



**UNESCO Symposium on the  
Comparative Analysis of National Research Systems  
Paris 16-18 January, 2008**

**Comparison of Assessment  
Methodologies for “Research” and  
“Research for Health Systems”**

**Data & Challenges**

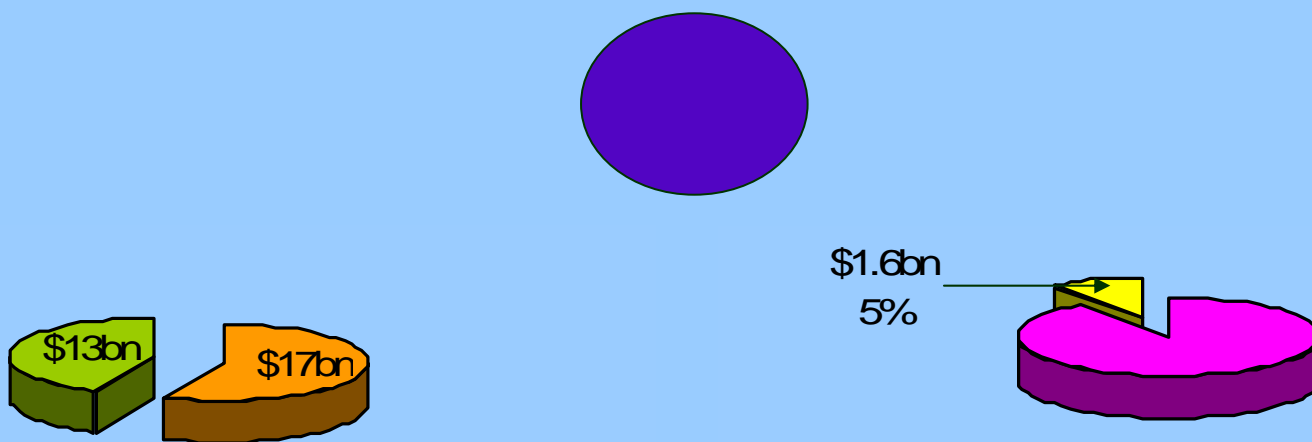
Mary Anne Burke  
*Health Analyst/Statistician*  
*Global Forum for Health Research*

*January 18, 2008*



**1990 Commission on Health Research for Development**  
*About 5% of resources for health research spent on 90% of world's health problems*

**\$30 bn worldwide expenditure on health research (1986)**



- Publically funded health research
- Private Pharmaceutical Companies R&D

- Health research for developed country needs
- Health research for developing country needs



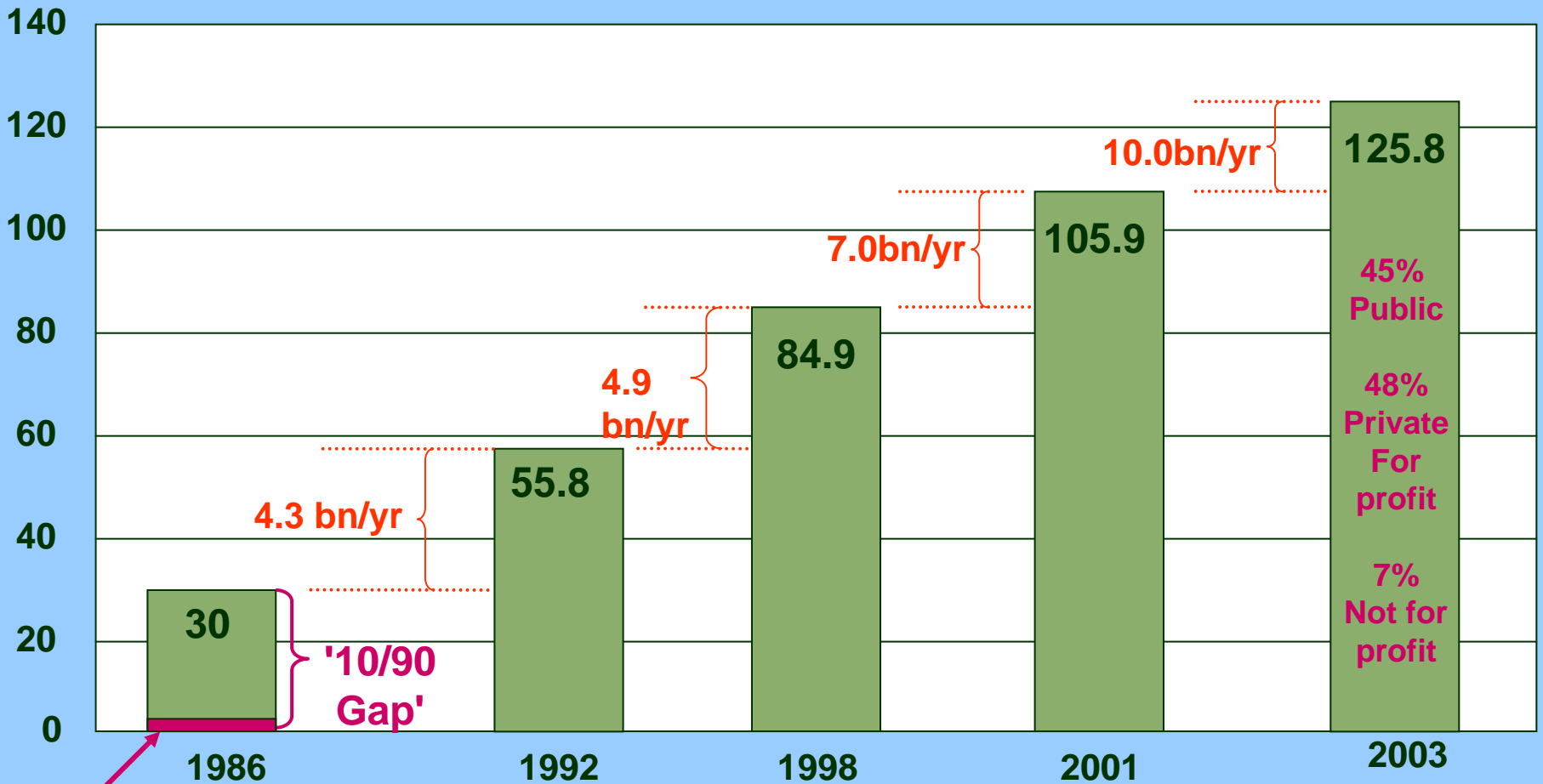
## *Global Forum for Health Research*

- **An independent international foundation in Switzerland since 1998**
- **Works to focus research efforts on the health of the poor**
- **Informed by principles of equity, human rights and gender equality**
- **Committed to improving health & achieving health equity**
- **Responsible for monitoring global expenditures on research for health**
- **[www.globalforumhealth.org](http://www.globalforumhealth.org)**



US\$ bn

# Global health research expenditure





- **Most spending done by high income countries in high income countries generating products tailored to health care markets of high income countries**
- **Small share funded and carried out by low and middle income countries**
- **Even smaller share is funded by high income countries but carried out in and for the benefit of low and middle income countries**



- **US \$125.8 billion includes the largest known contributors**
- **R&D efforts of many low and middle income countries still largely unknown and unaccounted**
- **Measuring is far from a precise science**
- **Still huge gaps in our knowledge**



# Challenge 1

- **Build international consensus on classification system for statistics on investments in R&D for health**



## **Towards a standardised research for health investments classification**

- **Framework (HR classification)**
- **Initial phase with a variety of partners (1998)**
- **Design undertaken with WHO & COHRED (2005)**
- **Application/ adaptation/ testing in countries (National Governments of South Africa, Brazil, India, Mexico) (2005-2007)**
- **Thinking on classification continues to evolve**





## Research for Health Classification (2005)

1. **Basic (fundamental)**
2. **Biomedical and Clinical**
  - **Group I (infectious/nutrition/mat-perinatal)**
  - **Group II (non-communicable)**
  - **Group III (injuries)**
3. **Exposures and risk factors for disease**
4. **Determinants of health**
5. **Health systems research**
6. **Research capacity building**



## Challenge 2

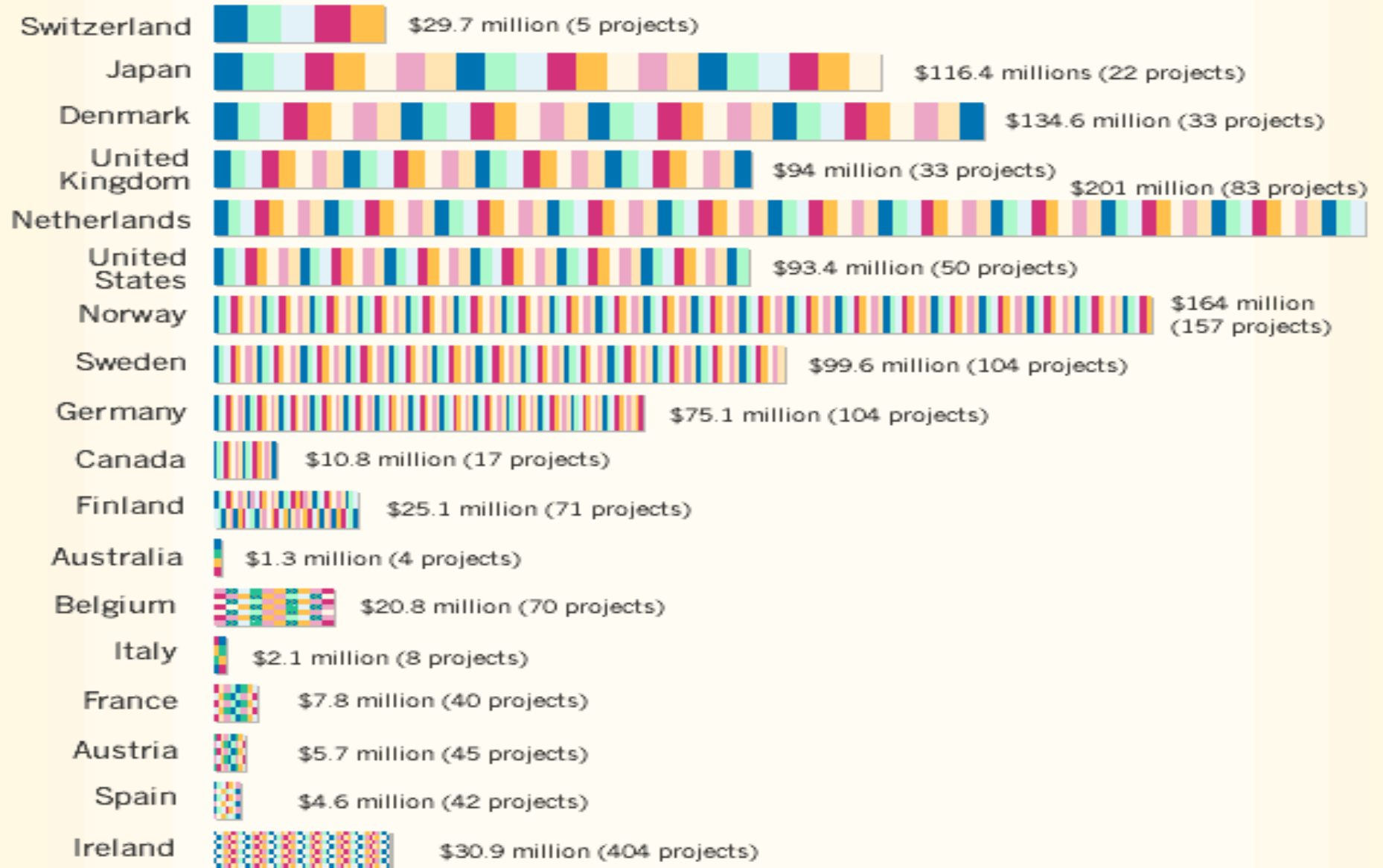
- **Support development of sustainable systems for collection and analysis of statistics on R&D for health**
  - **Drawn from data across all sectors, not just health sector**
  - **Embedded in systems of national statistics in CSOs**
  - **Driven by development/policy needs of countries, not needs of donors and international community**

# Bilateral Donor Support to Tanzania, 2000-2002

Global Forum for Health Research

HELPING CORRECT THE U/S/GAP

M.A. Burke



Source: *Foreign Policy*, Ranking the Rich 2004



## Current activities

- Discussions with countries on benefits
- Participation in Annual African Statistical Symposium (South Africa 2005, Rwanda 2006, Ghana 2007)
- Development of proposal with AFRISTAT to work with African CSOs to reach consensus on classification system & build capacity for collection & analysis of data
- Consensus-building on approach within international R&D/S&T/Stats communities – on-going



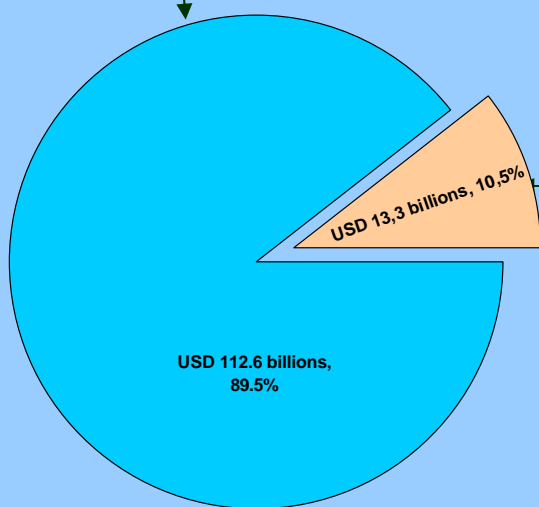
## Challenge 3

- **Shift research focus from:**
    - **“Disease” to “Health”**
    - **Health sector responsibility to all of government/civil society responsibility**
- through inclusive, responsive and evidenced-informed priority-setting processes**



**Research on "Disease-related prevention and treatment"**

- Basic Research funded by public and private for-profit and not-for-profit sectors
- Other research carried out by Pharma



- 1. Research on other "Disease-related" prevention, treatment and care:**
  - Health care* policies, programmes, systems and services
  - Training of health care workers
  - Human resources
  - Scale-up
  - Disease monitoring and surveillance
  - Disease prevention and treatment
    - Exposures & risk factors for ill-health and disease
    - Specific diseases or conditions
  - Disease outcomes and impacts
- 2. Research on "Health"**
  - Health planning
  - Public health
  - Safety, quality, availability, affordability, accessibility, inclusivity of:
    - Water, Food, Housing, Sanitation
    - Natural Environments
    - Built Environments
    - Social Environments
  - Health promotion
  - Health education
    - Health knowledge, attitudes and practices
  - Health research systems
  - Health classifications systems, measures and indicators
  - Health status & human functioning
  - Health equity
  - Social determinants of health
  - Safety, quality, accessibility, affordability, inclusivity, efficiency, effectiveness, impact of :
    - Public policies, programmes, systems and services *outside the health sector*
    - Health* policies, programmes, systems and services

**Most of 2003 global expenditures on R&D for health was for "disease-related" investments, leaving little for research to create and sustain "health"**



- **Our data point to continuance of global inequities in health and health research , symbolised in the expression “10/90 gap” despite growth in R&D investments**
- **Africa and South Asia continue to shoulder a disproportionate share of global mortality and morbidity**
- **Time to ask why and make shifts in focus of investments**



## Challenge 4

- **Explore development of “Purchasing Power Parities” for R&D for health**





## **CHALLENGES:**

- 1. Build international consensus on classification system for investments in R&D for health**
- 2. Support development of sustainable systems for collection and analysis of statistics on R&D for health embedded in national CSOs**
- 3. Shift research focus from “Disease” to “Health” through inclusive, evidence-informed and responsive priority-setting processes**
- 4. Explore development of PPPs for R&D for health**



**Thank you!**

[maryanne.burke@globalforumhealth.org](mailto:maryanne.burke@globalforumhealth.org)