OERs for French-speaking learners and communities

EDEN CONFERENCE 2018
Workshop B5

Mother-Language OER for Access and Quality of Education: Pros and Cons for Non-English-Speaking Communities
Jacques DANG
Technology Director, Hautes Etudes Commerciales, Paris

Secretary of the board, AUNEGE
Invited Expert, Ministère de l’Enseignement Supérieur, de la Recherche et de l’Innovation
Member of the French delegation to ISO/IEC JTC1 SC/36
« Information Technology for Learning, Education and Training “
French policy: combining centralized and grassroots approaches

- There is a centralized policy, whether implicit or explicit
- It is balanced by the need to take into account the autonomy of universities
- This is a dynamic balance, subject to shifts in budget allocation or changes in policy makers
The early days – 2000-2002 – Digital Campuses

- 3 calls for proposals for distance education
- Focus on joint curriculum for degrees granted by each partner university
- 18 M€ budget
- Over 90% participation from universities
- 64 digital campuses
- Gradual shift from human resources to technology
- Erosion of centralized funding

- Change in personnel and policy
2003: the launch of Digital Thematic Universities

- Move away from distance education
- ... towards Educational Resources
- Cataloguing existing resources
- Production of new resources
- Storage and indexing through open repositories
- Sharing of experience within communities of teachers
- Content validation by scientific committees from member universities
- 4 Digital Thematic Universities: Economics and Management, Science, Humanities and Medicine
2018: over 43,000 Educational Resources in Higher Education

Produced and digital broadcasted by French Digital Thematic Universities (UNT)
Easily accessible through a national search engine

One national search engine based on OAI-PMH (Open Archive Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting)

www.sup-numerique.gouv.fr
A diversity of objectives

Digital material to learn, to train, to prepare an examination
And also MOOCs!

Moocs, to be part of a course in a larger scale

Extrait - Economie circulaire et innovation
La capacité de production alimentaire

Teaser - QuidQuam? Eureka!
Comprendre le monde au quotidien

Teaser - Bioinformatique : algorithmes et génomes

Teaser - Ma pédagogie à la sauce web 2.0

Teaser - Ebola : vaincre ensemble!

Teaser - Biodiversité

[Links to videos included]
Other government supported initiatives

- **Regional digital universities:** sharing of infrastructure related services
- **FUN-MOOC:** an edX-based platform for deployment of over 150 MOOCs from member universities
- **PIA (Investments for the future Programme):**
  - **PERICLES:** quality, evaluation & recommendation
  - **SONATE:** life-long professional learning for disadvantaged audiences
- **ECRI+:** platform for remediation in written French language skills
2017: L’Université Numérique – 8 = 1

Supports universities

Supports digital transformation

Supports collaboration between HEIs

Supports pedagogical transformation
Current focus on

• Collaborative projects
  • Life-long learning
  • Soft skills and competency-based learning (ELENE4LIFE, openVM, AGILES)
  • Adaptive Learning

• Mainstreaming OERs
  • Creative Commons licensing for most existing resources
  • Enhancing access through the move from LOM to MLR
  • Certification (badges, blockchain)

• International cooperation
  • IDNEUF portal for French-speaking countries
  • Support for universities in various African countries: use and deployment of OERs
  • Participation in OEC activities
French open education policy at the crossroads

• No French Open University, yet
• Reduced funding
  • No more government funding for resources
  • Funding targeted at government-supported initiatives: success in first year at University, flexibility for Bachelor studies
  • Increasing need for long-term sustainability of resources
• Shift in the balance between supporting centralized initiatives and supporting collaboration within and between universities: digital thematic universities as change agents
• Need to support large scale deployments of life long professional learning, with no explicit connection to existing higher education institutions
• Need to support regulatory changes, such as improving recognition of investment in pedagogical innovation or adapting IPR
Outreach through networked OER repositories

• « Global Open Libraries » feasibility study by ICDE and French Digital Thematic Universities: 3 drivers for repositories to collaborate, by improving
  • Discoverability
  • Quality and trust
  • Quantity and niches

• PANOR Erasmus+ Knowledge Alliance project submission
  • A dynamic network of European OER repositories well connected to key stakeholders, the user community and companies innovating on, or in relation to OER
  • The French digital thematic universities lead WP4, devoted to language and cultural adaption: experience from adaptation of OER into different learning contexts and cultures and from collaborative development and community engagement
Thank You

dang@hec.fr