



COMMONWEALTH *of* LEARNING



# 15CCEM Mid-Term Review for Africa

15 November 2005

Freetown, Sierra Leone

**Open and Distance Learning:**

**Why all the Fuss?**

A Public Lecture

Sir John Daniel

Commonwealth of Learning



COMMONWEALTH *of* LEARNING

To make  
Learning  
the  
Common Wealth  
of humankind

# Millennium Development Goals

- Poverty and hunger
- Primary education
- Gender equality
- Health
- Environment
- Partnership

# DEVELOPMENT

(e.g. NEPAD)

is fundamentally

a challenge of learning

# Teacher Training

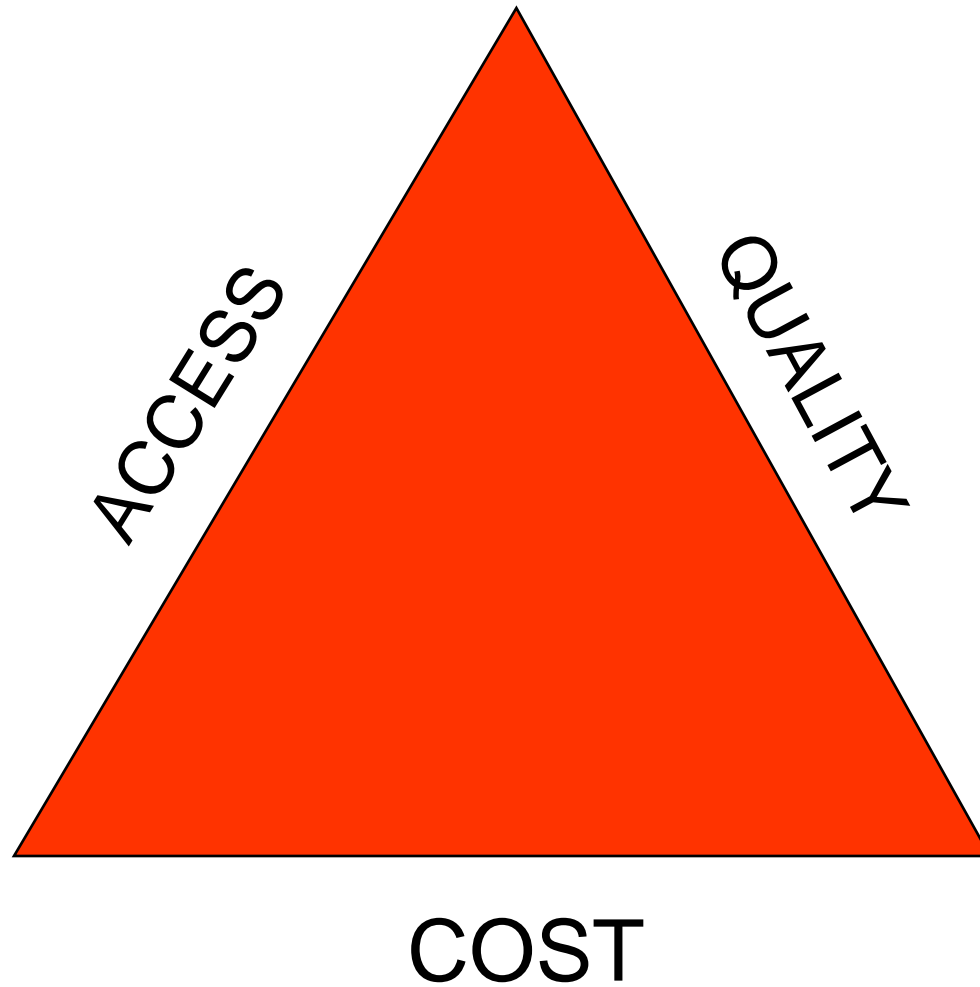


# Farmers



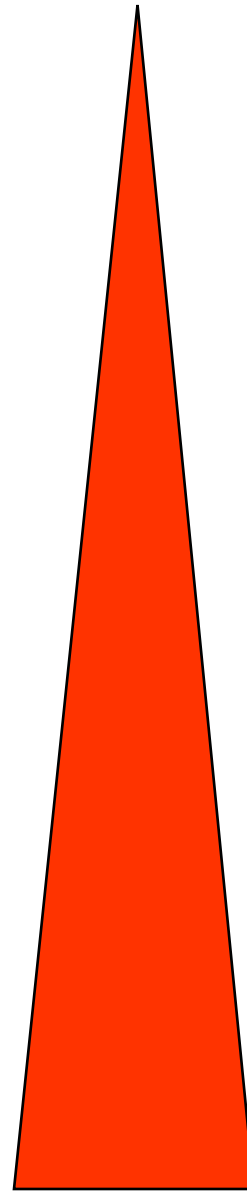
It is time to use  
technology to  
transform  
education, training  
and learning

# The Triangle



**ACCESS**

**QUALITY**



**COST**

Two types of  
learning activities:

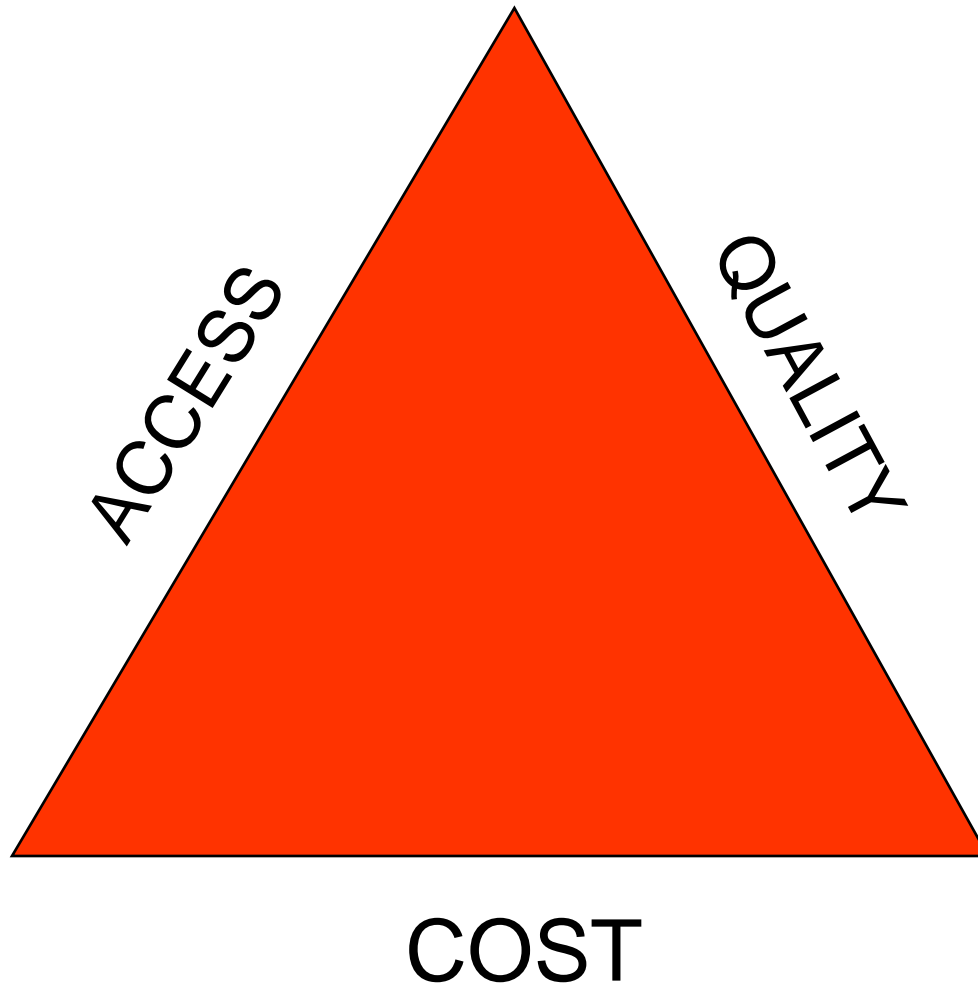
**INDEPENDENT**

Two types of  
learning activities:

**INDEPENDENT**

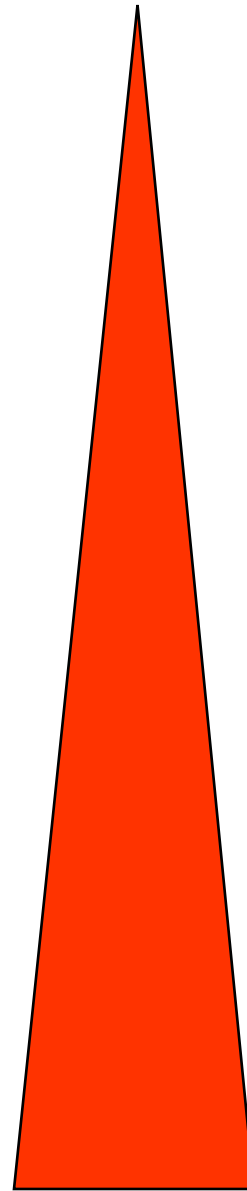
**INTERACTIVE**

# The Iron Triangle



**ACCESS**

**QUALITY**



**COST**

The success of the

# OPEN UNIVERSITIES

Owes much to the economies of  
scale of the media for  
independent learning

Two types of  
learning activities:

**INDEPENDENT**

**INTERACTIVE**

# BRITAIN'S TOP NINE UNIVERSITIES

## Quality Rankings of Teaching

based on all subject assessments 1995-2003  
(*Sunday Times University Guide 2003*)

1	CAMBRIDGE	96%
2	LOUGHBOROUGH	95%
3=	LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS	88%
3=	YORK	88%
5	<b><u>THE OPEN UNIVERSITY</u></b>	<b>87%</b>
6	OXFORD	86%
7	IMPERIAL COLLEGE	82%
8	UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON	77%
9	ESSEX	77%

**Do not be too  
mesmerised by  
technologies  
that are not  
available to you!**

# Online communication

- Speeds things up
- Resources on the Web
- Collective creations (e.g. Wikipedia and Open Educational Resources)
- Communities of interest
- Inter-school collaboration

CONNECTIVITY

makes

COLLABORATION

easier

# OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

are

**Open course content**

**Open source software**

**Tools**

# The Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth

A network of:

**Botswana, The Gambia, Lesotho, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, Swaziland and 18 other small states.**

It will develop Open Educational Resources in:

- Professional Development in Education
- Life Skills
- Business and Management
- OER competencies



COMMONWEALTH of LEARNING



**Thank you!**