UNESCO-IHE INSTITUTE FOR WATER EDUCATION

UNESCO-IHE is the largest international postgraduate water education facility in the world. It is established as a UNESCO 'Category I' institute operating under direct responsibility of UNESCO.

The Institute confers fully accredited MSc degrees and promotes PhDs. Since 1957 the Institute has provided postgraduate education to more than 14,500 water professionals from over 160 countries, the vast majority from the developing world. Over 100 PhD fellows are currently enrolled in water-related research and numerous research and capacity development projects are carried out throughout the world.

UNESCO-IHE is at the centre of a vast international network of water related institutions, and functions as an interface between knowledge networks and centres, public and private sector organisations, scientific and professional associations and other members of the international water community. Through these partnerships, the Institute broadens its knowledge base and increases its effectiveness in developing the capacities of water sector organisations and individuals worldwide.

VISION AND MISSION

UNESCO-IHE envisions a world in which people manage their water and environmental resources in a sustainable manner, and in which all sectors of society particularly the poor, can enjoy the benefits of basic services.

The mission of UNESCO-IHE is to contribute to the education and training of professionals and to build the capacity of sector organisations, knowledge centres and other institutions active in the fields of water, the environment and infrastructure, in developing countries and countries in transition.

UNESCO AND WATER

UNESCO is the largest body within the UN system dealing with the most comprehensive range of water activities. These include urban water conflicts, ethics, integrated water resources management, gender equity in sustainable water provision and management, transboundary and international waters, groundwater, conflict resolution and prevention, water-related disasters and risks management, water use efficiency, and ecohydrology. UNESCO's water activities rest on three pillars: the International Hydrological Programme (research), the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education (capacity development) and the Secretariat of the World Water Assessment Programme (data).

ALUMNI

UNESCO-IHE encourages its 14,500 alumni community members from over 160 countries to actively engage in knowledge and information exchange. Alumni reach senior positions in their home countries and become nationally and internationally recognised experts in their fields of expertise. Many have made significant contributions to the development of the water and environmental sectors. UNESCO-IHE alumni have access to and remain part of a global network, consisting of alumni, guest lecturers, experts and renowned centres of knowledge, together providing a vast source of expertise to available to the sector.

THEMES

UNESCO-IHE centres its education, research and capacity development programmes around *Water Security, Environmental Integrity, Urbanisation, Water Management and Governance, Information and Communication Systems,* as well as in the emerging areas of *Conflict Management* and *Climate Adaptation*. Through each of these themes, the Institute addresses the major issues and challenges faced by many developing countries and countries in transition.

CORE ACTIVITIES

- Education, Training and Research for water sector professionals, engineers, scientists, consultants and decision makers working in the water, environment and infrastructure sectors.
- Water Sector Capacity Development for water sector ministries and departments, municipalities, water boards and water utilities, universities, training and research institutes, industries, nongovernmental and private sector organisations, particularly in developing countries and countries in transition.
- Partnership Building and Networking for knowledge centres, public and private sector organisations worldwide.
- Global Policy Forum on Water and Environment involving UNESCO Member States, National Committees of the International Hydrological Programme, World Water Council and many other stakeholders.
- Standard Setting for Education and Training for water-related academies, universities, and other education and training agencies in the water sector.



EDUCATION & TRAINING

UNESCO-IHE offers a wide range of accredited educational programmes, tailor-made training & online training courses for engineers, scientists and managers working in the water, environment and infrastructure sectors. UNESCO-IHE is implementing its educational activities increasingly with partner institutes, making water education more accessible and affordable for an increasing numbers of students.

RESEARCH

Research is a vital component of UNESCO-IHE's mission. The Institute's research activities focus on and contribute to the knowledge base concerning the water environment, and therefore complement its education and capacity development activities. One of the Institute's main assets is its ties to the developing world. These links provide an excellent opportunity to perform an almost constant reality check, since water issues that developing countries face require new and innovative solutions.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

UNESCO-IHE provides capacity development services to knowledge institutes and water sector organisations around the world. Through these operations, the Institute increases its global impact and helps to build sustainable organisations that are equipped to properly manage water resources and deliver water services to all communities. Services include institutional development projects, tailor-made training and policy advice.

UNESCO-IHE IN 2009/2010

157 full-time employees (53% academic and 47% supporting staff)

4 Water and Environment related MSc Programmes with 15 specialisations

200 new MSc participants/year

175 MSc degrees awarded

110 registered PhD fellows

13 PhD graduations, 2 with distinction

220 professionals in 39 regular short courses

330 participants in 14 online courses

340 professionals in 19 tailor-made training courses

300 scientific publications/year

150 capacity development projects

Total turnover of € 31 million

FELLOWSHIP TRUST FUND

The UNESCO-IHE Fellowship Trust Fund was created to raise funds from private and public organisations, companies, alumni and other (individual) benefactors for partial or full sponsorship of an individual's studies at UNESCO-IHE. Please see the website for more information.

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