UNICEF in collaboration with WHO and the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) hosted a webinar on Assistive Technology Procurement on 23rd September, 2020. This webinar is a precursor to the regional workshop on Assistive Technology Procurement to be held in Amman, Jordan 2021. The workshop is part of the AT2030 programme, which is led by the Global Disability Innovation Hub and funded by UK Aid.

IN COLLABORATION

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- More than 62 million people in the region are affected by emergencies and are in need for assistive products.

- More than 11 million children are displaced due to the ongoing humanitarian crisis and emergency in the region.

- Rapid assessment undertaken in 17 countries in the region in 2017 by WHO and member states, reported that only six countries had Assistive Technology (AT) included in the national health insurance scheme and noted exemption of assistive products

- A significant discrepancy between the projected need for AT and the market availability is noted. There is a need to increase availability and affordability of AT in the region by stimulating local production by either presenting financial incentives or tax exemptions.

- WHO and UNICEF are collaborating on the development of the Product Specifications. The procurement guideline highlighting 27 priority products, is queued to be published by 2020.

For more information contact:

Dennis C. Søndergaard
Innovation Specialist (Disability and Assistive Technology)
dsoendergaard@unicef.org
Product Innovation Center, UNICEF SD Marmorvej 51, 2150 Nordhavn, Copenhagen, Denmark