

ERASMUS+ project “**Transformative Digital Pedagogies for Higher Education**”
contract Nr. 2022-1-LV01-KA220-HED-000085277

Task 4.3 report

[24/10/2024] - *Developing a virtual space of OER and OEP users*

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1. Introduction to WP4

The aim of this WP is to produce an e-Toolkit with examples and guidance for the creation of open educational resources (OER) and open education practices (OEP) for transformative digital pedagogies. As defined by the bid, the e-Toolkit will not only compile resources for educators who are looking to use transformative digital pedagogies in their teaching practices but it will also guide them in the process of becoming ‘open practitioners’, that is, educators who can learn new technical skills, share pedagogical ideas, learn from others, and adopt new approaches to creating materials. Following Downes¹ (2011) we understand OER as “materials used to support education that may be freely accessed, reused, modified and shared by anyone”.

¹ Downes, S. (2011, July 14th). Open educational resources: A definition [Weblog comment]. Retrieved from <http://halfanhour.blogspot.com/2011/07/openeducational-resources-definition.html>

The objectives of the OERs for the TDP4HE project are to enhance digital teaching and learning practices in higher education by providing freely accessible, high-quality educational resources.

They also seek to promote collaborative learning by encouraging both educators and learners to engage with, modify, and contribute to the materials. By creating a sustainable repository of resources, the OERs in TDP4HE are intended to improve access to education, reduce costs for students, and support the ongoing development of digital competencies among educators. Ultimately, the goal is to foster a more open, inclusive, and innovative learning environment across higher education institutions.

2. Introduction to Task 4.3

The aim of Task 4.3 is to develop and produce a **virtual space** for OERs and OEPs users and developers.

The virtual space has been developed on an online platform named **IndieOpen** to develop our OER and OEP space because it provides a flexible, accessible, and collaborative environment.

Users are navigating in a freely accessible space built around promoting and enriching skills related to digital pedagogies.

3. Why IndieOpen ?



The **IndieOpen** platform (UPCT) was chosen for the TDP4HE project because it offers several key advantages, particularly its proven reliability and established use within the Universidad Politécnica de Cartagena (UPCT). IndieOpen is already a stable and trusted platform, used daily by educators to upload and manage educational materials. This familiarity ensures that the system is well-integrated into the academic workflow, providing a solid foundation for hosting OER.

Here is a list of arguments in favor of the use of IndieOpen for hosting OERs and OEPs :

1. IndieOpen can host videos, images, lessons, courses and modules.
2. IndieOpen is already being used by UPCT as part of daily courses' tasks: hosting teachers' courses, sharing content with students, creation of modules, hosting of videos.

3. IndieOpen is thus a stable platform with an area dedicated to design courses named [IndieOpen Editor](#) (link to the project)
4. IndieOpen answers the need for OERs and OEPs to be opened and accessible by everyone **without an account**.
5. IndieOpen allows users to create modules and content using the IndieOpen editor (to create an account, users need to contact, in order to publish...) but also to publish their content inside of the OER.

4. Link to e-Toolkit platforms and how it's working together

In the TDP4HE project, all platforms are interconnected to create a cohesive and integrated digital learning environment. The project's [website](#) acts as a central hub, with clearly defined sections that link to various resources and platforms. For instance, in the e-Toolkit section of the website, users can find direct access to both the E-Toolkit and the dedicated space for OER. This setup ensures that educators can easily navigate between training resources and open educational materials, all within the same interface.

Moreover, the Community of Practice is designed to further strengthen the connection between these platforms. A specific sphere has been created within the community for discussions and collaboration around OER and OEP, allowing participants to share experiences, insights, and best practices.

The Community of Practice within the TDP4HE project is a collaborative, knowledge-sharing space where educators, researchers, and other stakeholders come together to discuss, share, and refine best practices in digital education. It is designed to foster ongoing dialogue around Open Educational Resources (OER) and Open Educational Practices (OEP), encouraging participants to exchange ideas, tools, and strategies for enhancing teaching and learning in higher education.

This collaborative space is directly linked to the resources available on the website, ensuring that discussions in the community are enriched by easy access to the materials they reference.

5. Task A4.3 Achievements report

Objectives of the task:

5.1 The creation of a virtual space on IndieOPEN

The first page of the TDP4HE virtual space offers an overview of the project and introduces key concepts related to Open Educational Resources (OER) and Open Educational Practices (OEP). It explains the importance of OER for enhancing access to education, promoting collaboration, and reducing costs for students. The page also links to various modules, covering topics like teaching pedagogies, digital technologies, and practical classroom applications, all aimed at fostering innovative digital education practices. For more information, you

can visit the [TDP4HE virtual space](#).

Screenshots of the landing page of the virtual space:



52 Creating a structure for the OERs and OEPs

The structure of the OER was inspired by the structure of our Community of Practice and closely reflects the way discussions and resources are organized in that collaborative space. The structure was intentionally to create consistency across platforms, ensuring that educators and participants can easily navigate and access materials, whether they are engaging with the community or exploring the OER.

To further enrich the OER, content was re-used from the TDP4HE training program, integrating valuable resources, modules, and practical insights already developed for the project. This not only maximizes the use of existing high-quality content but also ensures that the OER is directly aligned with the objectives of the training program, promoting continuity and relevance. The division of the OER into categories like "Teaching and Pedagogies" and "Digital Technologies" reflects the dual focus of TDP4HE on both traditional and emerging approaches in higher education. "Teaching and Pedagogies" addresses foundational educational practices and strategies essential for effective teaching in the digital era, while "Digital Technologies" focuses on the tools and methods that leverage new technologies for innovative teaching and learning.

Image 1 OER Navigating menu:

Teaching and pedagogies
Module 1. Introduction to Teaching and Learning in Higher Education in the Digital Era
Module 3. Didactic Principles of Study Process
Module 4. Introduction to Psychology and Inclusive Education
Module 5. Professional Development of Academic Staff
Digital technologies
Module 2. Didactic Foundation of Learning/Teaching through the use of new/ emerging technologies
Pedagogical in-classroom scenarios
Pedagogical in-classroom scenarios
Examples of applications usable in class
Examples of applications

A menu which appears on the main page of the OER for users to navigate through TDP4HE's content

Image 2 Access to the e-toolkit from the website

A dedicated row was created for users to freely access the e-toolkit section, directing them to various tools and an explanation of the goals of the e-toolkit.

ABOUT US GOALS & RESULTS PARTNERS TRAINING **E-TOOLKIT** NEWS CONTACT

Pressing the “discover e-toolkit” button will bring the user on the homepage of the OER and OEPs, as displayed in the previous section

Home ▶ Training ▶ E-toolkit

E-TOOLKIT



Our e-toolkit offers valuable services and resources to boost your transformative digital pedagogical competences.
We provide a virtual learning space with access to a library of Open educational resources (OER) and Open educational practices (OEP).

DISCOVER E-TOOLKIT 

E-toolkit

Self-assessment e-tool

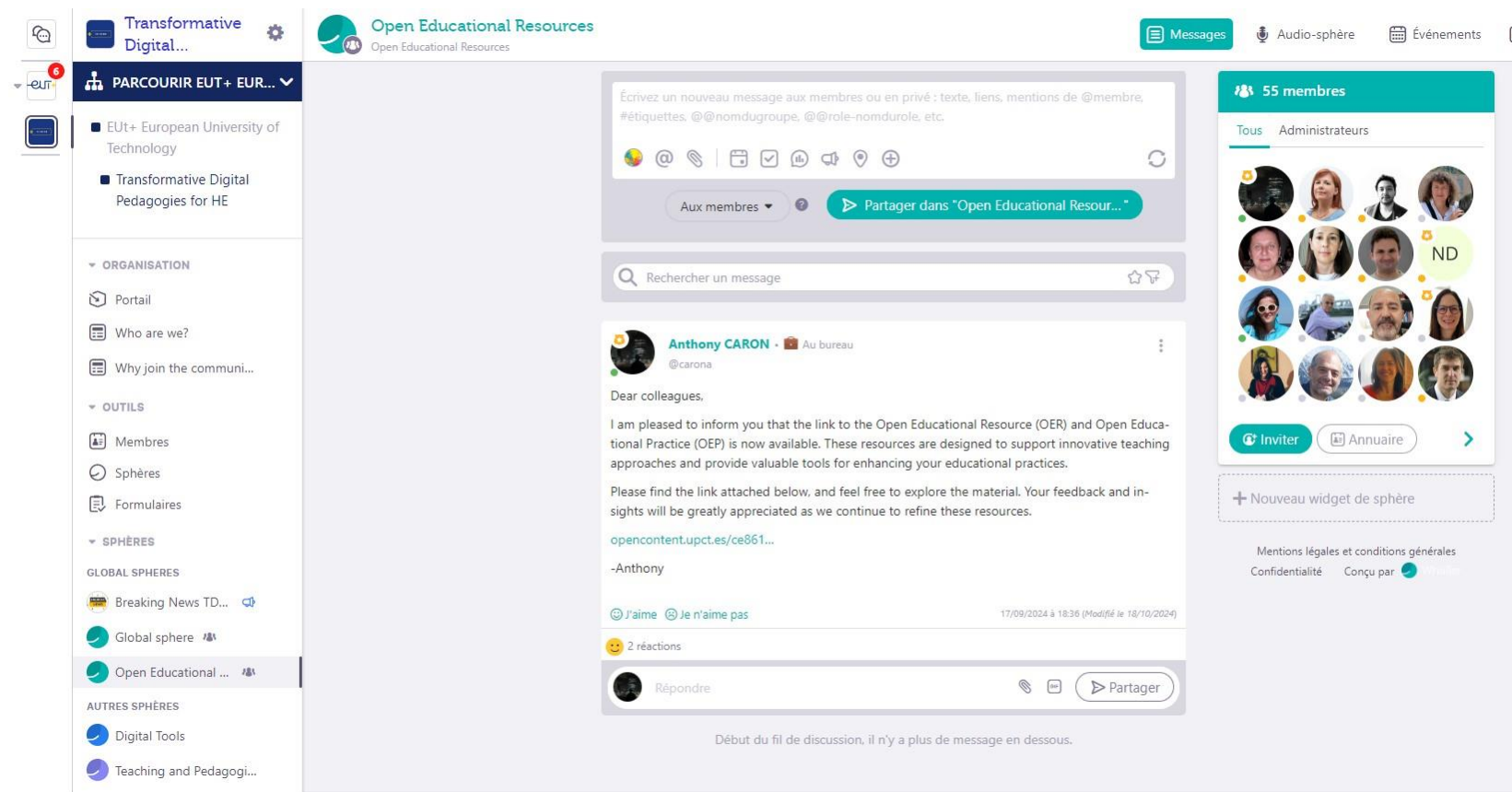
Open community of
practice

Training program

Certificate

Open Educational
Resources

Image 3 Screenshot of the sphere created inside TDP4HE's Open Community of Practice for the OER virtual space :



The landing page of the OER sphere inside the community of practice guides users towards our OER virtual space

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