

Gender Summit 9 - Europe
Brussels, 8 November 2016

**Measuring gender gaps in Science,
Technology and Innovation in Latin
America and the Caribbean**

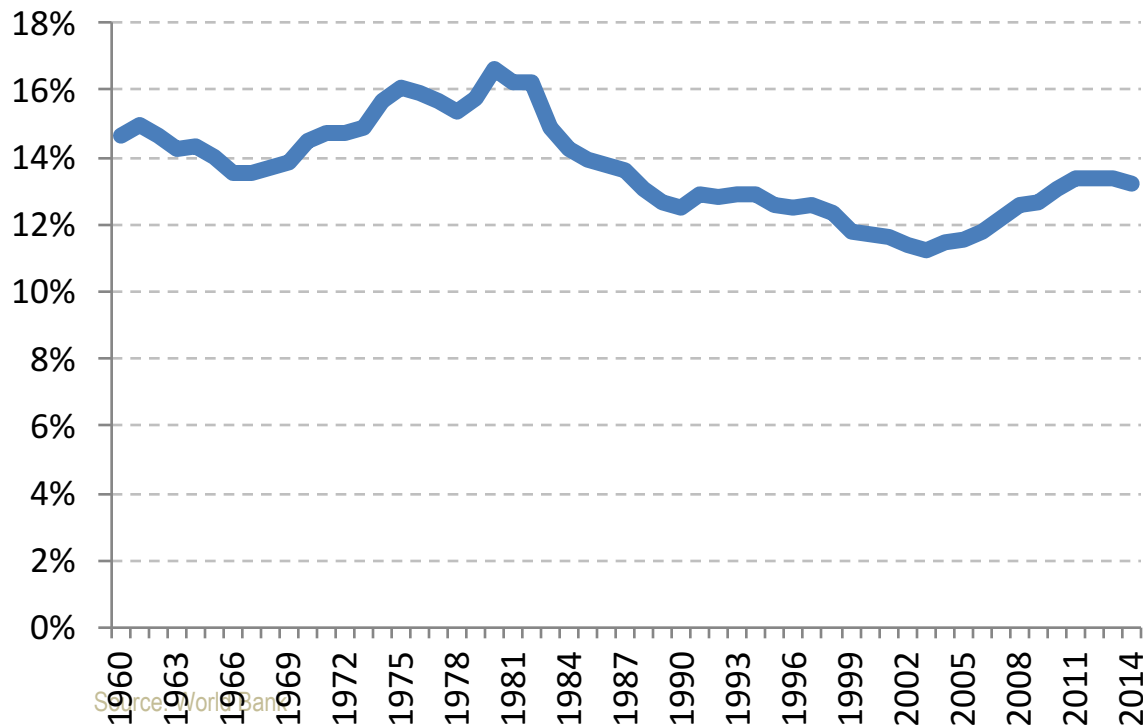
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Development Challenge in LAC

LAC GDP pc compared to US GDP pc



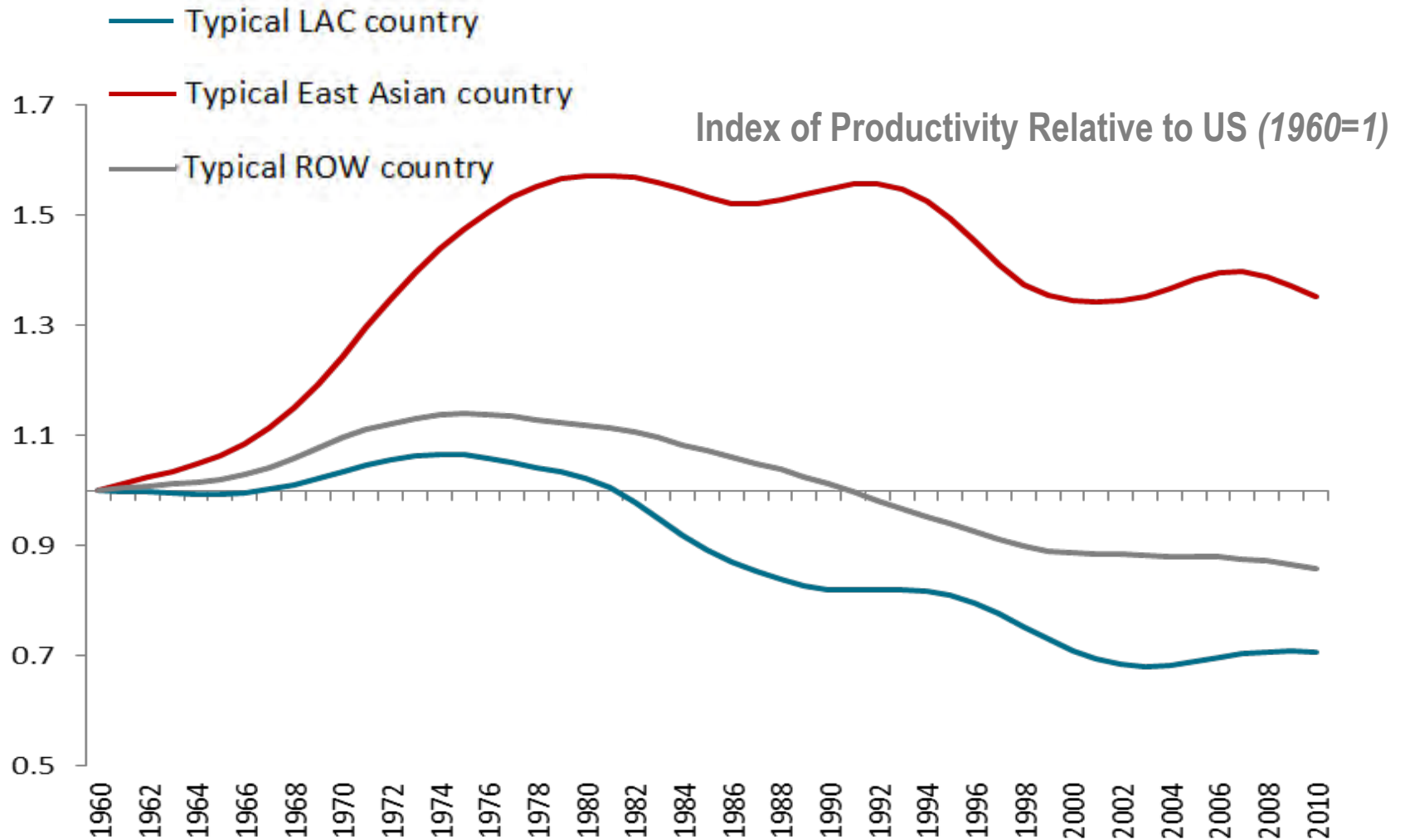
Source: World Bank

PIB pc relative to the USA was 14.8% in 1960

Today is 13.2%

Difference is bigger than in 1960!

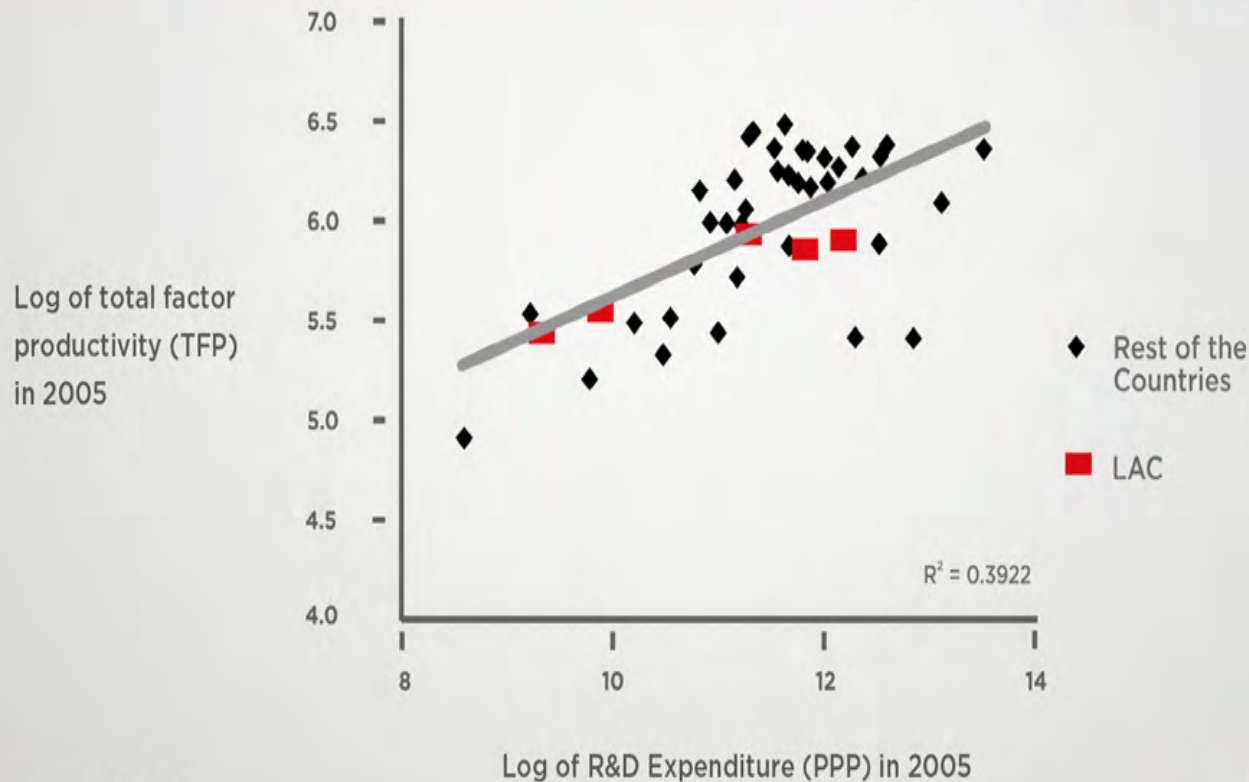
What is the problem?



Source: Fernandez-Arias (2014)

Low Productivity Growth

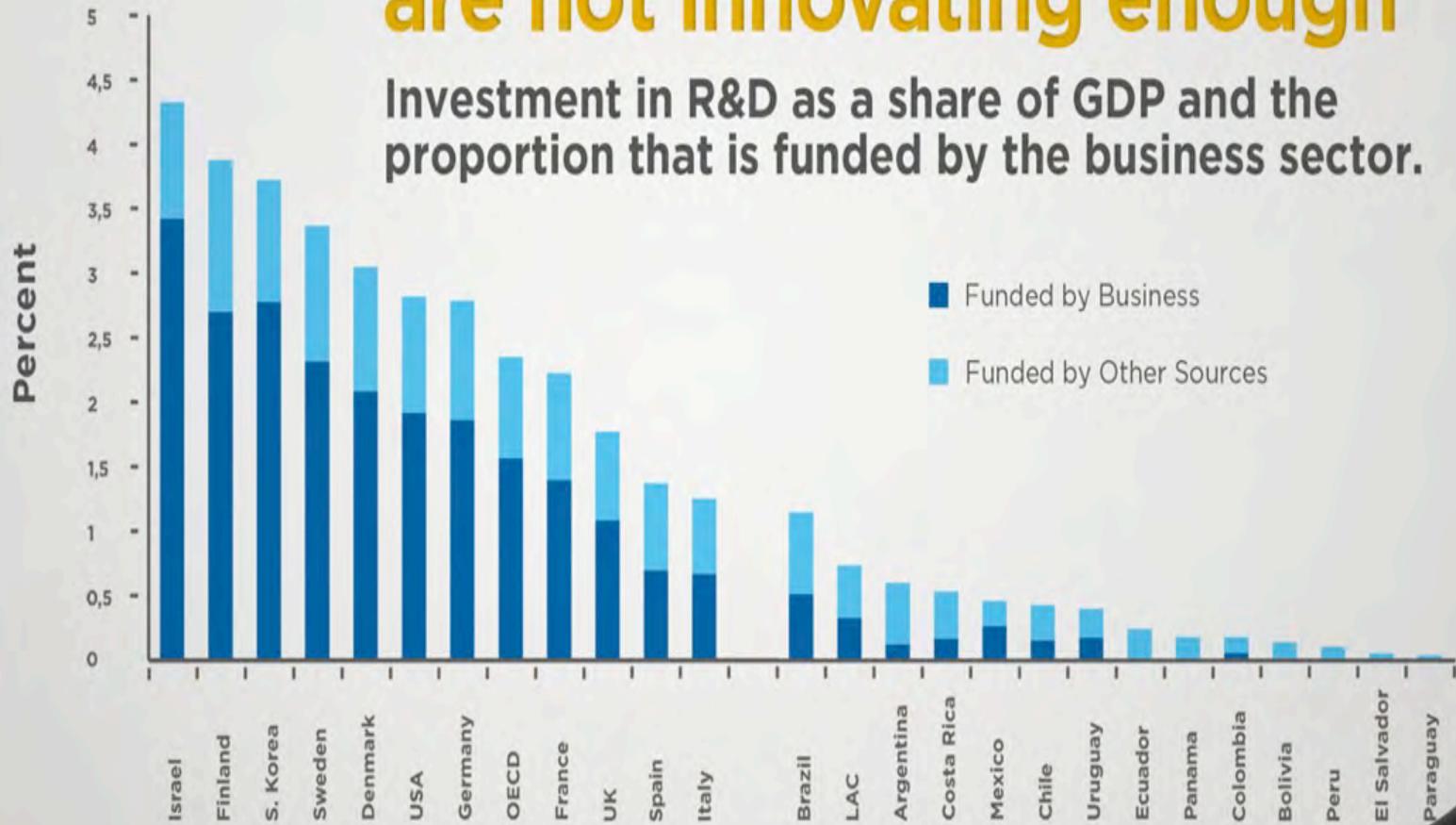
Innovation is a key determinant of long-term growth



Sources: IDB, 2010.

But Latin American economies are not innovating enough

Investment in R&D as a share of GDP and the proportion that is funded by the business sector.



Sources: OECD and RICYT.

Scarcity of specialized technicians and engineers

Researchers per 1,000 in the labor force

LAC



OECD



USA



Source: Approximate figure based on RICYT and MISTI, accessed December, 2014.

Researchers per 1,000 in the labor force

USA



8.08

1.85 female

OECD



7.18

2.36 female

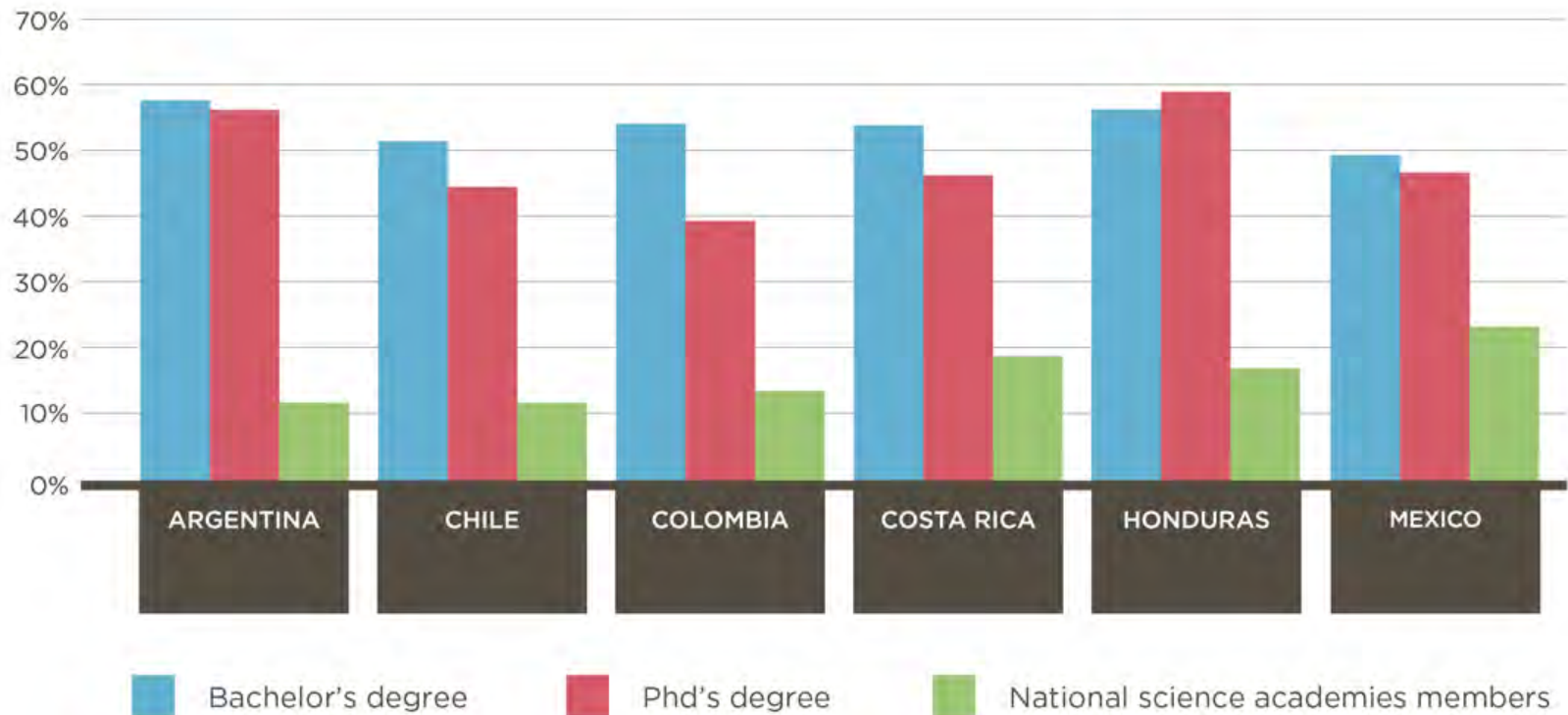
LAC



1.11

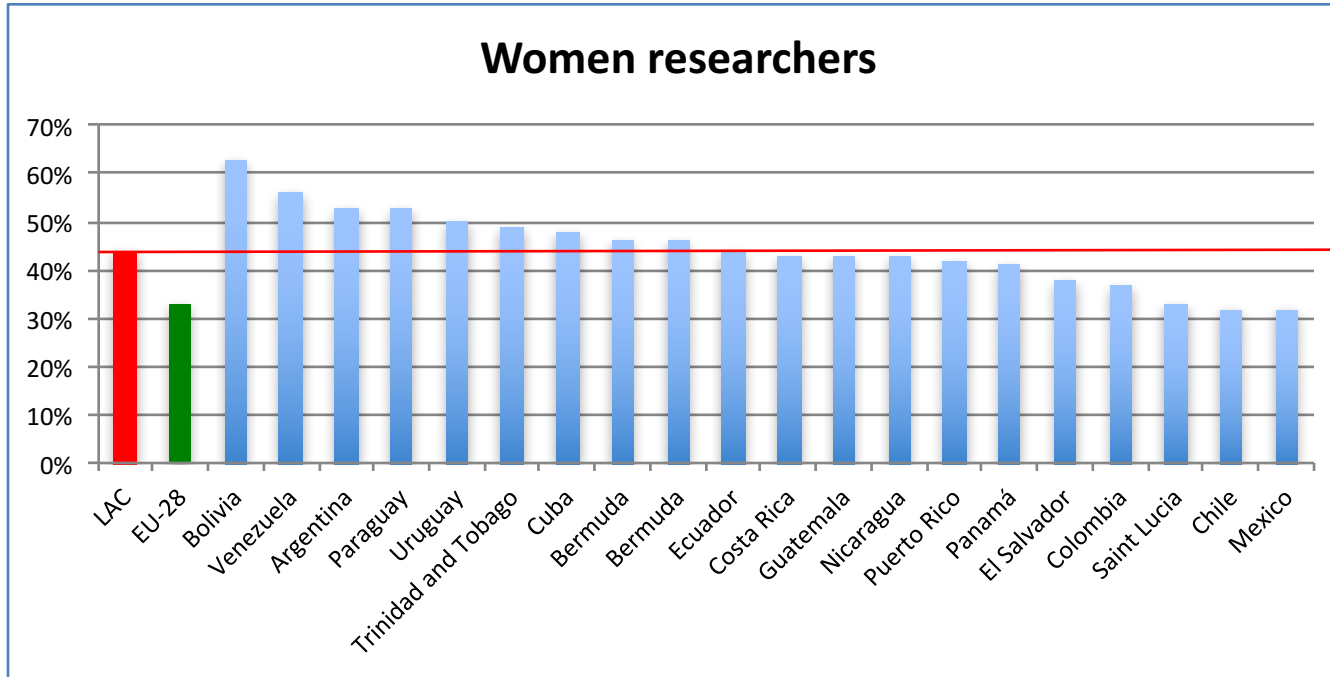
0.46 female

Female participation in LAC



Source: UNESCO and : Inter-American Network of Academies of Science (IANAS), 2015

A closer look



Situation in LAC looks a bit more promising than in the EU:
46% vs 33%

However, **composition** matters!

(not enough data)

Source: Women is Science, UNESCO; SHE Figures 2015, EU.

Women researchers by field in Colombia

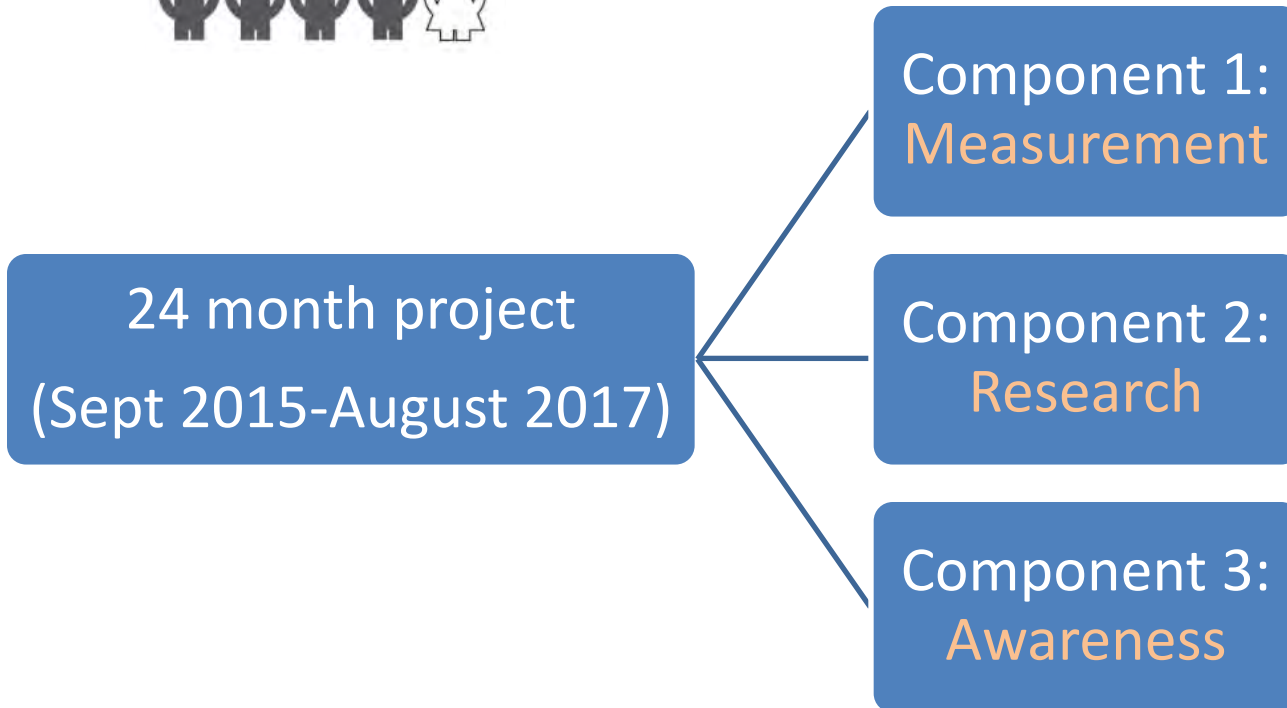
- Natural Sciences: 32%
- Engineering & Tech: 21%
- Medical Sciences: 48%
- Agricultural Sciences: 40%
- Humanities: 37%

- Low women patent ownership in LAC:
6.7% women-only
69.6% men-only

Source: Morales and Sifontes (2014)



How the IDB is addressing this issue for LAC?



A focus on indicators

Initial review and assessment of best practices (in LAC and other regions)

Conceptual framework for measurement covering 4 broad areas:

STI Higher Education

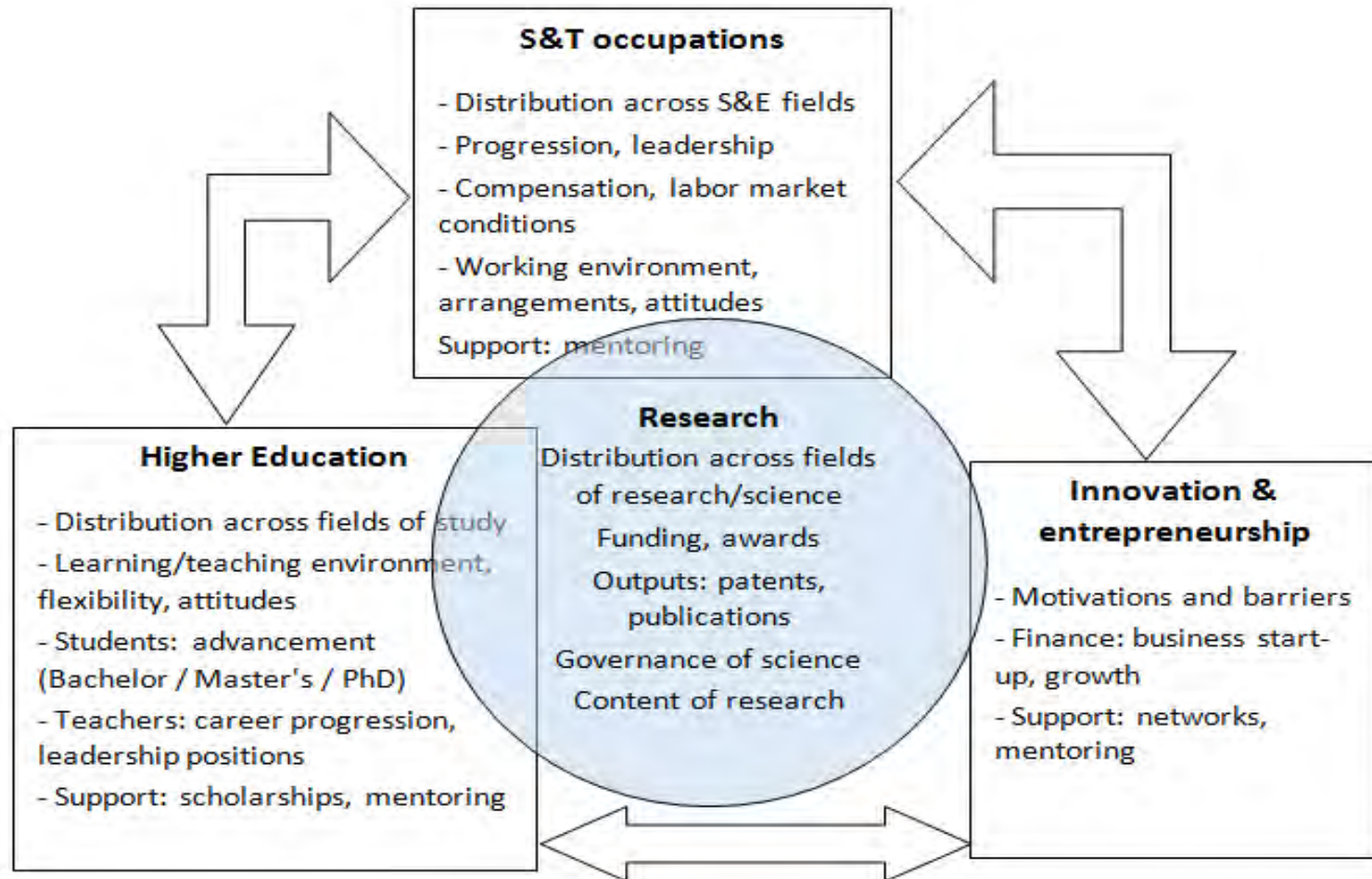
S&T occupations

Research activities and careers

Innovation and Entrepreneurship



A conceptual framework for measurement



Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Key dimension linking S&T outputs with commercialization, firm creation, competitiveness

High policy interest, but data rather scarce

Main topics identified:

- Firm creation

- Financing

- Innovation awards

- Networks and business environment

On-going work and next steps

Questionnaire on data availability sent to LAC region countries

Based on results, pilot data collection to be carried out in Q1 2017 in limited number of countries (3-4)

Thank You!!



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