

Open content, Open source and International Cooperation

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Open source, open content, free curricula, free software, social media, various wikis (wikipedia, wikimedia, wikibooks, etc.), creative commons and so on are just the tip of the emerging iceberg of new forms of open collaboration. Open forms of collaboration are rapidly changing modes of education and having an impact on political information transfer. Open source software and social networking tools are becoming a commonplace in industry and the public sector, alike. These transformations can be tracked back to a common ethos of open collaboration with digital tools. New technological innovations and socio-cultural models of interaction interact in creating a platform that can be labelled open information society.

The forum is an interdisciplinary look at the phenomena of open collaboration with special emphasis on the possibilities of international collaboration. We hope to practice what we preach: two of the leaders (professors Byers and van Reijswoud) of the forum will be present through a live internet link from the Southern parts of Africa.