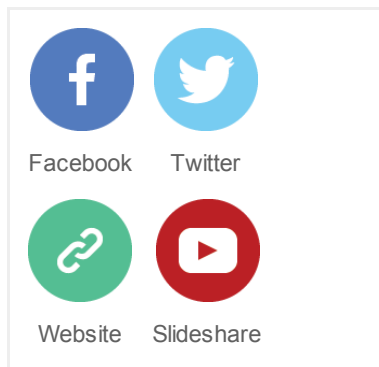


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October-November 2014

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Recent Events

27 October 2014 - Meeting with OER Research Hub... [read more.](#)

15 Oct 2014 – Question Harmonisation 15: ROER4D Communications Strategy & Audience Analysis feedback... [read more.](#)

6 Oct 2014 – Online session with DECI-2 team about ROER4D Communications and Audience Analysis... [read more.](#)

6 October 2014 – Online session with SRI for evaluation of OER Research Hub... [read more.](#)

1 October 2014 – Question Harmonisation Session 14:

Welcome to the October/November edition of the ROER4D Newsletter. In this inaugural edition, we feature news from Sub-Projects 3, 4, 6 and 8 as well as a roundup of Cheryl Hodgkinson-Williams' presentation and attendance at OpenEd14 in Washington DC. We welcome any feedback, and please forward to anyone in your networks.

We also welcome IDRC programme manager Matthew Smith back from paternity leave following the birth of a son on 18th June 2014 and thank Phet Sayo for covering in his absence. In other 'personnel' news, Sarah Goodier joined the ROER4D network team in Cape Town as Evaluation Adviser. We congratulate Sanjaya Mishra on his move to the Commonwealth of Learning in Vancouver, although we are delighted that he will still be the Principal Investigator for SP3.

The ROER4D Impact Studies team at Wawasan University ran a very successful and efficient call for proposals process for research into the impact of OER in Africa and Asia. Over a 100 proposals were received and, after extensive sifting and reviewing by a team of jurors, eight proposals have been shortlisted and the grantees invited to attend an Impact Studies Methodologies workshop in Penang, Malaysia in December 2014.

Forthcoming Events

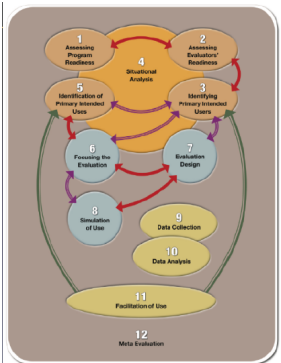
The shortlisted grantees of the ROER4D Impact Studies funded by DFID and IDRC will be meeting in Penang in the week 1-6 December 2014.

Teachers' attitudes toward OER in India... [read more.](#)

Recent Blog Posts



Cheryl Hodgkinson-Williams discusses the 3rd Annual GO-GN workshop and the OpenEd 2014 conference... [read more.](#)



Sarah Goodier talks about Utilisation-Focused Evaluation... [read more.](#)

The next ROER4D workshop for the the Adoption Studies projects will be meeting on 20 and 21 April 2015 in Banff, Alberta, Canada. The workshop will precede the [Open Education Consortium \(OEC\) Conference](#) (22-24 April 2015) and we are delighted to have been granted a specialist research track at the conference, shared with the GO-GN network. The research track will allow ROER4D researchers to present on various aspects of their projects including methodology and initial findings.

Main feature: Cheryl Hodgkinson-Williams attends OpenEd14, Washington, DC

Principal Investigator Cheryl Hodgkinson-Williams attended the OpenEd Conference in Arlington, Virginia (just outside Washington, DC). The theme of the conference was “Achieving the Potential of Open”. Many presentations addressed to the concept of “openness” directly, including Cheryl’s presentation, [“Research on Open Educational Resources for Development \(ROER4D\) in the Global South: Learning to research OER openly”](#). Based on the SlideShare views (600+ in first five days), Twitter feedback and face-to-face discussions, Cheryl’s presentation has sparked a valuable discussion about the challenges and benefits of researching in the open. The most common question posed was about [“Septentrionalism”](#), the term Cheryl used to describe the “northern-centricity” of most OER research and the need to encourage more OER research/contributions from the Global South. Read the full report on the [ROER4D Blog](#).

ROER4D Twitter feed



ROER4D



266 followers

751 tweets

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Latest Tweets

- #ROER4D Impact studies participants asked to think about their strategies for sharing research openly with @CherylHW and @philosopher1978 5:29AM
- Questions from #ROER4D Impact Studies

Sub-Project News

Workshops on Research on OER for Development Organized by the SP3 Team

The SP3 research team based at the Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia ([CEMCA](#)) in New Delhi conducted its first data collection workshop 7-10 October 2014 in Hyderabad. Hosted by the Maulana Azad National Urdu University ([MANUU](#)), Hyderabad, an institution engaged both in conventional and distance mode of teaching, the workshop was attended by 28 teachers from three universities. Glenda Cox and Henry Trotter from SP4 joined as observers.

The objective of the workshop was to collect qualitative and quantitative data to examine teachers’ attitudes,

participants include defining 'impact', understanding 'open' & research methods @philosopher1978 4:48AM

- PI @CherylHW gives an overview of #ROER4D project and need for robust OER Impact studies for evidence-based policy making 3:37AM
- IDRC program officer Matthew Smith @OpenICT4D challenges #ROER4D OER Impact studies workshop participants to consider openness in research 3:35AM
- OER Impact Studies workshop underway at Wawasan Open U, Penang, Malaysia with VC Prof Dato' Dr Ho Sinn Chye talking @ WOU's OER journey 3:22AM

their motivations and barriers related to creation and use of OER and to analyze their perception of the quality of OER. Additionally the SP3 team designed the workshop to provide participants with a basic understanding of creating and using OER.

Dr. Ramesh Sharma facilitated the workshop. Participants were exposed to a variety of activities including lecture presentations, a "Just a Minute" (JAM) session to gauge participants' attitudes towards OER, a debate to assess their perception of OER quality and a "snow-balling" technique for identifying barriers to use OER. Glenda and Henry also participated in the debate on quality of OER. At the end of the workshop, participants completed an "attitudes" questionnaire while eight teachers were also recruited for with one-to-one in-depth interviews on the following day.

A second data collection workshop following a similar outline was held 15-18 October 2014 at Guwahati, Assam, in collaboration with Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University ([KKHSOU](#)). Thirty teachers - 26 from KKHSOU and four from the Institute of Distance and Open Learning ([IDOL](#)), Guahati University - attended. During the workshop, the Assam Commissioner of Higher Education, Shri Hemanga Kishore Sharma, addressed the group and emphasized the need to formulate state level OER Policy which will further assure and encourage use of OER for betterment of the education system in the state.(22-24 April 2015) and we are delighted to have been granted a specialist research track at the conference. Shared with the GO-GN network, the research track will allow ROER4D researchers to present on various aspects of their projects including methodology and initial findings.

SP3 Research Paper amongst Six Best Papers of 28th AAOU Conference

The SP3 Research Team submitted a paper entitled "Development and Validation of a Scale to Measure Faculty Attitudes toward Open Educational Resources" at the [28th Annual Conference of Asian Association of Open Universities](#) (AAOU) held from 28-31 October 2014 at the Open University of Hong Kong (OUHK).

Ms Meenu Sharma presented the paper on behalf of the team in a special session for the six best papers identified out of the 240 submitted to the conference. The research created considerable interest among the participants due to the growing importance of faculty roles in adopting and adapting OER, with a number of participants expressing interest in using the OER "attitude scale" that was developed and employed by the team for its research. SP3 Principal Investigator Dr. Sanjaya Mishra also presented at the conference, while the team distributed information about the research and its website to conference participants.

SP4 researchers join SP3 workshop in Hyderabad

The SP4 research team from South Africa recently returned from a visit to Hyderabad, India, where they were hosted by the [SP3 team](#) led by Sanjaya Mishra. Glenda Cox and Henry Trotter observed SP3's inaugural research workshop with local university educators as part of their investigation into what teachers think about OER in India. Because SP3 and SP4 will be comparing Indian and South African educators' approach to OER, Glenda and Henry attended the workshop so that they could replicate aspects of it when they conduct their own workshops in early 2015. The duo had a great time in Hyderabad, learning a lot about local teachers' OER practices, dining on the delicious local cuisine and enjoying the city's many sites and diversions.

Since their return, SP4 has continued with the lengthy process of obtaining ethical clearance from their South African university research sites (a time-consuming process, measured in months, not days or weeks). In addition, Glenda, who is also part of the Global OER Graduate Network ([GO-GN](#)), attended the Open Education Conference ([OpenEd14](#)) this month in Washington, D.C., where she gave a presentation on the impact of culture, structure and agency in educators' choices around OER. Meanwhile, Henry will be attending the Impact Studies workshop in Penang where he will give a presentation on research capacity building in the ROER4D programme (especially through the question harmonisation process).

SP6 - Finalizando asesorías para la creación de REA con docentes del proyecto coKREA

El proyecto coKREA tiene como propósito estudiar si y de qué manera un enfoque de abajo hacia arriba, en donde los participantes co-crean recursos contextuales de forma colaborativa y activa (dentro de una comunidad de interés), puede apoyar modelos efectivos de adopción de Recursos Educativos Abiertos (REA). Para ello, se convocó a docentes del suroccidente de Colombia a conformar equipos de trabajo con colegas de sus colegios, para crear y usar REA en sus clases. También estarán formando parte del proceso de Investigación-Acción Participación. De esta manera, se vincularon 11 equipos de diferentes colegios, en 4 departamentos de Colombia, sumando más de 50 docentes.

Los docentes están elaborando sus REA haciendo uso de softwares como eXelearning y Cuadernia para diferentes áreas y grados de educación básica y media. También están utilizando servicios en línea como blogs, creando cursos en Moodle y materiales impresos, que

serán publicados con una licencia Creative Commons Reconocimiento - Compartir Igual. Una parte importante de este proyecto ha sido la asesoría ofrecida a los equipos de docentes, que se viene realizando en espacios presenciales y virtuales desde el mes de julio.

En cuanto a la divulgación de los avances en el proceso de investigación, se participó en el III Encuentro de Pedagogía y Ciencia organizado por la Escuela Normal Santa Clara, una institución formadora de docentes de educación básica en el Departamento del Cauca. Las [memorias](#) del evento están disponibles con una licencia abierta.

En la actualidad y hasta febrero de 2015, los docentes utilizarán sus REA en sus clases. Una vez finalizada esta etapa, serán publicados en el repositorio [Le Mill](#) y en el sitio web del proyecto [co-Krea](#), disponibles para toda la comunidad educativa de manera libre y gratuita, cumpliendo con el principio que nos ha guiado desde el inicio: compartir para crear conocimiento.

Finishing consultation for the creation of OER with teachers in the co-KREA project

The co-KREA project (SP6) aims to study whether and how a bottom-up approach - where participants collaboratively and actively co-create contextual resources ('embedded' within a 'community of interest') - can support effective OER models. To do this, teachers of southwestern Colombia were invited to form teams with colleagues from their own schools with the intention to create and use OER in their classrooms. They will also be part of the Participatory Action Research process. Thus, 11 teams from different schools were brought together in four departments of Colombia, reaching more than 50 teachers.

Teachers are developing their OER for different areas and levels from K-12 education using software like eXeLearning and Cuadernia. They are also using online services such as blogs, creating Moodle courses and print materials that will be published under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike (CC-BY-SA) license. An important part of this project was the face-to-face and virtual counselling offered to teams of teachers from July 2014.

As for the dissemination of advances in the research process, the team participated in the Third Forum for Teaching and Science organized by the Santa Clara Normal School, an institution for basic education teachers in the Department of Cauca. The [report](#) of the event is available under an open license.

At present, and until February 2015, teachers will use their OER in the classrooms after which the resources will be published in the [Le Mill repository](#) and [co-Krea](#)

[website](#) and made available to the entire educational community freely - in compliance with the principle that has guided us from the start: sharing to create knowledge.

SP8 - Research team conducting interviews

The SP8 research team from Mongolia is currently conducting open-ended interviews with key stakeholders in Mongolia's post-secondary education system. The interview data will provide the means to analyse the thematic specifics of each selected interview participant with the potential to identify the variations and differences among participants. In this study, the thematic analysis will include looking for evidence of administrators', faculty members' or instructors' efforts to make sense of their experiences with OER in their institutional contexts - their systems, rules and practices. For the interview analysis the researchers use thematic analysis and coding within an Activity Theory (AT) framework. The semi-structured design of the interviews will provide an opportunity for new topics and themes to emerge from the participants.

Following this set of interviews with participants recruited from within a purposeful stratified sample of institutions, a follow-up survey will target faculty and instructors. The research participants include personnel from the Ministry of Education and Science, the National University of Mongolia, the Mongolian University of Science and Technology and the Mongolian State University of Education.

Principal Investigator Batbold also attended the Open Education Conference (OpenEd14) in November 2014 in Washington, DC.

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