



**SOUTH  
CENTRE**

# Global Financing for R&D in Neglected Tropical Diseases

Nirmalya Syam



# Current Level of Funding for R&D on NTDs



- Current funding levels are negligible
  - Only 1% of total global investment in health R&D went to NTDs in 2010 (Rottingen et al, 2013)
  - From 2000-2011 only 37 of 850 new medical products developed targeted NTDs (Pedrique et al, 2013)
  - Many lead compounds abandoned prior to clinical development
- Slight increase in overall R&D funding for NTDs from 2005 (US\$2.8 billion) to 2011 (US\$ 3.045 billion)
- Public donors are overwhelmingly the largest funders, followed distantly by philanthropic donors



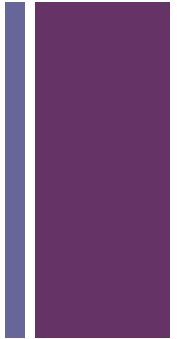
# State of Public Sector R&D Financing



- Though limited in scale, public funding remains the dominant source of financing for R&D on NTDs
  - Only 16 NCEs marketed in the last 25 years for tropical diseases and TB, but all were developed with public sector involvement (Trouiller, et al., 2002)
  - Almost two-thirds of R&D funding for neglected diseases was from the public sector (G-Finder 2012)
  - 95.9% of all public funding came from HICs
- Public funding overwhelmingly concentrated on three diseases
  - 72% of all public funding allocated to R&D for three diseases – HIV, TB and malaria; 74% in developing countries
  - Among the three diseases, funding is dominantly concentrated on HIV, but more proportionate in LMICs
- Long-term sustainability of philanthropic financing cannot be assured



# Public Sector Funding - LMICs



- G-Finder Annual Survey 2007-2012: US\$ 427.74 million
- IDCs – US\$ 338.65 million
  - 42% allocated to HIV, TB and malaria; relatively proportionate
  - US\$ 5.4 million core funding of research institutions; US\$ 3.1 million unspecified
  - India (US\$ 156.43 million) and Brazil (US\$ 132.6 million) contribute significantly more than South Africa (US\$ 37.2 million), China (US\$ 10.17 million) and Cuba (US\$ 0.44 million)
- MICs (non-IDC): most of the funding comes from Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Mexico
  - Colombia (US\$ 20.9 million) and Mexico (US\$ 18 million); Argentina (US\$ 8.4 million) and Chile (US\$ 4.5 million)
- LICs: US\$ 0.34 million (Ghana, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda)
  - Ghana: US\$ 29,468 (PDPs and self-funding); Rwanda: US\$ 0.25 million (intermediary); Tanzania: US\$ 52,273 (intermediary); Uganda: US\$ 9,319 (HIV vaccine PDP with IAVI)
- Leading LMICs – India, Brazil, South Africa, Colombia, Mexico, China



# Conclusions



- Public sector funding is the leading source of R&D for NTDs
- A few developing countries have made substantial public sector investment in R&D for NTDs
- Concentration among three diseases
- Need to increase public sector funding
- CEWG recommendations
  - All countries should commit to spend 0.01% of GDP on govt. funded R&D
  - Developing countries – 0.05 to 1%
  - Developed countries - 0.15 to 0.02%



**Thank You**

[syam@southcentre.int](mailto:syam@southcentre.int)