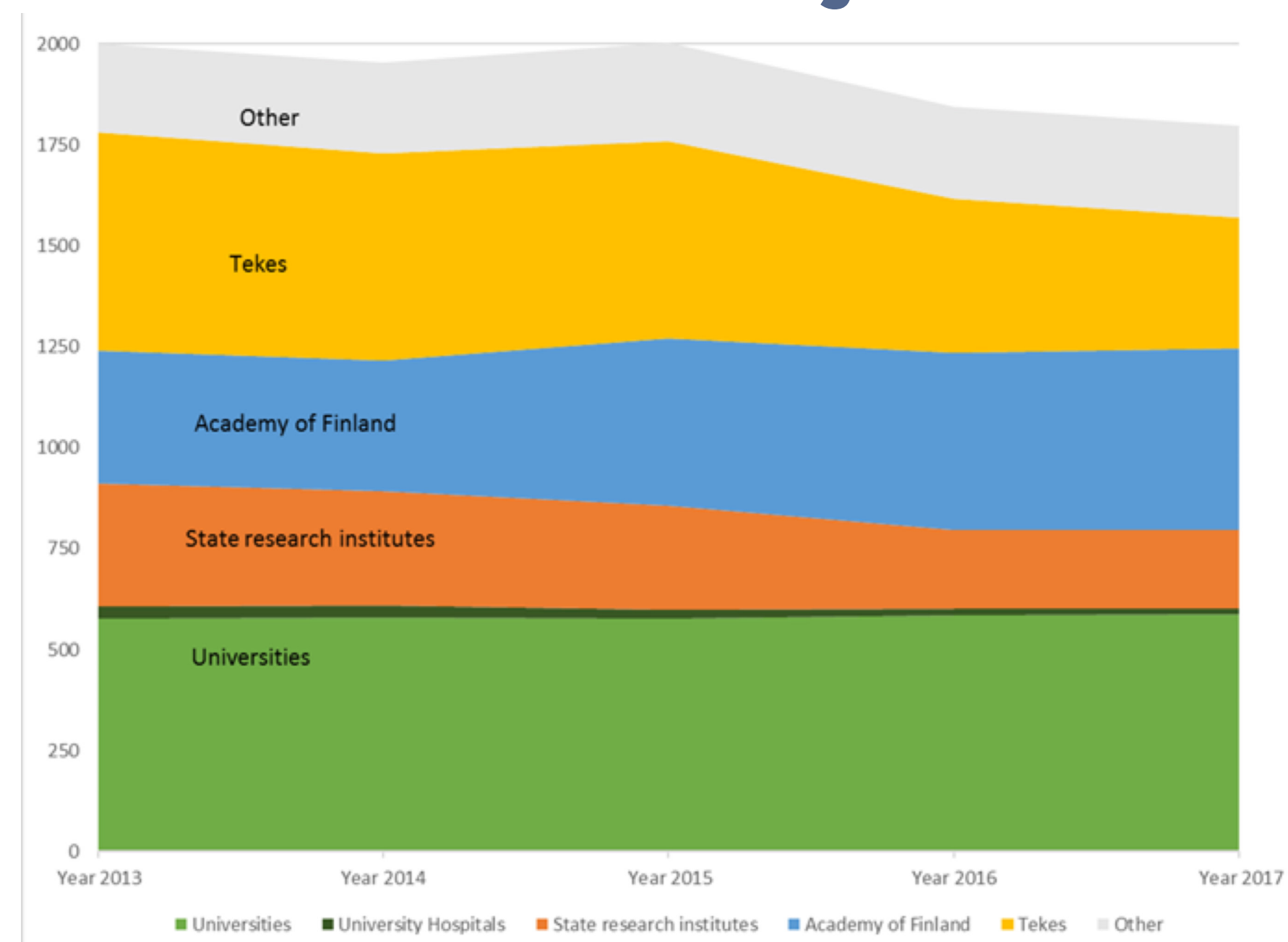
Main instruments



Main actors

- **Ministry of Education and Culture:** Higher education and research policy
- **Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment:** Innovation policy
- **Academy of Finland:** Research funding
- **Business Finland** (formerly Tekes): Cooperative programme funding
- **Research and Innovation Council:** National roadmap for overall governance

Government R&D Funding 2013-2017



Governance reforms:

- University Inventions Act 2007
- Reform of university funding in 2017
- Business leaders in university boards
- Merger of state research institutes 2014-2017

Policy recommendations

- Promote **entrepreneurial orientation** of universities
- Increase **long-term, strategic collaboration** between universities and enterprises
- Strengthen **demand and user-driven innovation**
- Introduce **career paths** for university researchers that support co-operation with the industry

Current trends

- Innovation and research policy is **increasingly connected to societal issues**
- Shift towards policies **supporting start-ups**, fast growth **SMEs** and **ecosystems**
- Learning from previous **SHOK programme** which focused on large companies
- **Reduction** in government **expenditures on R&D**
- Strengthening of **role of Academy of Finland** for excellence research funding

Halme, K., Lamminkoski, H., Salminen, V., Piirainen, K., Härmälä, V., Hjelt, M. and J. Hyvärinen (2019), "Case Study on the policy mix for science-industry knowledge transfer in Finland: Case study contribution to the OECD TIP Knowledge Transfer and Policy project".