



AN AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE TO FIGHTING PANDEMICS FROM WITHIN THE CONTINENT

**Fidele NTIE KANG (OCF fellow, Health Group).
(CEPAMOQ, University of Douala, Cameroon)**



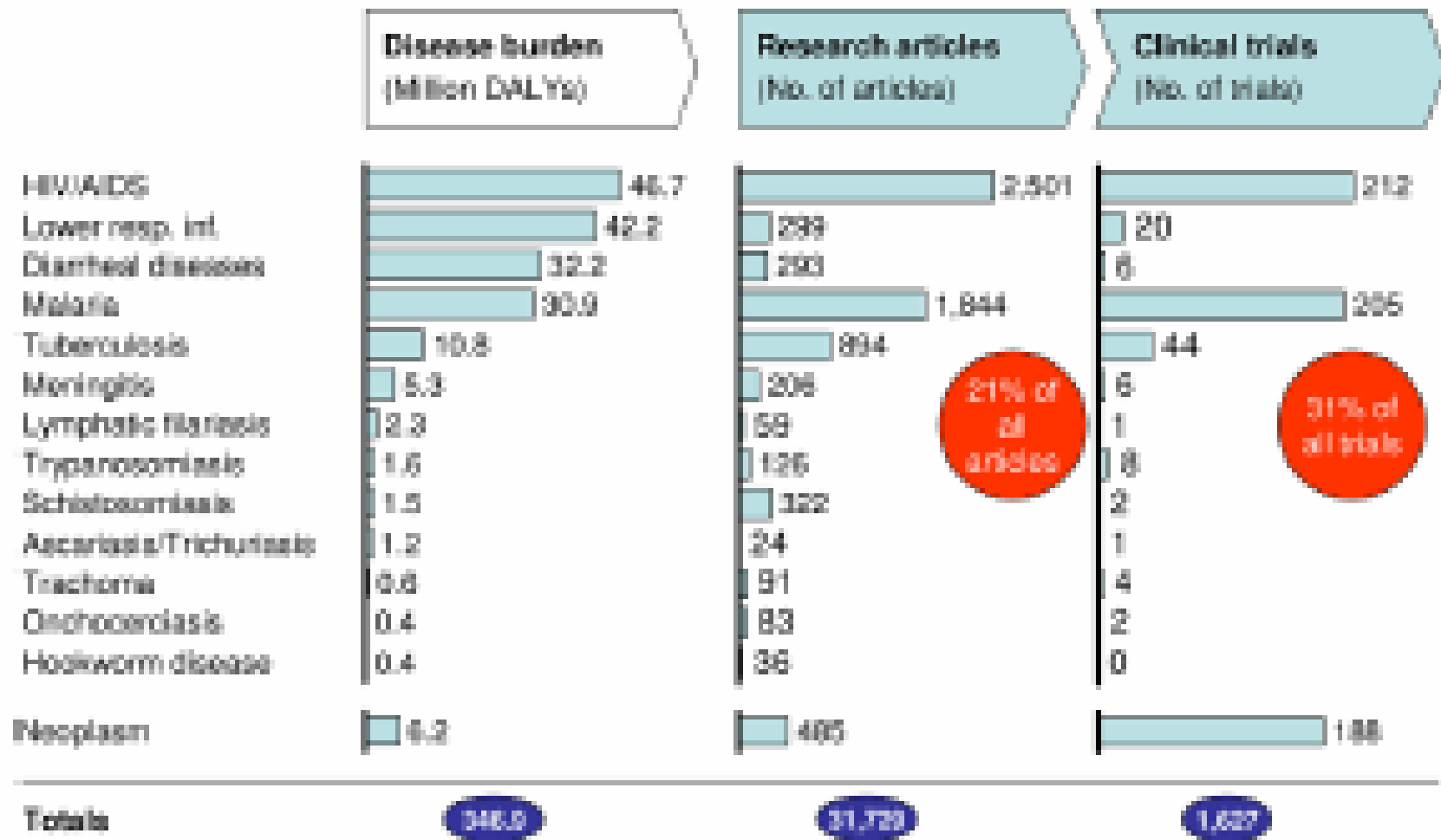
**Our Common
Future**

Hannover · Essen
2.-6. November 2010

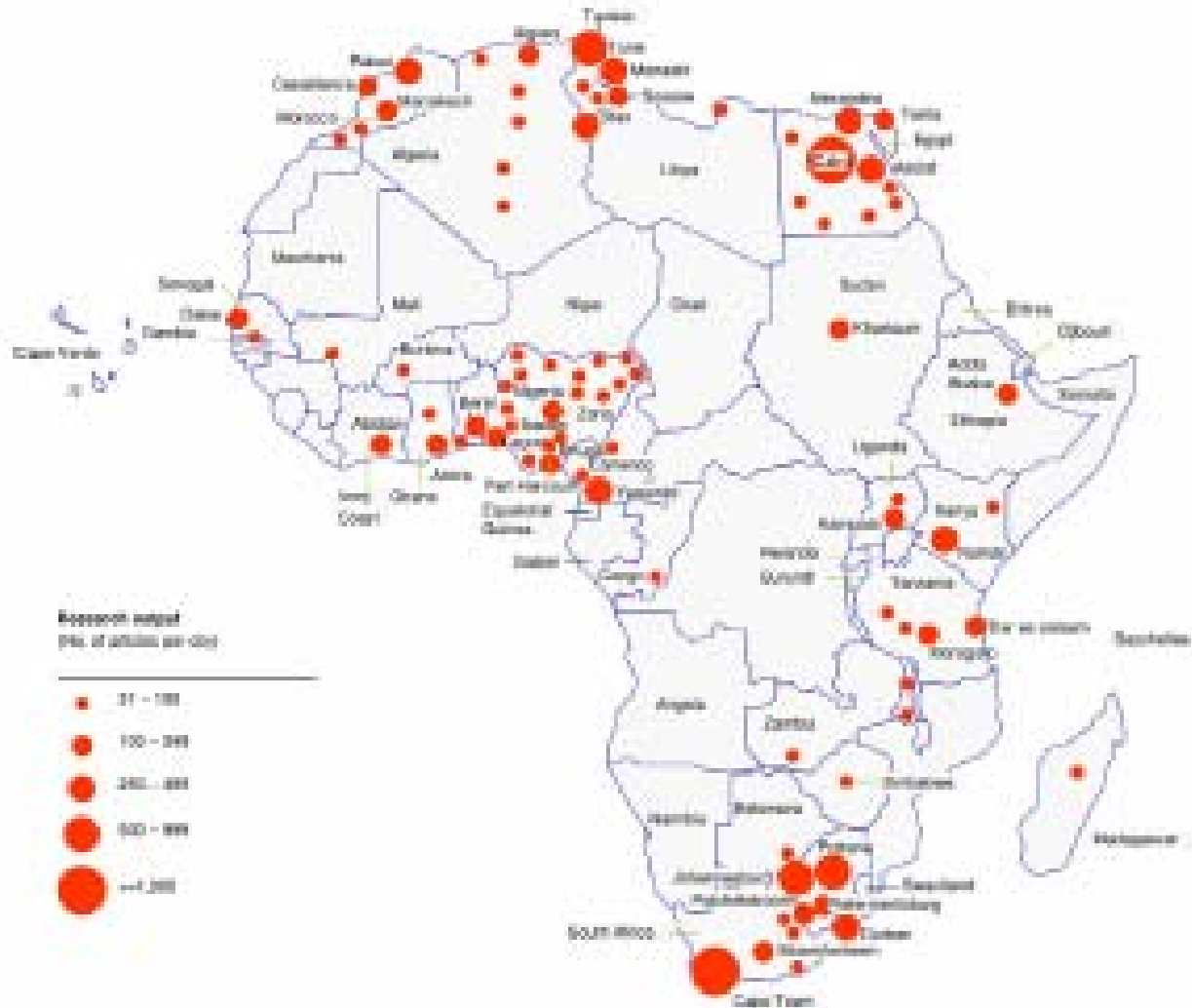
Cameroon - Africa in Miniature

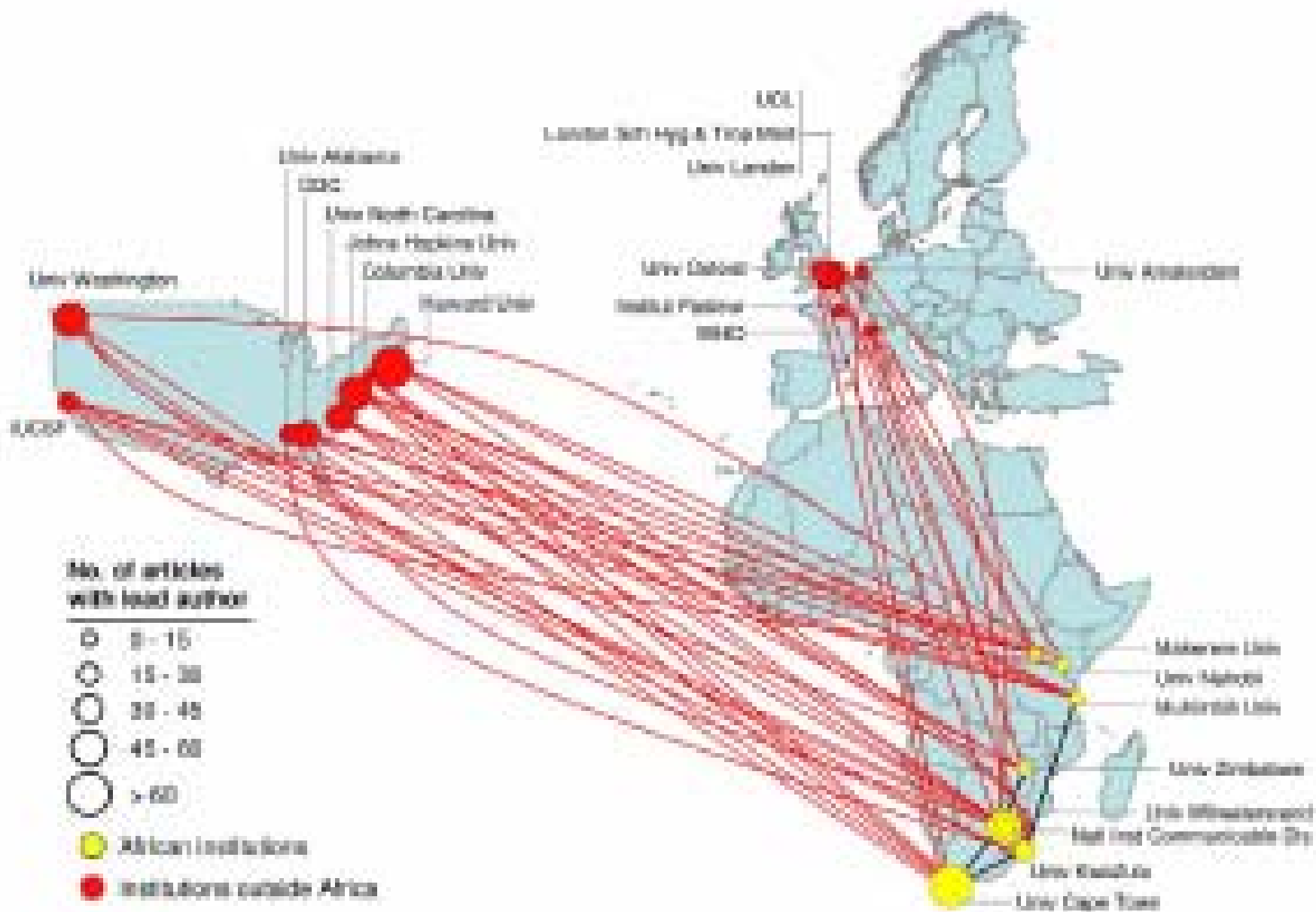


The African Problem



Africa in Facts and Figures





Data Interpretation

- ❖ The bulk of the Research and Development on the continent is focused in three countries; South Africa, Egypt and Nigeria.
- ❖ Lack of intra-African collaboration in Research and Development is an indication that African institutions do not have an adequate grip on the product research simingly going on in the continent.
- ❖ Africa's disease burden (25%, as opposed to 15% of the world's population) shows the need for emphasis on product research and development from within the continent .
- ❖ The African Network for Drugs and Diagnostics Innovation launched in 2008 is an indication of the awareness of African scientists, both at home and in the diaspora to face this challenge squarely.

Attempted Solutions

- ❖ Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV).
- ❖ Drugs for Neglected Diseases (DNDi)
- ❖ Multilateral Initiative for Malaria (MIM)
- ❖ Access to New Interventions for Infectious Diseases of Poverty
- ❖ South-South Initiative for Infectious Diseases of Poverty (SSI).
- ❖ Tropical Diseases Research to Foster Innovation and Knowledge Application (TropIKa.net)
- ❖ Les Synergies Africaines

Proposed Solutions

- Networking amongst African scientists involved in R&D.
- Funding local initiatives
- Encouraging ATM

ANDI



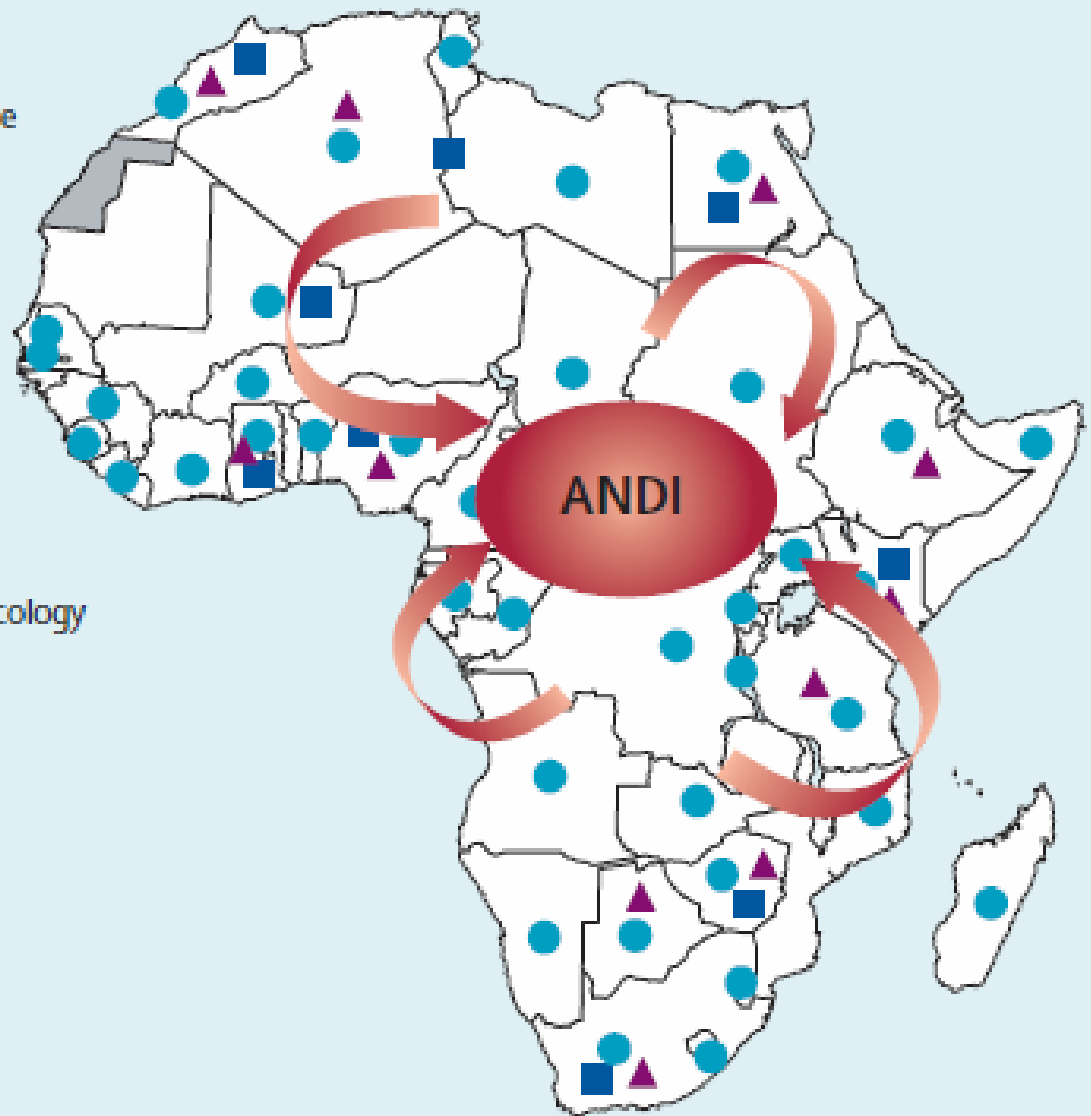
The African Network for Drugs and Diagnostics Innovation .

Mission:

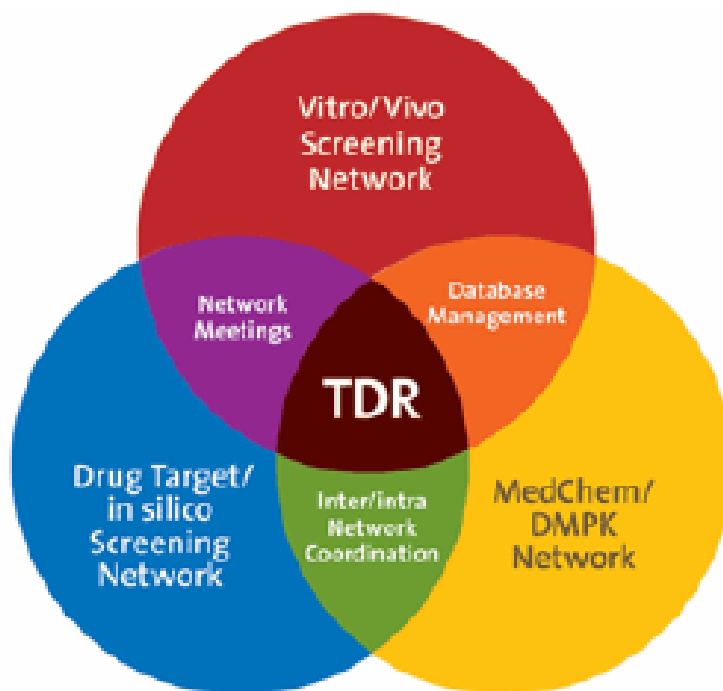
Scaling up African-led research aimed at discovering and developing new improved tools to address these diseases, and ensure sustainable access to these interventions.

Search <http://www.andi-africa.org> OR <http://www.andi-africa.org/>

- **Widely available**
 - Basic exploratory research
 - Natural products and traditional medicine
 - Hit identification
 - Clinical studies
 - Marketing
- ▲ **Available**
 - Lead identification and optimisation
 - Management of intellectual property
 - Regulatory expertise
 - Manufacturing
 - Phase IV and pharmacovigilance
- **Limited availability**
 - Preclinical toxicology and safety pharmacology
 - Raw-material processing



ANDI-an arm of WHO/TDR



ISHReCA



Initiative to Strengthen Health Research Capacity in Africa.

Mission:

Promote the creation of self-sustaining pools of excellence capable of initiating and carrying out high-quality health research in Africa.

<http://ishreca.tropika.net>

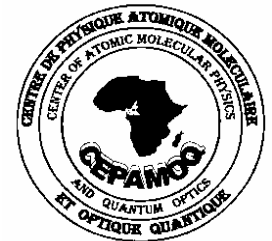
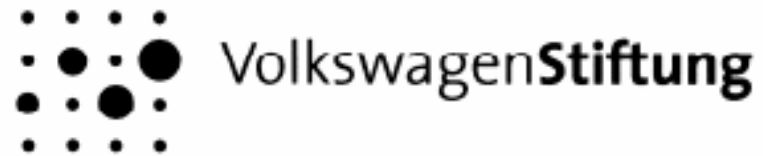
Recommendations

- ❖ Increasing awareness of African governments, NGOs, academic and pharmaceutical institutions of Africa's disease burden should spur local research initiatives.
- ❖ Encouragement of projects based on African traditional medicine and low cost treatments.
- ❖ Funding for local research initiative on the continent.
- ❖ Encouragement of young scientists to carry out product research within the continent, thereby cutting down on brain drain.
- ❖ Support collaboration amongst African Scientists.
- ❖ Making basic medicines available to the poorest populations on the continent.

Conclusion

Africa's disease burden can be alleviated with Africans at the centre of the stage.

Acknowledgments



Thanks for your kind attention