COMMONWEALTH of LEARNING

NEW ZEALAND FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE Manatū Aorere

PACFOLD learn
Pacific Centre for Flexible & Open Learning for Development

Digital Skills for OER Sharing

for Pacific Countries

Course description

This course helps teachers improve their digital skills using Free and Open Source Software to develop teaching materials for their classroom and share these as Open Educational Resources (OER). The course is particularly suited for teachers in the Pacific Region, but will benefit any developing country context. It will run for three weeks. It will require 3–5 hours of time each week. Participants will learn from readings, videos, and discussions with fellow teachers and mentors. A Certificate of Completion will be given to those who complete all the tasks in the course.

Dates

The course will be facilitated online by the Pacific's UNESCO Chair in OER from 4 to 25 June 2025. Thereafter, the content will remain freely available for self-paced learning.

Learning outcomes

In this short online course, teachers will:

- Discuss and reflect on why open matters in education with Pacific teachers
- Review what constitutes an Open Educational Resource (OER)
- Apply knowledge of the six Creative Commons open licenses, including legal remix compatibility for derivative works and requirements for attribution.
- Search for openly licensed images and audio for reuse.
- Gain hands-on experience using Free and Open Source Software packages to remix content and images, as well as producing audio graphics for use in your classroom.

Course details

This is a hands-on, activity-based course in which teachers will complete:

- Enabling activities covering: what constitutes an OER, Creative Commons licensing, attribution, and remix compatibility.
- Four digital skills learning challenges to develop teaching resources for use in the classroom:
  - Open image challenge
  - Vector chart or diagram remix challenge
  - Static audio graphic remix challenge
  - Lesson plan challenge

Course summary

Number of Challenges/Digital Badges: 6

Length of the Course: 3 Weeks

Workload: 3–5 hours per week

Language: English

Level: Introductory – Basic Computer Skills and access to the internet required

Prerequisites: None

Certification

Participants who successfully achieve the six digital badges for the DS4OERS course will receive a PDF Certificate of Completion.

Registration

To register, please go to: **https://oer.nz/ds4oers25**

Pacific Partnership for Open, Distance and Flexible Learning (ODLF)

Open, distance and flexible learning (ODFL) is an important channel for increasing education opportunities and outcomes. It is particularly relevant for the Pacific, given small, dispersed, remote populations and limited access to secondary and post-secondary opportunities in rural and outer island locations. Despite the importance of ODFL to the region and the immediate need to build capacity, there has been limited investment. The Covid-19 pandemic has further reinforced the need for the Pacific to be well prepared for non-contact teaching and learning approaches outside traditional classroom-based practices.

Partnership for ODFL in the Pacific is a five-year project (2020 – 2025) funded by the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade to support enhancing capacity and efficiency of education sectors in the Pacific through greater use of innovative delivery mechanisms and technology. Commonwealth of Learning (COL), together with the Pacific Centre for Flexible and Open Learning for Development (PACFOLD), implements the project in the nine Commonwealth countries in the Pacific (Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu).

The **Commonwealth of Learning (COL)** is an intergovernmental organisation created by Commonwealth Heads of Government in 1987 to promote the development and sharing of open learning and distance education knowledge, resources and technologies.

Pacific Centre for Flexible & Open Learning for Development (PACFOLD) is a collaborative initiative between COL and the University of the South Pacific since 2013 to facilitate flexible and open learning for sustainable development in the Pacific region through advocacy, communication, innovation and research. The Centre for Flexible Learning at The University of the South Pacific has a strong and long track record in the adoption of open, flexible and distance learning methods in the Pacific region, and is best placed to coordinate the work of PACFOLD.

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For more information

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