



COMMONWEALTH
of LEARNING



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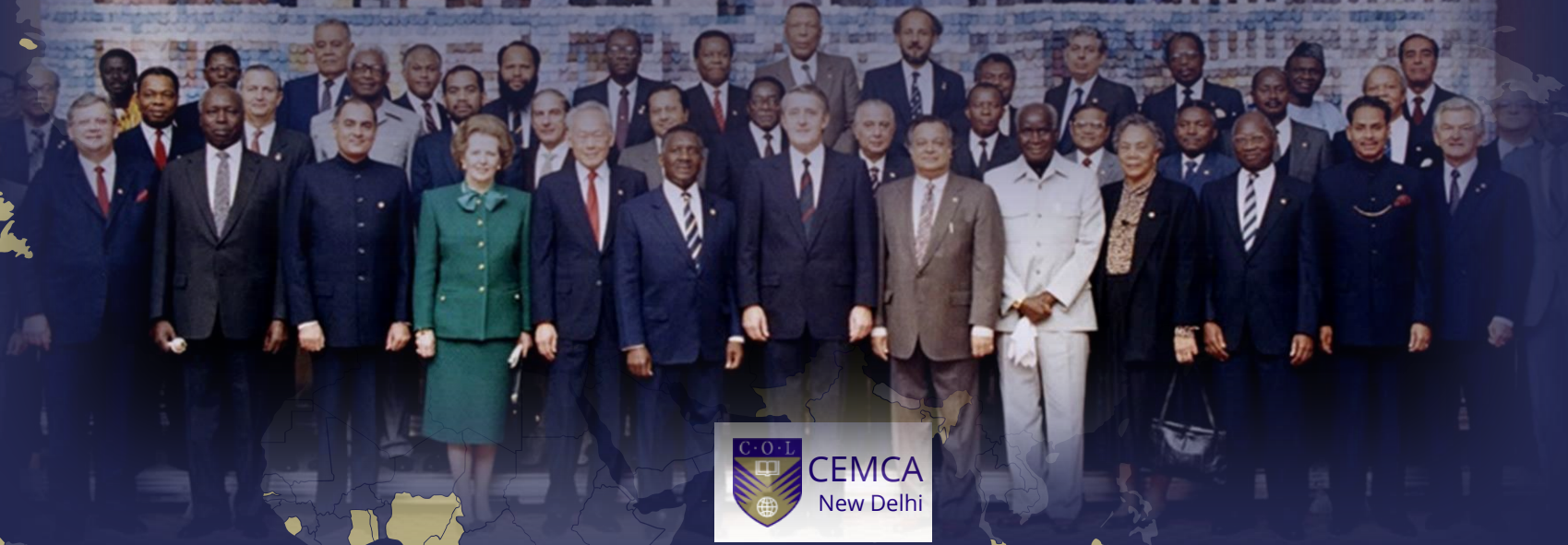
KEYNOTE ADDRESS

OER in the Age of AI: a Step Towards Systemic Resilience

Open Educational Resources and Education System
Resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa, University of Malawi

13 May 2026

COL is an Inter-Governmental Organisation of the 56 countries of the Commonwealth



HQ
Vancouver



CEMCA
New Delhi

*to increase access to
educational opportunities by
using ODL and appropriate
technologies*

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

1

OER origins

2

OER in Malawi

3

**Recent
developments**

4

**Gen & Agentic
AI**

5

**Future
scenarios**

OER Origins

OER



<https://colcommons.org/welcome/coursedetails/1>

- ODL requires study materials for learners and guides for teachers ...
- Open Educational Resources (OER) (Wiley, n.d.; UNESCO, 2002)

A screenshot of the OASIS website homepage. The top navigation bar is white and contains the COL logo on the left, the text 'Home' in the center, and 'Discover OASIS' and 'Statistics' on the right. Below the navigation bar, the main heading reads 'OASIS COL's Open Access Institutional Repository'. A paragraph of text below the heading states: 'Welcome to OASIS, the Commonwealth of Learning's repository for publications and learning resources. Publications found here are licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International and can be freely downloaded for reuse and adaptation with attribution to COL, except where indicated.' At the bottom of the main content area, there is a white search bar with a magnifying glass icon on the right side.

<https://oasis.col.org/home>

Open
Education
Resource



Our Mission

Improve African universities' abilities to use OER effectively

Read More

Developing professional competences and skills

Continuous Professional Development Frameworks

Open Education Tutorials

OER Courseware

WHAT'S NEW

Articles and Updates



New: Glossary of Terms in Open Education



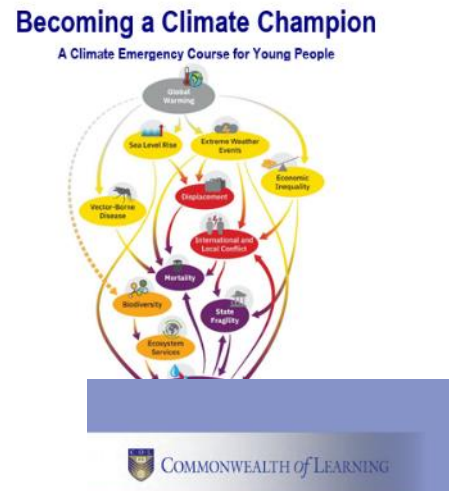
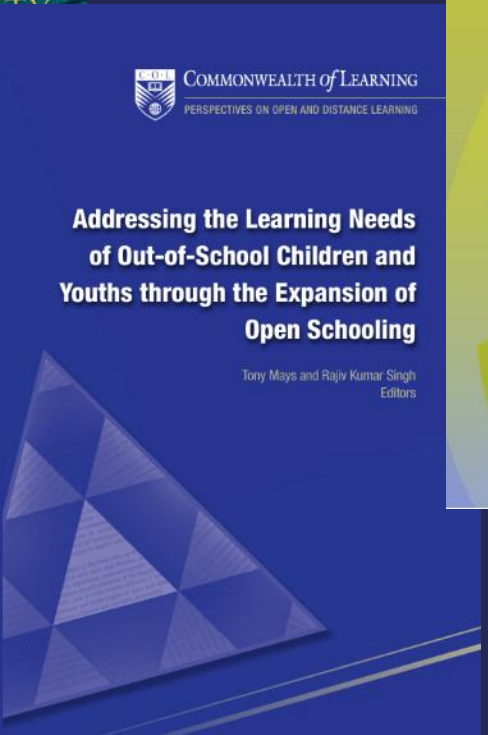
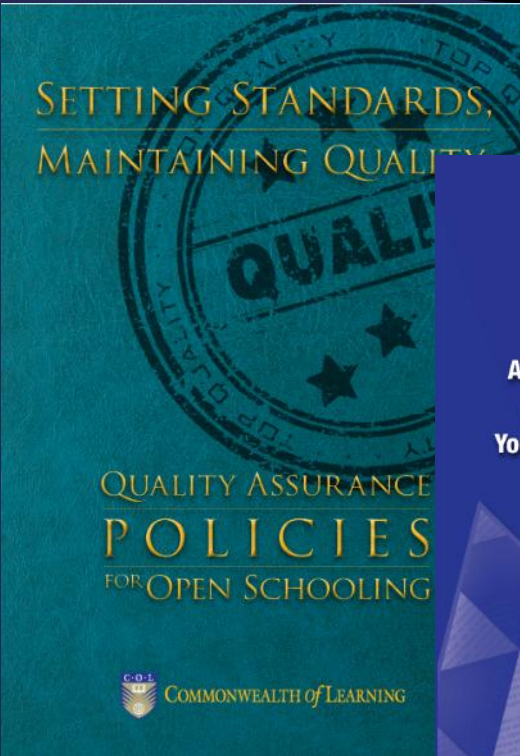
The Next Decade of Open Education in Africa



Rethinking assessment in the age of AI

<https://www.oerafrica.org/>

OER in Malawi



RECENT DEVELOPMENTS PACIFIC

Recent Open Courses

Free capacity development for Pacific teachers



COURSE CATEGORY

Quality assurance for ODFL – Part 1

[Course overview](#) [Learning outcome](#) [On successful](#)



COURSE CATEGORY

Learner support for Open, Distance and Flexible Learning



COURSE CATEGORY

Empowered digital teacher for online learning

<https://pacificpartnership.col.org/resources/>

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS **AFRICA**

<https://colcommons.org/>

Strategies for developing OER in Africa

Classroom teachers

- Curriculum mapping
- ODL design
- OER
- Inclusion (including gender)
- Assessment
- Learner Support
- **Beyond Numbers Project (Job et al., 2026)**
- **NOTES**

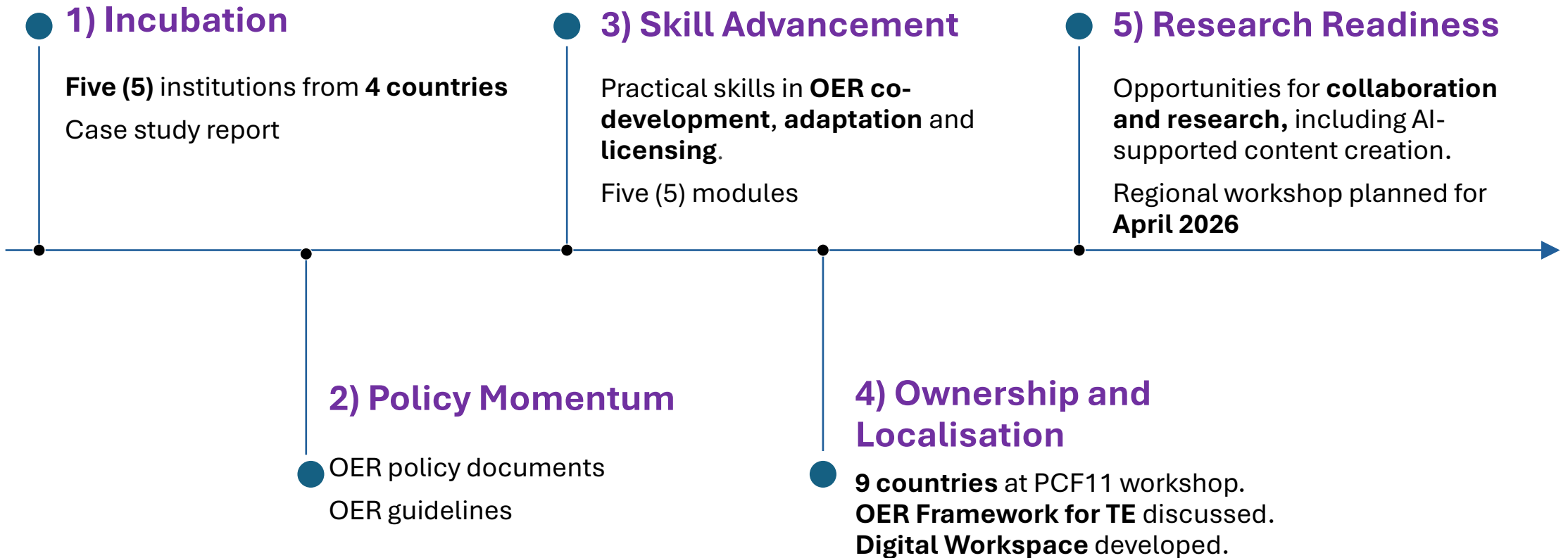
Network for Open Teacher Education in Sub-Saharan Africa (NOTES)



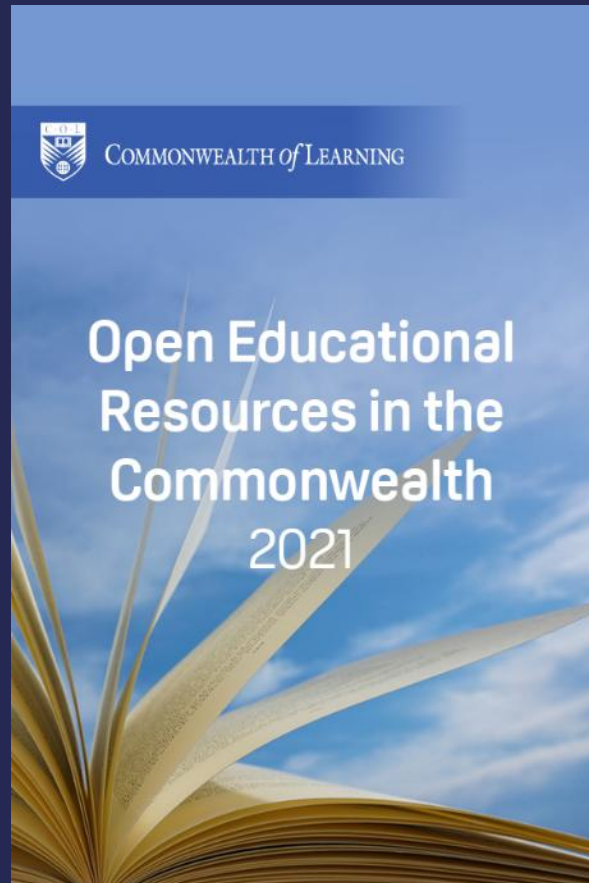
The incubation phase has already shown that OER and AI could work best when institutions co-create resources, adapt to local curriculum and build educator capacity together rather than alone. (Ogange, 2026)

NOTES: Outputs and Progress (Ogange, 2026)

*Building on earlier community-of-practice models, PCF11 positioned NOTES as a **continental Network of Practice** - designed to scale **collaboration and influence across countries**.*



Recent Developments in OER: Challenges and Opportunities 2021



OER in the Commonwealth

<https://doi.org/10.56059/11599/4009>

Recent developments in OER: Challenges and opportunities 2022



Readiness for OER (Prasad, 2022)

<https://doi.org/10.56059/11599/4934>

Recent developments in OER: Challenges and opportunities 2025a



Open Educational Resources (OER) for
Enhanced Learning: A Study of Teacher
Experiences in South African Schools
(Gina, 2025)

<https://doi.org/10.56059/pcf11.3353>

Recent developments in OER: Challenges and opportunities 2025b



Advancing Education Through Open Educational Resources: Challenges, Progress, and Strategies for a National OER Policy in Mauritius (Bhujun & Mohee, 2025)

<https://doi.org/10.56059/pcf11.2110>

Recent developments in OER/AI: Challenges and opportunities

<https://doi.org/10.56059/jl4d.v12i2.1934>

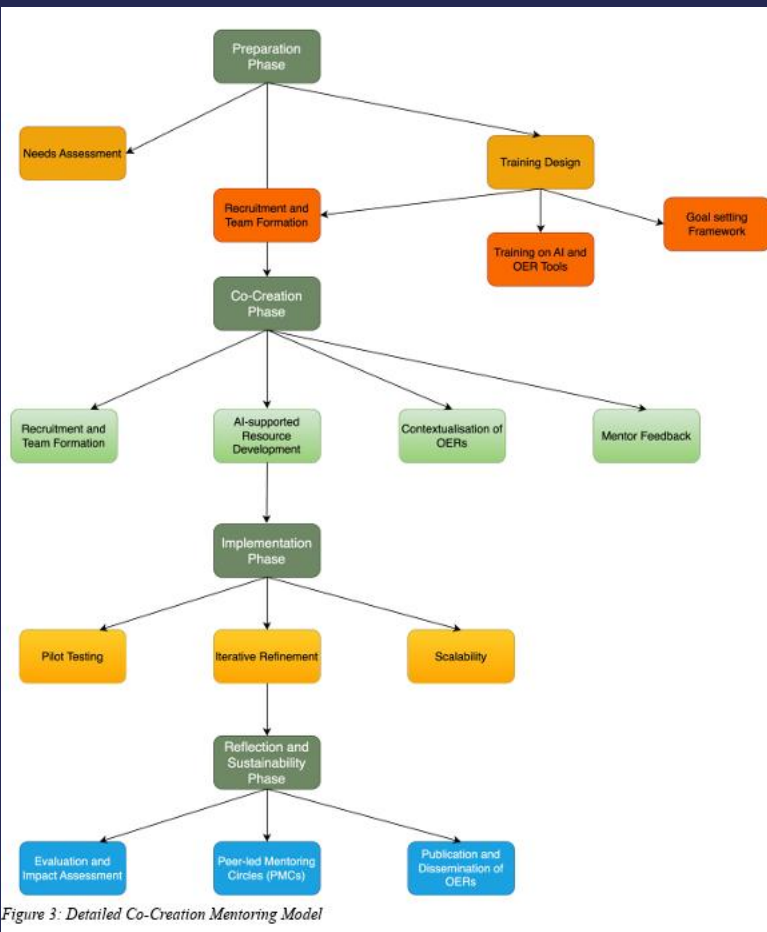


Figure 1: Teacher in the Loop OER Co-Creation Cycle

Teacher in the Loop AI (TiL-AI) (Balajee et al. 2025)

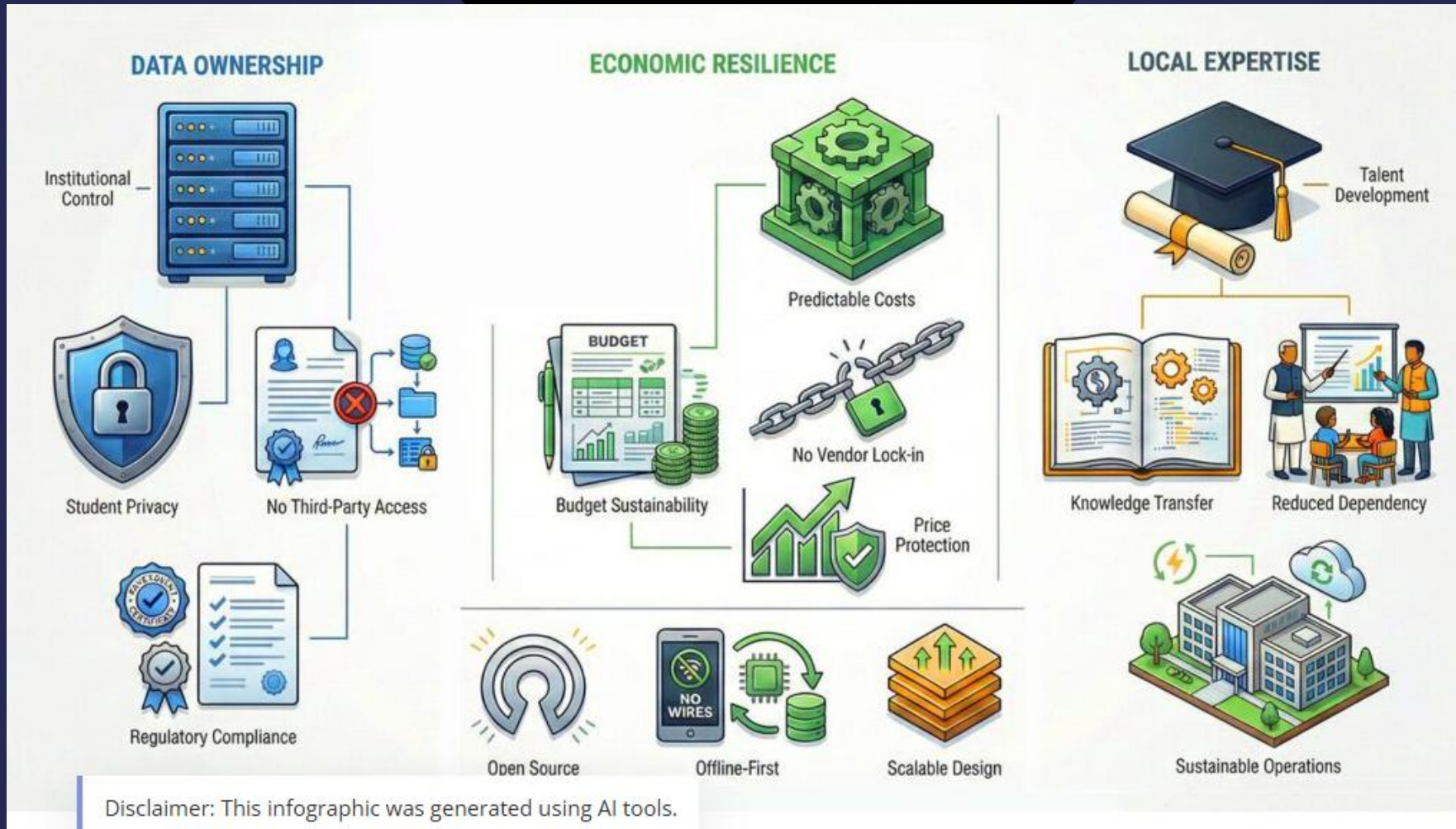
Recent developments in OER/AI: Challenges and opportunities

<https://doi.org/10.56059/pcf11.0542>



Empowering Educators with Generative AI: Implementing a Co-creative Mentoring Model For Inclusive Education In Ghana (Adu-Manu et al., 2025)

FUTURE PROSPECTS: FRUGAL AI



<https://www.col.org/news/frugal-ai-a-roadmap-to-sovereign-genai-for-education/>

FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

2

- Adapting OER using AI as authoring tools (Bozkurt, 2023)**
- Moving from static OER to open and dynamic OEP (Tlili & Burgos, 2024)**
- Using OER for training in use of AI (Rampelt et al., 2025)**

“The ways we prompt AI are very different in 2026 than 2022 when ChatGPT came out. Some people are still using LLMs primarily by asking them short questions. But the models can do much more, like think for minutes, ingest many documents as context, and use web search and other tools.” Ng, 2026.

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