Recalibrating ODL/ E-Learning for Resilience and Inclusiveness: The Pathway

Thursday, 16th September, 2021

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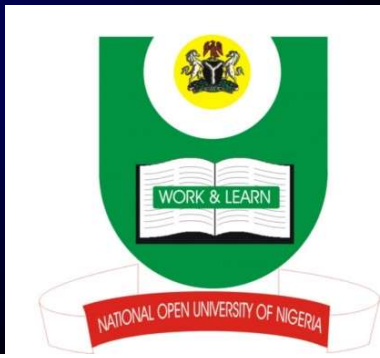


Epoch-Making Event

- Commend the great foresight of DLI UNILAG and especially Prof Uche Udeani, The Director
- Global but continental based Colloquium that is the first in Africa to comprehensively address emerging issues in ODL at this time
- The array of high level speakers and officials is legendary and impresive.

Introduction

Unpacking Terms Used

- **Recalibrate**: to amend, refashion, modify, alter, change ODL to E-Learning.
- **Resilience:** ability to withstand adversity and bounce back from difficult life events.
- **Inclusiveness/inclusivity**: practice or policy of providing equal access to opportunities and resources
- **Getting rid of discrimination and intolerance**

Normality?

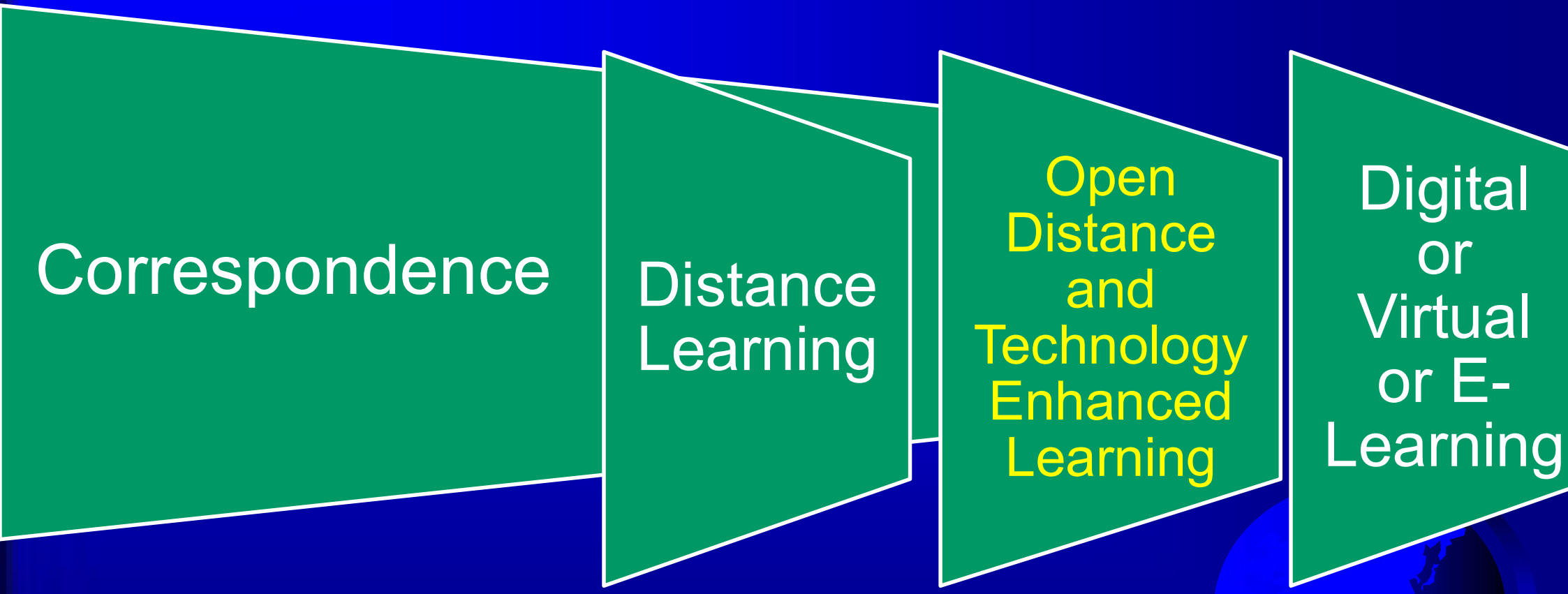
- The condition of being normal.
- Movement from **Old Normal** to **New Normal?**
- As a matter of fact Normalcy is a function of life and the only normal thing is change or transformation. ***Normal is a continuum***
- The mode of educating people has been changing, it continues to evolve and transform the society.
- The world has since 1728 changed from face-to-face (**normal then**) to E-learning (**normal now**)
- The future has come!

In the Beginning…

Emergence of ODL

- Open and Distance Learning began as a very simple concept of correspondence education
- 1728 Caleb Philipps (Boston, USA) taught Short Hand by post
- 1843 Isaac Pitman taught Short Hand in the UK
- 1873 Anna Ticknor created DE for skill development for women
- This method has revolutionised teaching and learning

The Road to E-Learning



- **Distance learning first used in Higher Education in1892 at the University of Wisconsin**

Resilience in Education

Factors shaping ODL

- Quasi-separation of learner and tutor/institution
- Provision of Instructional materials and student support services
- The use of technology to mediate instruction
- Two-way communication between student and institution for management purposes
- Use of one-to-one, learning groups or tutorial groups for counselling, tutorials and management

Guiding principles

- Flexibility
- Innovation
- Partnership
- Reliability
- Security
- Citizen participation in learning communities.

Trends in ODL

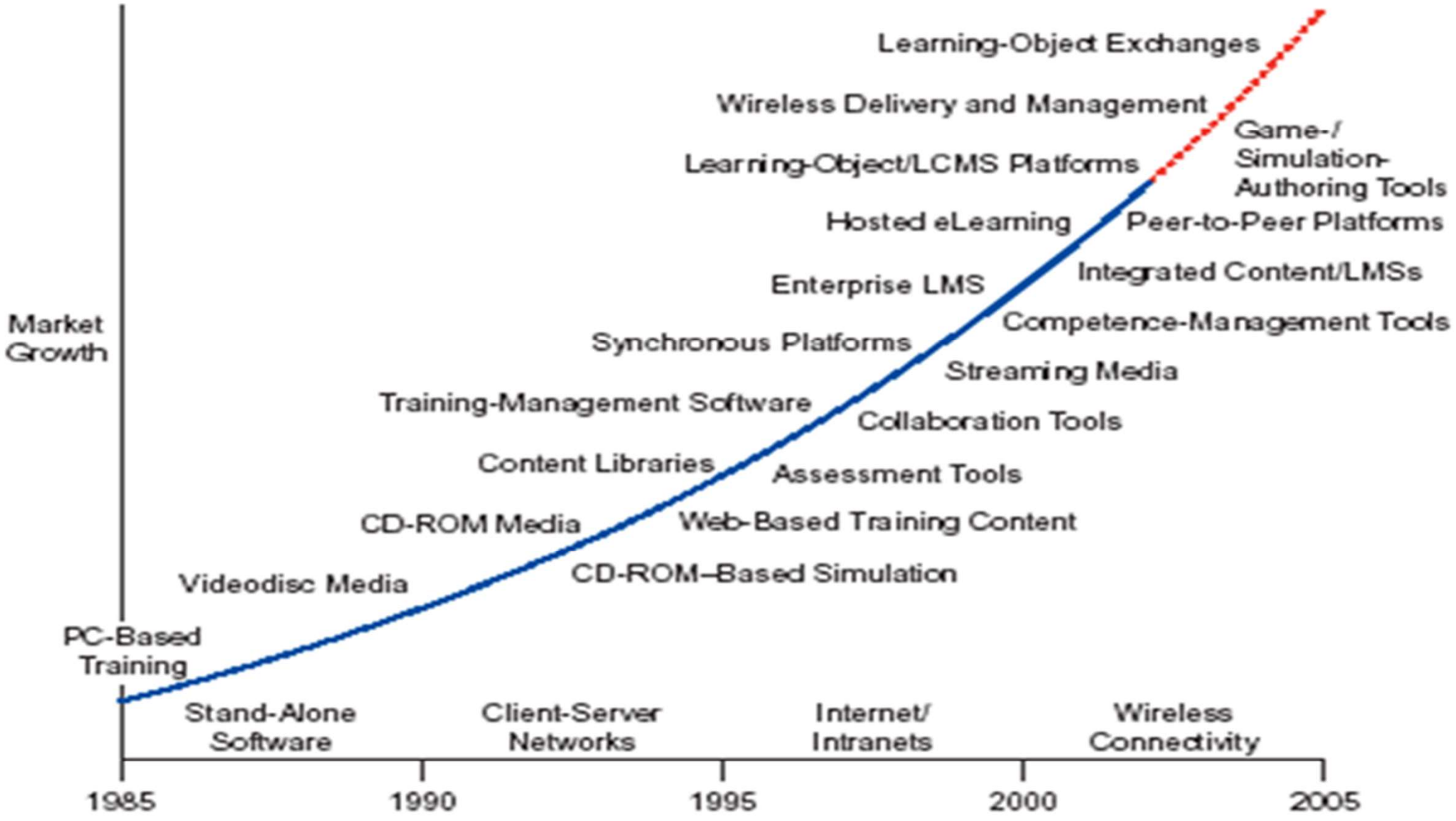
1. ODL is now mainstream: online, blended, open, flexible and technology enhanced learning.
2. Digital transformation is challenging the relevance of educational institutions all over the world.
3. New methodologies; Learning Analytics, Big Data, and doing away with examinations as we know them.
4. Revolution in Education caused by convergence of Research. Artificial Intelligence, Block Chain, Cognitive Science and Neuroscience.

- Lack of the Understanding of the concept of online, open and flexible education.
- 7. Skills for employment, is a hot topic and Life long Learning is becoming more important than ever.
- 8. Quality, quality assurance and accreditation become a top priority issues.

2 Mega Factors

- Two mega factors have propelled the emergence of communication technologies in modern day teaching and learning.
  - The transformative power of technologies and
  - the global pandemic of Covid-19.
- Coronavirus disease 2019, christened by the World Health Organisation (WHO) as COVID-19 originated from Wuhan, China, in December, 2019.
- The pandemic accelerated ODL and the use of modern technologies

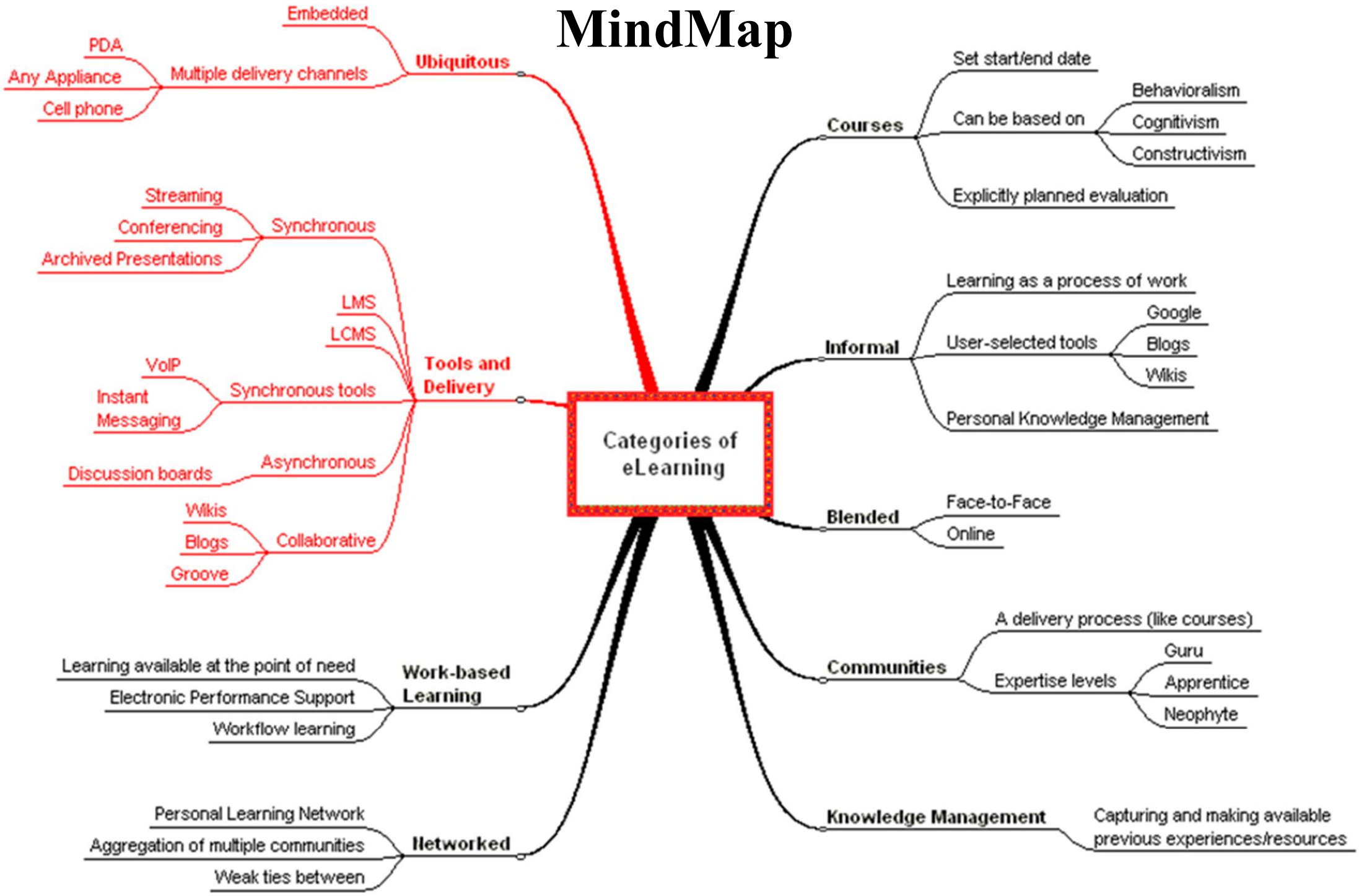
TECHNOLOGY EVOLUTION IN eLEARNING



LCMS = Learning-content–management systems; LMS = learning-management systems; CD-ROM = compact-disc read-only memory.

Source: SRI Consulting Business Intelligence (SRIC-BI)

MindMap


Categories of eLearning
Ubiquitous
Multiple delivery channels
Embedded
PDA
Any Appliance
Cell phone
Tools and Delivery
Synchronous
Streaming
Conferencing
Archived Presentations
LMS
LCMS
Synchronous tools
VoIP
Instant Messaging
Asynchronous
Discussion boards
Collaborative
Wikis
Blogs
Groove
Work-based Learning
Learning available at the point of need
Electronic Performance Support
Workflow learning
Networked
Personal Learning Network
Aggregation of multiple communities
Weak ties between
Courses
Set start/end date
Can be based on
Behavioralism
Cognitivism
Constructivism
Explicitly planned evaluation
Informal
Learning as a process of work
User-selected tools
Google
Blogs
Wikis
Personal Knowledge Management
Blended
Face-to-Face
Online
Communities
A delivery process (like courses)
Expertise levels
Guru
Apprentice
Neophyte
Knowledge Management
Capturing and making available previous experiences/resources

Technology & Teaching

- Technology always had a defining role in teaching/instruction
- Moses (the first known ODL student) received instruction through two tablets of stone
- Written letters were sent to Ephesus, Corinths, Galatia, Thessalonica, Philipi and Others
- Use of Technology in ODL has progressed from Print to The Web/Internet
- Technology has become the strategic agent for empowerment and transformation

Effects of COVID-19

- COVID 19 pandemic devastated all sectors including businesses, travel, households and families since December, 2019.
- It has disrupted Education (teaching and leaning).
- more than 2 billion students and youth across the planet are affected by school and university closures due to the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Learning loss, both in the short and long term, when fully measure will be colossal.

Recalibrate our Mode of Education

Emerging power

Social media, e.g Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Flickr, Tumblr, Pinterest, Google+, Instagram, Linkedin etc may now constitute 7th generation of models of E-Technology

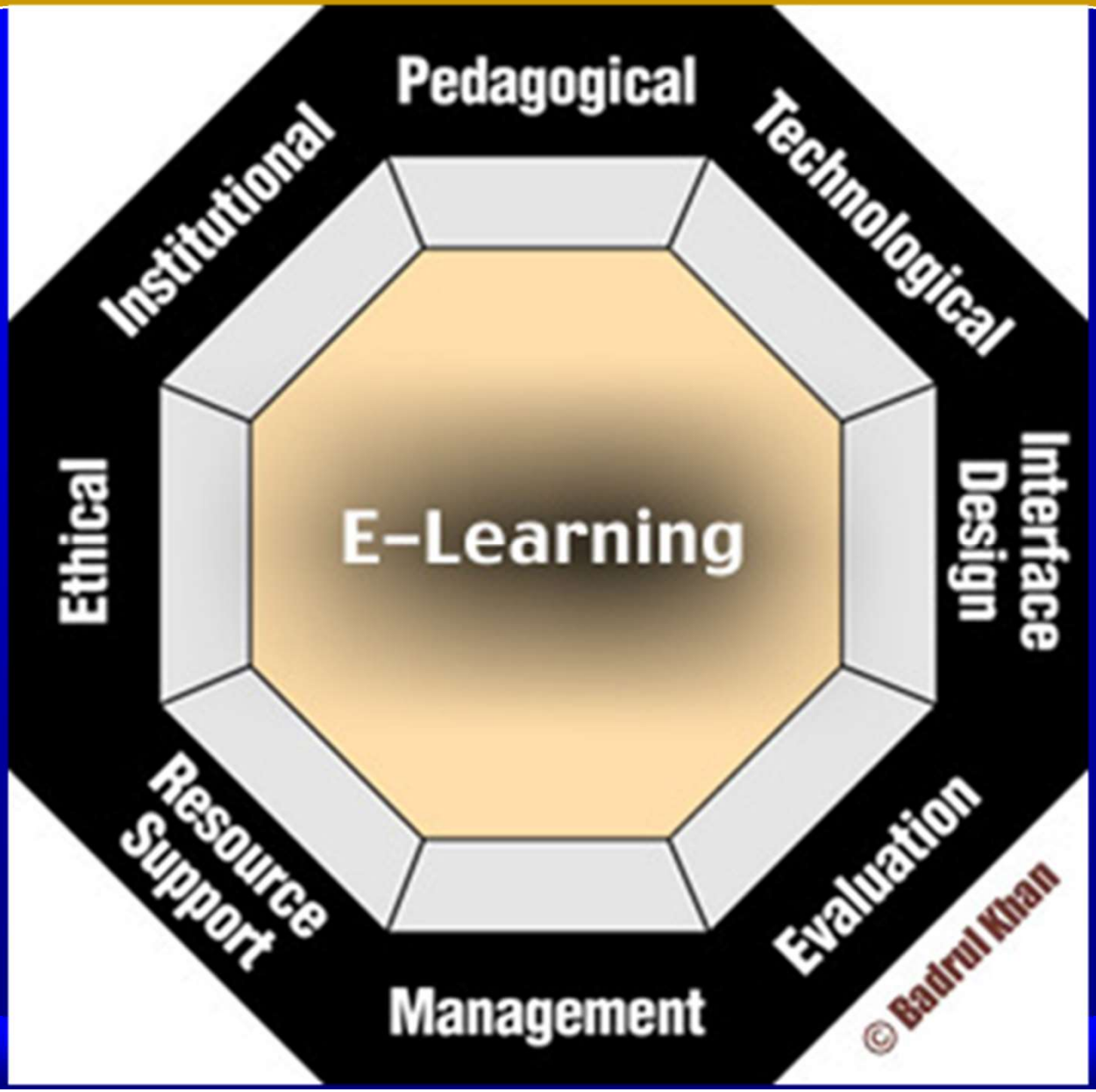
The change

- From focus on
  - Quality of students admitted
  - Qualification of Staff
  - Design and management of programmes
  - Rigour of marking
  - Course outputs as intended outcome?
- To focus on
  - Student engagement and satisfaction
  - Data analytics
  - Reflective assesments by students
  - Student-instructor-student interaction
  - Assessments for learning
  - Staff satisfaction and engagement

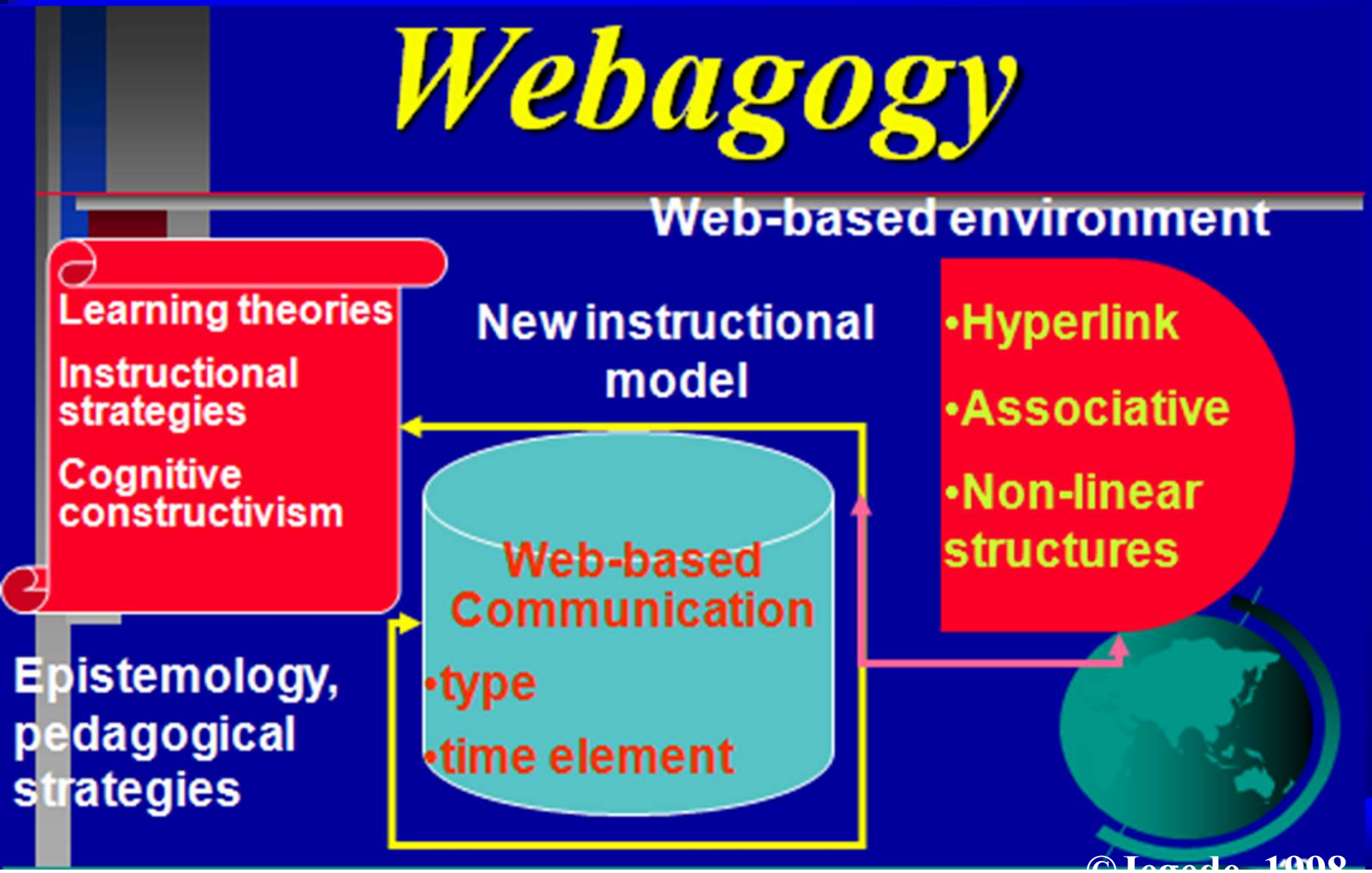
Part of Our Dress Code

- The inevitability of instability
- Continuous disruption
- Teaching and Learning will continue to be redefined
- Learners will take increasing control of their learning

Patterns of Specification for E-learning & Technologies



Approach to ID for Online Learning



Pedagogical approaches or perspectives:

Instructional design – the traditional pedagogy of instruction which is curriculum focused, and is developed by a centralized educating group or a single teacher.

Social-constructivism – this pedagogy is used in discussion forums, blogs, wiki and on-line collaborative activities. It is a collaborative approach that opens educational content creation to a wider group

Inclusiveness

The Current Normal

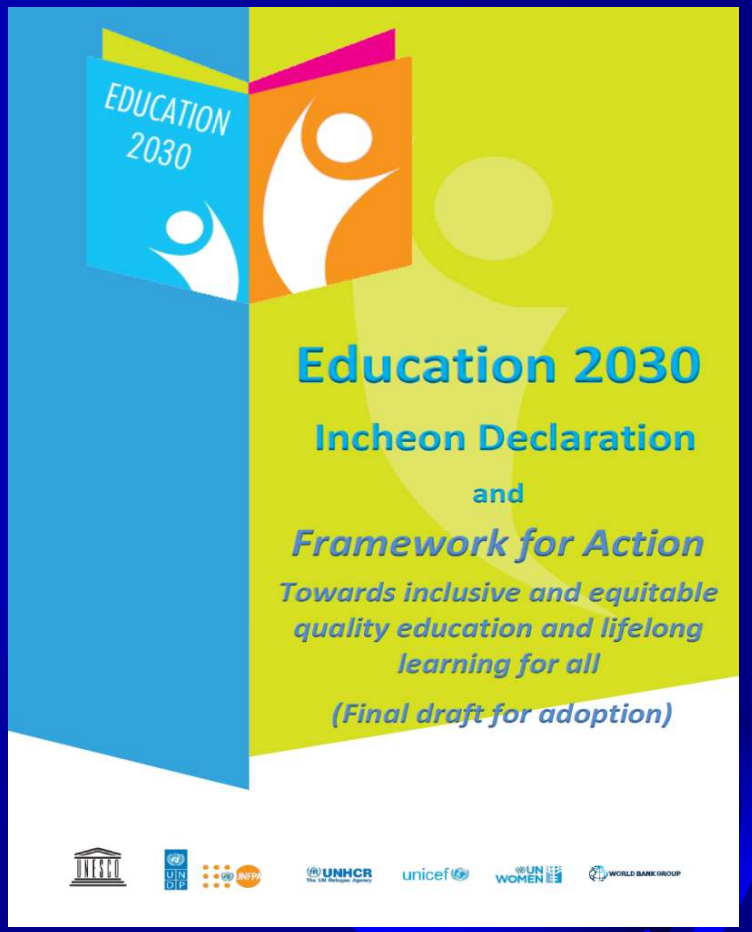
- C21st World and Way of doing things
- C21st Learners
- C21st Teachers
- C21st Learning ecology
- The current normal in ODL teaching and learning has arrived
- It now has to be fully online….no more blended

The Next Normal?

- Deal with the sustainable future we want
- The current normal face2face and virtual teaching and learning are fast changing
- They will merge. Focus will be on the skills acquired, innovative and creative capacity of the learner
- Teaching and learning will be fully online….no more blended.
- Any nation or educational system that neglects this transformation will not be reckoned with.

Education 2030 Framework for Action (FFA)

- UNESCO is entrusted to lead Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4) - Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all - through the Education 2030 Framework for Action (FFA).



Weapons of Inclusivity

JAN 2021

GLOBAL HEADLINES

ESSENTIAL HEADLINES FOR DIGITAL ADOPTION AND GROWTH

CHANGES TO DATA SOURCES MEAN VALUES ARE NOT COMPARABLE WITH PREVIOUS REPORTS

TOTAL POPULATION	MOBILE CONNECTIONS	INTERNET USERS	ACTIVE SOCIAL MEDIA USERS*
7.83 BILLION	8.02 BILLION	4.66 BILLION	4.20 BILLION
URBANISATION: 56.4%	vs. POPULATION: 102.4%	vs. POPULATION: 59.5%	vs. POPULATION: 53.6%
ANNUAL CHANGE: +1.0% +81 MILLION	ANNUAL CHANGE: +0.9% +72 MILLION	ANNUAL CHANGE: +7.3% +316 MILLION	ANNUAL CHANGE: +13.2% +490 MILLION

SOURCES: THE U.N.; IDC AI; GOVERNMENT BODIES; GSMA INTELLIGENCE; ITU; GWI; EUROSTAT; CNNIC; APJII; [OTHER] SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS' SELF-SERVICE ADVERTISING TOOLS; AND EARNINGS REPORTS; MEDIA MODE; CATRIA ZAJAC. † COMPARABILITY ADVISORY: SOURCE CHANGES. INTERNET USER NUMBERS NO LONGER IN OUR DATA SOURCED FROM SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS' AD TOOLS, AND ARE NOT COMPARABLE WITH PREVIOUS REPORTS. *NOTE: SOCIAL MEDIA USER FIGURES MAY NOT REPRESENT UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS, AND MAY EXCEED INTERNET USER NUMBERS.

we are social

Hootsuite

Challenges

1. Keeping our focus about the objectives of teaching and the real needs of the masses
2. Use technology cost-effectively; the simpler the better. Emphasis on the message, not the medium
3. Meeting the professional needs of practitioners: teachers, designers, etc
4. Socio-economic circumstances and demography
5. How to be on top of your game!

Learning in the 21st C

- By 2025, over 60 per cent of learners will study through ODL
- By 2050, 75 per cent of those studying by DL will be between 18 to 25 years of age
- Massive use of cutting edge technologies mobile devices in teaching and learning with extensive satellite coverage
- New environment and new ways of learning
- New definition of large campuses
- Learners will increasingly take control of their learning situations

Conclusion

Transformation

- Transformation of self (individual, institutional)
- Transformation of practice (leadership, infrastructure)
- Transformation of society (vision, mission, people)
- Transformation of the environment (social, ecological, financial, networks)

What kind of transformation should we aim at to effectively use technologies in teaching and learning?

Customer Service

- How well we're serving our clientele – the learners.?
- 'what's our customer value proposition?
- In our higher education we confuse our *model* with our *mission*.
- our model of educating learners is under threat.

Core Mission of Higher Education

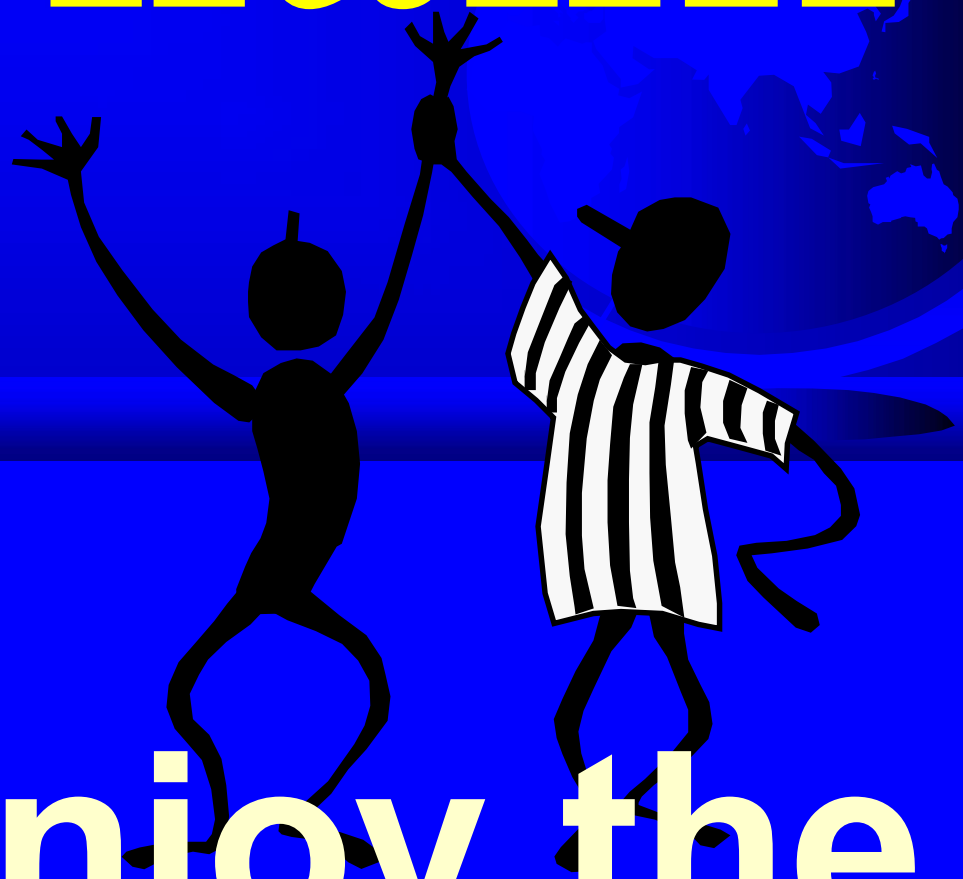
- for the next normal:
- Create opportunities for ALL to discover and develop their potentials without any hindrance or obstacle whatsoever, and to use them to make a difference in the world.
- We must recalibrate a resilient and inclusive Open Distance and E-Learning for a simple straight forward answer:

ODeL Ecosystem

- The movement from targeted population to open education (open access, open learning and open scholarship)

- Make free and open source technologies available to teachers and students. Open educational resources and open access digital tools must be supported

Thank you



Enjoy the rest of your day