

Why we have to change our approach to AT provision globally

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Only 10% of people who need Assistive Technology (AT) globally have access. This is a critical failure.

However it is also a very complicated problem to fix. In this talk Cathy will explore the vision AT2030 programme, a £10m investment by the UK Department for International Development to test what works globally. Cathy will focus on two sub-programmes: *Research, Evidence and Impact*, and *Spark Innovation*.

The research is developing new models for return on investment; this, alongside work by the World Health Organization and the Clinton Health Access Initiative, will help to make AT more affordable. *Spark Innovation* will help to develop new products and services through the creation of an innovation ecosystem in Nairobi.

The initial results and emerging technologies which have been discovered will be discussed, as well as the barriers most commonly faced by the innovators in getting their product to market and developing a sustainable business model.

Finally Cathy will ask what this means for the UK. How could this global approach help develop new approaches closer to home?

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