Smart OER: Bridges for Sustainable Education

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OER for Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education
From Commitment to Action

2nd World OER Congress | 18-20 September, 2017 | Ljubljana, Slovenia
The Road to Ljubljana

ASIA
Asia eUniversity: December 2016

EUROPE
Malta Ministry for Education and Employment: February 2017

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
Qatar Foundation: February 2017

AFRICA
Ministry of Education, Mauritius: March 2017

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN
University of Campinas: April 2017

PACIFIC
Open Polytechnic of New Zealand: May 2017
OER: Then and Now

2012
Focus was on Governments
Policies
Commitment

2018
Additional focus on stakeholders
Mainstreaming OER
Concrete Actions
Global Trends Policies

• Increasing support, not accompanied by policies
• Despite lack of national OER policies, institutional policies have grown
• Regions with extensive OER activities, not always reliant on national policy as the driving force
Global Trends
Repositories

• OER repositories created in the global north more used than those from the global south
• Majority of the repositories are at tertiary level
• Repositories are available in diverse fields, including early childhood education
• Many governments and stakeholders are 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.”
Priorities for OER

• Greater effort needed in creating awareness of the meaning, purpose and advantages of OER

• Capacity building for the use and integration of OER for teachers

• Promote policy development at both regional/national and institutional levels.
SMART OER: Bridges for Sustainable Education

• Bridging the Technological Divide
• Reaching People with Disabilities
• Crossing Linguistic Barriers
Bridging Technological Divide

Average Number of Daily Sessions, **Traditional App** vs. **Chat App**
2014 - 2015

- Traditional App: 2
- Chat App: 9
Using Appropriate Technologies

• WeChat shows the way: communication, video/audio, interactive sessions, payments built-in

• Messaging-based learning platforms and Apps will have wider uptake in the developing world

• Costs to learners (bandwidth) will be lower

• COL currently building a Messaging-based online course management platform with a partner to serve formal and informal learning
Using Affordable Technologies
Principles of Accessibility

• Perceivable
• Operable
• Understandable
• Robust

Source: WCAG 2.0, https://www.w3.org/TR/UNDERSTANDING-WCAG20/intro.html#introduction-fourprinCs-head
How Accessible are OER?

Textbook: Writing Spaces

Accessibility review by: Virtual Ability, Inc.

Source: http://www.collegeopentextbooks.org/textbook-listings/accessibility-reviews
LJUBLJANA OER ACTION PLAN 2017

• Provide OER in accessible formats that support its effective use by all, including persons with disabilities, by using existing international guidelines for accessibility.
Ensure that OER accessed through different media, including mobile devices, are available and accessible in formats which allow for its use, adaptation, combination and sharing.
Using local language to share knowledge
OER Platform in Tamil
SMART OER are

S - Specific to the Context
M - Measurable in terms of impact on learning outcomes
A - Accessible, adaptable and available
R - Reusable and relevant
T - Transformative
Thank you