

## Mission

**The Open Learning Exchange is committed to achieving Universal Basic Education by 2015.**

Over one billion school-aged children in more than one hundred countries lack access to even the most essential learning opportunities. Enabling them to acquire at least a basic education is not charity - it is a universal right. Every child is entitled to an opportunity to develop an intellectually and economically strong life consistent with their abilities. This ultimately benefits all of us.

Now it is possible as never before. The global reach of the Internet, low-cost computers and other information technologies, combined with a greater awareness of the importance of Universal Basic Education, make it possible for this to be achieved by the UN Millennium Development Goal of 2015.

Basic education enables one to:

- *Read local newspapers, magazines and books,*
- *Complete job applications*
- *Write letters to friends and employers*
- *Keep simple, accurate financial ledgers*
- *Engage in productive uplifting work*
- *Employ healthy agricultural, nutritional, and environmental practices*
- *Promote cooperation and manage conflict*
- *Create and participate in music, art & culture*
- *Contribute meaningfully to the wellbeing of one's family, community and nation.*



## About Us

Open Learning Exchange Inc. is a global network organized as a 501(c)(3) social benefit organization with offices in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

### OLE Board of Directors

**John M. Cook**, Retired Chair & CEO,  
PRG-Schultz International

**Michael F. Crawford**, Senior Education Specialist –  
Latin America and the Caribbean Region, The World Bank

**Astrid Dufborg**, Lead Specialist on Knowledge Society  
Sida (Swedish Intl' Development Cooperation Agency)

**William F. Foote**, President, Root Capital, Inc.

**Anne Margulies**, Chief Information Officer,  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**Kitt Sawitsky**, Managing Partner, Goulston & Storrs

**Paul Smyke**, Senior Advisor to the Chairman,  
World Economic Forum

**Richard Rowe**, Chair and President, OLE

### OLE Team

**Richard Rowe, Ph.D.**, Chief Executive Officer

**Jim Krzywicki**, Chief Operations Officer

**Joseph Rappa, Ed.D.**, Chief Education Officer

**Robyn Gordon**, Regional Coordinator,  
Middle East and Africa

**Christopher Rowe**, Chief Information Officer

**Shannon Taylor**, Country Program Manager  
Africa and Haiti

### OLE Partners

**Alan Rossi**, Managing Director, Consultel, Inc.

**Seth Weinberger**, CEO, Innovations for Learning, Inc.

### General Counsel

**Kitt Sawitsky**, Goulston & Storrs

### For OLE Investors

Open Learning Exchange is seeking funds to accomplish our mission. This is an “investment” because the return in human terms is substantial – and it will make you feel good. If you are interested in investing in the OLE mission, please email [invest@ole.org](mailto:invest@ole.org) or contact us at +1 617.401.2300

### For OLE Entrepreneurs

OLE is seeking visionary “social entrepreneurs” ready to establish OLE Centers in their home countries. Please visit [www.ole.org](http://www.ole.org) for additional information.



## Open Learning Exchange



## Universal Basic Education 2015

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## OLE Network: How it Works

The OLE Network serves as a catalyst assisting in the development of a worldwide system of 100+ local grassroots OLE Centers committed to assuring universal access to Basic Education within their nation by 2015.

The network assists OLE Centers get started by providing organizational, technical and fund raising services including, as necessary, limited start-up funds. These services include a set of *Tool Kits* that enable OLE Centers to become operational quickly.

The OLE Tool Kits provide:

*National Kids' Library*. Free and open software to provide access to basic educational courses, transparent user comment and rating tools

*Course Development Studio*. Software for creating, adapting and evaluating appropriate courses for local conditions;

*Learning Communities Kit*. Resources for creating effective learning environments;

*Organizational Sustainability Kit*. Resources for Centers including Internet, media, public awareness, fundraising and management tools

*Billion Kids' Library*. Access to the only global repository focused on providing universal access to high-value, open, materials for Basic Education.

OLE promotes public-private partnerships to raise awareness and secure funding for our mission.



## OLE Centers

OLE Centers emerge within each country in a manner reflecting their particular needs and resources. Each Center is responsible for:

1. Establishing, or joining, a formal non-governmental organization in their country with a strong Board of Directors committed to Universal Basic Education by 2015. The Board must be capable of influencing public policies, obtaining the resources needed to achieve that goal, and evidence a business plan for the organization to become financially self-sufficient in three to five years.
2. Developing and maintaining the open and free online *National Kids Library* of basic education courses (K-12) appropriate for their country.
3. Maintaining the Course Development Studio and offering micro-grants for the creation and improvement of K-12 educational resources.



4. Implementing a research and evaluation program to identify effective local educational programs.
5. Promoting a powerful public awareness program to generate widespread public and government support for the investments required to achieve in their country Universal Basic Education by 2015.
6. Coordinating with other economic and social development initiatives critical to achieving Universal Basic Education in their country by 2015.

## Priorities

The OLE Network encourages and supports OLE Centers in countries with high levels of poverty and low levels of literacy.

The Network also assists the development of OLEs that focus on children in communities without adequate comprehensive educational services

### Existing OLE Centers

These OLE Centers have strong independent Boards of Directors, official partnerships with their Education Ministries, and substantial outside investments, including financial support provided by both individuals and foreign governments. They are currently implementing their plans to achieve Universal Basic Education by 2015.

**Nepal - Ghana - Rwanda**  
**Bolivia - Dominican Republic**

### Emerging OLE Centers

Emerging Centers have many of the characteristics that make for a successful local OLE. They enjoy strong multi-partner commitment, an excellent executive team, or enterprising and influential individuals ready to join the Board of Directors. OLE is currently working to bring these pieces together with a specific plan to create an OLE Center committed to achieving Universal Basic Education in their country by 2015.

**Haiti - Namibia - Mexico**

### Horizon OLE Centers

Horizon Centers have tremendous promise for transforming the lives of millions of kids. Their scope makes them attractive for a range of public-private investments. Possible initiatives that have been discussed include:

**Kerala - Gulf States - Native North America**  
**Liberia - Niger - Turkey - Peru - Honduras**