United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة • 联合国环境规划署
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

IW:LEARN Combined Q1 and Q2 2009 Quarterly Progress Report

Please find a summary below of achievements by the UNEP/GEF IW:LEARN team over the first half of 2009.

1.   2009 Q1 & Q2 combined

- Published three UNEP/GEF E-Bulletin newsletter issues, circulated electronically to approximately 1300 GEF IW members (in total 16 E-Bulletins released since October 2007).
- Improved interactive aspects and redesigned IWLEARN.NET, with the new site (currently accessible at http://new.iwlearn.org) to be released at end of Q2.
- Actively updating of IWLEARN.NET calendar with events relevant to the GEF IW portfolio (http://www.iwlearn.net/calendar)
- Actively updating news items relevant to international waters management on IWLEARN.NET (these are also reflected in RSS and Twitter feeds)
- Integrated Ecomundus into IW:LEARN as its primary search engine (to be released in Q3/2009)
- Actively archiving GEF IW project data and information:
  - key documents and content from projects is being archived in the Project Database at http://www.iwlearn.net/iw-projects;
  - geographic data is being archived into IW:LEARN's WebGIS at www.iwlearn,net/webis;
  - entire websites are being archived at http://www.iwlearn.net/archive in order to capture all relevant content for future reference (including blogs, images, mailing lists, all documents, etc).
- Link integrity of project websites – finalised process for checking and format of output reports. Active reporting to projects to follow from Q3/2009 onwards to ensure link integrity of GEF project sites.
- New project websites (Toolkit-based) under development include:
  - Caspian Environment Programme (migration from existing site to http://caspian.iwlearn.org/)
  - Good Practices and Portfolio Learning in GEF Transboundary Freshwater and Marine Legal and Instutional (http://governance.iwlearn.org/)
  - Nutrient Best Practices /Living Waters Exchange (http://nutrient-bestpractices.iwlearn.org/)
  - Mediterranean Action Plan website (http://plone25.iwlearn.org/sites/workshops/map)
  - Sea level rise website (http://sealevel-rise.iwlearn.org/)

2.   2009 Q1

- Delivered Regional ICT Workshop in Istanbul, Turkey, as part of Learning Activity Centre of 5th World Water Forum, March 2009.
- Facilitated face-to-face interactive discussions on exchange of experiences and tools for implementing and sustaining a collaborative network of information sharing and knowledge management, as side event of 5th World Water Forum, March 2009.

- Identified strategies for developing a 'Communities of Practice' (CoP) module for the IW:LEARN Portfolio at IW:LEARN's Planning Meeting held in Chiang Mai, Thailand, January 2009. Thailand. An IW:LEARN Facebook group (www.facebook.com) and Twitter feed (http://twitter.com/iwlearn) have been implemented, with development of a bespoke CoP Module to be developed in Q3/2009 pending realization of Phase III of iw:learn.
- Modified IW:LEARN Project Database to better manage projects with multiple tranches.
- Established mailing lists for Project Managers and Toolkit Users.

3. 2009 Q2

- Delivered workshop on Global Environment Facility (GEF) inter-focal regional consultative process with existing and pipeline GEF projects in the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR). Kingston, Jamaica, May 2009. This process was initiated and continues as an e-dialogue on selected cross-cutting topics for GEF projects in the region (http://cep.unep.org/iwlearncaribbean/e-forum). These will ultimately feed into the development of Experience notes.
- Specification and development of a revised and easy to manage news portal on IWLEARN.NET (to be launched in new IW:LEARN.NET website in late Q2/2009).
- Specification and development of a revised Project Database integrating Google Maps on IWLEARN.NET (to be launched in new IW:LEARN.NET website in late Q2/2009).
- Specification and development for a revised home page on IWLEARN.NET (to be launched in new IWLEARN.NET website in late Q2/2009).
- Integrated WebGIS into IWLEARN.NET – a combined metadata catalogue with advanced search discovery tool and geographic data viewer (iwlearn.net/webgis).
- Development of event page for IWC5, Australia (http://www.iwlearn.net/old_events/gef-5th-iw-biennial-conference/view)