Vietnam OCW/OER Program

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3 questions

• 1. Does your country have specific cases or policy that harnesses OER in your country? If so, please describe.

• 2. What are, in your view, government’s role and responsibility to introduce and sustain OER (if they have a role to play)

• 3. What are, based on your experience, the critical success factors and challenges in introducing OER.
Q1: Does your country have specific cases or policy that harnesses OER in your country? If so, please describe.

- Yes, we have both cases and policy.
- Vietnam OCW/OER - 2 phases so far
  - Pilot phase (VOCW): from 2005 to 2009
    - 3 active members: VEF, VASC, and MOET
    - Policy support (Training activities, including TOT) from MOET and some leading Universities (VNU Hanoi and VNU HCMC)
    - 1000 e-books in the MOET library became 10,000 modules that are easier to share, to reuse and to build-up new textbooks.
    - Vietnam Open Learning Technology Alliance (VOLT) members (nearly 200 members, 52% universities, 17% institutes, 4% NGOs, 21% Enterprises, 6% others)
Q1: Does your country have specific cases or policy that harnesses OER in your country? If so, please describe.

- Dispatch number 4960/BGDDT-CNTT on guideline for the implementation of IT in learning tasks from 2011 to 2012 has 16 articles.
  - Article 9: Applying **Open courseware** in teaching and learning
  - Article 10. Applying IT applications in renovation of teaching and learning methods
  - Article 11. Implementing technology education and e-Learning programs, in which section b) Creating open courseware library, teachers are encouraged to contribute their presentations for sharing in public domain.
  - Article 16: Organizing of seminars and IT applications training, item b) stating the organization of workshops aimed at online distance learning and **open courseware** repository for continuing education and lifelong learning.
2. What are, in your view, government’s role and responsibility to introduce and sustain OER (if they have a role to play)

- Government’s role: Very important, especially in the context of Vietnam.
- “Sustainability of this Endeavour might be encouraged by setting up a government programme of support for OER creation and reuse.” (Guideline for OER in HE, page 5)
3. What are, based on your experience, the critical success factors and challenges in introducing OER.

- **Critical success factors**
  - Good model for development (3-legs model)
    - Contents Development
    - Community Development
    - Technology Development.
    - Each leg must be strong and grows in tandem with the other two.
  - Keep the OPEN nature of the OER movement
    - Everything related to or being used by this movement must be OPEN: Technology, Data format, Content, License, Policy of the community....
3. What are, based on your experience, the critical success factors and challenges in introducing OER.

• Challenges:
  – The danger to the growth of OER is that everyone thinks it’s a good idea but none of them would lift their fingers to do the works – whether it’s the bureaucrat to create a OER policy or a teacher to create a OER course. Without such execution, the good idea will die. That’s why having a passionate team to drive the program is critical. The OER program in each country needs evangelists, missionaries and diehards in order to take roots and grow.
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Difficulties:

• **Slow implementation process**: Despite having legal policies on OER application, the implementation of specific tasks were difficult due to slow process.

• **Lack of OER Program experts**

• **Work hard and give people more and more support and motivation**: because of their limited time and energy.

• **Unexpected tasks and money issues**
  – VOER team have to spend unexpected monies, ex. to fund note takers, transcribers, typists, digitizing technicians in order to digitize, upload, edit and structure the materials so the instructors can teach via VOER easily. This is harder than people think.
  – It's both a habit change and a cultural change for the instructor. And it is costing the team a lot of money.