









digital educational resources

Agenda

- Frame of reference
- Why ownership?
- Realisation of ownership
- A case from The Netherlands







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Our frame of reference for the issues of sustainability and ownership consists of the following notions:

- Sustainability of OER (Wiley, 2007)
- OER are common pool resources (Hess & Ostrom, 2001)
- OER are digital commons (Schophuizen, 2022)
- OER are public goods (Wiley, 2020)





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Sustainability of OER initiatives

"... the ability of a project to continue its operations. And certainly, the idea of *continuing* is a critical part of the meaning of sustainability (....).

The definition of sustainability should *include* the idea of *accomplishing goals* in addition to ideas related to longevity.

Hereafter, sustainability will be defined as an open educational resource project's **ongoing ability** to meet its goals."

(Wiley, 2007) (emphasis added)







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OER are:

- Common Pool Resources: goods that typically possess a natural or engineered system of non-excludable resources
- Public goods: non-excludable and non-rivalrous
- Digital Commons: managed and maintained by communities of users/producers







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The question of ownership

- Collections of Open Educational Resources
- Goal: creating ongoing ability (enduring value) → sustainability
- Ownership: taking responsibility for creating and sustaining value







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Sustaining value: business models

- Through public funding (Bccampus)
- Through internal funding (U. of Edinburgh, U. of Southern Queensland, UK Open University)
- Through endowments/donations (Wikipedia, OpenStax College, Khan Academy)
- By participating in an OER network (OERu, African Health OER Network)
- By offering services to learners (Khan Academy, Lumen Learning, Siyavula, OpenStax)
- By relying on OER authors (Jörn Loviscach)
- By producing OER on demand (federal textbook programme in Brazil)
- Through sponsorship/advertisement (Global Text Project)
- By offering learning-related data to companies (Hootsuite Academy)
- Community-based model (Educred.ro, OER communities in OSGeo)
- Ownership beats finance







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Community-based model

- The members of the community jointly bear the production and maintenance costs of OER, with those materials also being accessible to others outside the community.
- Variations are situations in which students also produce materials, whether or not in co-creation (Open Pedagogy).
- Non-financial incentives necessary in order to acquire and retain participation, for example recognition, the desire to see one's own material improved, efficiency through sharing the workload, etc.
- Contributions by members in various forms (engagement)

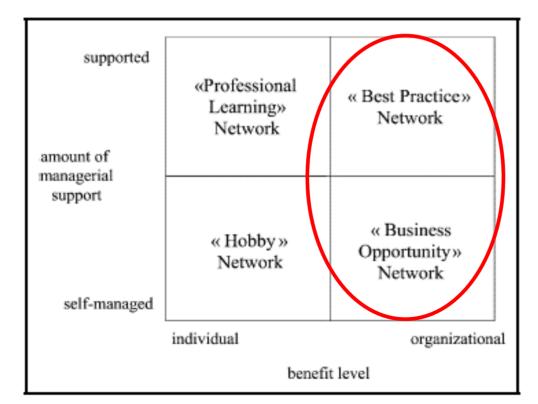






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Sustainability community



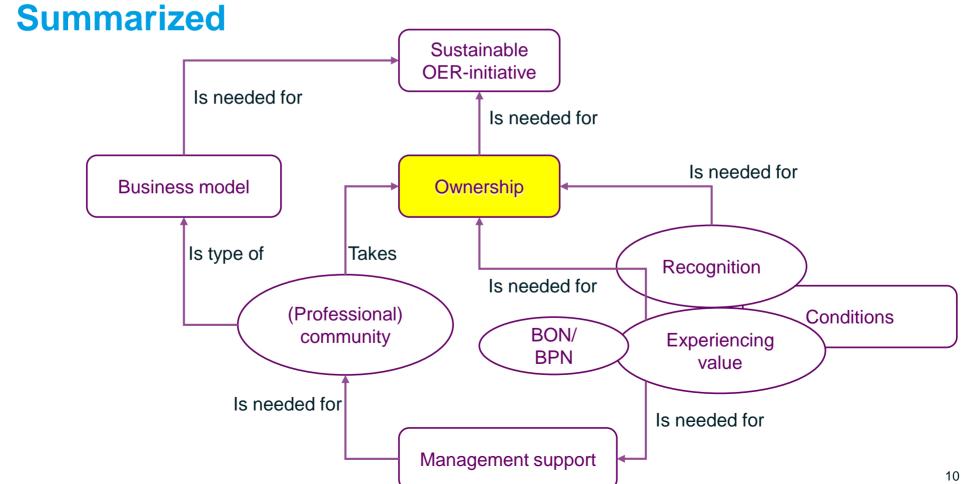
Institutionalized sharing knowledge

Incubator





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How to translate this to a working practice

- Wikiwijs Platform
 - More than 150K interactive online lessons created (CC-BY and CC-BY-SA)
 - 6M direct visits per year
 - Plus local copies within learning environments
 - Direct links with more than 80 collections
 - Open licensed and open standaard connections to all LMS platforms









Ownership within our communities

- First we facilitate a discussion on a common definition of quality
- Step 2 is a homepage "this is us and what we think is important"
- We make it possible to "certify" materials by a community
- We recognize and reward "creators and owners"
- We encourage ownership of metadata (for other materials as well as their own)





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Colophon

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