

ATscale webinar

Domestic Financing for Assistive Technology

Technical report for strengthening access to affordable quality products and services



16 September 2026
TWO LIVE SESSIONS



8:00 CEST

English & Russian interpretation



16:00 CEST

English, French & Spanish interpretation



Closed captions and international sign language available



ATscale
GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR
ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Hosted by



UNOPS

Webinar Agenda

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Satish Mishra, Head of Global Programmes, ATscale

ATscale Domestic Financing Video

Introducing Ineza's story

Presentation on Report Findings

Jens Wilkens, Technical Advisor, ATscale & Researcher, Lund University

User Perspective

Ida Putri, Disability Rights & Inclusion Advocate (morning session)

Yusra Gilani, Disability Rights & Inclusion Advocate (afternoon session)

National Government Perspective

Norika Toumak Watt, Government of Vanuatu (morning session)

Julianah Munongi-Chikwanda, Government of Zimbabwe (afternoon session)

International Perspective

Ben Zinner, World Bank (morning session)

Manjiri Bhawalkar, World Bank (afternoon session)

Q&A Session

Led by Satish Mishra, ATscale

Closing Remarks

Satish Mishra, ATscale



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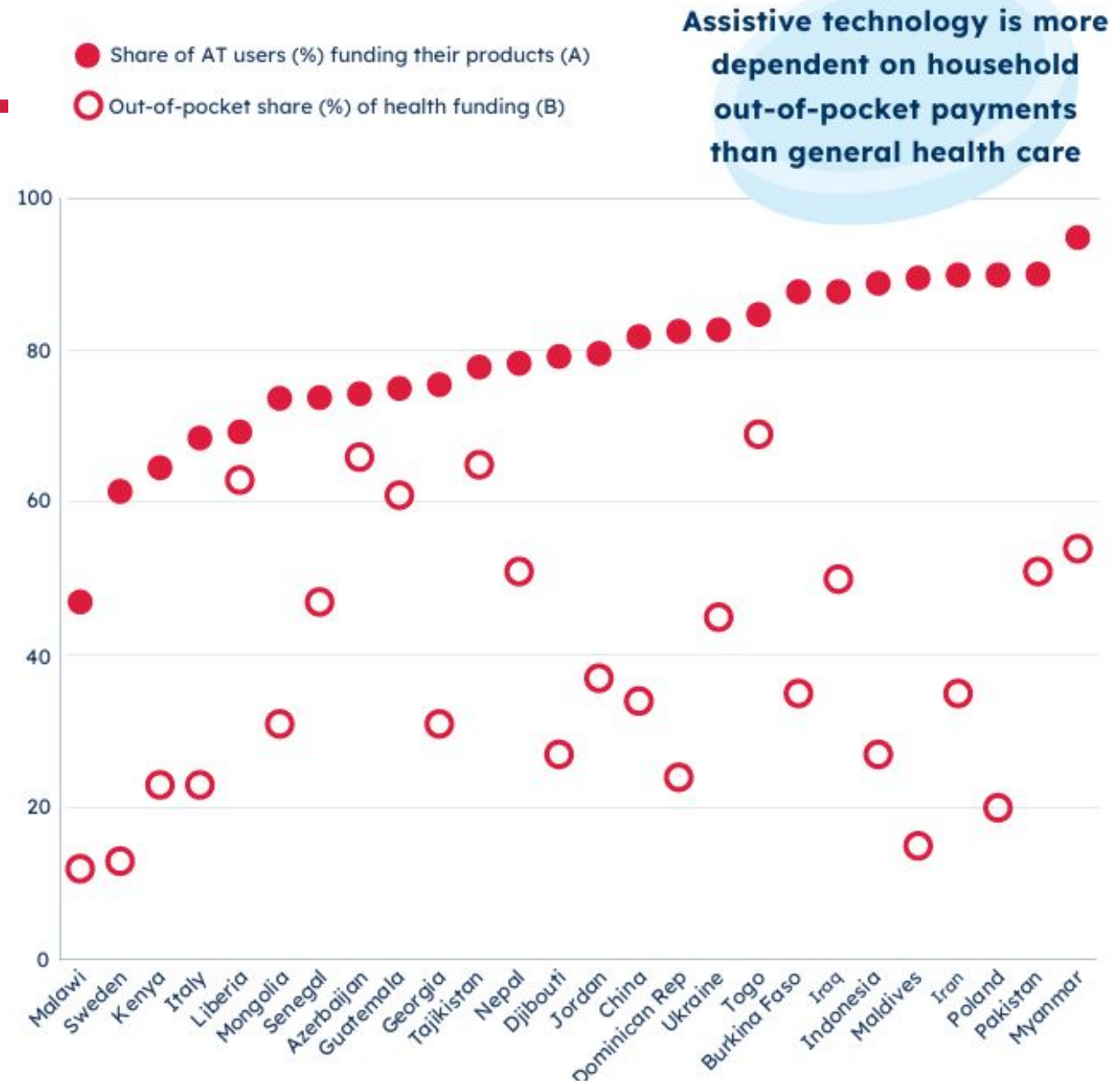
Domestic Financing for Assistive Technology

Technical report for strengthening
access to affordable quality
products and services

Jens Wilkens, Technical
Advisor

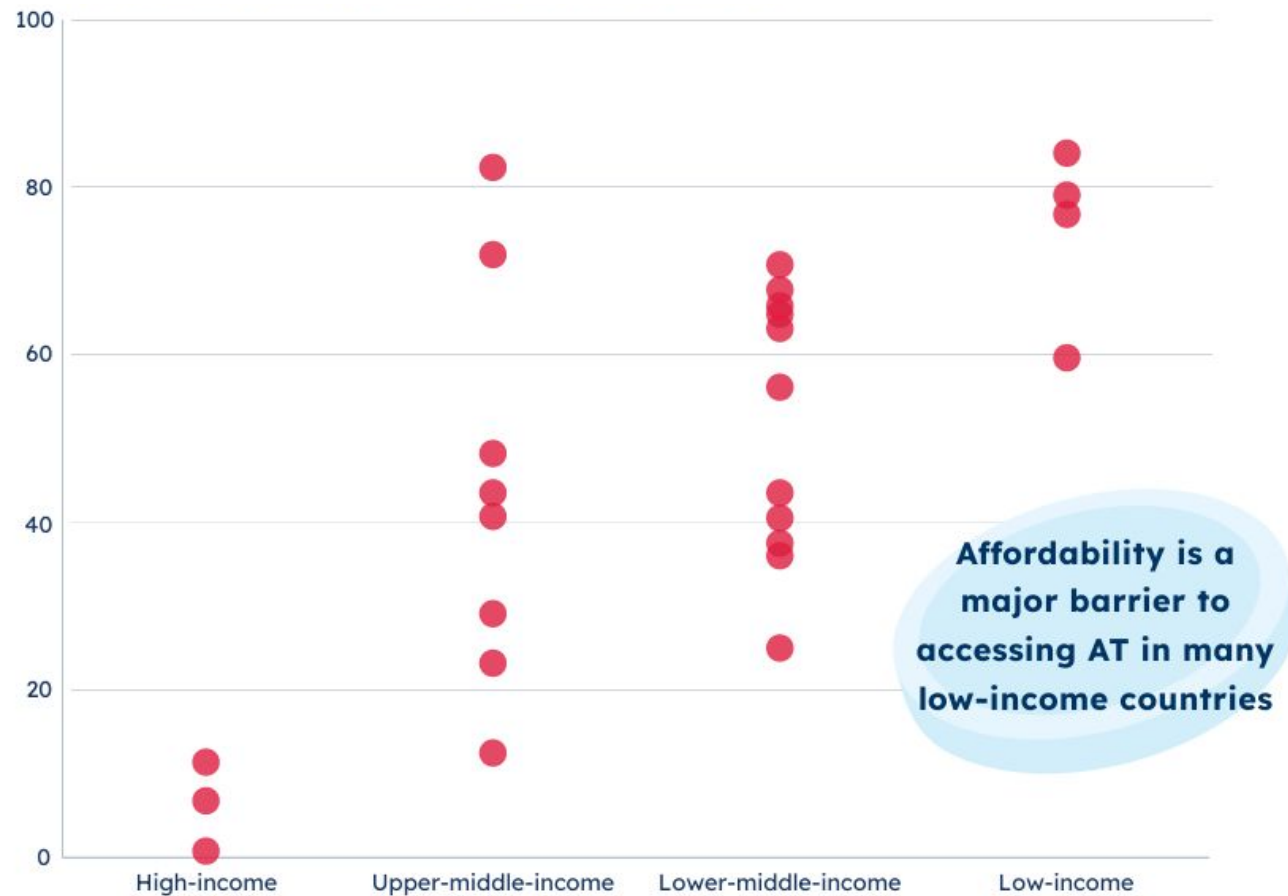
Starting point 1

Assistive technology is very dependent on users' out-of-pocket payments



Starting point 2

Affordability is a major barrier to accessing assistive technology



Utilization based on need rather than ability-to-pay is a long-term objective of the financing system

The report explains how to:

- Increase available domestic funding
- Mitigate harmful effects of user payments
- Find complementarity in different funding streams
- Prioritize among assistive products and services
- Increase data on need and utilization to support effective financing policy



The report framework builds on:

- **Economics and health financing applied to Assistive Technology**
- **All countries' challenges are specific**
- **So are their specific context in which solutions can be found**
- **All financing mechanisms have a technical function in a system – Understand what they do and their likely effect!**

The public funding commitment is key!

- **Assistive Technology is arguably under-funded as compared to other sectors**
- **Public funding can crowd out user payments where they are most harmful.**

The tool-box to increase domestic public funding:

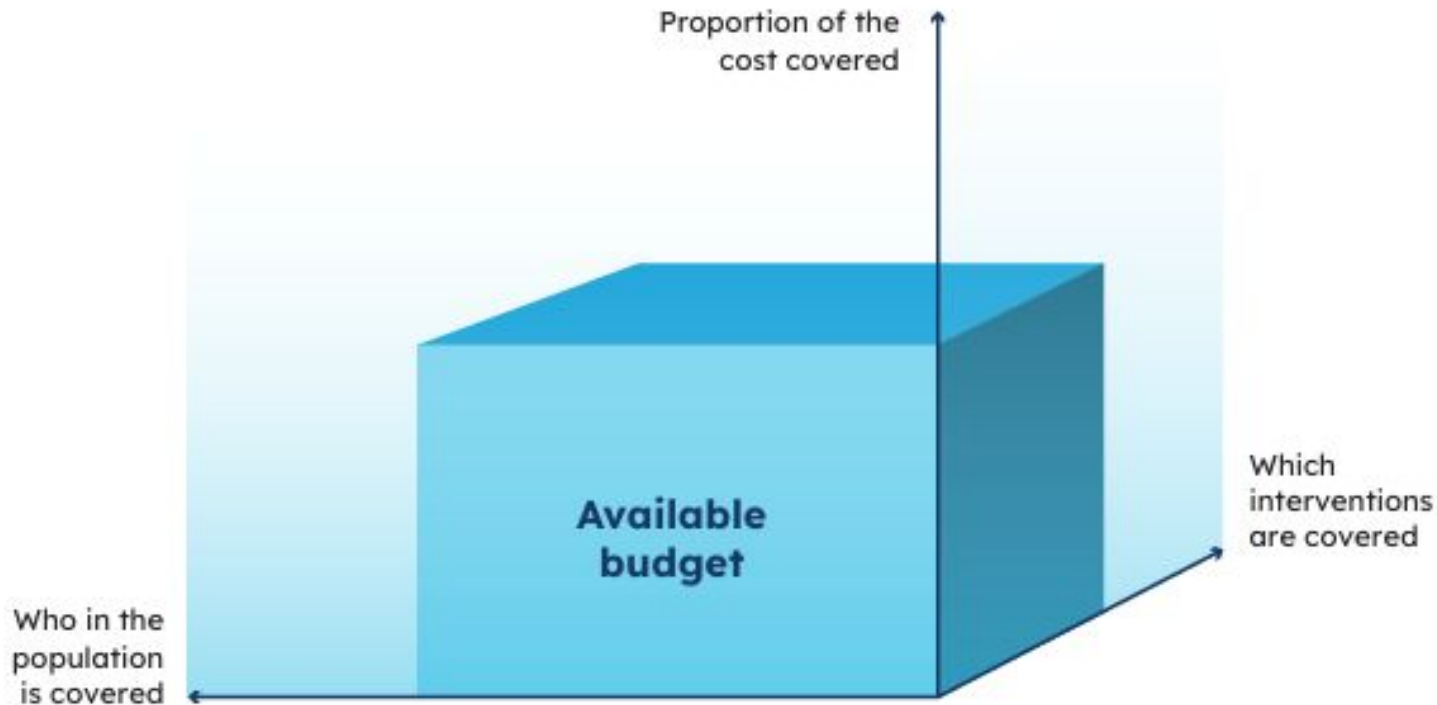
- **Budget priority in the government in designated budget lines**
- **New revenue streams from undesired consumption can nudge behaviour and generate revenue**
- **Ear-marking resources?**

Effectiveness is dependent on a series of interventions



- **A continuum view also guides to solve access and efficiency problems**
- **Multiple responsibilities along the continuum, which is not necessarily wrong, contributes to fragmentation in funding**

Coverage policy goes beyond UHC goals



Regardless of the budget size:

- **Tremendous gains from clarity about exactly What, for Whom, at what Cost-sharing**
- **With multiple objectives comes a balancing act!**

Purchasing capacity is underrated in most social sectors



- **Seek bargaining power!**
- **Understand markets!**
- **Apply the coverage framework to pay for the 'right' things!**
- **Digital AT has tremendous benefits, but is more difficult to pay for!**

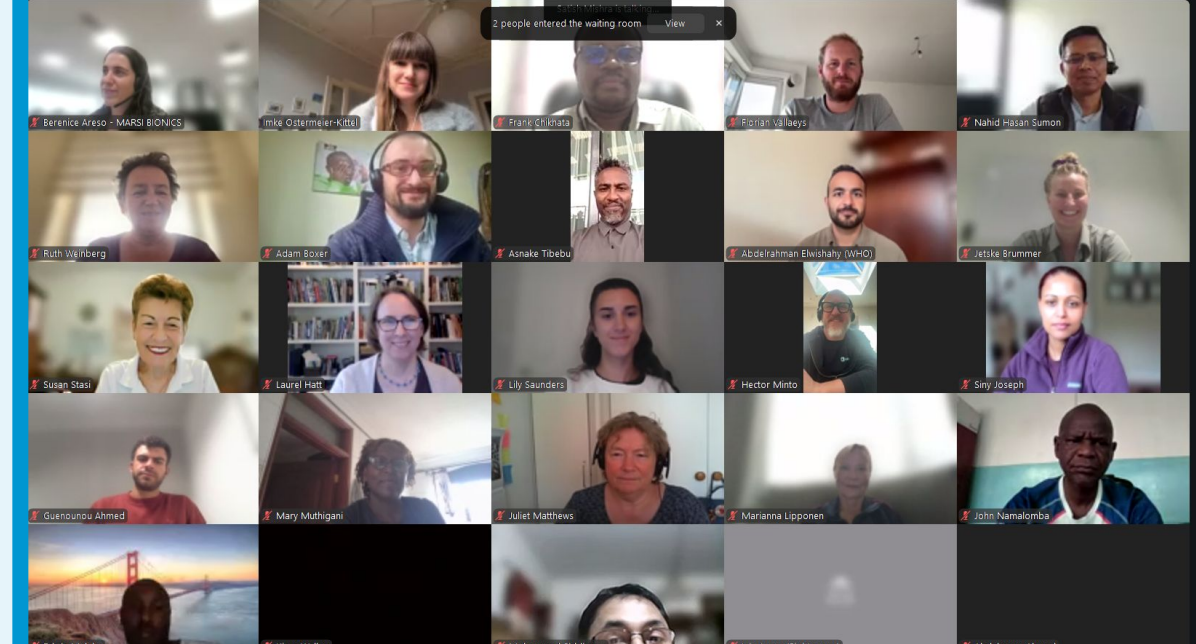
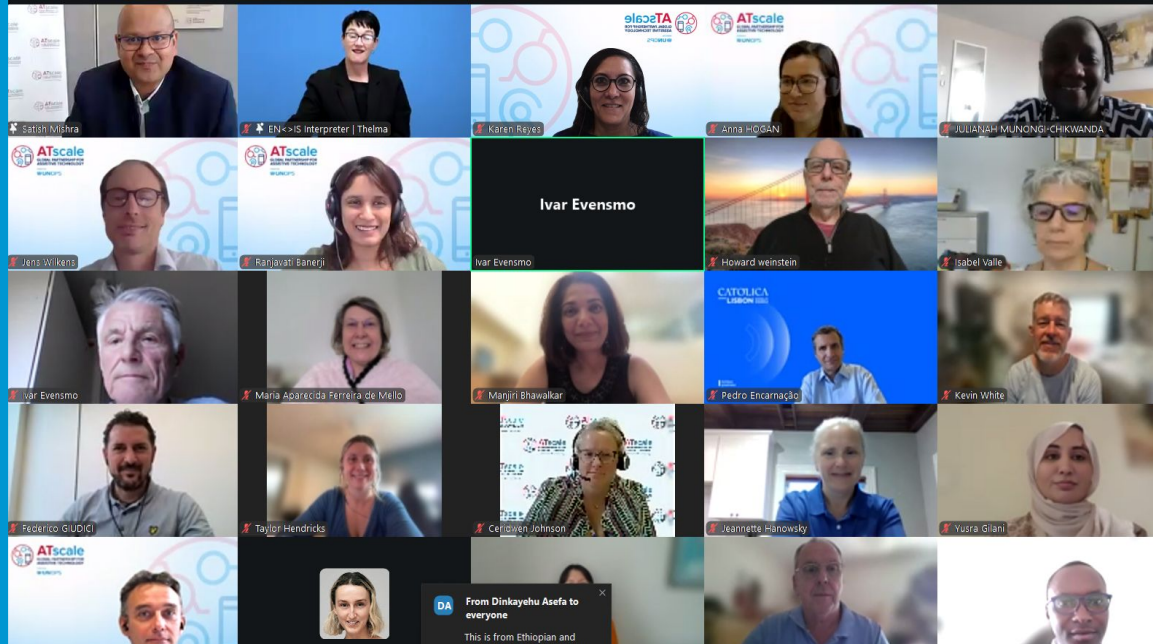
Leverage private funding and provision for assistive technology

Public financing policy can use the private sector for both additional resources and increased utility:

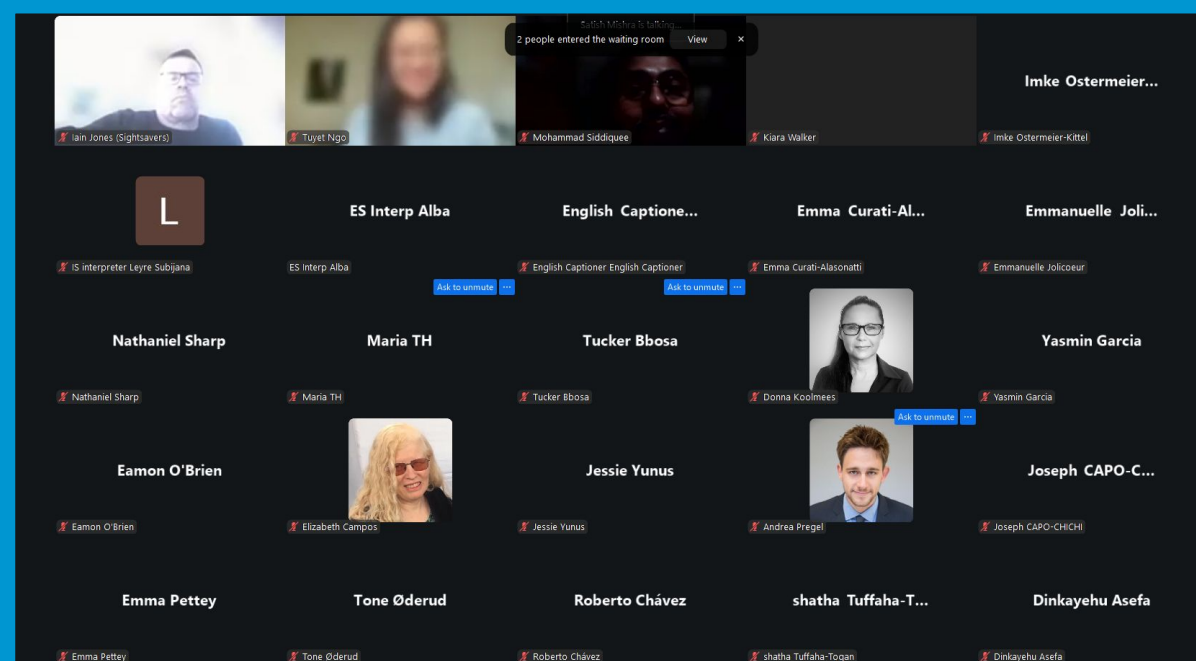
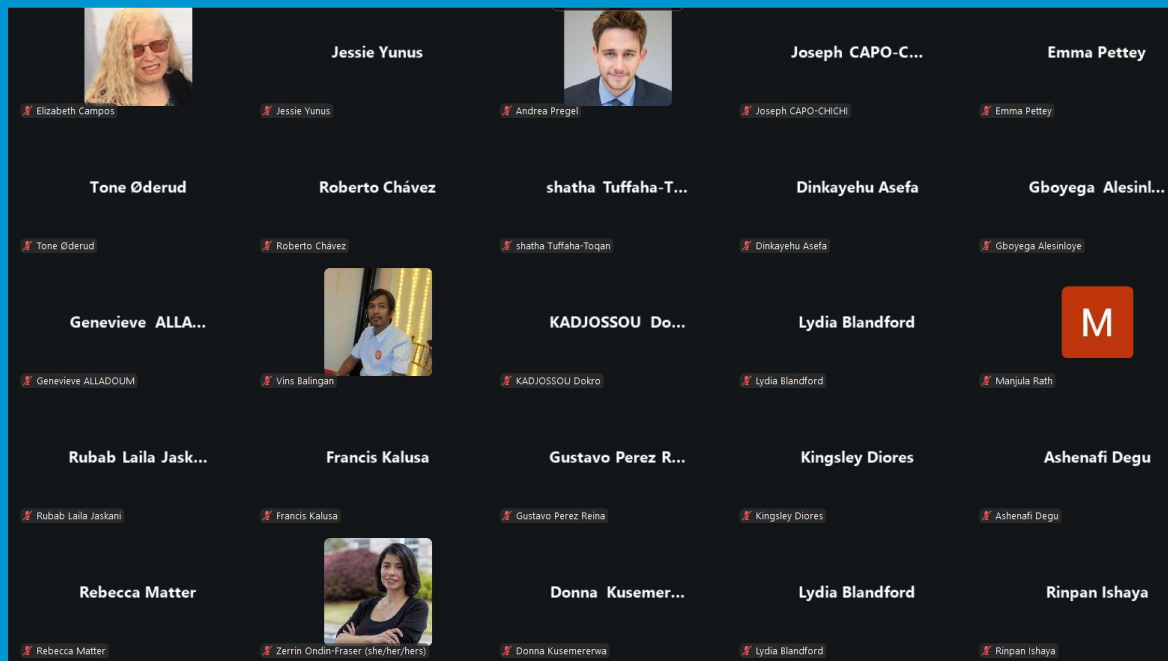
- **Share risk in investments and market entry!**
- **Design payment for utilization (including services) to lower cost barriers and integrate products and services!**
 - **What about paying for impact instead?**
- **Design consumer credit systems that mitigate financial hardship**
- **Build need and utilization data - within existing information systems**

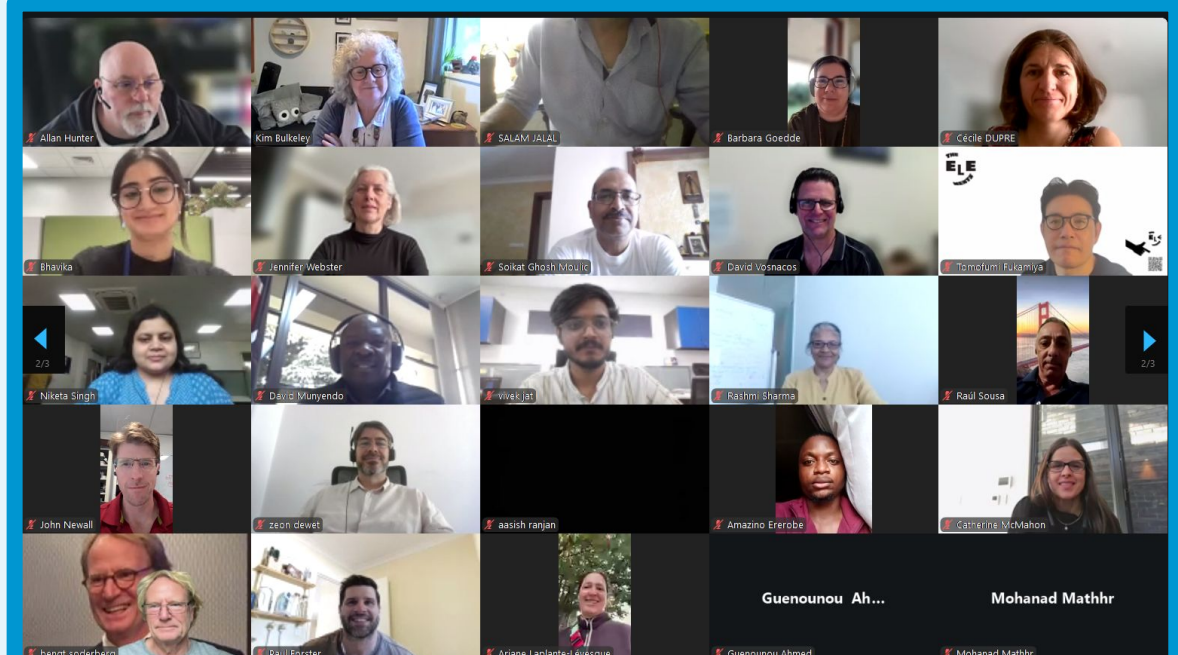
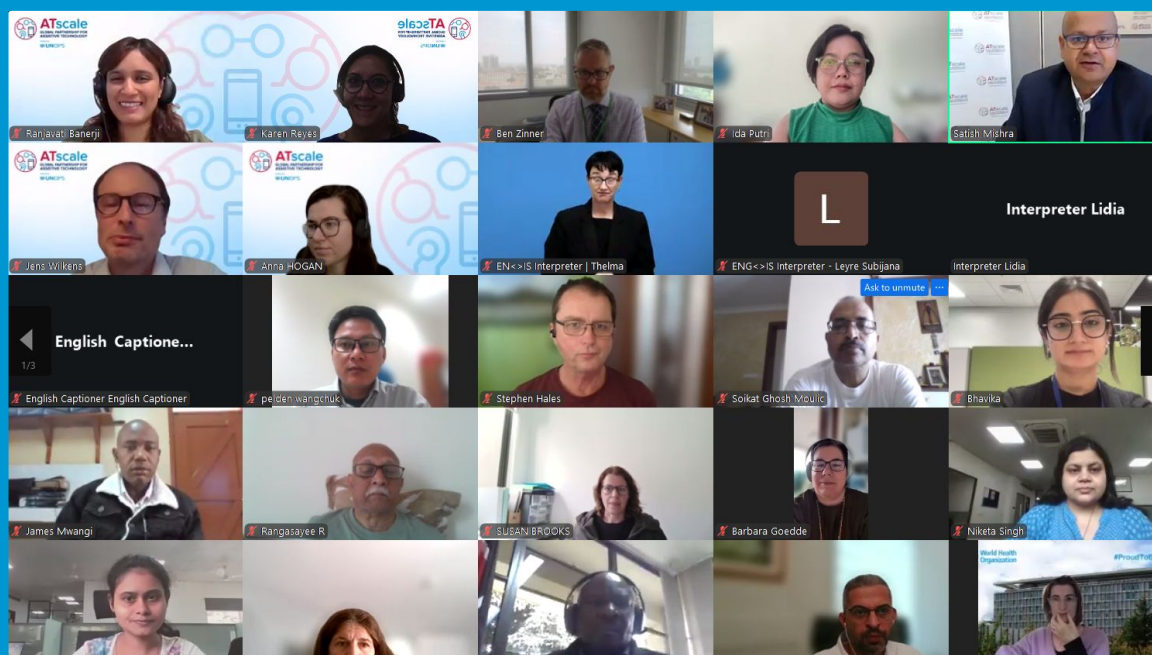


Q&A

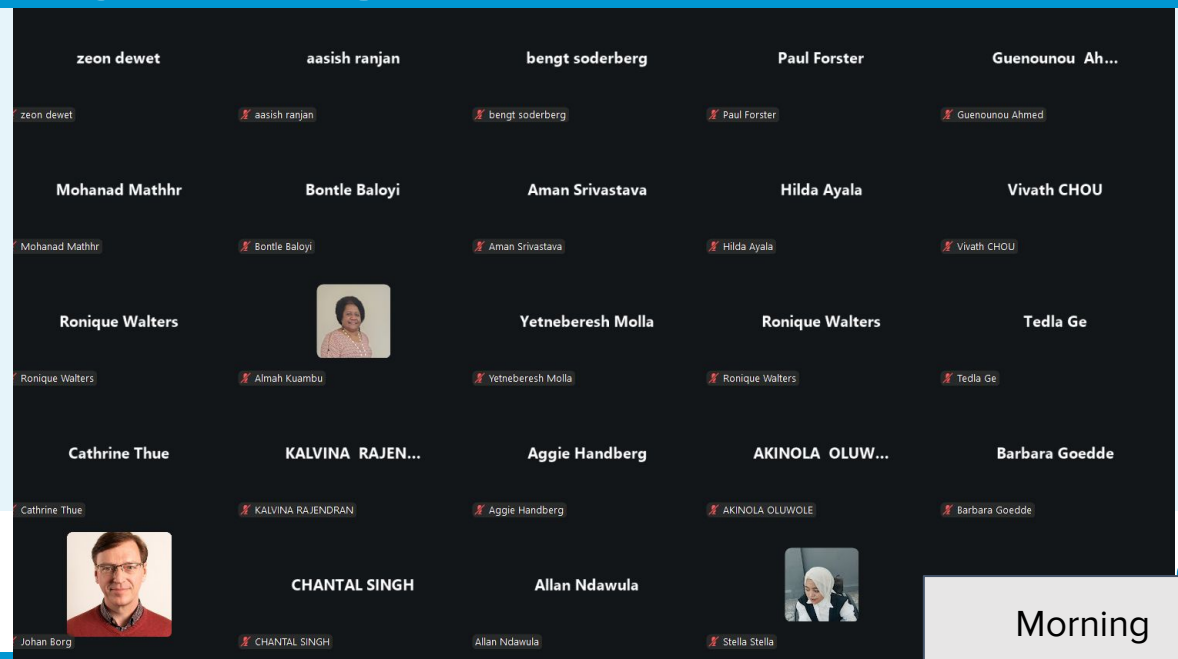
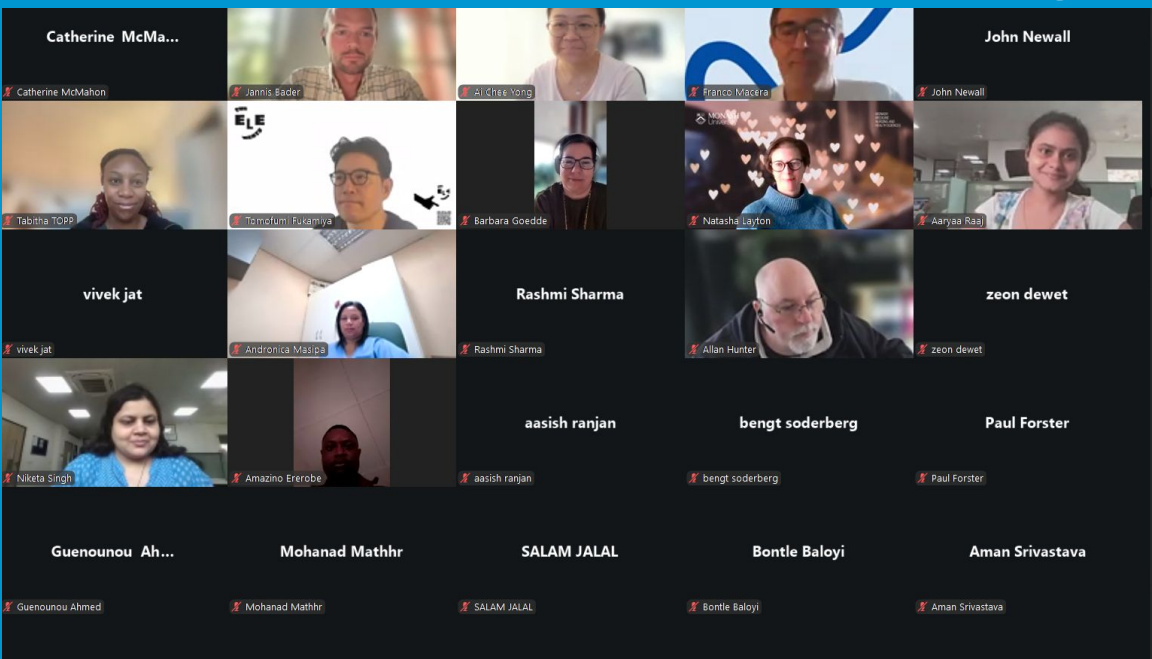


Thank you for joining!

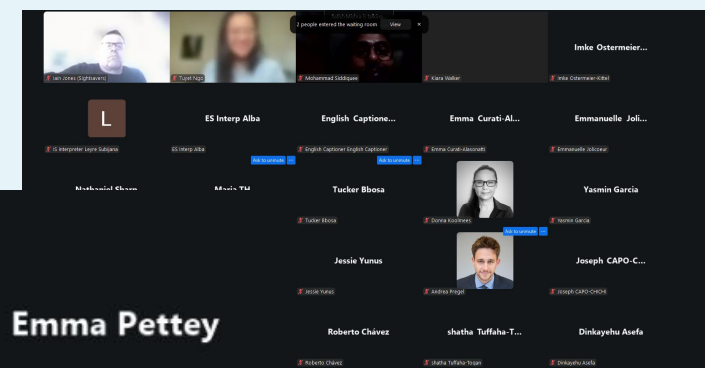
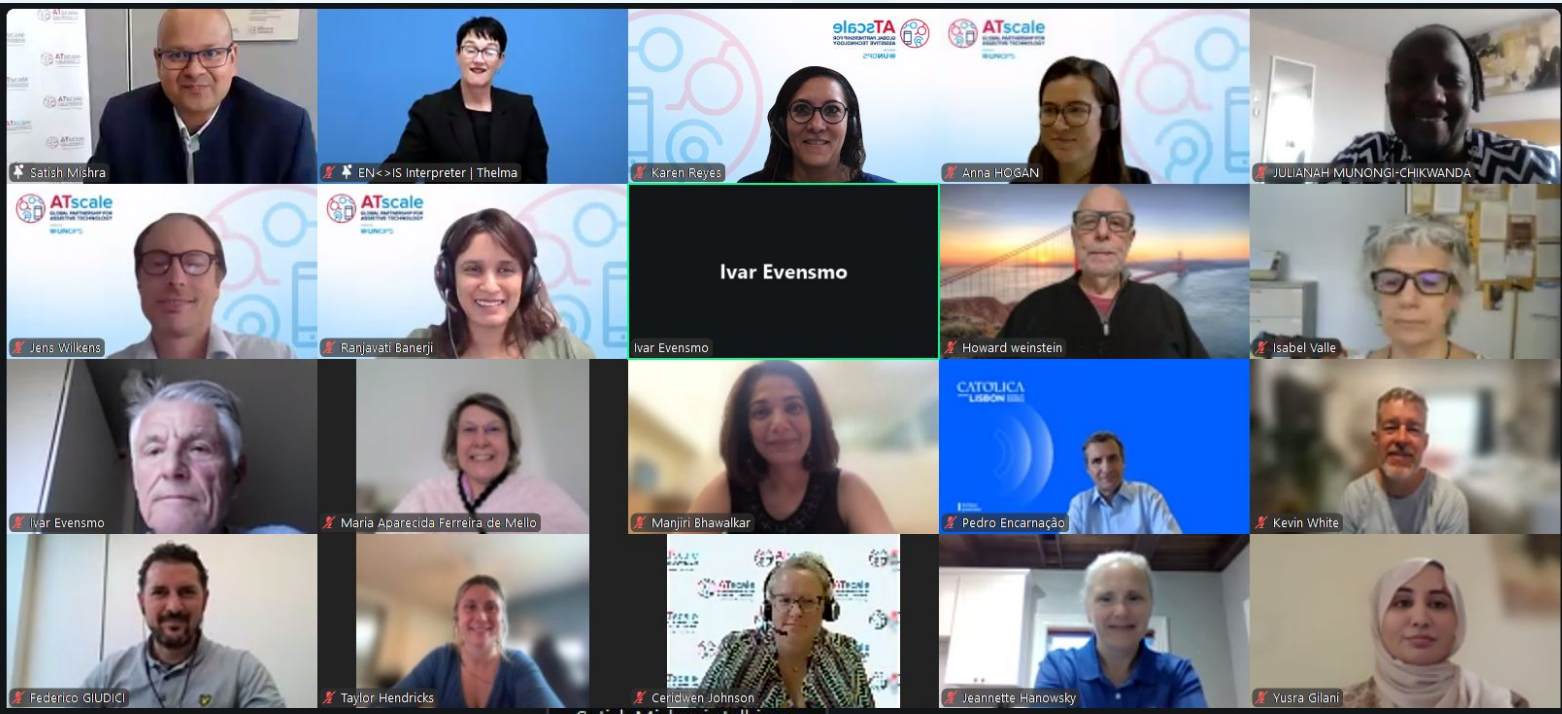




Thank you for joining!



Morning



Jessie Yunus

Joseph CAPO-C...

Emma Pettey



Andrea Pregel

Joseph CAPO-CHICI

Emma Pettey

Roberto Chávez

shatha Tuffaha-T...

Dinkayehu Asefa

Gboyega Alesinl...



Anna HOGAN



Roberto Chávez

shatha Tuffaha-Toqan

Dinkayehu Asefa

Gboyega Alesinloye



KADIOSOU

Ludie Blandford



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