



Organización de las Naciones Unidas  
para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura



# **TWIN SEMINAR ON OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AND QUALITY ASSURANCE IN LIFELONG OPEN AND FLEXIBLE LEARNING**

## **FOR AFRICA, ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA**

**UNESCO**  
**Paris, 12 –13 March 2009**





## **TWIN SEMINAR ON OER AND QA IN E-LEARNING**

**Paris, 12 –13 March 2009**

### **Quality Assurance in E-learning Forum of Continents**

#### **QA in e-learning to support globalization of higher education**

The rise in initiatives aimed at promoting the internationalization and globalization of higher education, in particular the rapid development of cross-border higher education, have underlined an urgent need to establish robust frameworks for quality assurance (QA) and the recognition of qualifications. Quality assurance issues have become more important with the increased mobility of students, academic staff, as well as higher education providers resulting from the globalization of higher education. Quality assurance in e-learning is especially of interest as e-learning has become the main instrument for generating cross-border higher education.

#### **Bringing together the models and instruments on QA in e-learning**

UNESCO's section for Reform, Innovation and Quality Assurance of the Division of Higher Education has focused on QA in distance and e-learning as one of its priority topics since 2002. In this regard a number of UNESCO activities have addressed quality issues in distance learning/Elearning. Furthermore, UNESCO, in collaboration with the OECD developed the Guidelines for Quality Provision in Cross-border Higher Education, which remains a key instrument for providing orientation for developing national capacity and international cooperation in cross-border higher education.

In this seminar we will build further on these activities and bring together and compare the state of the art models and instruments on QA in distance education from the regions.

#### **Quality Assurance in International Delivery**

In a workshop session we will further highlight the topic of QA in international delivery. A topic taken further also in the second day of the Seminar with a specific focus on OER as well.



## **TWIN SEMINAR ON OER AND QA IN E-LEARNING**

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## **Open Educational Resources: Forum of Continents**

### **Cross-valorisation UNESCO/EADTU**

In 2006, ICDE launched its Global Task Force on Open Educational Resources (OER) at the UNESCO HQ in Paris with strong support from UNESCO. The group is chaired by Fred Mulder, Rector at the Open Universiteit Nederland and Executive Committee Member of the EADTU. EADTU has been working on OER strategies in Lifelong Open and Flexible learning since 2005, when it started the MORIL initiative under the umbrella of a Task Force. EADTU works closely so as to valorise activities with UNESCO in a number of fields, including OER. OER is a prioritised area within the UN system and the European Commission for the coming years.

### **Stimulating OER capacity building in Africa, Asia and Latin America**

Capacity building activities as a collaboration between UNESCO and EADTU, will have the intention to set the stage for “education provision improvement” by OER roll-out in Africa, Asia and Latin America, starting by raising awareness and gathering different points of view, strategies and priorities on OER, leading to sharing of experience and expertise and the allocation of specific expertise from the EADTU membership to specific continental priorities.

### **Improved reach-out to deprived groups globally**

The aim of the UNESCO Seminar is to formulate and activate the steps necessary to reach (more effectively) different target groups across the continents, which have not been properly reached before or which have been deprived of qualitative educational content in the past. The collaboration must ensure a strengthened effect of self-learning on the autonomy of persons and their future prospects, by improved accessibility to OER and by additional flexibility in OER whereas time, place, content, method, organisation is concerned.



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# **Quality Assurance in E-learning Forum of Continents**

**Thursday 12 March 2008**

**9.00 - 9.15 Welcome by Unesco**

George Haddad, Director, Division of Higher Education

**9.15 - 9.30 Opening of the QA in e-learning seminar**

Stamenka Uvalic-Trumbic, Chief, Section for Reform, Innovation and Quality Assurance

**9.30-10.30 E-xcellence: a benchmarking approach**

Tim Brown, Dep. Director Open University Validation Services

**Outline of the E-xcellence+ project of Local implementation and integration European wide**

George Ubachs, Managing Director EADTU  
Keith Williams, The Open University, UK

**10.30-11.00 Break**

**11.00-12.00 CALED: Introduction on Latin American cooperation on QA in e-learning**

**Outline of the CALED QA Guide.**

Louis-Miguel Romero, President CALED (Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Quality in Distance Higher Education)



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**Thursday 12 March 2008**

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- 12.00-13.00** **ASIAN approach on Quality in e-learning**  
Atwi Suparman Director of AAOU
- 13.00-14.00** **Lunch**
- 14.00-15.00** **African Council for Distance Education (ACDE)**  
  
Fred Barassa, Director of ACDE  
  
The establishment of Pan-African standards, Quality Assurance and accreditation for distance learning across Africa
- 15.00-16.00** **Workshop on QA models**  
*Comparing the models and cases in QA in e-learning of Africa, Latin America, Asia and Europe*
- 16.00– 16.30** **Break**
- 16.30- 17.30** **Workshop on QA in International delivery**  
*How can QA in e-learning/distance education contribute to improved international delivery?*
- 17.30-18.00** **Global Task Force Quality Assurance**  
Developing a code of practice



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# **Open Educational Resources: Forum of Continents**

**Friday 13 March 2008**

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- 9.00–9.15**      **Welcome by UNESCO**
- 9.15-9.45**      **OER initiatives in the global OER arena**
- Fred Mulder, Rector Open Universiteit Nederland  
Chair OER Task Forces of the global organisation ICDE and EADTU (MORIL)
- 9.45-10.15**    **An International Community on OER: priorities and key issues**
- Susan D’Antoni, Program Specialist UNESCO - IIEP
- 10.15-10.45**   **Break**
- 10.45-11.15**   **The development and deployment of OER in general European perspective**
- Andy Lane, Director, The Open University (UK), OpenLearn, Member of the OCW-Consortium Board
- 11.15-12.00**   **TESSA: Model for multilateral cooperation between continents**
- Models of successful multi-lateral collaborations or consortia that work within and between countries: TESSA ([www.tessaafrica.net](http://www.tessaafrica.net))  
Freda Wolfenden OU Director/Jophus Amamuah-Mensah Executive Chair of the TESSA consortium from Ghana
- 12.00-12.30**   **National Knowledge Commission (NKC)**
- Kumar
- 12.30-13.30**   **Lunch**



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## **VENUE**

# **Open Educational Resources: Forum of Continents**

**Friday 13 March 2008**

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### **13.30-14.30 Break-out concurrent sessions on Capacity Needs and Preferences**

- The Case of Africa;  
Fred Barassa (ACDE)
- The Case of Latin America  
Louis Miguel Romero (AIESAD)
- The Case of Asia  
Atwi Suparman (AAOU)

### **14.30-15.00 Intermediate Break**

### **15.00-16.00 Continuation of the sessions on Capacity Needs and Preferences**

### **16.00-16.30 Break**

### **16.30-17.00 Quality Assurance and OER**

### **17.00- 17.30 Wrap-up and conclusions**

Fred Mulder, Rector Open Universiteit Nederland  
Chair OER Task Forces of the global organisation ICDE and EADTU (MORIL)



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**PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

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**VENUE**

**ACCOMMODATION**

Recommended hotels:

**REGISTRATION**

- Free of charge
- Please drop an email with your attendance to: [Angelique.Roemgens@eadtu.nl](mailto:Angelique.Roemgens@eadtu.nl)
- Registration includes dinner and lunch