Travel well: how to share and reuse educational resources across borders?

Published 26 May 2010 at lre.eun.org

What makes some educational resources more useful for different cultural and linguistic contexts? This is a difficult question to answer but, in a number of its projects, European Schoolnet has found that some resources in its Learning Resource Exchange have the potential to “travel well” and can be used cross-border in different educational contexts. Now we are trying to define “travel well” quality criteria so that Ministries of Education and other LRE content partners can more easily identify those resources that can be easily shared and reused by teachers and learners across Europe.

Coordinated by European Schoolnet, the 3-year Comenius Multilateral Network called “eQualityNet” is investigating this “travel well” idea and developing quality criteria for educational resources.

eQualityNet (eQNet) builds on the findings and work of several other projects. For instance, in the earlier OER Teachers’ Network project, participating teachers from Australia, Africa, Europe and the USA have already identified and rated over 250 “travel well” resources that can, in their opinion, be used in different countries. The top rated resources can be viewed at the OERTN website. Findings from the OER Teacher’s Network related to the resource sharing are presented in the Final Report along with an initial list of “travel well” features.

eQNet brings together teachers from Sweden, Portugal, Czech Republic, Belgium and beyond to carry out a much more extensive and in-depth evaluation of learning resources with the aim of identifying around 3,000 “travel well” materials by the end of the project in 2012. The initial set of the eQNet resources are now available at a dedicated website www.klascement.eu. The direct link to these travel well resources is www.klascement.net/eqnet/bijdragen/