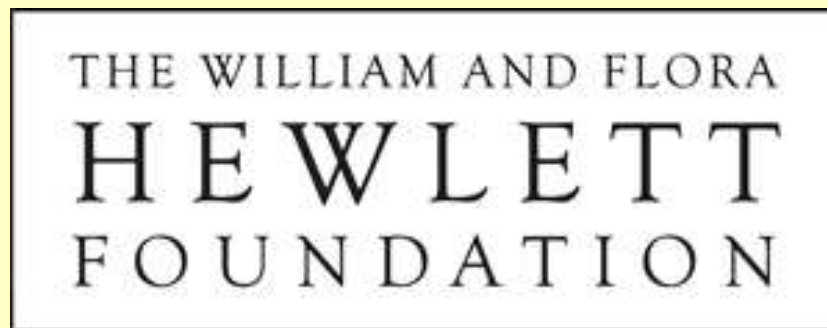


# Fostering Governmental Support for Open Educational Resources Internationally



# **Fostering Governmental Support for OER Internationally**

## **Regional Policy Forum for Africa**

UNISA, Pretoria, South Africa  
21-22 February 2012

### ***Setting the Scene – Outlining Expectations***

Sir John Daniel, Stamenka Uvalić-Trumbić & Trudi van Wyk  
Commonwealth of Learning



Dr Blade Nzimande - Minister  
Higher Education and Training

South African Parliament  
Cape Town





**Professor Mandla Makhanya  
Principal & Vice-Chancellor  
UNISA**

# WCHE session on OERs

*Imperative to ensure that all – developed and developing countries - are enabled to contribute to OERs...*





Professor  
Mandla Makhanya

Principal & VC



UNISA



university  
of south africa

## Why Unisa joined OERTen

UNISA



*Our vision to be "the*

*African university in service of humanity", our locatedness on the African continent and our significant global footprint place us in the unique position to represent African perspectives within the OERten network while displaying local relevance and global consciousness.*



# OER@AVU

OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES  
RESSOURCES ÉDUCATIVES LIBRES  
RECURSOS PARA EDUCAÇÃO ABERTA

---





UNISA Convocation 5 May 2010



*Health OER  
Inter-Institutional  
Project*



HEALTH OER PROJECT

## Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology

The University of Science and Technology succeeded the Kumasi College of Technology which was established by a Government Ordinance on 6th October, 1961. Following the report of a University Commission which came out early 1961, Government decided to establish two independent Universities in Kumasi at Legon near Accra. The Kumasi College of Technology was thus transformed into a full-fledged University Kwame Nkrumah University of Science Technology by an Act of Parliament on 22nd August, 1961. By another act of Parliament, Act 559 of 1998, the University has been renamed Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi.

# OER Malawi

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**LIPHEA**

The Leadership Initiative  
for Public Health in East Africa



**USAID**

## HEALTH ALLIANCE

- [HEALTH Alliance Home](#)
- [LIPHEA Project Home](#)

## LIPHEA ARCHIVE

- [Home](#)
- [Community Area](#)

## LIPHEA



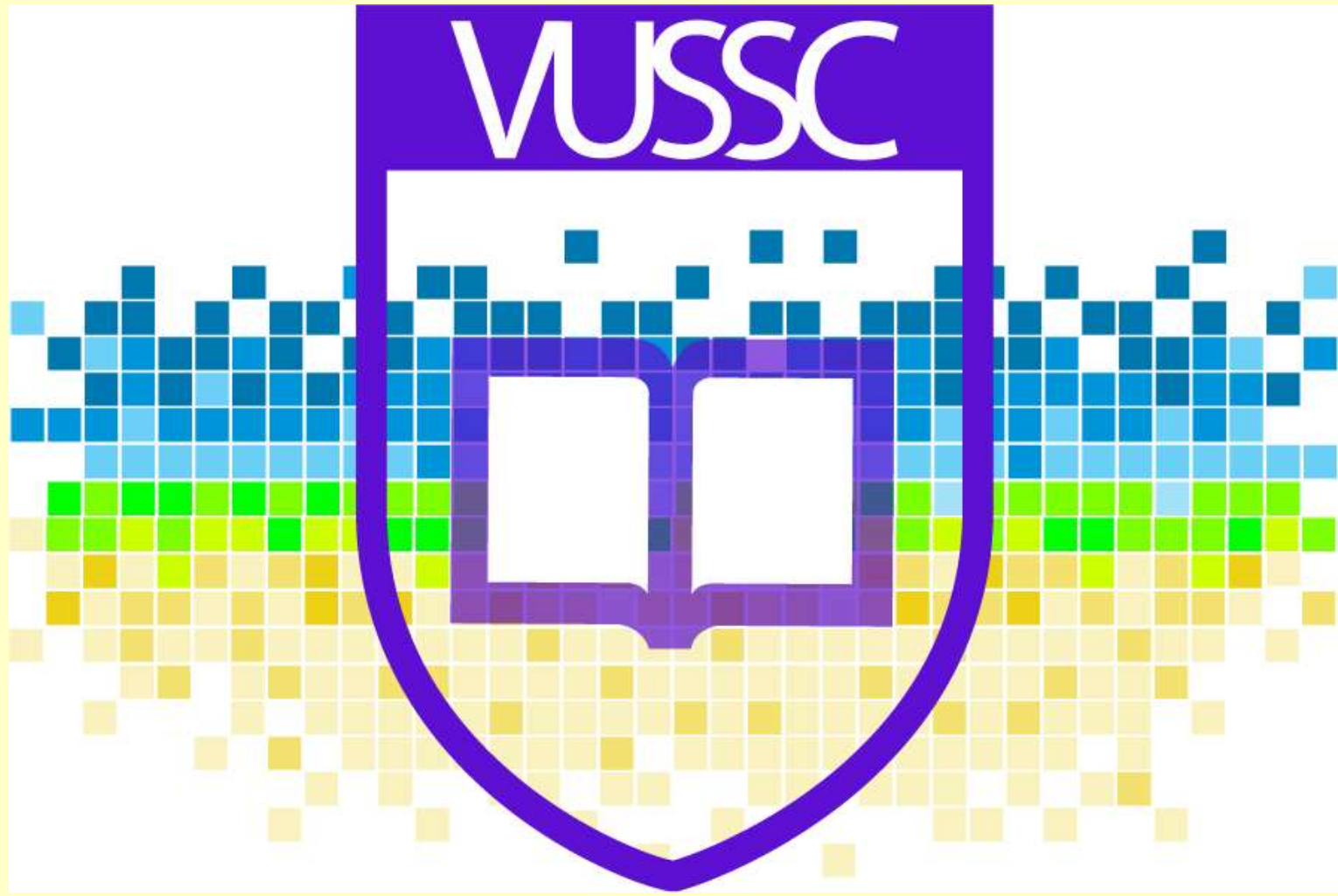




Bamako, Mali  
4 octobre 2010

Atelier sur le renforcement des capacités sur  
l'utilisation des ressources éducatives libres  
(REL) pour l'amélioration de la qualité de  
l'enseignement supérieur

# The Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth





# Collaborative Development of OER

## COL & Hewlett Foundation



20 sets of self-instructional materials  
in the secondary curriculum

(each is a complete syllabus for one grade 10 or 12 subject)

**2007**

**The Cape Town  
Open Education Declaration**

***2009***

***La Déclaration de Dakar sur  
les ressources éducatives  
libres***

# ICT in Education Leadership Forum in the Caribbean

*ICT in Education in the Caribbean:  
Achievements and Challenges*

UNESCO  
Competency Framework for Teachers

COL  
Commonwealth Certificate for  
Teacher ICT Integration

*“Going beyond IT literacy”*

*“deepening teachers’ ICT skills”*

“Open Educational  
Resources have great  
transformative  
potential and respond  
to a particular need in  
Africa”



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**Amy Santee**  
 Educator  
 United States  
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**FEATURED COURSE**



**Salt Water on Saturn's Moons**

Scientists have found gas jets on Saturn's Enceladus that could signify an underground water supply: a possible hint of life on the moon.

Extrasolar Planets: Physics and Detection Techniques covers the basic principles of planet atmospheres and interiors, and an introduction to the feasibility of the search for planets with habitable conditions.  
[Previous features](#)

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**MIT  
2001  
OCW**

In 2001 MIT put some 100 of its courses online for free and defined them as “. . . publicly available materials that are either a part of or a complete course usually from a higher-education institution such as a university or college.”



**UNESCO HQ Paris**

**2002 Forum on Impact of OCW**

# OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (OER)

educational  
materials that may  
be freely accessed,  
reused, modified and  
shared.





United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

## 2002 FORUM on the Impact of OCW for Higher Education in Developing Countries

# Declaration:

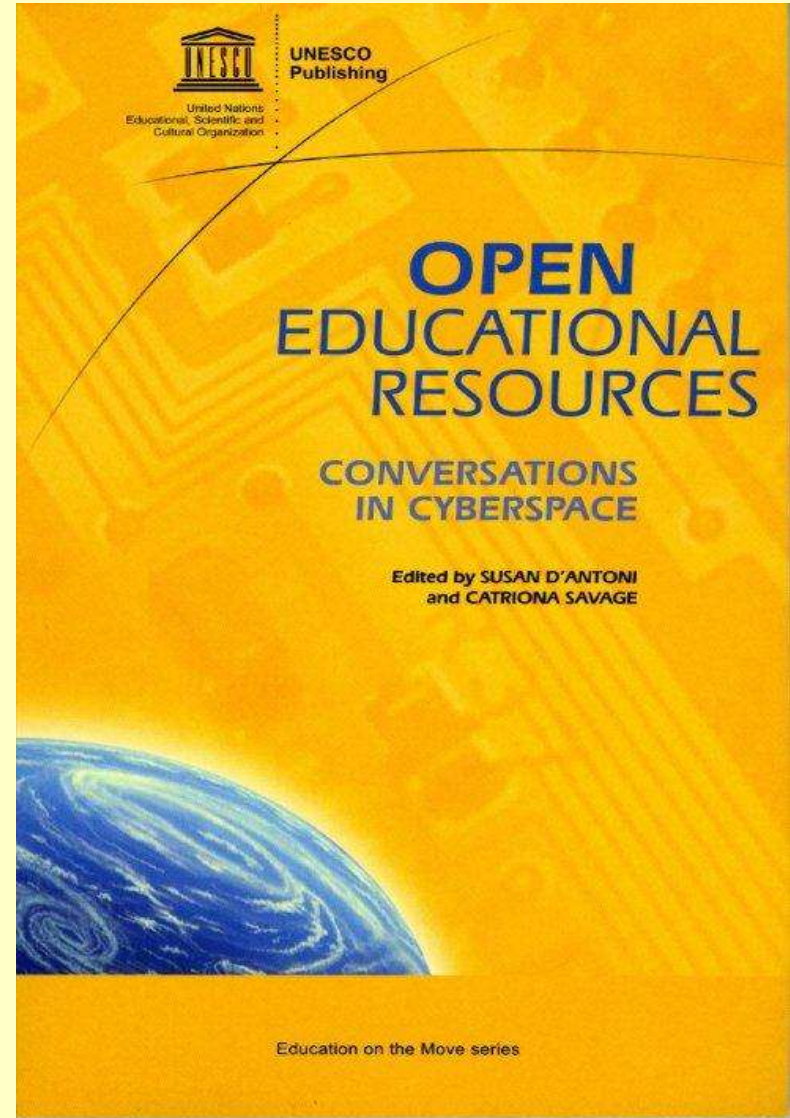
Participants expressed:

“their satisfaction and their wish to develop together a universal educational resource for the whole of humanity, to be referred to henceforth as **Open Educational Resources**”

UNESCO-IIEP

Internet Discussion  
Forum:

The OER community







United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organisation

COMMUNICATION  
AND INFORMATION

Empowering people through access to information and knowledge



# WSIS Platform OER Community

- Largest online social network bringing together the wider OER community worldwide
- Launch 2010: To date 1600 Members and growing
- Based on the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Platform
- Built on a Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) ELGG system

# BUT...

Awareness of OER is  
still very limited among  
educational decision-  
and policy-makers

# The World Conference on Higher Education Paris - July 2009: *New Dynamics of HE*



# UNESCO General Conference

Paris - 2009







United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

# Taking OERS beyond the OER Community: Policy & Capacity for Developing Countries



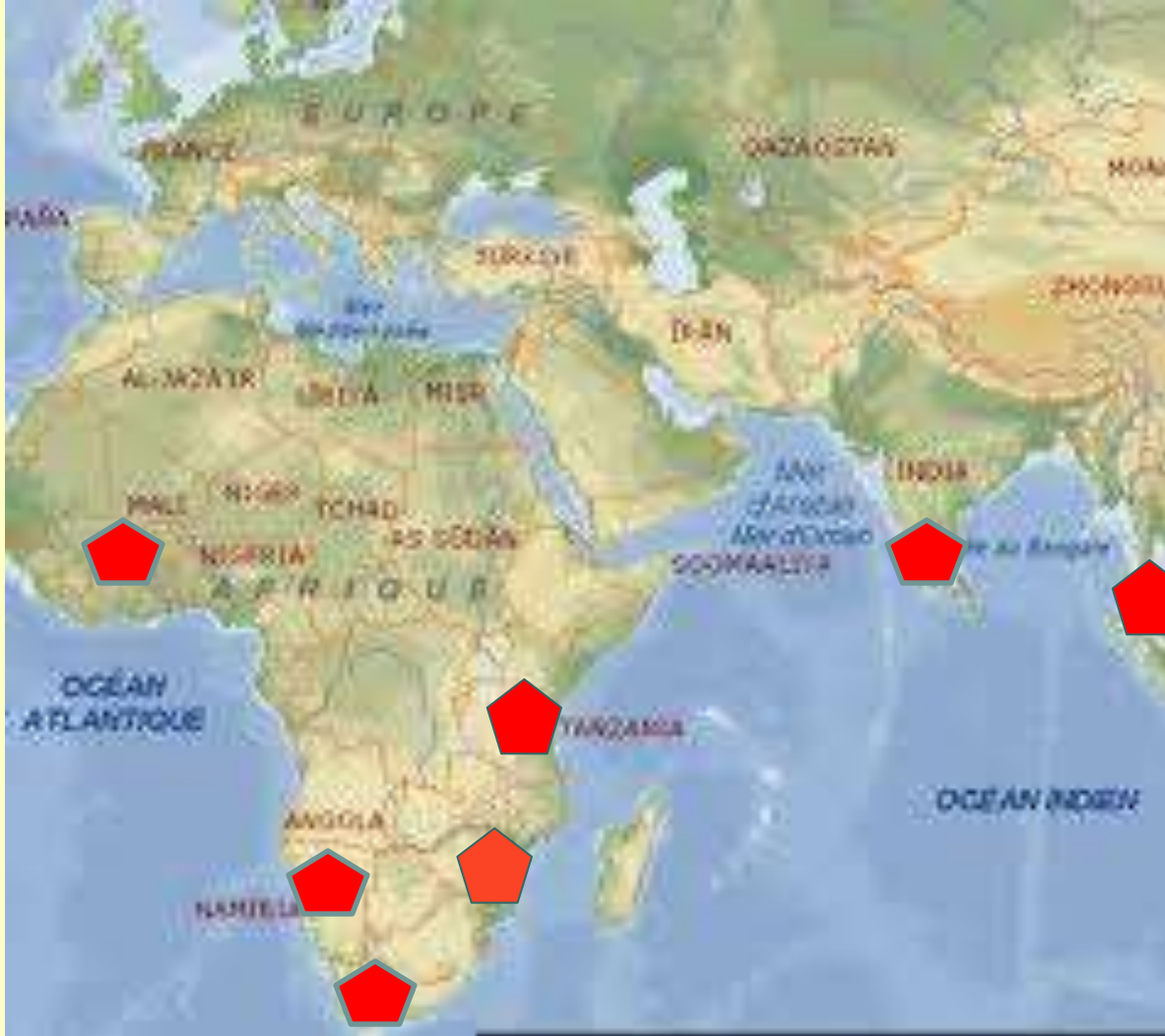
**Zeynep  
Varoglu**



**Trudi  
van Wyk**



# Workshops



South Africa

Namibia

Malaysia

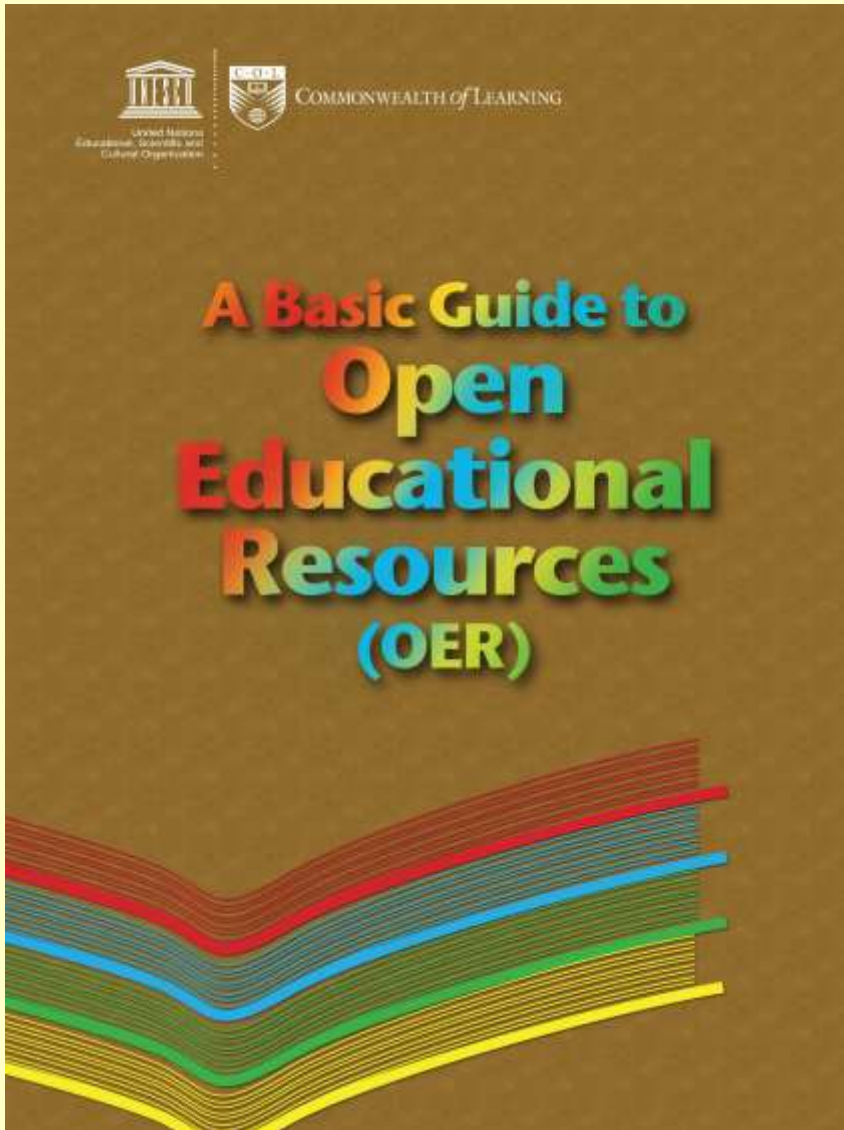
Mali

India

Tanzania

Mozambique

Plus three online forums



Neil Butcher



Stamenka  
Uvalić-  
Trumbić



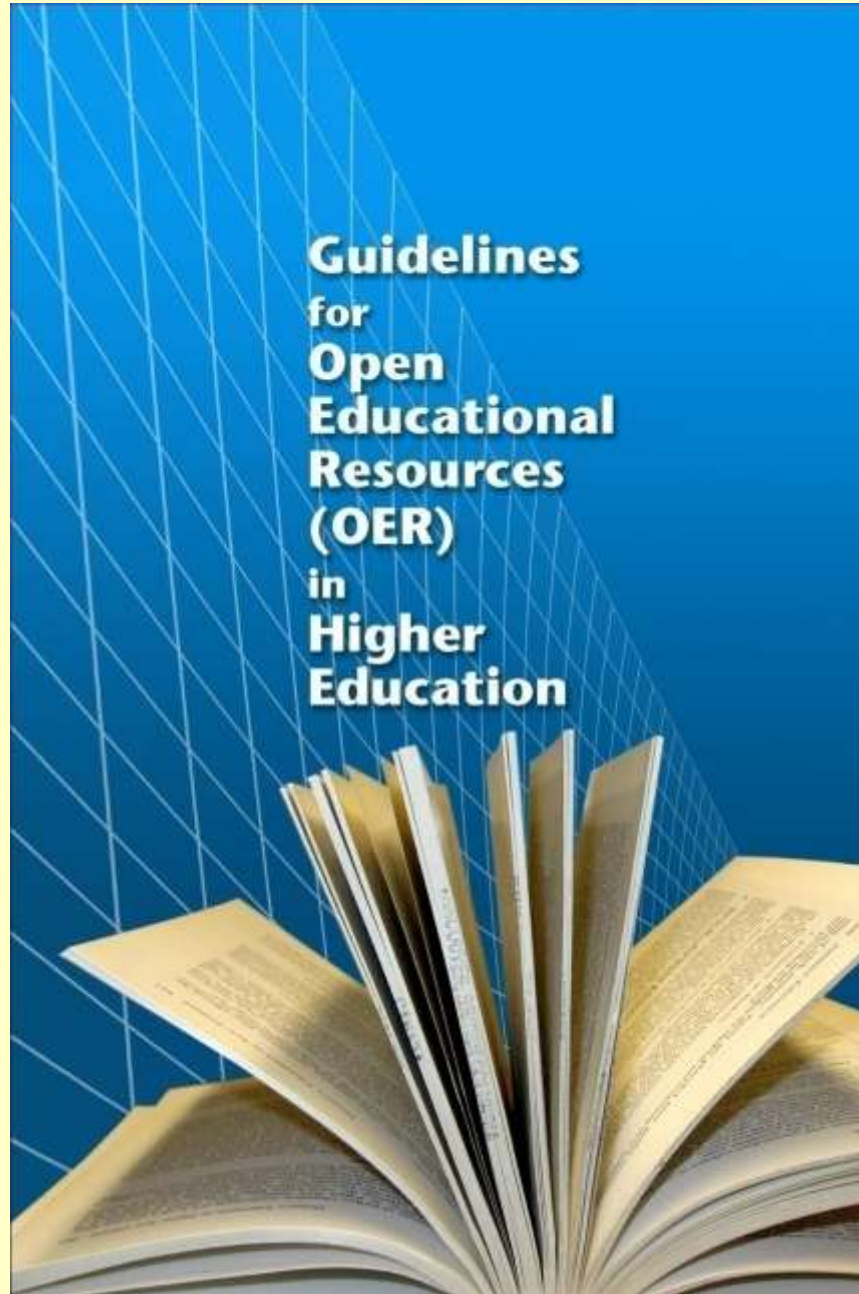
Asha  
Kanwar



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Zeynep  
Varoglu



**Guidelines  
for  
Open  
Educational  
Resources  
(OER)  
in  
Higher  
Education**



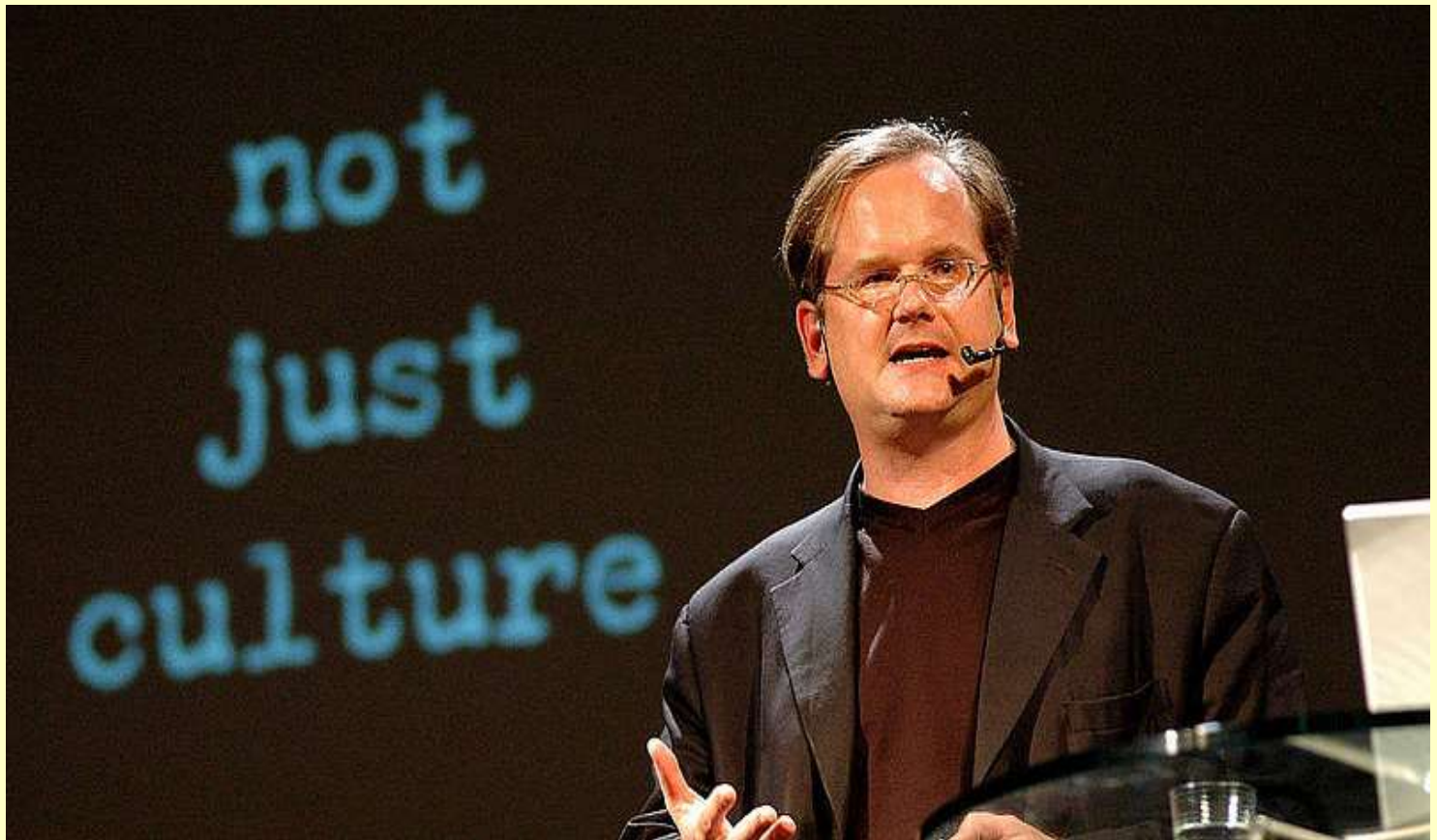
Trudi  
van Wyk



# Fostering Governmental Support for Open Educational Resources Internationally

THE WILLIAM AND FLORA  
HEWLETT  
FOUNDATION

# Larry Lessig



“We have a long way to go before the politicians will listen to these ideas and implement these reforms. But that also means we have time to build awareness around the changes that we need.”

Free Culture *Larry Lessig (2004)*

# Survey of Governments

“an inventory of current practices and policies with respect to open access to educational material”



# 17 African Nations reported on their Status of OER

Results of OER Survey Questionnaires (February 2012)



Botswana

Cameroon

Ghana

Kenya

Lesotho

Madagascar

Malawi

Mauritius

Mozambique

Namibia

Niger

Rwanda

Seychelles

South Africa

Swaziland

Tanzania

Zambia

# Survey highlights – Africa

Policy in place:

South Africa



OER activity in regional groups:

Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Seychelles



# Survey highlights – Africa

Government documents mention OER:

Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda



No policy but would like to have one:

Cameroon, Namibia, Niger, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia



# Benefits and obstacles

- Benefits: flexible learning opportunities and cost-efficiency
- Obstacles: copyright, sustainability, connectivity (connectivity even for SA)

BUT

- Important for developing countries to be active in knowledge production

# Survey highlights – Africa

Connectivity, culture, language challenges:  
Mozambique, Niger





# Regional Policy Forums

- Caribbean – January
- Africa – February
- Latin America – March
- Europe – April
- Asia & Pacific – April
- Arab States - May

World Congress on  
**Open Educational Resources**  
Paris – June 20-22 – 2012



**Drafting a Declaration for  
the Congress**

# Paris Declaration – an evolutionary process

2004

Lessig – “engage politicians”

2007

Cape Town Declaration

“make open education a high priority”

2009

La Déclaration de Dakar

“l’ émergence de réglementations sur les REL”

2009

UNESCO General Conference

“greater political engagement”

**2012**

**PARIS DECLARATION**

# THE AIM

“to get greater buy-in from governments to the promotion of OER and of open licences generally.”

A large, black, serif letter 'W' logo, which is the primary symbol for Wikipedia.The words 'WIKIPEDIA' and 'WIKIBEDIA' stacked vertically in a black, serif font. The 'W' in 'WIKIBEDIA' is stylized with a double 'W' shape.

## Imagine a World Without Free Knowledge

For over a decade, we have spent millions of hours building the largest encyclopedia in human history. Right now, the U.S. Congress is considering legislation that could fatally damage the free and open Internet. For 24 hours, to raise awareness, we are blocking out Wikipedia. [Learn more.](#)

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## President Obama Addresses the United Nations

[whitehouse](#) 1,362 videos



25:11 / 32:16

360p





“A technology has given us a new freedom”

# IMPACT

We believe that this joint UNESCO – COL project will support you in getting the concept of open availability of materials into the mainstream of education.

The background features a green gradient with faint, stylized icons: an open book at the top left, a hand with fingers spread in the center, and a globe at the bottom left.

# THANK YOU

For text and slides:  
[www.col.org/speeches](http://www.col.org/speeches)