



ATscale

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR
ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

MOBILISING FOR ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

A joint presentation by ATscale, WHO, UNICEF, GDI Hub and CHAI



THE GLOBAL NEED FOR ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY IS STAGGERING AND GROWING

Over 1 billion people need at least one assistive product

This number is **expected to double** by 2030

90% of unmet need in low and middle income countries today

A lack of access to AT has significant consequences for:

Individuals



Families



Society



Individuals may experience isolation and exclusion from education, the labour market, and civic life.

Access to appropriate **AT enables people** with loss of function, disabilities, non-communicable diseases, and the aging population **to enjoy their rights.**

THE CHALLENGES



Lack of Enabling Ecosystem

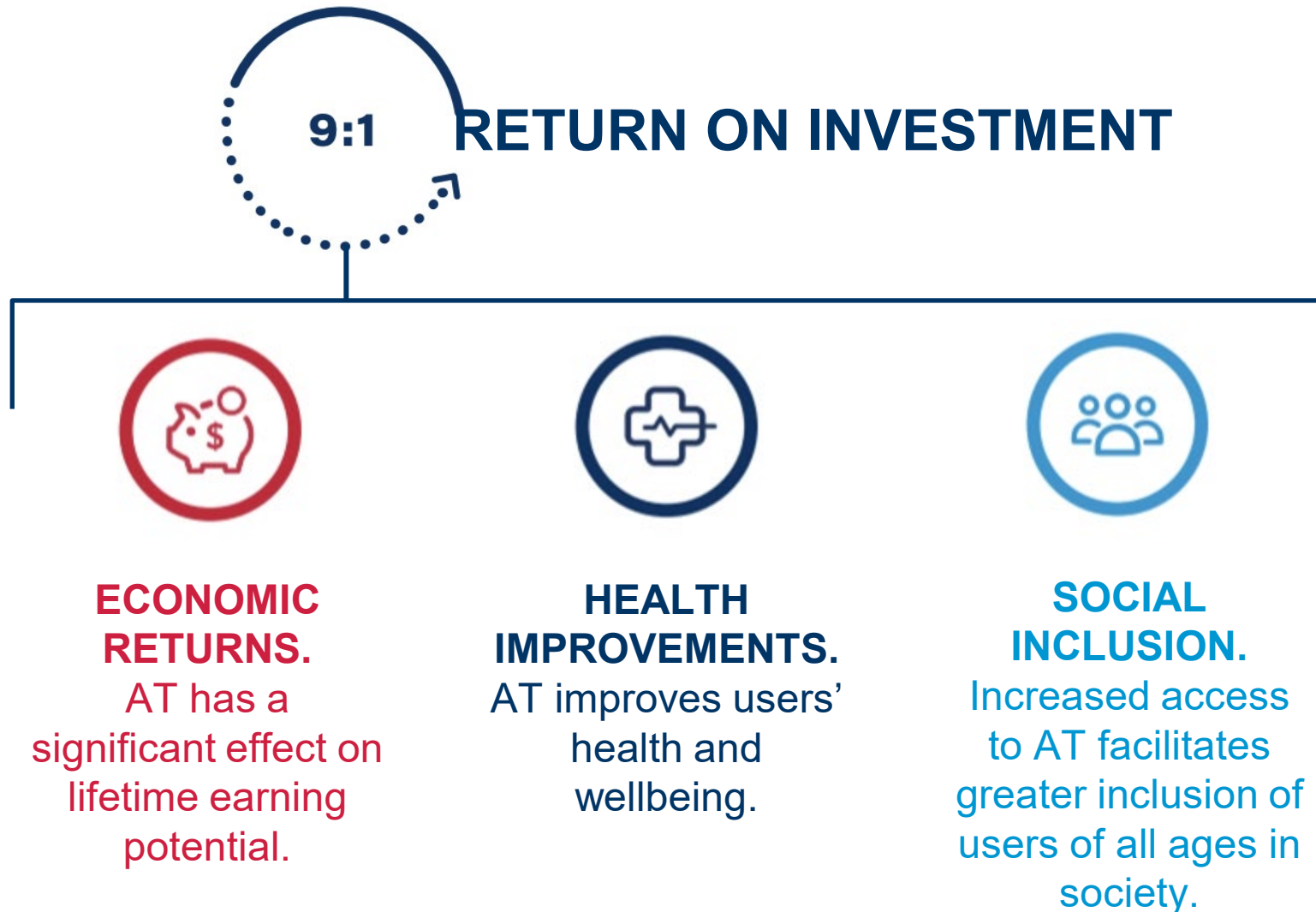
- Limited political will and investment
- Weak policy and regulatory environment
- Lack of trained and skilled personnel to support delivery of AT
- Persisting stigma



Market Barriers

- Lack of awareness among users and policy makers leading to sub-optimal demand
- Lack of transparency on pricing and quality leading to a mismatch between supply and demand
- High costs and complex supply chains

Investing in making Assistive Technology available is worth it.



For every \$1 invested in AT, \$9 is returned to the economy

SINCE THE 1ST GLOBAL DISABILITY SUMMIT IN 2018, PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE

Global product specifications launched for 26 assistive products.

Policy strengthening started in 12 countries, including national action plans in 6 countries.

Hearing aids and wheelchairs being added to UNICEF supply catalogue.

In-depth analysis of market barriers for 5 priority products, 1 scoping report for AT.

Dedicated AT programmes underway in 67 countries.

Created global AT Innovator map and Data Portal

Africa's first AT accelerator & dedicated AT impact fund supporting 28 ventures.

Data on AT need has been collected in 74 countries and in-depth capacity assessments in 33 countries

■ AT data/need assessments done
■ Implementation of new programmes started



CLOSING THE GAP FOR ACCESSIBLE ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

The Opportunity

A global, cross-sector partnership to ensure 500 million more people are reached with life-changing AT by 2030



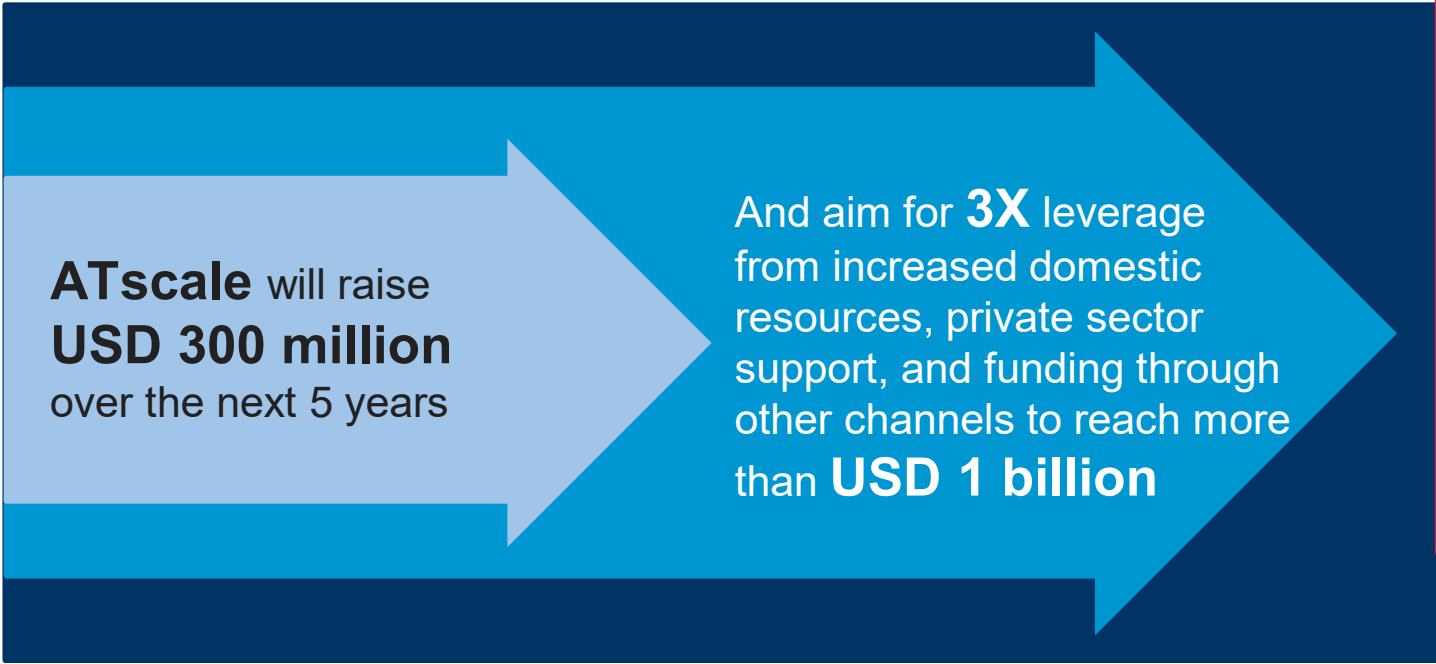
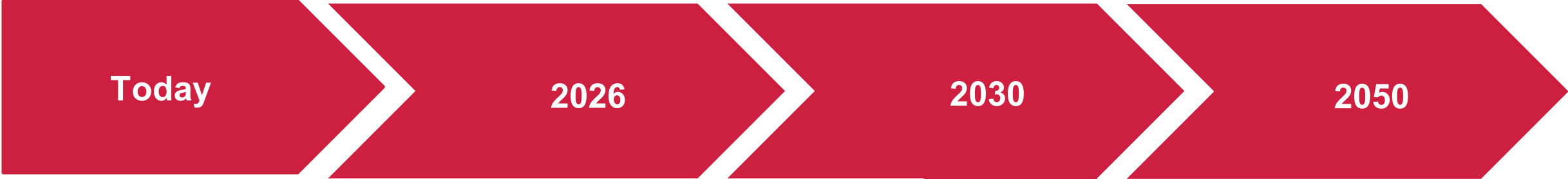
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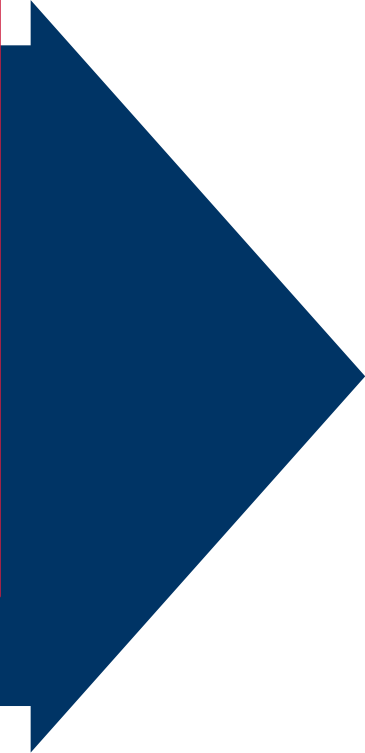
- Coordinate around a common agenda
- Raise political will and increase momentum
- Mobilise and leverage resources within countries
- Spur public and private investment globally
- Leverage market shaping approaches
- Scale innovative processes and products
- Measure progress & share best practices

The Goal: 500M new AT users

Much more still needs to be done.



500M new AT users



In order to reach all those in need of AT, it is estimated that over USD 10 billion a year is needed.

This catalytic funding will..



Support **the engagement in over 40 countries** to address critical barriers towards **sustainable AT access**

Help **raise political will** and inspire action towards AT

Invest in global public goods and interventions aimed at **creating a healthier market** for AT products and services

The Collaboration

While more resources are necessary, two other ingredients are key.

1.

INTEGRATION - Understanding that inclusion, which is the key theme of the 2nd GDS, is impossible without AT.

2.

PARTNERSHIPS - Understanding that no one alone can achieve the goal. We must work together – governments civil society, private sector, development agencies, and donors.

Inclusion is impossible without AT

Education



AT plays a powerful role in ensuring access to education and in supporting educational achievement.

Health



Provision of AT improves health outcomes, helps prevent secondary health conditions, lowers related costs (e.g. long term care).

Livelihoods & Social Protection



AT is a powerful enabler to overcome poverty. It can increase lifetime earning potential by approx USD 100,000.

Situations of Crisis & Conflict



Assistive devices often lost during displacement which increases vulnerabilities. Conflict creates increased demand, while reducing supply.

Capacity Development of OPDs



AT enables communication and mobility as a pre-requisite for demanding full inclusion.

Partnerships

**We must work together to achieve the goal.
These are example of what we expect from each other.**

National Governments

- Carry-out or complete AT needs assessments
- Develop cross-sectoral and integrated plans for coordinated national scale-up
- Increase domestic budget allocation towards rehabilitation and Assistive Technology
- Reduce regulatory barriers, including import tariffs

Donor Organisations

- Support national, cross-sectoral efforts with direct additional funding
- Streamline disability inclusion and AT into all development support
- Increase funding to global, coordinated efforts such as ATscale

Private Sector

- Make products more easily accessible through price reductions, increased market transparency, service support, or product design adaptations
- Engage with global and national partners to identify business models that create win-win situations for business and AT users

Civil Society

- Increase advocacy of disability rights organizations with governments, funders and development partners to introduce and fund national AT strategies
- Engage with communities and local governments to increase awareness and reduce stigma

MOBILISING FOR ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

TODAY, TOGETHER,

- We will hear from and discuss with a range of partners:
 - Individuals who use Assistive Technology
 - Civil Society, including Organizations of People with Disabilities
 - Governments from the Global South and North
 - Multilateral Partners
 - The Private Sector
- We will understand the progress on increasing access to affordable and appropriate AT and discuss the need to renew and increase our commitments.
- Build a cross-sector partnership that is a catalyst for change, for every person that is in need of AT.

