



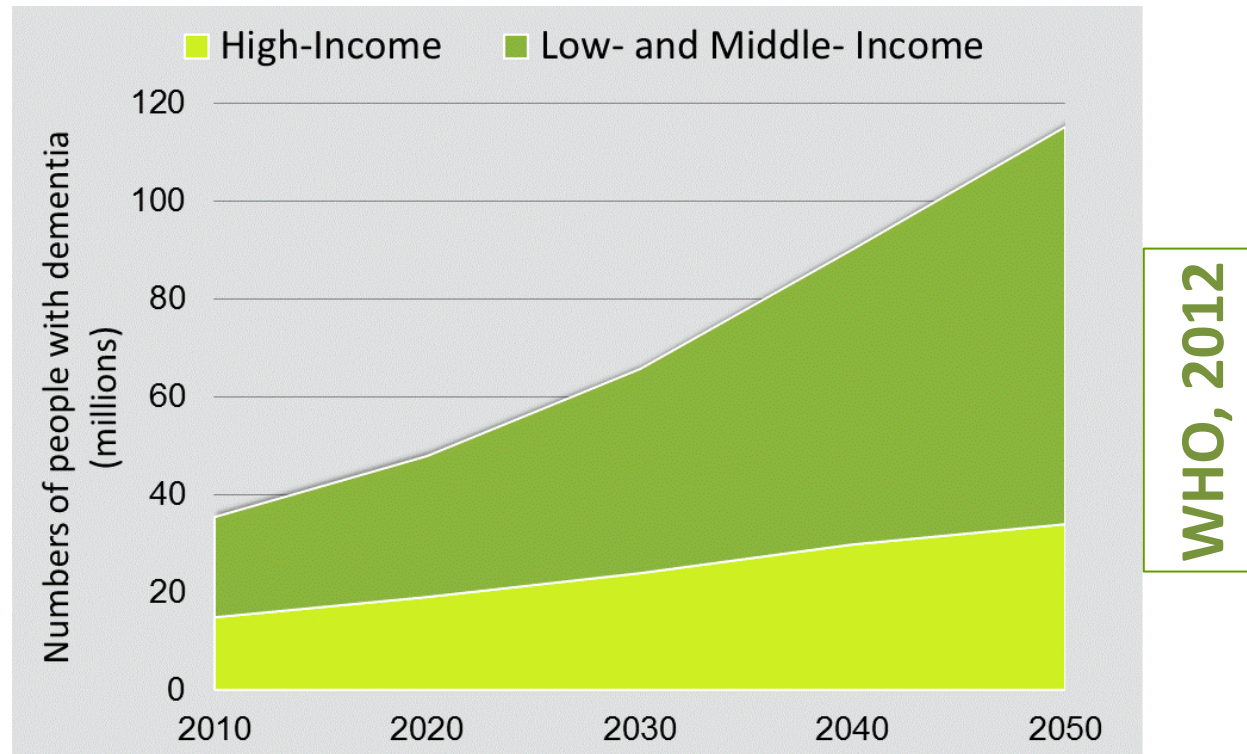
# DEMENTIA

A PUBLIC HEALTH  
PRIORITY

## *A Global Perspective on Dementia*

**Tarun Dua**  
*World Health  
Organization*

# Dementia: Global public health threat



- 44 million people estimated to be living with dementia in 2014: **numbers expected to double every 20 years**
- Among them, **58%** live in low- and middle-income countries – this proportion projected to rise to 71% by 2050.

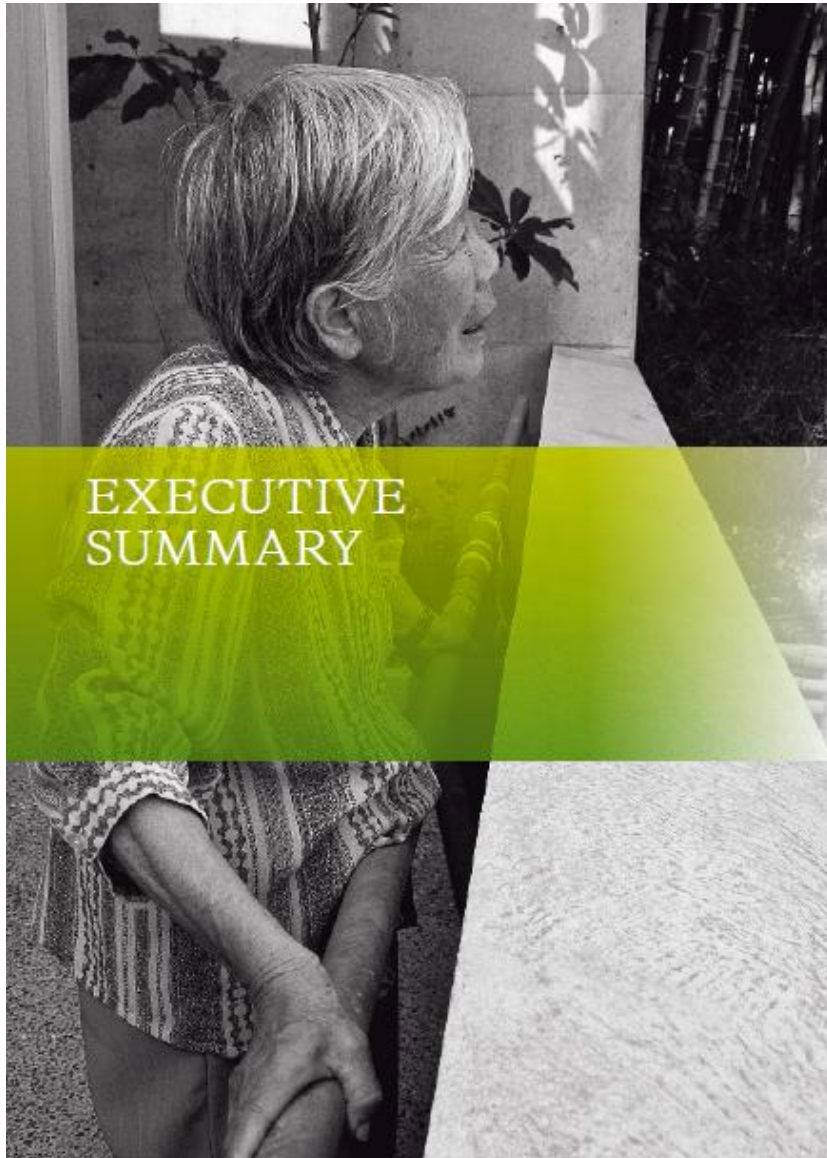
# Dementia: Impact and Burden



- **Economic impact \$604 billion per year (as estimated in 2010)**
- Substantial proportion of care takes place outside formal health sector
- Informal and family care costs predominate in LAMIC
- **Care needs include early diagnosis, symptom management, and long-term support (including support for caregivers)**



# WHO Report 2012 – *Dementia: a public health priority*



## **Purpose of the report:**

- to raise awareness of dementia as a public health priority at global level
- to articulate a public health approach
- to advocate for action at international and national levels

# WHO DG: Dr Margaret Chan

December 2013



I can think of no other condition that has such a profound effect on loss of function, loss of independence, and the need for care. I can think of no other condition that places such a heavy burden on society, families, communities, and economies. I can think of no other condition where innovation, including breakthrough discoveries, is so badly needed.

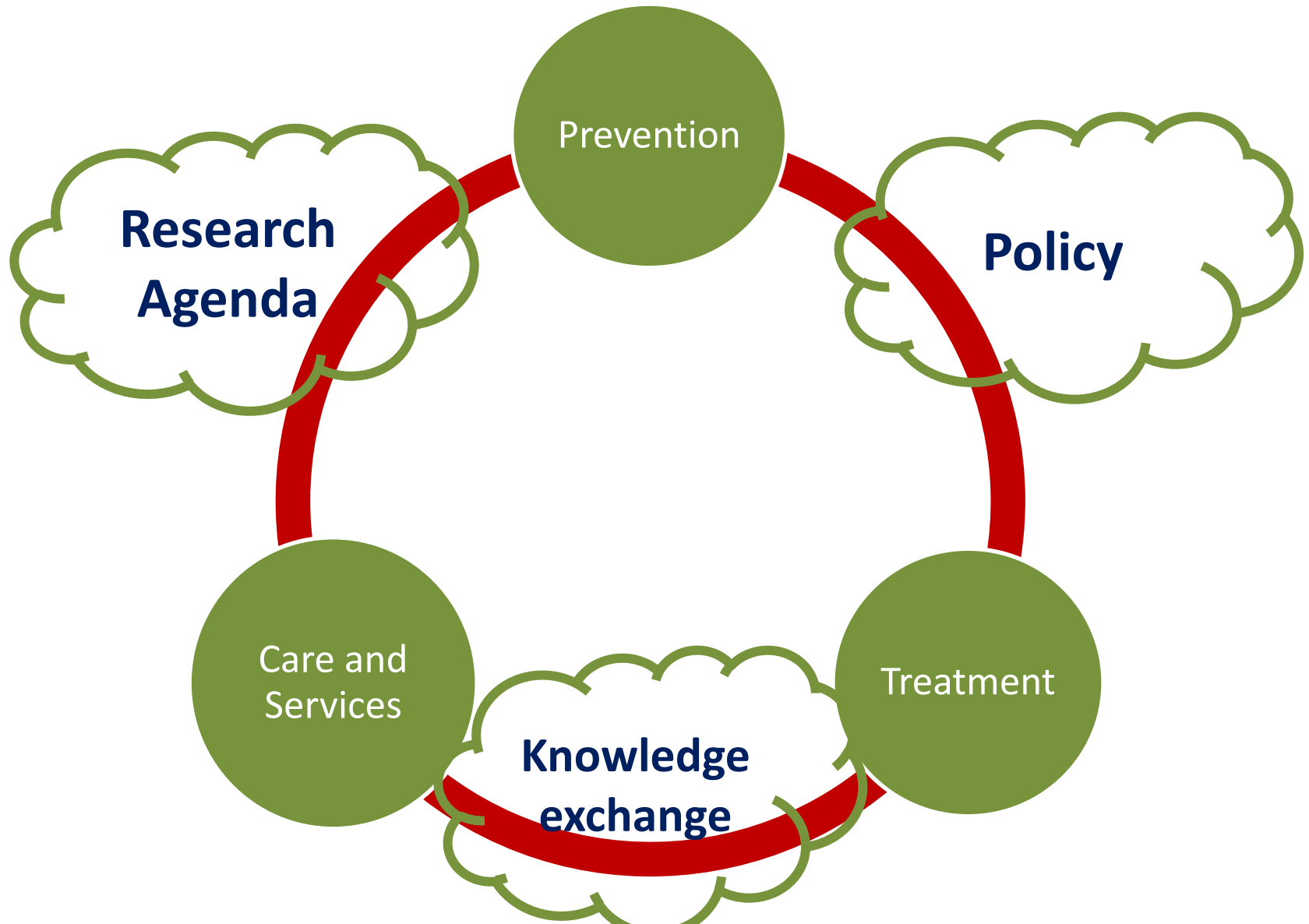


***Global Impact, Global Solutions***



**CARE TODAY, CURE TOMORROW!**

# World Health Organization Approach and Initiatives





# 1. Setting agenda for dementia research

- **Dementia research portfolio analysis**

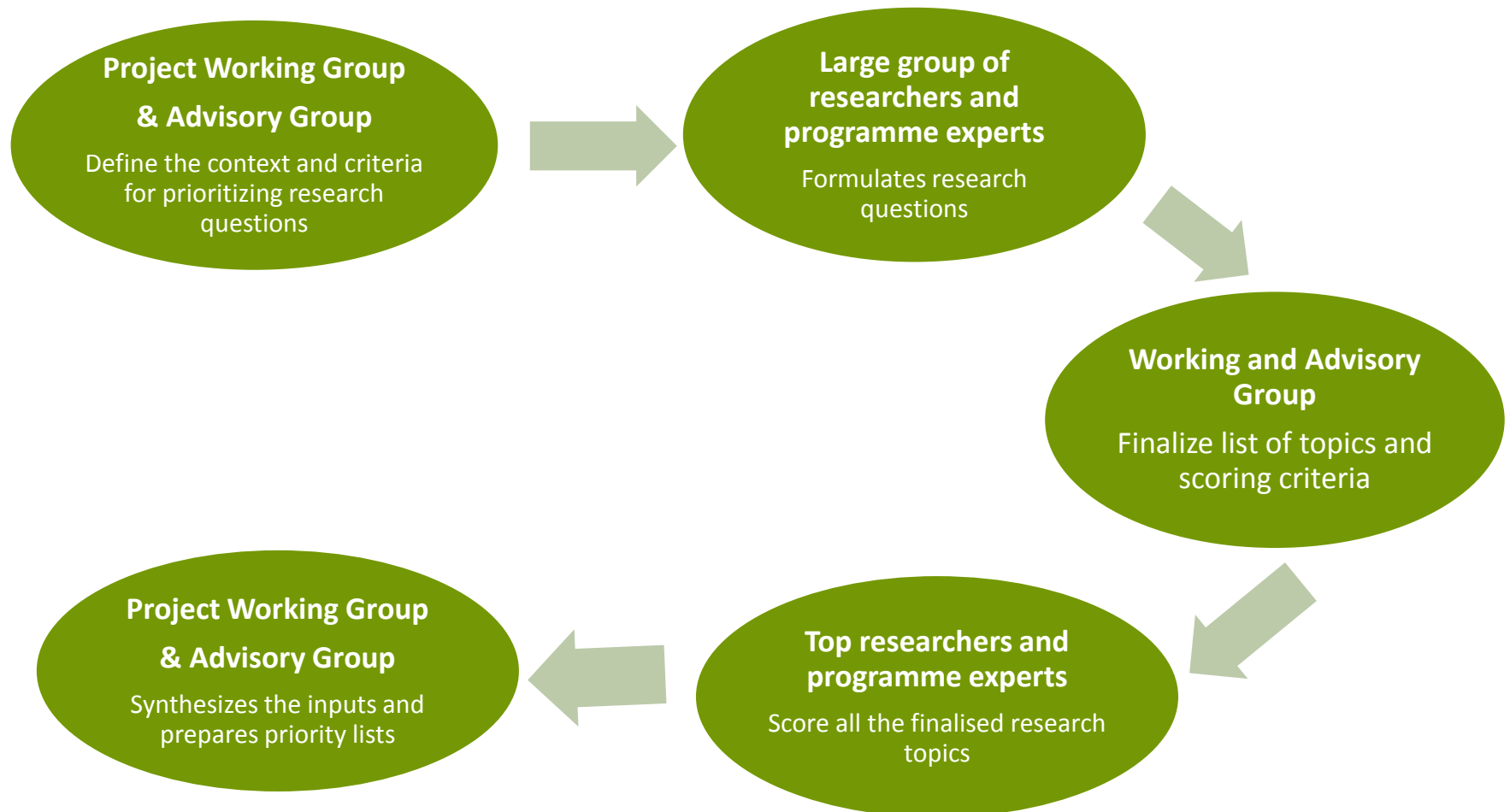
- To map the current directions for dementia research
- Diverse systems and nomenclature being used by different agencies
- Will enable strategic investments, improved coordination and reduced duplication
- **Strategic Research Questions:** Time period, Type of research, population of interest, research networks, training grants, national/international [Cost information to be collected by OECD]
- Template developed and information to be collected via G7 countries

# Setting agenda for dementia research

- **Developing Dementia Research Priorities and Setting the Agenda**
- Core role of WHO in shaping the research agenda and stimulating the generation, translation and dissemination of valuable knowledge
- Research prioritization important for
  - maximizing disease burden reduction in equitable and cost-effective way
  - improved health system efficiency and intervention delivery
  - discovery and development of new interventions
  - education regarding controllable risks

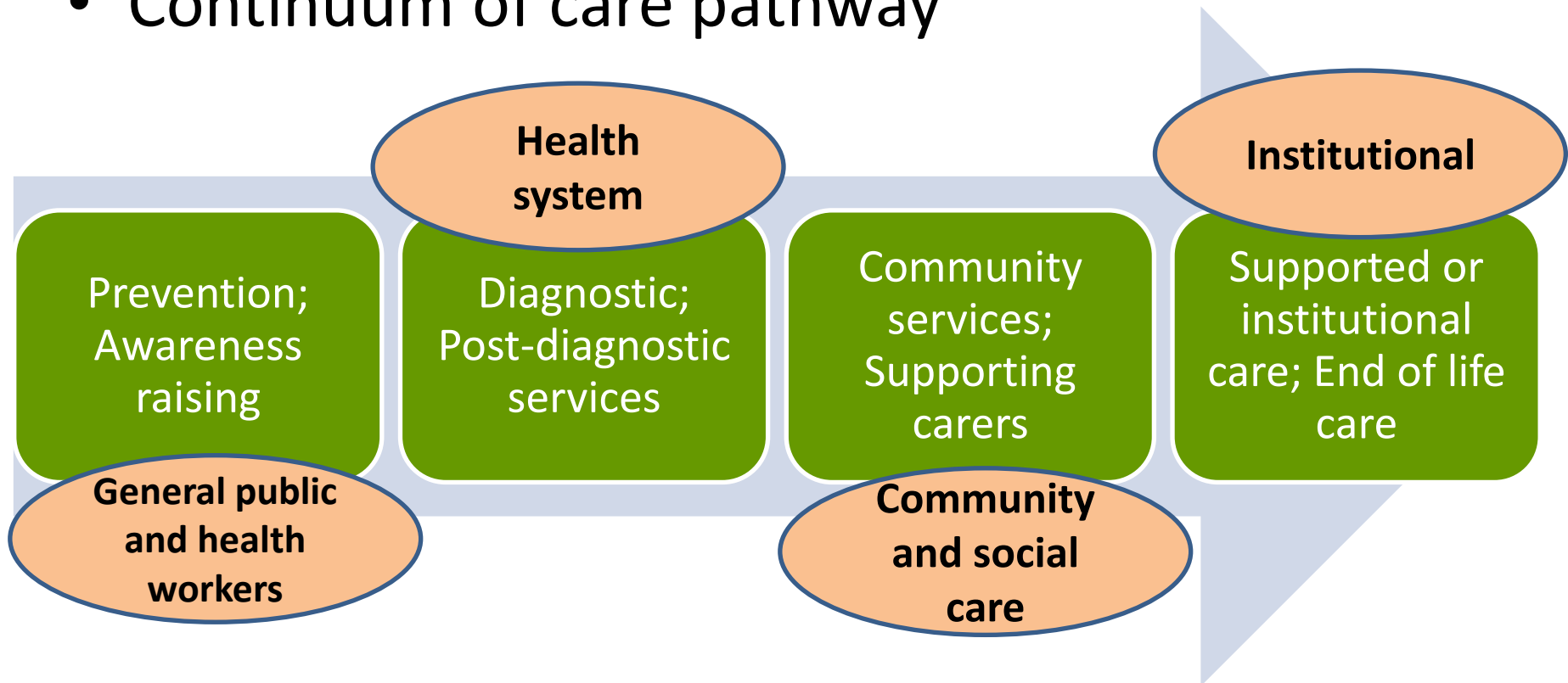
# Research prioritisation methodology

Transparent and replicable



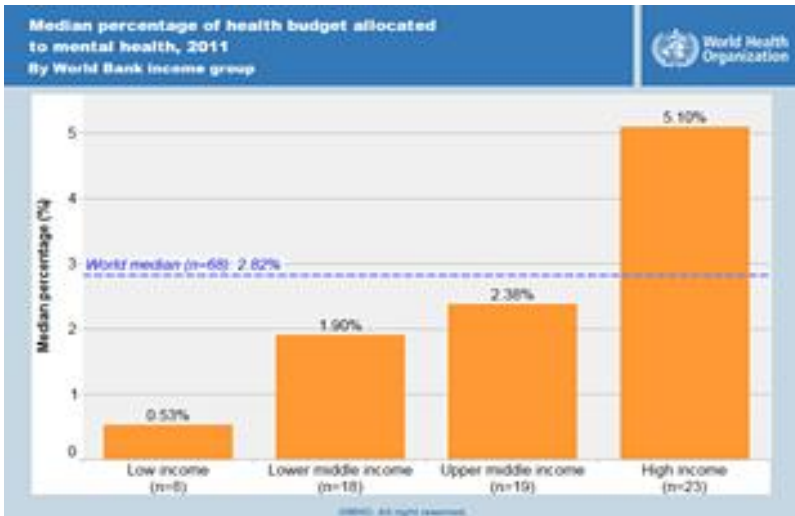
## 2. Dementia care and prevention: Policy action

- Continuum of care pathway

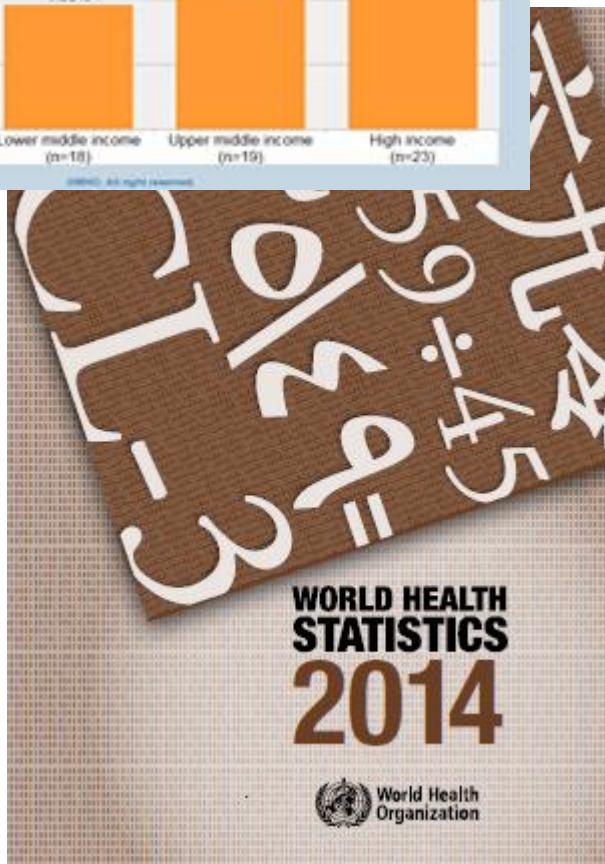


- Supporting countries for developing and implementing dementia friendly policies

# 3. Monitoring the response: Global Dementia Observatory



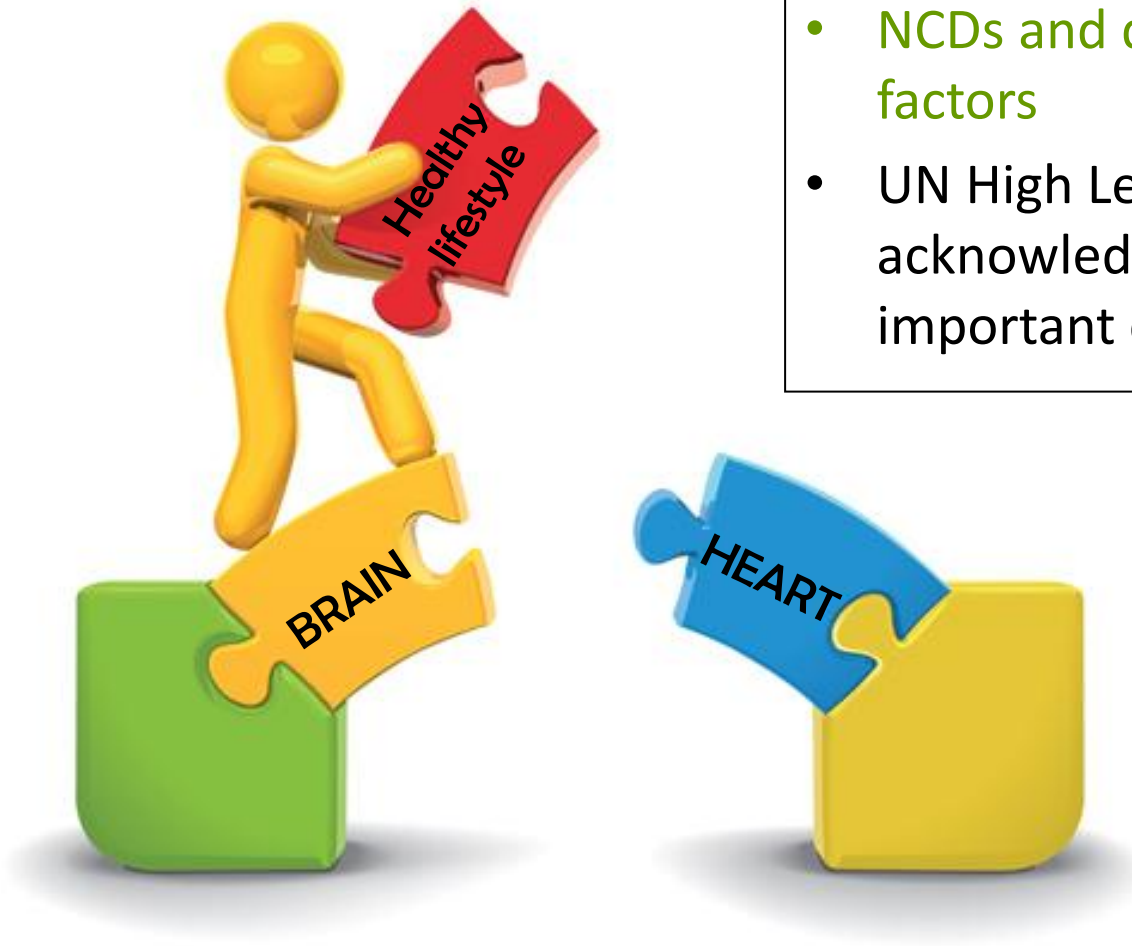
- Observatory will provide data and analyses highlights on dementia burden and response
  - Global epidemiological trends
  - Policy formulation and adoption
  - Country implementation through health and social care system
  - Partnerships



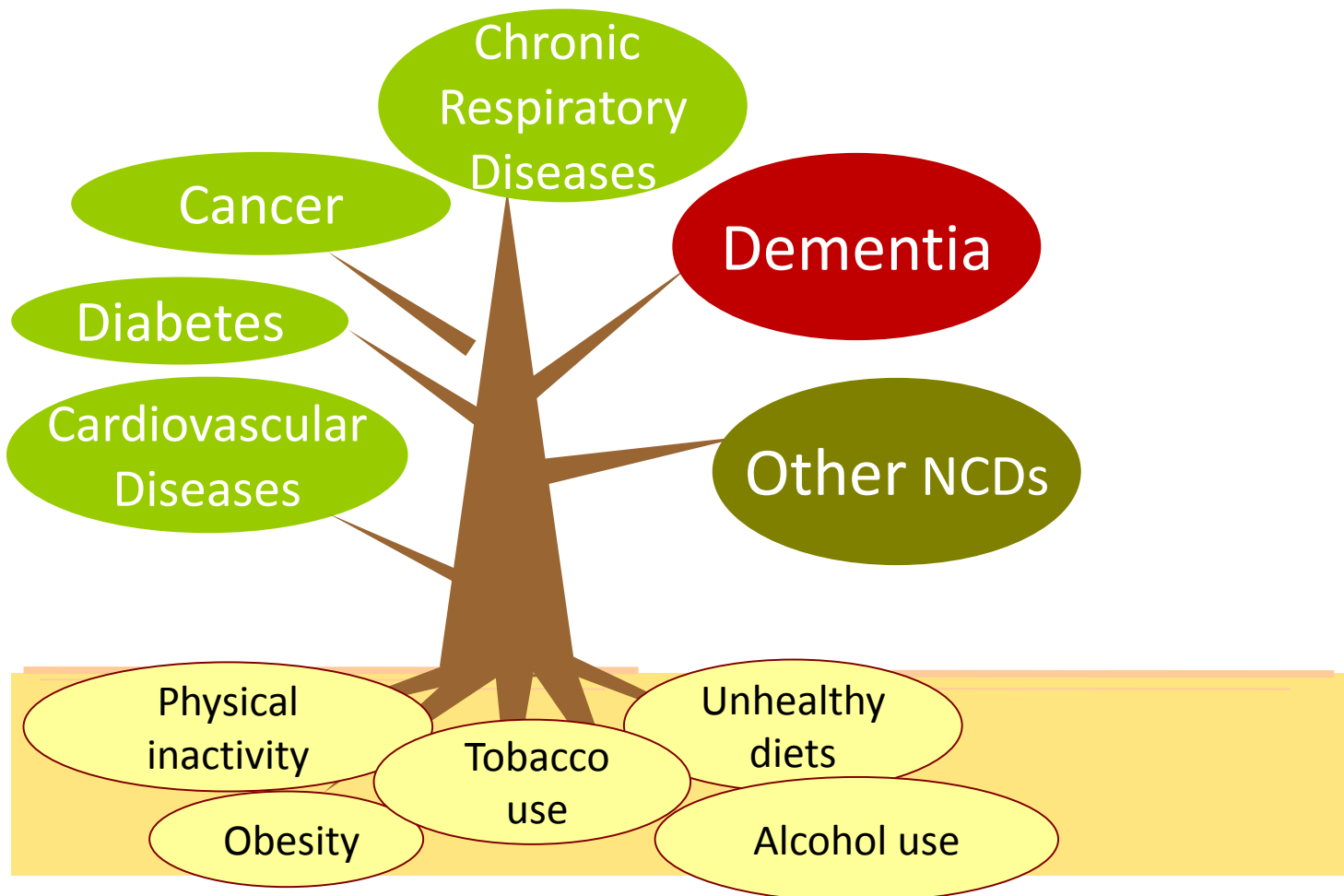


## 4. Bridging the gap between NCDs and Dementia

- NCDs and dementia share same risk factors
- UN High Level Political Declaration acknowledged dementia as an important contributor to NCD burden



# Combined efforts to develop an integrated approach to NCDs and Dementia – at policy and programme level



# 5. Information and Communication Technology for Dementia Care



CHAPTER 5

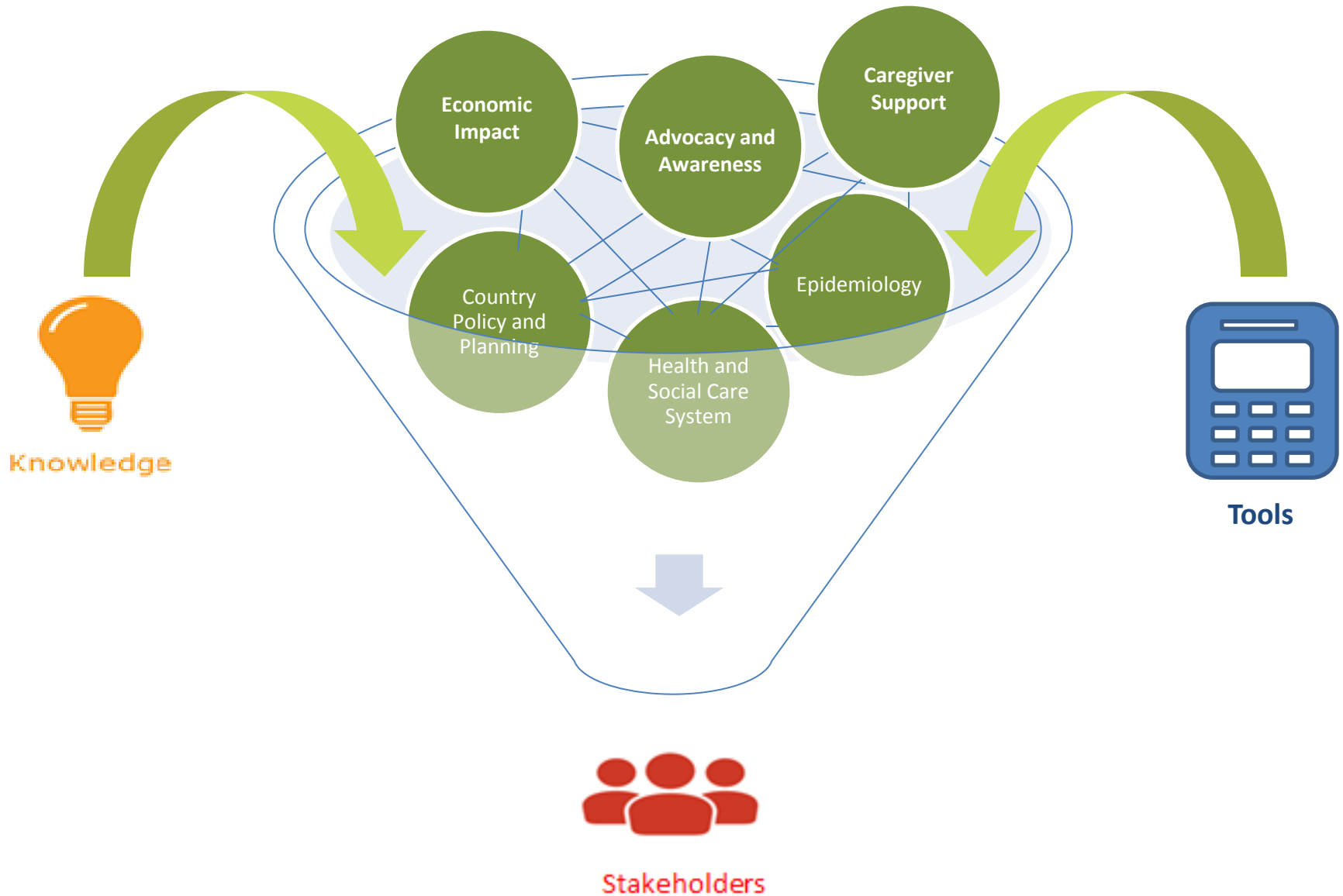
DEMENTIA CAREGIVING  
AND CAREGIVERS

## ICT for caregivers: *iSupport*

- Most care for people with dementia is provided by family caregivers
- Dementia is overwhelming for the caregivers – physically, emotionally and economically
- Support is required from the health, social, financial and legal systems



# 6. Dementia Knowledge Network



# Dementia Knowledge Network

- **Objective:** resource and platform for exchanging and dissemination information, and building partnerships
- Useful for researchers, policy makers, programme managers and practitioners, and civil society
- **Knowledge hubs**
  - Epidemiology
  - Biomarkers
  - Disease-modifying therapies
  - Health and social care system
  - Country policy and planning
  - Dementia burden and economic impact
  - Advocacy and awareness



# First Ministerial Conference on Global Action Against Dementia

- Supported by DoH, UK and OECD
- Main objective : to widen the prioritization of dementia as a global issue.
- **First day: technical event around “dementia care today and cure tomorrow”**
- **Second day: “moving forward with action”**

# First Ministerial Conference on Global Action Against Dementia

- **"moving forward with action"**
  - How to integrate dementia into public health/prevention planning and national development plans and policies?
  - How to strengthen innovation and develop a cure for dementia?
  - How to explore the provision of adequate, predictable and sustained resources for dementia, through domestic, bilateral, regional and multilateral channels?
  - How to strengthen international cooperation on dementia within the framework of North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation for dementia?
  - How to include dementia in development cooperation agendas and initiatives, internationally agreed development goals, and economic development policies?

**Look forward to seeing you in  
Geneva.....**

