

# WORLD REPORT ON HEARING



TODAY,

**1** IN **5** PEOPLE WORLDWIDE LIVE WITH HEARING LOSS

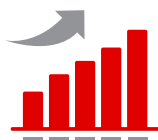
BY 2050,

**1** IN **4** PEOPLE ARE PROJECTED TO HAVE PROBLEMS WITH THEIR HEARING

NEARLY **80%** of people with hearing loss live in low-income and middle-income countries

The majority of people with hearing loss do not have access to interventions

Ear and hearing care interventions are cost-effective



US\$ 1.40



An annual additional investment of less than US\$ 1.40 per person is needed to provide ear and hearing care services

Unaddressed hearing loss is expensive

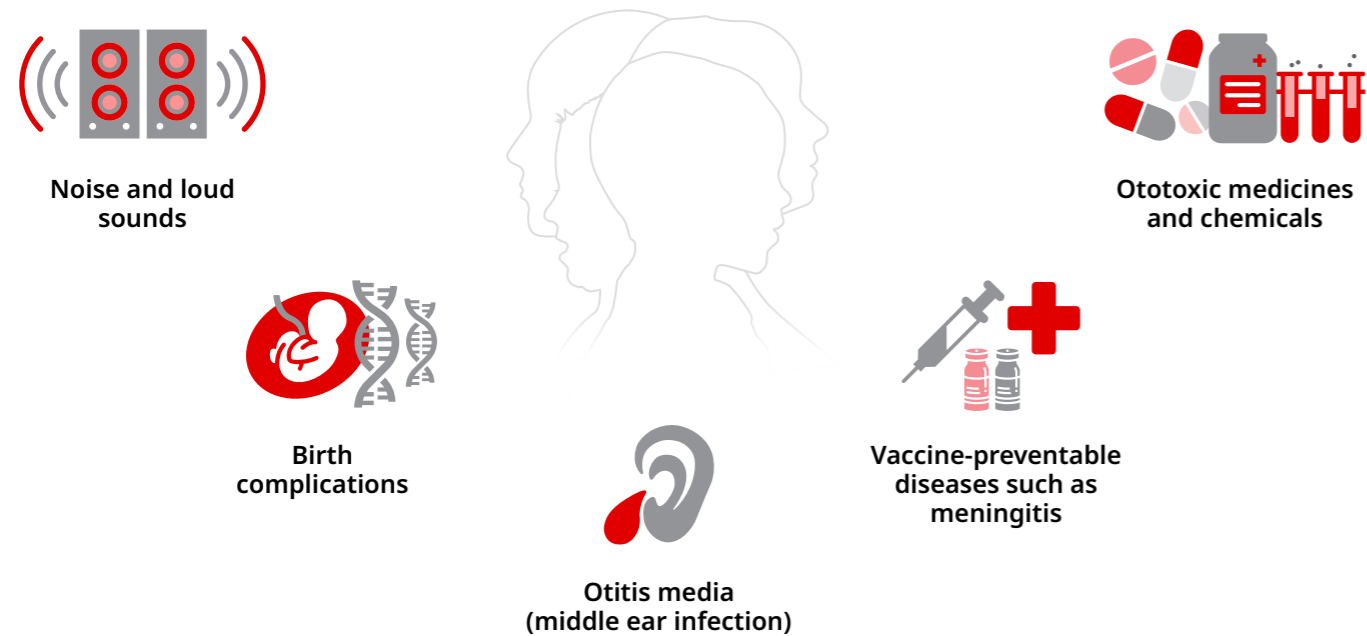
to communities worldwide and costs governments US\$ 980 billion annually

US\$ 980 billion



Over a 10-year period, this promises a return of nearly US\$ 16 for every US dollar invested

# Public health measures can **prevent** hearing loss caused by



In children **60%** of hearing loss can be prevented

Over **1 billion** young adults are at risk of permanent, avoidable hearing loss

Across life, **good ear hygiene** will prevent many causes of hearing loss

# At every stage in life, hearing loss can be **addressed** through

## SYSTEMATIC SCREENING TO IDENTIFY HEARING LOSS EARLY IN



## TIMELY AND APPROPRIATE CARE CAN BE PROVIDED THROUGH EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS SUCH AS



# Universal access to quality ear and hearing care is possible through



## KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

## TO ENSURE UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO QUALITY EAR AND HEARING CARE

DEVELOP EVIDENCE-BASED POLICIES

PROVIDE WORKFORCE EDUCATION & TRAINING

PROMOTE TASK-SHARING ACROSS WORKFORCE & TELEHEALTH SERVICES

INCLUDE HEARING TECHNOLOGIES AS ESSENTIAL ASSISTIVE PRODUCTS

MONITOR EAR AND HEARING CARE (EHC) INDICATORS THROUGH NATIONAL HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEMS

PRIORITIZE IMPACT-ORIENTED RESEARCH

**Governments** must act now to overcome barriers to integrate ear and hearing care in national plans as part of universal health coverage.

By working together, we can reach the **2030 milestone target to increase coverage of ear and hearing care services by 20% worldwide.**

**Delivering on this target is an urgent and essential priority.** It will improve the health and well-being of people everywhere and help us achieve Sustainable Development Goal 3, and ultimately a world in which **no one – no child, no adolescent, no adult – is left behind.**



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For more details refer to:  
<https://www.who.int/health-topics/hearing-loss>