

SYRIAN HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH SYSTEM

Kick off Meeting EU-TEMPUS Project EDUWAT

Damascus 9-13 January 2011

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OUTLINE

- ❑ Fast overview of the H.E. System: Challenges and Policy Framework
- ❑ Fast Overview of the Research System: Main Features
- ❑ Some Facts and Figures
- ❑ Challenges and Policy Framework

SYRIA: DEMOGRAPHY

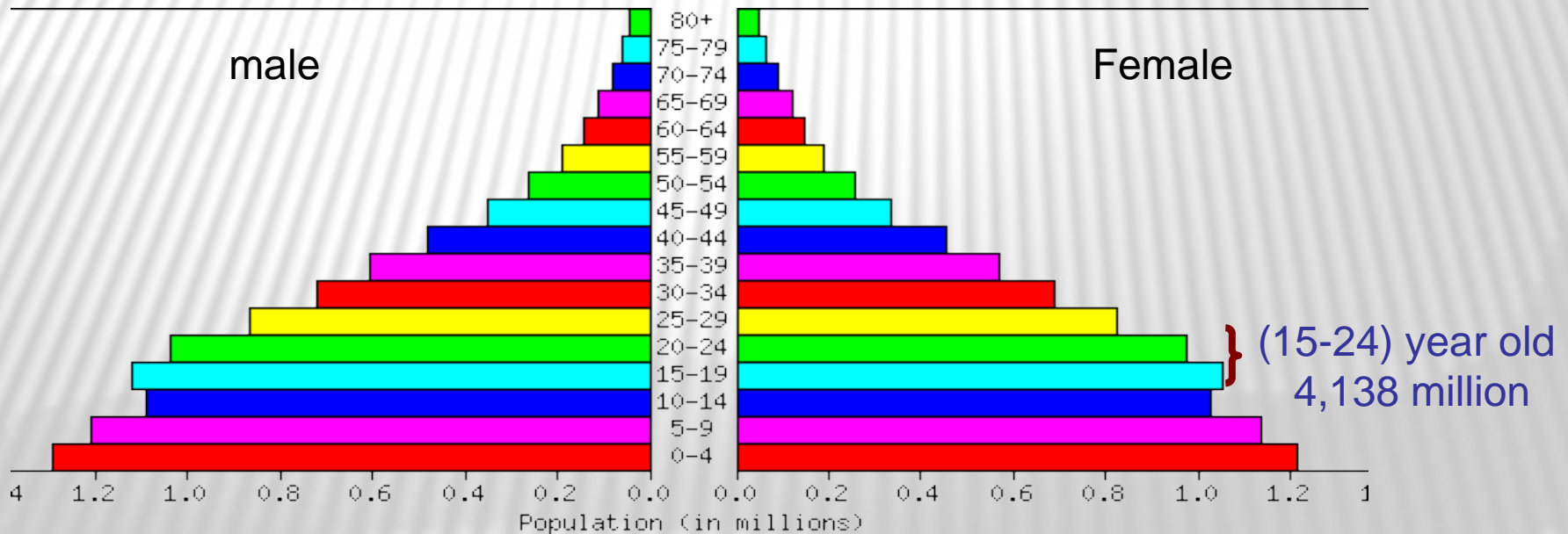
According to the National Census Bureau:

Population: 21 million

Rate of natural increase (percent)..... 2.4%

~ 45% population under 15 years old

Population Pyramid of Syria



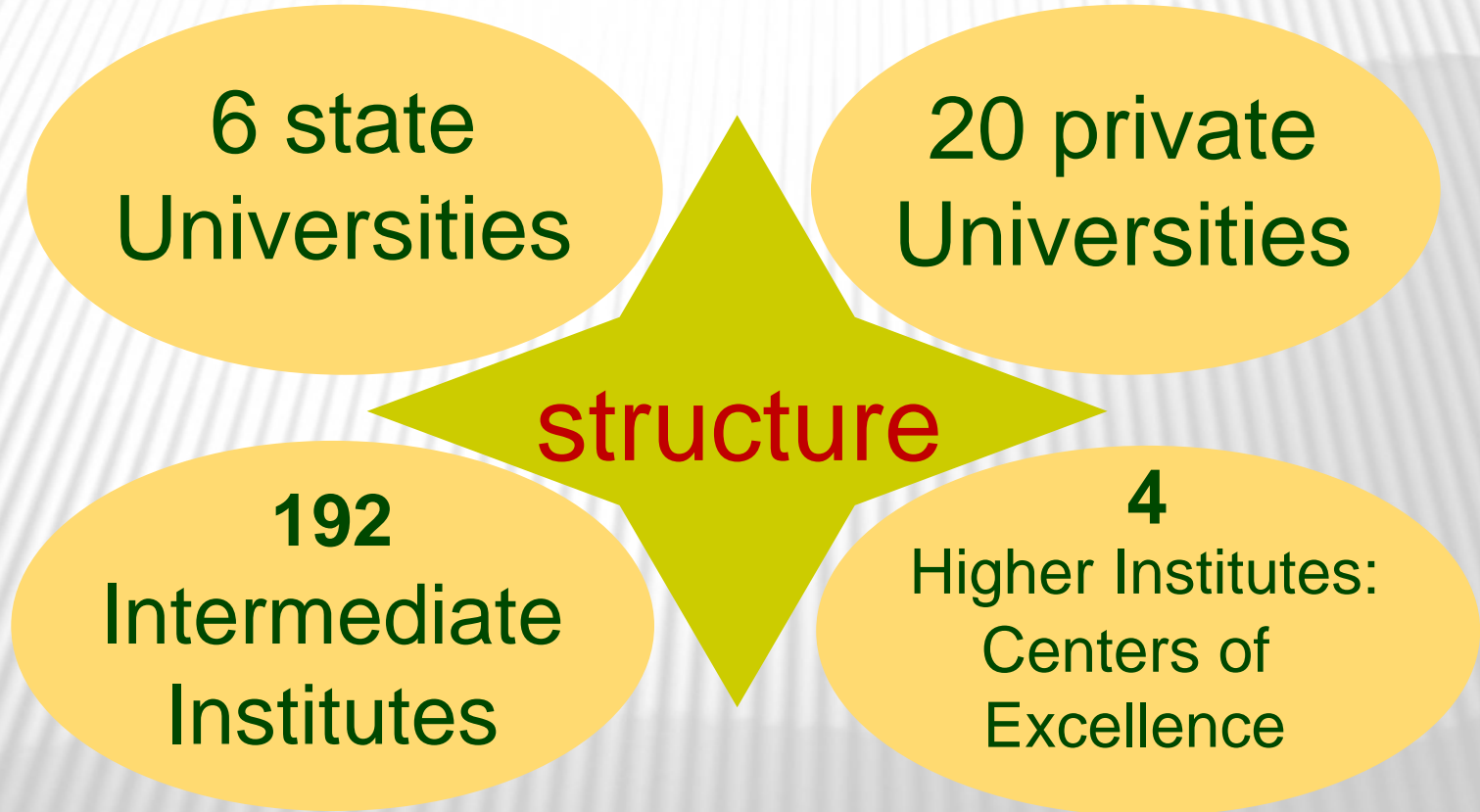
Educational Track

NQF

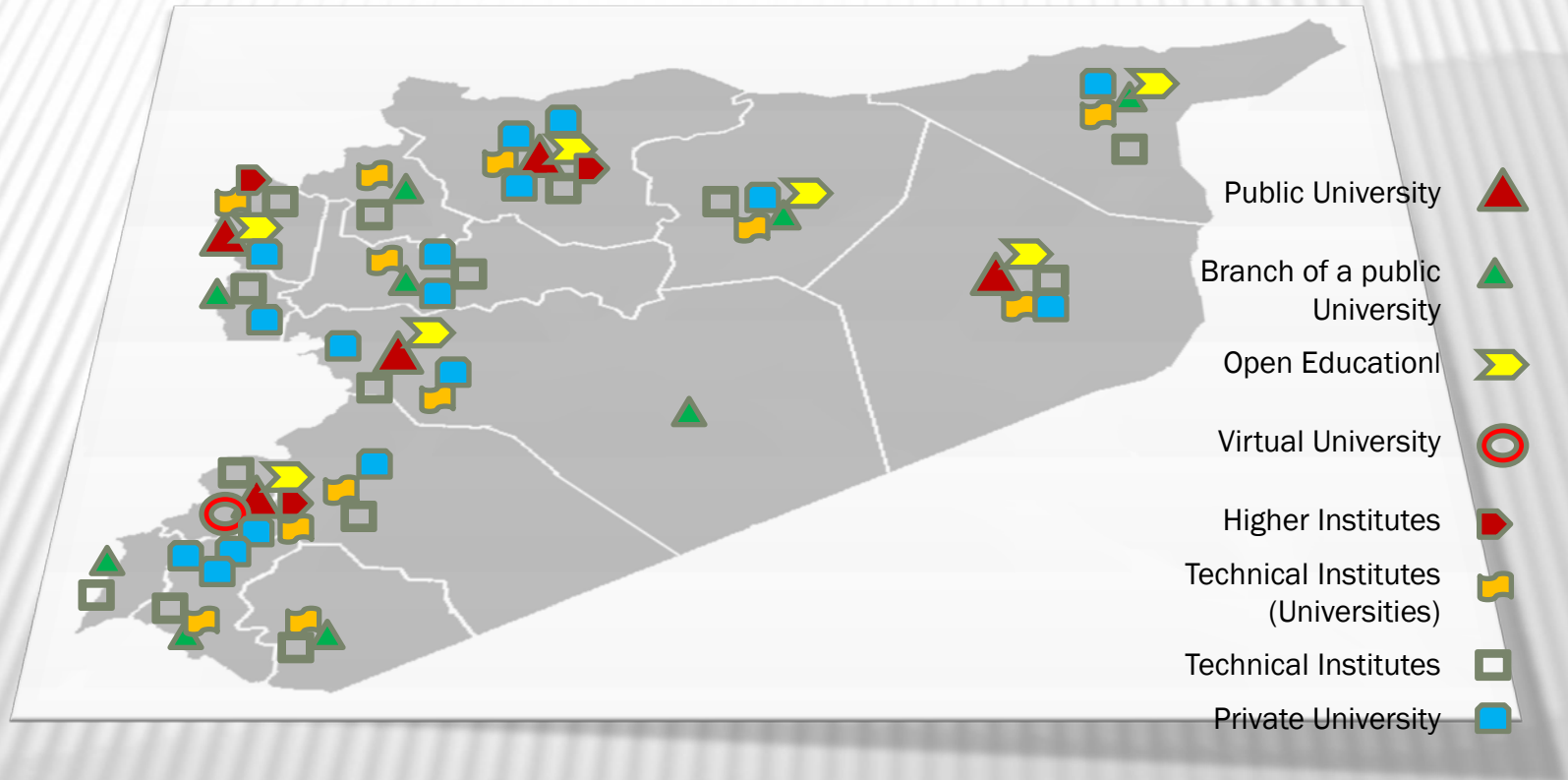
Vocational Training Track

6 3 rd University Level (PhD ...)				Level 6				
5A 2 nd University Level (Master..)				Level 5				
	5B Highe r Diplo ma							
		5C 1 st Univ. Level						
			5D Tech. Institut es					
4A Post Secondary Education				Level 4		Vocational Programs 4B		
3A Secondary (Aca.)	3B Secondary (Voc)				Level 3		Secondary (Ap) 3C	التلمذة المهنية 3D
2A Basic Education, 2 nd Phase (Classes from 7 th to the End of 9 th)				Level 2		Medium Training Programs 2B		
1A Primary Education Basic Education, 1 st Phase				Level 1		Short Training Programs 1B		
Kinder Garden				Level 0				

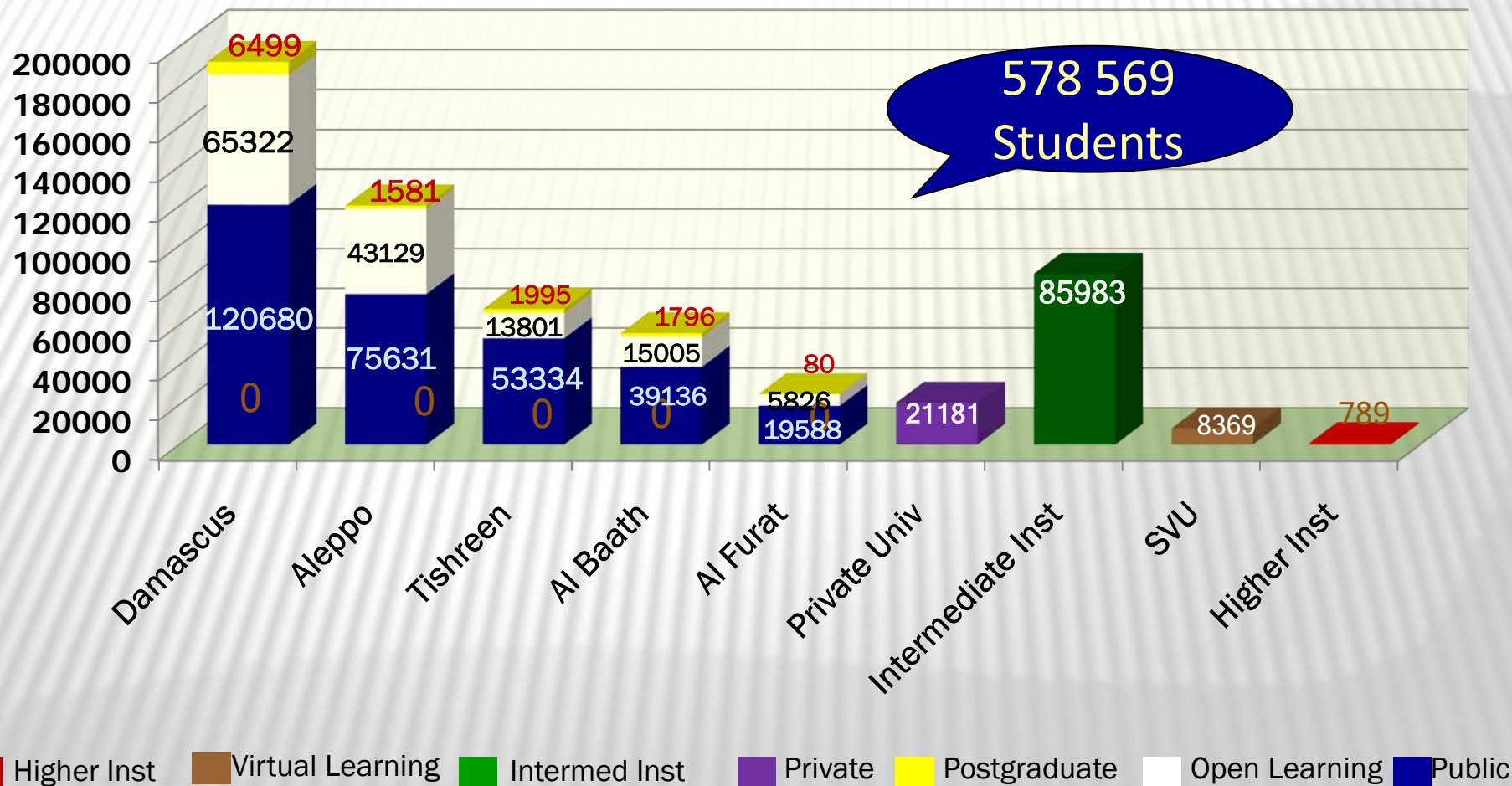
SYRIAN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM



GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF H.E. INSTITUTIONS

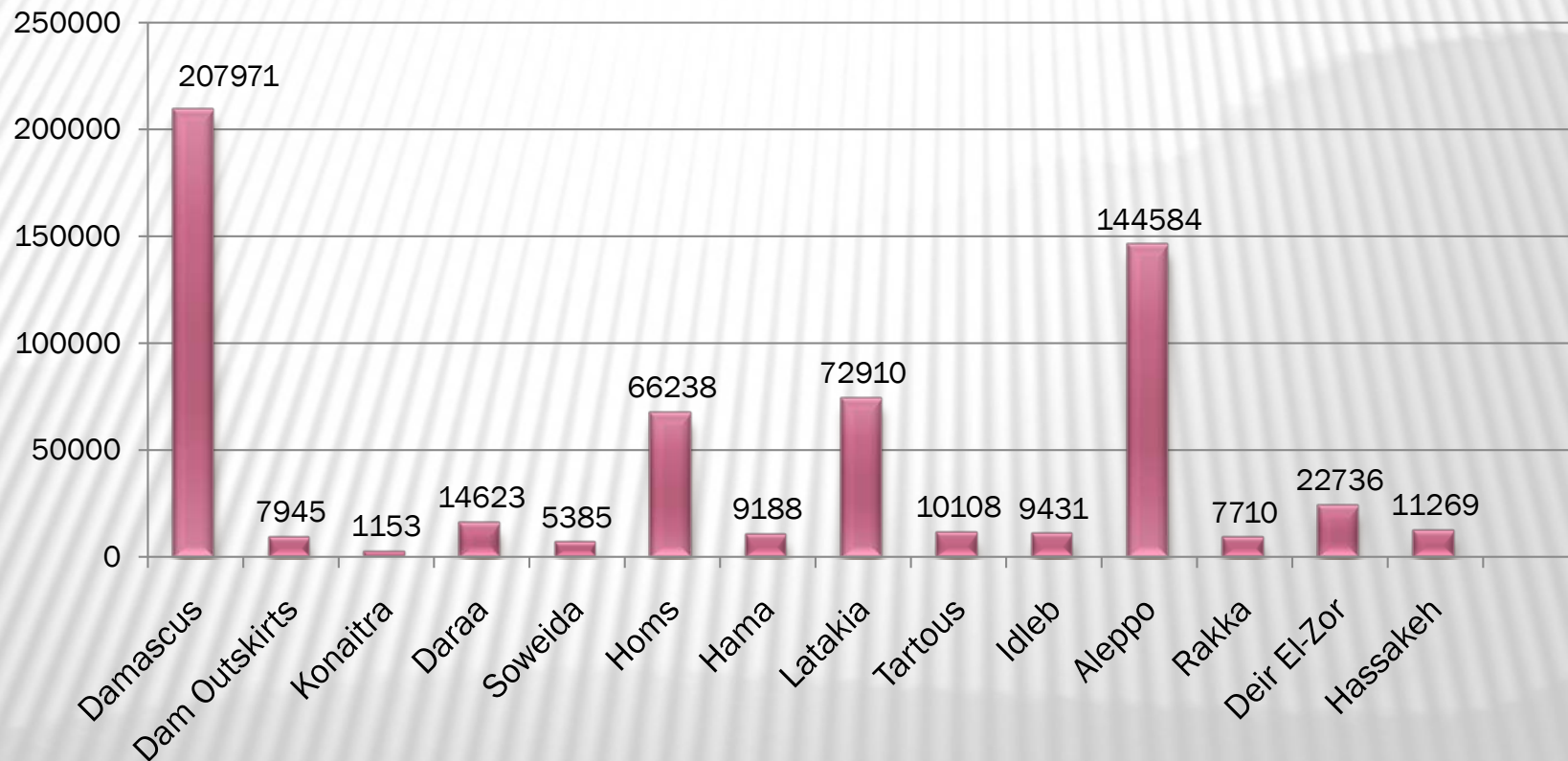


STUDENTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, 2008-2009



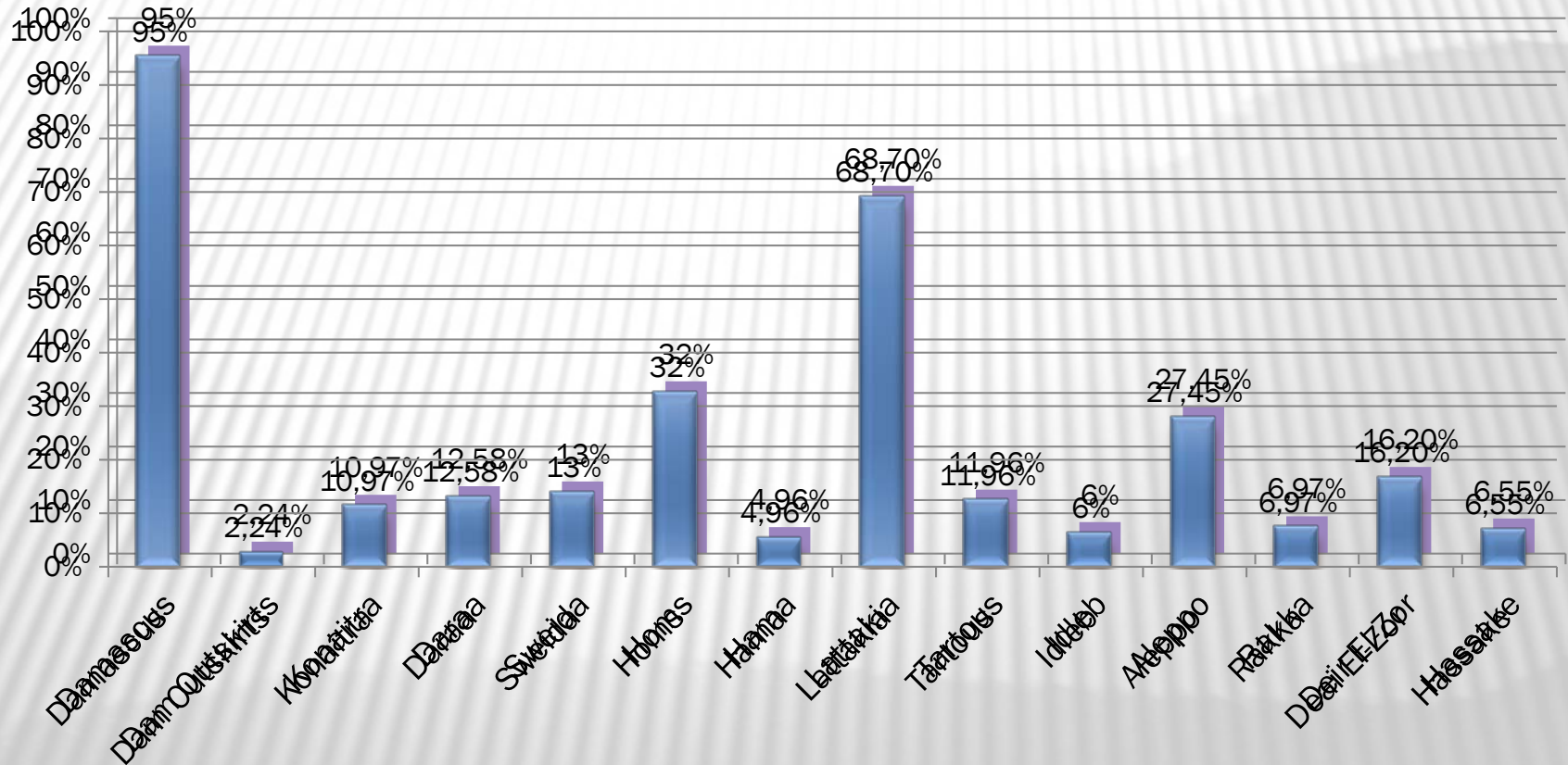
REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF ENROLLED STUDENTS

Regional Distribution of Enrolled Students

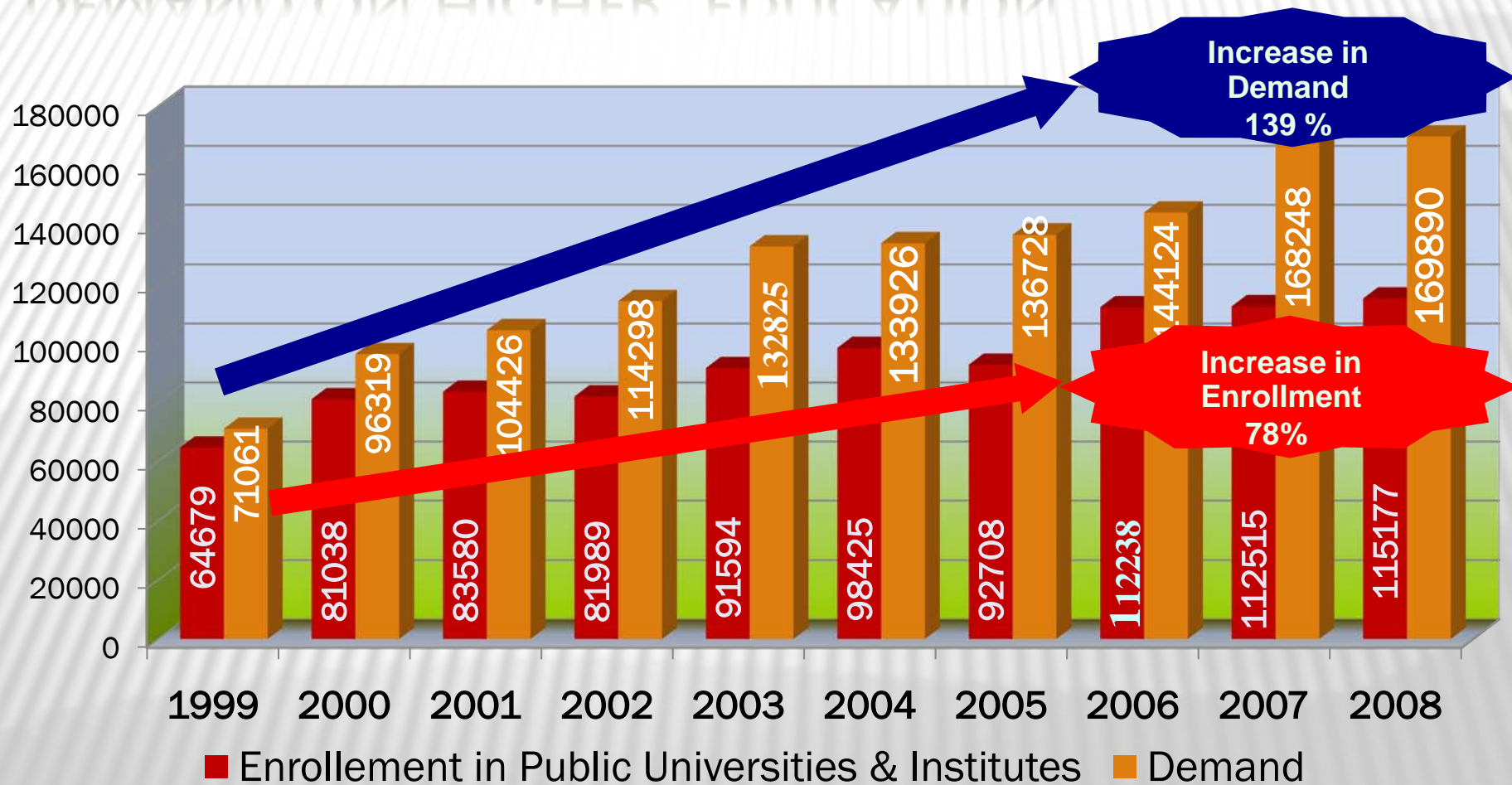


REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF ENROLLMENT RATIO

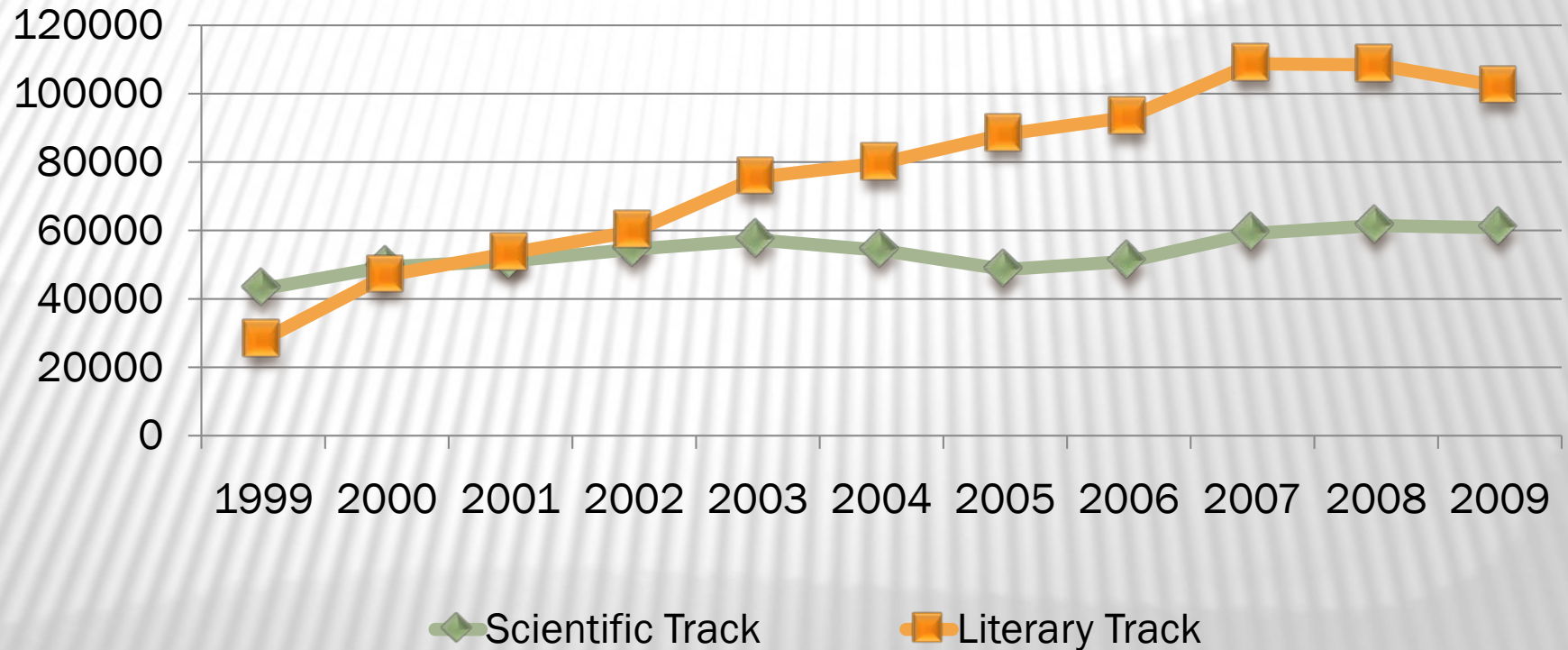
Regional Distribution of Enrollment Ratio



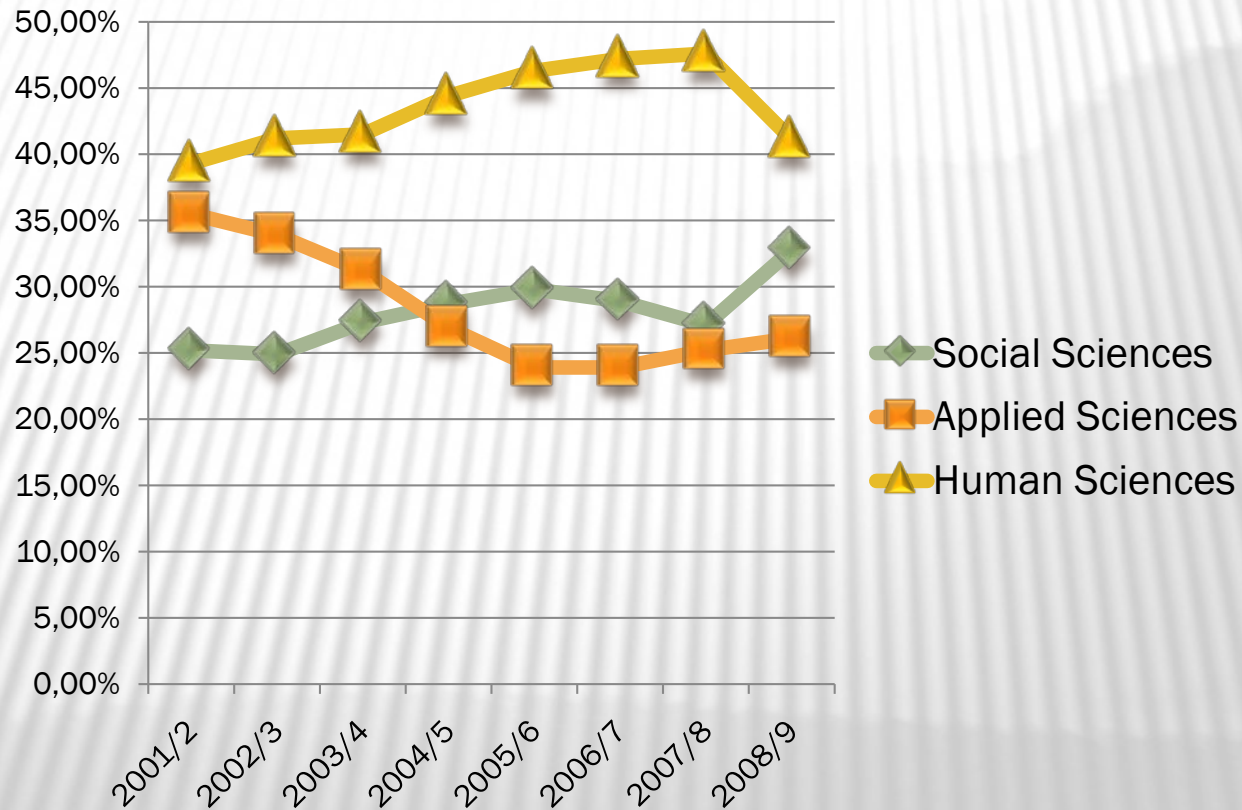
DEMAND ON HIGHER EDUCATION



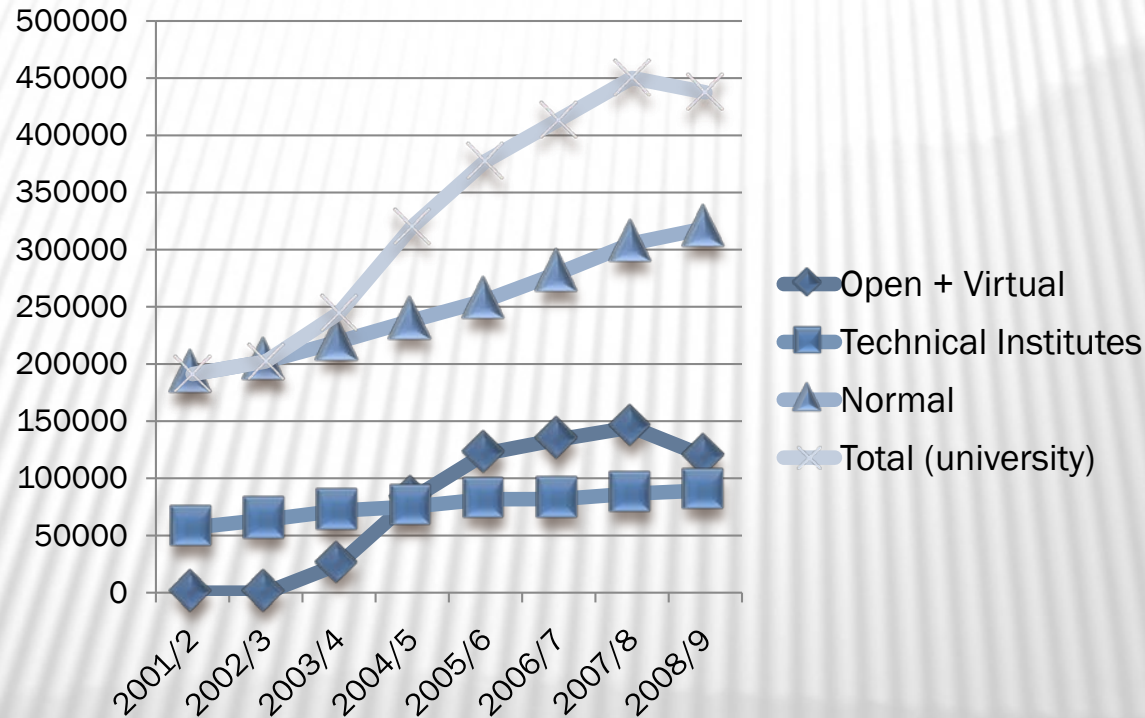
SCIENTIFIC VS LITERARY TRACK



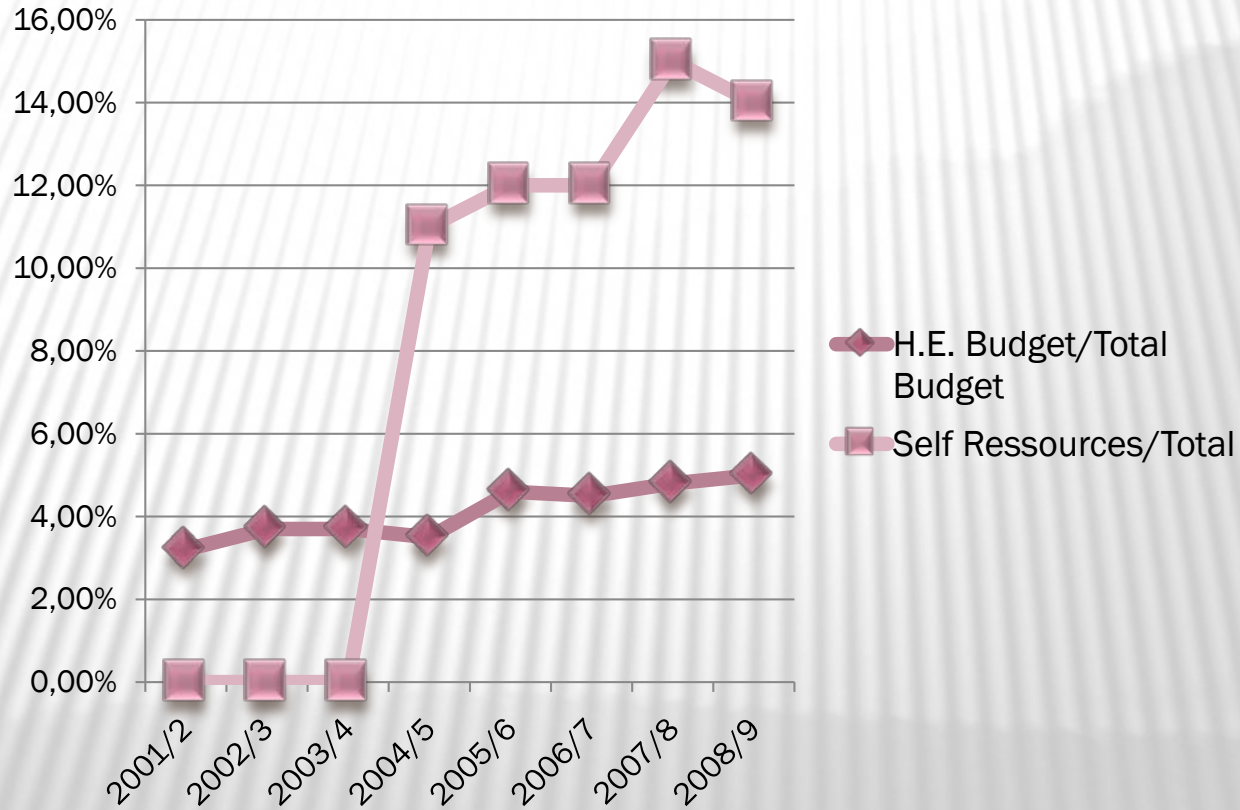
ENROLLMENT PER FIELD OF STUDY

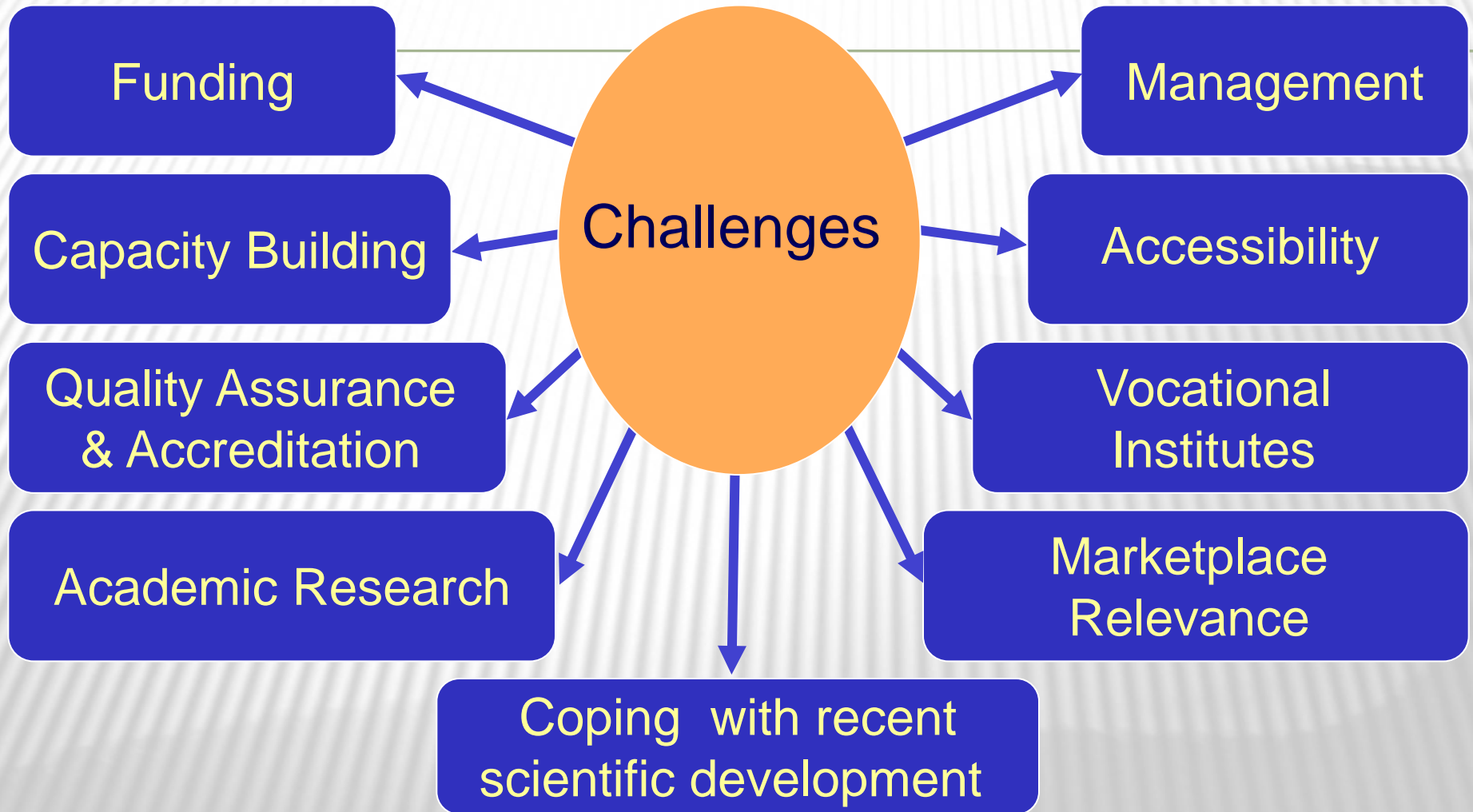


DISTRIBUTION OF STUDENTS ON MODES OF EDUCATION



ALLOCATED & AVAILABLE BUDGETS





H.E. SECTOR REFORM POLICY (10TH FYP)

Main Strategic objectives of the Higher Education Policy set out in the 10th National 5Y Plan include:

- ☐ **Expansion of access to tertiary education**
- ☐ **Promotion of responsiveness to the needs of the economy and society**

SECTOR REFORM POLICY

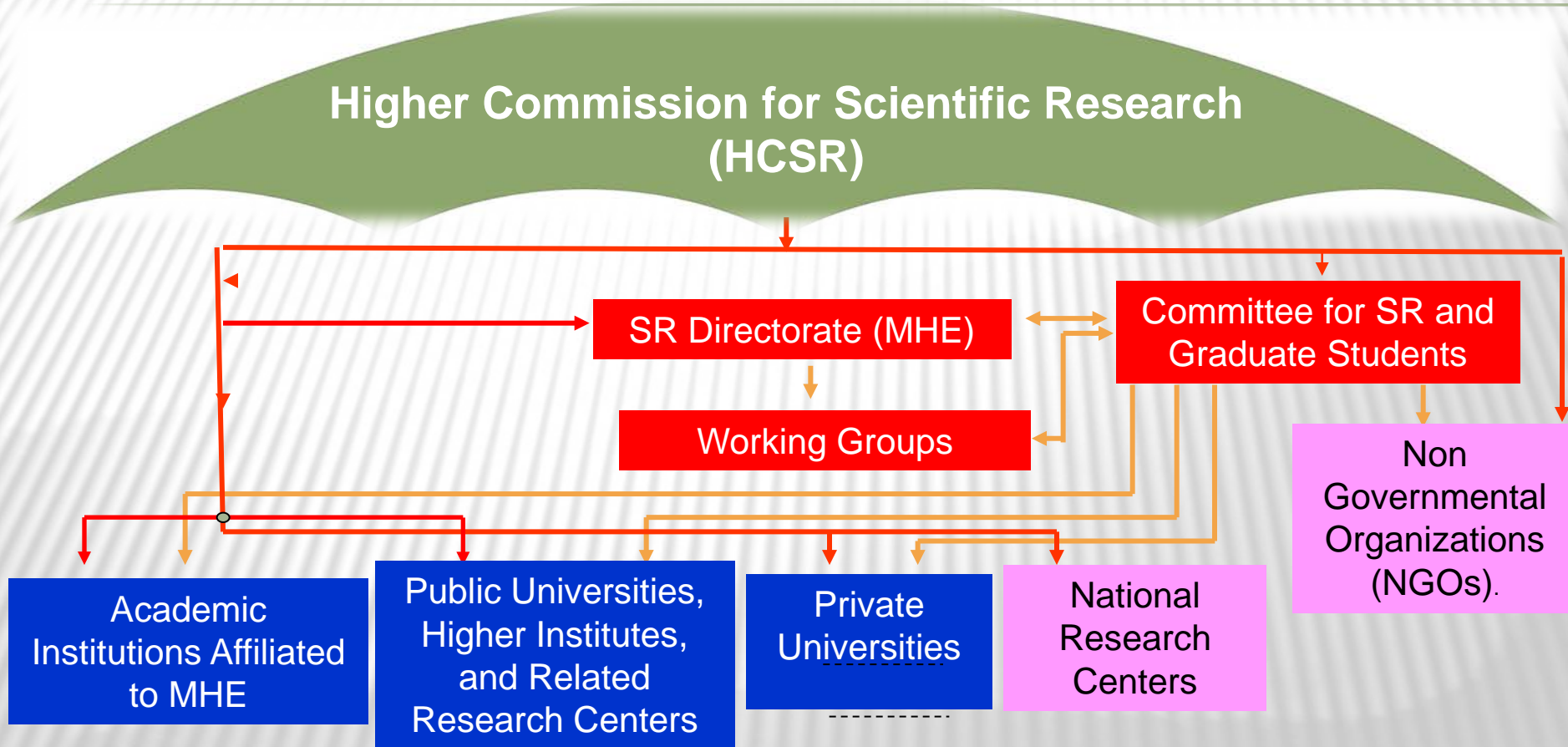
- ❑ Improvement of governance and accountability procedures within the institutions
- ❑ Development of innovative and relevant modes of learning and teaching;
- ❑ Achievement of effective quality assurance

SECTOR REFORM POLICY

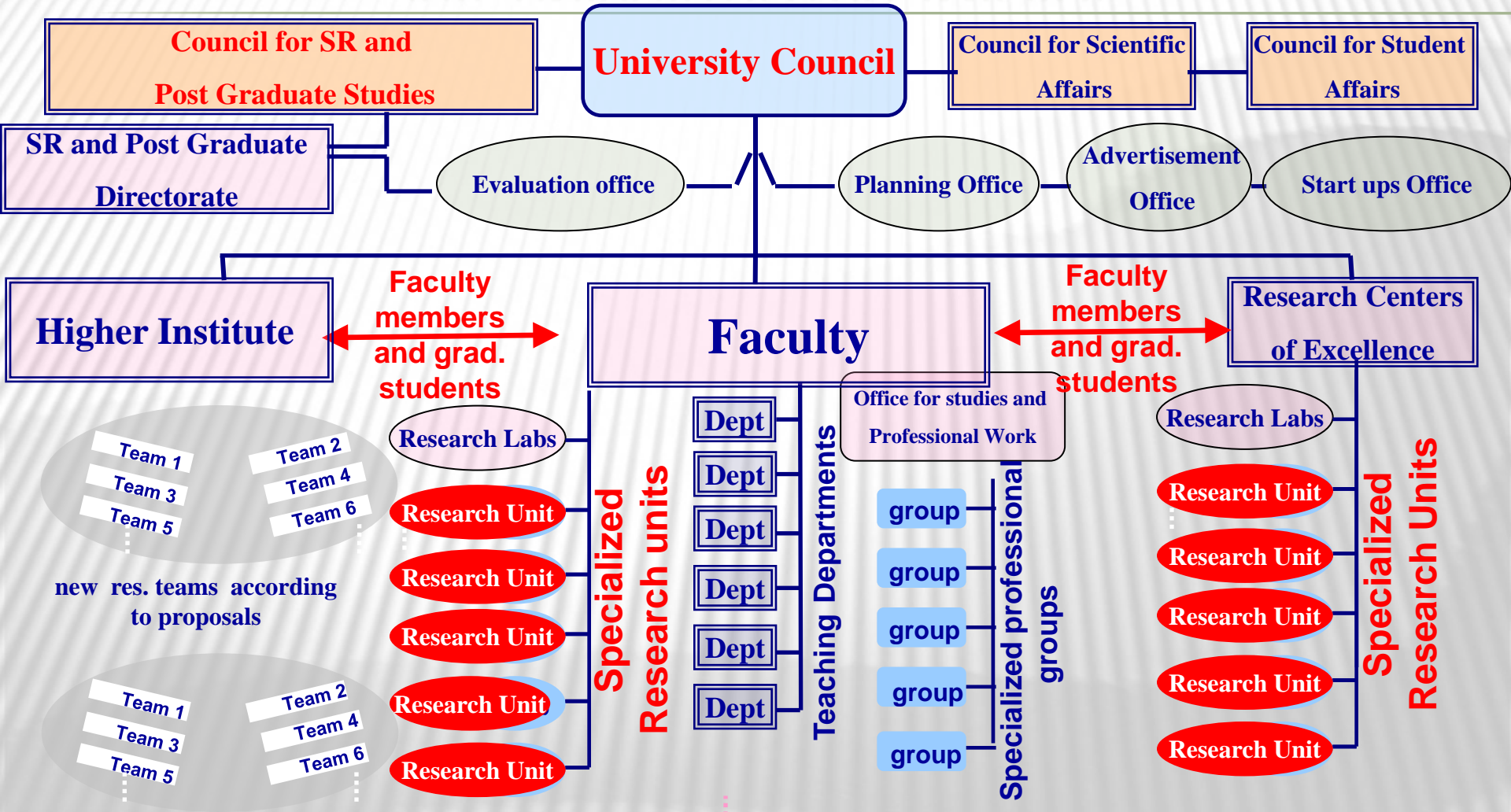
- ❑ Enhancing the quantity, quality and relevance of scientific, basic and applied research
- ❑ Promotion of entrepreneurship and innovation skills within graduates to stimulate their capabilities in self-job creation

FAST OVERVIEW OF THE RESEARCH SYSTEM IN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (SR), NATIONAL LEVEL (MACRO)

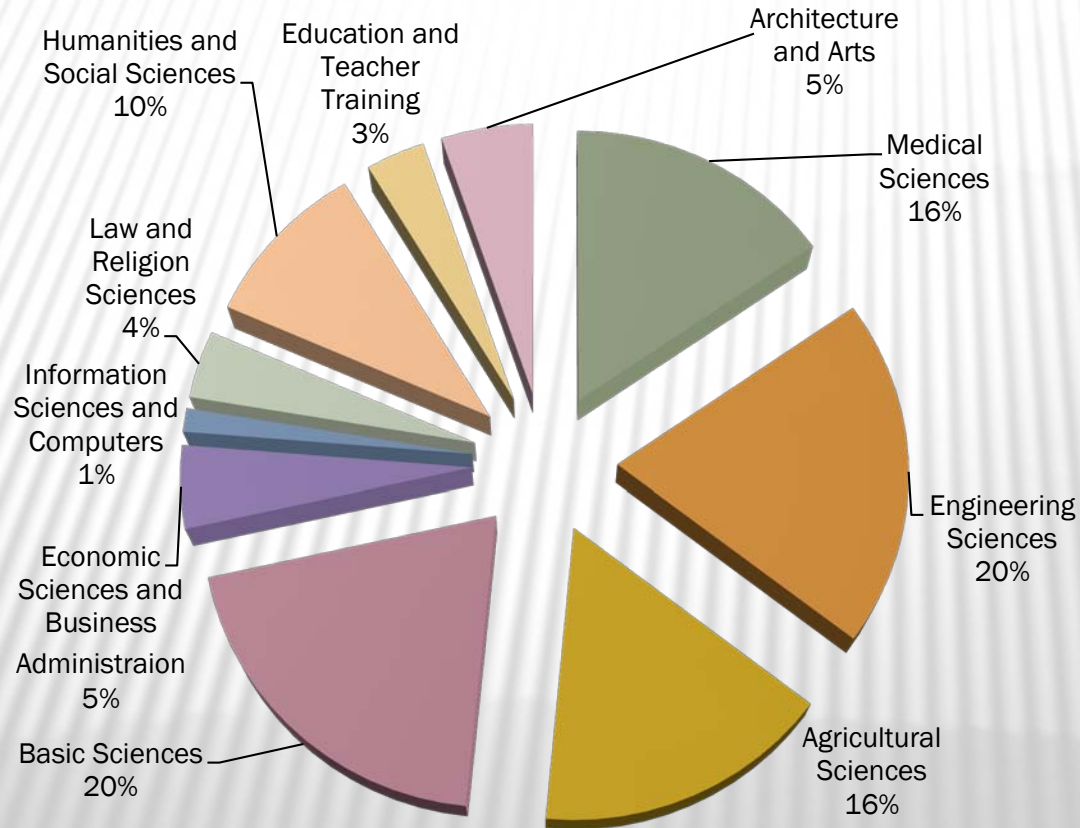


ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (SR), UNIVERSITY LEVEL (MICRO)



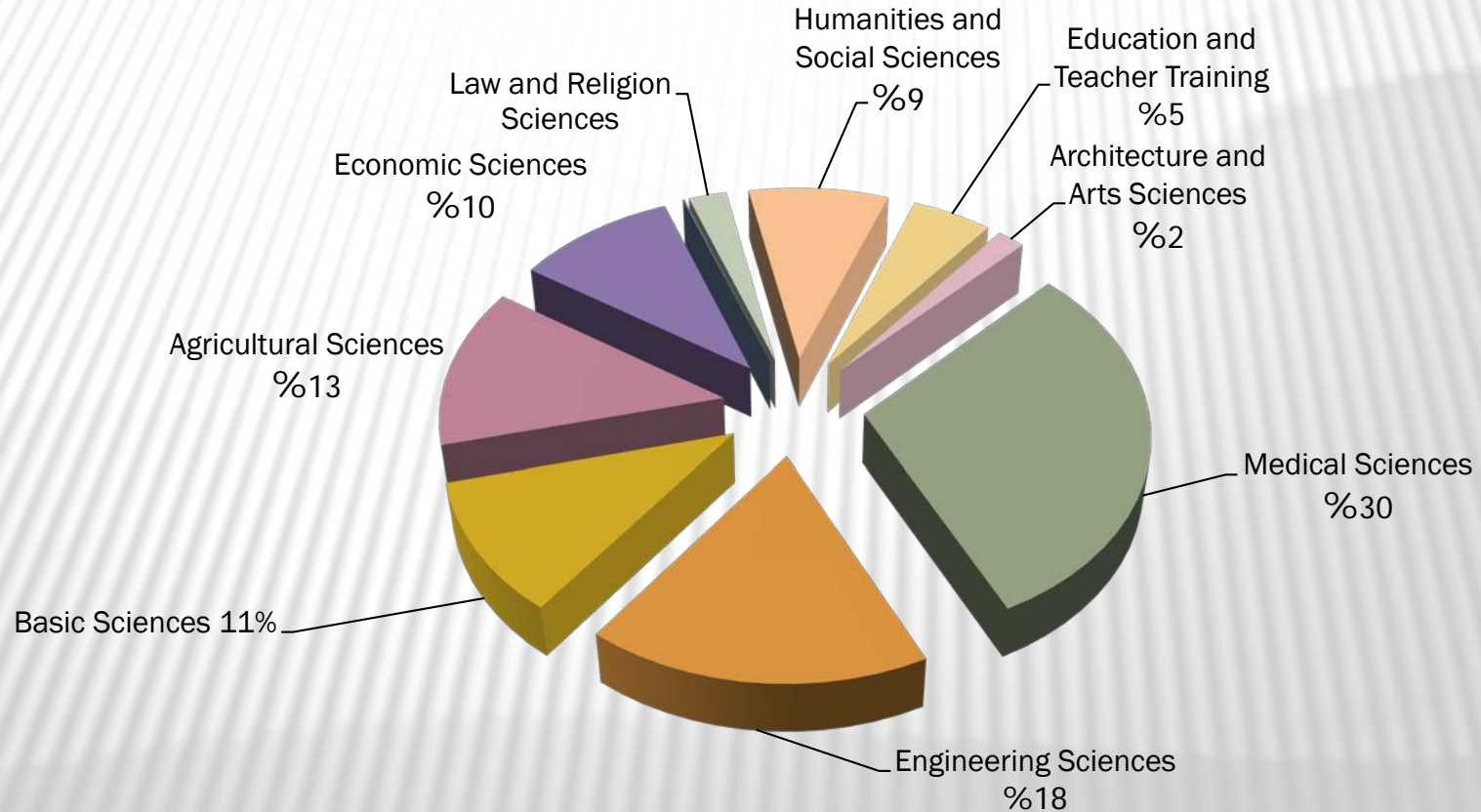
SOME FACTS AND FIGURES

RESEARCH UNITS AT UNIVERSITIES (ABOUT 600 UNITS), VARIOUS DISCIPLINES

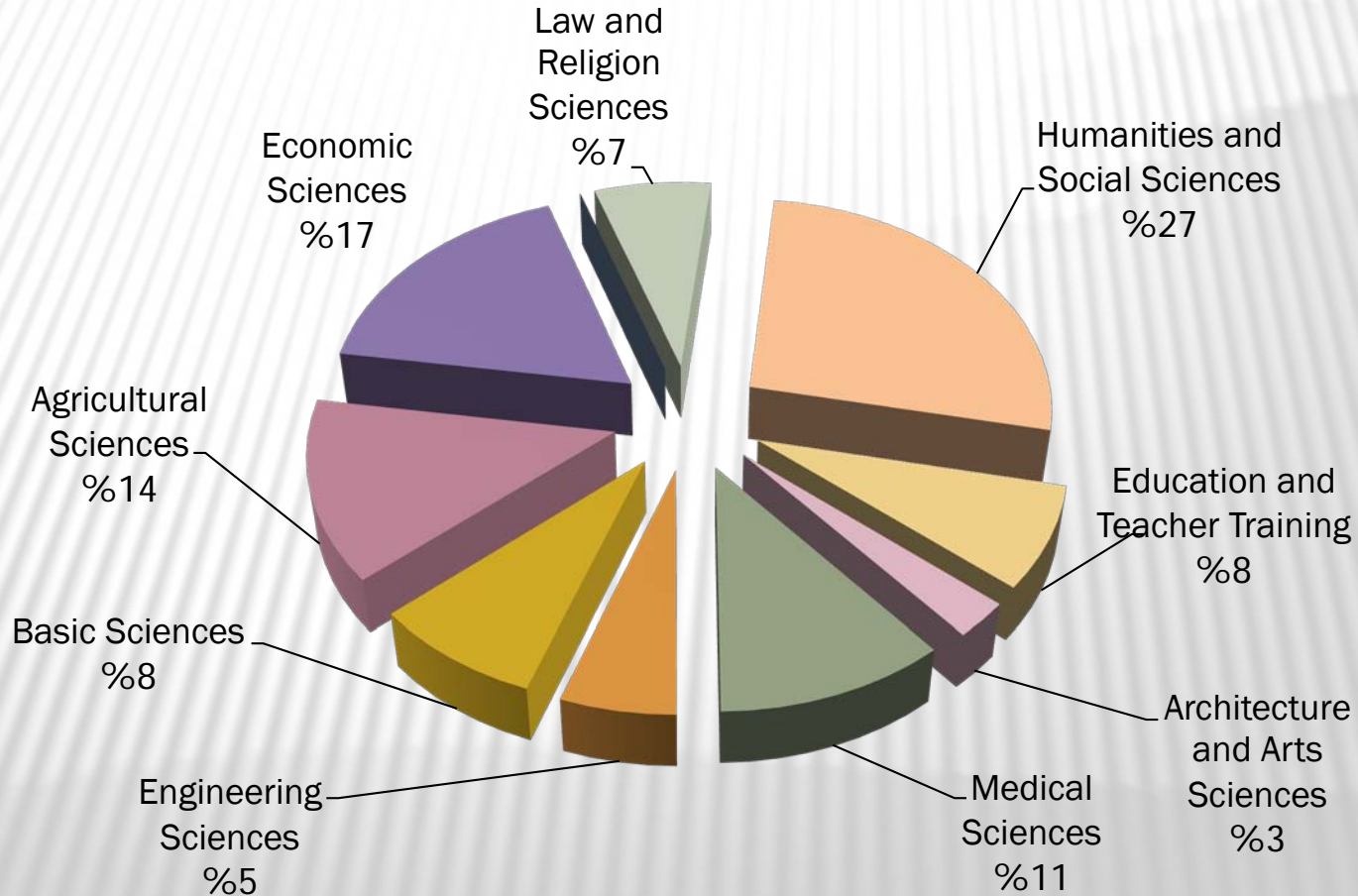


Newly established research units, reaching approximately 600 units at universities and research centers of the higher education system, are distributed among various disciplines as follows

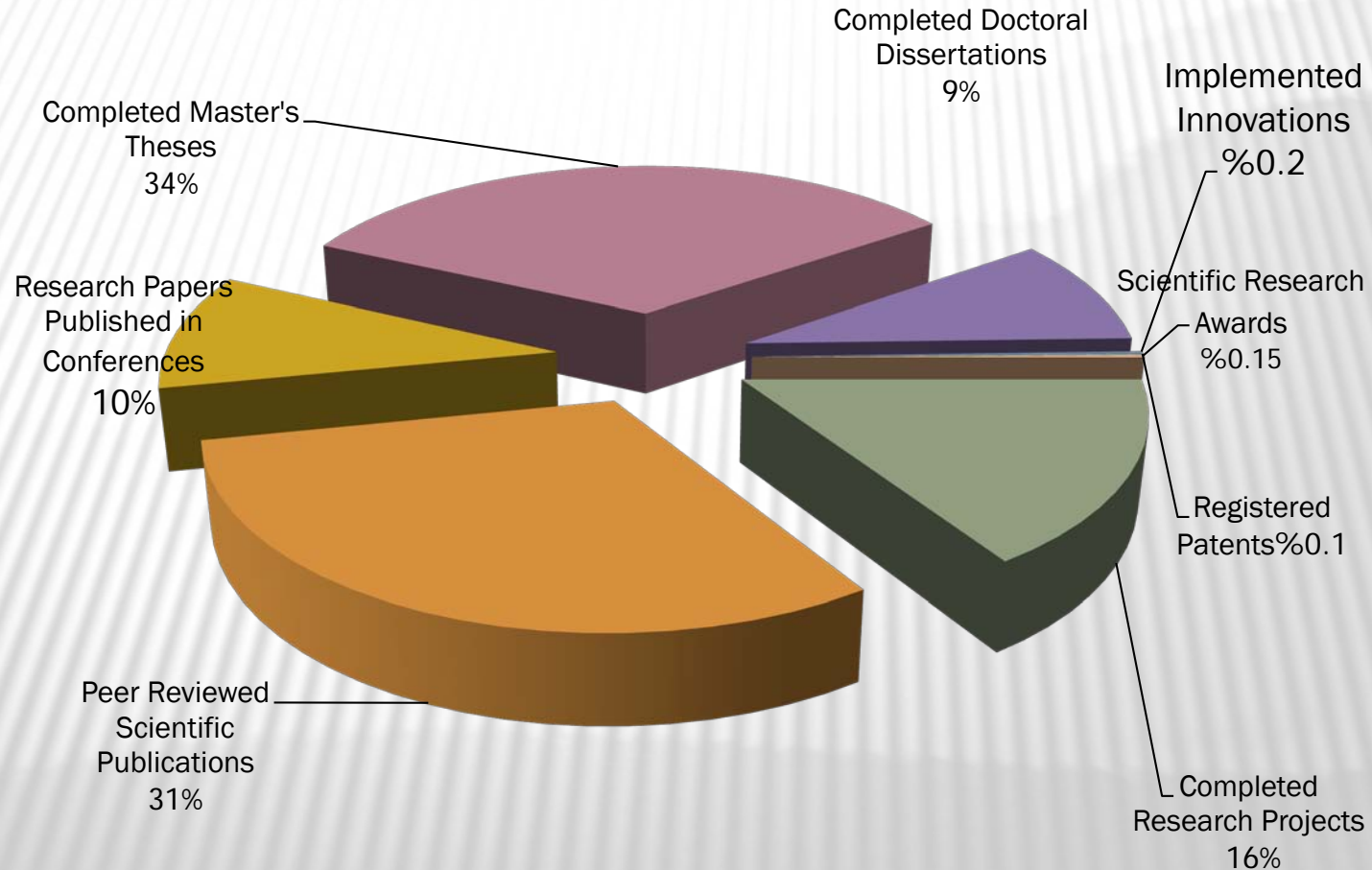
MASTER DISSERTATIONS FINISHED DURING 2009 (1130 IN TOTAL), VARIOUS DISCIPLINES



DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS FINISHED DURING 2009 (218 IN TOTAL), VARIOUS DISCIPLINES



RESEARCH PRODUCTION (1967 IN TOTAL), INSIDE SYRIA AND ABROAD



H.E. Research System: Main Features

- ❖ About 5000 PhD Teaching Faculty Members, No Researchers' Status (Teaching Universities Vs research Universities?), Local Publishing
- ❖ Heavy Emphasis on Basic Sciences
- ❖ Almost ALL Research activities take place in Universities and government Laboratories; No R&D in Enterprises
- ❖ Weak Economic Relevance, Except in the Agricultural Sector
- ❖ Weak Links with the Industrial Sector
- ❖ Weak Expenditure: 0.25% of GDP
- ❖ Diversified Funding Resources but NO Contribution from the Private Sector
- ❖ Lack of Demand on Research

POLICY FRAME WORK

Measures to reactivate University Research

This was highlighted through a number of unique improvements specific for scientific research legislations and mechanisms at universities, including:

- ❑ The approval of a new framework for scientific research at universities, which relies on research units as bases for team work, in addition to networking with other national research and production establishments.
- ❑ The establishment of specialized scientific research boards at both universities and at a national level.
- ❑ The approval of contractual methods to financially support research projects at universities.
- ❑ The establishment of a specialized research programs of strategic importance (bio-remedy, agricultural research, biotechnology, renewable energy, earthquakes, etc)

Measures to Reactivate University Research

- ❑ The establishment and opening of numerous national postgraduate education programs in cooperation with European universities.
- ❑ The establishment of a fund for scientific research and advancement of technology of higher education.
- ❑ The launching of collaborative research programs with a number of Arab and foreign countries.
- ❑ Providing an enabling environment for scientific research (laboratories, free subscriptions to electronic libraries, and linking with the European Scientific Research Network GEANT).
- ❑ Study the possibility for establishing technological incubators at universities and industrial areas, and the activation of cooperative mechanisms among universities and the economic sector.

*Policy Framework:
Bridging the Gap,*

**Sector
Pull**

**R&D
Push**

**العرض
Offer**

Matching

**الطلب
Demand**

Networking with
Business Sector

LLL
Opportunities

Targeting
Sectors Plans

Financial and
Tax Incentives

Sectorial RTD
Centers

Attractive Master
Programs

Attractive training
Programs

Initiatives for
PPP

Curriculum
Development
for R&D

Industrial R&D
Centers

Techno Parks and
Technopoles

Enabling
Environmen

Focus on Graduate
Studies

Matching Consulting
Activities to R&D

RECENT MEASURES

LEGISLATIVE R&D ENVIRONMENT

- New Universities Regulatory Act No. 6 for the year 2006 and its implementing regulations issued under Decree No. / 250 / for the year 2006.
- The Full-Time law for Faculty members, 2006
- Regulatory Decree No. 86 of 2007, specifying financial incentives related to scientific research.
- Law No.1 for the year 2009 regulating international joint programs.
- Decree No. 85 for the year 2009, governing the rules for research Sabbatical leaves.

OTHER MEASURES

- Diversification of Postgraduate Programs with Responsiveness to Market Needs
- International Research Programs
- Promotion of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Skills within Graduates: *Entrepreneurship Education – University Incubators*
- Diversification of Funding Resources: *Government – Self-finance – International Programs (FP7 ...)*
- R&D Enabling Environment: IT in H.E. And R&D

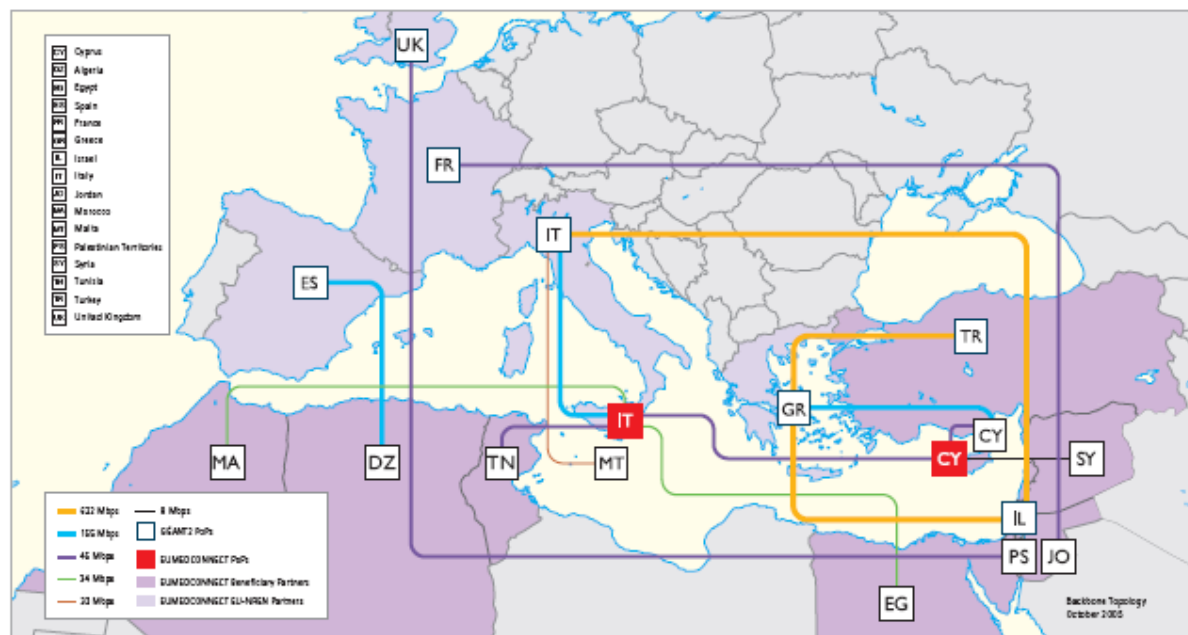
EUMEDCONNECT



وزارة التعليم العالي
MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION



Linking Mediterranean research and educational communities to Europe



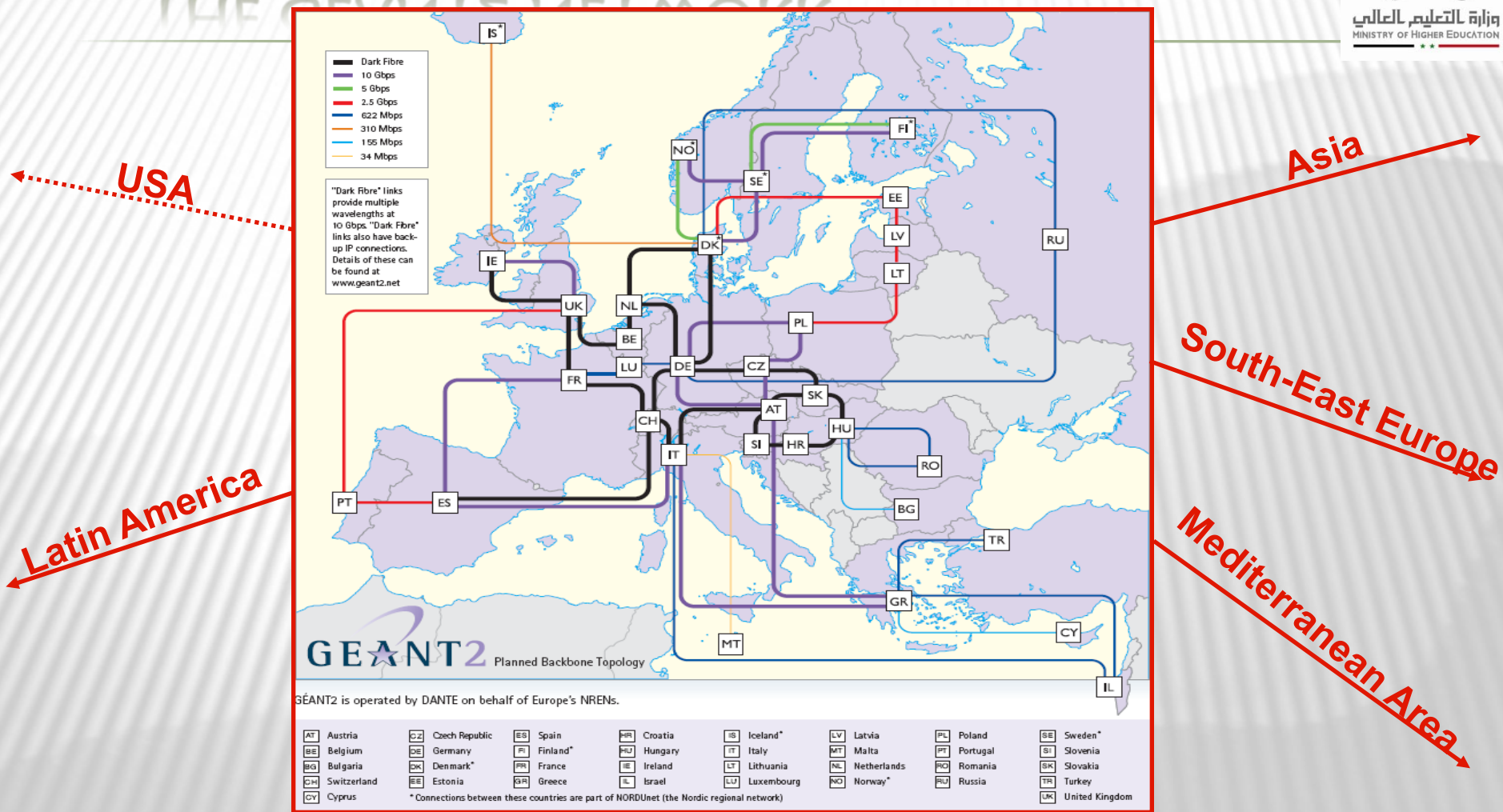
Creating a research and education network for the Mediterranean



EUMEDCONNECT is co-funded by the European Commission through the EUMEDIS programme



THE GÉANT2 NETWORK

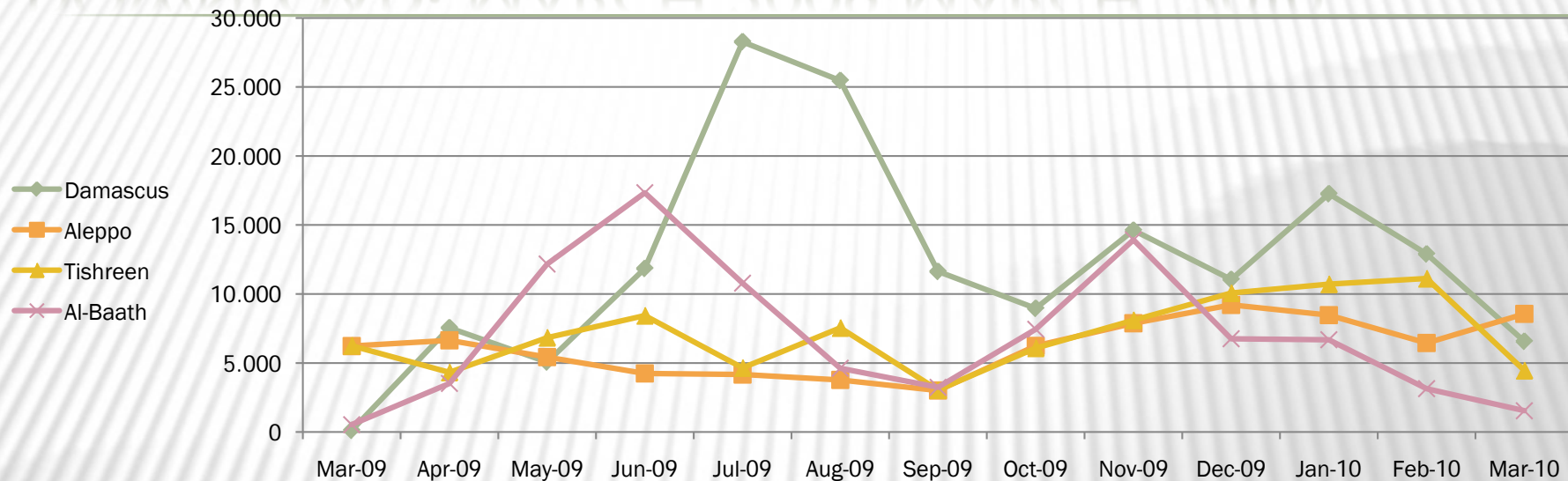


OPEN E-LIBRARY

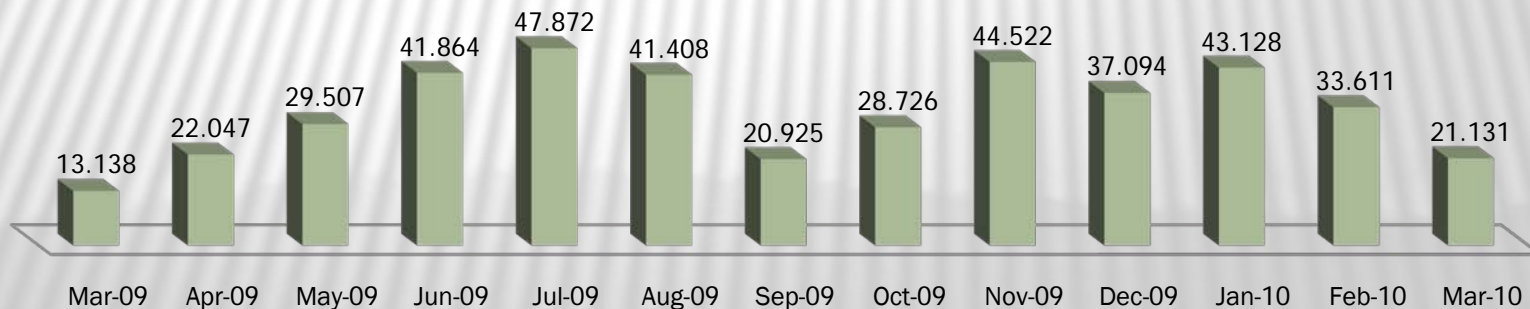
- Offers over 8 Million full text articles.
 - 23 subjects Collections
 - Articles In Press
 - Backfile articles back to Volume 1, Issue 1
- Has the most powerful search capability
- contains more than a quarter of the world's scientific, technical and medical peer-reviewed articles
- Users (students and faculty members) can search both journal and books from one single interface.
- A sharp increase in nb. of articles published is expected



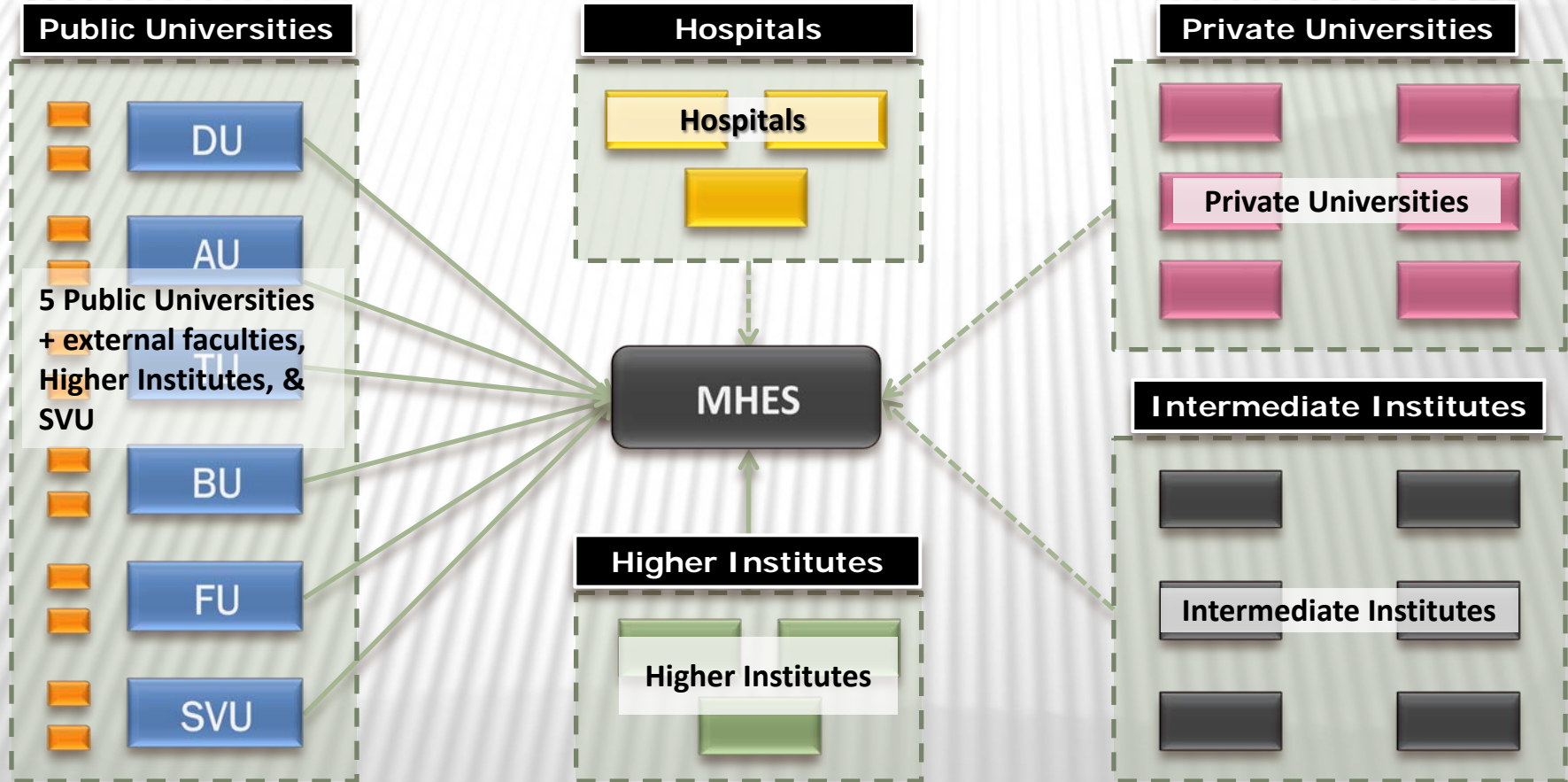
DOWNLOAD: MARCH 2009-MARCH 2010



SYRIA (Consortium)



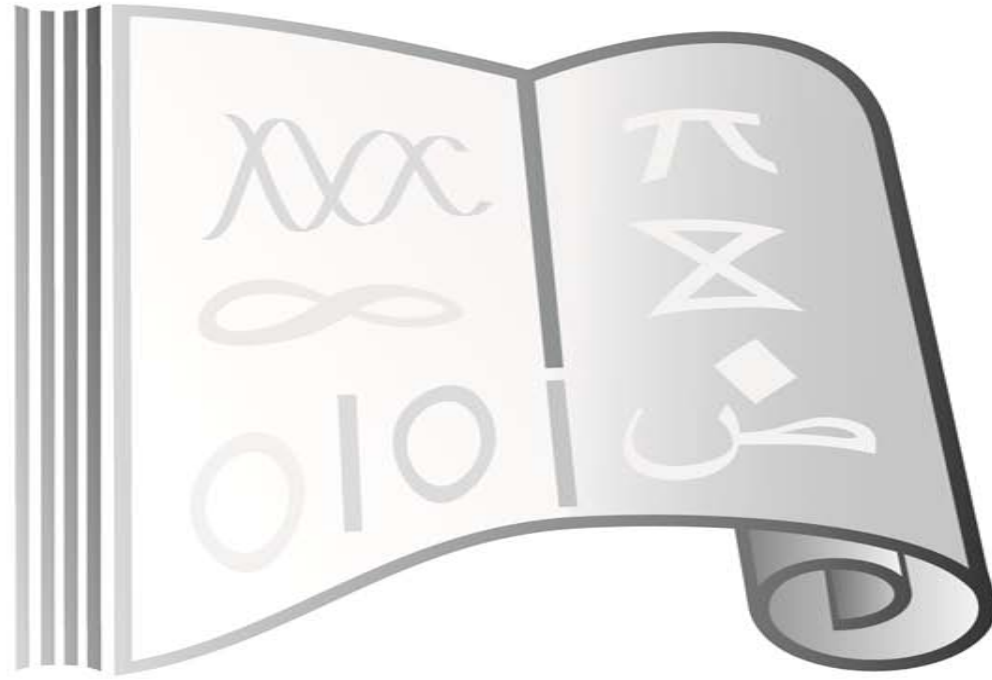
THE “HEMIS” COMPONENT OF THE “UHES’ PROGRAM



THE FUND FOR SUPPORTING SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

Benefiting:

- ❑ Researchers in Syrian universities.
- ❑ Researchers in Syrian scientific research institutions and centers.
- ❑ Experts in research and development in national establishments and companies, through the cooperation with public universities and research centers.



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