What are Open Educational Resources?

Ms Zeynep Varoglu, UNESCO & Ms Trudi van Wyk, Commonwealth of Learning
What is an OER?

Any educational resource that are openly available for use without paying royalties/licence fees
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Any educational resource that are openly available for use without paying royalties/licence fees

- Curriculum frameworks and maps
- Course materials
- Documents
- Books
- Research articles
- Multimedia applications
- Podcasts
- Videos
- Software and programmes.......etc
What is an OER?

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Open Licence

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Open Licence

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### Licence Types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licence Type</th>
<th>Suitable file formats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All rights reserved</td>
<td>PDF, password protected document file</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attribution Non-commercial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attribution No derivatives</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attribution Share Alike</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Attribution No Derivatives</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attribution Share Alike</td>
<td>Wiki, xml, ODF, html</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attribution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public domain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No rights reserved</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notation:***

- **BY** = Attribution
- **NC** = Non-commercial
- **ND** = No derivatives
- **SA** = Share Alike

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How to find OER

- Repositories
- University Initiatives
- Subject–based Initiatives
- Search Facilities
Where: OER Repositories

- The OpenCourseWare Consortium
- Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Teaching Online (MERLOT)
- Japanese OCW Consortium
- Repository.ac.nz
- Vietnam OpenCourseWare
- CEC Learning Object Repository (India)
- National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL)
Where: University Initiatives

- Athabasca University
- Carnegie Mellon University, Open Learning Initiative
- Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
- Keio University
- King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals
- Korea University
- Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology
- Kyoto-U OpenCourseWare
- Kyung Hee University
- Michigan State University

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Where: University Initiatives

- Middle East Technical University (METU) OpenCourseWare, Turkey
- MIT OpenCourseWare - Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Nagoya University OpenCourseware (NU OCW), Japan
- National Tsing Hua University
- Osaka University, Japan
- Pusan National University
- Rai OpenCourseware, India
Where: University Initiatives

- Tokyo Institute of Technology
- University of the Western Cape - Free Courseware Project
- University of Tokyo OpenCourseWare (Japan)
- Waseda University
- Japan Opencourseware Consortium
- Indira Ghandi National Open University
- Doshisha University Open Courseware
- Open University of Hong Kong
- University of Hong Kong
Where: Subject Specific Repositories

- ACEMaths Project – SAIDE
- Tufts Open CoursewareBerkleeShares
- Fulbright Economics Teaching Program (FETP) OCW (Vietnam)
- Leadership Initiative for Public Health in East Africa (LIPHEA)
- Teacher Education in Sub-Saharan Africa (TESSA)
- Stanford University (School of Engineering)
- African Health OER Network
Where: OER Search Facilities

- Commonwealth of Learning (COL)
- Discover Ed
- Freelearning - Search for OER sites
- Google OCW
Why are OER Important I: Costs and Quality of Education

1. More high quality relevant learning materials = contribution to more productive students and educators

– OER reduces the cost of accessing educational materials (no royalty fees for textbooks, time and costs associated with procuring permission to use copyrighted materials.)
Why are OER Important II: Learners

2. A mechanism for making students active learners in education

• Content licenses that encourage activity and creation by students through re-use and adaptation of content can contribute to making more significant and effective learning environments.
Why are OER important III: Teachers

3. Adaptation and collaboration for re-use and re-adaptation of learning materials supports teachers professional development
   • Teachers network with other teachers, and develop learning materials based on good examples that are then localized to own needs.
Using OER

Sharing

Contribution

Customisation

Localisation

Translation

Contextualisation

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Why should OER become a matter of public (open) policy?

The basic argument of open policy is that when public money is used to fund research, development or other educational, academic and information-generating activities, the product of those activities should be freely available to the public that paid for it.

Dr Cable Green, Creative Commons