GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE
25–26 June 2020
GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Dr Joanna Newman, Chief Executive and Secretary General

For the lives we can lead
The ACU: a unique network of 500+ universities across the Commonwealth

- 50+ countries
- 10 million+ students
- 500,000+ academic staff
- 500,000+ professional staff
- 66% of members in low and middle income countries
- Two-thirds of the Commonwealth under 30
Our mission

To build a better world through higher education
HIGHER EDUCATION’S ESSENTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGs

Strong higher education systems are both an end in their own right and essential to sustain strong basic education and lifelong learning.
Inequalities exposed
DIGITAL EXPERIENCE

+90% at institutions that fully or partially closed in response to COVID-19

+60% identified internet speed and data costs as key problems
DIGITAL EXPERIENCE

+50% said that an online-only degree **is not** equivalent to a face-to-face degree

>90% said that a blended degree **is** equivalent to a face-to-face degree
International collaboration through equitable partnerships – the PEBL model
GLOBAL ISSUES, GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

- Research collaborations
- Global benchmarking & information sharing
- Solidarity and collective action
Thank you!