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
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 McGeeral, 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
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