

## Radical openness, incremental design: Maximising the reach of OER capacity development through open principles

Claire Goode, Otago Polytechnic Wayne Mackintosh, OER Foundation Simonne Wood, Otago Polytechnic

Low cost, low risk but high impact innovation

# Radical openness Incremental design





The story of a course...

Startup → Course guide → Interactions → Learning pathways → Assessment →

Open education, copyright and open licensing in a digital world

### **OER Foundation and the OERu**



### OER Foundation - a leader in open education

- WikiEducator platform for collaborative OER course design
- OERu:
  - International network of 40+ institutions in 7 global regions
  - Offers freely accessible 1st-year post-secondary courses, assembled entirely from OER
  - Provides free online personal learning environment using open source technology

### **Course evolution**





2011 By 2014 2015 2018 2019 2021

Development of OCL4Ed Open Content Licensing for Educators 6 cohorts of OCL4Ed facilitated; 3000+ learners across 90+ countries

Development of LiDA Learning in a Digital Age as 4 micro-courses First MoU for transnational credit transfer Digital badges and certificates introduced

Course gains NZQA equivalency

LiDA wins
Commonwealth
of Learning
Award
for 'Excellence in
Distance
Education
Materials'

### **Confidence and Motivation**







# Adoption and adaptation >



- Otago Polytechnic, New Zealand
- Western Pacific University, Papua New Guinea
- OEGlobal
- DS4OERS course, Pacific Islands
- UNESCO / ICDE initiative

## 'Opensourcing' education



### Radical openness - we open source everything

- 1. Free and Open Source technology infrastructure
- 2. Transparent planning (Release early and frequently)
- 3. Iterative design (Rough consensus running code)
- 4. Solutions for collaborative course development (Robust version control)
- 5. Design for reuse and remix (component -based)
- 6. Share technical recipes (Helping your neighbor)

# Open authoring ecosystem



#### Author on WikiEducator







#### Publish course web site









### Outline of wiki pages

- Planning a project
- Startup
  - Start here
  - About
- Course guide
  - Overview
  - Course aims and learning outcomes
  - Syllabus & Learning challenges
  - Recommended resources
  - Project Management Software
  - Learning journal

Request snapshot

3

# **Learner-facing 'Tech Wheel'**





## **Advantages for learners**



### Our NGDLE has multiple advantages for learners

- Ability to navigate own way through their learning
- Development of self-directed skills
- Cost savings (e.g. textbooks)
- Variety of dynamic, open materials (potentially in different languages)
- All courses are 'mobile-friendly'
- Enables lifelong learning
- Learners
  - control their own data during and after study
  - are never forced to waive rights to use technology (no 'l ACCEPT')

## **Building individual capacity**



### Opportunities for teaching staff and learning designers include

- Identifying, modifying, and developing resources
- Building digital literacy skills including
  - wiki writing
  - web writing
  - using FOSS tools
  - finding open content
- Understanding open licences and the use of OER
- Embracing opportunities for collaboration and innovation
- Experiencing and applying 'free-range learning'

## **Building institutional capacity**



- 1. Unprecedented savings in cost of cloud-based technology infrastructure \$9,000 serving +200K learners per year
- 2. Low cost, low risk but high impact innovation for partner universities

### Over to You...







How else can radical openness support open education?