

## Continuous Professional Development using Open Education Resource (OER) of TESS-India

### Summary:

Indian teachers and teacher educators in school education system grapples with many challenges, one of which is to gain new thinking, skills and capacities on continuous basis, considering local needs and school needs. TESS-India OER is an initiative that strengthens India's teacher professional development systems and process with key emphasis on enhancing practice-based element of these systems. The resources are available in various formats and 5 different state languages. The OER is adopted by various states and has been successful, since 2015.

### Objectives and Rationale:

Professional learning and development is not only critical important but necessary at this moment for Indian Teachers and Teacher Educators. Teachers need opportunities to gain new thinking, skills and capabilities to be more engaged and participative to support classroom practice. The TESS-India OER, that is, 'Teacher Education through School based Support' is an 'Open Education Resource' that offers such relevant support to all Indian elementary and secondary teachers.

TESS-India is a multi-award-winning initiative that aims to strengthen and transform professional development of teachers and teacher educators and school-based classroom practice in India. This programme ensures an innovative, practical and scalable approach to pre- and in-service teacher education. The programme lay great emphasis on inclusive, participatory and child-centered pedagogy, foreseen in India's National Curriculum Framework (2005) and the National Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education (2009).

### Key Stakeholders:

The initiative is led by the Open University UK and partnered with Government of India's Ministry of Education. The initiative is supported by the British Council and Save the Children.

### Implementation Strategy:

The implementation strategy of TESS-India towards pre and in-service teacher education is based on freely available and adaptable Open Educational Resource (OER). The TESS-India OER consists of teacher development and school leadership units, professionally filmed videos of classroom teaching, concepts and principles of practice. The TESS-India is a toolkit of almost 200 freely available Open Educational Resources (OER) is accessible in multiple formats and five Indian languages – Hindi, Asamese, Bengali, Kannada and Odia as well as English. The OER can be selected, sequenced and integrated flexibly into teacher education programmes and classroom teaching according to priorities and needs of states, districts, schools and individuals. They can be used independently by schoolteachers or their use can be mediated by teacher educators, mentors and peers.

### Resource Utilization:

The TESS- India owes to many teachers, teacher educators and education leaders who have engaged with TESS-India in last five years. The TESS-India OER can be accessed

and found at <http://www.tess-india.edu.in/>. and the videos are available on TESS-India YouTube channel, <http://tinyurl.com/tess-india-youtube>.

**Impact:**

The TESS-India OER provide relevant support to teacher educators and teachers with readymade and thematically organized mini-compilations of teaching materials, both in the form text as well as videos. These compilations provide teachers and teacher educators a possible starting point for engaging students and interlining theory concepts to visualized content. This not only encourage teachers and teacher educators to identify key opportunities for professional development in response to local needs but also be progressive and creative in imparting effective classroom teaching.

**Replicability and Sustainability:**

The programmes have been very successful since its launch in multiple elementary and secondary pre and in-teacher developments in states like Assam, Bihar, Karnataka, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.