Global Financing for R&D in Neglected Tropical Diseases

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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

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