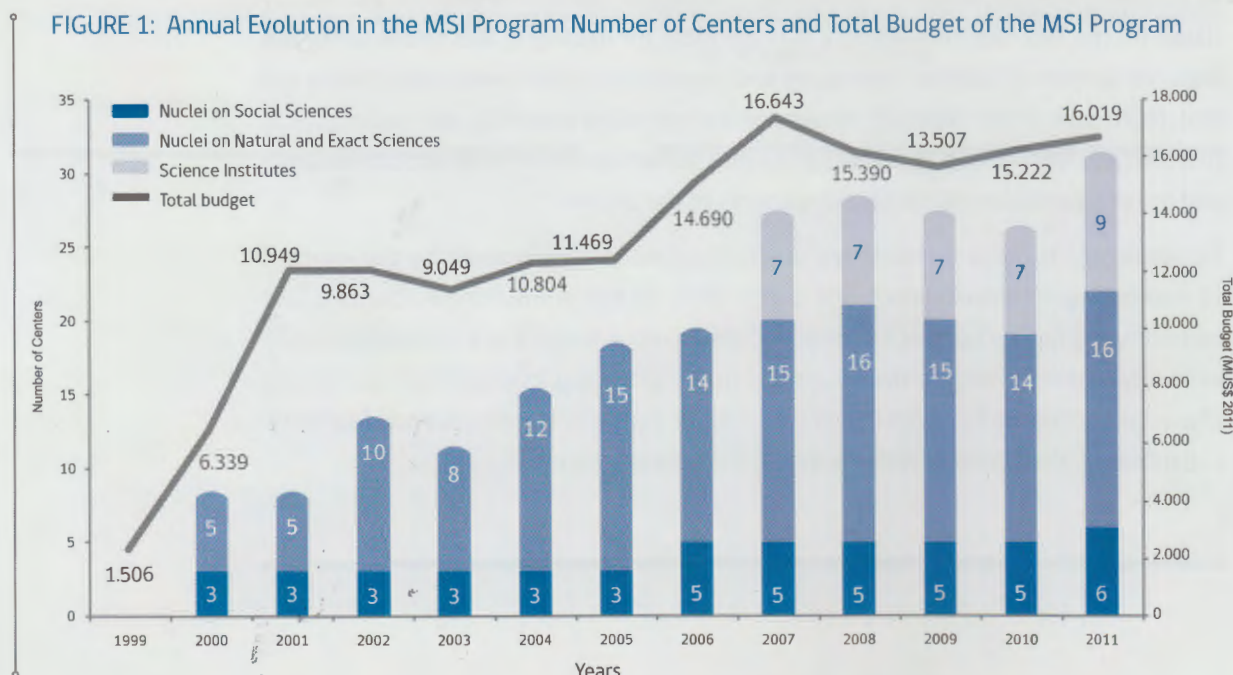


GROWTH OF THE MILLENNIUM SCIENCE INITIATIVE

The Millennium Science Initiative (MSI) grew significantly between 2009 and 2011, with the addition of one Science Institute and two Social Sciences Nuclei as compared to the previous three-year period. The growth in the number of centers was mainly based on the increased funds contribution during the period, from MUS\$13,507 in 2009 to MUS\$16,019 in 2011 (figure n° 1).

Although during this three-year period a total of 12 MSI-financed centers (2 Millennium Institutes, 6 Nuclei on Natural and Exact Sciences and 4 Nuclei on Social Sciences) finished their operations, the total number of MSI Centers increased because of the operations start-up during 2011 of 3 new Science Institutes, 7 Nuclei on Natural and Exact Sciences, and 6 Nuclei on Social Sciences. On the other hand,

FIGURE 1: Annual Evolution in the MSI Program Number of Centers and Total Budget of the MSI Program



2 Institutes extended their operations for a second 5-year period and 7 Nuclei were renewed for a second three-year period. Thus, at the end of 2011, MSI had 31 operating Centers, the highest number in the history of the Program.

Regarding the source of the MSI funds, they have mainly come from regular fiscal resources assigned to the former Ministry of Planning until 2010, and to the Ministry of Economy, Development and Tourism in 2011. Since 2002, such resources have been slightly constant in quantity (figure nº2). It should be noted

that the contribution of resources allocated by the Fund of Innovation for Competitiveness (FIC), derived from the Mining Specific Tax were similar (in Chilean pesos of 2011) for 2009 and 2010, while in 2011 resources allocation increased by 16% as compared to the previous year, being the equivalent to 29% the MSI annual budget in 2011. During the three-year period 2009–2011, such resources allowed financing two Science Institutes, seven Science Nuclei and different Outreach activities developed by the MSI Centers.

FIGURE 2: Annual evolution of total Budget (in MUS\$ 2011) of the MSI Program according to different financial sources (%)

