



COMMONWEALTH *of* LEARNING





Commonwealth
Foundation



Induction Course for Commonwealth Diplomats

Farnham Castle
9 September 2010





COL: Small, Successful and not in London





Two billion people. 53 countries.
One conversation. Join in!

AN UNCOMMON ASSOCIATION A WEALTH OF POTENTIAL

SUMMARY RECOMMENDATIONS
FROM THE COMMONWEALTH CONVERSATION



Joanna Bennett
Dhancjavan Sriskandarajah
Zoë Ware

The Royal Commonwealth Society
March 2010



THE ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY



Common what?

EMERGING FINDINGS OF THE
COMMONWEALTH CONVERSATION

JOANNA BENNETT, DHANANJAN VISREKHOORAJAN AND ZOE WARD
THE ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY

Official Commonwealth Institutions:

*“It is quite clear that the Commonwealth needs modernisation and reform at the institutional level. With the exception of the **Commonwealth of Learning** (a small intergovernmental outfit focused on distance learning based in Vancouver, that received considerable praise from those who knew it), we have heard frustrations about the way that these institutions work at every turn.”*

“Finally, reaching more people could involve making the Commonwealth more polycentric. The vast majority of its intergovernmental and most prominent nongovernmental institutions are based in London, the Commonwealth of Learning in Vancouver and the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative in New Delhi being two notable and successful exceptions.

This not only adds fuel to the fire of colonial myths which surround the Commonwealth. It perpetuates an insular outlook and a limited sphere of direct influence.”

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WHO ARE WE?

- **35 staff in Vancouver**
- **7 staff in New Delhi**
- **Networks across Commonwealth**
- **Focal points in 52 countries**
- **Commonwealth-wide Board**



WHO ARE WE?



**The Hon Burchell
Whiteman
Board Chair**



COL's Vancouver Staff



**Sir John Daniel
President & CEO**

WHO ARE WE?



The COL Board in Kuala Lumpur in 2009

WHERE IS IT?



Vancouver
(Headquarters)



New Delhi
(CEMCA)

WHO SUPPORTS COL?

All Commonwealth governments made voluntary contributions to COL's budget in 2007-09 except:

Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Dominica, Malawi, and Vanuatu.

(Singapore makes significant in-kind contributions and Australia supports our Pan-Commonwealth conference)

The number of countries contributing rose from 27 in 2003-06 to 41 in 2006-09



The Commonwealth of Learning

WHAT IS IT FOR?

To help Commonwealth governments and institutions use various technologies to improve and expand education, training and learning in support of development



The Commonwealth of Learning (COL)

Learning for Development





UN Millennium
Development Goals

Keep the promise
Millennium Development Goals

2015



Education for All (The Dakar Goals)



Peace
Democracy
Equality
Good governance

EDUCATION

- Open Schooling
- Teacher Education
- Higher Education
- Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth



Open Schooling:

Aim:

To expand secondary schooling because 400 million children between 12 and 17 are not in school

Frances Ferreira
(Namibia)

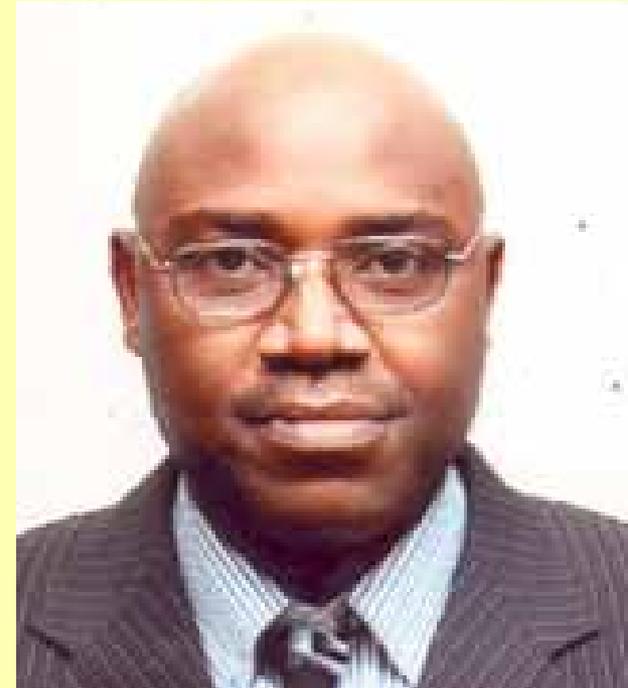


Teacher Education

Aim:

to expand and improve teacher education,
because 10 million new teachers are needed

Abdurrahman Umar
(Nigeria)

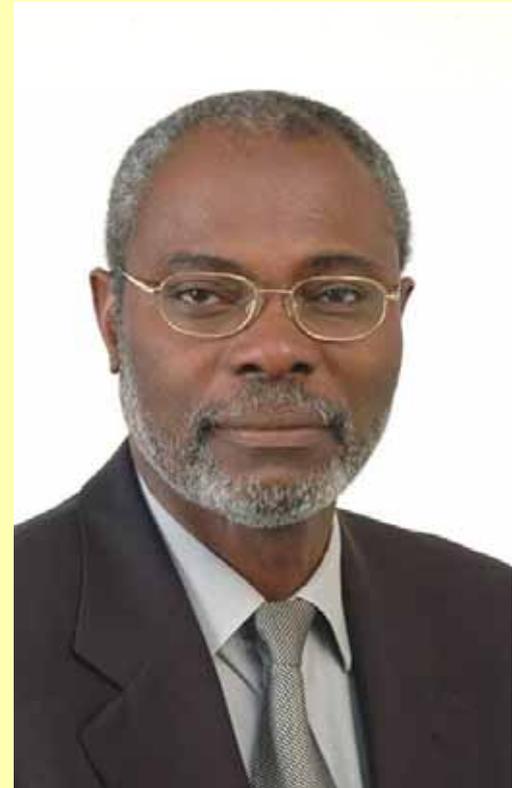


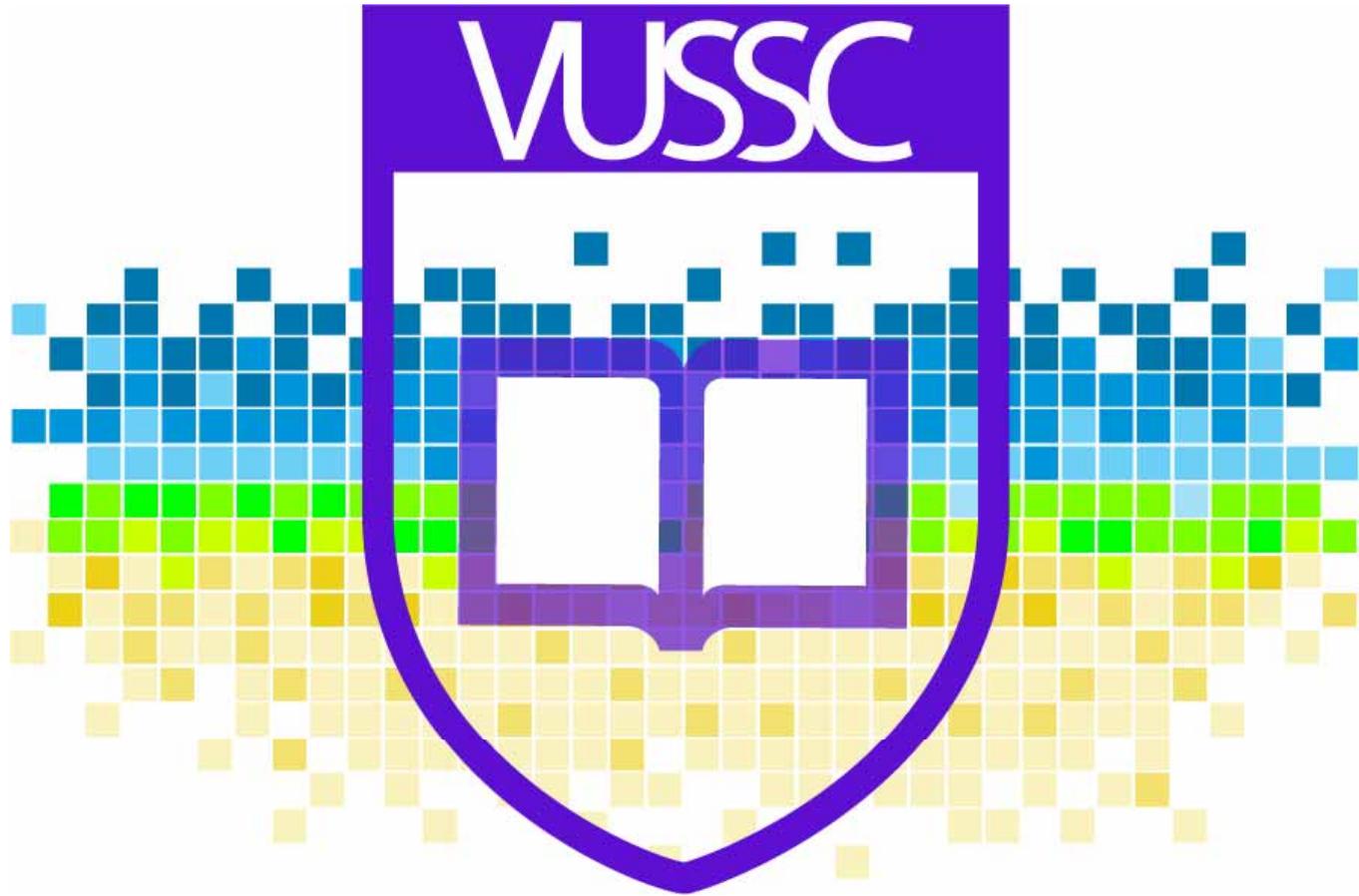
Higher Education

Aim:

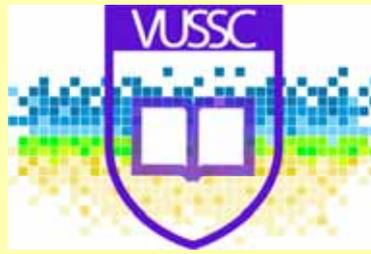
To improve the quality of higher education

Willie Clarke-Okah
(Nigeria/Canada)





The Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth



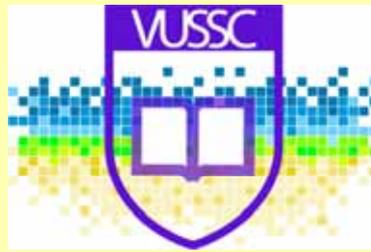
The Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth

Not a new university but a
collaborative network for
developing eLearning
materials



The Commonwealth of Learning

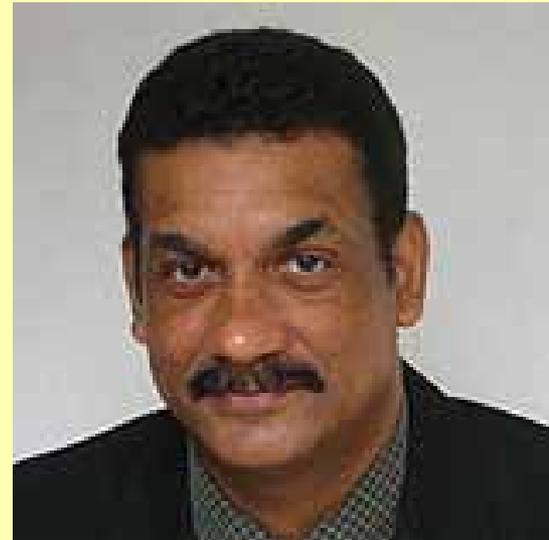




The Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth



Emma Kruse Vaai
Samoa



John Lesperance
Seychelles



The Commonwealth of Learning



LIVELIHOODS & HEALTH

- Skills Development
- Learning for Farming
- Healthy Communities
- Integrating eLearning



Skills Development

Aim:

Informal approaches to skills development

Alison Mead Richardson
(United Kingdom)



Learning for Farming

Aim:

Lifelong Learning for Better Farming

Kodhandaraman
Balasubramanian
(India)

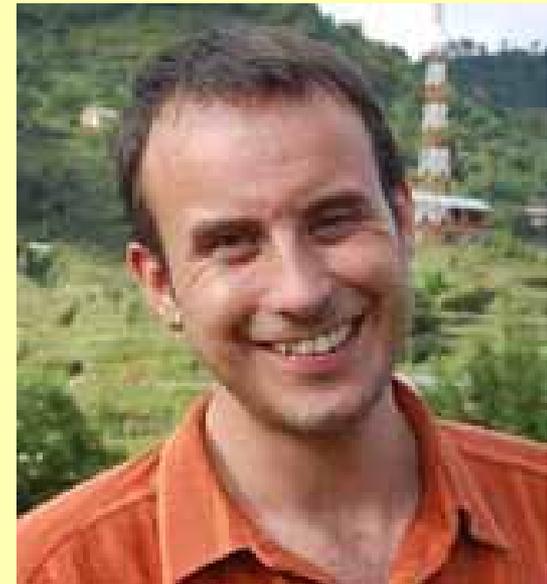


Healthy Communities

Aim:

To help communities improve health by using local media

Ian Pringle
(Canada)



Integrating eLearning

Aim:

To integrate eLearning wherever appropriate

Trudi van Wyk
(South Africa)

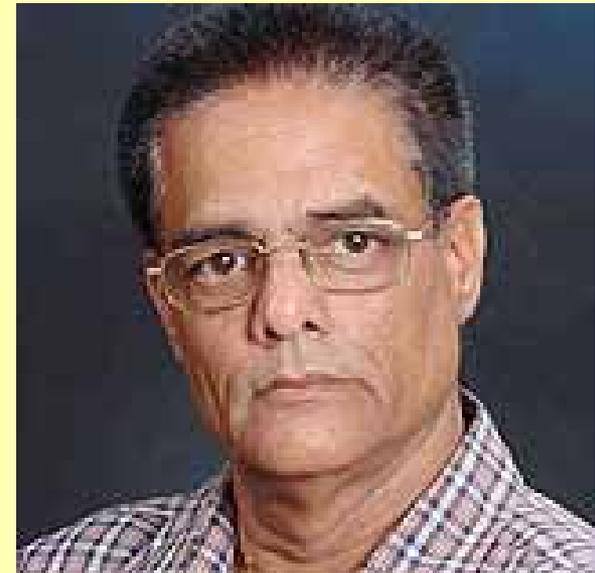


Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA): New Delhi

Aim:

Development of technology for Asia, especially
community radio

Ramamurthy Sreedher
(India)



COL

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The Watchword:

INNOVATION

The Mantra:

S C A L E

COL'S STRATEGIES:

- Policies
- Partnerships
- Models
- Capacity
- Materials



Reaching 6,000 farmers and agricultural labourers daily by mobile phone



COL

HOW DOES IT WORK?

An Obsession:

COUNTRY FOCUS



COL IN THE COMMONWEALTH

COUNTRY REPORTS (54 countries)



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

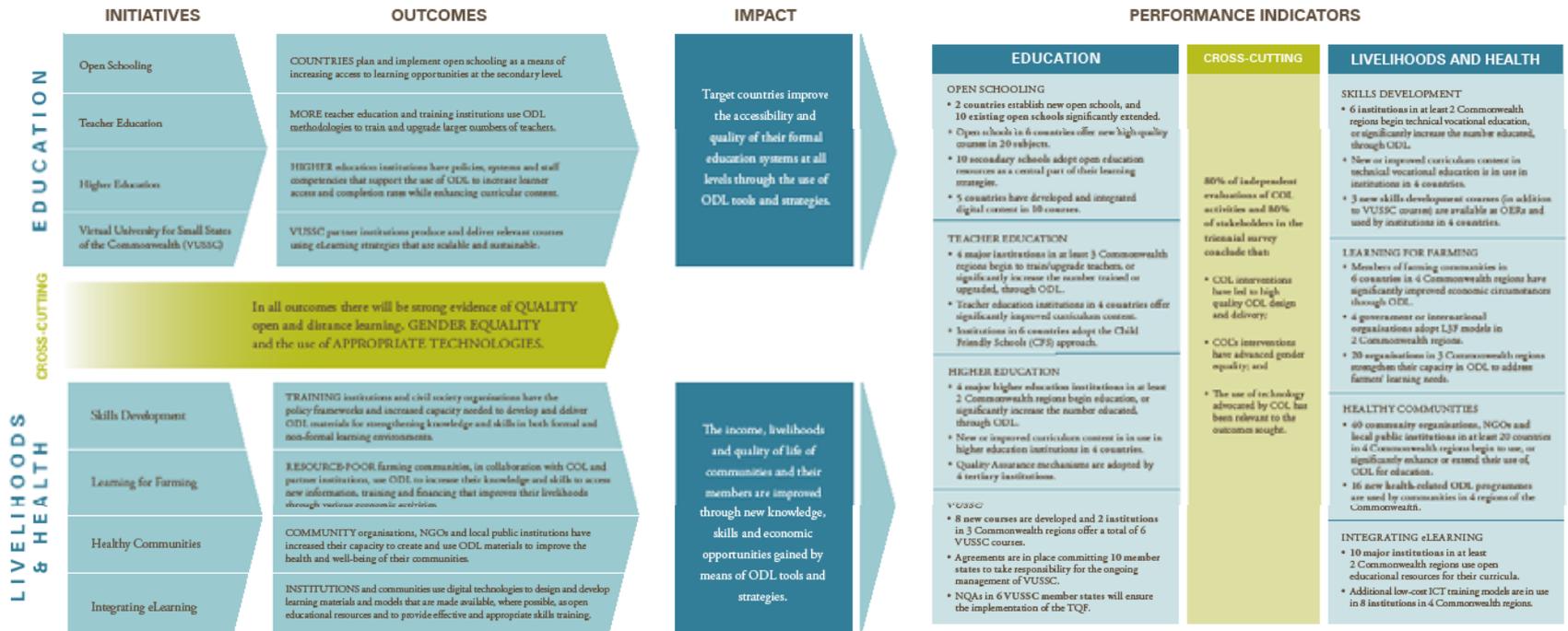


Professor Asha Kanwar
Vice-President

Logic Model for 2009-2012

Commonwealth of Learning Logic Model 2009-2012

- Vision:** Access to learning is the key to development
- Mission:** To help governments and institutions to expand the scope, scale and quality of learning by using new approaches and technologies, especially those subsumed under the general term of open and distance learning (ODL).
- Core Strategies:** Partnerships, models, policies, capacity and materials



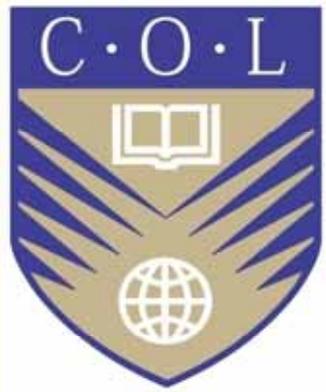
We are obsessed with

OUTCOMES

and

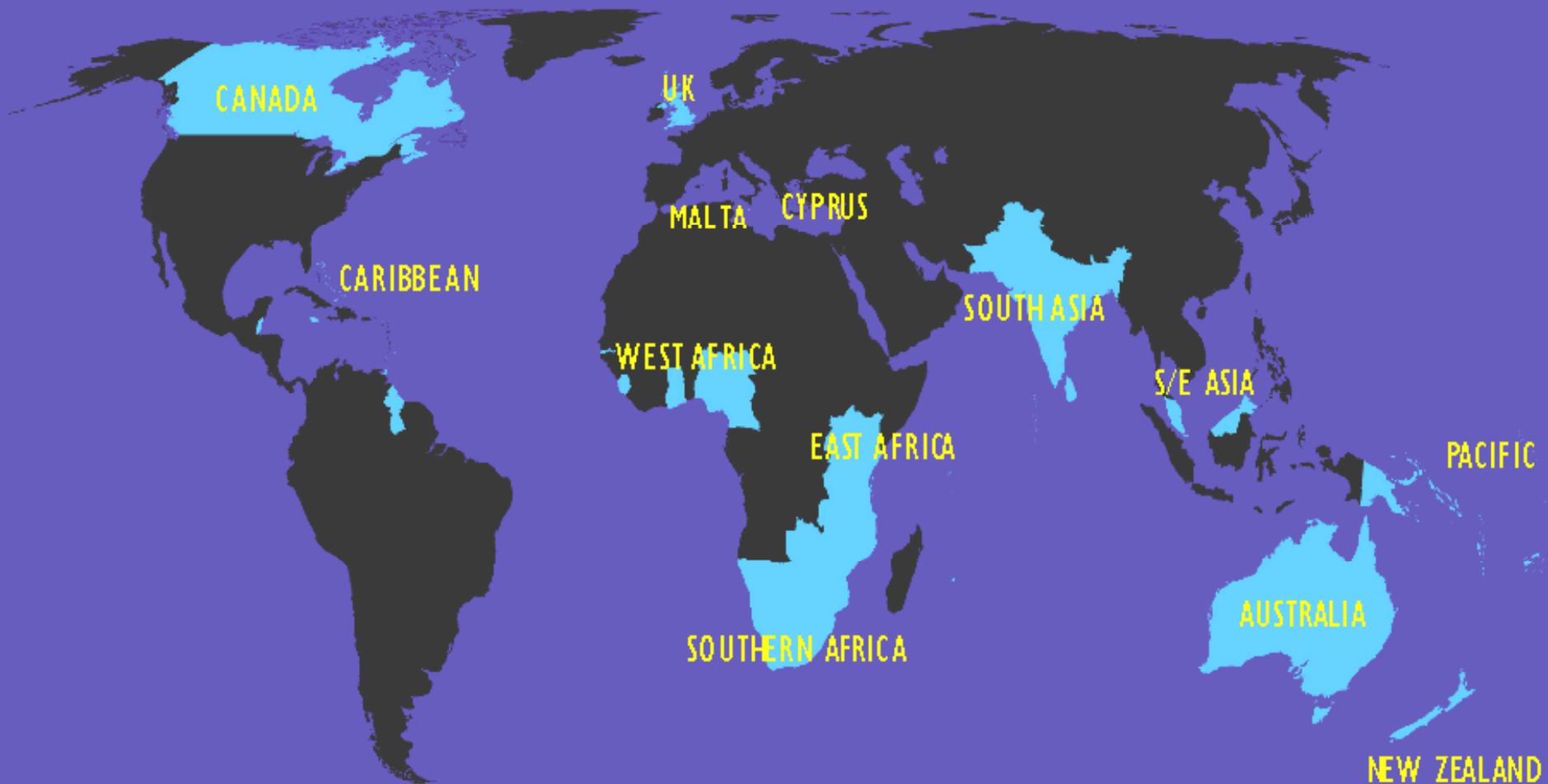
IMPACTS

**and we can demonstrate
those to you**



COL's Geographical outreach

The Commonwealth



...and all over the Commonwealth!



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THANK YOU