

# Assistive technology in the context of rehabilitation and VA

VA Experts Meeting,  
Geneva  
24 November 2022



# Assistive technology

Assistive products maintain or improve a person's functioning

They are part of universal health coverage; and needed across health care – not only within and through rehabilitation services

Assistive technology is: The systems and services needed for people to access assistive products



# Global Report on Assistive Technology

**> 300,000**  
people surveyed

**> 500**  
stakeholders  
engaged

**70 countries**  
contributed to  
indicators

**\$3M**  
Investment

**2 global and 6**  
regional  
consultations

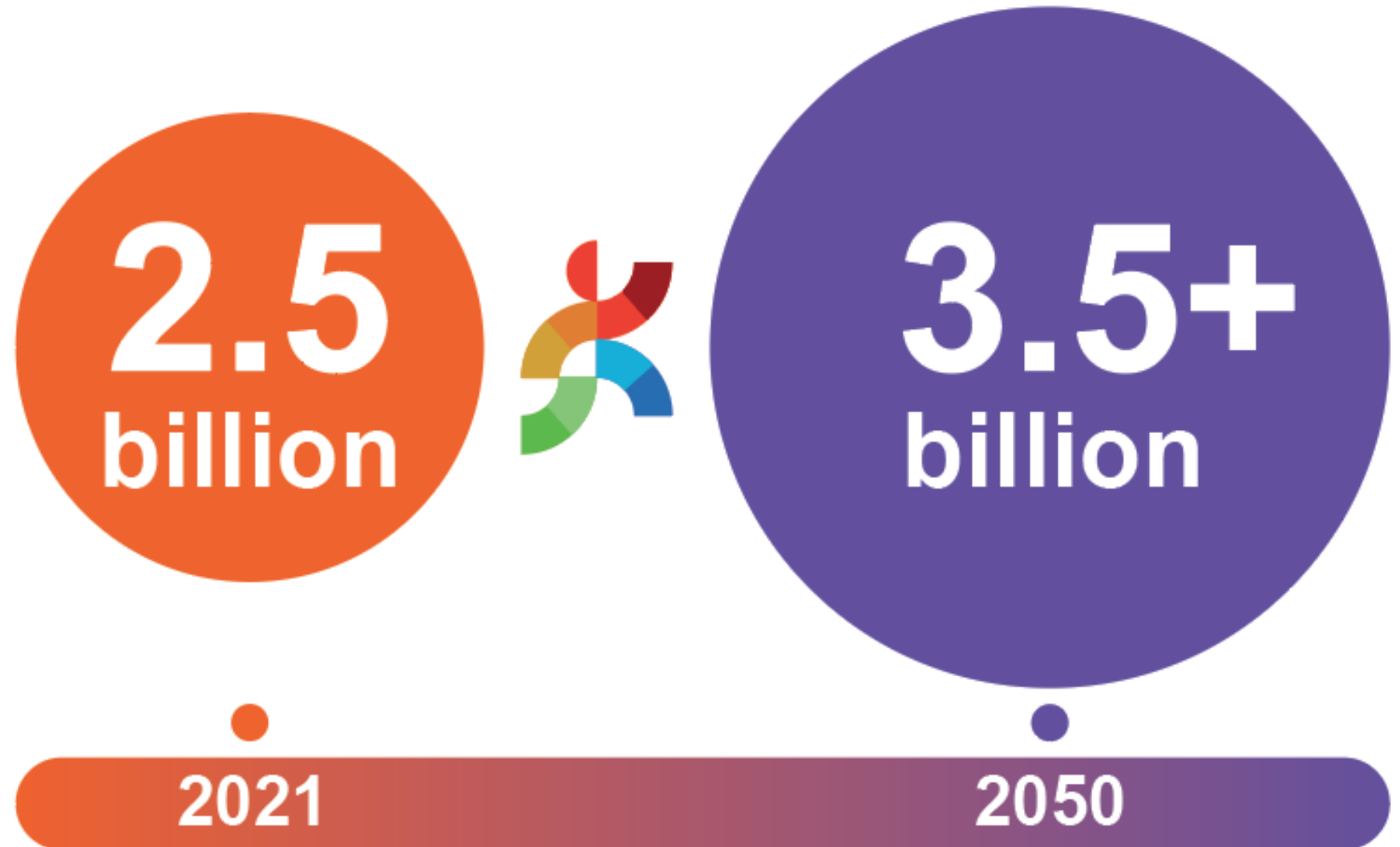


**Ten recommendations  
for action**

---

# Global Report on Assistive Technology

## Estimate of need





# Global Report on Assistive Technology

**Need increases during humanitarian crisis – including conflict**



# Global Report on Assistive Technology

## Inequity



In some settings,  
**only 3% of people**  
have access to assistive  
technology.

#ATChangesLives



# Global Report on Assistive Technology

## Ageing

**2 out of 3 people** aged  
**over 65** need at least one  
assistive product





# Global Report on Assistive Technology

## Access

Most people access  
assistive products from  
**private shops or clinics**  
and pay **out-of-pocket**.

## Barriers

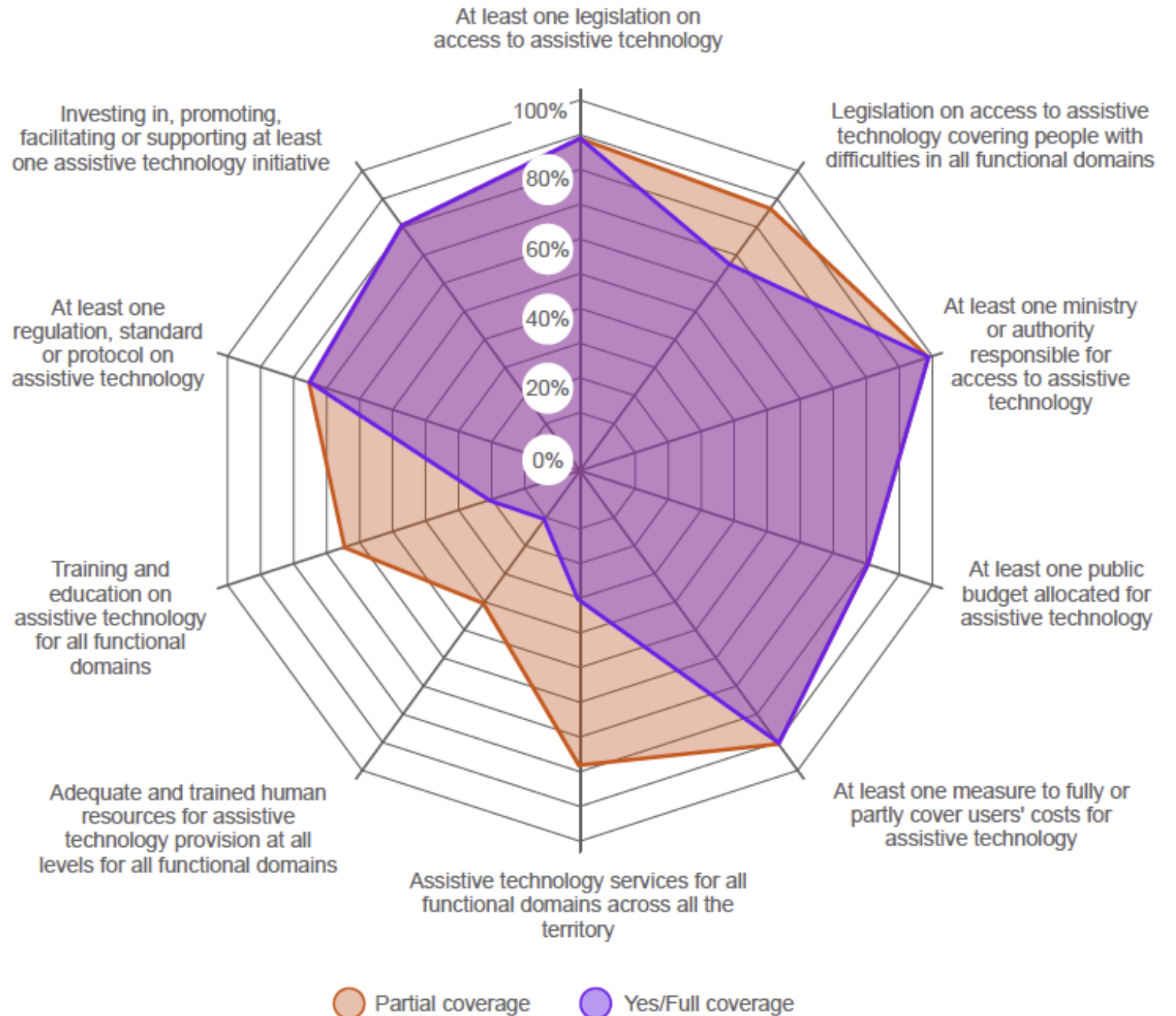
**High cost, lack of support  
and low availability**





# Global Report on Assistive Technology

## Systems data



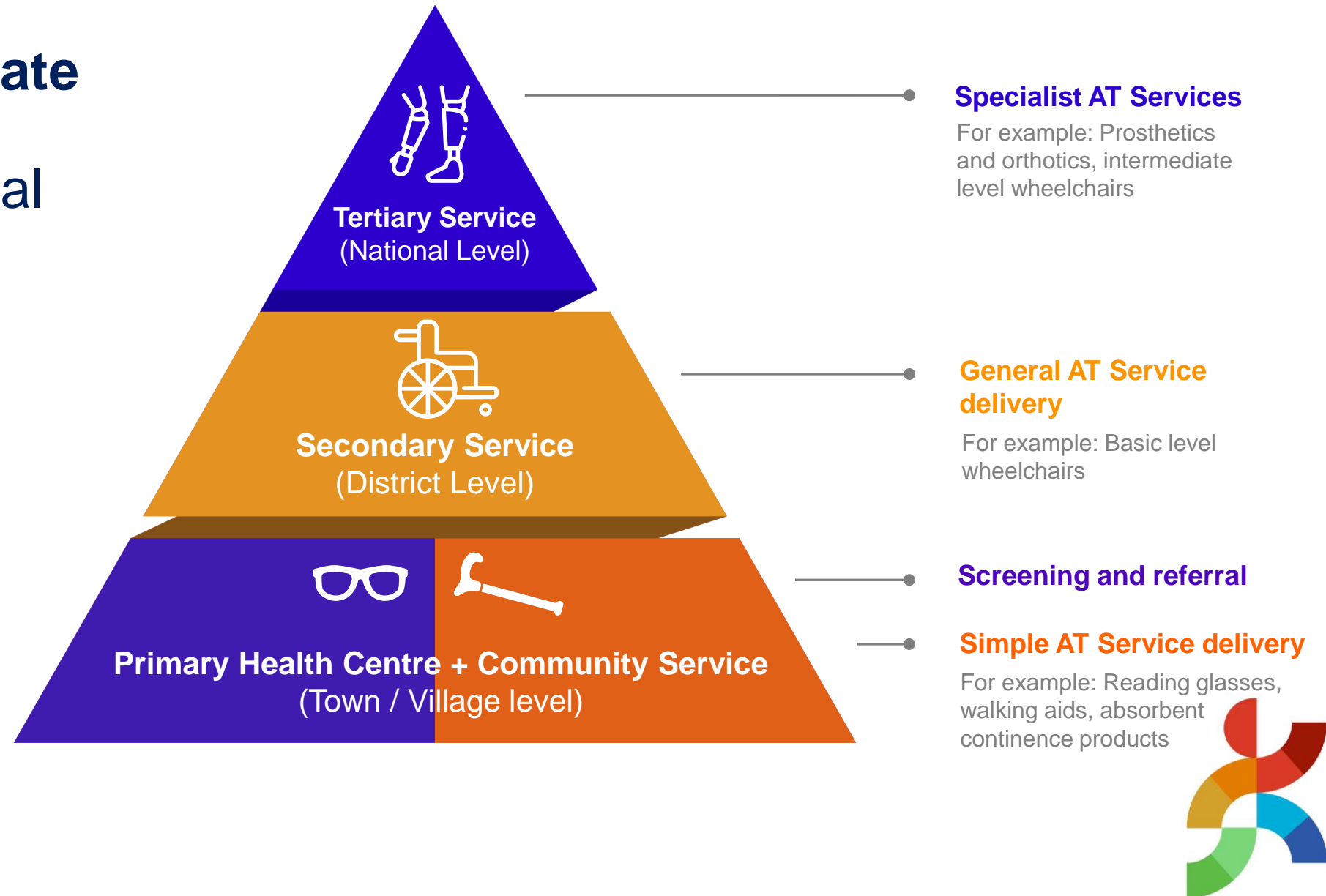
---

What does this  
mean for victim  
assistance?





**Use a systems approach: Integrate AT within national health and/or social care to improve access for ALL**



---

## WHO's work: **Planning and policy**

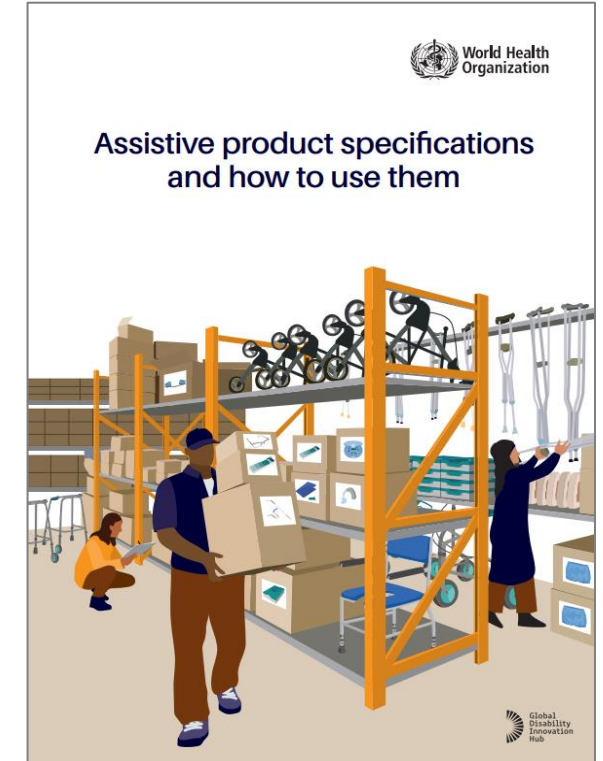
Supporting countries'  
**national planing and  
policy development** -  
informed by national  
capacity assessment and  
population survey tool.





# WHO's work Products

Development of national Assistive Products List – opening the doorway for national budgeting, financing mechanisms and procurement.



AT6 and AT10 lists (Ukraine)



WHO and UNICEF Supply Catalogues



Revised Priority Assistive Products List and online platform



# WHO's work Personnel

Building  
workforce  
capacity at  
community and  
primary health  
level





---

# Thank you

[assistivetech@who.int](mailto:assistivetech@who.int)

[@GATE\\_AT\\_World](#)

<https://www.who.int/health-topics/assistive-technology>