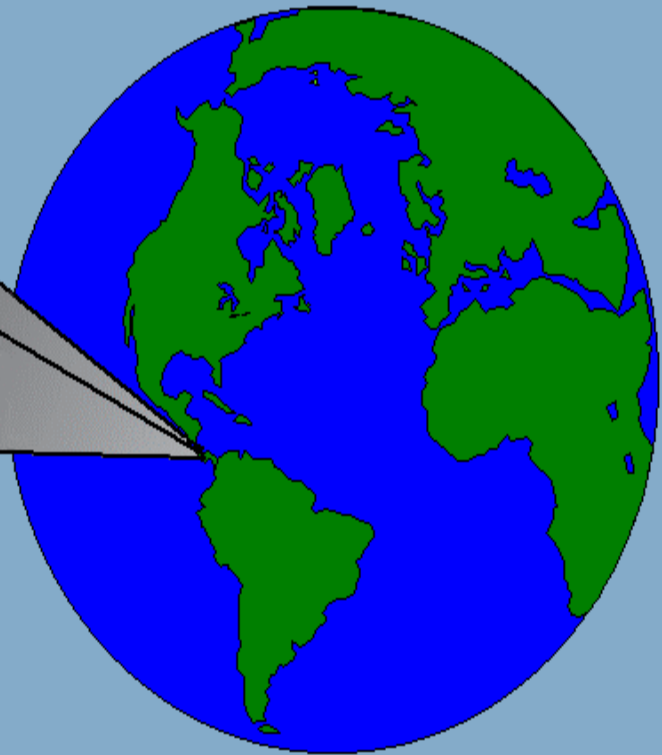




Costa
Rica



Costa Rica

Political system	Democratic
	No army
Population (2004)	4,248,481
GDP (2004)	~US\$ 18,500 million
Unemployment rate (2004)	6,5%
Currency	Colón
Exchange rate (March 7th, 2007)	521 col / 1 US\$
Tourism revenue (2004)	US\$ 1,357 million

Source: Estado de la Nación - www.estadonacion.or.cr

BCCR, CINDE, COMEX

Why is Costa Rica a special place when it comes to biodiversity?



51,100 km² of continental surface
and 589,000 km² of territorial water

holds 4% of the world's biodiversity



density-wise, one of the most
diverse countries in the planet





Biowealth of Costa Rica

Group	First place	Second place	Third place	Fourth place	Fifth place	Costa Rica (Position and No. of species)
Plants	Brazil 55.000	Colombia 45.000	China 30.000	Mexico 26.000	Australia 25.000	No.12 10.000
Amphibians	Colombia 583	Brazil 516	Ecuador 358	Mexico 282	Indonesia 270	No. 14 178
Reptiles	Mexico 707	Australia 597	Indonesia 529	Colombia 475	Brazil 462	No.18 228
Mammals	Indonesia 519	Colombia 453	Mexico 439	Brazil 421	China 410	No. 30 236
Birds	Colombia 1.753	Peru 1.678	Brazil 1.635	Ecuador 1.559	Indonesia 1.531	No. 23 864

Source: *Biodiversidad en Costa Rica*, Vilma Obando, INBio, 2002

Costa Rica has been a model in its effort to protect its rich biodiversity



Save

Conserve representative samples of the the ecosystems of the country



Know

What is the existent biodiversity, where can I find it, and what is its natural history



Use

Use these resources in a sustainable manner for socio-economic development

Legal framework: the case of Costa Rica

LAWS

1969 Forestry Law

1977 National Parks Law

1992 Wildlife Law

1994 Convention on Biological Diversity

1995 General Environment Law

1998 Biodiversity Law

*Access Guidelines
published Dec. 2003*



INBio

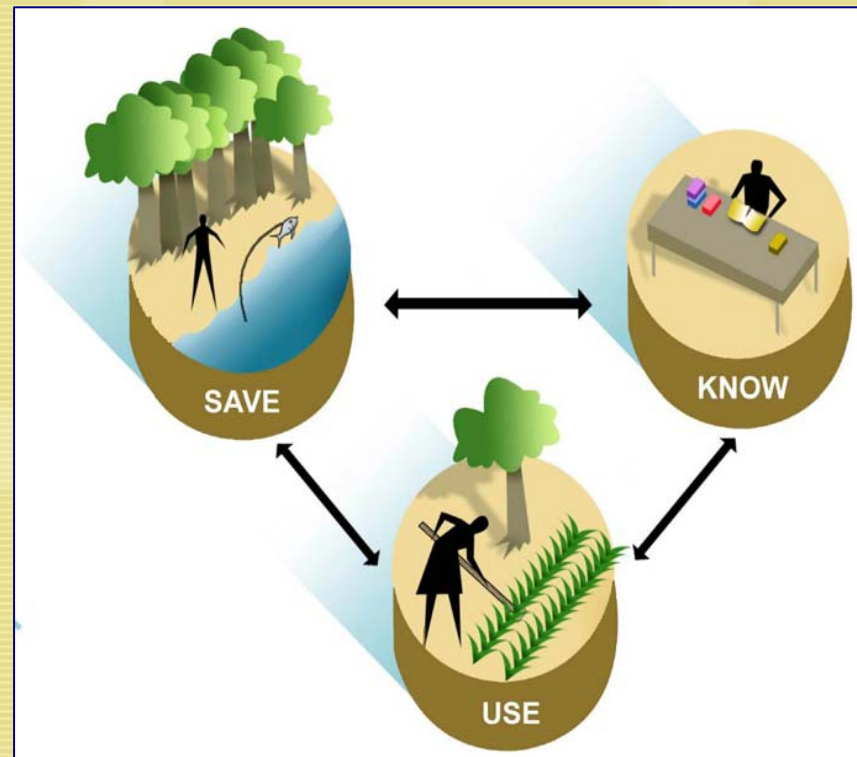
- Founded in 1989 as a non-profit, public good, NGO
- Mission: *“To promote a greater awareness of the value of biodiversity as a means to ensure its conservation and to improve the quality of life of human beings”*



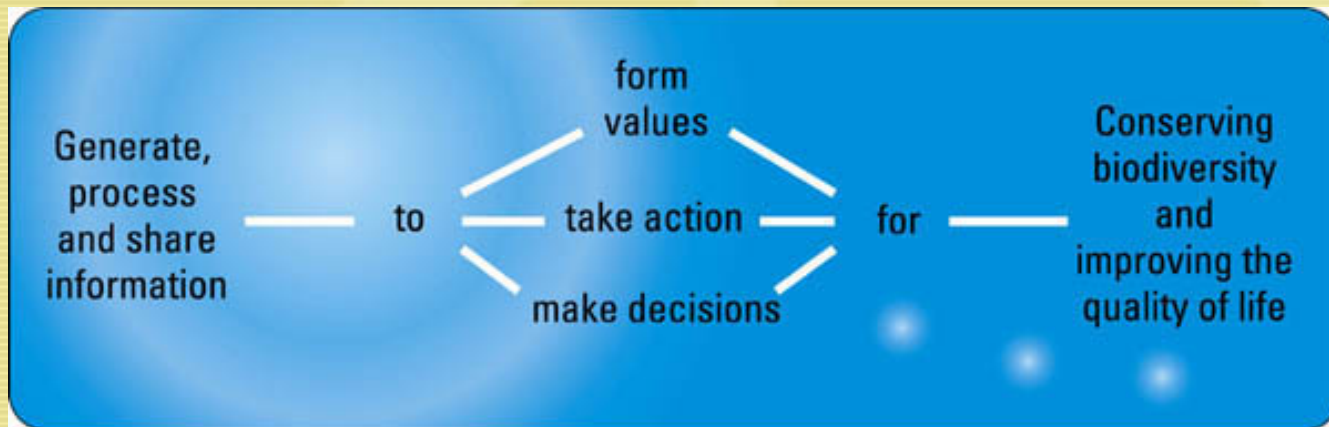
Action Areas



- Biodiversity Informatics
- Inventory and Monitoring
- Conservation
- Education and communication
- Bioprospecting



INBio Core Process

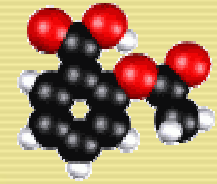


BIOPROSPECTING AT INBio

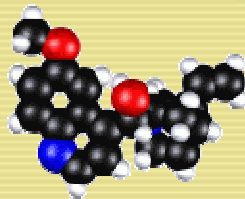
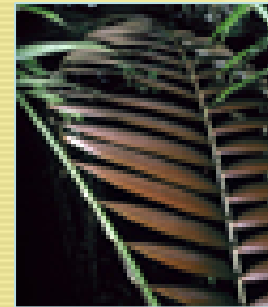
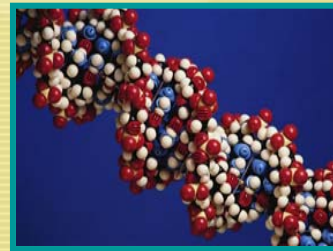
AN ESSENTIAL
COMPONENT IN THE
CONSERVATION
STRATEGY



BIOPROSPECTING



Systematic search for new sources of compounds, genes, designs, whole organisms and other products that have potential economic value and can be found in our biodiversity.



BIODIVERSITY AS A SOURCE FOR NEW PRODUCTS

Cosmetics

Phytomedicines

Drugs

Industrial products

PRODUCTS

INNOVATION-ADDED VALUE

AREAS of
KNOWLEDGE

Insects

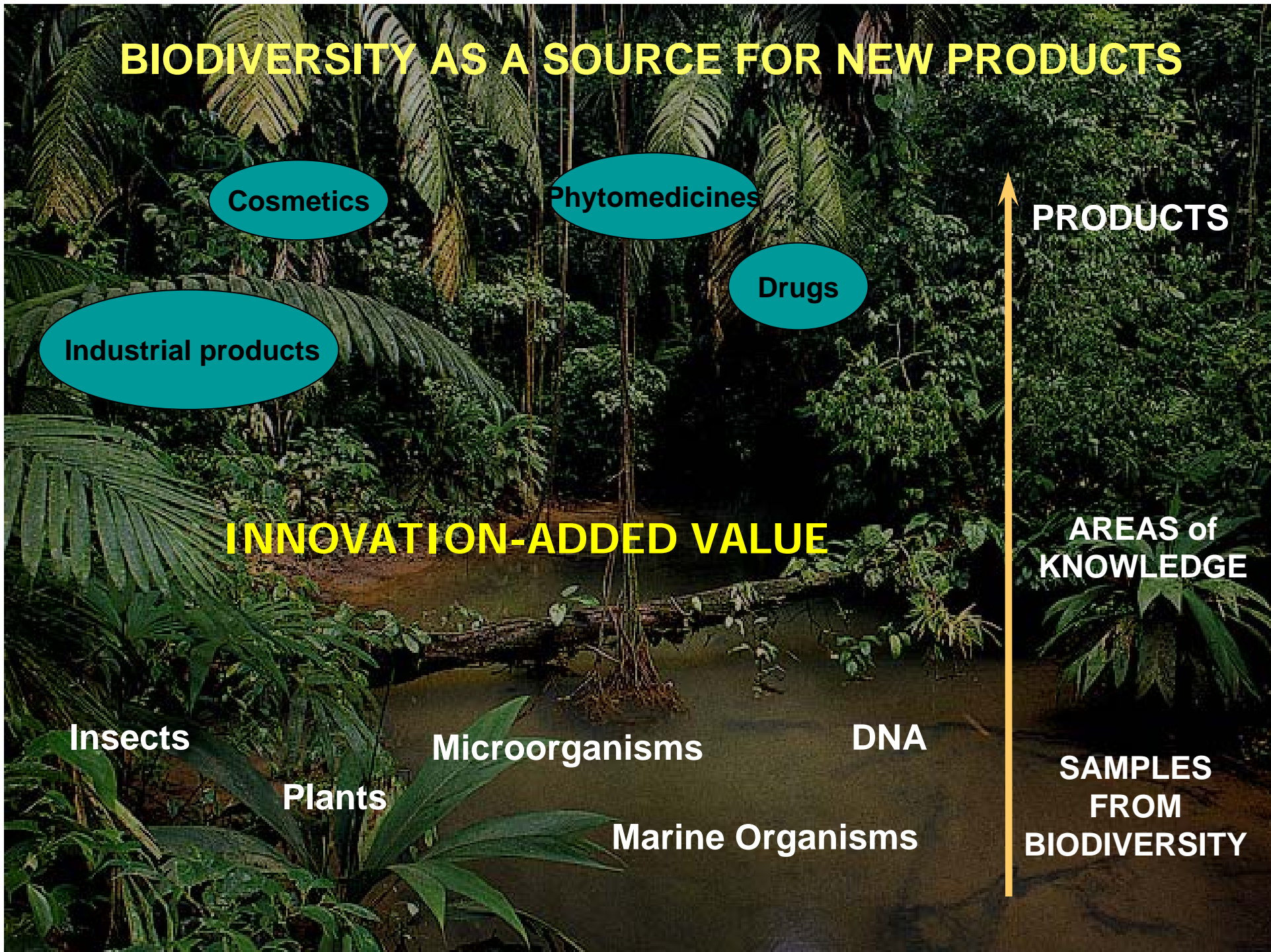
Microorganisms

DNA

Plants

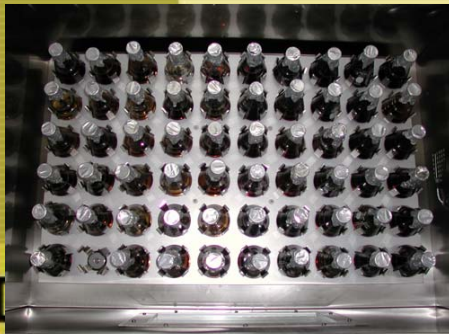
Marine Organisms

SAMPLES
FROM
BIODIVERSITY



Laboratories

- Chemistry
- Microbial Biotechnology
 - Molecular Biology
 - Analyses/Services



Research Collaboration Agreements

Raw material

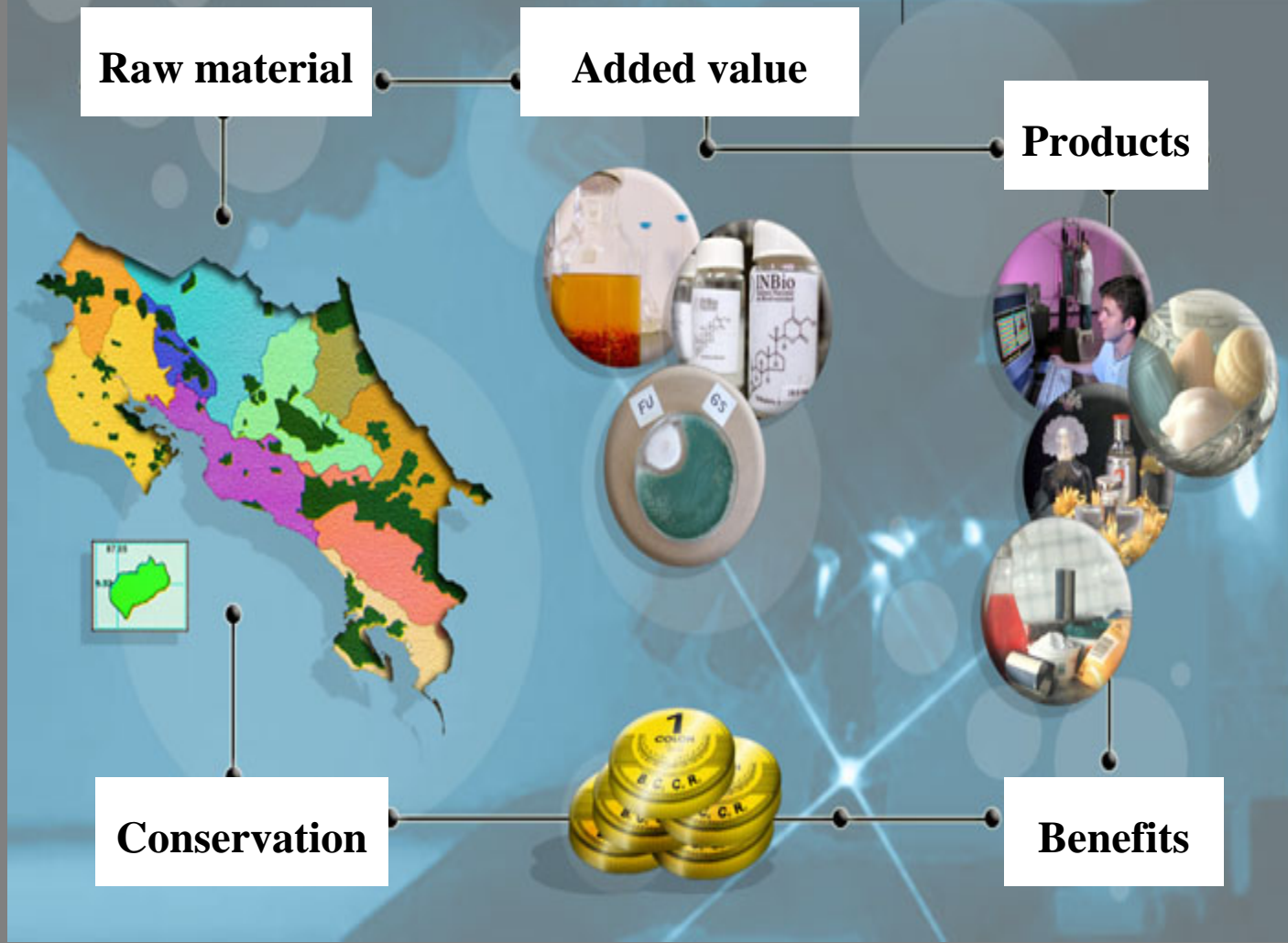
Added value

Products

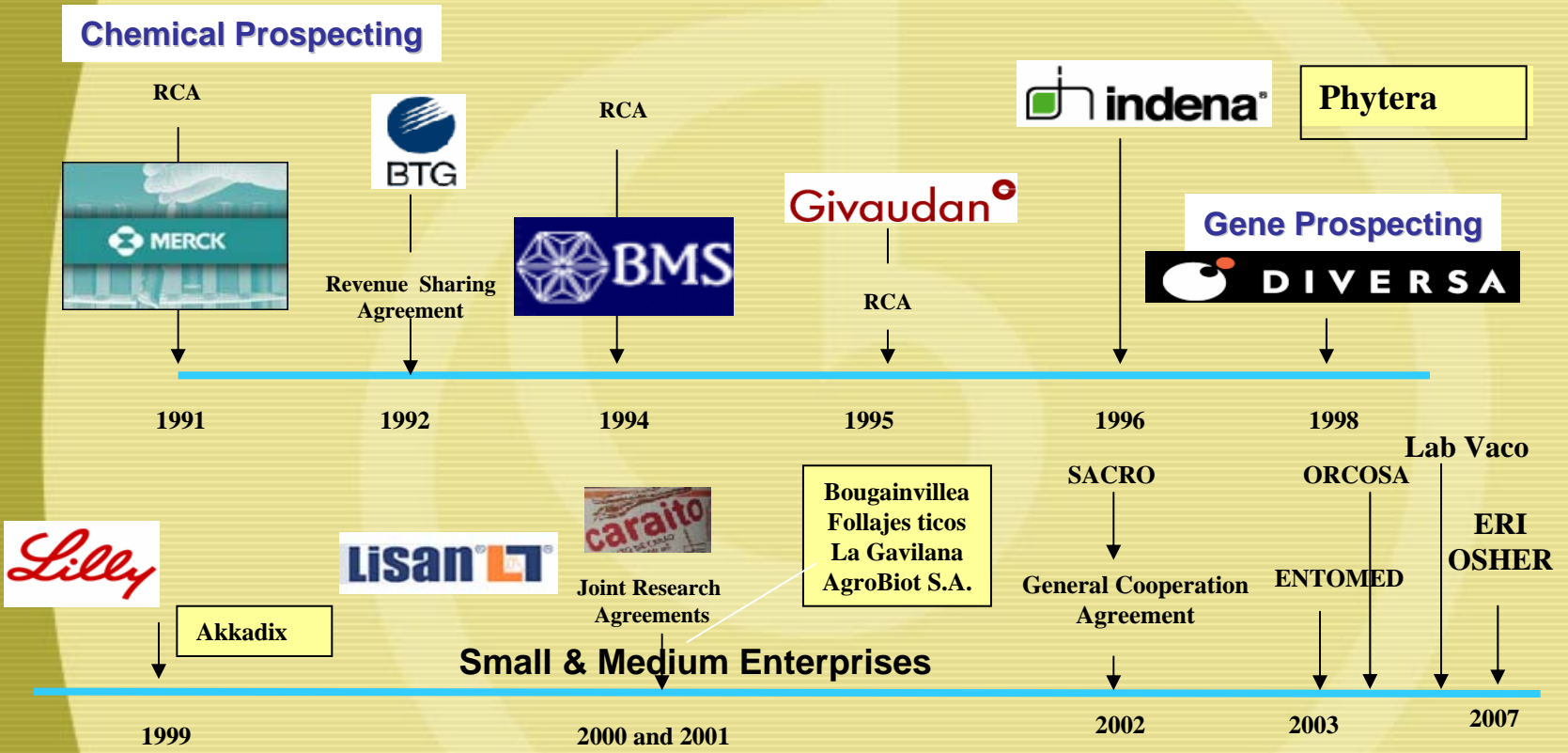
Conservation

Benefits

- Non-destructive uses
- Limited access
- Up-front payment for conservation
- Tech transfer and training
- Compensation: research budget and benefit sharing

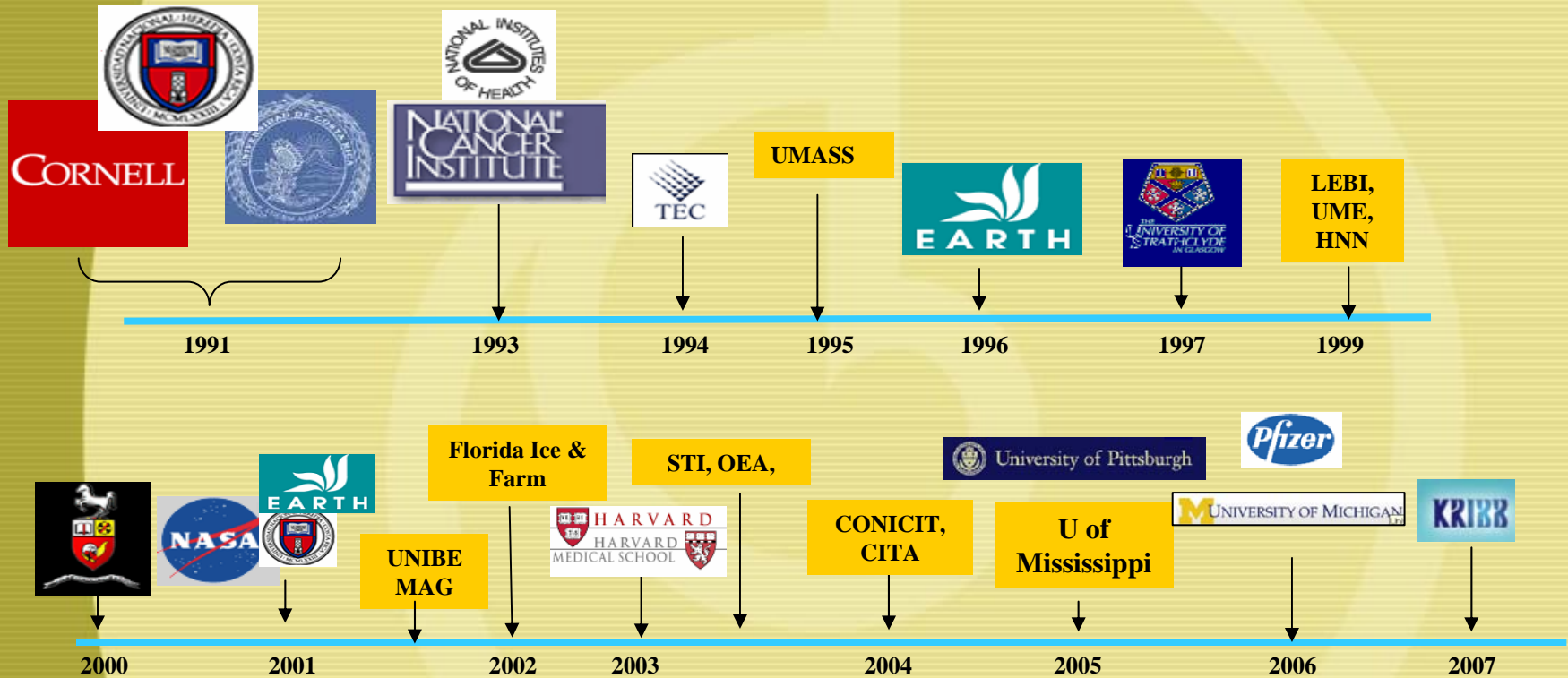


Main Industrial Partners



Main Academic Partners

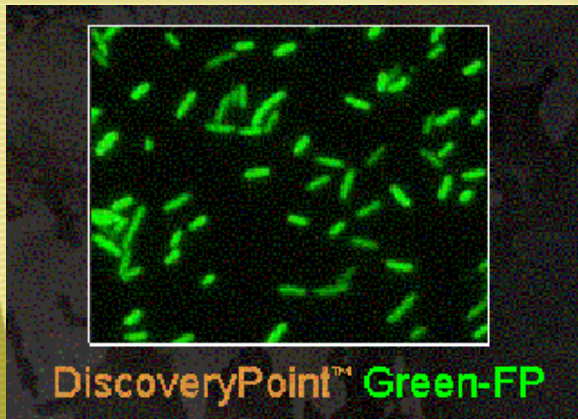
Conocer, salvar, usar



Products



Industrial enzyme



Green fluorescent protein

**Research Collaboration
Agreement INBio/Diversa
(Now Verenum Corporation)**

Products

- National Partnerships
- Properties:
 - It improves gastric, bile and intestinal function



PRODUCTS

- New Phytopharmaceutical: ESTILO

Natural sedative



Justicia pectoralis