OPENNESS FOR VISIBILITY: THE ROER4D CURATION AND DISSEMINATION STRATEGY

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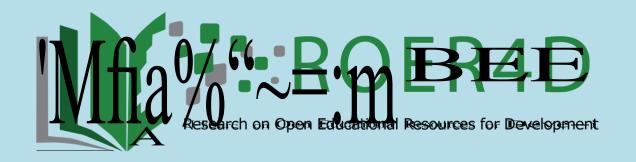
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Openness for Visibility

The ROER4D Curation and Dissemination Strategy

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9 March 2017

Getting organised

Stewardship



Why?

- 1. So that others can find your work ... and reuse it.
- 2. So that you (and your collaborators, particularly the PI and those involved in cross-synthesis) can find your work ... and (re)use it. This provides affordances for a long tail of ongoing analysis and future publishing opportunity.
- 3. Because it makes you work better. Organisation drives rigour, thoroughness, self-reflection.
- 4. Builds skills that facilitate participation in digital scholarship. Professionalisation.

When you have your house in order, you want to invite others in.



The ROER4D Curation & Dissemination Strategy

Primary objectives

- Provide a content management and publishing service to SP researchers and the Network Hub team in order to advance research capacity development efforts and increase visibility of outputs.
- Support Principal Investigators and SP researchers in editorial development of ROER4D outputs.
- Address infrastructure deficits and provide content management solutions (including content hosting) in a research community with uneven institutional support and capacity challenges.
- Ensure that the ROER4D legacy is freely accessible for reuse in line with international curatorial and publishing standards.
- Complement Network Hub Communications efforts in an integrated communications/dissemination approach.

Why?

- 1. Establish an empirical baseline (including open data).
- 2. Raise the visibility of OER research from the Global South ... and of OER researchers from the Global South.
- 3. Support the project research capacity development agenda.

Not just about supporting researchers in how to conceptualise, frame and conduct research, but also in how to:

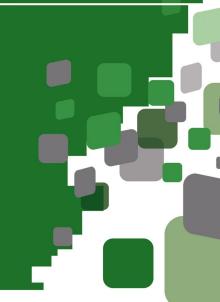
- Organise (embedding stewardship in scholarly practice)
- Package
- Share optimally

Publishing programme integrating key elements of stewardship, research capacity building, outputs production, and communication.

High quality content presentation that authentically represents the ROER4D research community, raises the visibility of this work and the community, and paves the way for further Open Education research in the Global South.

Adoption and Impact

of OER in the Global South





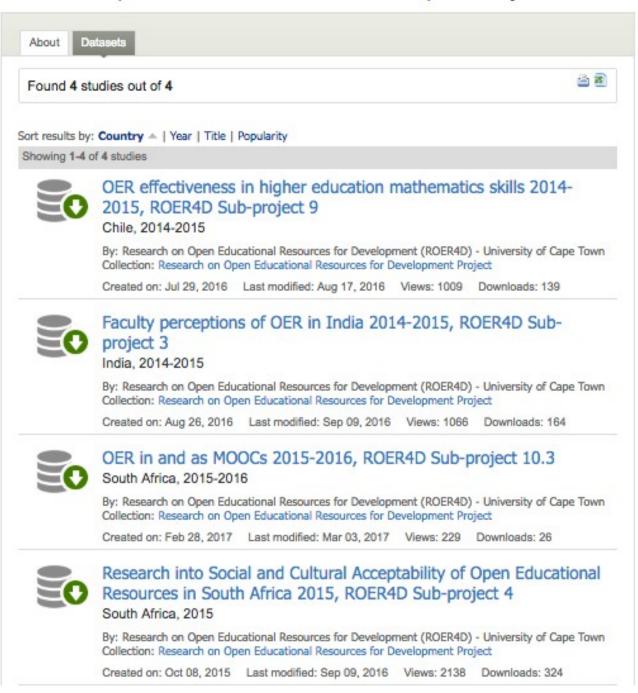


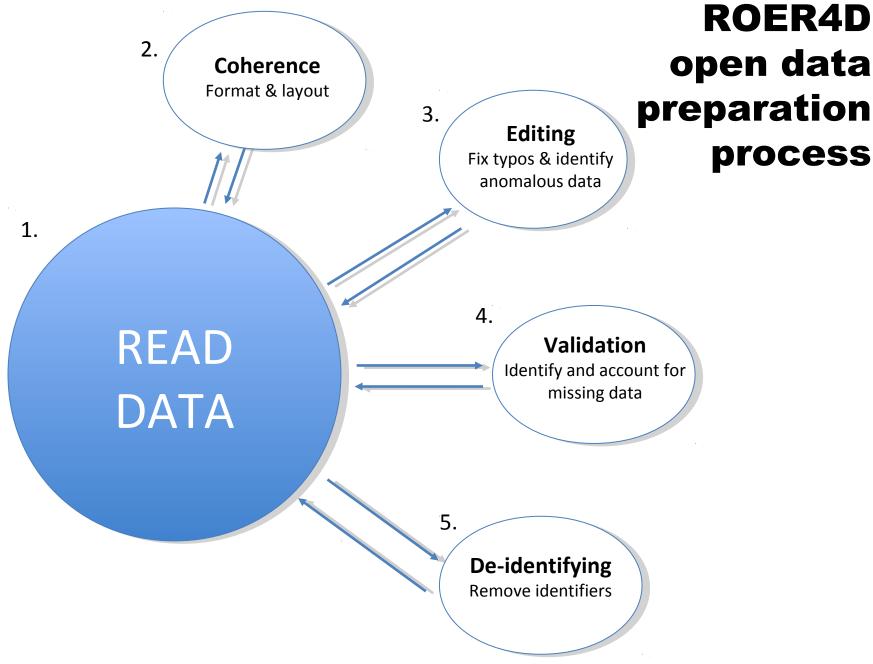




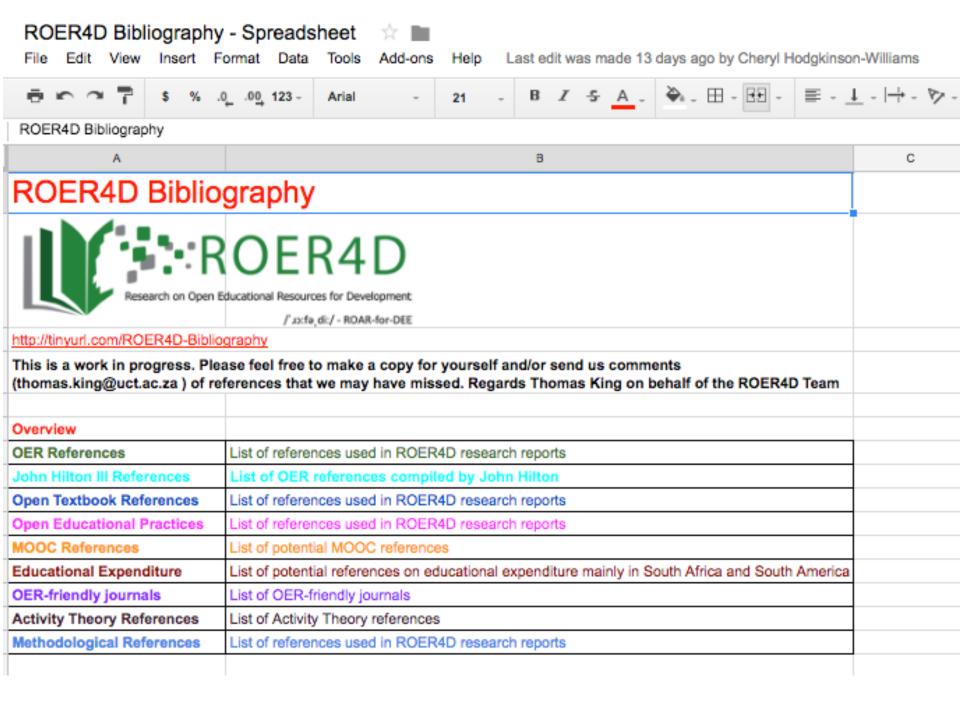


Research on Open Educational Resources for Development Project





Source: Thomas King (CC BY)



ROER4D as sef-publisher (with strategic partnerships)

Why do academics still chase the book contract?

It certainly isn't for the money, so it must be for the prestige ... There is the personal prestige one feels in having a book accepted by a publisher and going through the actual process. One feels like a proper author. There are some practical advantages also – real deadlines to keep you motivated, professional copyediting and some promotion.

[...]

Increasingly academics are developing what we might nauseatingly refer to as personal brand. That is they carry sufficient credibility and connections within their own networks to make self-publishing as viable as traditional publishing in terms of generating interest. Add to that they can be in charge of rights and make their books open access.

(Martin Weller, Why don't academic authors self-publish?)

Why was self-publishing compelling in the ROER4D context?

- 1. This approach provides affordances to incorporate the research capacity development with development editing (moving from drafts, to final research reports, to manuscripts, to chapters).
- 2. Supports network building and the establishment of robust partnerships between the Network Hub and subproject researchers.
- 3. Paves the way for entrenching an Open Research agenda.

Main challenges in the ROER4D publishing strategy

- 1. Development editing process is extremely time consuming and entails sustained engagement past the "end" of the research process.
- 2. Quality assurance and peer review.
- 3. Lack of formal institutional accreditation, which is linked to traditional peer reviewed "formal publisher" output.

There is no lack of intellectual integrity in open access or selfpublishing.

Before self-publishing, establish what is mean by 'editing' (substantive/development editing vs copy editing).

Accept the ramifications of self-publishing then get stuck in.

(Thad McIlroy, The Future of Publishing)

Insights from ROER C&D activity

- 1. It's not just about putting stuff on the web in rapid, unprocessed fashion, but rather about incorporating a strategic approach to content preparation and sharing.
- 2. External, public sharing builds upon internal sharing and collaboration.
- 3. The "open" sharing process involves trust ... share when you're ready.