



**Symbiosis Centre for Distance Learning
(SCDL)**



**Symbiosis International Conference
on
Open & Distance Learning**

21 - 23 February, 2011

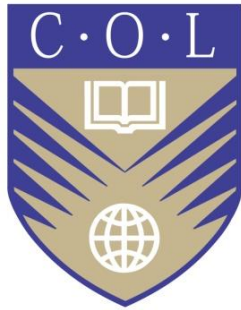
Pune, India



COMMONWEALTH *of* LEARNING



Learning for Development



The Commonwealth of Learning

WHAT IS IT FOR?

To help Commonwealth governments
and institutions use various
technologies to improve and expand
learning for development





COMMONWEALTH *of* LEARNING
learning for development

CRISIS IN ODL: what is the response?

Professor Asha Kanwar, Vice President
Commonwealth of Learning
Vancouver, Canada



Plan

- Crisis
- How Institutions have responded
- What needs to be done
- COL Approach

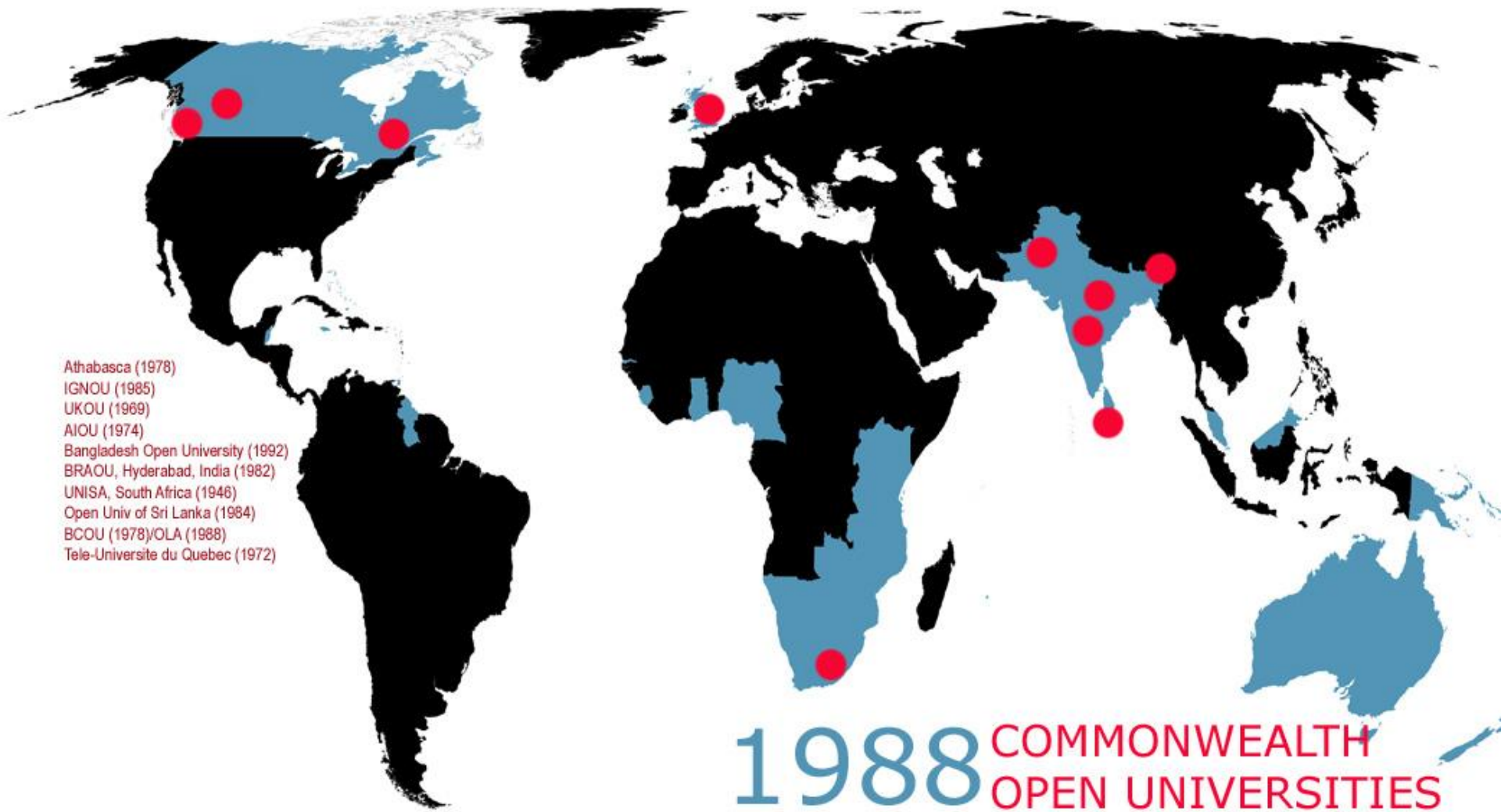


Strategy

Strategy
goals, planning
organization,
distinct from

CRISIS IN ODL

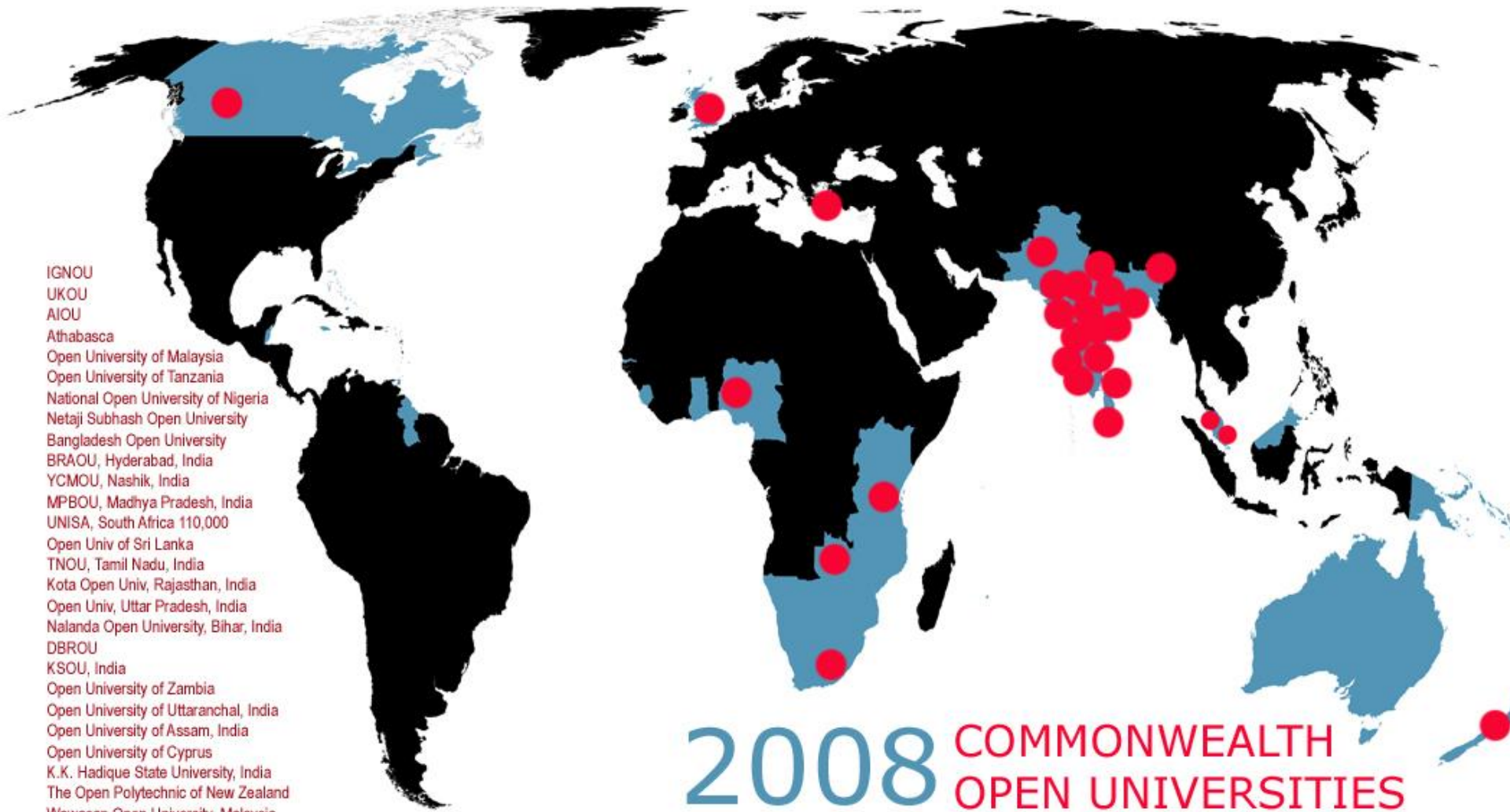




- Athabasca (1978)
- IGNOU (1985)
- UKOU (1969)
- AIOU (1974)
- Bangladesh Open University (1992)
- BRAOU, Hyderabad, India (1982)
- UNISA, South Africa (1946)
- Open Univ of Sri Lanka (1984)
- BCOU (1978)/OLA (1988)
- Tele-Universite du Quebec (1972)

1988 COMMONWEALTH OPEN UNIVERSITIES





- IGNOU
- UKOU
- AIOU
- Athabasca
- Open University of Malaysia
- Open University of Tanzania
- National Open University of Nigeria
- Netaji Subhash Open University
- Bangladesh Open University
- BRAOU, Hyderabad, India
- YCMOU, Nashik, India
- MPBOU, Madhya Pradesh, India
- UNISA, South Africa 110,000
- Open Univ of Sri Lanka
- TNOU, Tamil Nadu, India
- Kota Open Univ, Rajasthan, India
- Open Univ, Uttar Pradesh, India
- Nalanda Open University, Bihar, India
- DBROU
- KSOU, India
- Open University of Zambia
- Open University of Uttaranchal, India
- Open University of Assam, India
- Open University of Cyprus
- K.K. Hadique State University, India
- The Open Polytechnic of New Zealand
- Wawasan Open University, Malaysia



Asia has over 70 open universities, 13 of which are mega-universities!

India has a network of 14 open universities, 14 open schools and nearly 150 dual-mode institutions with over 7 million learners.





China

“by preventing the TV Universities from offering four-year degrees China effectively condemns them to an educational ghetto of low prestige no matter how high the quality of their work”

John Daniel

o Barriers to ODL

- No government employment for ODL graduates
- Distinguish between ODL and F2F on transcripts



Ecuador

Proposed Legislation:

‘(Academic diplomas and degrees) should make mention of the modality in which the studies were completed...’



Ethiopia

“a surprising case”

August 26, 2010: Ministry of Education announces

All distance education programmes in private and public institutions scrapped.

‘distance learning education is unnecessary at this stage in the development of the education sector’



Ethiopia

“a happy ending”

The ban was lifted in October 2010 after robust negotiations with 64, mostly private, institutions and the introduction of a quality assurance system.

Open University in Bangladesh



HE Goodluck Jonathan: Oct 4, 2010



HE Olusegun Obasanjo

Student of NOUN



A strange paradox

Distance education is booming

BUT

**Opposition to ODL is emerging
all over the world**

The Crisis

One bad apple spoils the bunch



HOW INSTITUTIONS HAVE RESPONDED



Open University of Malaysia



International

- Open University Malaysia:
ISO Certification accreditation



National



QAA





The Open University



The Open
University



The Open University

Open university of Sri Lanka



National Open University of Nigeria



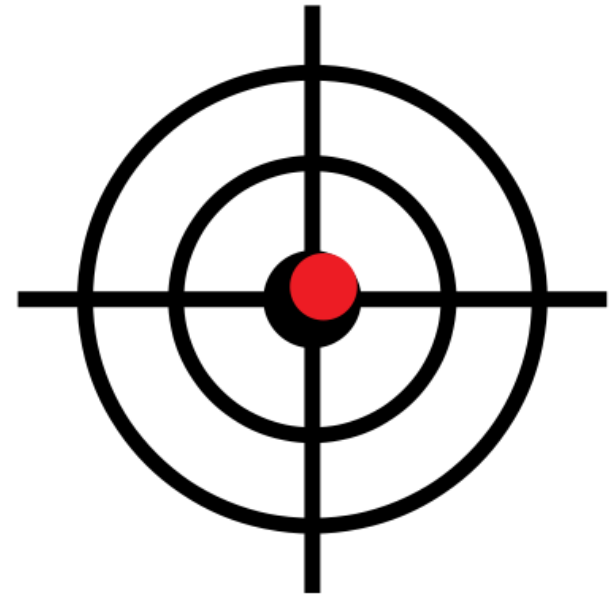
WHAT CAN BE DONE



1. Same Regulations for ODL & F2F

- Quality Assurance Agency, UK: assesses both campus and distance universities

2. Focus on Outcomes



3. ADVOCACY WITH EVIDENCE



THE COL APPROACH





COMMONWEALTH *of* LEARNING

**PERSPECTIVES ON
DISTANCE EDUCATION**

Towards a
Culture of Quality

Badri N. Koul and Asba Kanwar, Editors

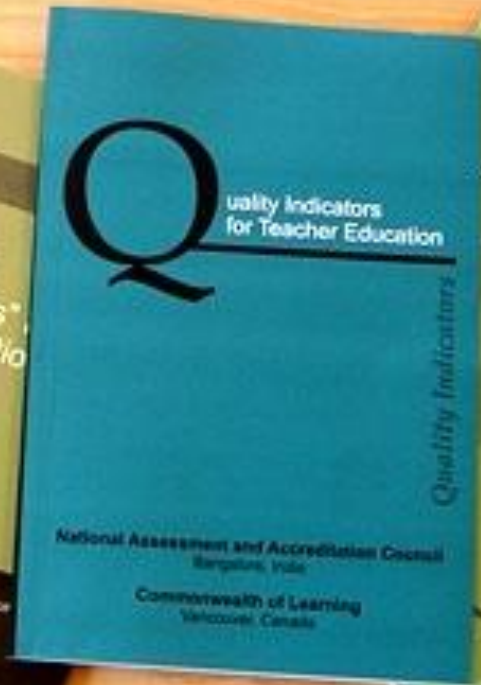
Quality Assurance Toolkit

Distance Higher Education Institutions
and Programmes


- TRUST
- ACCESS
- INNOVATION
- COST EFFECTIVE
- FACULTY SATISFACTION
- STUDENT SATISFACTION
- LEARNING EFFECTIVENESS
- CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT
- EXCELLENCE
- LEADERSHIP



QA Toolkits





Mutual recognition & accreditation of qualifications



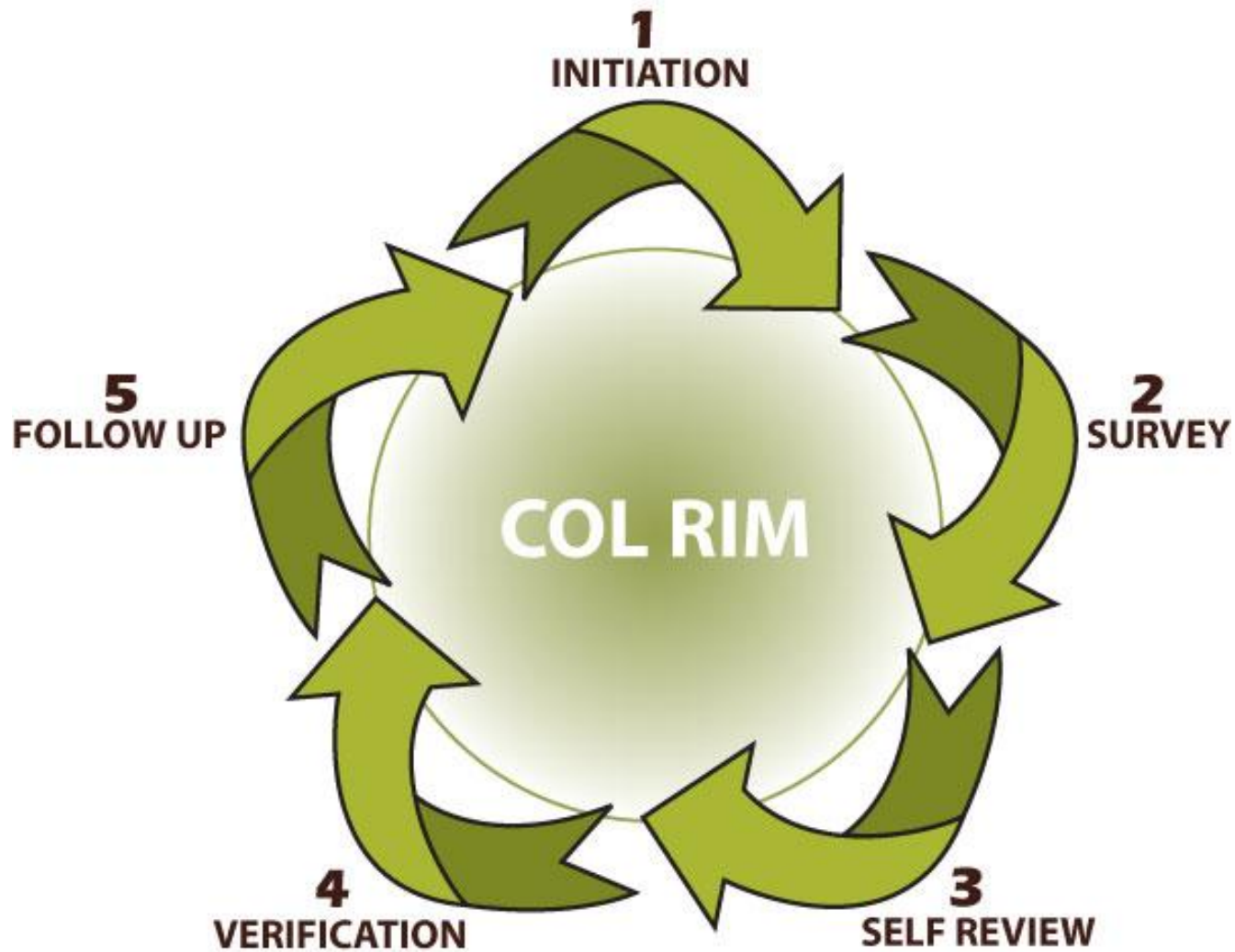
Transnational Qualifications Framework for the Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth

April 2010

 **COMMONWEALTH of LEARNING**
Learning for Development



Self-improvement: COL RIM Steps



In summary COL RIM:

- A low-cost ‘do-it-yourself’ model
- Does not require a panel of external experts
- Develops systemic thinking and organizational learning
- Focuses on capacity building

THANK YOU
WWW.COL.ORG

