Towards Innovation in Higher Education

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6 October, 2023

Plan

- Context
- Innovation in education
- Refresh, Rethink, Redesign

Context Today

- Phenomenal adoption of technology
- By 2025, 85 million jobs may be displaced but 97 million more jobs may emerge
- Skills for the green and blue economies
- Life expectancy: half the people born after 1997 could live up to 100







Source: The Future of Jobs Report 2020, WEF, Oct 2020. McKinsey Quarterly, Beth Davies, Connor Diemand-Yauman, Nick van Dam, 'Competitive advantage with a human dimension: from lifelong learning to lifelong employability'

United Nations

Transforming Education Summit

United Nations, New York, 16, 17 & 19 September 2022

1. Address 'learning loss'
2. Promote equity and inclusion
3. Achieve digital transformation
4. Review curricula and pedagogies
5. Support psycho-social well-being

AI Revolution

- New essays, short articles, Tweets etc
- Language translation
- Text summarisation
- Image generation from Text
- Microlearning courses from text

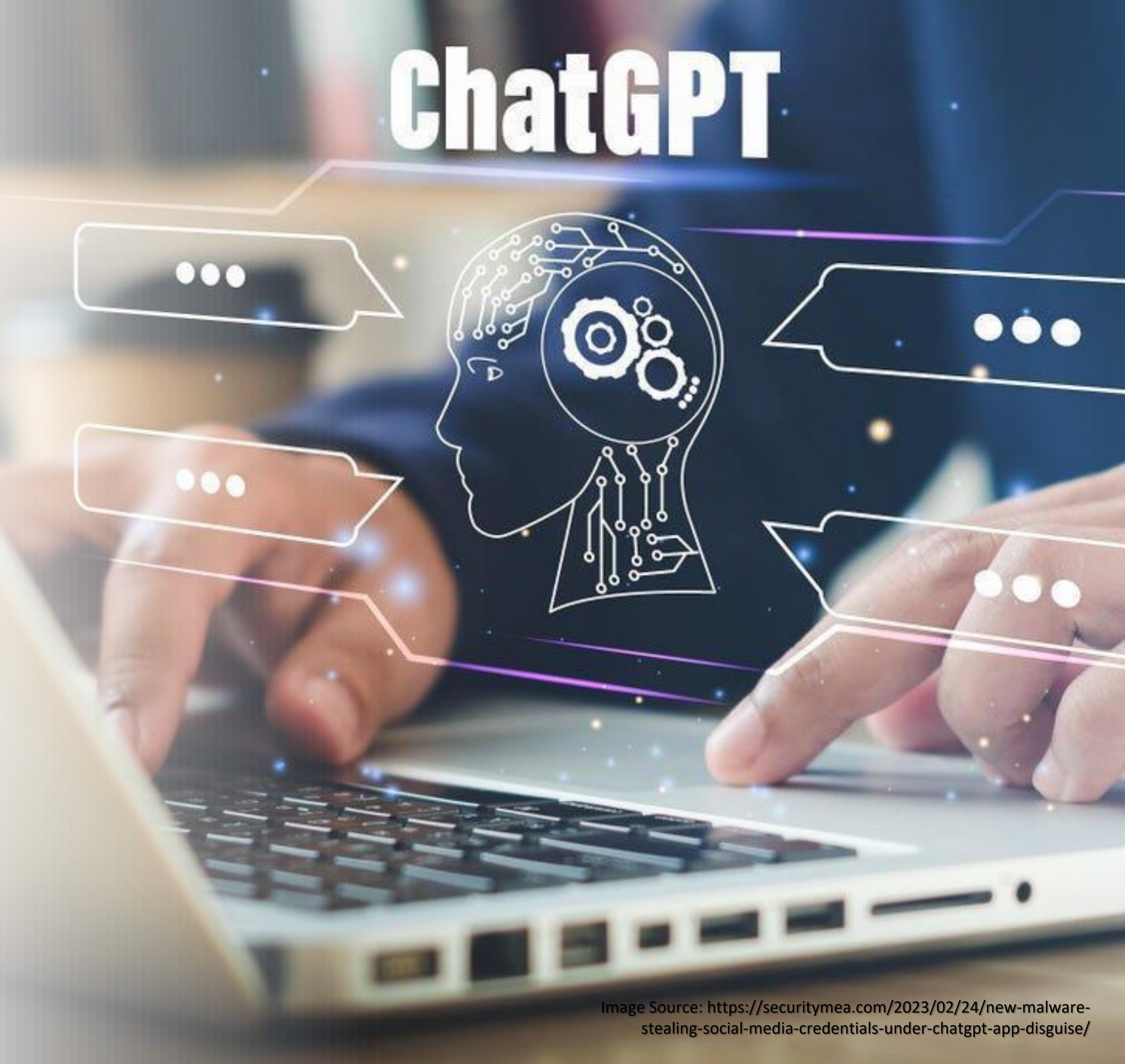
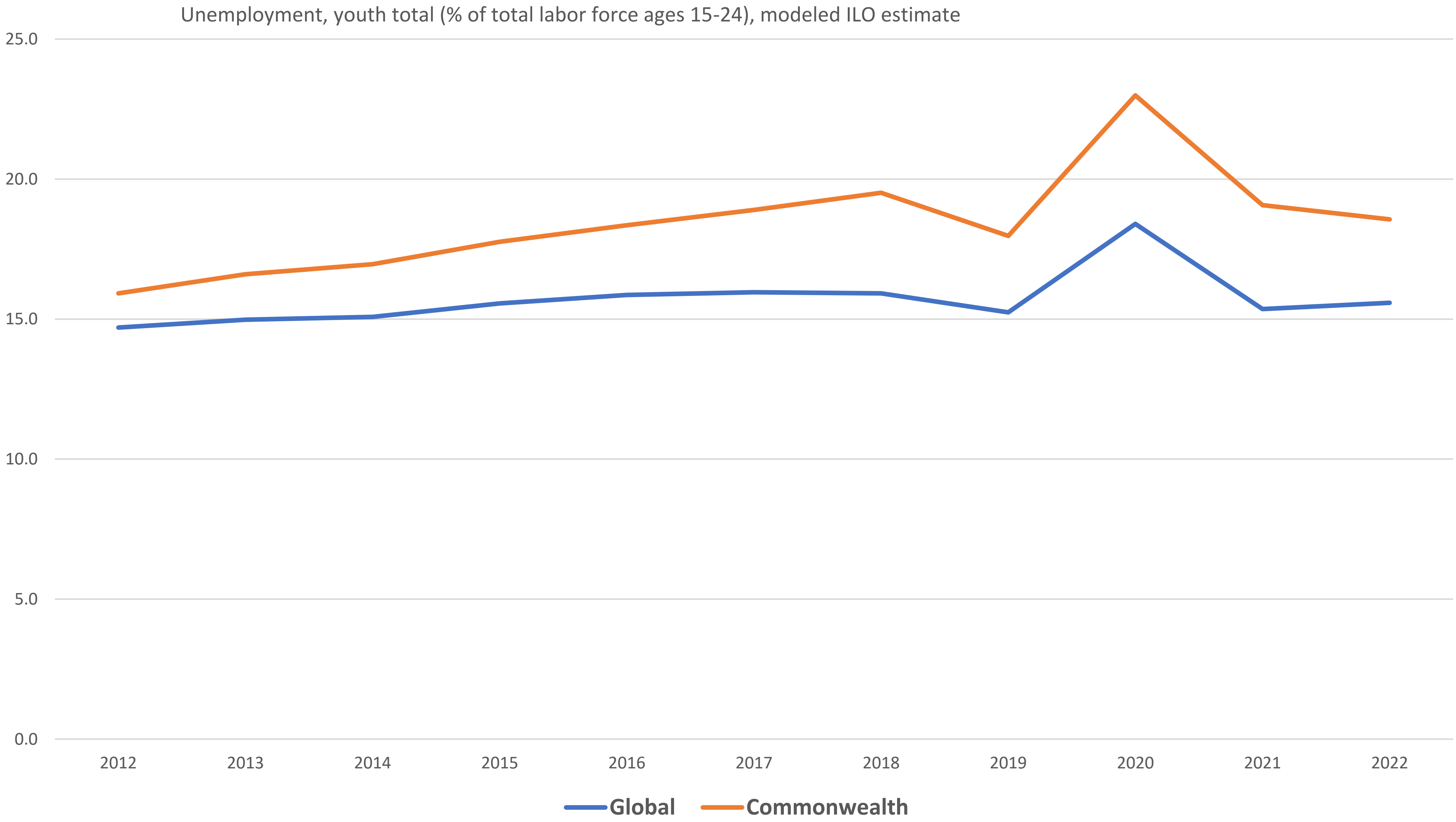


Image Source: https://securitymea.com/2023/02/24/new-malware-stealing-social-media-credentials-under-chatgpt-app-disguise/

Youth Unemployment



Source: data.worldbank.org, retrieved and compiled on 7 September 2023

Innovation in education

“Measuring Innovation in Education” by OECD between 2003-2011

- Increases in innovative pedagogic practices…
- Innovations in assessments and accessibility
- Creation of professional learning communities for teachers and parents
- ‘…countries with greater levels of innovation have seen increases in certain educational outcomes, including higher… mathematics performance, more equitable learning outcomes for students of all abilities and more satisfied teachers’.

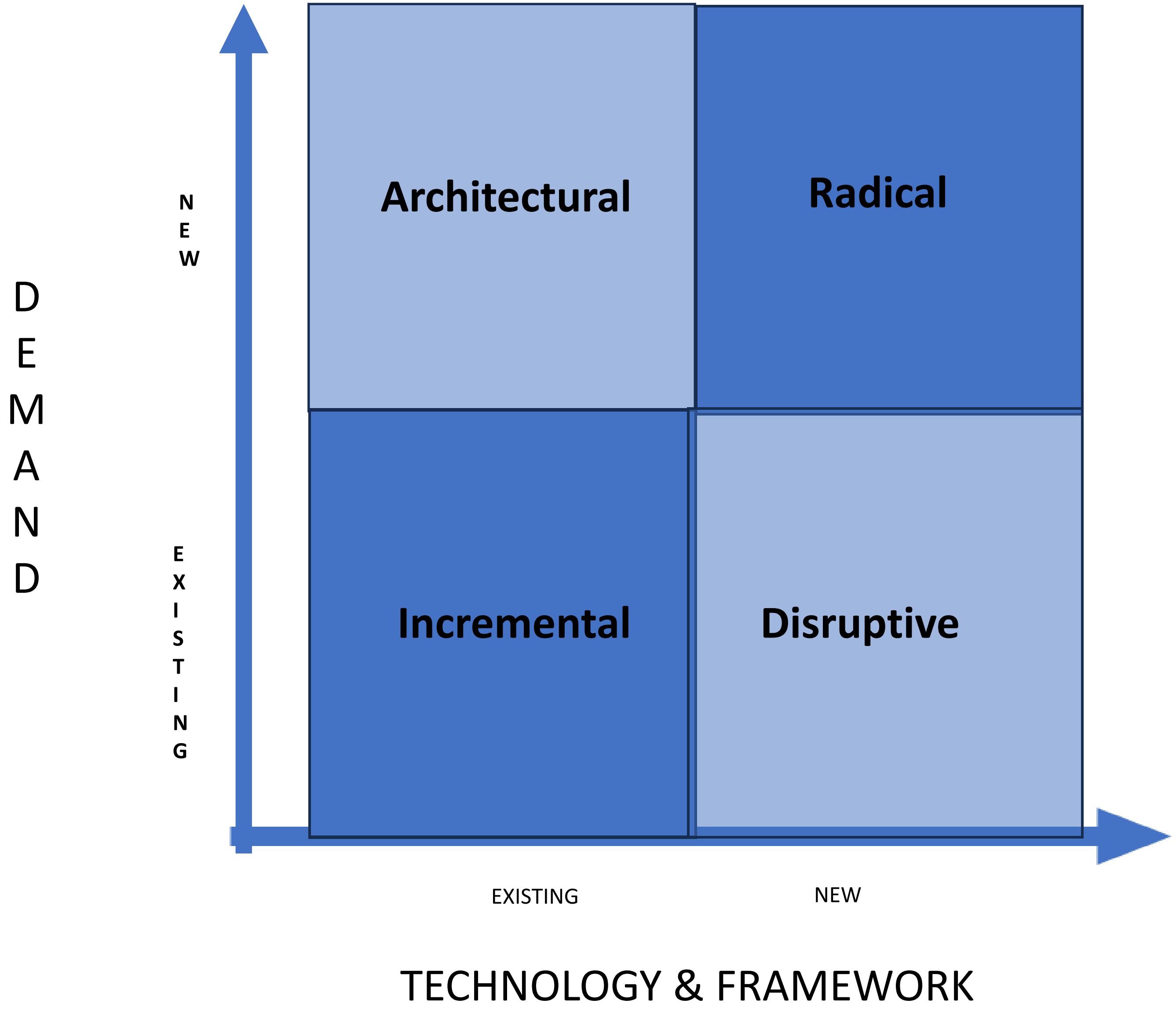
Source: https://www.oecd.org/education/ceri/GEIS2016-Background-document.pdf

Educational Innovations during Covid-19

- Use of TV and Radio (e.g., several countries in the Commonwealth)
- Use of digital platforms (e.g., DIKSHA and SWAYAM in India)
- Free SIM cards and free data to access internet (e.g., St Lucia, Sri Lanka)
- Sharing OER (e.g., Fiji, Nigeria, South Africa)
- Curriculum aligned digital content for K-12 (e.g., Fiji, Samoa, Vietnam)
- Online and alternative examinations (e.g., India (open book examination), South Africa (use of mobile app))

Sources: (i) https://www.gse.harvard.edu/news/22/03/harvard-edcast-global-innovations-education-during-pandemic
(ii) http://hdl.handle.net/11599/3592
(iii) https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/education/how-learning-continued-during-the-covid-19-pandemic_149b4e72-en

Types of Innovation

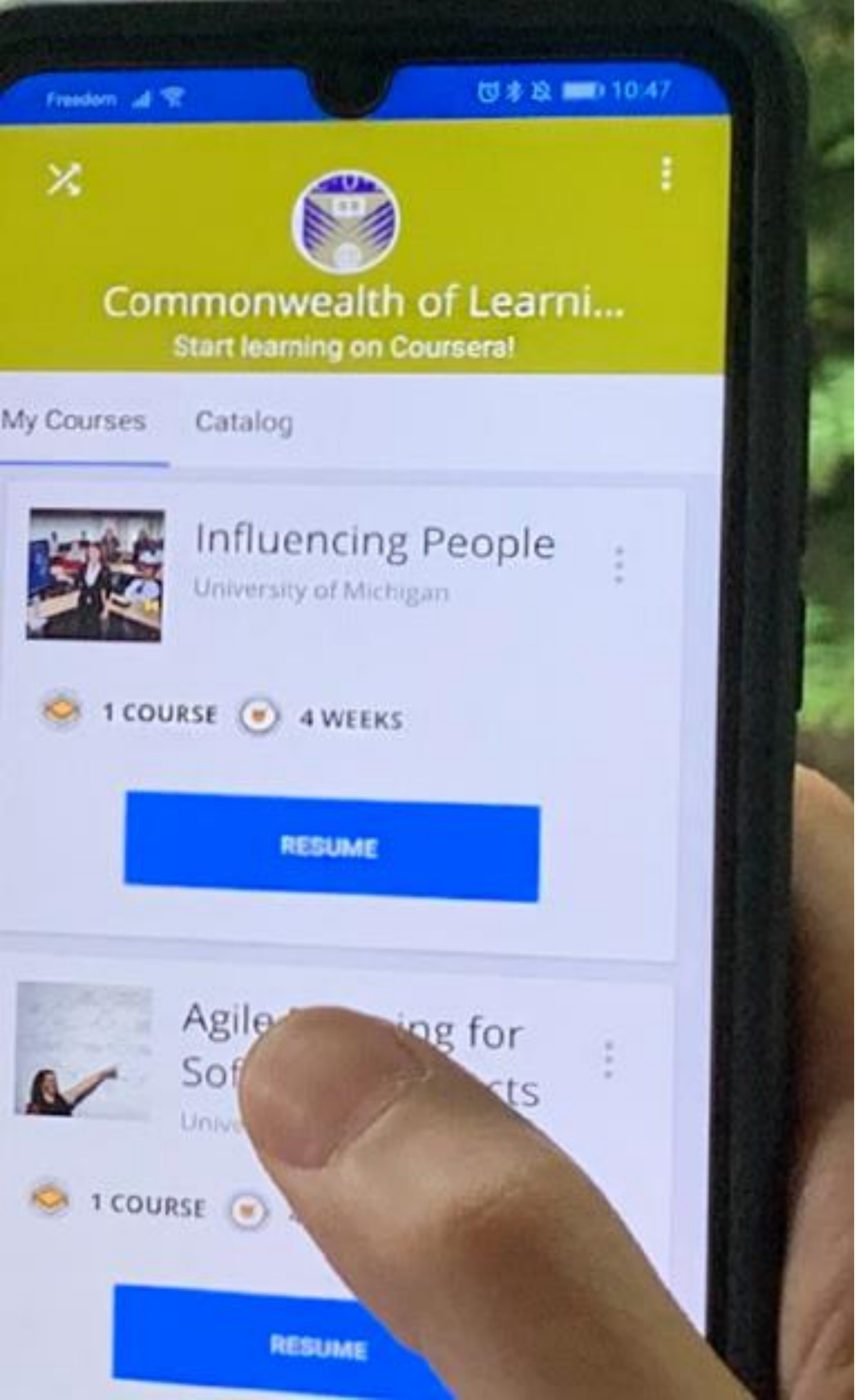


Modified from : Kennedy, Reed. (2020) Strategic Management. Blacksburg, VA: Virginia Tech Publishing. https://doi.org/10.21061/strategicmanagement

Incremental Innovation

Within existing demand and within existing technology and framework improving a product or service or practice

Mobile phones, community radio, camera are some of the examples of incremental innovation.



Disruptive Innovation

A new product or service or practice addressing the existing demand with new technology or framework

From campus-based to distance learning

Architectural Innovation

When new products or services or practices with existing technology or framework, address new demand or market.

From Pedagogy to Andragogy to Heutagogy for Lifelong Learning

From e-Learning to MOOCs

Radical Innovation

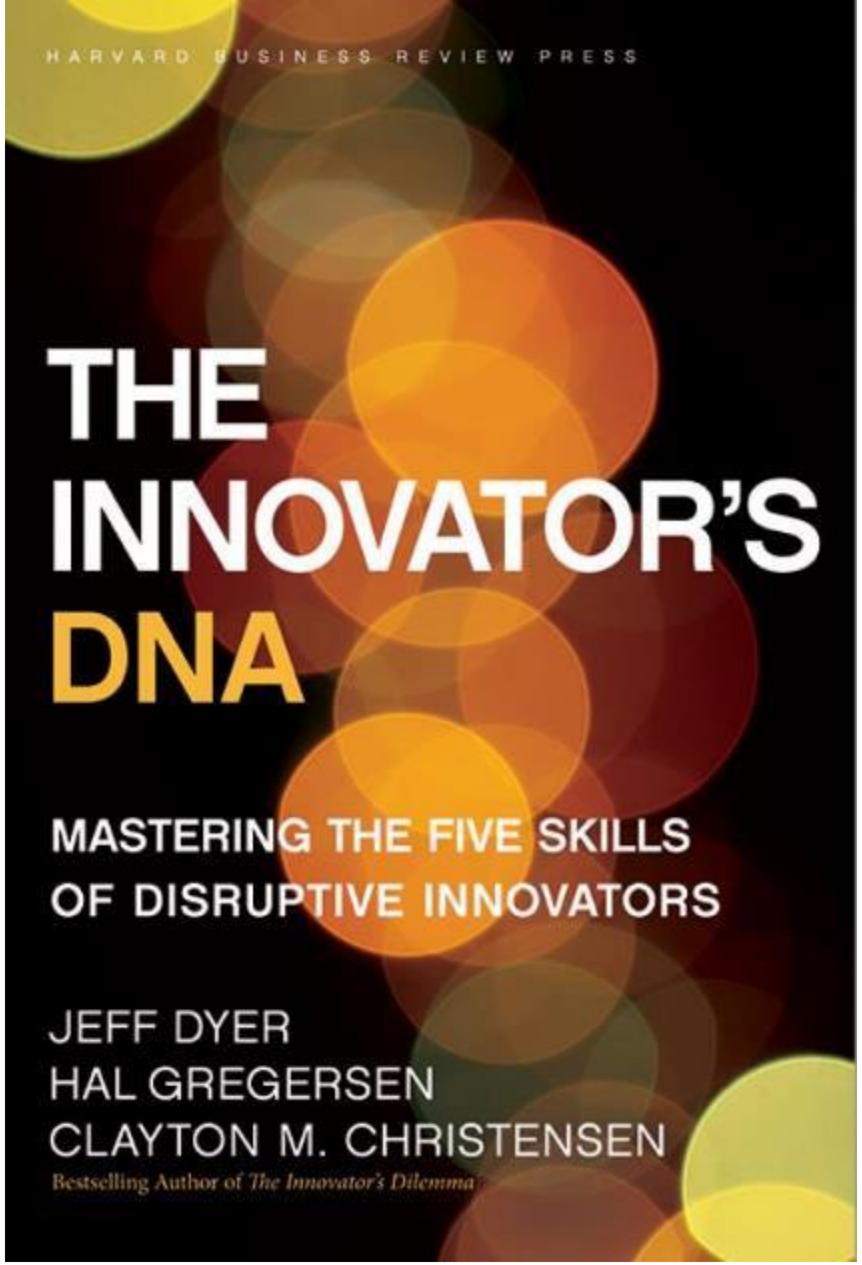
New products, services or practices with new technology or framework to reach create or reach new demand

Radical Innovation in Education is weak.

Can we reach 773 million illiterates and millions of semi-literates?

Skills for Innovation

- Questioning
- Observing
- Networking
- Experimenting



The Innovator's DNA: Mastering the Five Skills of Disruptive Innovators
by Jeffrey H. Dyer, Hal B. Gregersen, Clayton M. Christensen, Harvard Business Press

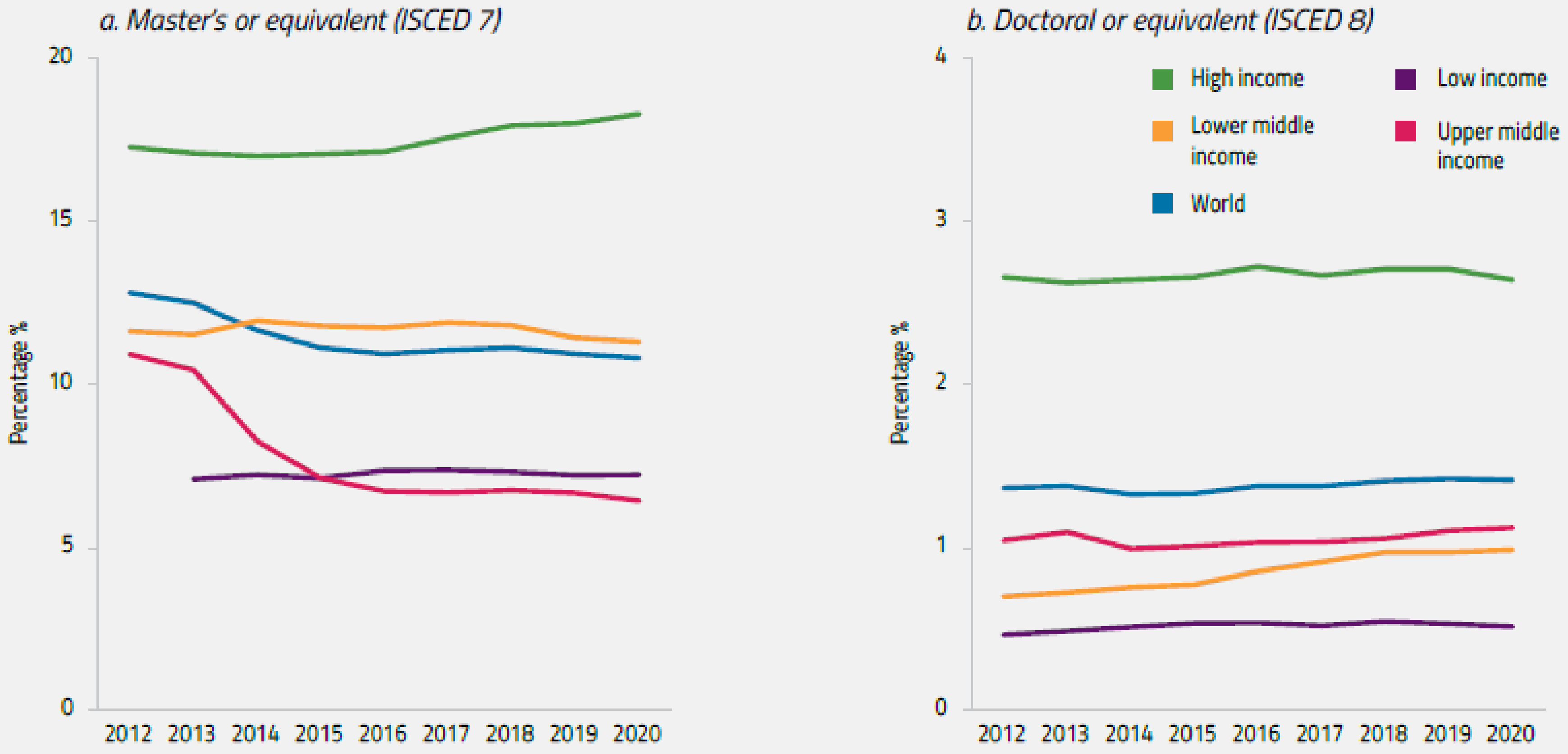
Refresh, Rethink, Redesign

Reduction in postgraduate students

FIGURE 14.4:

The share of students in master's programmes has halved in upper-middle-income countries

Share of tertiary education students in postgraduate education, by country income group, 2012–20



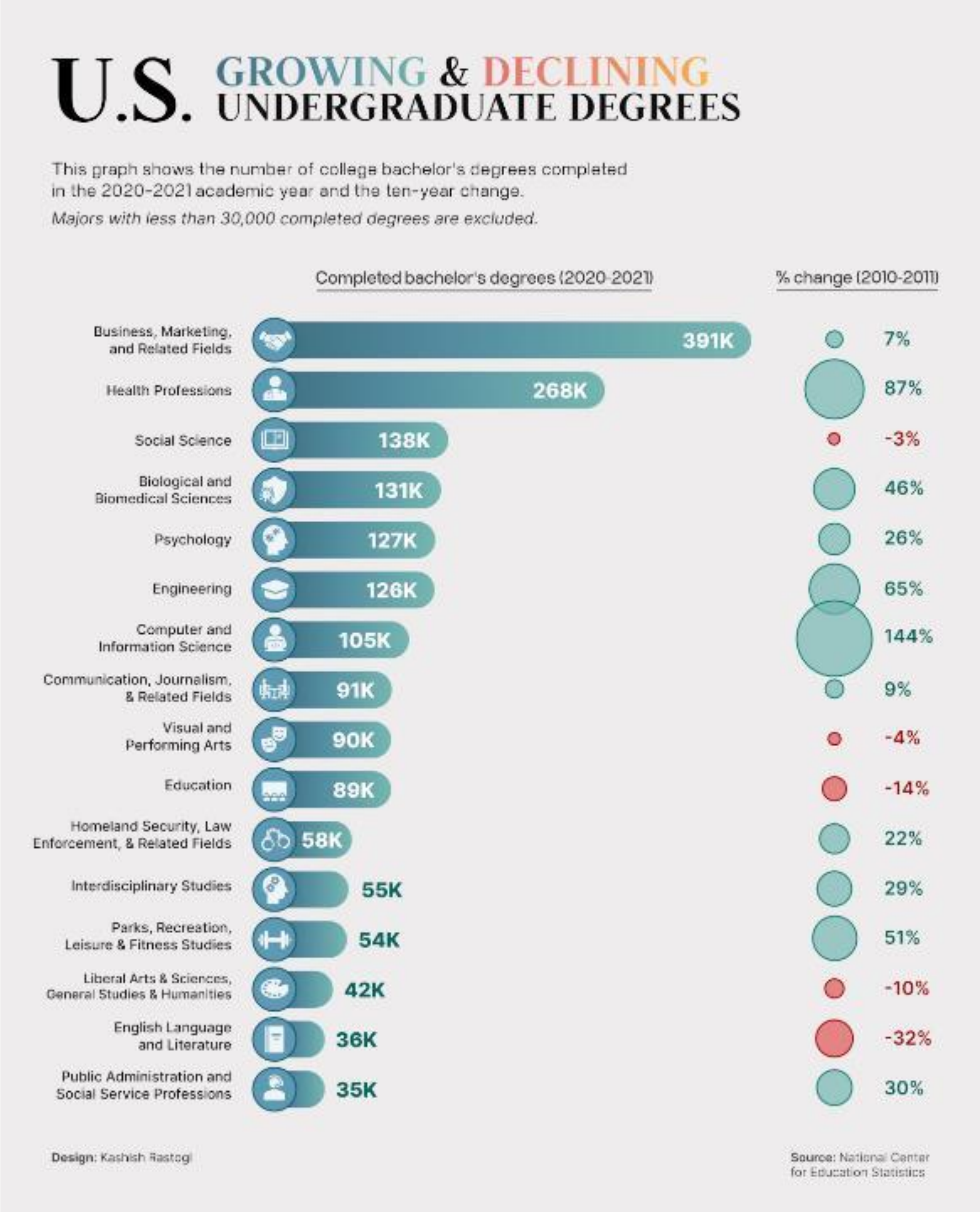
GEM StatLink: https://bit.ly/GEM2023_fig14_4

Source: UIS database.

Source: https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000385723

Degree completion: need for curricular reform

- Increased completion: IT related job skills, health professionals, engineering, leisure and fitness
- Declining completion: language and literature, education, liberal arts.



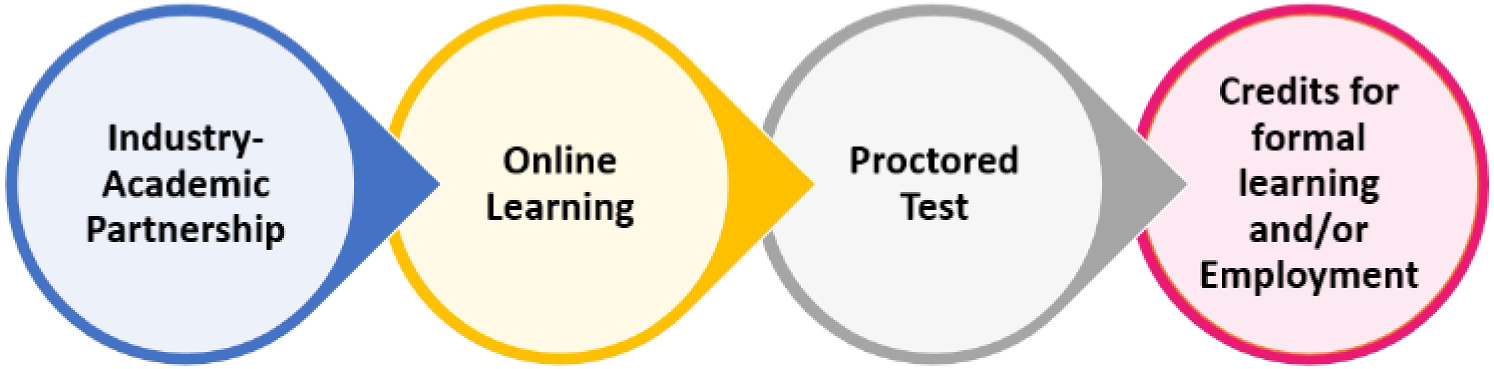
Source: https://www.visualcapitalist.com/cp/charted-most-popular-u-s-undergraduate-degrees-2011-2021/

Refresh:
Towards Lifelong learning

- Simply reforming current education systems …to meet future skills requirements is not going to be enough….

- Ageing countries …will need wholesale reskilling of existing workforces throughout their life

Micro-credentials



- Short duration
- Modular approach
- Skills based

- Community learning
- Self-paced
- Mentoring support

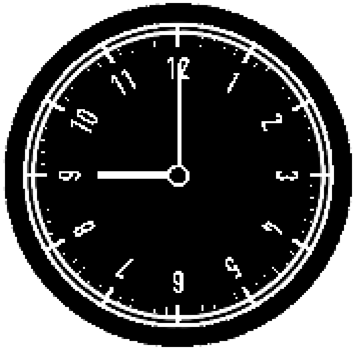
- Verifiable credential
- Project-based

- Job-ready
- Reduced cost
- Blended with F2F for formal degree

Source: https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000385723

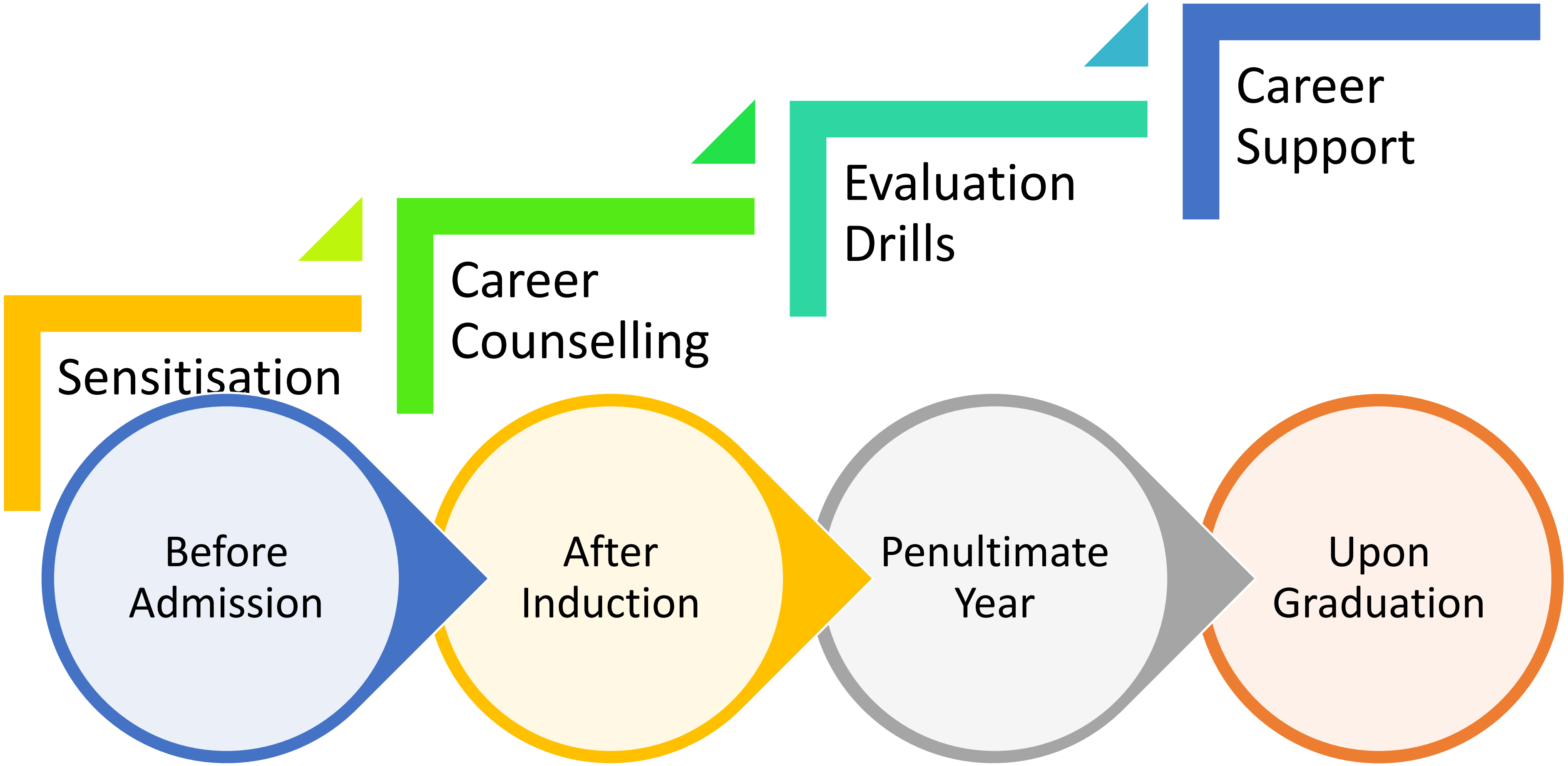
Rethink: Employability

- Balance between theory and practice; hard and soft skills
- Engage industry: internships; apprenticeships
- Link QA to employability
- Career support
- Measure capability rather than number of hours



Credit Hour → Range of skills

Employability Pathways



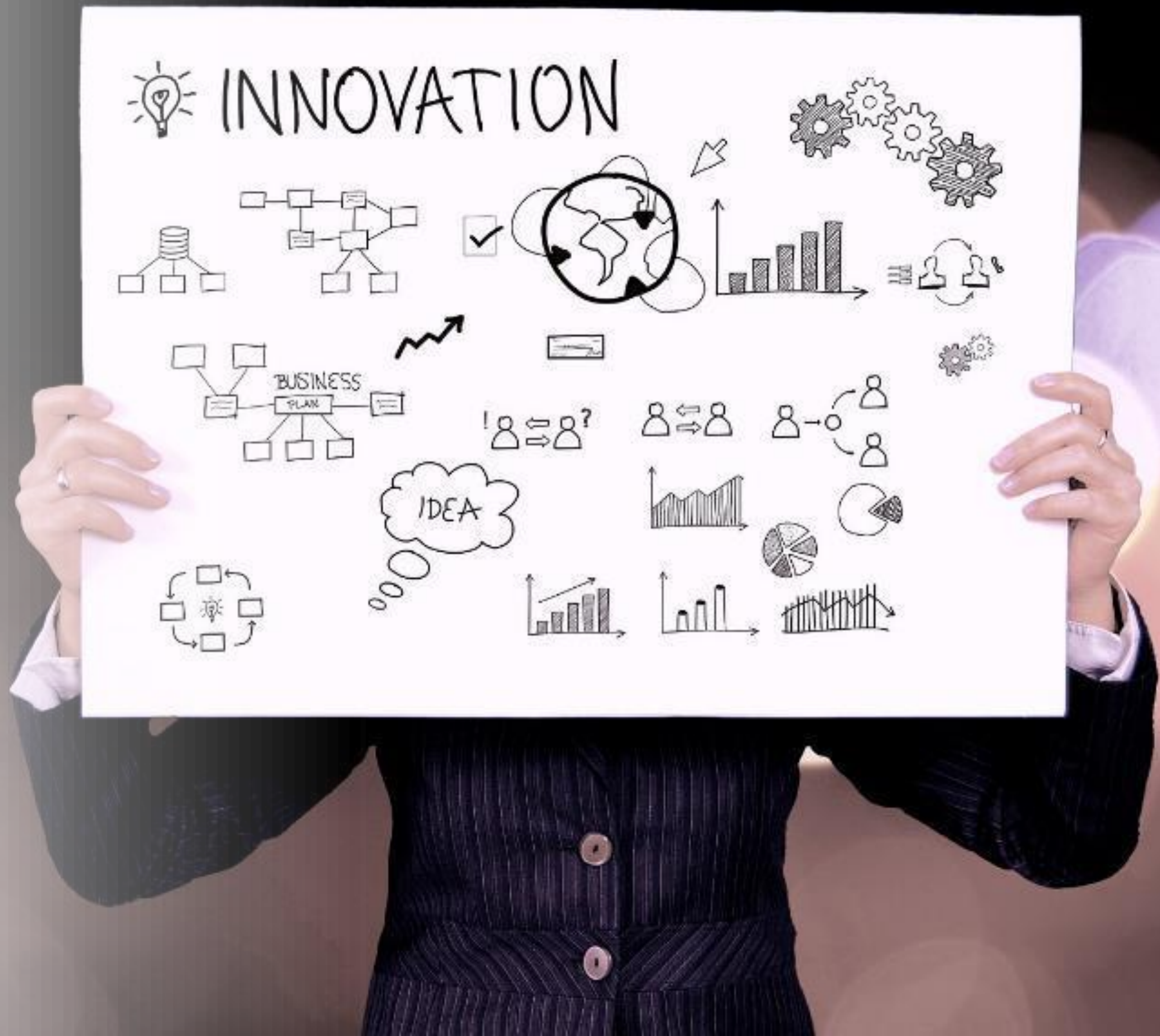
Redesign: Curriculum: Green learning agenda

Skills for green jobs	Green life skills	Skills for a green transformation
Skills aimed at fulfilling the requirements of green jobs and supporting the transition to a low-carbon green economy	Cross-cutting skills that serve both technical, instrumental, and adaptive, transformative ends	Adaptive skills aimed at transforming unjust social and economic structures

Source: https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Brookings-Green-Learning-FINAL.pdf

Innovations are not about technology alone but relate to:

- Products
- Processes
- Models
- Methods
- Workplace organisation



https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=6865

In addition, we need to ask:

- Innovations for whom?
- Innovations for what?
- How will scale be achieved?
- How ethical are the innovations?
- What will be the impact?

Towards an Innovation Mindset

- Regard every challenge as an opportunity
- Take risks and learn from failure
- Adopt collaboration as a strategy

Source: http://www.claytonchristensen.com/key-concepts/

Thank you

Commonwealth of Learning

www.col.org