

# Open Educational Resources

## Workshop Objectives

The objectives of the workshop are to:

- Introduce the concept of Open Educational Resources (OER) and the open licensing frameworks that make sharing of educational content possible;
- Present the Guidelines on OER in Higher Education and get feedback on draft version from stakeholders;
- Explore how open licensing can help to improve the quality of education in Africa; and
- Discuss where and how policies and practices in education need to change in order to harness the potential of OER.

## 9:00 – 9:45 Session 1

### Opening

#### Introduction to workshop agenda and purpose of workshop

Mr Neil Butcher – OER Strategist, OER Africa/South African Institute for Distance Education, South Africa

#### Introductory presentations

- Taking OER Beyond the OER Community: A Vision From the Commonwealth of Learning and UNESCO - Ms Trudi van Wyk, Education Specialist: eLearning, Commonwealth of Learning
- UNESCO-COL OER Guidelines – Ms Zeynep Varoglu, Programme Specialist, UNESCO
- OER – Issues and Challenges for Higher Education - Mr Neil Butcher – OER Strategist, OER Africa/South African Institute for Distance Education, South Africa

Discussions

## 9:45 – 10:45 Session 2

### Case-study presentations

#### How OER has been deployed to improve quality in education

- **Use of OER and Non-OER in programmes at the School of Education & Cognitive Science, Asia eUniversity, Malaysia**  
Prof John Arul Phillips, Dean: School of Education & Cognitive Science, Asia eUniversity, Malaysia
- **Health OER: Lessons from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)**  
Ms. Nadia Tagoe, Programme Manager, College of Health Sciences, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Ghana
- **OER at Athabasca University**  
Prof Rory McGreal, UNESCO-COL Chair in OER & Associate Vice President Research, Athabasca University, Canada
- **What is OER Africa?**  
Mr Neil Butcher – OER Strategist, OER Africa/South African Institute for Distance Education, South Africa



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COMMONWEALTH of LEARNING

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## 10:45 – 11:00 Session 3

### Presentation

#### Introduction to the UNESCO-COL Chair Programme for OER

Prof Rory McGreal, UNESCO-COL Chair in OER & Associate Vice-President Research, Athabasca University, Canada

## 11:00 – 11:30 Coffee/Tea

## 11:30 – 13:00 Session 4

### Group discussions

#### Quality in education: The opportunities and challenges of OER

- Can OER really improve the quality of education in institutions? Why/Why not?
- What barriers prevent institutions from harnessing the potential of OER?
- What support do institutions need to harness OER effectively?

Group Feedback

## 13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

## 14:00 – 15:30 Session 5

### Plenary presentation and group discussion

#### UNESCO-COL Guidelines for OER in Higher Education

Ms Zeynep Varoglu, Programme Specialist, UNESCO and Mr Neil Butcher, OER Strategist, OER Africa/South African Institute for Distance Education, South Africa

Group discussions

## 15:30 – 16:00 Coffee/Tea

## 16:00 – 17:00 Session 6

### Plenary summary and discussion

#### Taking OER Forward: Possibilities and potential of OER, combined with requirements for successful deployment

Mr Neil Butcher – OER Strategist, OER Africa/South African Institute for Distance Education, South Africa

### Closing Remarks

Ms Trudi van Wyk, Education Specialist: eLearning, Commonwealth of Learning

Ms Zeynep Varoglu, Programme Specialist, UNESCO