Workshop on

Open Educational Resources and Open Licensing Policies in the Indian Context

22 February 2013

Organized by
Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia
In Collaboration with
Creative Commons

Recommendations

Noting the contemporary developments in education, including the World OER Congress organized by the Commonwealth of Learning and United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization that released the 2012 OER Paris Declaration;

Recognizing the need for access to quality teaching, learning and research materials in Indian languages, in educational institutions at all levels;

Noting that 'online access' and download provisions through the web is not equivalent to 'Open Access';

Realizing that use of explicit open licenses is essential for reuse, remix, revise and redistribute educational materials; and

Understanding that the open license options of Creative Commons provide a legitimate option for creators/authors of knowledge resources within the framework of the exiting Copyright laws;

The participants of the workshop on "Open Educational Resources and Open Licensing Policies in the Indian Context" held on 22nd February 2013 at the India International Centre, New Delhi after detailed deliberations recommend the following for promotion and use of Open Educational Resources (OER) to improve access to quality education.

Cont'd…

For the Government:

1. *Release* all Government published materials under an explicit and declared open license;
2. *Digitize* all cultural resources available in India and make them available as knowledge commons through online open repositories;
3. *Include* a policy on sharing all research and teaching materials using a suitable open license whenever "public funds" are used;
4. *Provide* increased support for creation of OERs, including in all Indian languages, and all learning materials created within the NMEICT and ICT@Schools project be made available as Open Educational Resources (OER) with explicit open license;
5. *Recommend* the use of open formats and open standards in the technologies used for development and distribution of teaching and learning materials in educational institutions;
6. *Recognize* creation of OER by faculty as a scholarly activity as that of writing research papers in peer-reviewed journals;

For Educational Institutions:

1. *Adopt* institutional policies on 'Open Educational Resources' and 'Open Access';
2. *Develop* capacities of teachers and educational administrators to appreciate, create, and use high quality OER;
3. *Use* open formats and open standards for creation and distribution of teaching, learning and research materials;
4. *Develop* institutional open repositories for sharing of teaching, learning and research materials;
5. *Network* with other educational institutions to avoid duplication of efforts;
6. *Encourage* and support research and case studies on the development and use of OER;
7. *Recognize* and reward creation of OER by faculty;

For Individual Teachers:

1. *Take* steps to understand the concept and practices of OER and open licenses;
2. *Use* open formats and open standards for creation of teaching, learning and research materials;
3. *Participate* in the free culture movement by openly licensing and sharing teaching, learning and research materials produced as an individual and in group;
4. *Share* teaching, learning and research materials produced using an appropriate open licenses;
5. *Promote* OER in all possible opportunities and engage in research and development of OER;
6. *Adopt* ethical practice for the use of OER; and
7. *Encourage* students to use OER appropriately for learning.