

## Re: [unesco-oer] Report on Access to OER

From [Carolina Rossini](#)

To [bjoern@caret.cam.ac.uk](mailto:bjoern@caret.cam.ac.uk) [iiep-oer-opencontent@communities.unesco.org](mailto:iiep-oer-opencontent@communities.unesco.org)

blogged @ <http://openeducationnews.org/2009/10/22/new-materials-from-the-unesco-oer-community/>

On Thu, Oct 22, 2009 at 11:37 AM, Bjoern Hassler <[bjoern@caret.cam.ac.uk](mailto:bjoern@caret.cam.ac.uk)> wrote:

## Re: [unesco-oer] Report on Access to OER

From [Bjoern Hassler](#)

To [iiep-oer-opencontent@communities.unesco.org](mailto:iiep-oer-opencontent@communities.unesco.org)

Dear all,

I would like to thank you all again for the engaging discussion that we had earlier this year. I do hope that the report adequately reflects the discussion, and that you will find it useful.

The report is available in wiki format (as before) here:

<http://oerwiki.iiep-unesco.org/index.php?title=Access2OER/Contents>

There is now also a pdf version of the report available here:

[http://oerwiki.iiep-unesco.org/index.php?title=Access2OER/Final\\_report](http://oerwiki.iiep-unesco.org/index.php?title=Access2OER/Final_report)

One of the aims of the discussion was to stimulate further work in this area by formulating concrete proposals. I am happy to report on two such proposals, which have emerged from the earlier discussion, and are now being pursued.

The first proposal is about "Introducing digital Open Educational Resources into Zambian primary schools through school-based professional development". Through this project we seek to overcome access barriers, and engage with OER for Zambian primary/secondary school mathematics teaching. The barriers are manifold, including infrastructural, awareness, appropriateness of materials, etc, but we hope that we'll be able to draw on the various experiences and solutions to make this successful.

The project has a small amount of funding, which we will use to engage with teachers in Zambia in Spring 2010. The "we" here is a North-South partnership, which of course includes various partners in Zambia. The outcomes of the project will be reported at eLearning Africa (May 2010, Lusaka). Further information is available here

<http://www.educ.cam.ac.uk/centres/cce/projects/ictzambia/index.html>

The second outcome is continued engagement through the UK National Commission for UNESCO. Within the Information Society Working Group, OER has been a long-standing theme. However, based on the experience of the discussion, we are now focussing on issues around OER access and collaboration. The aims for this are concrete: We are running a series of meetings to further focus on feasible projects in this area. The first meeting will take place on 25th/26th in conjunction with the Nottingham Open Learning Conference (<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/olc/>) and in conjunction with OER Africa (<http://www.oerafrica.org>).

We do hope that many further projects and collaborations will come out of this discussion, and hope that the report will be a useful tool in shaping this. I for one would be very happy to hear about further work as it evolves!

It is needless to say that the report would not have been possible without your many contributions, and I hope that you all feel some shared ownership in the report.

Thank you again for your contribution, and please do share any feedback you may have!

Best wishes,  
Bjoern

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