



The “Reach” and “Rich”, in other words, the “quantity” and “quality” of resources is a logical paradox to attain simultaneously without the application of technology to mitigate the two ends. This context is even truer in the education sector where the expansion of education strains its quality and vice versa. Hence, the integration of digital technology with education, in a form of open source education, is becoming trend now worldwide in order to extend access while maintaining the quality of education.

This reality is even more imperative to developing nations where the investment to both the extension of access to education and enrichment of its content to an acceptable quality is equally a priority. It is within this framework that the RORA Eritrean Digital Library, a national platform for digital resources, was established through an initiative taken by the Eritrean Research and Documentation Center (RDC).

RORA has been working in a close partnership with Eritrean educational institutions, mainly with Institutions of Higher Education, in creating a digital infra-structure that distributes valuable academic resources to colleges in Eritrea. This infrastructure has a set of requirements throughout many phases of its establishment, starting from the acquisition of the resources (data), its storage, an efficient method of its distribution, and effective usage of end-user tools.

RORA has so far acquired and stored massive amount of educational texts, audio, and video materials in digital format, and worked with colleges in setting up platforms to provide these materials to students. Colleges in their turns have been setting up a localized digital library platform that stores these digital materials and provides its access to faculty and students.

The storage and access is launched based on the available infrastructure the colleges have, which includes the use of their internal servers and local networks. Some colleges offer access through wired and wireless local network, where students can download their academic materials, lecture videos, and reference textbooks directly to their personal computers, e-reader tablets, or their smart phones. What is even exciting is the fact that these digital platforms are designed and implemented by the youth and students themselves; creating a tangible solution to their immediate limitations.

In continuation of this effort, different stakeholders of this process have met at the beginning of this past May at the

# Technology to Enhance Education in Eritrea

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