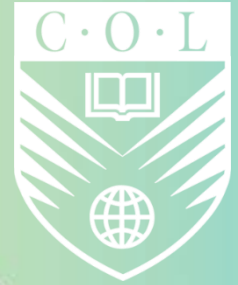




43RD ANNUAL MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
MAY 22-23, 2013



# Panel Discussion - Financing Tertiary Education

St. Lucia, May 22, 2013

## CONSTRUCTING THE FRAMEWORK FOR FINANCING TERTIARY EDUCATION

*Vis Naidoo*

*Vice President, Commonwealth of Learning*

# TERTIARY EDUCATION

Any institution  
attended by a learner  
after completing  
secondary school

# ROLE OF TERTIARY EDUCATION IN SOCIAL & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Achieving value for money

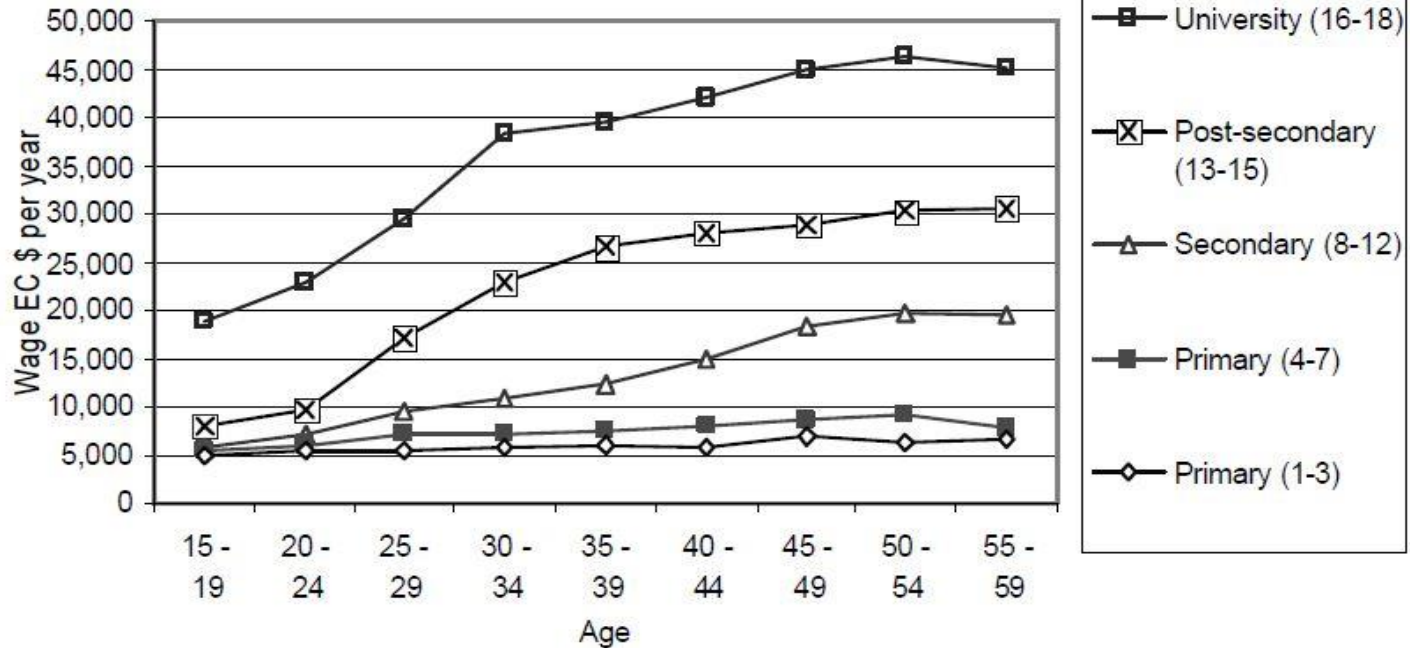
Requirements of a modern economy

**BASIC Education**  
**VS**  
**SECONDARY Education**  
**VS**  
**TERTIARY Education**

**Achieving  
the right  
mix**

# Personal gains are high

St. Vincent: Salary by education level



Source: SVG Census 2001

OECD countries that give individuals one additional year of education can boost productivity and raise economic output by 3-6%.

## OTHER ROLES

Educate and train primary and secondary teachers

High level skills and knowledge needed for government, society and business

New thinking, research and innovation

# FUNDING TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS

In the form of grants (mostly from governments)

Used for teaching and research



# TWO QUESTIONS

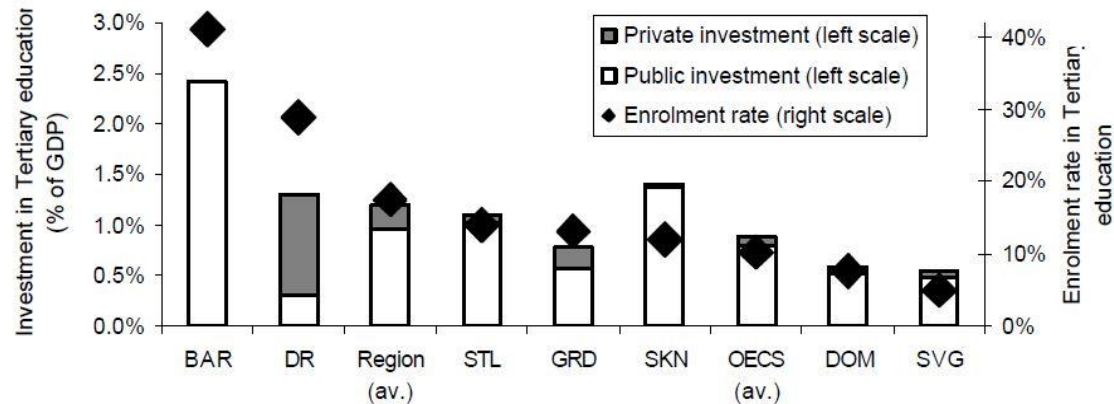
Who pays?

Who decides how the funds are spent?

# FIRST QUESTION - Who Pays?

Enrolment depends on \$\$

✍ But also on efficiency (and secondary ed.)



Source: Author's own calculation based on UNESCO and country sources.

# SECOND QUESTION - Who decides how the funds are spent?

## Tertiary institution administration

### Key Factors:

- Manage costs
- Reduce cost per student and operational cost
- Increase number of successful students leaving the system
- Tension between cost and improving efficiency
- Creating sustainable tertiary education without compromising the quality of education

# IRON TRIANGLE

**SCALE**

**QUALITY**

**COST**

Sir John Daniel Mega-Schools Technology and Teachers



## **SIX choices confront governments**

- Underfund tertiary education and accept lower quality
- New sources of funding
- Lower the costs of education delivery
- Cap enrolment rates
- Differentiated higher education system
- Any combination of the above strategies

# Tertiary Education and the Future

- Digitised classroom
- Technology dispersed through every facet of the education process
- Students to collaborate more
- Teacher-student model will be unravelled
- More access to information and data

# Technology and Other Developments

- Availability of the Internet
- Worldwide Web
- Lower costs
- Continuous education and training in the information and knowledge age

# Learning objects

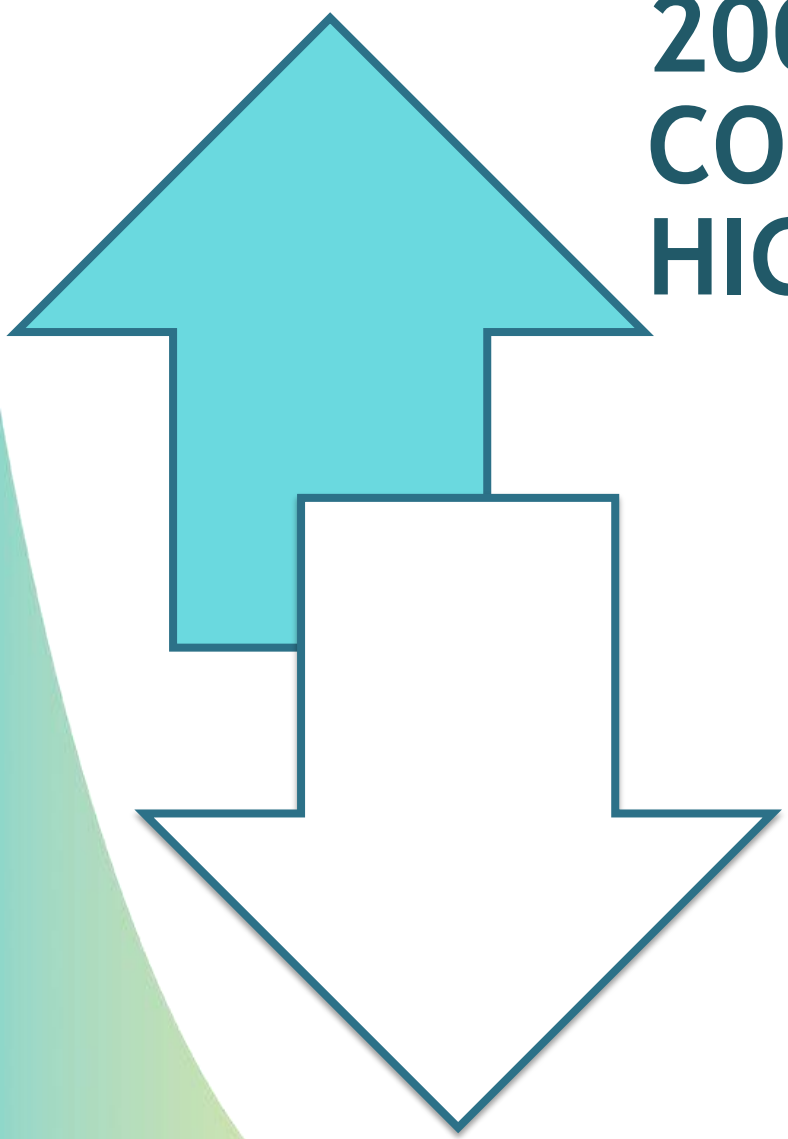
‘products which can be bought and sold by different institutions to assemble into their different educational programmes’ (Moore et al, 2012: p. 281).



# OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (OER)

‘teaching, learning and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use or repurposing by others’ (as cited in McGreal, et al)

# 2009 WORLD CONFERENCE ON HIGHER EDUCATION



**“...ODL approaches and ICTs present opportunities to widen access to quality education, particularly when OER are readily shared among many countries and higher education institutions.”**

# PARIS DECLARATION ON OER

- Foster awareness and use of OER
- Encourage the development and adaptation of OER in a variety of languages and cultural contexts
- Encourage the open licensing of educational materials produced with public funds

# MASSIVE OPEN ONLINE COURSES (MOOC)



Variety of  
Course  
offered

Number of  
students  
from  
anywhere in  
the world  
can register,  
usually for  
free

First real  
attempt at  
massification  
of higher  
education

# MOOC QUESTIONS

- Will learners prefer to study through a local tertiary institution or via a MOOC
- Will they seek credits from a prestigious institution and write exams on a MOOC platform?

# KEY ISSUES TO ADDRESS

- Strengthen efficiencies within institutions
- Identify ways to reduce costs of tertiary education
- Build a sustainable funding model
- Improve administration and governance of tertiary education
- Policy models - regional, national and institutional
- Regional cooperation
- Cross-border collaboration
- Increased use of ICT, ODL
- Support quality research and teaching
- Student support



**IT IS NOT  
JUST THE  
FUNDING**

**THANK YOU**