

## GLOBAL TRENDS IN OER What is the Future?





### COMMONWEALTH Of LEARNING







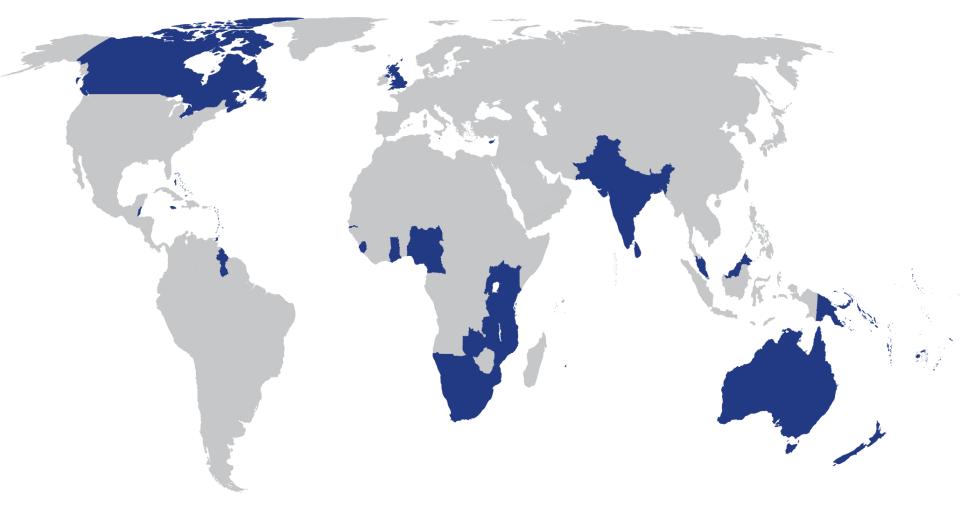
To help Commonwealth governments and institutions use technologies to improve and expand learning for sustainable development





### Learning for Sustainable Development





#### The Commonwealth

53 developed and developing nations around the world



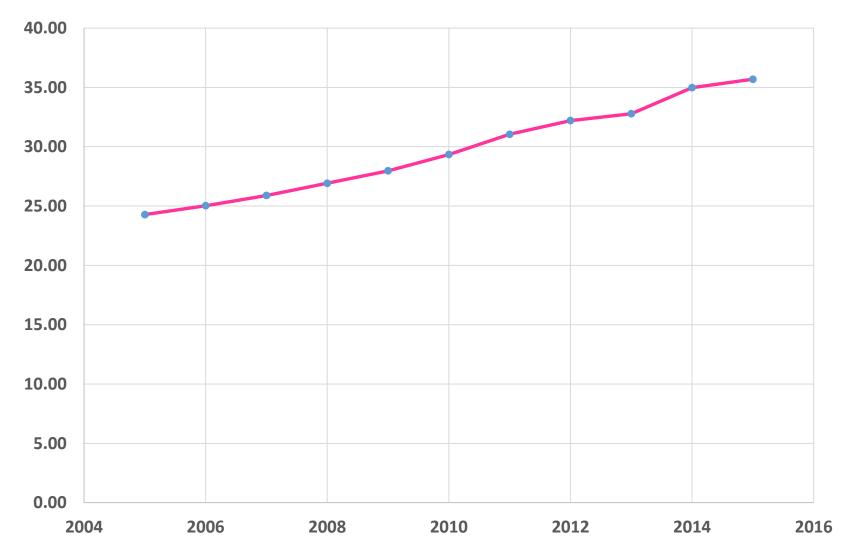
### The Plan

- Context
- Brief History of OER
- Five Key Challenges
- Research Trends
- Future Directions



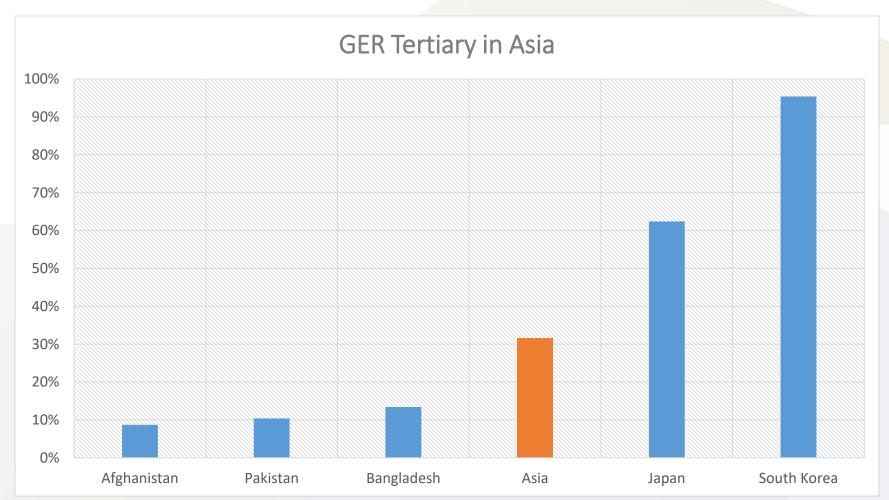
### Context

### **GER Tertiary Education- Global**





### Asia: GER Tertiary

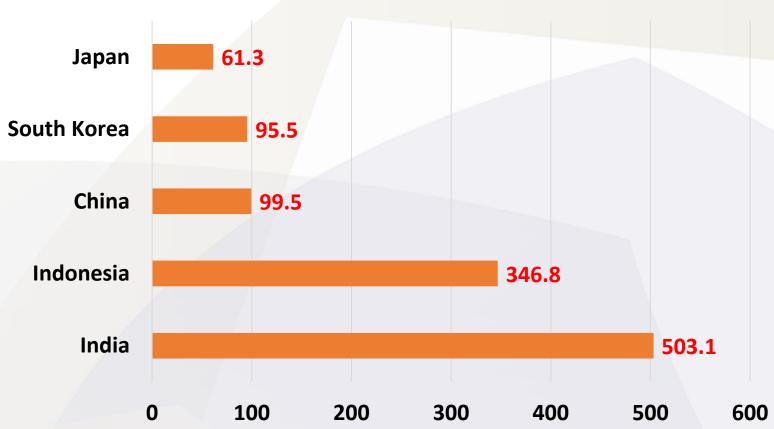




Source: <a href="http://data.uis.unesco.org/?ReportId=184&IF\_Language=eng#">http://data.uis.unesco.org/?ReportId=184&IF\_Language=eng#</a>

### Cost of Higher Education

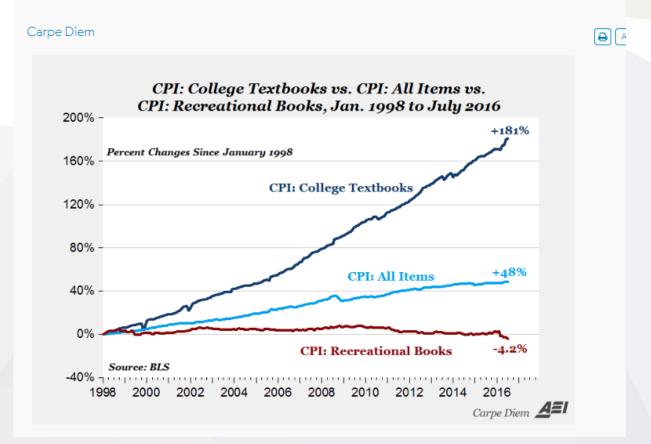






### Rising Cost of Textbooks

Chart of the day: The astronomical rise in college textbook prices vs. consumer prices and recreational books





### Costs Prohibit Access to TE

- In the USA, 65% students do not buy textbooks because of high costs (USD 1200 annually)
- In Malaysia, 76% do not buy textbooks because of high costs. (MYR 190 annually)



#### Access to Textbooks in Schools

- In Cameroon, there was only 1 reading textbook for 12 students and only 1 maths textbook for 14 students in grade 2.
- In Togo in grade 2, there were 3 students for every reading textbook, and 8 students for every maths textbook.



### **OER for Quality**



- Remote institutions in India
  - KSS Women's Engineering College, Andhra Pradesh
  - Maya Devi Educational Foundation, Uttarakhand
  - Bhilai Institute of Technology, Chattisgarh







### Why OER?

- Reduce costs
- Enhance access
- Improve quality





REDUCED INEQUALITIES



































# Brief History of OER

#### What are OER?

"OER are teaching, learning and research materials in any medium – digital or otherwise - that reside in the public domain or have been released under an open license that permits nocost access, use, adaptation and redistribution by others with no or limited restrictions." (UNESCO, 2017, p. 1).





### Where it all began...









**UNESCO HQ Paris** 

2002 Forum on the Impact of Open CourseWare for Higher Education in Developing Countries



### Cape Town Open Education Declaration 2007

• Educators and learners: to actively participate in the emerging open education movement.

 Authors and publishers: to release their resources openly.

 Governments and institutions: offer taxpayer-funded resources, as open educational resources.



### Paris Declaration 2012

Foster awareness and use of OER

 Encourage the development and adaptation of OER in a variety of languages and cultural contexts

Encourage the open licensing of educational materials produced

with public funds.





### Qingdao Declaration 2015

... commit to developing sector-wide strategies and capacity building programmes to fully realize the potential of OERs to expand access to lifelong learning opportunities and achieve quality education.



QINGDAO DECLARATION

International Conference on ICT AND POST-2015 EDUCATION

Seize digital opportunities. Lead education transformation.

23-25 May 2015 Qingdao City, the People's Republic of China

2015-2030: A journey towards inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning





### OER for Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education From Commitment to Action

### ASIA



### Highlights: Asia

- NME-ICT follows CC BY-SA licence (India)
- Commitment to OpenCourseWare in eLearning policy (Malaysia)
- OER repositories in China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Vietnam.



#### **Priorities: Asia**

- Need for improved connectivity
- More attention to content for people with disabilities
- Increased awareness and capacity to use/ develop OER
- Need for OER in local languages
- National policies to guide OER









- Increasing support, not accompanied by national policies
- Institutional policies have grown
- Regions with extensive OER activities, not always reliant on national policy





- OER repositories from the global north used more
- Majority of the repositories are at tertiary level
- Repositories are increasingly available in diverse fields and levels





- Many governments and stakeholders 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"



### **OER: Then and Now**



Focus was on Governments
Policies

Commitment

Additional focus on stakeholders

Mainstreaming OER

Concrete Actions



### Five Key Challenges

### **Key Challenges**

- Developing supportive policy environments
- Ensuring inclusive and equitable access to quality OER
- Building the **capacity** of users to find, re-use, create and share OER
- Language & cultural issues
- Developing sustainability models

Ljubljana OER Action Plan 2017



#### **OER Policies in Asia**

- No National OER policy: in process in Bangladesh, India and Malaysia
- Institutional policies: BOU, 7 in India, OUSL, WOU
- Project/ Initiative level: NMEICT, India
- Provincial policies: Sri Lanka













### **OER** Initiatives in Asia

- OER Asia
- CORE, China
- NROER, India
- VUP Open Courseware
- Japan OCW









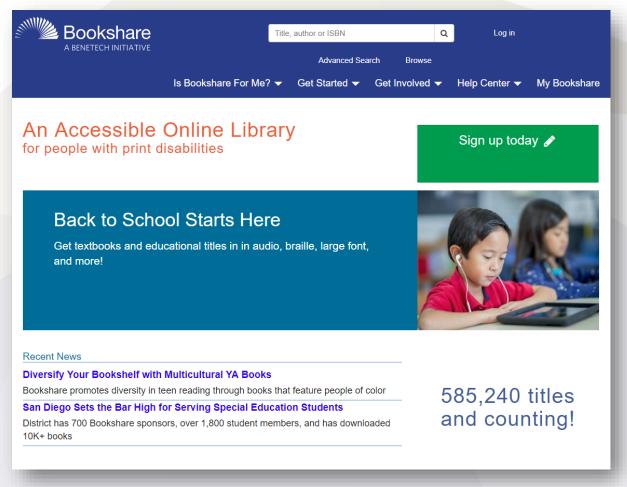




### 2. Inclusive and Equitable Access

- ebooks

   (including exceptions in copyright for people with disability)
- Open Access
- FOSS

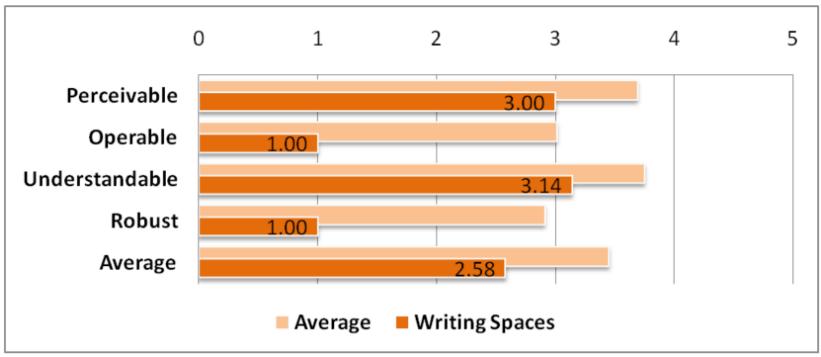




#### How Accessible are OER?

Textbook: Writing Spaces

Accessibility review by: Virtual Ability, Inc.







Every \$1 invested resulted in \$9 worth of income and assets.



#### 3. Capacity

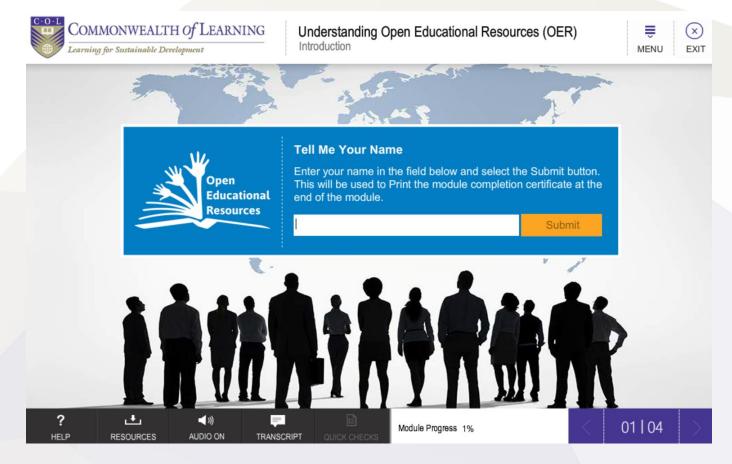
- <u>Teachers</u>: difficult to locate, adapt, and re-purpose OER material relevant to their work.
- <u>Learners</u>: OER should be more open and multimodal.
- <u>Technical support</u>: lack of standard practices in the packaging and re-use of OER.
- Management: concerns regarding intellectual property; copyright issues and competition

OER Survey, Asia, 2011 (WOU, IDRC)



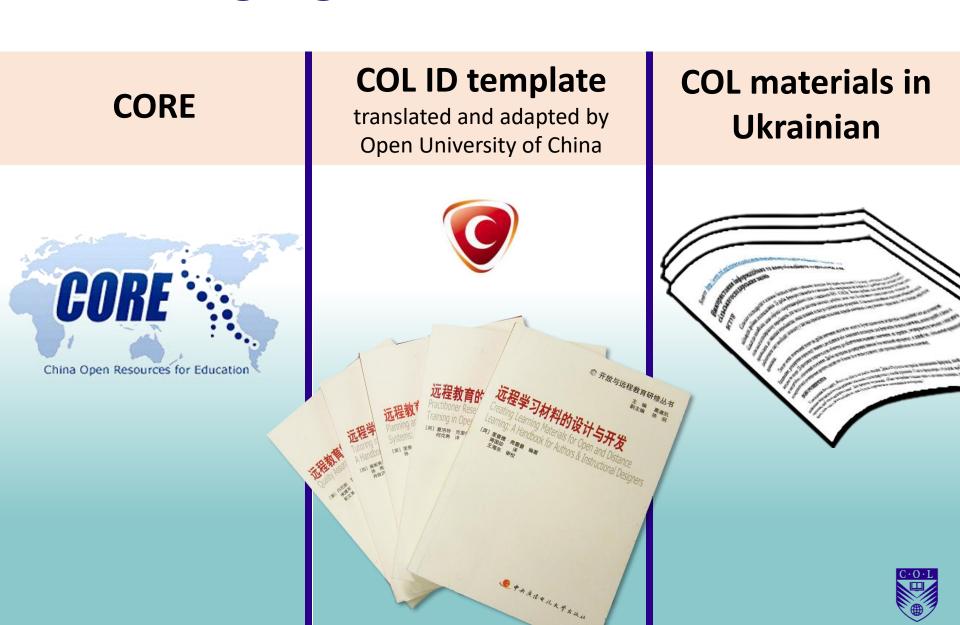
#### **Capacity Building**

Short OER
 Course:
 Accessed
 by 19,000
 people

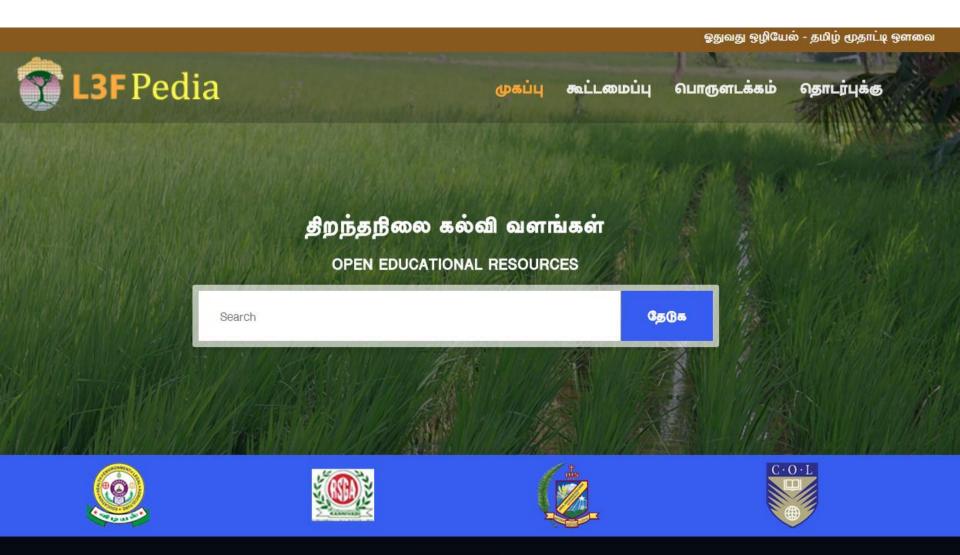




#### 4. Language & Culture: Translation



#### **OER Platform in Tamil**



#### Localisation: Principles

- A community of practice bolsters localisation
- Must be done in appropriate formats
- Understand local contexts

Localization of Open Educational Resources (OER) in Nepal: Strategies of Himalayan Knowledge-Workers

Tiffany Zenith Ivins March 2011

http://gradworks.umi.com/3450142.pdf



#### 5. Sustainability Models

#### **Business Models**

#### Funding Models

**Endowment** 

Membership

Collaboration

Institutional/governmental

Cross Subsidy
Ad-supported
Freemium
Gift economy



#### **OERu concept**









Students awarded credible degree or credential



Participating institutions grant credit for courses





Assessment from participating institutions





Student support via 'Academic Volunteers International"





Learners access courses based solely on OER



#### Institutional/Governmental models



In USA, the Z-degree programmes save about USD2,500 per student





BC Campus in Canada has saved over 9 million CAD in 40 participating institutions



#### What is still needed...

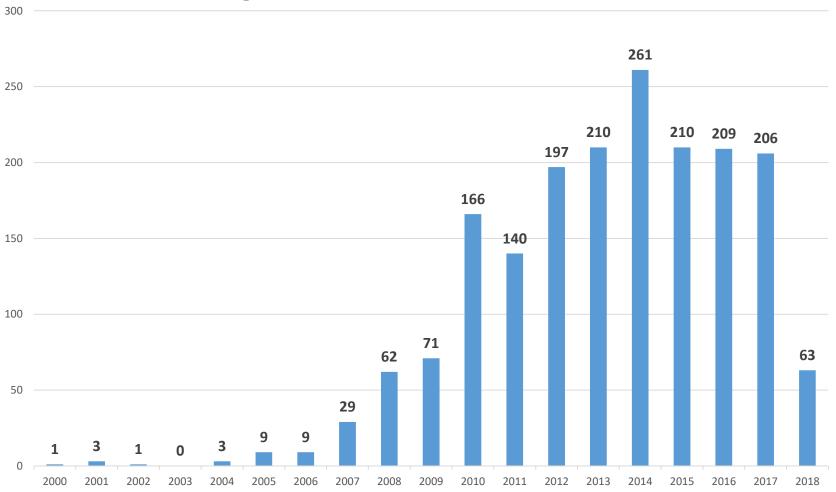
- More advocacy and capacity development
- Policies
- Targeted approach to developing OER in accessible media formats
- Culturally and linguistically relevant OER
- New business models with a win-win framework



# Research Trends

#### **Publications on OER**

#### **Based on OER Knowledge Cloud**





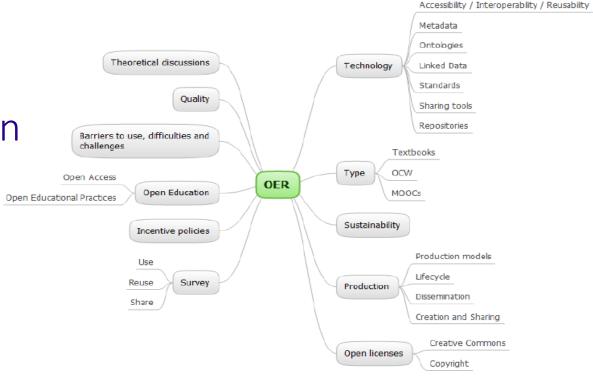
#### 1. Overview of OER Research

Bibliographic Data	Frequency
Publications	544
Authors	843
Countries of the authors' Institutions	61



#### **Key Topics**

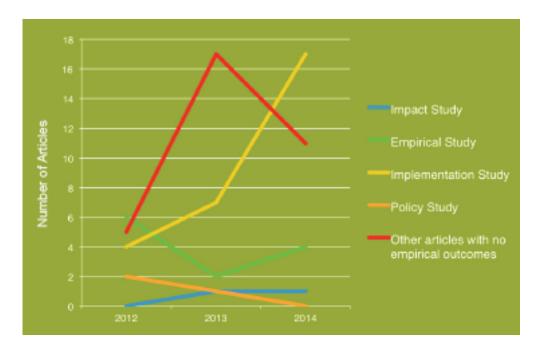
- Technology
- Quality
- Open Education
- Sustainability
- Open licenses
- Barriers





#### **OER Research: orientation**

- Less focus on impact
- Descriptive studies
- Implementation reports
- Inadequate policy research

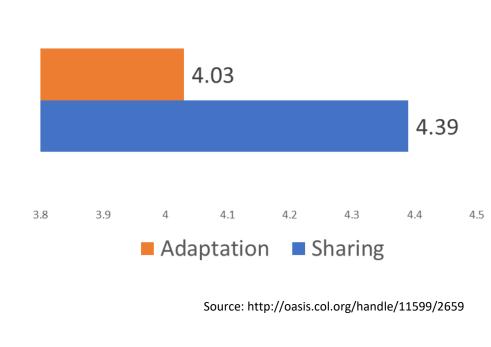


Frequency of OER Study types in IRRODL, 2012-14



#### 2. Teachers' perspective: India

- Teachers had positive attitudes towards OER, and their attitudes did not differ significantly across demographic variables
- Attitude towards sharing was stronger than towards adapting materials developed by others





#### Teachers' perspective: China

I have no time to develop OER	3.78
I don't know how to develop OER	3.76
I don't know the value of developing OER	2.61
I have no incentive to develop OER	3.2



#### Impact on Teachers: US

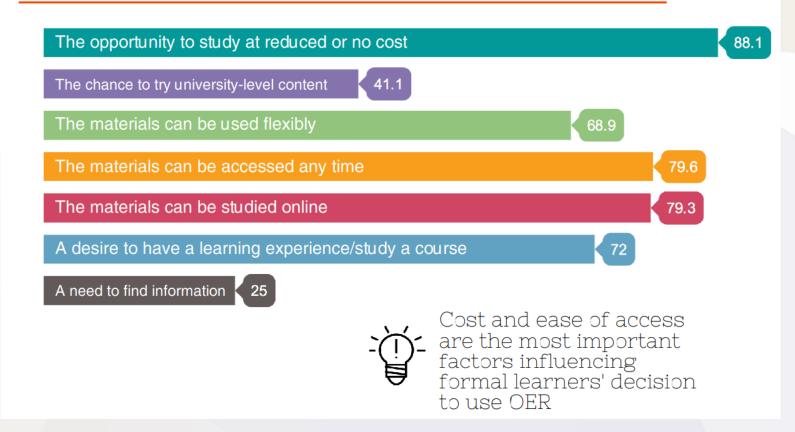
- 93.8% of K12 teachers agree OER helped them use a broader range of teaching and learning methods
- 89.7% agree that they make use of a wider range of multimedia
- 88.6% agree that they reflect more on the way that they teach



#### 3.Learners' perspective:

#### Decision to use OER

Which of the following factors influenced your decision to use OER? N=969





#### Impact of OER use

In which of these ways has your use of OER made an impact on your formal studies? N=1167

Increased participation in class discussions 32.6	
Increased interest in the subjects taught	61.9
Increased satisfaction with the learning experience	60.7
Grades improving 38.9	
Gaining confidence	51.6
Having increased independence and self-reliance	51
Increased engagement with lesson content	46.5
Increased experimentation with new ways of learning	53.2
Increased collaboration with peers 26.8	
Increased enthusiasm for future study	60.4
Becoming interested in a wider range of subjects	54.7
Being more likely to complete my course of study	46.9



#### CUTTING the COST of a COLLEGE DEGREE by UP TO 30%

Tuition and textbook costs for Tidewater degrees



TCC IN-STATE TUITION \$9,600

**TEXTBOOKS \$3,700** 

TRADITIONAL DEGREE



TCC IN-STATE TUITION \$9,600

ZTC DEGREE SAVES 30% OF TOTAL COST

#### ZERO TEXTBOOK COST DEGREE

50

\$4K

\$7K

\$10K

\$14K

TOTAL COST OF DEGREE

Source: Hewlett Foundation (2015)

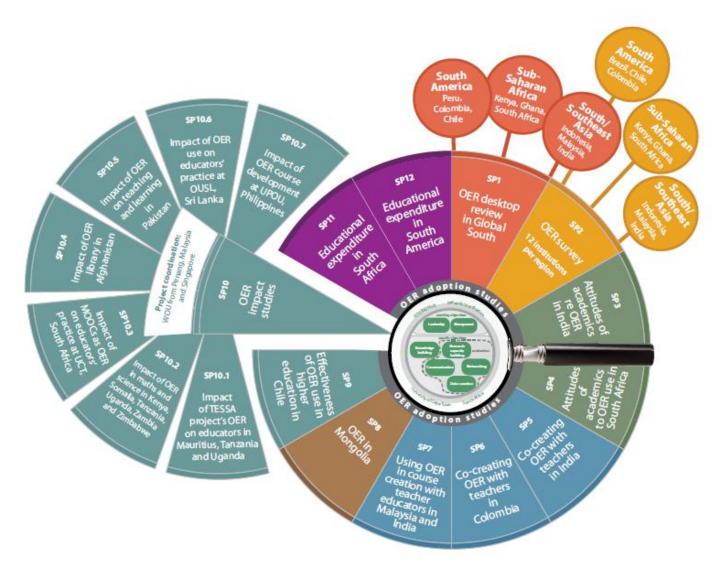


### Performance in Open Courses

- Students enrolled in face-to-face open courses 7% more likely to succeed than those with commercial textbooks
- Students in hybrid/online open courses were significantly less likely to drop out of a course
- Student success in open courses was nearly 6% higher

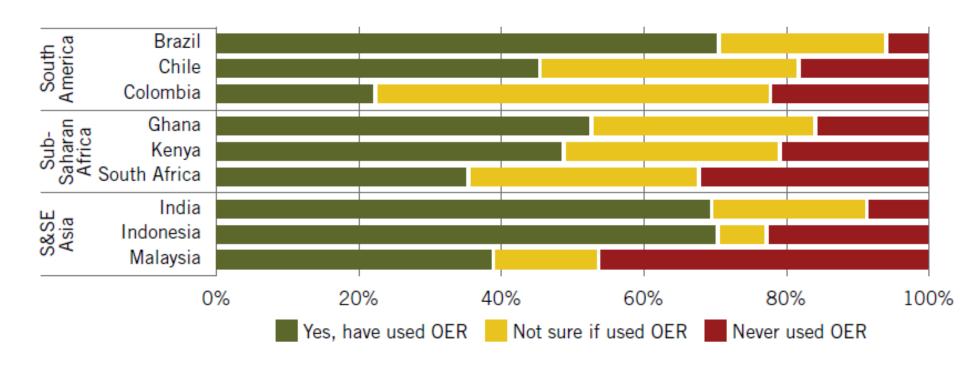


#### 4. OER in the Global South





### Use by Educators in developing countries





#### **OER Adoption Model**

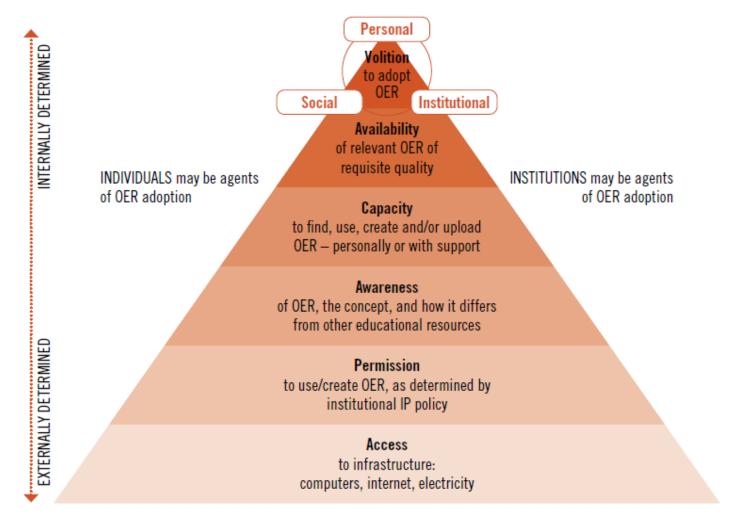


Figure 1: OER adoption pyramid



#### **OER Engagement**

Epistemic stance **EMPOWERMENT** - Personal motivation OER creation - Collaboration and co-creation - Participation in funded OER projects Support mechanisms **PARTICIPATION**  Institutional policies OER adaptation - Pedagogical practices - Technical skills Availability of OER **ACCESS** - Technological infrastructure OER use - OER awareness



#### Overview of Research Gaps

- Extremely small research base; mostly from Europe and North America
- Focused around attitudes and barriers
- Limited focus on cost-effectiveness and pedagogical impact





## Future Directions



ENSURE INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTE LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

#### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

More at sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgsproposal

#### **OER for Lifelong Learning**

OER for personal interest

For professional development

For skilling and reskilling





#### **OER for People with Disability**

- Using Universal Design
   Principles for OER creation
- Researching new ways of sharing OER for people with disabilities
- Providing affordable, low-cost options for learning





#### Using Blockchain for OER

- Integrity of records and identities of learners critical in Quality
   Assurance of OER
- Making OER more reliable and authentic.
- Credit mobility





#### From OER to OEP

		OER Usage		
		Low No OER (re-) us- age	Medium OER (re-)usage or creation	High OER (re-)usage and creation
Learning Architecture	High Social practices, Collaboration, Sharing (Reflection in action),  upper objectives upper methods	A	BOEP	C
	Medium Dialog, Procedures, Rules (Know-how)  ullet "closed" objectives ullet "open" methods	D Inch	easing OEP	F
	Low Knowledge transmission (Know that)	G/	Н	



#### **Towards Effective Learning**

- Learners become producers rather than consumers
- Multi-media resources for a rich learning experience
- Collaboration, sharing and interaction
- Personalized and contextual learning





#### Re-defining OER

The phenomenon of OER is an empowerment process, facilitated by technology in which various types of stakeholders are able to interact, collaborate, create and use materials and pedagogic practices, that are freely available, for enhancing access, reducing costs and improving the quality of education and learning at all levels.



## Thank you

