# Training material on
# OER and Sustainability Models

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Having successfully completed all training material, **you will be able to**:
- understand the approach of open movement
- describe/identify specific characteristics of OER
- find, select and use/reuse/make one OER
- analyse case studies of sustainable models of OER

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# Unit 3. Sustainable Models of OER

This unit focuses on *Sustainable Models of OER*. Having successfully completed this Unit, you **will be able to**:

- know three different cases of sustainable models of OER

- During *Assignment 3* you will choose a case and discuss in a group the organizational view.

## 3.1 Sustainable Models for OER

There are numerous initiatives in the context of *Open Educational Resources*, with different models of organization and operation. Wiley (2007b) illustrates this diversity, identifying three sustainable models of OER, based on criteria such as size, organization and content creation, among other services.  Sustainability is also linked to funding models or with business models that an institution, a group or an individual adopt to adopt, support or manage OER.  *Table 4* presents the 3 main *Sustainable Models for OER* considered as study cases in the world that adopted different approaches and the main differences between them.

|  | Case 1<br>MIT | Case 2<br>USU | Case 3<br>Rice |
|---|---|---|---|
| Course production goals | All courses offered by MIT | Many courses offered by USU | Many courses offered anywhere |
| Control over courses produced | High degree of control | Small degree of control | Practically no control |
| Cost per course produced | USD 10 000 | USD 5 000 | USD 0 |
| Organisation size | Large | Medium | Small |

Table 4 - Models in use in OER initiatives (adapted Wiley, 2007b)

## Case 1 ) MIT model:

Centralized responsibility of an organization (4.3 million / year), with a high degree of centralization and coordination in terms of organization and delivery of services, which work is developed mainly by paid employees under the project.

## Case 2) the USU model

Hybrid (+ organization volunteer academic work) (127,000 / year) with a mix of centralization and decentralization, from the organization or the services, in which the work is distributed by paid staff, but also by several volunteers.

## Case 3) the Rice model

CONNEXIONS®: decentralized (collaborative, community) (very low value per course) almost entirely decentralized, whose services are also almost totally provided by volunteers.

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**Assignment 3.** **Choosing a Case of Sustainable Model of OER and discuss in a group or pair the organizational view**.
The **aim** of the assignment: having completed this assignment, you will be able to understand the different sustainable models of OER.

**Tasks:**
- analyse the different models.
- adopt the point of view of one of the models for your organization.
- evaluate the possibility (or not) of adoption of the chosen model.
- present the solution to the others groups of peers.

**The result expected:**

After undertaking these tasks, you will have developed an understanding on different cases of sustainable models of OER.

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# References

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Wiley (2007b). *On the Sustainability of Open Educational Resource Initiatives in Higher Education*, OCDE. Retrieved from http://www.oecd.org/edu/ceri/38645447.pdf

# Links

How to Search for Open Educational Resources, http://elearninginfographics.com/how-to-search-for-open-educational-resources-infographic

## Videos

Blake, D. (2012). Why Open Education Matters, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gJWbVt2Nc-I&index=1&list=PL741678F352148469

OERIPR Support, D. (2012). Turning a Resource into an Open Educational Resource, OER, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CUVW5fhQP2k

OGRepository (2012). Creating an OER, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hkz4q2yuQU8