

# The Novartis Venture Fund - A Model Corporate VC

**Innovation  
Patient Benefit  
Superior Returns**

<http://www.venturefund.novartis.com>

# Does One Need a Corporate Venture Fund?

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**Not really.**

# Is It Good to Have One?

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**YES !**

# SO WHY??

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# Benefits of a Corporate Venture Fund

... Many Pharma/Biotech Have Had or Recently Established One

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## ■ Innovation

- Early and forward looking – trends and realities of the future
- Novel, sometimes provoking ideas, concepts and areas
- Increasing scope and reach of Research and BD&L

## ■ Investment

- Contrarian approach (when others are put off)
- Early stage (when nobody thinks of it or takes it seriously)

## ■ Industry / Strategic

- Investing in areas early that become the hot topics of the entire industry maximizes both financial and strategic return
- Successfully creating these companies will help all of us at the end of the day: Happy investors and buyers
- Stabilizing effect of corporate VCs in current environment

# Novartis Venture Fund – Innovative and Successful

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## A Decade of Success

- 12+ years as a corporate venture capital firm; inauguration at the formation of Novartis
- CoC & IRR based on realized exits and losses since inception highly competitive (upper quartile)
- Returns driven by forward looking approach in Bio- and Medtech, independent decision making out of Corporate Finance and active management (BoD seat)

## Novartis Venture Funds

- Two capital choices
  - Traditional Venture Fund
  - Innovative Option Fund (2007)
- ~60 private companies
- ~3 public companies
- 5 LPs commitments
- ~\$500+200m capital base
- ~\$10-20m per investment
- 8 MDs in Cambridge/US & Basel/CH



# Standard Pillars for Success: Not What But How!

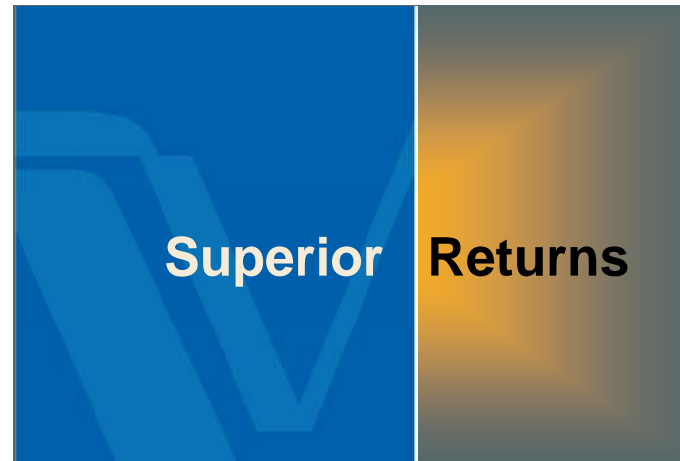
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## **Innovation:**

Science, area, I  
P, MoA

## **Management:**

Team, syndicate,  
BoD



## **Patient benefit:**

Need, clinical  
impact

## **Capital efficiency:**

Valuation, cost to  
exit, exit potential

# Typical Investment Process

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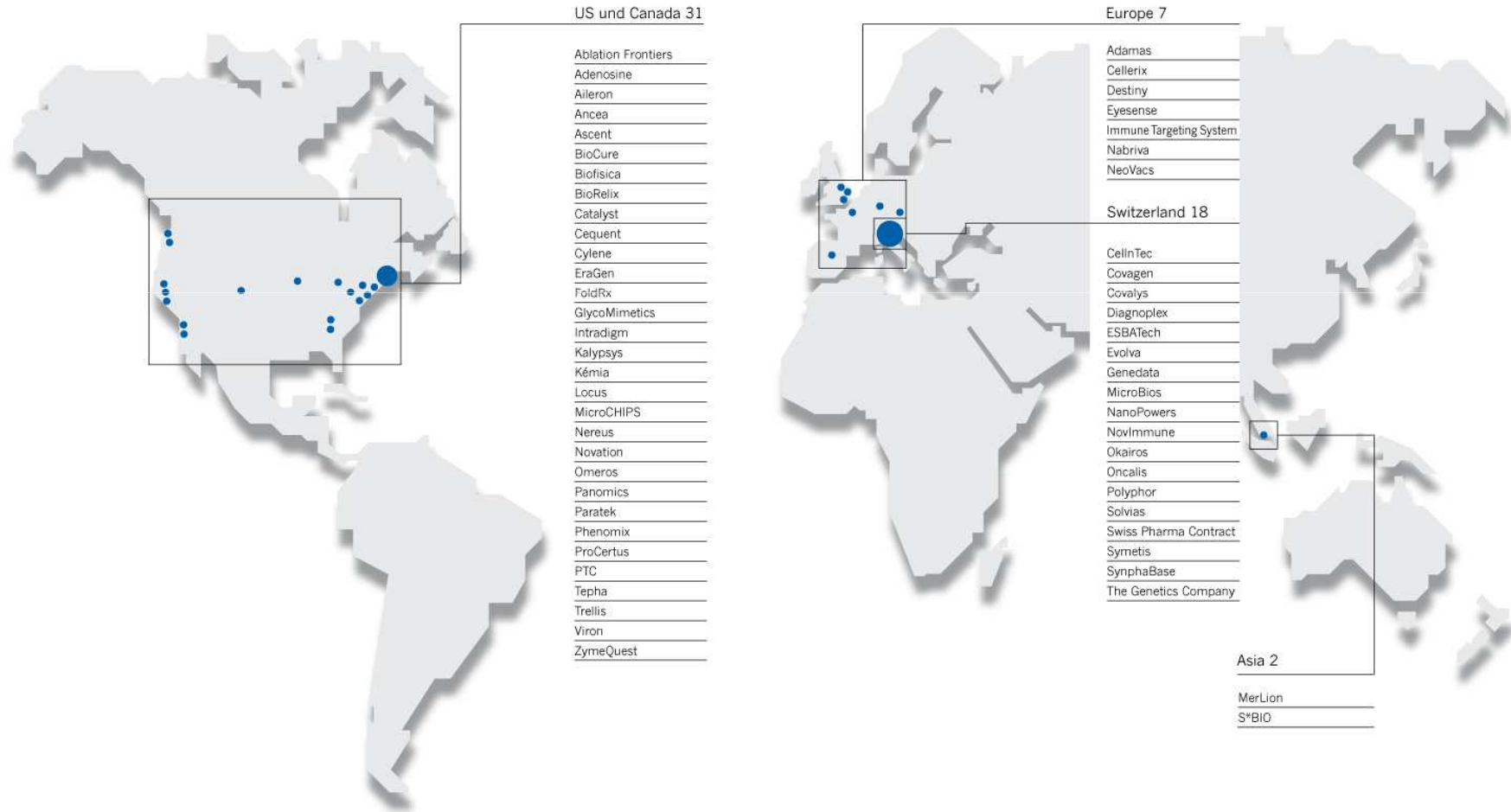
- Screen ~1000 company proposals per year: triage early
- Conclude 4+ investments/year
- Multi-stage due diligence process with investment decision vested in the Novartis VC team and external experts; reviewed by proprietary and independent Scientific Advisory Board (SAB)
- (Co-) Lead in strong syndicate; BoD seat
- New investments 15-20% stake, diluted in later rounds
- Follow-on investments dependent on operational performance and financial discipline
- NVF is a long-term partner and enabler in developing the company and finding profitable exit

# What Differentiates Us?

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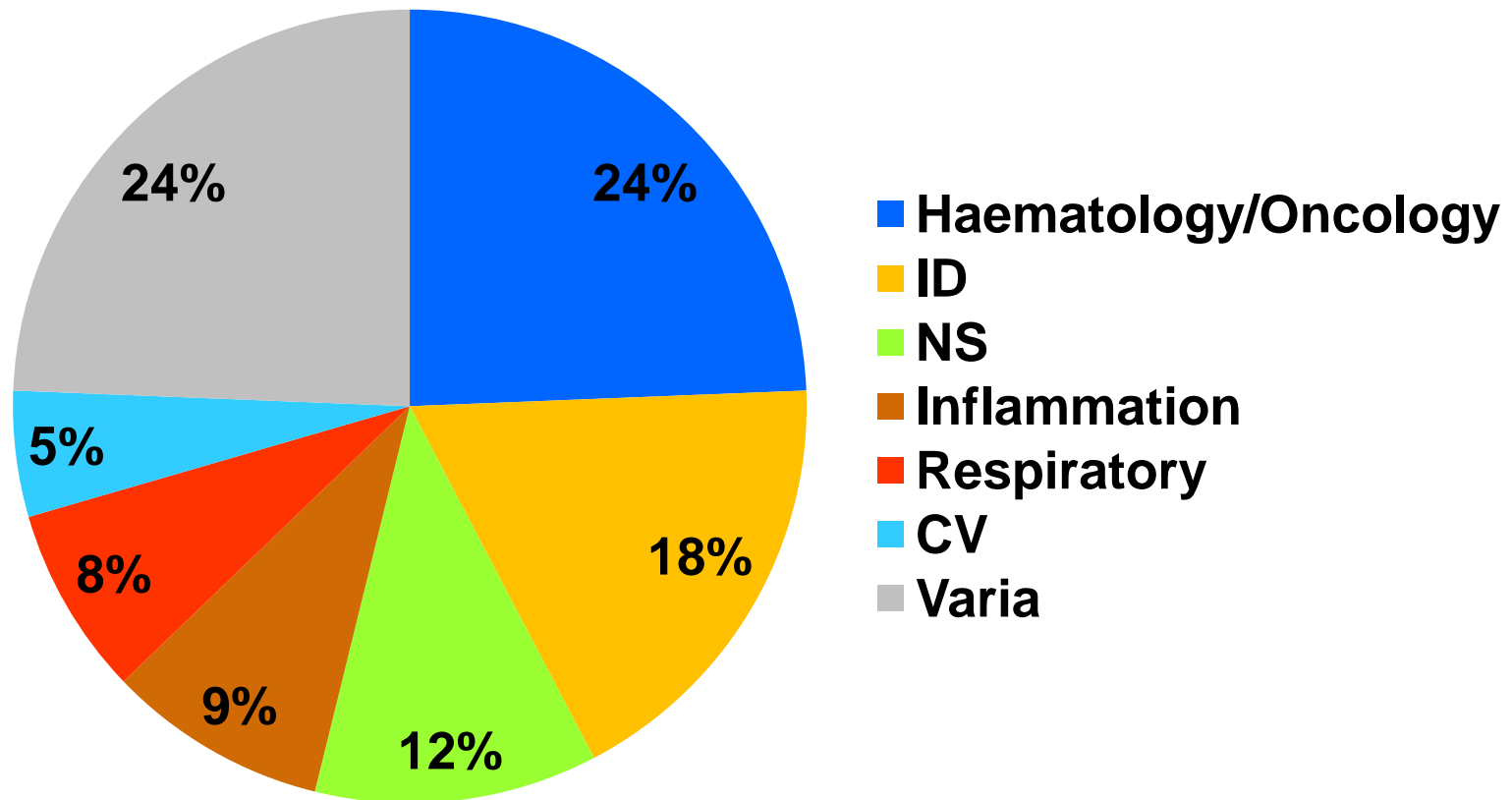
- **Financial return and strategic benefit oriented**
  - Working out of Corporate Finance with well established return goal
  - Different fund concepts
  - Early stage and breakthrough innovation focus
- **Independence from parent organization**
  - DD and decision embedded in management team
  - Proprietary and independent SAB with final decision
  - Not a focus on strategic alignment
- **Superior returns**
  - CoC and IRR above average and highly competitive
- **Image and reputation**
  - Top Corporate VC

# ~70% of Investment in the US (End of 2009)



# Around 150 Programs: A (Midsized) Pharma Company (End of 2009)

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# Two Choices for Capital

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## **Novartis Venture Fund**

- 12+ year old evergreen fund
- Focus is on early stage (pre-IND, Series A) but stage agnostic
- Biotech (60% with a strong biologics contribution) and Medtech (10+%)
- Typical total commitment \$10-20m

## **Novartis Option Fund**

- Established in 2007
- Focus is on seed stage and biotech for initial investment
- Equity plus non-dilutive option cash fee
- First investment typically \$2-6m plus option fee
- Only companies with broad technology base to allow limited option

# Key Learning for Successful Investments

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- **Innovation & patient /physician benefit**
  - Drive attractiveness of business
- **Team continuity & learning**
  - Critical to long term success
- **Relationship & reputation**
  - Invaluable to access deals
- **Board representation**
  - Important to influence company development
- **Syndicate quality and financial reserves**
  - Enable strategic and operational flexibility
- **Valuation and capital efficiency to exit**
  - Determine return
- **The exit in mind**
  - Commercially viable products, exciting to the industry

# Exits: We Invest in Companies Everyone Finds Attractive & We Generate Substantial Returns

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## Acquisitions

- FoldRx - Pfizer
- Ablation F. - Medtronic
- Visiogen - Abbott
- Swiss Ph. C. - Covance
- Theravance - GSK
- Idenix - Novartis
- Syrrx - Takeda
- KuDOS - AstraZeneca
- Glycart - Roche
- Kinetix - Amgen

## IPOs

- Xenoport
- Eyetech
- Speedel
- Cytos
- Idenix
- Sirtris
- Acorda



# The Current Challenges for VCs

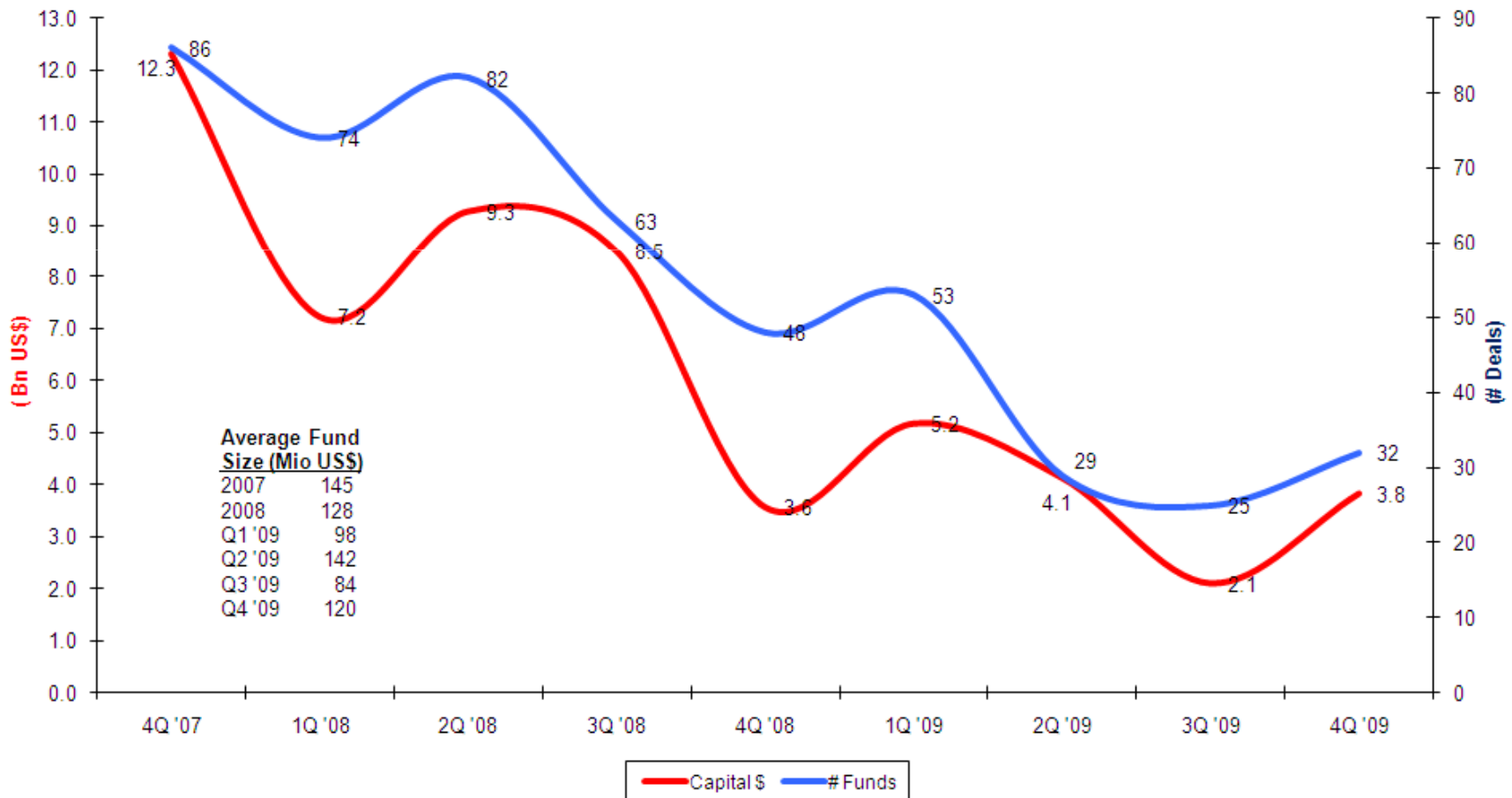
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- **The VC world is becoming very competitive**
  - New investors are highly selective and diligence levels have grown
  - Fierce competition for the best opportunity/risk-mitigated companies
  - VCs without critical mass get squeezed out of deals and the market
- **More quality resources required to exit**
  - Higher funding requirements, delayed returns, reducing both CoC and IRR
  - Need to be an active investor to drive focus and keep companies funded is paramount
  - Everybody looks for top management, syndicates, and BoDs
- **The market environment is harsh**
  - No IPOs; immense regulatory and pharma demands
  - More and more back loaded deals; low up-fronts and minimized exit values; shift from M&A to BD&L

# Fund Raising Going Down; Same for VC Investments

(follow-ons more important than new investments)

**VC Fundraising by Quarter - All industries  
(2008-2009)**



# M&A Increasingly Unattractive; Same for BD&L

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- M&A for PE/VC backed companies

# Deals	US	EU	Other	WW
2007	17	15	1	33
2008	16	9	2	27
2009	10	8	1	19

- Upfront as % of Total M&A Value

(\$ bn)	Up-Front	Total Value	Up-Front %
2007	6.4	6.8	94%
2008	2.2	3.1	70%
2009	2.2	5.9	45%

## What Does It Mean? – Still a Time for VCs?

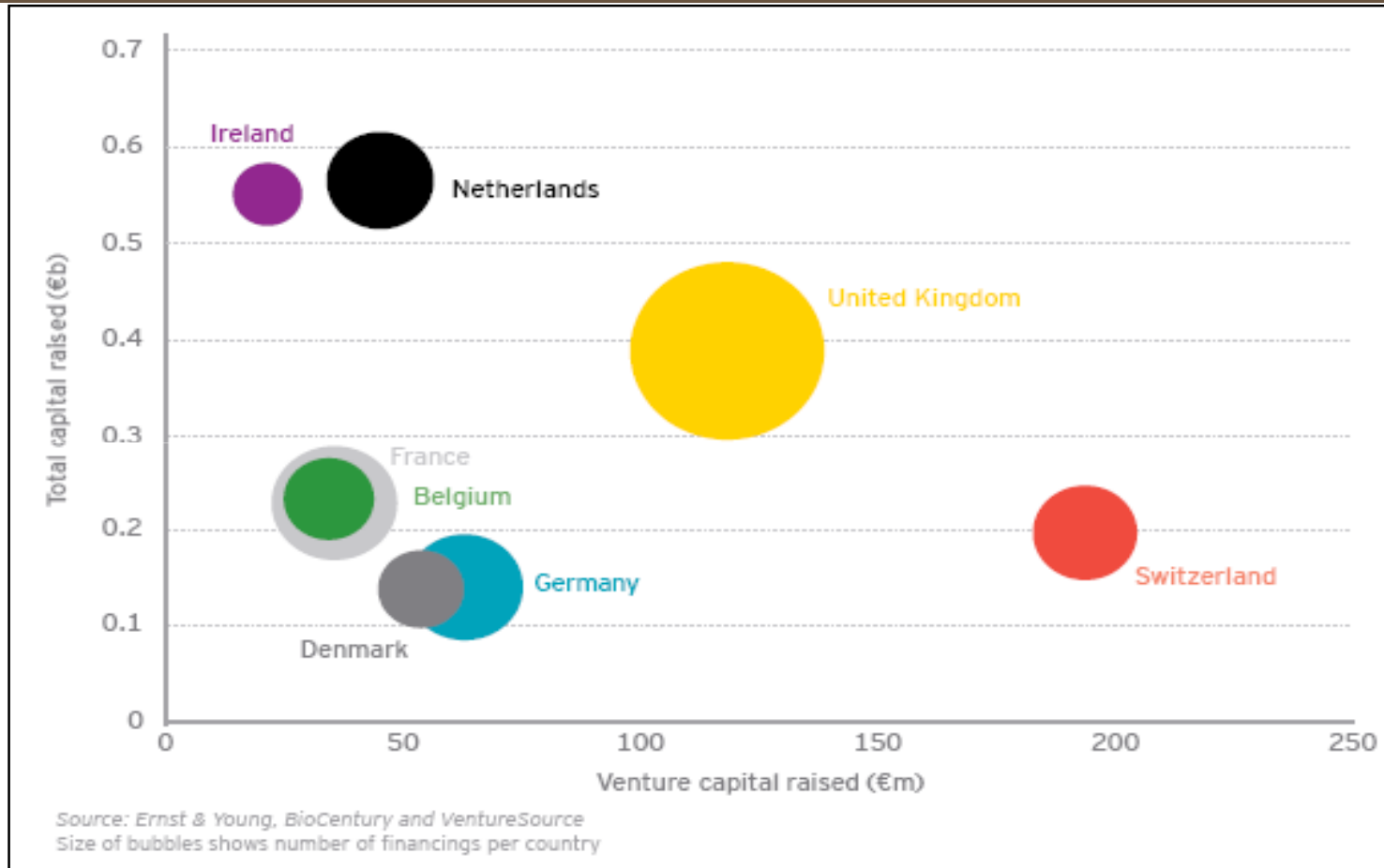
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- Company value \$10m (IND stage)
- Investment to exit at Phase IIa: \$50m
- Company value: \$10m+\$50m+15% options = \$69m
- Exit value: \$250m = \$50m up-front, \$200m back loaded milestones
- RoI/CoC:  $\$250/69m = 3.6x$  – good, very good!

### However, not so quick:

- Secure CoC:  $\$50/69m = 0.7x$  – bad!
- Risk adjusted CoC:  $(\$50m + \$200m*10\%)/69m = 1.0x$  – still not good enough!

# Just Hard or Impossible to Invest in Europe!?



- **Capital raised in the EU in 2009 is only 15% of the US!**
- **E.g. Germany, given its size and pharma history a far cry from the UK and CH - VC being neglected**