

# REGIONAL APPROACH TO WORKFORCE SHORTAGES IN CANCER PREVENTION AND CONTROL

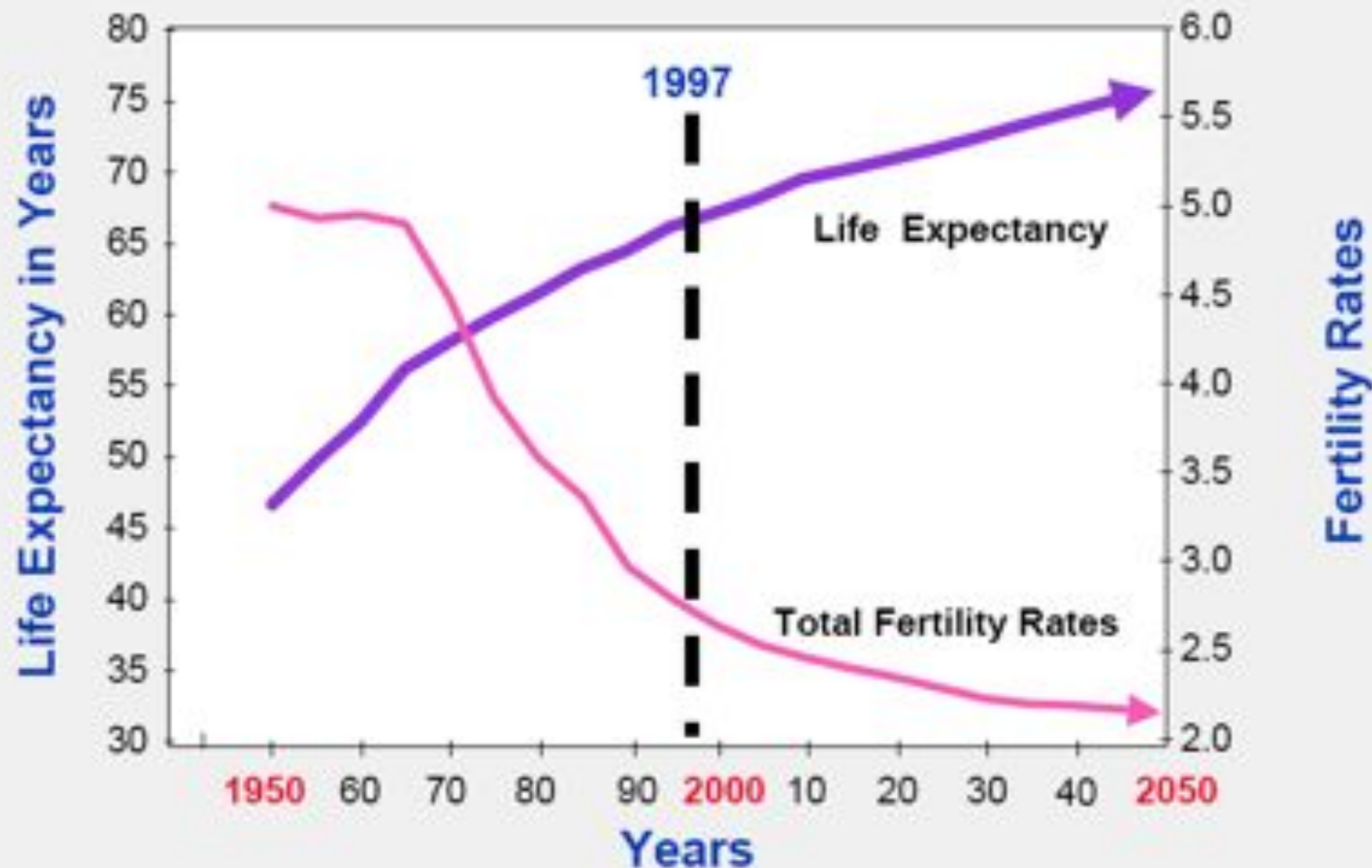


Barry Kistnasamy, South Africa

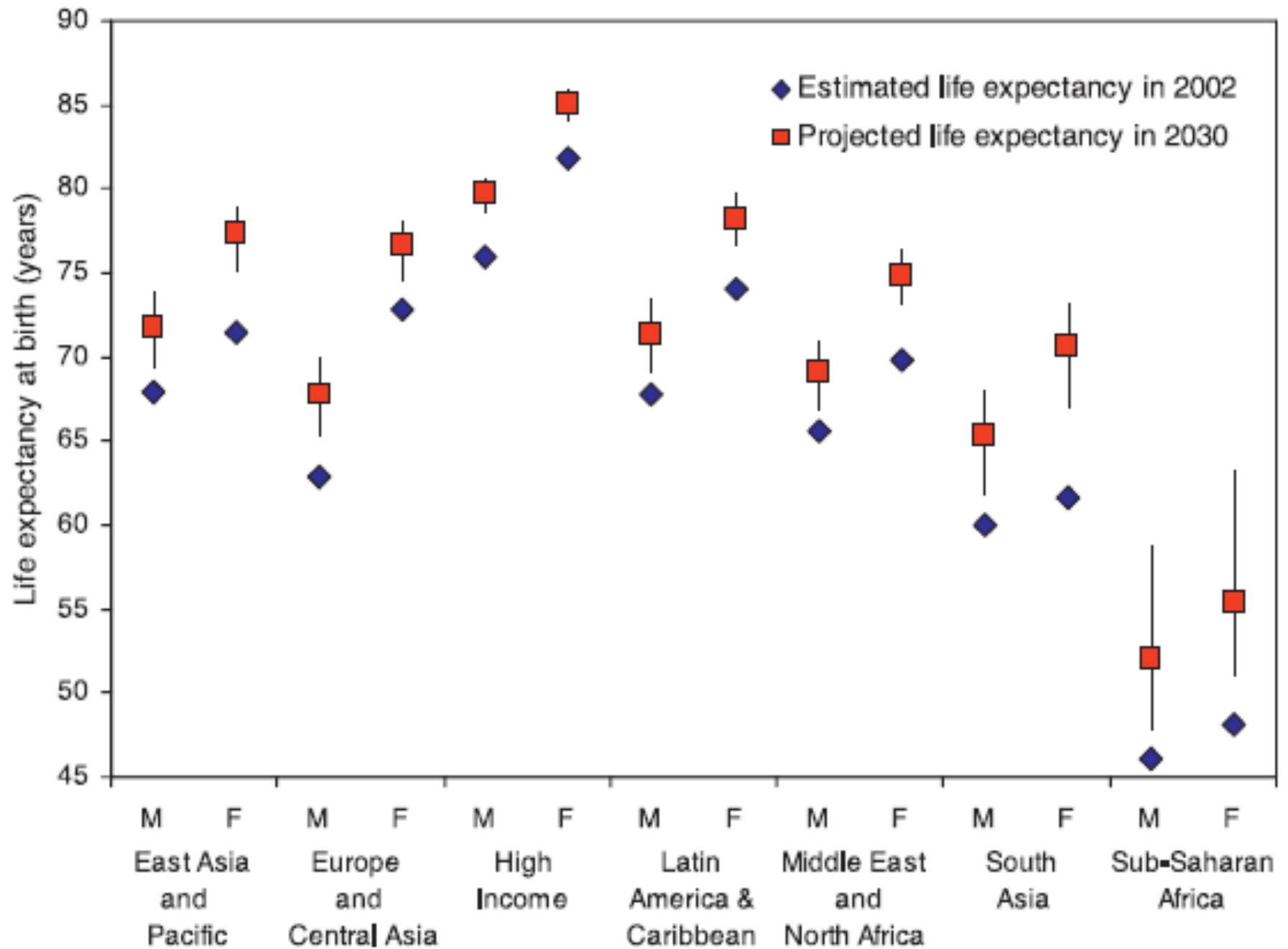
# Overview

- Macro-perspectives
- Human Resource Needs & Challenges in Africa
- Capacity building initiatives

# A Century of Unparalleled Improvement



# Life Expectancy 2002, 2030 (WHO, GBD)

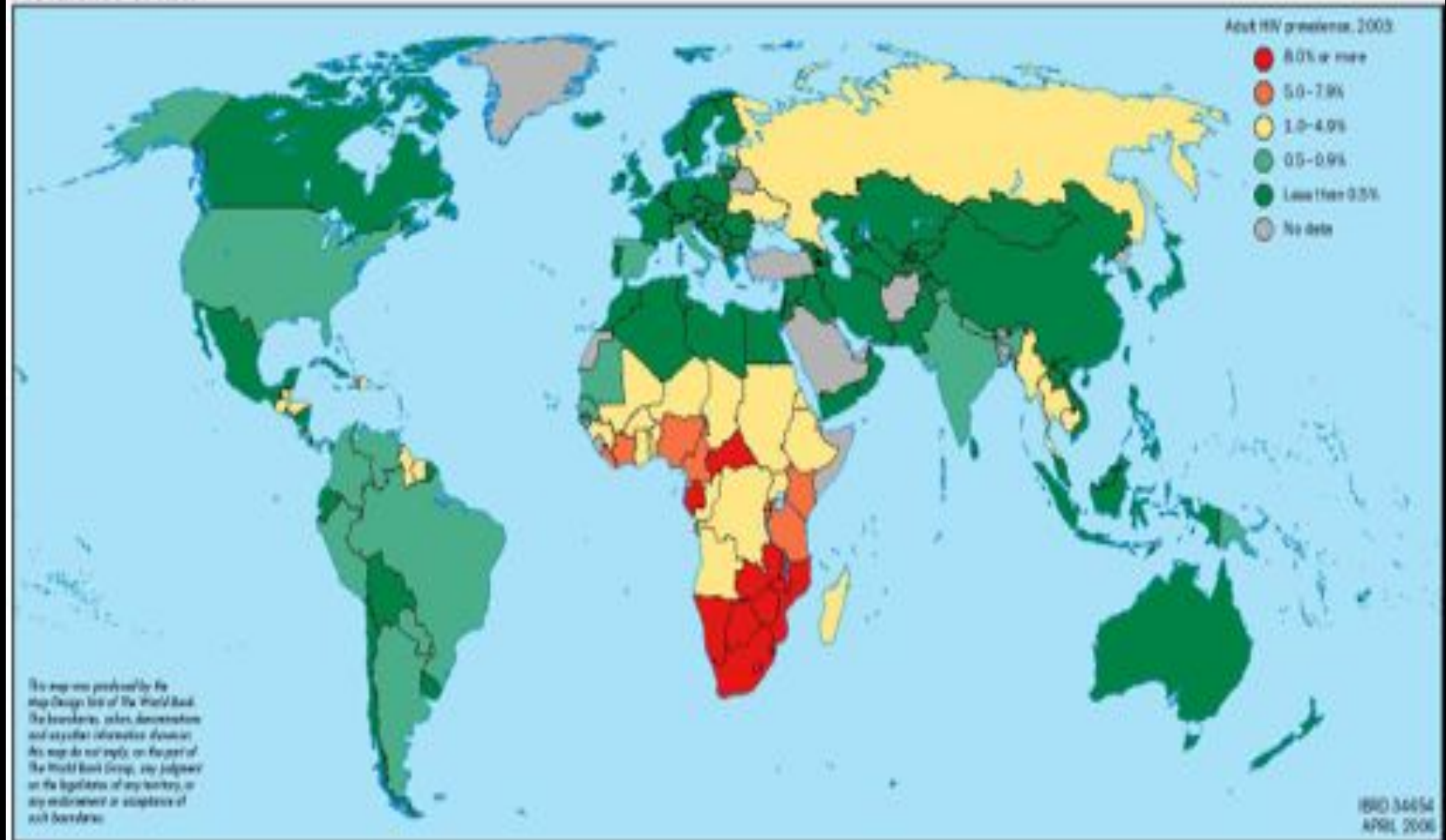


# Africa's Quadruple Burden of Disease

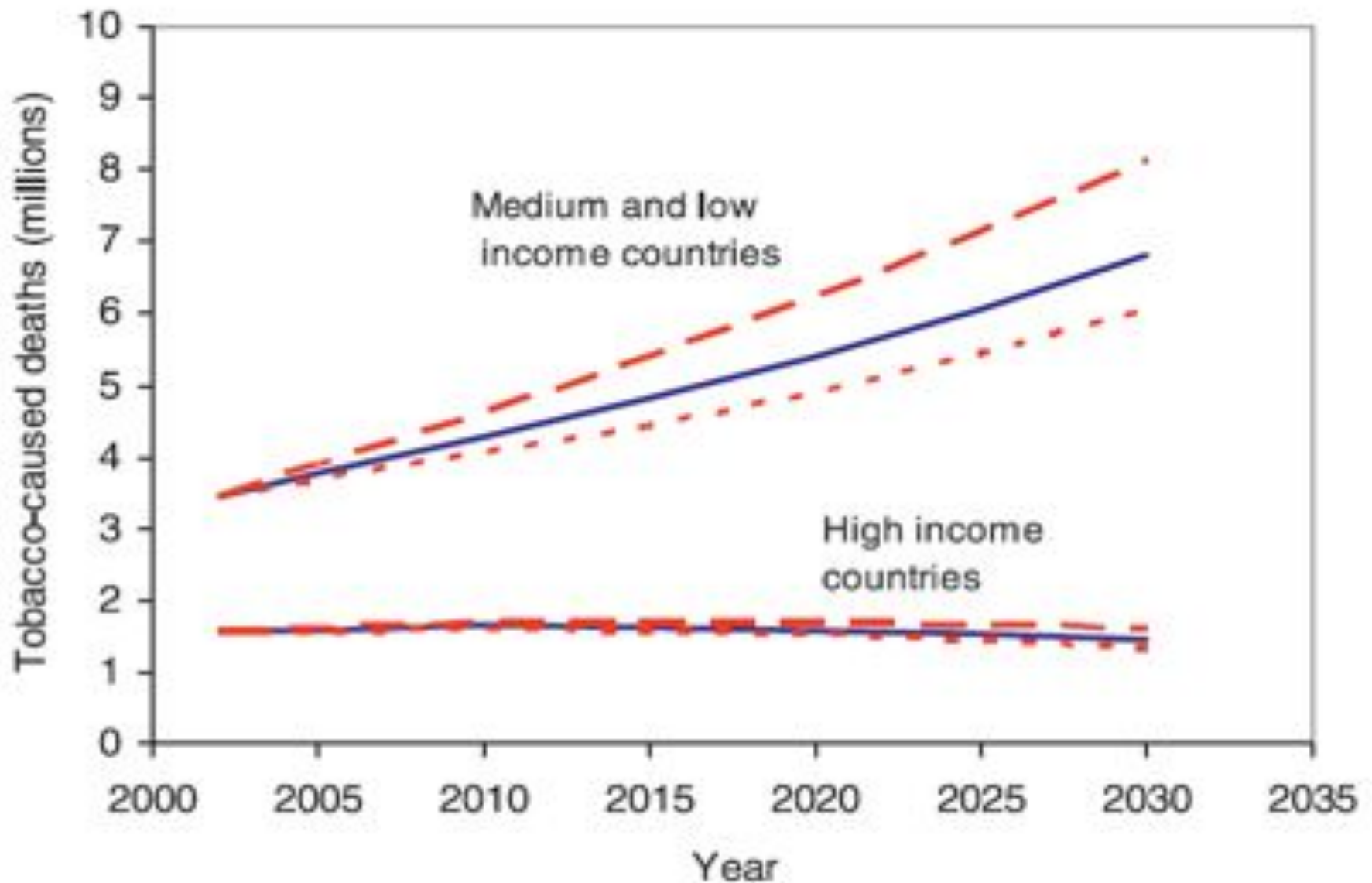
- Threats to Health
  - Natural disasters
  - Non-natural - Interpersonal violence, accidents
- Infectious Diseases
  - Malaria, TB, HIV, Diarrhoea
- Emerging Epidemics
  - Drug resistance, Avian flu. Lifestyle
- Epidemiological Transition
  - Chronic diseases & injuries
  - Occupational & environmental ill-health
  - Mental health
  - Cancers

# HIV

Prevalence of HIV.

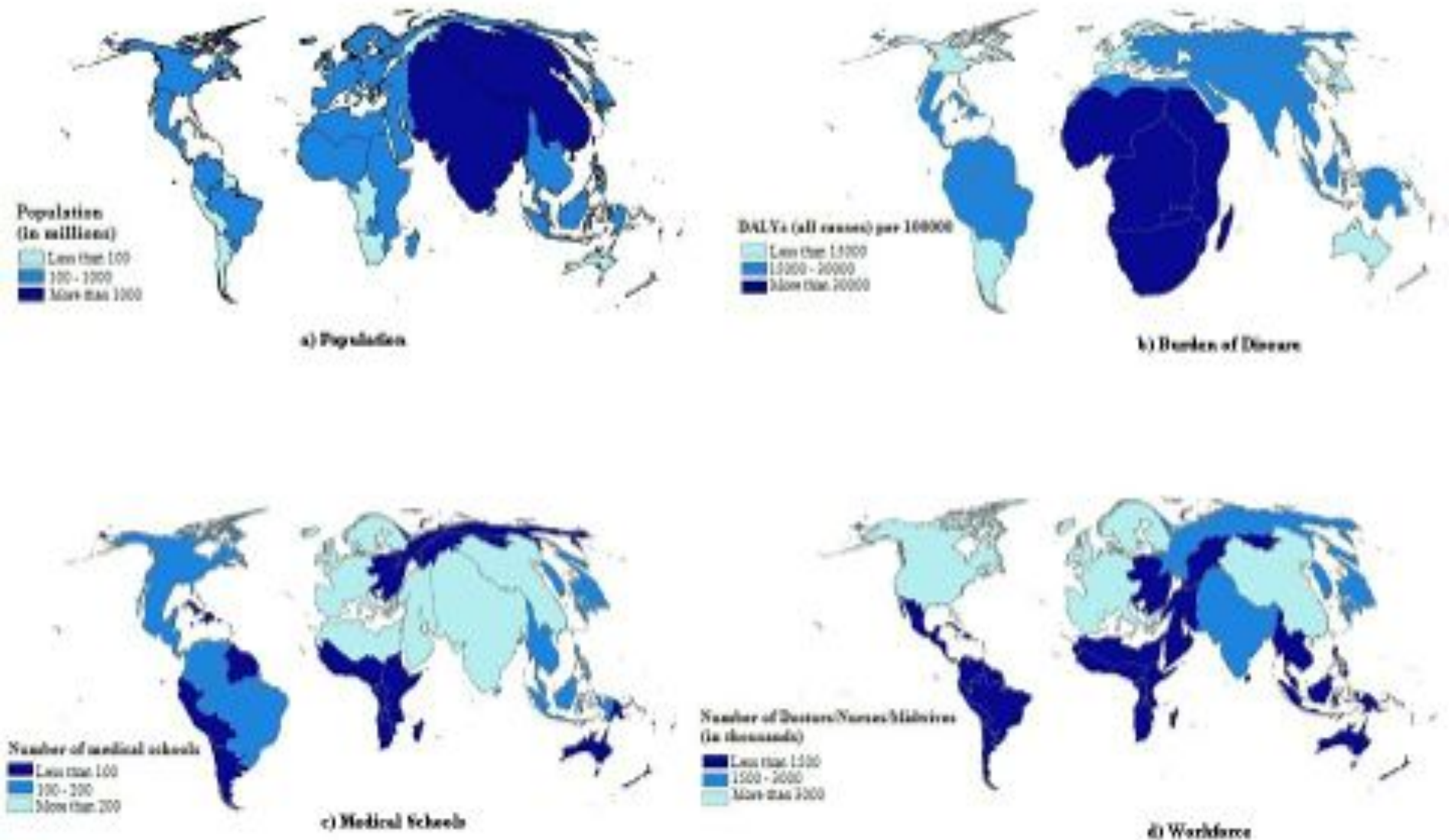


# Tobacco Related Deaths





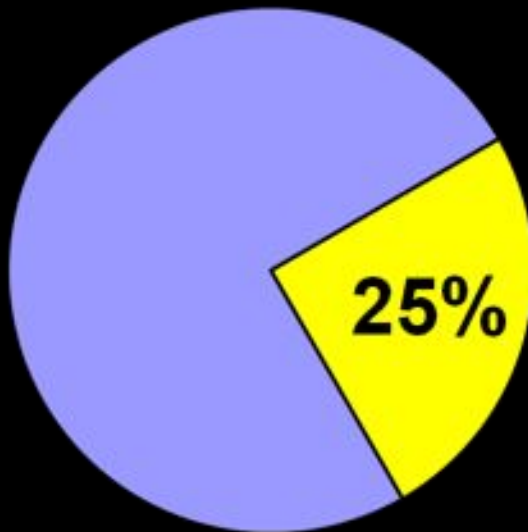
# Resized World Maps (Lancet. 2011)



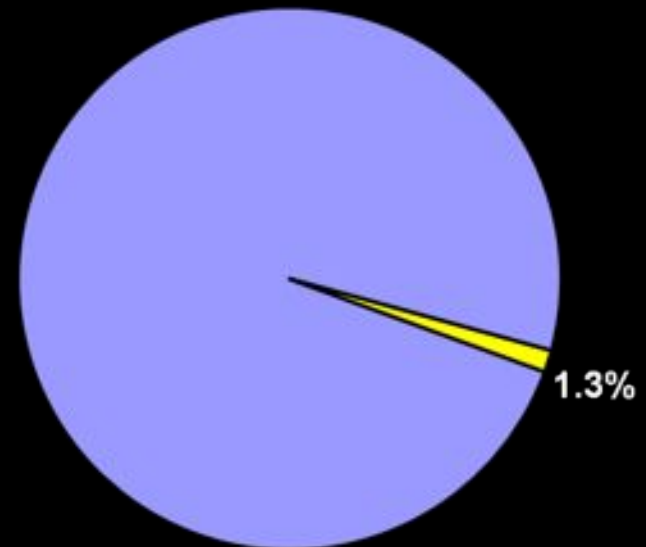


# More Illness and Fewer Health Workers in Africa

**Africa's Burden of the World's Diseases**



**Africa's Share of the World's Health Workforce**



WHO: Human Resources for Health, 2006

# Little or Non-existent Cancer Services

- No access

- Cancer screening & early diagnosis
- Treatment
- Palliative care and support

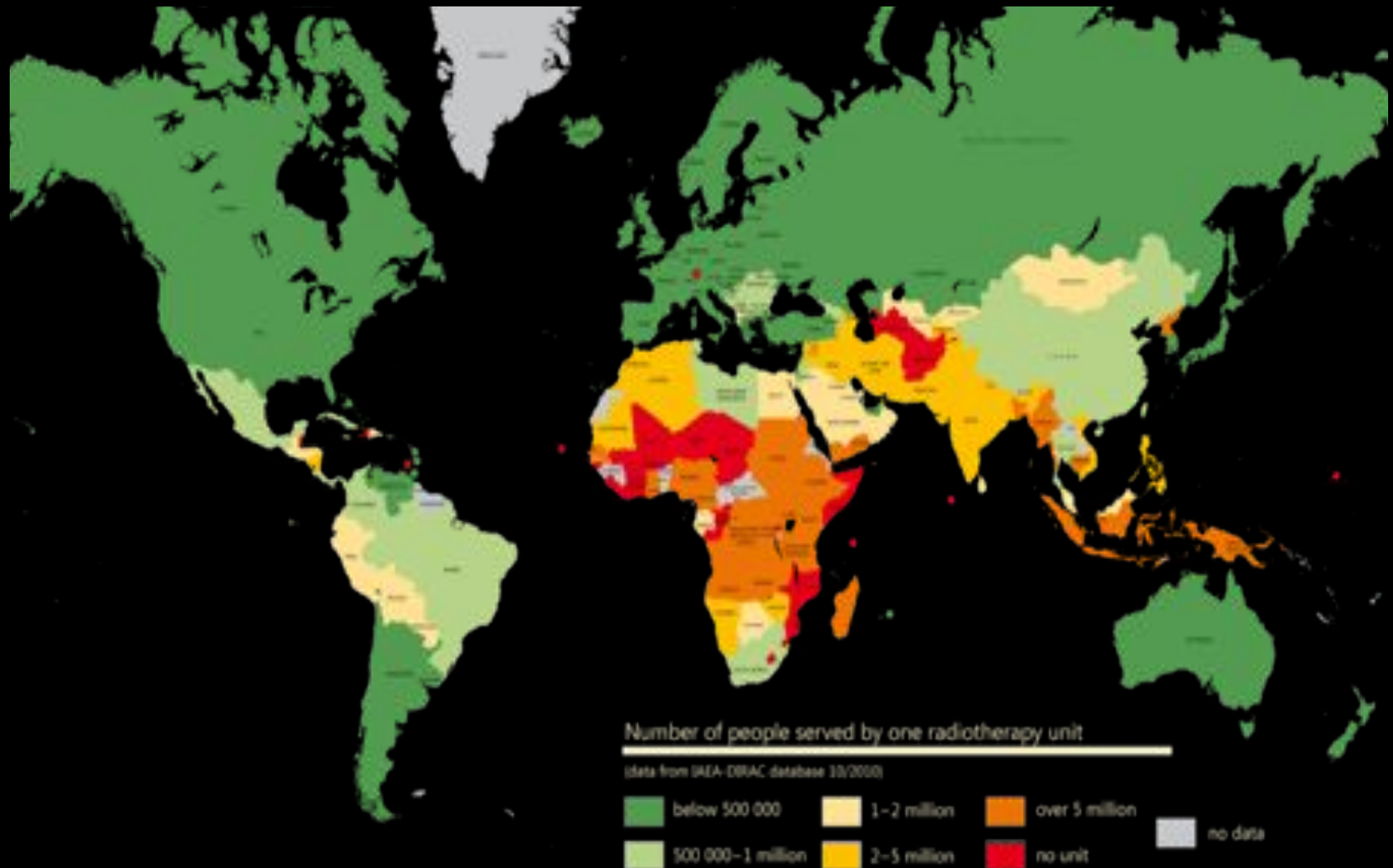
- Poor infrastructure

- Health facilities
- Equipment
- Drugs / Cancer interventions

- Human resources

- Inadequate or non-existent
- Recruitment, retention & professional development
- High costs of training

# Inequity in Access to Radiotherapy



# Cancer Health Professionals / Infrastructure in Africa

- 4 oncologists and 5 oncology nurses in Zambia
- 1 oncologist / 60m in Ethiopia
- Radiotherapy services in 23 of 53 countries (< 5% of population reached)
- < 2% of radiotherapy centres globally

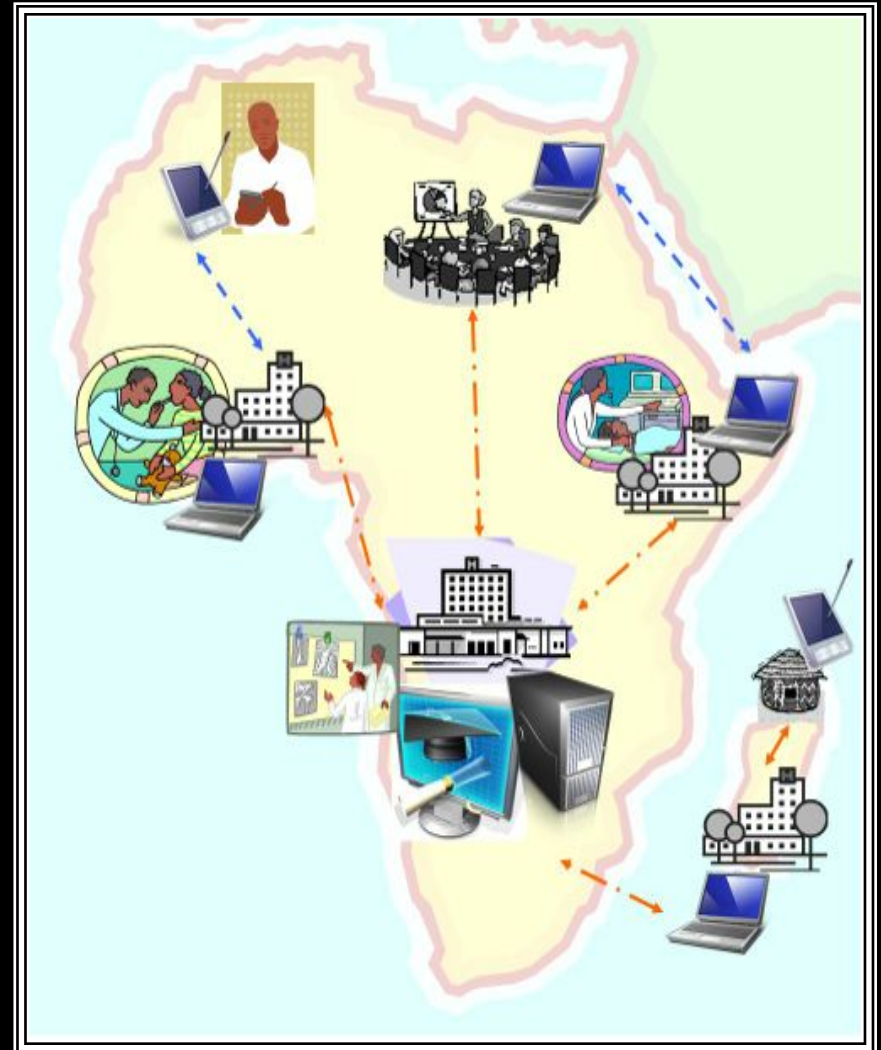
**IT'S NEVER TOO LATE!**



# VUCCnet Project Vision

Fostering African  
knowledge development in  
order to improve  
cancer prevention & control

- ✓ Knowledge sharing
- ✓ Capacity building
- ✓ Low-cost, high-efficiency channels (Internet)
- ✓ Train the trainers
- ✓ Avoid brain drain





# VUCCnet Approach

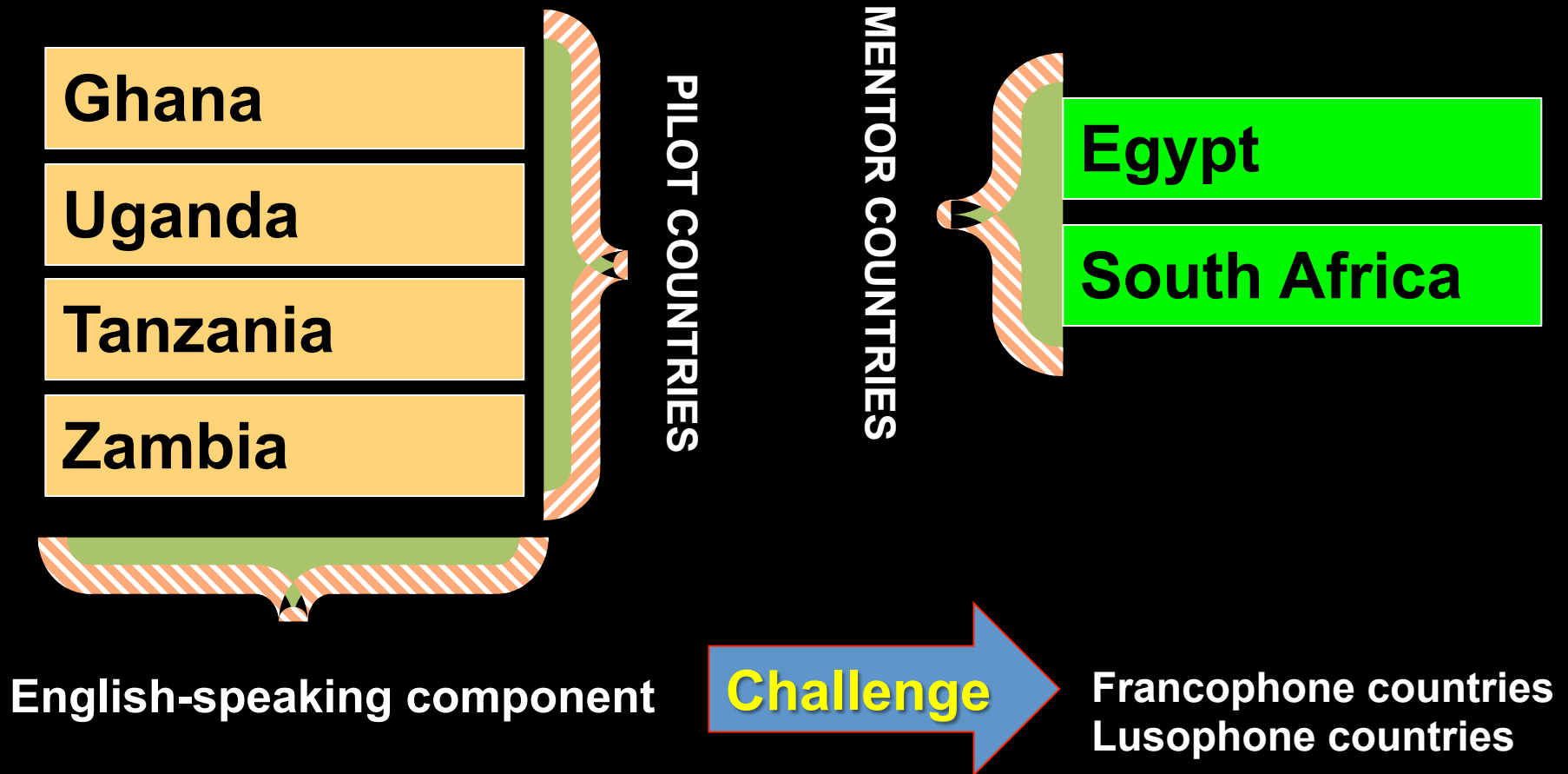
- Build on existing base
- South – South collaboration
  - ICT infrastructure
  - Hub & spoke
- Formally accredited courses
- Local & regional ownership
- Sustainability



# VUCCnet Approach

- Regional Cancer Training Network
- Consortia of Higher Education Institutions + Cancer Control Service Providers
  - develop curricula and materials
  - mentoring and support
- Regionally accepted training programme
  - accessible at lower cost
  - blended learning (distance, contact, online)
  - experiential training
  - certification

# VUCCnet Pilot Phase 1



# Responding to the need - **VUCCnet**

- Output: 250 oncologists, 8000 nurses, 2800 CHWs over next 10 years

	In-Service	Pre-Service
<b>Prevention</b>	1. Community Health Workers (Cancer Skills Package)	
<b>Early Detection</b>	2. Screening Workers (Cervical Cancer: VIA)	
<b>Diagnosis &amp; Treatment</b>	3. Pathology Technicians  4. Surgeons (Surgical Oncology Modules)	5. Radiation Therapy Technicians  6. Clinical Oncologists  7. Oncology Nurses  8. Pathologists
<b>Palliative Care</b>	9. Palliative Care practitioners (Short Courses)	
<b>Surveillance</b>	10. Data Collectors	

# Progress to date

- Developed governance framework
- Held policy harmonisation workshop
- Piloted online cervical cancer training
- List of activities and budget

# Acknowledgements

- UICC
- IAEA
- Partners within VUCCnet
- Partners across the IAEA PACT programme



# Together we can!



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