



BBMRI-ERIC

Biobanking and
BioMolecular resources
Research Infrastructure

BBMRI-ERIC in a global setting: Africa

Kurt Zatloukal, Medical University of Graz, Austria

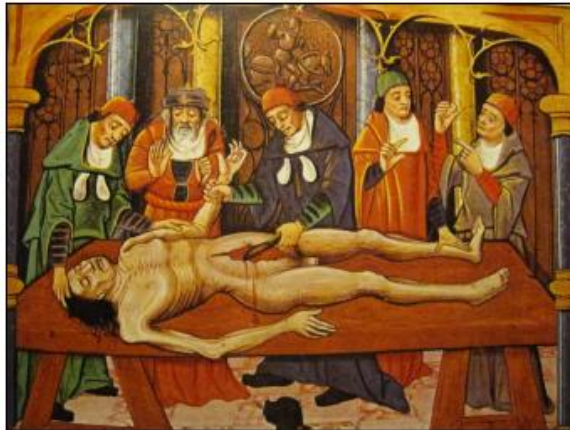
Biobanking: a Gateway for Health
Brussels, November 18th, 2014

Why is a Biobanking and Biomolecular Resources Research Infrastructure important for Africa?

- Human biological samples and associated medical data is the key resource for the advancement of medicine and improved health in Africa
- Research infrastructures form hot spots for developing a knowledge-based economy

Biobanks and Biomolecular Resources

Most of our current knowledge on diseases as well as available diagnostic assays and drugs are based on systematic investigation of human biological samples and medical data



From „Eigenschaften der Dinge“
Bartholomäus der Engländer 15.Jh



C. Zeiss
1879



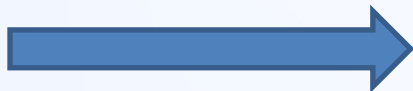
HIV Bank
Fraunhofer Saarland



BGI 2009
Shenzhen, China

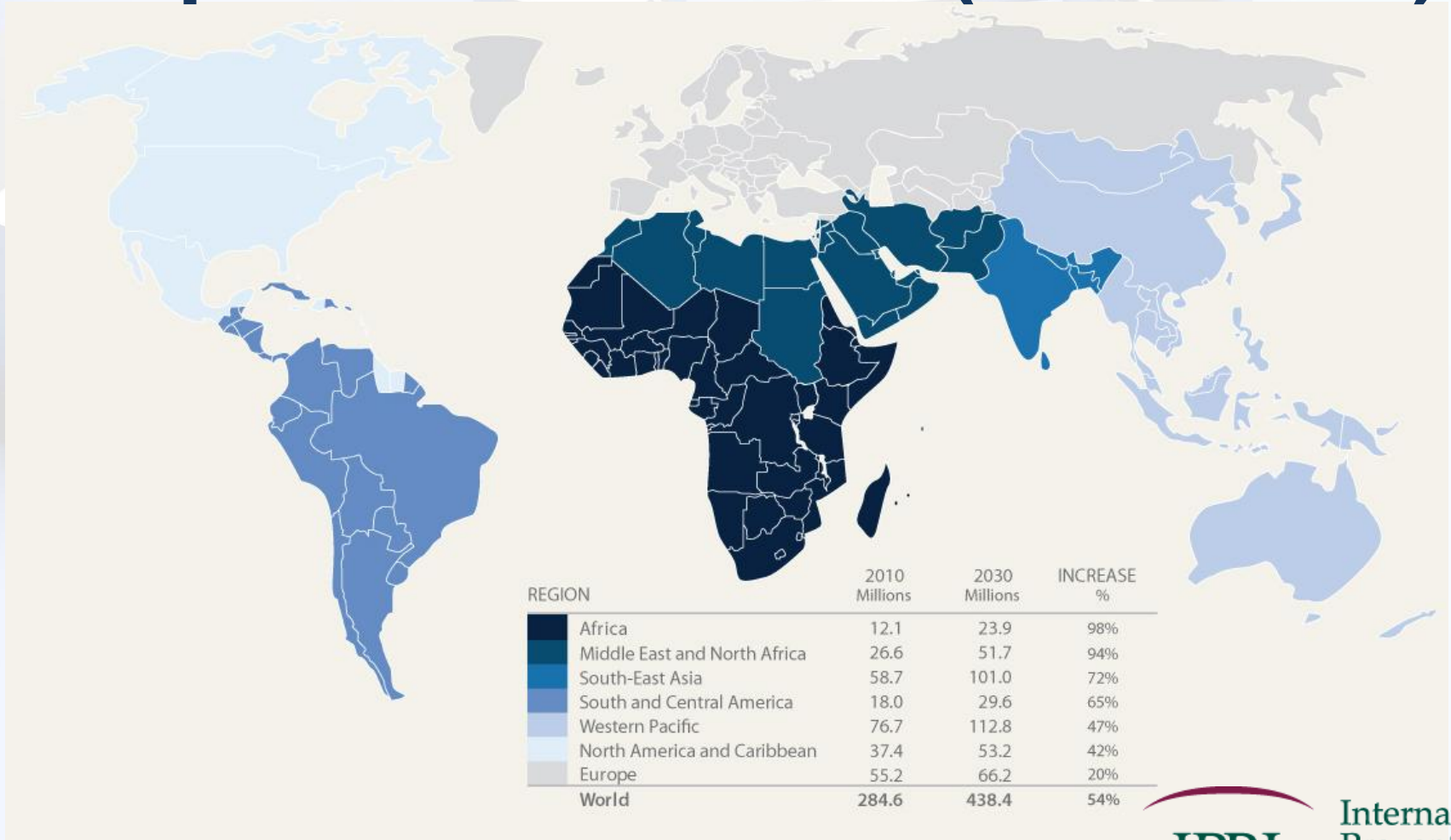
Requirements *for Health Care Innovation in Africa*

- Different disease etiologies and social context
- Different genetic make-up (pharmacogenomics)
- Focus infectious diseases; metabolic diseases and cancer are catching up
- Different disease stages
- Differences in health care delivery

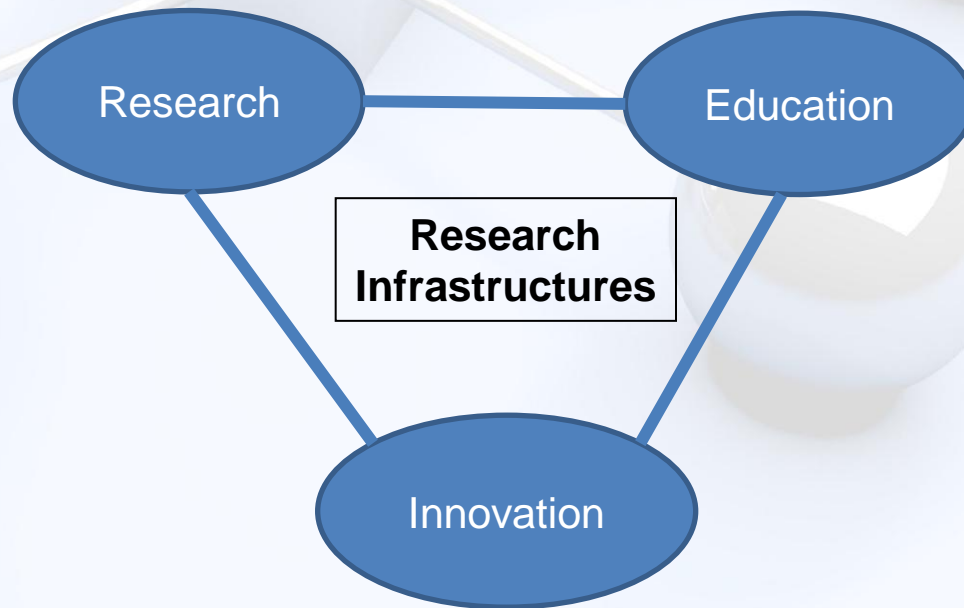


Establishing a Pharma industry addressing the specific needs of Africa

Global Projections of People with Diabetes (2010-2030)

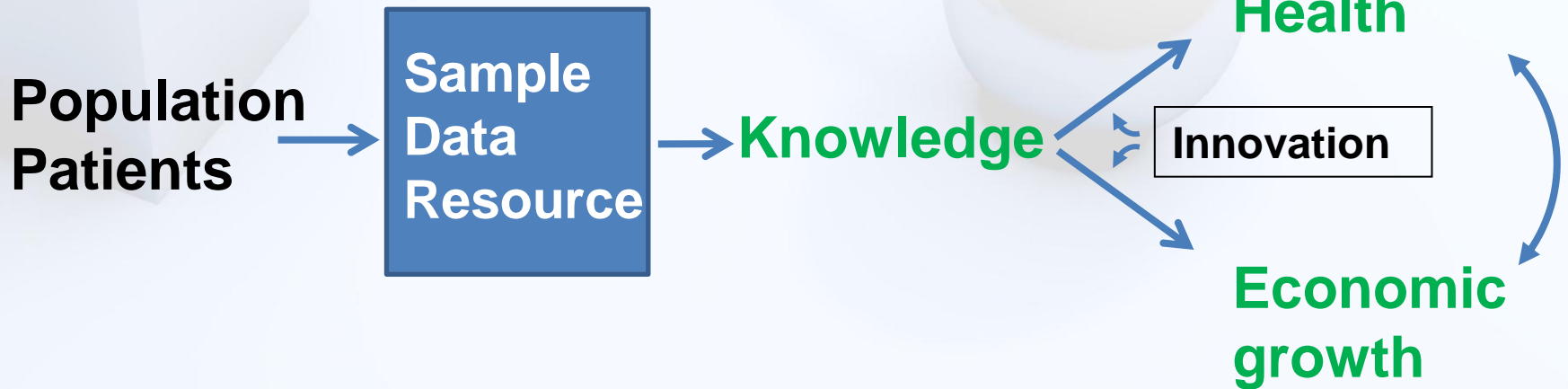


Research Infrastructures *and the Knowledge Triangle*



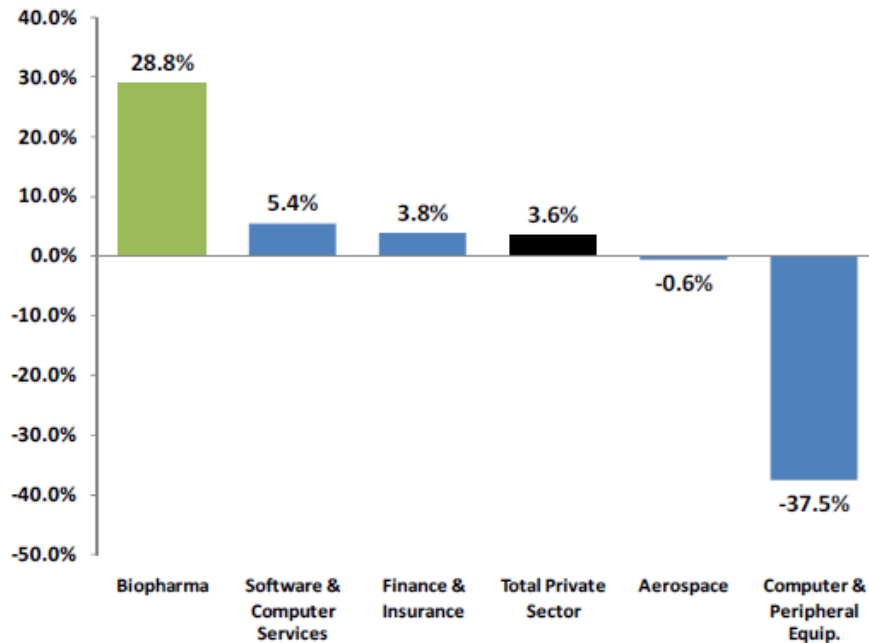
„The quality of public research infrastructures may be one of the most important national assets for supporting innovation“

BBMRI: The cornerstone for a knowledge-based health care economy



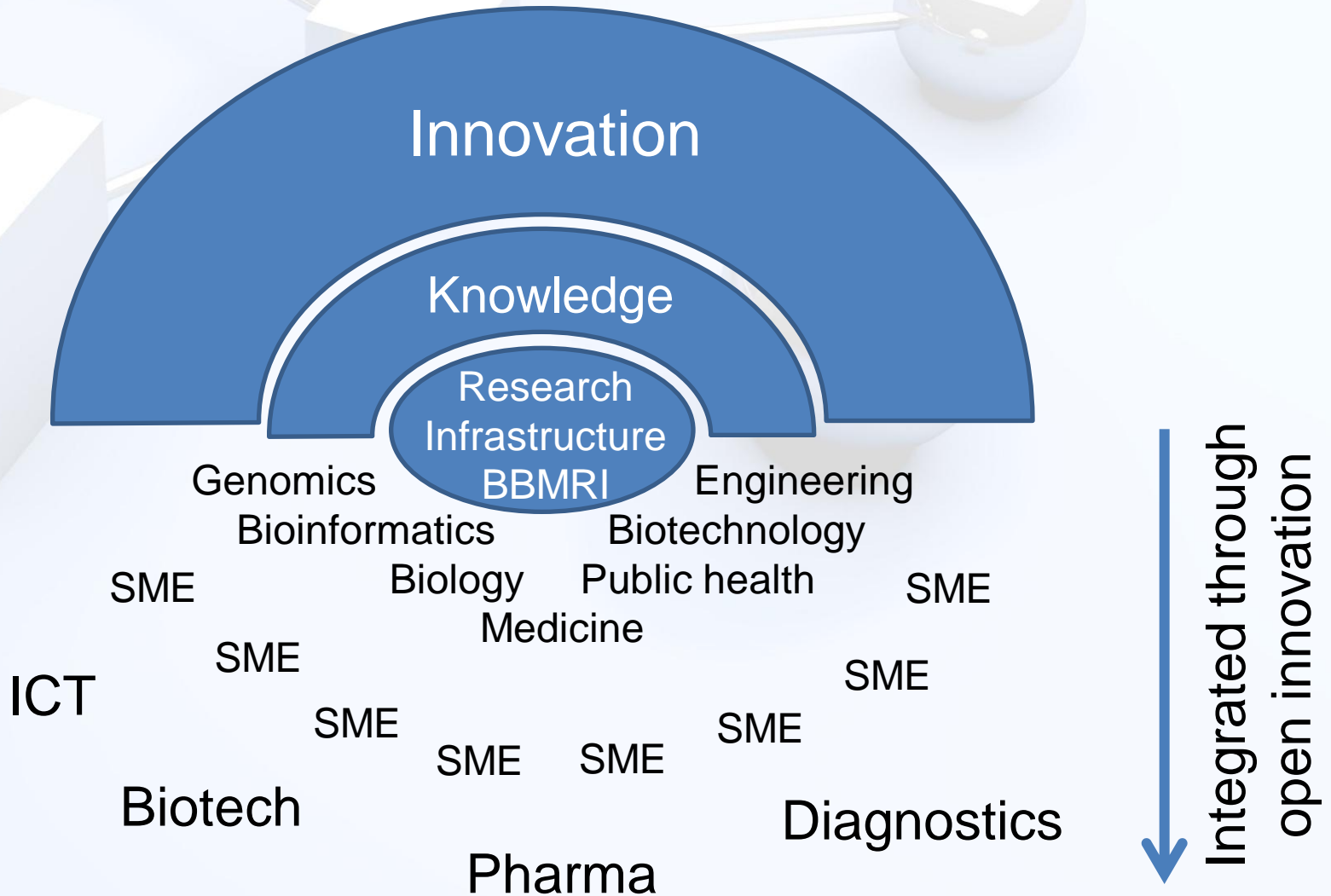
Pharma a Major Driver of Economy

The biopharmaceutical industry sector stands out in rate of job generation from 2001 to 2008 when compared to other high-technology industry sectors



Source: Battelle analysis of BLS, QCEW data from the Minnesota Implan Group.

Targeted Investment into a Research Infrastructure and Linked Innovation System



Proposal for Internationally Coordinated Actions

Development of a four pillar strategy:

- Designing of a BBMRI for Africa
- Education and training programme
- Building an open knowledge sharing infrastructure
- Developing of an BBMRI-associated (open) innovation system



www.bbmri-eric.eu

THANK YOU!