OER for Quality Education: how can we benefit?

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Third Pan-Commonwealth Women and Leadership in ODL Training
August 2, 2022 | Penang, Malaysia
Outline

• Brief history of OER
• Five key challenges
• Using OER
Brief history of OER
What are OER?

OER are teaching, learning and research materials in any medium – digital or otherwise – that reside in the public domain or have been released under an open license that permits no-cost access, use, adaptation and redistribution by others with no or limited restrictions.

Where it all began...
UNESCO HQ Paris

2002 Forum on the Impact of Open CourseWare for Higher Education in Developing Countries
Paris Declaration 2012

• 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.
OER for Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education
From Commitment to Action

2nd World OER Congress | 18-20 September, 2017 | Ljubljana, Slovenia
Global Trends Policies

• Increasing support, not accompanied by national policies
• Institutional policies have grown
• Regions with extensive OER activities, not always reliant on national policy
Global Trends
Repositories

- OER repositories from the global north used more
- Majority of the repositories are at tertiary level
- Repositories are increasingly available in diverse fields and levels
Global Trends

Awareness

• Many governments and stakeholders not clear about OER
• Increased focus on open textbooks has led to neglect of OER for lifelong learning
• Governments are supporting MOOCs, which are not necessarily “open”
Five key challenges
Key Challenges

Developing supportive **policy** environments

Ensuring **inclusive and equitable access** to quality OER

Building the **capacity** of users to find, re-use, create and share OER

**Language & cultural issues**

Developing **sustainability models**

Source: Ljubljana OER Action Plan 2017
1. Policy

OER in the Commonwealth

Source: http://oasis.col.org/handle/11599/4009
2. Inclusive and Equitable Access

- ebooks (including exceptions in copyright for people with disability)
- Open Access
- FOSS
How Accessible are OER?

Textbook: Writing Spaces

Accessibility review by: Virtual Ability, Inc.

Source: http://www.collegeopentextbooks.org/textbook-listings/accessibility-reviews
3. Capacity Building

**Teachers:** difficult to locate, adapt, and re-purpose OER material relevant to their work.

**Learners:** OER should be more open and multi-modal.

**Technical support:** lack of standard practices in the packaging and re-use of OER.

**Management:** concerns regarding intellectual property; copyright issues and competition

Source: OER Survey, Asia, 2011 (WOU, IDRC)
Short OER Course

Accessed by 30,000 people

Access the course at: https://colcommons.org/welcome/coursedetails/1
4. Language & Culture: Translation
OER Platform in Tamil
Localisation: Principles

- A community of practice bolsters localisation
- Must be done in appropriate formats
- Understand local contexts

Localization of Open Educational Resources (OER) in Nepal: Strategies of Himalayan Knowledge-Workers

Tiffany Zenith Ivins
March 2011

5. Sustainability Models

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<td>Institutional/governmental</td>
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Institutional/Governmental models

In USA, the Z-degree programmes save about USD2,500 per student.

BC Campus in Canada has saved over 9 million CAD in 40 participating institutions.
Using OER
Where can we find OER?

Search Engines: Google, Bing, Creative Commons Search
Repositories: MIT OCW, OpenLearn
Directories: DOER, OER Commons
Photos: www.flickr.com
Videos: www.youtube.com
How do we acknowledge?

• Title
• Author
• Source
• Link
How do we share our OER?

Your institutional repository

Share courses at https://zenodo.org/

Use social networks www.youtube.com
What is Open?

• It's about open license used to share educational material
• No permission required as long as the open license is respected

1. **Reuse**
   (copy verbatim)

2. **Revise**
   (adapt and edit)

3. **Remix**
   (combine with other materials)

4. **Redistribute**
   (share with others)

5. **Retain**
   (make, own and control copies)
Copyright

- Prohibits unauthorized use, distribution, performance, adaptation, sell, etc.
- Requires permission of the Copyright holder for creating any derivative works
- Fair use or fair dealing is though permitted
  - Examples of fair use include commentary, search engines, criticism, news reporting, research, teaching, library archiving and scholarship.
Copyright

Exclusive rights given by law to the original creator/author

- To get credit
- To copy
- To distribute
- To license
- To sell/make economic transaction
- To perform
Open Licenses

• They allow anyone worldwide to use a copyrighted work without necessarily having to pay a fee or royalty or ask permission as long as they adhere to the conditions specified in the licence.

• Only if a person desires to use a work in a way other than that specified in the licence that permission needs to be sought from the copyright holder.

• Presently, the most common and popular open licence are Creative Commons licences.
Creative Commons (CC)
## Types of CC Licenses and Conditions

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Attribution (CC BY)

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- This is the most accommodating of licences offered.
- It is recommended for maximum dissemination and use of licensed materials.
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• This licence lets others remix, tweak, and build upon your work even for commercial purposes, as long as they credit you and license their new creations under the identical terms.

• Often compared to “copyleft” free and open source software licences.

• All new works based on yours will carry the same licence, so any derivatives will also allow commercial use. This is the licence used by Wikipedia.
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Why Use Creative Commons licenses?

- **Legal Code**: expansive legal languages tested in several cases
- **Commons Code**: Simple icon-based approach to explain what you can do want you can’t
- **Digital Code**: Enables search engines to search and locate through CC Rights Expression Language
Creative Commons Public Domain Tools

CC’s public domain tools enable authors and copyright owners who want to dedicate their works to the worldwide public domain to do so.

• The CC-0 tool (“No Rights Reserved”) allows licensors to waive all rights and place a work in the public domain.

• The Public Domain mark identifies a work that is free of known copyright restrictions. It is not recommended for works that are restricted by copyright laws in one or more jurisdictions.
CC Licence Chooser
https://creativecommons.org/choose/

1. Allow adaptations of your work to be shared?
   - Yes
   - No
   - As long as others share alike

2. Allow commercial uses of your work?
   - Yes
   - No

3. Select Licence

4. Copy the Code to use
Further Resources

A Basic Guide to OER
http://oasis.col.org/handle/11599/36

Understanding OER
http://oasis.col.org/handle/11599/1013

Online Course on OER
http://tell.colvee.org/
Towards Effective Learning

Learners become producers rather than consumers
Multi-media resources for a rich learning experience
Collaboration, sharing and interaction
Personalized and contextual learning
Thank you