



International Waters: Learning Exchange and Resource Network (IW:LEARN)

First Quarter 2006	Progress Report
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In 2006 Q1, GEF IW:LEARN (Project Coordinating Unit) --

- Supported IW communications workshop among a dozen people from 6 GEF IW projects (Activity B3)
- Circulated 2 issues of the *GEF IW:BRIDGES* newsletter to over 100 mail recipients (including all GEF IW projects) and over 300 email recipients (Activity E2)
- Presented at and participated in Global Oceans conference, with travel support to 5 GEF IW project participants (Activity E2)
- Co-hosted 5 facilitated sessions at World Water Forum, with travel support to 6 GEF IW project participants (Activity E2)
- Coordinated delivery of Gender, Water and Climate exhibit at 2 global water events (in addition to 1 in 2005 and 7 events for Gender and Water exhibit in 2005).

In 2006 Q1, IW:LEARN's Partnership Activity Leads (PALs):

Component A – Information Sharing: UNEP

A1 IW-IMS

A1.1 - IW IMS Development

- Launched new GEF International Waters resource center at www.iwlearn.net (Activity A1)

A1.2 Regional/thematic modules

A1.3 IW Help Desk

- Fielded ## inquiries from ## projects (and ## not affiliated with projects).

A2 - Support and Training

A2.1 - IW Workshops

- No activity this quarter.

A2.2 - IT Project Network (95% of site connected by 2008)

Component B Structured Learning

B1 Regional Learning

B1.2 Africa: Inwent

- TOR under development

B1.3 European Info Sharing/P2 Workshop: UNECE with CTC-St. Petersburg

- Activity completed.

B2 Water Body-Specific Learning

B2.1 Freshwater Ecosystems

B2.1.1 Aquifers - UNESCO

B2.1.2 Lakes - LakeNet

B2.1.3 Rivers - IUCN/WANI contract pending PAL signature.

B2.2 Marine Ecosystems

B2.2.1 Marine Ecosystems e-forum - IUCN/GMP

- *B2.2.2 LME Training: University of Rhode Island*
Delivered Socio-economics and Governance workshop to 21 participants from 10 LME's (Activity B2.2.2)

B2.3 Coral Reefs: WorldFish?

B4 P2 Training: ELI

- Began to identify location, partners and participants for LAC Regional Workshop
- Developed draft agenda for LAC Regional Workshop
- Continued research for Guidance Materials
- Developed table of contents for Guidance Materials
- Convened workshop on public participation at Fourth World Water Forum (March 16-22, 2006), highlighting GEF projects

Component C IW Conferences

C2 IW Conference 4: GETF

- Prepared for new contract (ETA: 2006Q2)

Component D Innovation

D1 Southeast Asia Regional Learning Center -- SEA START RC

- Key website/portal developments
 1. Launch of SEA-RLC Expert Roster (<http://www.iwsea.org>)!
 2. Development of wiki online collaborative tool (to be utilised for SEA-RLC consultancies) (<http://www.iwsea.org/IT/plone/testwiki/>).
 3. Development of GEF Projects Search tool (<http://www.iwsea.org>).
 4. Development of 'Asia Water Resources News' portlet (<http://www.iwsea.org>).
 5. Addition of Plone website resources (<http://www.iwsea.org/IT/plone/>).
 6. Addition of SEA-RLC website usage statistics information (two software packages displayed to date)(<http://www.iwsea.org/Statistics/>).
 7. Near-real-time infrared imagery of Southeast Asia region linked to home page (source: Kochi University, Japan).

- **Outreach activities**

1. Development of web-based SCS Metadatabase –now available online (<http://www.unepscs.org/metadata/>).
2. Development of SCS Metadatabase package with aim of making available for other projects and organisations. The installation manual is almost complete (but need to look at copyright and licencing issues re software distribution).
3. Ongoing development of SCS GIS database.
4. Submission of paper to SEAFDEC (Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center) publication (prepared in collaboration with Chris Paterson from UNEP/GEF South China Sea Project).

D2 Southeastern Europe: GWP-Med

- GWP-Med participated at the Workshop “Transboundary Water Resources Management in South Eastern Europe: The role of the EU Water Framework Directive and the UNECE Water Convention” held in Belgrade, Serbia & Montenegro, 2-3 March 2006; facilitated the Session on transboundary rivers, lakes and groundwaters in the Aegean Sea basins.
- Supported the Petersberg Phase II/ Athens Declaration Process for Transboundary Water Resources Management in the SEE coordinated jointly by the World Bank the German and Greek Governments.
- Operation and update of the TWIENSEE website.

Component E Partnership and Outreach

E2 IW Contributions to Global TWM

E2.2 LME Video -- Francois Odendaal Productions

- Completed filming, began editing and scripting.

E2.3 Gender and Water Exhibit -- Gender and Water Alliance

- Featured at 1 event in LAC region (World Water Forum) and 1 event (Global Forum on Oceans) in Europe.