Educational Repositories Network

EDRENE

Repositories connect users and content

A gap exists between users who ask "where are the learning resources", and the content providers who ask "where are the users".

In repositories users search or browse for relevant resources among the vast supply on the market. Therefore, in many countries ministries of education, authorities or professional organisations have established repositories of educational resources.

Repositories are key disseminators of information on available learning resources, and attempt to help users locate relevant learning materials, as easy as possible. Supporting legal sharing, development and remixing of materials created by educators is becoming an increasingly important focus area for educational repositories.

The strategies for educational repositories vary – some host content, others only provide descriptions; some hold only free materials, others only commercial content; some only list digital materials, others include traditional text books. The common denominator is to ensure easy access to available learning materials.

– join the discussion

edrene.org

Events

From 2007 to 2010 the network has arranged four strategic seminars and 10 expert workshops.

In the years to come EdReNe will arrange semi-annual seminars, and we invite all stakeholders to join the network.

The events address the different aspects of the overall goals of the network, and engage both members and external experts in the work. Together members of the network prioritise the issues to be discussed, and provide input on their relevant fields of expertise. The events aim to be highly interactive and provide concrete results – this is why the network is built.

The EdReNe website includes a Members Zone for discussion and planning in between the face-to-face events.

The output of the EdReNe network is published on the web, see **www.edrene.org.**

All things considered?

EdReNe's overall goal is to make it easier for users to find and use content of high quality.

Themes of discussion include
- Policies and strategies of repositories of learning resources
- Identifying successful policy actions
- The future of repositories in a rapidly evolving web environment
- Functionalities and features of a repository
- Encouraging teachers' knowledge sharing
- Optimising number of titles and users
- Ensuring ease of use - usability, wizards, help and support
- Quality criteria and quality assurance
- Reviews and evaluations
- Building your own content from repository resources
- Involving commercial publishers and associated agreements

- Rights protection and management
- Ethics, screening and clearing

- Licensing schemes
- Strategies for providing copyright cleared material for education
- Providing guidelines for users/teachers/producers

- Standards and interoperability
- Connecting and cooperating with existing repositories
- Facilitating exchange between repositories and Learning Management Systems
- Development and harmonisation/mapping of metadata application profiles
- Pedagogical metadata and links to curriculum

For all issues, a common effort is to identify best practice examples – and examples not to follow.

EdReNe will link to, and collaborate with, other cross-national and local initiatives dealing with learning resources and educational repositories.

Results

As well as proceedings and presentations from all events, a number of reports are available for download from the EdReNe website, including:
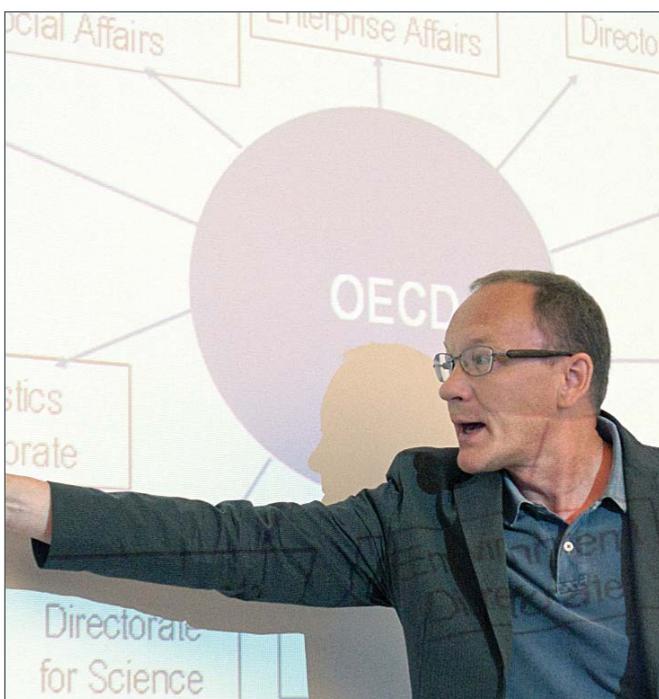
Current status of European Educational Repositories

Templates for agreements and guidelines for repositories and content owners/providers

Consolidated recommendations on repositories of educational content

Four synthesis reports on:

- Policies and strategies of educational repositories
  Planning, building and running a repository – strategic decisions
- Engaging users and producers
  Getting educators involved – using, sharing and improving digital content
- Standards and interoperability
  Are current standardization bodies in sync with actual user needs?
- Rights issues
  Is copyright legislation in tune with educators' expectations?

Network members

AIE – Associazione Italiana Editori, Italy

ALLIANZ S.p.A., Italy

ANSAS – Agenzia Nazionale per lo Sviluppo dell'Autonomia Scolastica (former INDIRE), Italy

apsit – aps IT diensten, The Netherlands

AtiT, Belgium

Becta – British Educational Communi cations and Technology Agency, United Kingdom

BFU – Brancheforeningen for Undervisningsmidler, Denmark

CNDP – Centre National de Documentation Pédagogique, France

CTE – Centre de technologie de l'éducation, Luxembourg

CTIE – Centre suisse des technologies de l'information dans l'enseignement, Switzerland

DGIDC –Ministry of Education, Portugal

EDEN – European Distance and E-Learning Network, Europe

EduWeb, Portugal

EENET – European Expert's Network for Education and Technology, Europe

Encyclopaedia Britannica Education, United Kingdom

ENIS Austria, Austria

EUN – European Schoolnet, Europe

FWU – Institut für Film und Bild in Germany Wissenschaft und Unterricht, Germany

Giunti Labs, Italy

IKT Senteret, Norway

IML – Umeå University Department of Interactive Media and Learning, Sweden

Intrallect, UK

ITC – Centre of IT in Education, Lithuania

Kennisnet – Sticting Kennisnet Ict op School, The Netherlands

KlasCement, Belgium

Lektion.se, Sweden

LTScotland, Learning and Teaching Scotland, United Kingdom

Menon Network, Europe

NCTE – National Centre for Technology in Education, Ireland

Ontwikkelcentrum, The Netherlands

Open University/OLnet, United Kingdom

sDae – Sociedad Digital de Autores y Editores, Spain

ShareTEC, Europe

Skolverket – The Swedish National Agency for Education, Sweden

SLO – the Netherland's Institute for Curriculum Development, The Netherlands

SMART Technologies, United Kingdom

Teachable.net, United Kingdom

TLF – Tiger Leap Foundation, Estonia

TLU-CET – Talinn University, Estonia

UNI•C, Denmark

UNI-LJ-FMF, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

UPF – Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain

VETAMIX, Finland

EdReNe – a Thematic Network

EdReNe brings together members from
• Web-based repositories of learning resources
• Content owners
• Other stakeholders within education

The members share, develop and document strategies, experiences, practices, solutions, advice, procedures etc. on the organisation, structuring and functionality of repositories.

EdReNe develops practical guidelines and recommendations, but most importantly, constitutes a collegial network of European repository nodes and stakeholders.

The network has the role of connecting the many providers of learning resources with the education community.
Existing repositories may cut some corners, and new repositories may have a less costly and much less complicated path in life.

Do you wish to join EdReNe?
EdReNe invites all stakeholders interested in sharing experiences and opinions on repositories of learning resources to join the network.

All members may participate in the work and events organised by the network, and they have full access to the Members Zone of the EdReNe website.

Members cover their own costs from participating in work and events organized by the EdReNe network.

Contact
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edrene.org
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