



IT WAS 20 YEARS AGO TODAY

OER IN THE NETHERLANDS

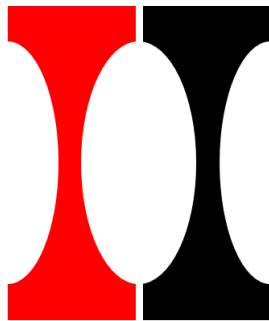
25 NOVEMBER 2025

About me



Robert Schuwer

- Based in Malden (The Netherlands)
- Married, two sons
- Independent consultant and researcher OER
- MSc in Mathematics (University Nijmegen) and Computer Science (Eindhoven University of Technology)
- PhD @ Eindhoven University of Technology. Topic: Expert systems
- Involved in “open” since 2006
- 2014-2022 Professor OER @Fontys University of Applied Sciences

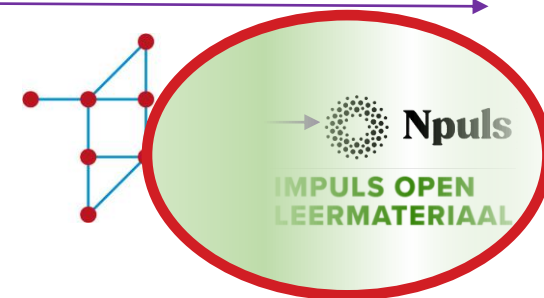


OER Consultancy

Historical timeline



Universiteit Leiden



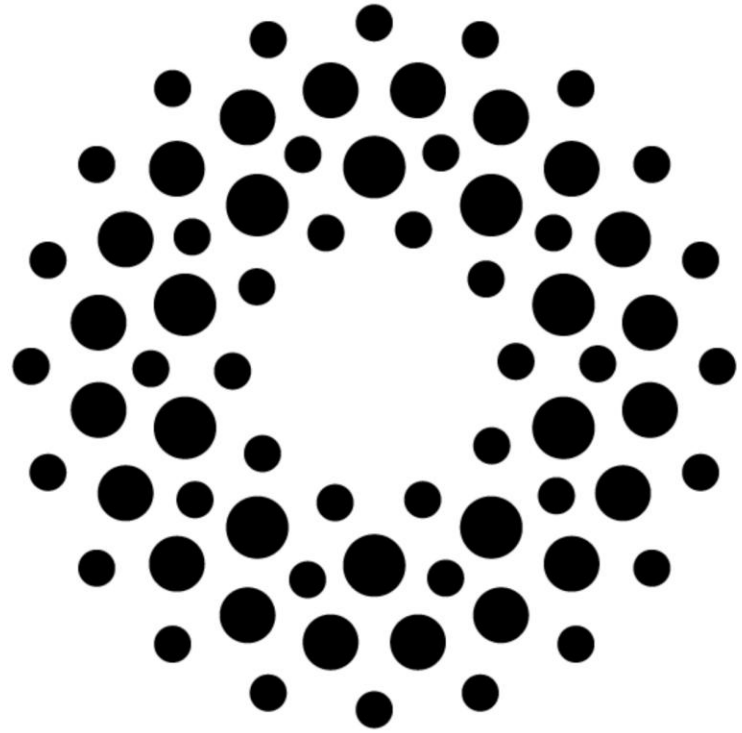
2001 2002

2006 2008

2010 2012 2014

2016 2018

2023



Npuls

Npuls

- Npuls is a collaborative national program dedicated to future-proofing Dutch education.
- By focusing on digitalization, quality, and accessibility, they aim to make learning smarter and more inclusive for everyone.
- For vocational and higher education
- Duration 2022-2030
- Financed by the Dutch government (~€600M)
- <https://npuls.nl/en>

Npuls: core ambitions

- **Obstacle-Free Learning**

- Ensuring education is flexible and accessible, allowing every student to learn without physical or digital barriers.

- **High-Quality Education**

- Leveraging technology not just for efficiency, but to maintain and elevate the standard of education across all institutions.

- **Smart AI & Data Use**

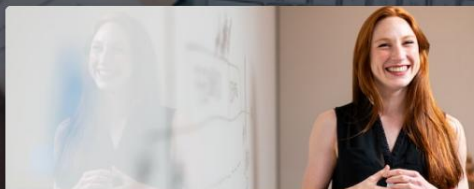
- Implementing artificial intelligence and study data in an ethical, secure, and effective manner to enhance learning outcomes.

OER in Npuls

- Focus on optimal mix from open, semi-open and commercial learning materials
- Aiming at FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) learning materials
- Enhancing technical infrastructure
 - Repository (edusources and wikiwijs)
- Creating collections
- Stimulating and supporting community building
 - <https://edusources.nl/>

The place for open educational resources in higher education

Share, use, and collaborate on digital open educational resources to enrich higher education



Getting started with open educational resources

Everything to help you organise and promote the use of open educational resources at your institution; from policy to implementation.

[Start](#)

Search educational resources

Discover more than 10,000 educational resources from lecturers and professional communities that contribute to your education!

[Search](#)

Open educational resources in practice

Get inspired by lecturers, librarians, and other professionals who believe in sharing educational resources.

[Good practices](#)

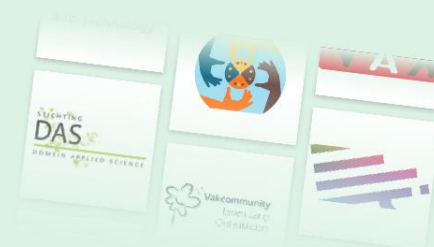
Share your own educational resources

Would you also like to share your educational resources? Find out how your institution deals with open educational resources.

[Share](#)

Educational resources belong to everyone!

We are on a mission: we are going to make the use of digital open educational resources second nature. From every man for himself to together in a community. That way we will create a greater supply of good educational resources for lecturers and students. Together in action to give students the best education.

[Join a community](#)

Haven't found the information you were looking for?

Get in touch with professionals

Join the national community and engage in conversations about open educational resources.

[Community edusources](#)

Getting started with OER

Discover what you need to organize open educational resources within your institution and education.

[Knowledge & expertise](#)

Ask us your question

Ask your question to the edusources team via info@edusources.nl. We are happy to help.

[Service desk](#)



impuls
open
leermateriaal

Impuls open leermateriaal (IOL)

- Open leermateriaal = OER
- IOL encourages the use of open educational resources in primary and secondary education.
 - support schools in finding, using, creating and sharing open educational resources,
 - with the aim of improving the quality of education and
 - making the teaching profession more attractive.
- Duration 2022-2030
- Financed by the Dutch government (~€80M)
- <https://www.openleermateriaal.nl/>

IOL: ambition

- In the classroom:
 - Open educational resources are a fully-fledged option for all teachers in primary and secondary education.
- In the sector:
 - Strengthening the quality of education and increasing the attractiveness of the teaching profession
 - through collective management of high-quality open educational resources in primary and secondary education,
 - linked to core objectives and attainment targets,
 - in a sustainable organisational form.

Background: primary and secondary education in the Netherlands

- Primary education: 4-12 years
- Secondary education: 12-16/18 years
- National core objectives and attainment targets, assessed nationally
- “Methods” from commercial publishers
 - Set of learning materials (in most cases primarily textbooks)
 - Covering all core objectives and attainment targets per subject
 - In a continuous learning pathway for all years
 - Based on a didactic approach
- Provides teachers with guidance
- But are also expensive and difficult to adapt to a specific context
- And that is where OER play a role

IOL: approach

- Financing and supporting pilot projects with open educational resources.
- Developing a quality system for open educational resources.
- Conducting research into the effective use of open educational resources.
- Developing knowledge (products) to use open educational resources effectively.
- Improving the ICT infrastructure.

Colophon



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