

The Race to Lead Life Sciences Innovation

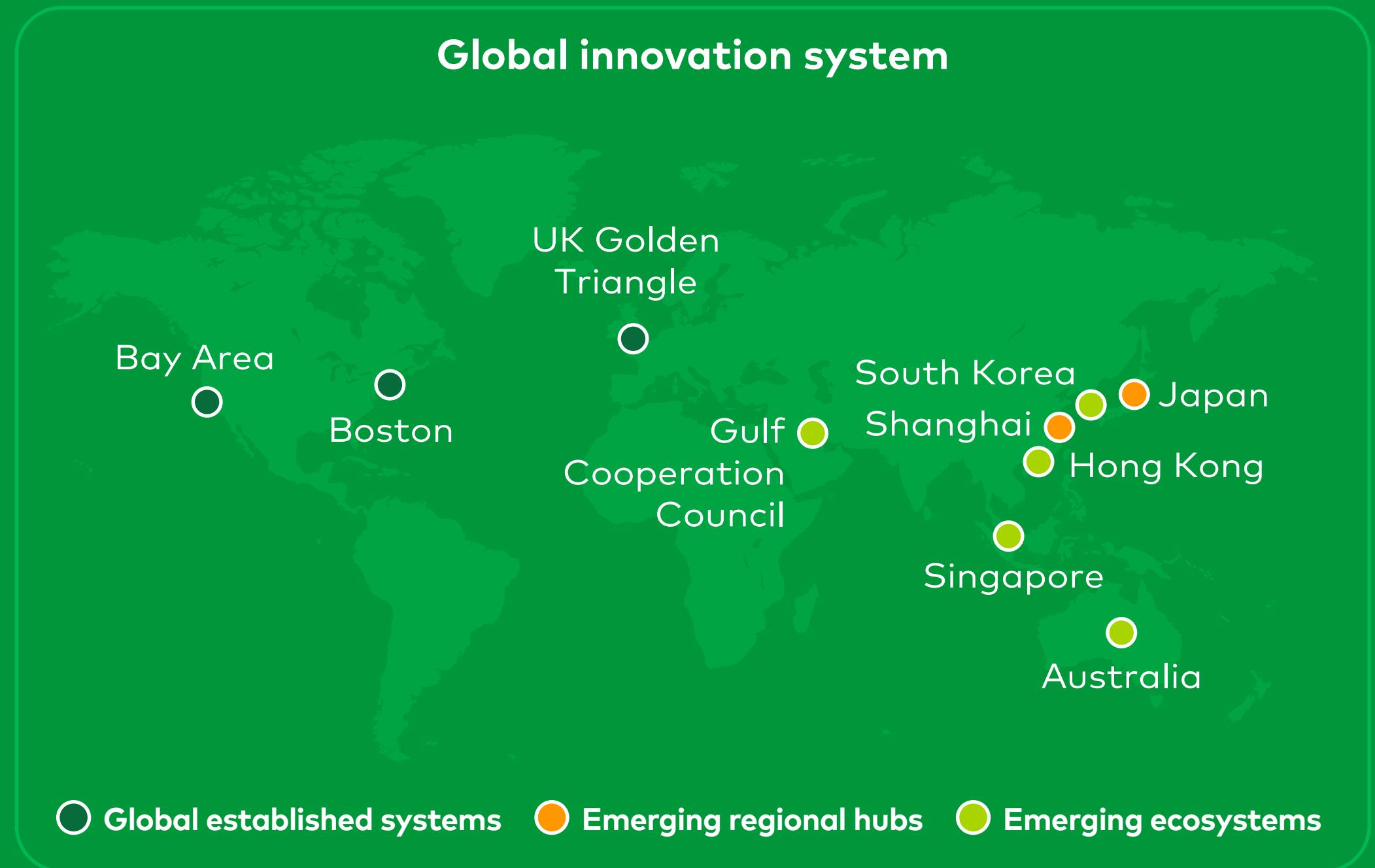
Lessons from global benchmarks

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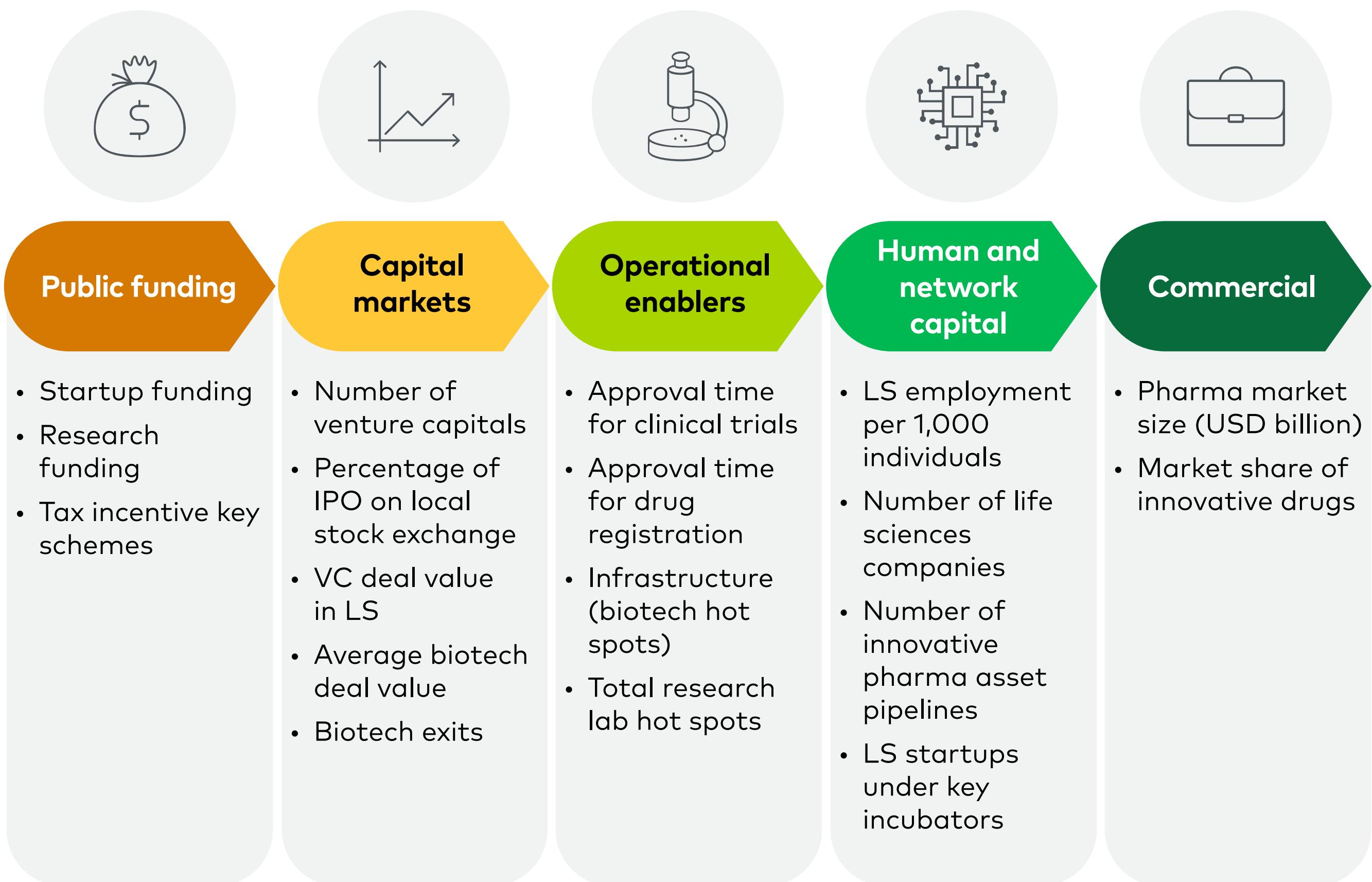


Leading life sciences ecosystems have shaped global healthcare for decades, but both established and emerging hubs are now accelerating, positioning healthcare innovation as a key engine for growth.



Innovation in life sciences is becoming a strategic growth engine across regions, with countries racing to build ecosystems that can translate scientific discovery into global impact. While legacy leaders like Boston, the Bay Area and the United Kingdom have long set the benchmark, rising hubs across Asia and the Middle East are actively shaping their own models.

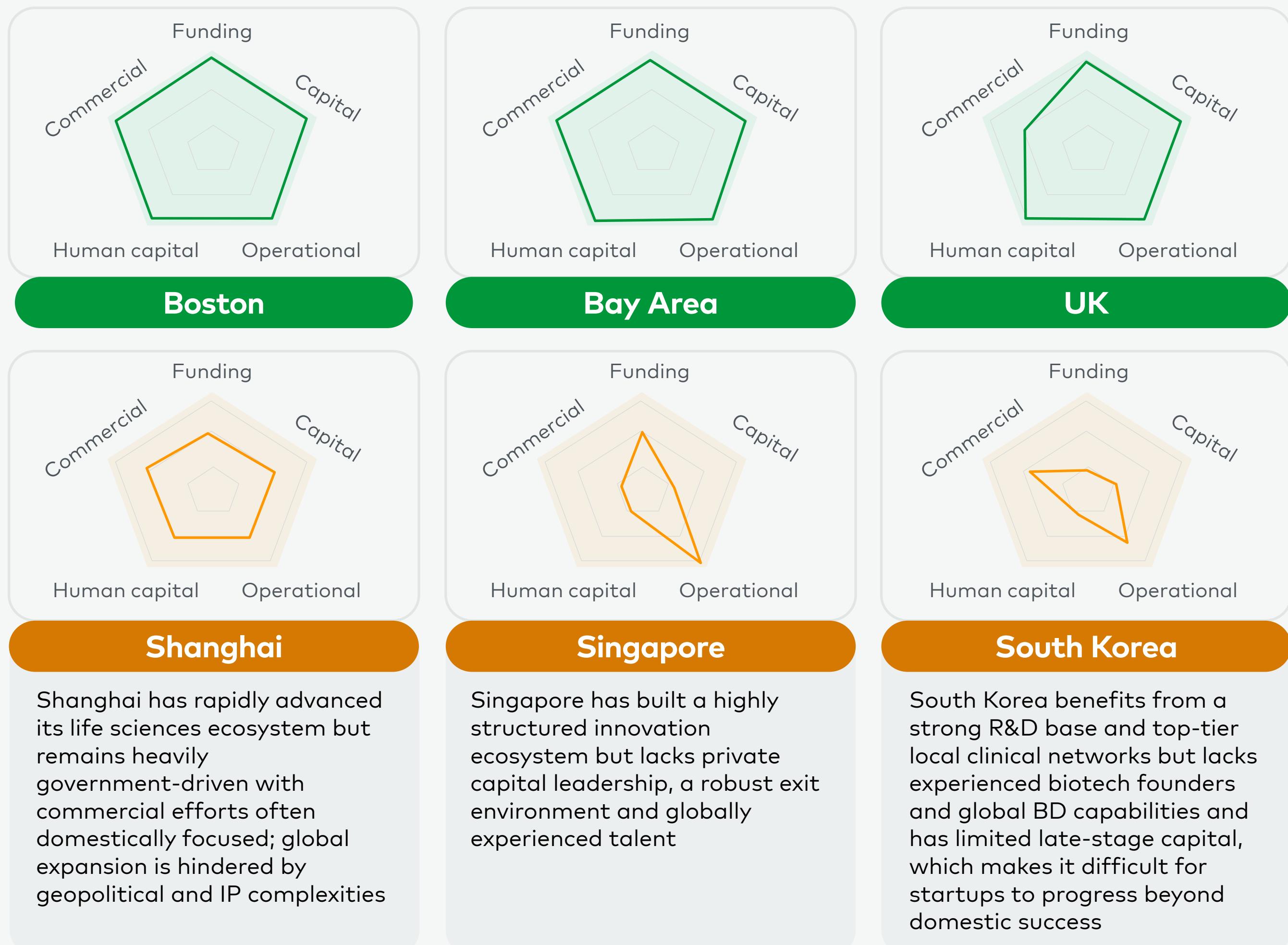
L.E.K. Consulting identified five critical pillars that define a thriving innovation ecosystem. A structured set of indicators was used to benchmark selected global innovation systems.



Note: VC=venture capital; LS=life sciences; USD=U.S. dollars
Source: L.E.K. research and analysis

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Global leaders demonstrate balanced strength across all pillars, while emerging ecosystems face structural gaps in late-stage capital, global-facing talent and scalable exit pathways.





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