

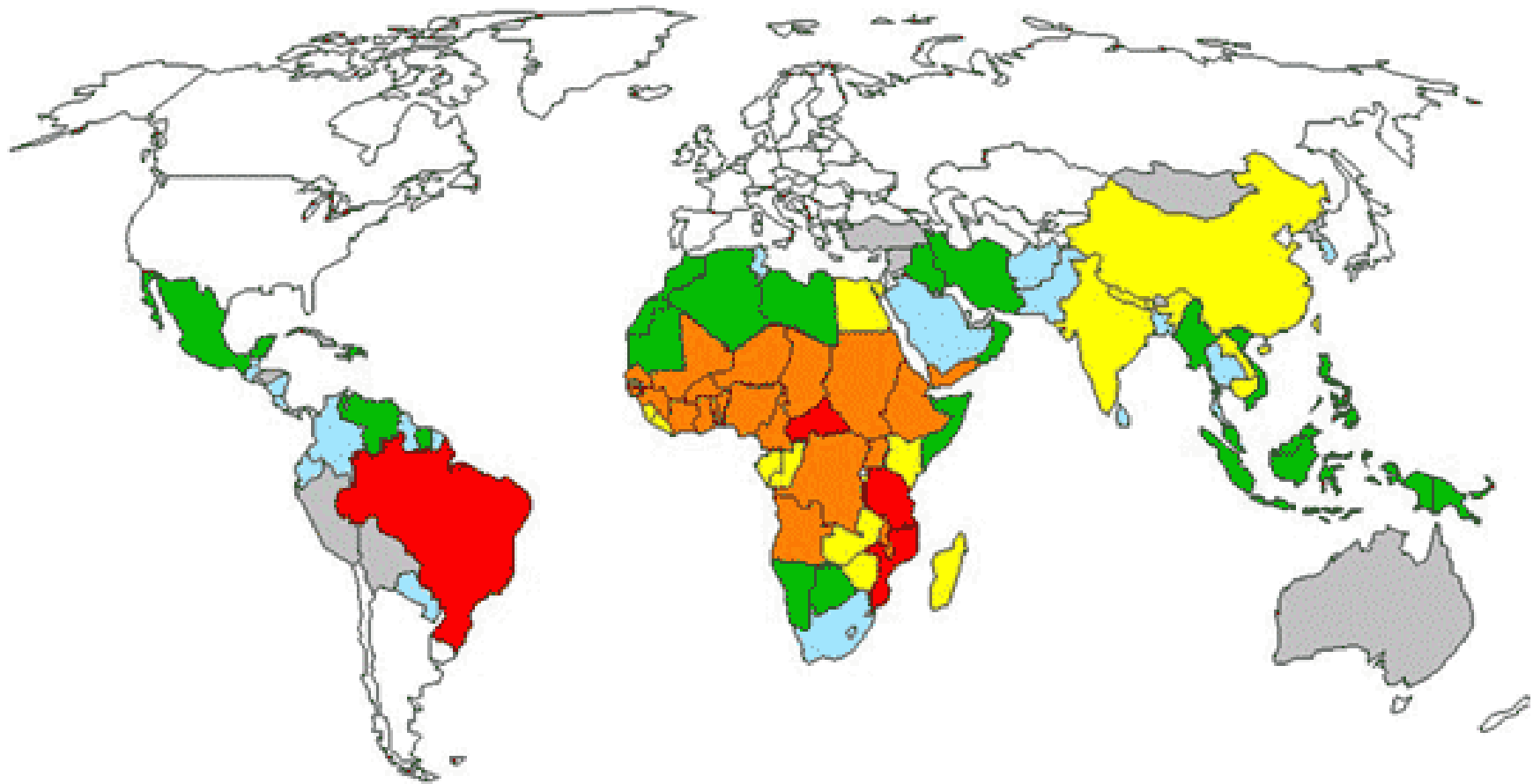
EU funding for international collaborative
health research on neglected diseases:
the Southern perspective

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10 Leading causes of DALYs

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Condition</u>	<u>DALYs (000)</u>
1.	Lower respiratory infections	91.4
2.	HIV/AIDS	84.5
3.	Unipolar depression	67.3
4.	Diarrheal diseases	62.0
5.	Ischemic heart disease	58.6
6.	Neglected tropical diseases	56.6
7.	Cerebrovascular diseases	49.2
8.	Malaria	46.5
9.	Road traffic accidents	38.7
10.	Tuberculosis	34.7

Countries affected by NID



Disease burden of the Neglected Tropical Diseases in Deaths and DALYs

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>DALYs</u>
Schistosomiasis	280,000	4.5 million
Hookworm	65,000	22.1 million
Ascariasis	60,000	10.5 million
Leishmaniasis	51,000	2.1 million
Trypanosomiasis	48,000	1.5 million
Chagas disease	14,000	0.7 million
Trichuriasis	10,000	6.4 million
Leprosy	6,000	0.2 million
Lymphatic Filariasis	0	5.8 million
Trachoma	0	2.3 million
Onchocerciasis	0	0.5 million
Buruli Ulcer	ND	ND
Dracunculiasis	ND	< 0.1 million
Total	534,000	56.6 million

Development of Drugs, Diagnostics & other tools

- No drug developed for leishmaniasis after pentavalent antimony 70 years ago
- Miltefosine, Paromomycin, Ampho B & its lipid formulations were all developed for other diseases
- Their use in leishmania is serendipity
- Pipelines are empty
- Diagnostics like rK39 and DAT are good but far from ideal and are there for 15-20 years
- A marker for active disease is not in sight, some tools are developed but half way

Achievements of EU Framework Programmes

- NID countries are able to decide their research priorities & develop the tools they need, in consultation with their EU collaborators
- Extensive Capability strengthening of southern partners
- Two way flow of knowledge
- Better tools possible for Southern partners
- Technology transfer

Role of EU & European Collaborators

- Neglect created by different health, business & research priorities in developed vs. developing world
- Lack of monetary benefits takes away the industry from developing tools for NID
- To cancel the neglect, new tools & their use in real life settings
- Need & user-adapted research to generate new tools & fill knowledge gap
- Research priorities are decided by those concerned
- Almost all or major part of research is conducted in disease endemic countries
- Genuine support by EC & European researchers

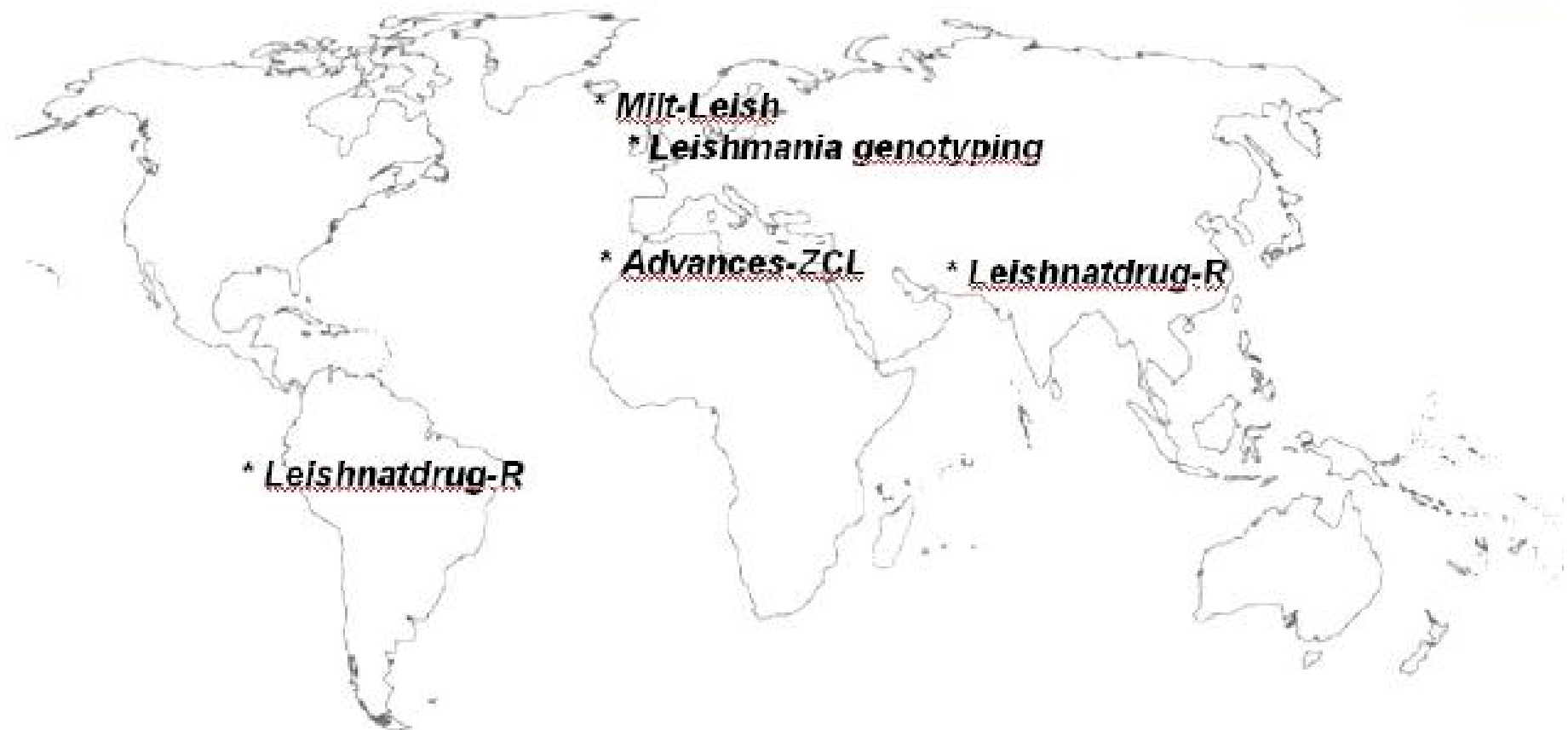
Promoting Meaningful Research in Neglected Diseases – Aim to Bring it to Clinics

- EU Funding is an Important Vehicle in Promoting Meaningful Research
- Identify the gaps in knowledge/needs
- Promote interest in these areas
 - By floating ideas
 - Funding - Small or Big
 - Technical help
- Much of the research is done in developing countries
- System is geared to support hands-on capacity development/utilization

Role of EU

- Most of the work on NID is for enriching the science (CVs) far away from reality of needs
- 10/90 gap -10% of the total global investment in pharmaceutical research was directed towards diseases that accounted for 90% of the global disease burden
- EU can/has taken a lead and built a bridge between the technically rich EU laboratories and Countries harboring NID
- Goal oriented research funding with the aims to fill the unmet needs

FP5



FP6



FP7



FP5

Milt-Leish & Leishnatdrug-R
Mechanisms and markers of resistance

Leishmania genotyping
Tools for molecular epidemiology

Advances-ZCL
Tools for epidemiology (immunology)

FP6

Leishepinet-SA
Molecular epidemiology of NVV Leishmaniasis

Leish-Med
Integrated monitoring of risk factors

Tryleidiag
Simplified molecular tools for diagnostics

Kalanet
Bednet intervention trial, Indian Kala-Azar

Leishrisk
Bridging research and control

EDEN-LEI
Surveillance of vectors in Europe

FP7

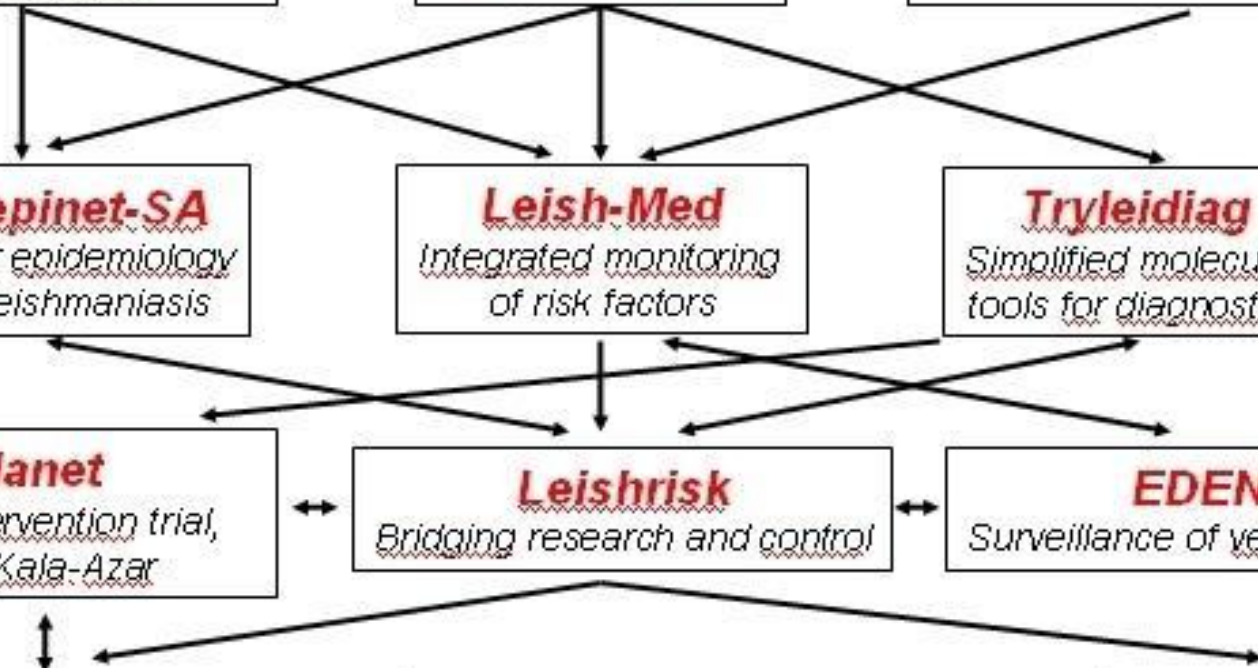
Kaladrug-R
Drug resistance, Indian Kala-azar

Leishdnavax
Vaccine

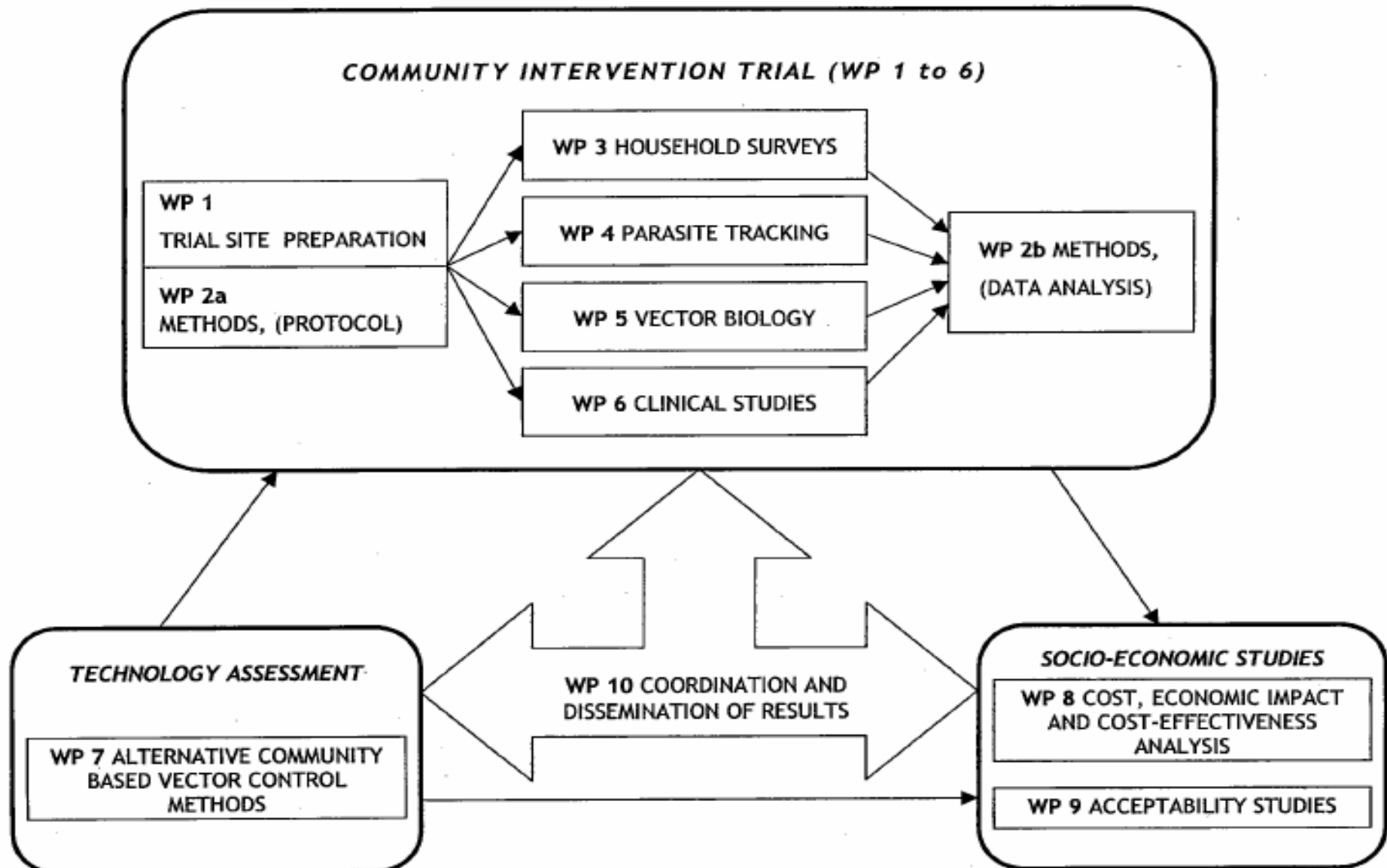
Leishdrug
New drugs

Trypobase
New drugs

Rapsodi
Vaccine



Kalanet



Kalanet Budget

(INCODEV / FP6)

- 2.1 million Euro for 4 years
- 7 Partners: 4 from NID countries
- 45 % of budget directly managed by NID partners
- 33% of the funds allocated to the Northern partners were spent in the Endemic Countries

Bottlenecks

- Complicated process of accounting, increasing with every new framework
- Countries outside EU face the problem of exchange rate fluctuation
- The concept of pre-financing is ok for EU institutions but investigators in south suffer
- Payment of last installment after approval of final report is major hurdle to most institutions of South (occasionally >1 Year)

Conclusions

- **EU funding in FP5-7 has had significant impact in the research capability strengthening of laboratories in South**
- **These steps could lead to real breakthroughs to alleviate the suffering of impoverished population**
- **Most other funding agencies are either oblivious of the needs of NID or do not have sufficient resources, EU could be different**
- **A concerted and sustained response to the problem of neglected diseases is more than just a moral imperative**
- **It also contributes to growing economic and social stability in traditionally neglected or exploited regions of the world**
- **Will ultimately benefit Europe through supportive development in NID-countries.**