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FINAL REPORT

1. Background Information

1.1	Project Title: Strengthening Global Capacity to Sustain Transboundary Waters: The International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network				
1.2	Project Number: GFL / 2328 – 2732 – 4813 PMS: GF/1020 – 04 – 03				
1.3	Responsible Divisions/Units in UNEP: Division of Early Warning and Assessment (DEWA)				
1.4	Project starting date: November 2004				
1.5.	Project completion date: 31 st October 2009				
1.6	Reporting Period: December 48 months				
1.7	Reference to UNEP Sub-Programme/GEF Strategic Priority and expected				
	accomplishments: International Waters -10: Contaminants				
1.8	Overall objectives of the project: The global objective of IW:LEARN is to strengthen Transboundary Waters Management (TWM) by facilitating learning and information sharing among GEF stakeholders.				
	The immediate objectives are:				
	To facilitate the integration, exchange and accessibility of data and information among GEF IW projects, their partners and stakeholders (Component A)				
	 To establish and technically support a series of face-to-face and electronically-mediated structured learning activities – or learning exchanges – among related projects within the GEF IW portfolio (Component B) 				
	 To test, evaluate and replicate novel approaches and ICT tools to meet IW stakeholder needs (Component D) 				
	UNEP is in charge of component A and contributes to components B and D				
1.9	Total Budget (US\$):				
	GEF Allocation US\$1,346,534 (allocation to UNEP)				
	Expected MSP/FSP Co-financing US\$1,207,400				
	Total cost US\$2,553,934				
1.10	Partners and leveraged resources: Southeast Asia START Regional Centre				
	List the additional resources leveraged (beyond those committed to the project itself at time of approval) as a result of the project (financial and in-kind)				

2. Project Status

Activities/Outputs (as listed in the	Status	Results/Outcomes (measured against
project document)	(complete/	the performance indicators stated in the
	ongoing)	project document)
Component A: To facilitate the integration, exchange and accessibility of data and information among GEF IW projects, their partners and stakeholders	, ,	Usage of iwlearn.net is indicated by the increased consumption of its resources available through direct user action resulting from the eBulletin (i.e. correlation of hits on featured items following the roll out of an eBulletin issue), increase feedback through surveys, request for support for toolkit users, request for features. Relevant statistics: Approximately 3888 visitors (estimated) visited iwlearn.net as a result of the eBulletin publication. https://www.google.com/analytics Approximately 1/3 of the active GEF IW Portfolio uses the IW:LEARN website toolkit http://www.iwlearn.net/websitetoolkit/users/user scommunity 77.4% GEF IW Projects indicated they use iwlearn.net (survey done during WWF in March 09). 148 issue tracker submissions related to toolkit. http://issuetracker.iwlearn.org 65% increase in direct access visits to iwlearn.net, from 8,205 direct visits in July 07-June 08 to 13,512 visits in July 2008-June 2009 (Google Analytics). 42% increase in visits from referring sites to iwlearn.net, from 6,555 in July 07-June 08 to 9,305 visits in July 2008-June 2009 (Google Analytics). 71% increase in visits directed from search engines to iwlearn.net, from 44,108 visits in July 07-June 08 to 75,590 visits in July 2008-June 2009 (Google Analytics).
		Approx. 50 domains of GEF IW stakeholders ink directly to iwlearn.net (i.e., link:www.iwlearn.net in Google)

Component B: To establish and technically support a series of face-to-face and electronically-mediated structured learning activities – or learning exchanges – among related projects within the GEF IW portfolio.	Complete	Component B comprises of 4 sub components for which UNEP's responsibility relates to a sub-activity of activity B1 (Regional Multi Project Exchanges): structured learning among GEF projects and cooperating partners aimed at promoting inter-linkages in the Caribbean. UNEP/CEP with support of IW:LEARN held a cross focal area workshop in Jamaica, has established a moderated virtual forum (mediated by email and web interfaces). The activity has yielded 11 case studies to date, exceeding the expected anticipated number of case studies.
Component D: To test, evaluate and replicate novel approaches and ICT tools to meet IW stakeholder needs.	Complete	Per the MTR, this component was reformulated to support the implementation of component A in the areas identified as deficient during the MTE. Namely, organisation of ICT workshops and content management. This has resulted in a marked improvement in the execution of the project and its overall performance.

2.2 List lessons learned and best practices

Governance:

Important lessons were gained through experience in the area of institutional arrangements/project governance over the course of implementation. In the original design of the project's institutional framework, reporting lines were unclear and the same entity (UNEP-DEWA) was implementing activities as well as providing oversight. This imposed challenges with regard to roles and responsibilities in the execution of the project. For example, the agency implementing the UNDP component and hosting the Project Coordination Unit felt that it did not get sufficient insight in progress made on the UNEP component. This started to affect the relationships between the executing partners. The Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) also highlighted problems within the project governance design e.g. in terms of the structure of the Steering Committee. Persons who were actively involved in the technical or financial implementation of the project were sitting on the Steering Committee leading to potential conflicts of interest with respect to delivery of some components. In response to the MTE, UNEP addressed this observation by appointing a Task Manager within the Division of GEF Coordination to provide oversight for the UNEP component and to represent UNEP as Implementing Agency at the Steering Committee level. At the same time, the Division of Early Warning and Assessment agreed to supervise the Project Manager and allow the Staff Member to focus full time on the implementation of activities.

Ownership:

A major factor that affected the implementation and sustainability of this project by in large was the institutional ownership of the project. At the design stage, the institutional support was expressed in co-financing commitments and a clear linkage to the common goal of the GEF project and the UNEP-DEWA programme. However, during implementation, true endorsement and understanding of the mutual benefits at the institutional level was not recognized. As a result, the project was seen as a single isolated activity with little value and impact instead of a catalytic work complementing the larger work programme of UNEP that could have been leveraged. This affected the rate at which co-financing was realized and at the project level, perception of the lack of commitment of the leading institution (in this case UNEP) had a direct effect on the uptake of services.

Sustainability

Critical to sustaining the benefits of IW:LEARN to its stakeholders is the prospering "Anchoring" of components and services alike. Besides institutional ownership (see above), identification of functional blocks that warrant mutual benefit for the custodian and stakeholders in a service oriented projects like IW:LEARN is critical. IW:LEARN within UNEP/DEWA is a logical fit based on the division's historic role in data and information management. An important lesson learned from the implementation of IW:LEARN was the practical linkage with the division's programme (and therefore is interest in sustaining the project) and "anchoring" of components so that sustainability of benefits can be fostered. While UNEP/DEWA (or any division of UNEP) is keen to participate in future phases of IW:LEARN, careful analysis of the responsibilities of execution in the context of the division's programme of work, mandate, strategies and so on should be undertaken. In particular, elements of financial sustainability (e.g. cost centers) may be more appropriately and efficiently managed though UNEP/Corporate Services that oversee UNEP's financing in general but also the governance of ICT within the organization. Elements of restructuring, new strategic direction and modalities of implementation should also allow a project to adapt to new or changing internal management structures.

2.3 How the project has nurtured sustainability

State how the project has nurtured sustainability. Is the project or project methodology replicable in other countries or regions? If yes, are there any concrete examples or requests?

A "fee for service" policy developed as part of the project's sustainability plan and being enforced on the part of the GEF Secretariat, along with strong advocacy of the website toolkit on the part of UNDP has increased the demand and value/cost of the benefits and services of IW:LEARN.

In addition, efforts deliver what was demanded rather than what was designed has resulted in continued demand for services after the project has ended and an improved potential to sustain services though financial mechanisms like the "fee for service".

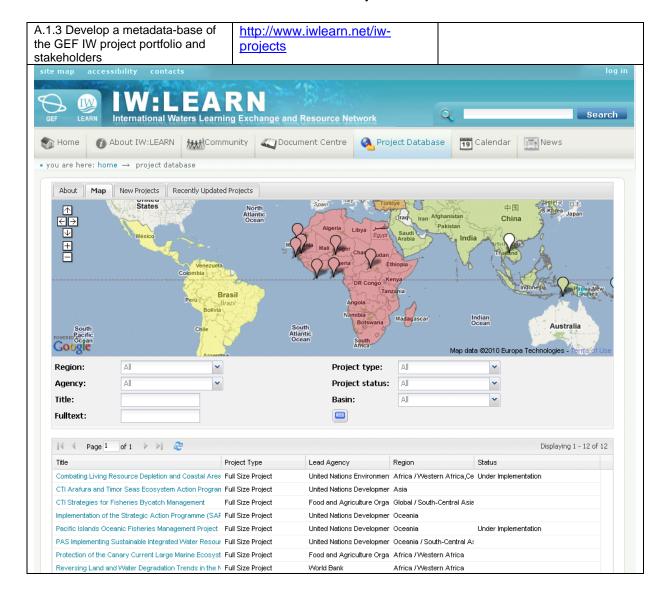
3 List of attached documents

3.1. Interactive Online system

3.1.1 International Waters Information Management System (IWIMS)



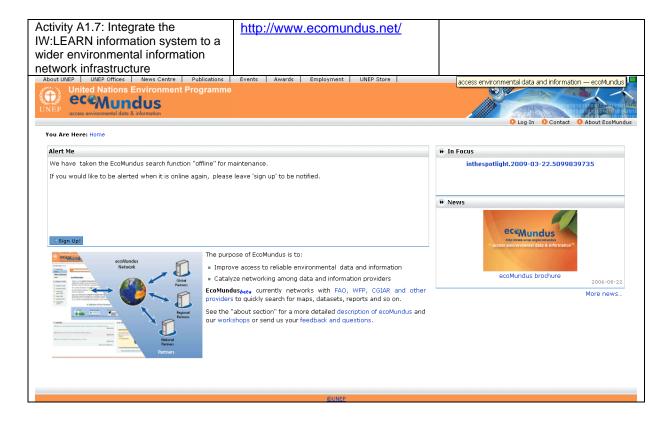
3.1.2. IW:LEARN Online Interactive Project Database



3.1.3 IW:LEARN Online IW Calendar of Events

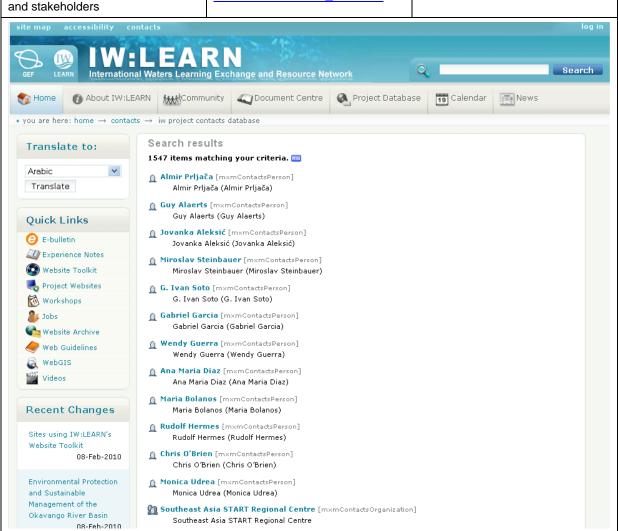


3.1.4 IW:LEARN Online Information Network

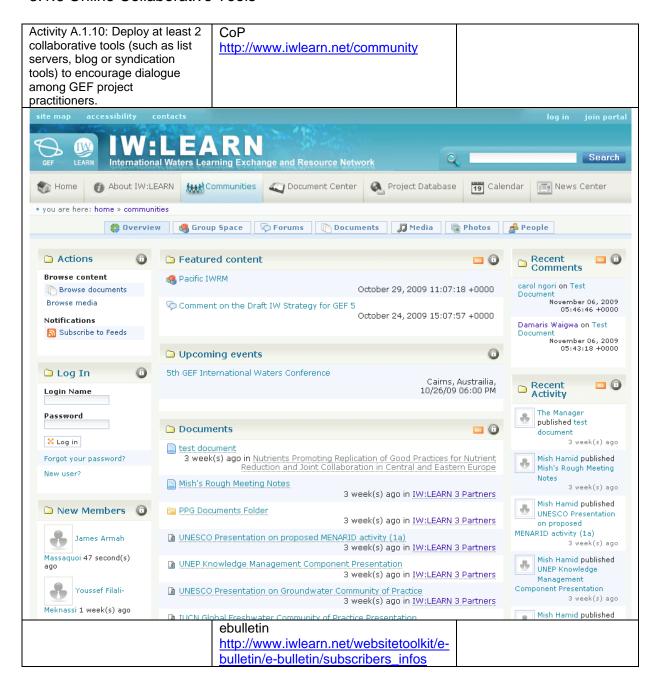


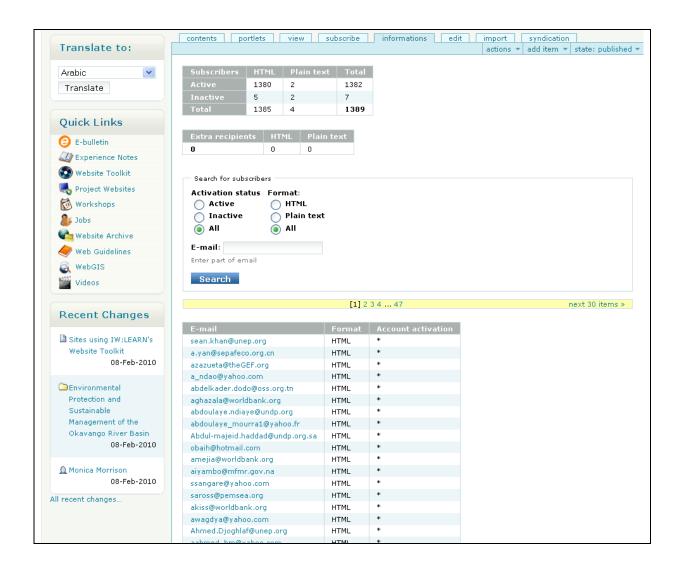
3.1.5 IW Online Contacts Database

Activity A.1.9: Maintain a metadatabase of the GEF IW project portfolio http://www.iwlearn.net/coninfo/contacts/folder_contents

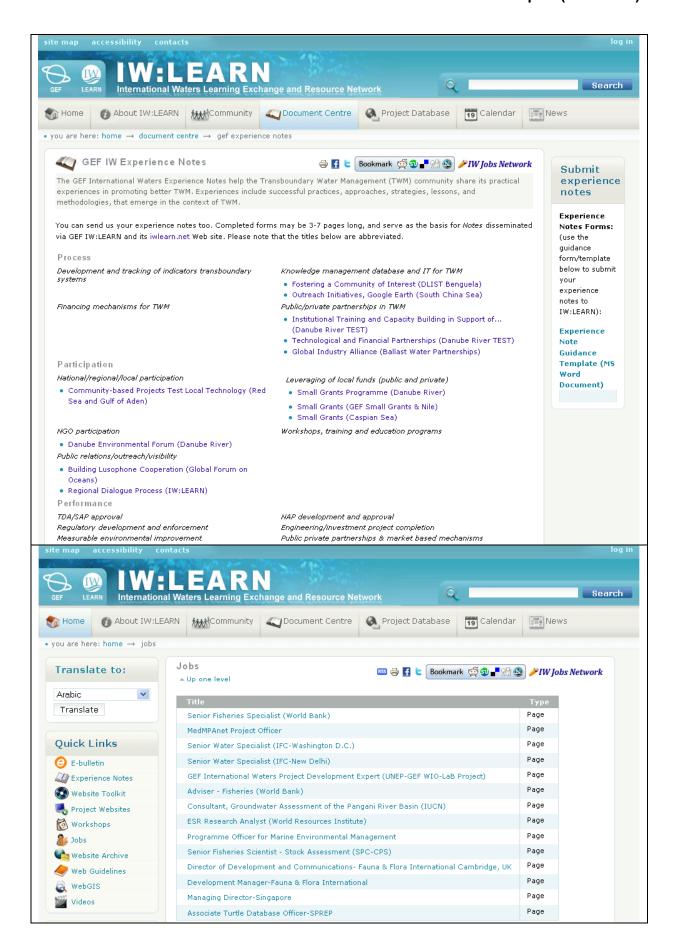


3.1.6 Online Collaborative Tools





3.1.7 IW:LEARN Demand Driven Information Resources



CATEGORIES (PROJECTS AND PARTNERS)

- Partner FAO
- Partner IWMI GeoNetwork
- ▶Partner Nairobi Convention Clearinghouse
- Partner SEA START RC
- Partner SOPAC
- Project DDT/UNEP /GEF/PAHO
- Project UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea LME
- Project UNEP/GEF Caspian Environment Programme
- Project UNEP/GEF Iullemeden Aquifer System
- Project UNEP/GEF NWSAS
- Project UNEP/GEF ReefBase
- Project UNEP/GEF South China Sea
- Project UNEP/GEF Volta River Basin

RECENT CHANGES GeoRSS



- WIO-LaB Sustainability Strategy
- WIO-LaB Project Brochure-Enalish
- * WIOLaB Project Annual Report 2006
- ▶ WIOLaB Project 2005 Annual Report-final
- *WIOLaB Annual Report 2007 Final
- Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis(TDA) FINAL DRAFT 07-08-08
- The Eastern African Region: TANZANIA
- *The Eastern African

Aggregate Results matching search criteria: 1-10/741 (page 1/75), Sort by



HYDROLOGICAL BASINS IN EUROPE

Abstract Major hydrological basins and their sub-basins. This dataset divides the E Keywords watersheds, Europe

. Metadata



NATURAL POLAR ECOSYSTEMS

Abstract A harmonised database of natural ecosystems in the Circumpolar Arctic, published vegetation maps.

Keywords Antarctic ecosystem, Arctic ecosystem, polar ecosystem **⊞** Metadata



COASTLINE OF THE CASPIAN SEA

Abstract The coastline was digitized from the Navigation Map of the Caspian Sea Navigation and Oceanography Department of the Defense Ministry of the (Scale 1:1000000, ...

Keywords Coastline, Caspian Sea

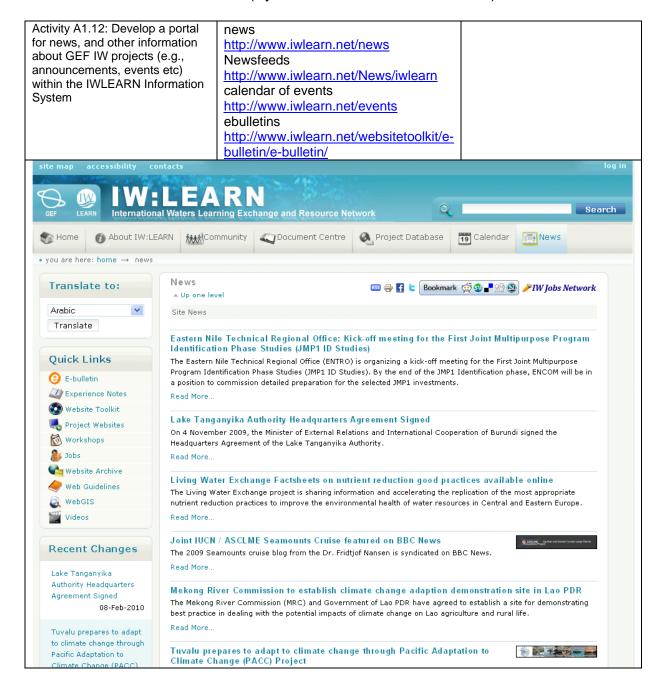
⊞Metadata Download



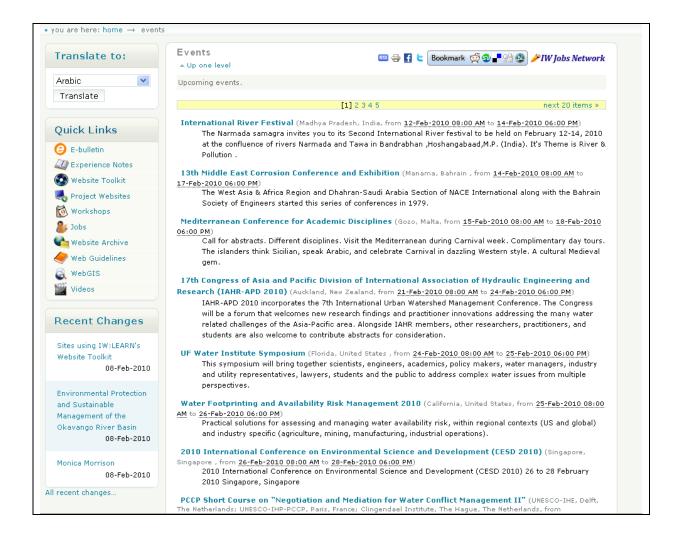
GLOBALLY THREATENED SPECIES OF THE WORLD

Abstract Contains information on animals and plants threatened at the global leve Keywords biodiversity, endangered animal species, endangered plant species, Biolo **⊞** Metadata

3.1.8. IW:LEARN News Portal (Syndicated and Authored content)

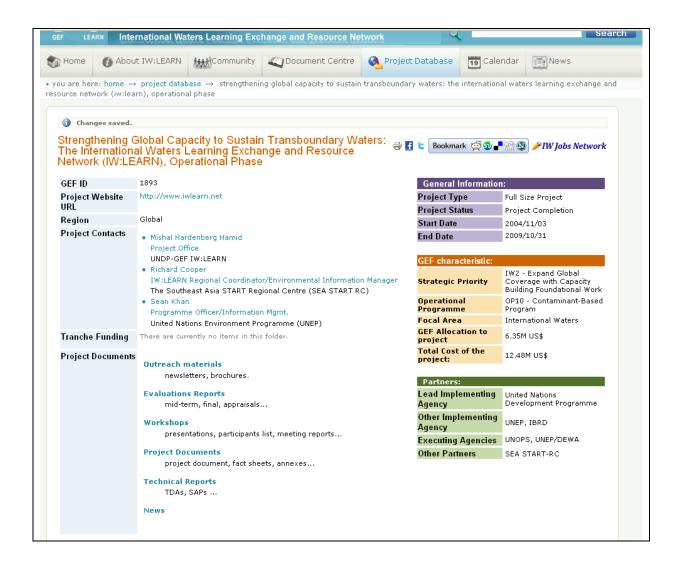




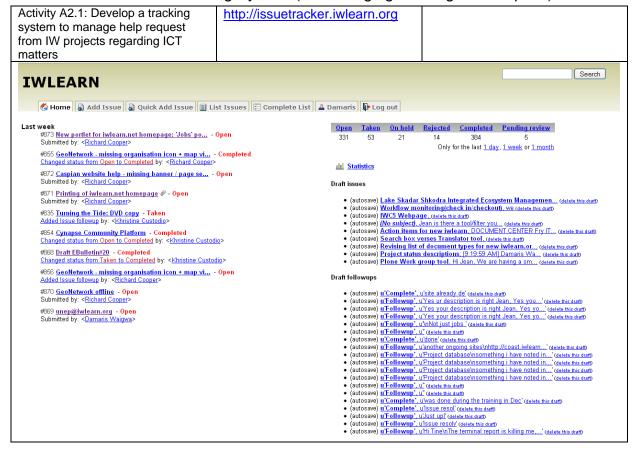


3.1.9. GEF IW Project Website Archive Tool/Service

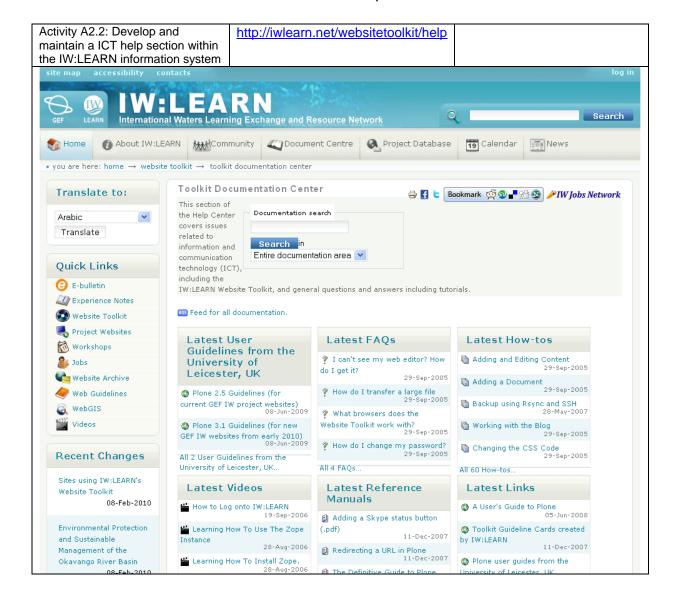




3.1.10. Internal Issue Tracking System (for managing/tracking user request)



3.1.11. IW:LEARN Website Toolkit - Online Help



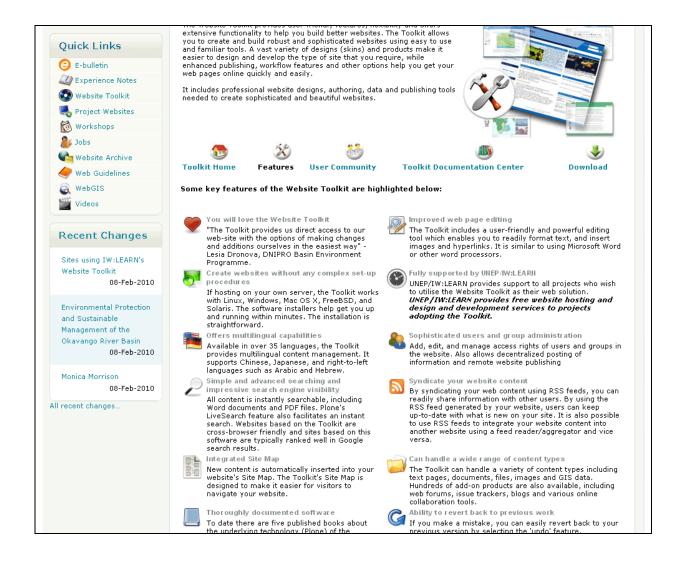
3.1.12. IW:LEARN Website Toolkit – IW Project Instances



Sites using IW:LEARN's List of GEF IW project and partner websites implementing the IW:LEARN Website Toolkit Website Toolkit 08-Feb-2010 👠 Dnipro Basin Environment Programme (UNDP) Environmental Protection and Sustainable Management of the Integrating Watershed and Coastal Area Management (IWCAM) in the Small Island Development States of the Okavango River Basin 08-Feb-2010 Caribbean (UNEP) Monica Morrison Building Partnerships for the Environmental Protection and Management of the East Asian Seas (PEMSEA) 08-Feb-2010 All recent changes.. WIO-LaB Addressing land-based activities in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-Lab) (UNEP) Yellow Sea Partnerships website for Reducing Environmental Stress in the Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (YSLME) (UNDP) SWIDEP SouthWest Indian Ocean Fisheries Project (SWIOFP) (IBRD) Sudanese Environment Conservation Society (Partner NGO of Regional Organisation for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA))(UNDP/IBRD) Reversal of Land and Water Degradation Trends in the Lake Chad Basin Ecosystem (UNDP) Protection of the North West Sahara Aquifer System (NWSAS) and related humid zones and ecosystems (UNEP) Managing Hydrogeological Risk in the Iullemeden Aquifer System (UNEP)

MACEMP: Marine and Coastal Environment Management Project (IBRD)

Livestock Waste Management in East Asia Project (IBRD)

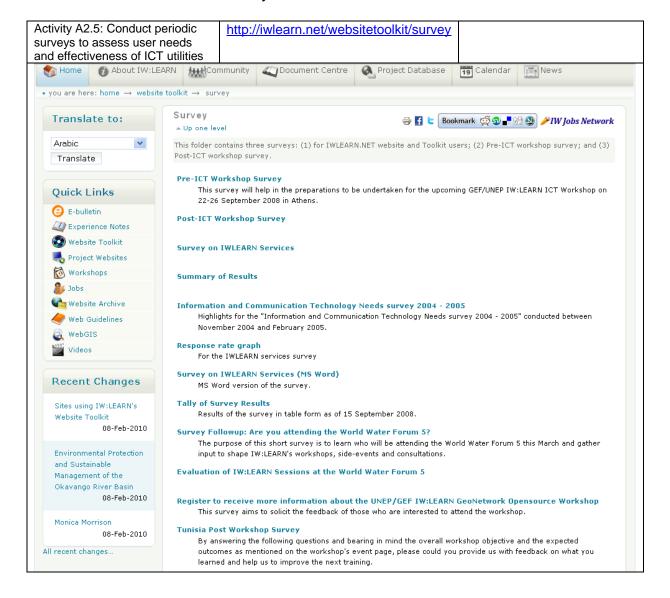




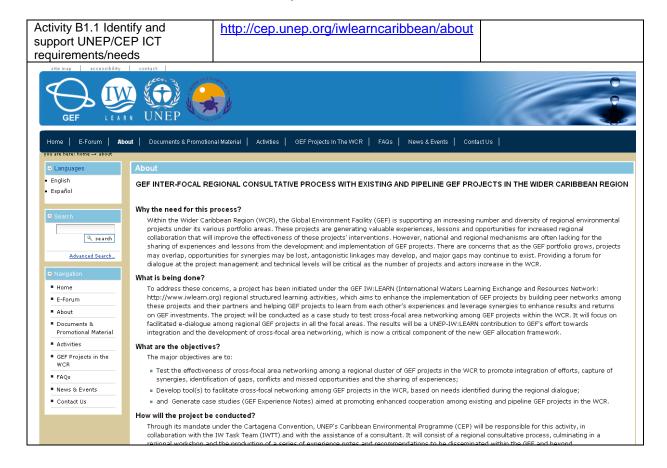
3.1.13. IW:LEARN Events Portal (Syndicated and Authored content)



3.1.14. IW:LEARN Online Survey Tool



3.1.15. IW:LEARN Caribbean Activity Portal



Publications 3.2.

3.2.1. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #20, Dec/Jan 2010



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #20, Jan/Feb 2010

09-Feb-2010

The latest IW:LEARN newsletter is also available online at http://www.iwlearn.net/websitetoolkit/e-bulletin/e-bulletin/gef-iw-learn-e-bulletin-20-jan-feb-2010

The GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin is a regular circular of information including upcoming meetings, project specific news, interesting tools and applications of relevance to the GEF International Waters community (and projects in particular).

Contribute news and highlights about your project for future e-bulletins and share them with over 1300 water practitioners. Also, please let us know what you would like to see in future IWLEARN e-bulletins.

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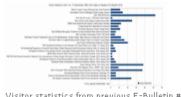
Lead Stories

Project and Partner News

Most Popular Documents on IW:LEARN in 2009

Calendar of Events from February to April 2010

Vacancies and Requests for Proposals



Visitor statistics from previous E-Bulletin #19 🔍 View full-size image

Lead Stories



Coastal habitats have the capacity to sequester 50 times more carbon per year in the sediment below them than equivalent sized tropical forests

Coastal saltmarshes, mangroves and seagrass meadows have a staggering ability to remove carbon from the atmosphere and lock it into soil, a new paper by a Conservation International scientist claims today - prompting calls for urgent action to protect these vulnerable habitats.



Africa's largest transboundary marine protected area declared Mozambique has declared its first Marine Protected Area at Ponta do Ouro that now links with South Africa's iSimangaliso Wetland Park to create Africa's first transfrontier marine conservation area.



Endorsement of Sio-Siteko Transboundary Wetlands Management Plan

The Sio Siteko Transboundary wetlands management plan has been prepared with the contribution of stakeholders from Uganda and Kenya.

3.2.2. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #19, Oct/Nov 2009



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #19. Oct/Nov 2009

03-Dec-2009

The latest IW:LEARN newsletter is also available online at http://www.iwlearn.net/websitetoolkit/e-bulletin/e-bulletin/gef-iw-learn-e-bulletin-19-oct-nov-2009

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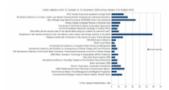
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Project and Partner News

Most Popular Documents on IW:LEARN (October 2009)

Calendar of Events from December 2009 to February 2010

Vacancies and Requests for Proposals



Visitor statistics from previous E-Bulletin #18 Q View full-size image

Lead Stories



World's Coastal Oceans Warming Faster Than Predicted
27 OCTOBER 2009 | Cairns, Australia-- The findings, launched at the Fifth Global Environment Facility
(GEF) Biennial International Waters Conference in Cairns, Australia, found that 61 of the world's 64
large marine ecosystems — large areas of coastal waters adjacent to continents — show a significant increase in sea surface temperatures in the last 25 years, contributing to decreasing fisheries catches in some areas and increasing catches in others.



Groundwater Critical in Managing Climate Change Impacts

29 OCTOBER 2009 | Cairns, Australia-- Groundwater is the world's largest store of freshwater, and the primary source of drinking water for nearly half the world's population. And with climate change threatening land and water resources it is important now more than ever to manage such a critical shared asset.



GEF IWC5 Reflections Videos

Videos are viewable online from the 5th GEF Biennial International Waters Conference in Cairns, Australia, 26-29 October 2009, covering the pre-conference workshops, opening plenaries and small table dialogues on mainstreaming climatic variability and change, site visits, project management workshops and results-based management sessions, participant-led workshops and closing plenary.



Don't shun the ocean - IUCN tells climate leaders

Failure to recognize the ocean in climate change discussions will have profound consequences for humanity, according to IUCN.

3.2.3. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #18, Aug/Sept 2009



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #18, Aug/Sept 2009

The latest IW:LEARN newsletter is also available online at http://www.iwlearn.net/websitetoolkit/e-bulletin/e-bulletin/gef-iw-learn-e-bulletin-18-aug-sept-2009

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Project News

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Lead Stories



IW:LEARN releases Internet-based Community of Practice (CoP) Module.

Offering social and professional networking functionality, IW:LEARN's CoP Module features some of the latest Web2.0 tools and applications for GEF IW projects and partners. Core features include online discussion groups, file sharing, blogs, messaging, news feeds, contacts and more. Registration and usage is

As the CoP Module will be extensively used during the upcoming IWC5 meeting for posting materials and hosting online forums, colleagues are requested to register at http://www.iwlearn.net/community.



IWC5 is only days away and we kindly request your feedback on the following:

1. Call for comments on the GEF5 Strategy - Your comments on the DRAFT GEF5 International Waters Strategy through the online forum within the community platform is needed.

2. Nomination of a GEF IW project website - to compete in the WOW competition visit the community



IPCC Climate Projections visualised in Google Earth

Global temperature and precipitation changes are modelled for the 21st century within three different emissions scenarios: high emissions (A2); medium emissions (A1B); and low emissions (B1). These models can be viewed in Google Earth.



5th Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands: Ensuring Survival, Preserving Life, Improving Governance, May 3-7, 2010, UNESCO, Paris

The 5th Global Oceans Conference will specifically address the challenges and opportunities posed by the emerging international consensus on a new climate regime (as developed through the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Copenhagen, December 2009).

3.2.4. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #17, June/July 2009



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #17, June/July 2009

11-Aug-2009

The latest M/LEARN newsletter is also available online at

http://www.iwlearn.net/websitetoolkit/e-bulletin/e-bulletin/gef-iw-learn-e-bulletin-17-junejuly-2009

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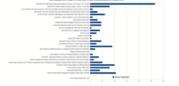
Lead Stories

Project News

Most Popular Documents on IW:LEARN (June 2009)

Calendar of Events from August to October 2009

Vacancies and Requests for Proposals



Visitor statistics from previous E-Bulletin #16 ℚ View full-size image

Lead Stories

Website Archiving Service from IW:LEARN

IW:LEARN wishes to highlight its website archiving service to GEF IW projects. This service ensures that when a GEF IW project comes to completion, the entire project website, including all data and information, its layout and design, are captured and made accessible for the long-term through IW:LEARN's Website Archive. To date over 30 sites have been archived and are browsable at http://www.iwlearn.net/archive.



Together with the archiving of of key documents into IW:LEARN's Project Database and geographic data into IW:LEARN's WebGIS, both designed to ease discovery of useful content, this additional service ensures that all content generated from projects is not lost after project termination but maintained online as a static website duplicate and readily accessible to future projects.

To add your website to this list, or provide us with your comments on the service, please contact us via our feedback form (message directed to Mr. Sean Khan and Dr. Richard Cooper).



Tuna decision making processes explained: WCPFC Factsheets

Written for non-governmental organisations and fishing industry association as well as high schools, universities, government department staff, media and others interested in fishing issues, the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Factsheets are presented with photos, diagrams and easy-to-read explanations of the technical and political decisions made at the WCPFC.

3.2.5. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #16, April 2009



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #16, April 2009

20-May-2009

The latest IW:LEARN newsletter is also available online at (http://www.iwlearn.net/websitetoolkit/e-bulletin/e-bulletin/gef-iw-learn-e-bulletin-16-april-2009)

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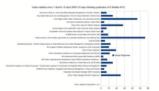
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Project News

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Calendar of Events from May to July 2009

Vacancies and Requests for Proposals



Visitor statistics from previous E-Bulletin #15 (Feb/March 2009). Q View full-size image

Lead Stories



UNEP/GEF IW:LEARN Data and Information Management Workshop, Tunis, Tunisia, 13-17 July 2009 IW:LEARN is organising a data and information management workshop to be held in Tunis, Tunisia. The purpose of the workshop is to improve access to geographic data and information generated from GEF IW projects and partners worldwide. The workshop focuses on the use of GeoNetwork Opensource software and is appropriate for information specialists, GIS experts and project members who are responsible for developing metadata.

For further details, please visit the Tunisia Workshop page .



UNEP/GEF IW:LEARN Caribbean Workshop, Kingston, Jamaica, 1-2 June 2009

The aim of this initiative is to test a mechanism for cross focal area linkages among GEF projects in the Caribbean.

For further information please visit the event page or contact Mr. Sean Khan (sean.khan@unep.org)



Social Networking with IW:LEARN
IW:LEARN is now using Twitter and Facebook social networking tools as additional means of disseminating news and events, and encouraging communication.

You can find IW:LEARN's latest Twitter updates by visiting http://twitter.com/iwlearn and join IW:LEARN's Facebook group. To join the latter, first you need to create a Facebook account by visiting http://www.facebook.com, and then click on this link which will take you directly to IW:LEARN's group page (or search for IW:LEARN group), and then click on 'Request to Join'.

3.2.6. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #15, Feb/March 2009



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #15. Feb/March 2009

01-Apr-2009

The latest IW:LEARN newsletter is also available online at (http://www.iwlearn.net/websitetoolkit/e-bulletin/e-bulletin/gef-iw-learn-e-bulletin-15-feb-march-2009)

The GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin is a regular circular of information including upcoming meetings, project specific news, interesting tools and applications of relevance to the GEF International Waters community (and projects in particular).

Contribute news and highlights about your project for future e-bulletins and share them with over 1300 water practitioners. Also, please let us know what you would like to see in future IWLEARN e-bulletins.

In This Issue

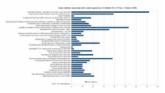
Lead Stories

Project News

Most popular documents on IW:LEARN (Jan/Feb 2009)

Calendar of Events from April to June 2009

Vacancies and Requests for Proposals



Visitor statistics from previous E-Bulletin #14 (Jan 2009). Q View full-size image

Lead Stories



Outcomes of State vs. Community-Based Mangrove Management in Southern Thailand
This study (Sudtongkong, C., and E. L. Webb, 2008) is the first to quantitatively demonstrate that
mangrove forests of Thailand can be managed and conserved by local communities. Moreover, the
condition of community-managed mangrove forests was superior to that managed by the state.



Groundwater Resources Use and Management in the Amu Darya River Basin (Central Asia)
This paper analyses groundwater resources use and management in the socio-economic context of the
Amu Darya River Basin which covers part of the following landlocked Central Asian countries:



From Ridge to Reef: Water, Environment, and Community Security, GEF action on transboundary water resources

This publication highlights nearly two decades of achievements by the GEF International Waters programme, in securing a wide range of economic, political, and environmental benefits from shared surface water, groundwater, and marine systems.

3.2.7. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #14, Jan 2009



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #14, Jan 2009

20-Feb-2009

The latest IW:LEARN newsletter is also available online at (http://www.iwlearn.net/websitetoolkit/e-bulletin/e-bulletin/gef-iw-learn-e-bulletin-jan2009)

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In This Issue

Lead Stories

Project News

Most popular documents on IW:LEARN (December)

Calendar of Events from February to April 2009

Vacancies and Requests for Proposals

Visitor statistics from previous E-Bulletin #13 (Nov/Dec 2008). Q View full-size image

Lead Stories



IW:LEARN ICT Workshop - World Water Forum, Istanbul, Turkey, March 2009

IW:LEARN is organising a ICT training mini-workshop (comprising two four hour sessions) to be held at the next World Water Forum in Turkey. The purpose of this workshop is to assist projects in creating and managing a project website using the freely available IW:LEARN Toolkit. In addition, related ICT subjects such as GIS and content syndication will be discussed.

To learn more about the workshop, kindly e-mail Mr. Sean Khan at sean.khan@unep.org or Dr. Richard Cooper at richard@iwlearn.org.



Orange-Senqu River Basin: Preliminary Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis Adopted by ORASECOM in April 2008, the GEF IW TDA/SAP "best practice" approach underpins the methodology used in the development of the Orange-Senqu River Basin TDA.



Peace in the Pipeline
Article from BBC VIEWPOINT by Aaron Wolf, Annika Kramer, Alexander Carius and Geoffrey Dabelko
Evidence indicates that international water disputes are generally settled peacefully, with the last recorded international conflict over water being the Tigris River 4,500 years ago.



Invitation to GEF IW projects: dissemination of publications and information resources at World Water Forum

GEF IW:LEARN is offering GEF IW projects the opportunity to disseminate their publications, documents, brochures and other information resources at the World Water Forum in Turkey. GEF IW:LEARN will have an exhibition stand at the event and invites colleagues to forward materials.

3.2.8. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #13, Nov/Dec 2008



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #13, Nov/Dec 2008

22-Dec-2008

The latest IW:LEARN newsletter is also available online at (http://www.iwlearn.net/websitetoolkit/e-bulletin/e-bulletin/gef-iw-learn-e-bulletin-13-nov-dec-2008)

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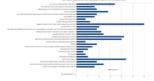
Lead Stories

Project News

Most popular documents on IW:LEARN (November)

Calendar of Events from Jan to March 2009

Vacancies and Requests for Proposals



Visitor statistics from previous E-Bulletin #12 (October 2008). 🔍 View full-size image



Lead Stories



IW:LEARN ICT Workshop - Turkey, March 2009
IW:LEARN is organising its next ICT training workshop to be held in Turkey, tentatively scheduled for March 2009.
The purpose of this workshop is to assist projects in creating and managing a project website using the freely available IW:LEARN Toolkit. In addition, related ICT subjects such as GIS and content syndication will be

To learn more about the workshop, kindly e-mail Mr. Sean Khan at sean.khan@unep.org or Dr. Richard Cooper at richard@iwlearn.org.



Study Highlights Increasing Ocean Acidification

Increasing global concentrations of atmospheric CO2 are predicted to decrease ocean pH, with potentially severe impacts on marine food webs, but empirical data documenting ocean pH over time are limited.



Socioeconomic Study On Coral Reefs Points To Challenges Of Coastal Resource Management
Study reports on the social and economic ramifications of healthy coral reefs in 27 tropical nations and points to
the inability of coastal managers to effectively implement decades-old recommendations as a significant barrier to

3.2.9. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #12, October 2008



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #12. October 2008

04-Dec-2008

The GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin is a regular circular of information including upcoming meetings, project specific news, interesting tools and applications of relevance to the GEF International Waters community (and projects in particular).

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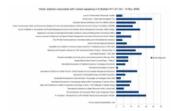
Lead Stories

Project News

Most popular documents on IW:LEARN (October)

Calendar of Events from Dec 2008 to Feb

Vacancies and Requests for Proposals



Visitor statistics from previous E-Bulletin #11 (September 2008). \mathbb{Q} View full-size image

Lead Stories

Short Courses from UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education



Short courses at UNESCO-IHE include regular short courses, tailor-made training, and online courses. All these courses are aimed at giving the participants infomation on a specific subject in a relatively short time.



The Transboundary Freshwater Dispute Database from Oregon State University

The Transboundary Freshwater Dispute Database (TFDD) is used to aid in the assessment of the process of water conflict prevention and resolution.

UNU OpenCourseWare

IWRM and Mangrove Courses from United Nations University OpenCourseWare Website

Download material from courses on 'Mangroves and Biodiversity' and 'Integrated Water Resource Management' from the UNU OpenCourseWare (OCW) website.



Online African Marine Atlas

The African Marine Atlas provides substantial maps, images, data and information to coastal resource managers, planners and decision-makers from various administrative institutions and specialized agencies in Africa.

3.2.10. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #11, September 2008



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #11, September 2008

31-Oct-2008

The GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin is a regular circular of information including upcoming meetings, project specific news, interesting tools and applications of relevance to the GEF International Waters community (and projects in particular).

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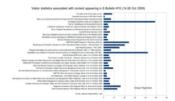
Lead Stories

Project News

Most popular documents on IW:LEARN (September)

Calendar of Events from Nov 2008 to Jan 2009

Vacancies and Requests for Proposals



Visitor statistics from previous E-Bulletin #10 (August 2008). Q View full-size image

Lead Stories



Launch of Global Water Partnership ToolBox

The GWP ToolBox comprises an organized collection of case studies, reference documents, external web sites and other supporting materials in water resources management, which have been submitted by various contributors and have been peer reviewed.



Virtual Ocean - A New Data Visualisation Tool

Virtual Ocean is a new mapping application developed by the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University. It integrates the GeoMapApp tool suite with the NASA World Wind 3-D earth browser.



Download Species Distribution Grids from SEDAC Website

This website provides a search facility for quickly locating and downloading 1-kilometer (30 arc-second) resolution grids of the distribution of species. Data are available for global amphibian distributions, and for birds and mammals in the Americas.



Online Transboundary Water and Environment Database from the International Network of Water-Environment Centres in the Balkans (INWEB)

The International Network of Water-Environment Centres in the Balkans (INWEB) was founded in 2001 to address the following objectives, including development of a transboundary waters

3.2.11. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #10, August 2008



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #10, August 2008

14-Oct-2008

The GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin is a regular circular of information including upcoming meetings, project specific news, interesting tools and applications of relevance to the GEF International Waters community (and projects in particular).

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Project News

Most popular documents on IW:LEARN (August)

Calendar of Events for October 2008 Vacancies and Requests for Proposals



Visitor statistics (unique pageviews) of links in previous E-Bulletin #9 (July 2008). Click image to view.

Lead Stories



UNEP/IW:LEARN Metadata Workshop

IW:LEARN is organising a workshop to be held in Tunisia, tentatively scheduled from 8-12 December 2008. The workshop aims to introduce the free GeoNetwork open source software package for managing and sharing geospatial metadata.

To learn more about the workshop, kindly e-mail Mr. Sean Khan at sean.khan@unep.org or Dr. Richard Cooper at richard@iwlearn.org.

Thank You Survey Respondents!



IW:LEARN wishes to thank all those who shared their time to respond to the survey on IW:LEARN services. These inputs will help in improving IWLEARN's outreach materials, the iwlearn.net website and the Web Toolkit. The initial result of the online survey is accessible at http://www.iwlearn.net /websitetoolkit/survey/summary-of-results.

As we have received a few reports of technical difficulties in accomplishing the survey, we are making the survey available in MS Word format for those who are still interested to share their views and suggestions on IW:LEARN services. The questionnaire consists of only 12 questions about iwlearn.net, and an additional 3 questions for GEF IW project managers and 11 questions for users of the Web Toolkit. Download the survey in MS Word format.

3.2.12. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #9, July 2008



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #9, July 2008

29-Aug-2008

The GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin is a regular circular of information including upcoming meetings, project specific news, interesting tools and applications of relevance to the GEF International Waters community (and projects in particular).

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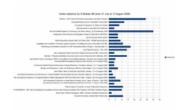
Lead Stories

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Most popular documents on IW:LEARN (July)

Calendar of Events for September 2008

Vacancies and Requests for Proposals



Visitor statistics (unique pageviews) of links in previous E-Bulletin #8 (June 2008) ℚ Click to view full-size image

Lead Stories

IW:LEARN Online User Survey



One of the aims of the IW:LEARN team is to help GEF IW projects do business better. In pursuit of this goal, an online survey was developed to determine the needs and preferences of its stakeholders and users, and to assess the effectiveness of its services, including its knowledge base, http://www.iwlearn.net, and knowledge products.

Everyone is invited to participate by filling out the online questionnaire which consists of only 12 questions about iwlearn.net, and an additional 3 questions for GEF IW project managers and 11 questions for users of the IW:LEARN Web Toolkit. The survey will run from 25 August to 15 September only.

As a way of expressing appreciation, IW:LEARN will distribute a **free** 2-gigabyte flash memory stick to the first 50 respondents.

The online survey is accessible at http://iwlearn.net/websitetoolkit/survey/iwlearn-survey-2008.



Expression of interest invited for GEF Inter-focal Regional Consultative Process with existing and pipeline GEF Projects in the Wider Caribbean Region

The purpose of this TOR is to carry out activities to implement GEF IW:LEARN Activity B1.1, namely a regional consultative process, the main objective of which is to test the effectiveness of cross focal area networking among a regional cluster of ongoing and pipeline GEF projects in the Wider Caribbean.

3.2.13. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #8, June 2008



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #8, June 2008

31-Jul-2008

The GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin is a regular circular of information including upcoming meetings, project specific news, interesting tools and applications of relevance to the GEF International Waters community (and projects in particular).

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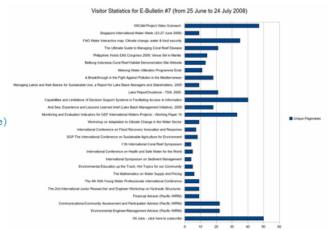
Lead Stories

Project News

Most popular documents on IW:LEARN (June)

Calendar of Events for August 2008

Vacancies and Requests for Proposals



Visitor statistics (unique pageviews) of links in previous E-Bulletin #7 (May 2008) Q Click to view full-size image...

Lead Stories



GISFish - FAO's New GIS Portal for Aquaculture and Inland Fisheries

GISFish is a "one stop" site from which to obtain the global experience on **Geographic Information Systems (GIS)**, **Remote Sensing** and **Mapping** as applied to Aquaculture and Inland fisheries. Development of GISFish is a work in progress being carried out under the guidance of the Aquaculture Management and Conservation Service (FIMA) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).



Geospatial Resources for Freshwater Conservation

Valuable information for freshwater management from the Biodiversity Informatics Facility at the American Museum of Natural History's Center for Biodiversity and Conservation. The section on Geospatial Resources for Freshwater Conservation provides links to geospatial data sets relevant for freshwater conservation and software commonly used in freshwater studies.

3.2.14. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #7, May 2008



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #7, May 2008

27-Jun-2008

The GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin is a regular circular of information including upcoming meetings, project specific news, interesting tools and applications of relevance to the GEF International Waters community (and projects in particular).

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Most popular documents on IW:LEARN (May)

Calendar of Events for July 2008

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Lead Stories



IWCAM Project Video Outreach

Several new videos can now be streamed live through IW:LEARN.NET. Some of the latest productions have been released by the IWCAM Project, entitled 'Think About Water', which is a series of four video shorts (2 mins each) introducing Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) in the Caribbean. If you have a video that you would like to make available through IWLEARN.NET, please contact us.



Singapore International Water Week (23-27 June 2008)
The Singapore International Water Week is the global platform for water solutions. It will bring policymakers, industry leaders, experts and practitioners together to address challenges, showcase technologies, discover opportunities and celebrate achievements in the water world.



FAO Water Interactive map: Climate change, water & food security

Experts meeting at FAO have discussed possible implications of climate change for agriculture in terms of water availability and demand. For a series of major agriculture systems, climate change drivers, challenges and response options have been analysed and are presented here.

Project News

The Ultimate Guide to Managing Coral Reef Disease

The definitive management guide to identifying, assessing and managing coral reef diseases will be launched at the 11th International Coral Reef Symposium (ICRS) at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on Monday, July 7, 2008.

Philippines Hosts EAS Congress 2009, Venue Set in Manila

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Philippines, and the PEMSEA Resource Facility have confirmed that the site of the EAS Congress 2009 will be Manila, Philippines. The date for the Congress is set for 23 -27 November 2009.

Belitung Indonesia Coral Reef Habitat Demonstration Site Website

The Belitung Coral Reef Habitat Demonstration Site has recently launched a new website highlighting project activities and achievements.

IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin 3.2.15.

GEF IW:LEARN E-bulletin #6, April 2008



GEF IW:LEARN E-bulletin #6, April 2008

The GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin is a regular circular of information including upcoming meetings, project specific news, interesting tools and applications of relevance to the GEF International Waters community (and projects in particular). Contribute news and highlights about your project for future e-bulletins and share them with over 1000 water practitioners.

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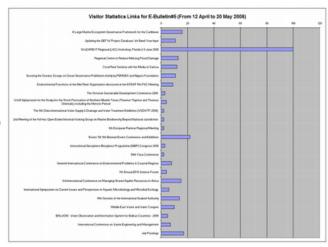
Lead Stories

Project News

Most popular documents on IW:LEARN (April)

Calendar of Events for June 2008

Vacancies and Requests for Proposals



Visitor statistics (pageviews) of links in previous E-Bulletin #5

Click to view full-size image...

Lead Stories



GEF Lessons Learned, Knowledgebase for Lessons Learned and Best Practices in the Management of Coral Reefs

The project seeks to formalize the experiences, lessons learned from previous GEF projects, as well as major non-GEF initiatives, involving coral reefs and associated ecosystems.



Economic Valuation of Large Marine Ecosystems

IUCN recently released a report on the Economic Valuation of Large Marine Ecosystems produced from a workshop held at the GEF Fourth Biennial International Waters Conference, Cape Town.

3.2.16. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #5, March 2008



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #5, March 2008

28-Apr-2008

Apologies for the missing links in earlier E-Bulletin which was caused by a technical problem.

The GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin is a regular circular of information including upcoming meetings, project specific news, interesting tools and applications of relevance to the GEF International Waters community (and projects in particular). Contribute news and highlights about your project for future e-bulletins and share them with over 1000 water practitioners.

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Most popular documents on IW:LEARN (March)

Calendar of Events for April/May 2008

Vacancies and Requests for Proposals



Visitor statistics (pageviews) of links in previous E-Bulletin #4

Q Click to view full-size image...

Lead Stories

A Large Marine Ecosystem Governance Framework for the Caribbean



A recent paper by Lucia Fanning, Robin Mahon et al. proposes a large marine ecosystem (LME) governance framework for the Caribbean.

A large marine ecosystem (LME) governance framework, developed from a need to effectively address the sustainable management of the shared living marine resources of the Caribbean, is proposed. The framework is based on four propositions and focuses on a linked examination of two well-known components of LME-level governance: the policy cycle process by which decisions are made and themulti-level nature of LMEs.

3.2.17. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #4, February 2008



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #4, February 2008

20-Mar-2008



The GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin is a regular circular of information including upcoming meetings, project specific news, interesting tools and applications of relevance to the GEF International Waters community (and projects in particular). Contribute news and highlights about your project for future e-bulletins and share them with over 1000 water practitioners.

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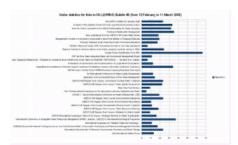
Lead Stories

Project News

Most popular documents on IW:LEARN (February)

Calendar of Events for March and April 2008

Vacancies and Requests for Proposals



Visitor statistics (pageviews) of links in previous E-Bulletin #3 (January 2008)

Click to view full-size image

Lead Stories



Fostering an Online Multilingual Information Community: from Monolingual to Multilingual Websites

How can we better share and access information distributed throughout the multilingual GEF International Waters community?

A more effective global sharing of information is now possible given the language tools under development by a host of companies and organisations including Google, AltaVista, WorldLingo, and Plone. As a service to International Waters Projects, IW:LEARN is making these tools available to facilitate improved access to online multilingual information across the GEF IW portfolio.



BSERP concluding after 15 years of joint efforts for the Black Sea

After 15 successful years of contribution to the reinforcement of cooperation and capacities of the Black Sea countries directed at the reduction of nutrients and other hazardous substances to acceptable levels, the Black Sea Ecosystem Recovery Project (BSERP) is finally coming to a conclusion.

3.2.18. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #3, January 2008



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #3, January 2008

12-Feb-2008

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Lead Stories

Inception of the Agulhas Somali Currents Large Marine Ecosystem project



It is estimated that approximately four million tonnes of fish are harvested off the east coast of Africa every year and that fisheries exports alone contribute US\$943 million to the economies of the region. Yet, while scientists believe that less than 50% of marine species off the east coast of Africa have been described, human activities - such as pollution, over-fishing and environmental degradation - seriously threaten the region's coastal and marine resources.

This is the reality facing the representatives of nine countries who met in Durban, South Africa, last week to begin the process of intensively studying and, in time, collectively managing the marine resources of East Africa and its small island states.

Enrol for Online Courses from the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education



UNESCO-IHE offers high-quality online courses in an increasing number of topics of interest in the water sector. The innovative delivery format makes learning exciting, flexible, interactive and effective. It allows participants anywhere in the world to learn at their own convenience, and immediately apply their newly acquired knowledge in their working environment.

3.2.19. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #2, November/December 2007



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #2. November/December 2007

12-Jan-2008

The GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin is a regular circular of information including upcoming meetings, project specific news, interesting tools and applications of relevance to the GEF International Waters community (and projects in particular). Contribute news and highlights about your project for future e-bulletins and share them with over 900 water practitioners.

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Lead Stories



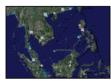
GEF IWCAM establishing suite of indicators

The GEF-IWCAM Project Coordinating Unit, consultants, demonstration projects and participating countries are working together to develop a suite of indicators. The first step in this process was to determine the baseline. To do this the project surveyed all participating countries regarding their current tracking of indicators and other data.



The Manila Bay Area Environmental Atlas was formally launched on the 9th of November

The launching was led by the Philippine Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Jose L. Atienza Jr. and PEMSEA Regional Programme Director and Interim Executive Director, Dr. Chua Thia-Eng. The Atlas provides a relevant source of information necessary in policy formulation, planning, decision-making, monitoring, integrated river basin and coastal area management, and in particular, the implementation of the Manila Bay Coastal Strategy.



South China Sea on Google Earth

The South China Sea Project now has its own Google Earth layer, containing information about the project's institutional network, suite of habitat demonstration sites, and a large number of site characterisations for coastal habitat areas in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand.

3.2.20. IW:LEARN Monthly E-Bulletin

GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #1, October 2007



GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin #1. October 2007

08-Nov-2007

The GEF IW:LEARN e-bulletin is a monthly circular of information regarding upcoming meetings, projects specific news, interesting tools and applications of relevance to the GEF International waters community (and pojects in particular). Contribute news and highlights about your project for future e-bulletin and share them with over 900 water practitioners.

Also, Please let us know what you would like to see in future IWLEARN e-bulletins.

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Monthly Featured

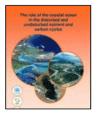
The Dynamics of Integrated Coastal Management: Practical Applications in the Sustainable Coastal Developements in East Asia

Authored by Dr. Chua Thia-Eng, this 16 chapter-book shares the author's 20 years of practical experience in addressing issues related to the integrated management on the coasts and oceans. This book makes clear the rationale underlying the use of the integrated management approach, and the practices used to apply sustainable development principles and international environmental instruments when undertaking ICM programs.



The Role of the Coastal Ocean in the Disturbed and Undisturbed Nutrient and Carbon Cycles

The project "The Role of the Coastal Ocean in the Disturbed and Undisturbed Nutrient and Carbon Cycles" was implemented within the UNEP-GEF International Waters focal area, Operational Programme 10 – Global contaminants, the sub-programme: "Sustainable Management and Use of Natural Resources" by the Land-Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zone (LOICZ) project. This publication describes the background and context for the project, it illustrates some of the key science outputs and considers the wider management implications of the outcomes of the project.



Implementation of Ecosystem-Based Management in Marine Capture Fisheries - case studies

This publication presents a short catalogue of good news stories describing how key actors are pursuing more sustainable solutions. These case studies illustrate the steps in an approach to managing human maritime activities known as ecosystem-based management (EBM). EBM has been used in terrestrial resource management for about 15 years, but its application to marine resource management only began more recently. WWF was the first global conservation organisation to proffer an EBM framework for marine fisheries, thus creating a testing ground for precautionary, conservation-oriented EBM for all relevant maritime sectors. The case studies presented here further indicate



GEF IW Bridges December 2008

GEFIW Bridges June 2008

GEF IW Bridges March 2008

GEF IW Bridges January 2008

GEF IW Bridges July 2007

GEF IW Bridges June 2007

GEF IW Bridges October 2006

GEF IW Bridges August 2006

GEF IW Bridges June 2006

IW:LEARN Terminal report (2004-2009)

GEF IW Bridges March 2006

GEF IW Bridges January 2006

GEF IW Bridges June 2005

World Water Forum Waves

Handbook on Governance and Socioeconomics of Large Marine Ecosystems

<u>Communicating for Results: A Communications Planning Guide for International Waters Projects</u>

Turning the Tide: Sustaining Earth's Large Marine Ecosystems

3.3. Training/Workshop Reports and Materials

UNEP/IW:LEARN ICT Workshop Survey Results

St. Petersburg workshop on public participation and information management report

Hanoi Workshop on Payment for Ecosystem Services report

Cape Town Economic Valuation for Large Marine Ecosystems

<u>Summary of key lessons derived from presentations at the Africa Public Participation Workshop</u>

<u>Summary of key lessons derived from presentations at the Asia Public Participation</u> Workshop

Gender and Water Traveling Exhibit Final Report

Technical Overview: Red Hat Linux Server Installation & User Guide

Technical Overview: Building a Dynamic Web Server System.

Technical Overview: Building a Dynamic Web Site

Technical Overview: Web Server Security

Technical Overview: GIS-based Internet Mapping Servers

Technical Overview: Installing MyODBC for MySQL on Linux

Technical Overview: Installing the MailMan Mailing List Application on a Linux System

Plone Introduction Part I

Plone Introduction Part II

Plone Advanced Part I

Plone Advanced Part II
Installation Guide for IW:LEARN Toolkit

Installing Plone on Vista (UAC feature)

3.4. Workshop participants' lists



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