

EuropeAid

Asia-Link Programme

Promoting higher education networking between Europe and Asia

Project Title

Development of Teaching and Training Modules for Higher Education on Low-Cost Wastewater Treatment

Call for Proposals: EUROPEAID/120517/C/G – Deadline of 10 February 2005

Area(s) of Activity Curriculum development – Workshops and study tours - Education – Training –Cooperation

Partners

SWUST, China
HUCE, Vietnam
FUSAG, Belgium
Aarhus University, Denmark

Project Location

China, Sichuan Province, Mianyang
Vietnam, Hanoi
Belgium, Namur Province, Gembloux
Denmark, Aarhus

Project Abstract

The aim of the 36-month project is to establish co-operation on curriculum development in low-cost wastewater treatment between higher education institutions in Asia (China, Vietnam) and Europe (Belgium, Denmark), and to build up long-term relationships among the partners that may lead to the development of further contacts in education and research. Partners collaborate on the development of a curriculum that will be implemented in HUCE, SWUST, and FUSAG.

Target groups include Master level students of the College of Environmental Engineering, Southwest University of Science and Technology (China), Faculty of Environmental Engineering, Hanoi University of Civil Engineering (Vietnam), Faculté Universitaire des Sciences Agronomiques de Gembloux (Belgium), and University of Aarhus (Denmark).

Workshops, training, and study tours are also organised to improve the relationships among partners.

Objectives

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the improvement of the theoretical capabilities in wastewater treatment in rapidly developing urban and rural areas of China and Vietnam, by means of exchanging and developing new concepts and methods of sustainable sanitation.

Project number

VN/Asia-Link/12 (113128)

Implementation period

06/12/2005 – 06/12/2008

EC co-financing

€691,085.75

Coordinator

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The objective of the project is also to upgrade the skills of current and future Chinese and Vietnamese engineers in low-cost wastewater treatment, as those qualifications are highly demanded on the labour market nowadays.

The project will also foster the exchange of ideas, concepts, and methods, which will greatly contribute to increase the awareness of European and Asian sanitation technologies in partner countries.

The specific objective of the project is to develop a teaching curriculum for new courses in low-cost wastewater treatment for MSc level students in Europe and Asia. The course will review the different low-cost treatment methods existing in the partner countries and will share the experience of processes developed and successfully applied by the partner institutions in their respective countries. Through teaching and training postgraduate students, the project will raise awareness and strengthen the capacity of involved professionals in alternative sanitation concepts and methods. The curriculum developed for the MSc level will also be used in the European partner universities, which will aim to integrate the curriculum in their respective educational programmes. Course literature and teaching materials will be prepared, and study visits, workshops, and training sessions organised to facilitate the participation in the courses of teachers and students from the different universities.

Another specific aim of the project is to strengthen and enlarge existing partnership among partner institutions by promoting close and effective co-operation among lecturers at the different partner universities so that they share experiences and knowledge in sanitation, and also update current teaching practices. It is also envisioned that this will lead to further co-operation both in research and teaching, and student exchanges among participating institutions.

Main activities

Main activities include the joint preparation of course literature and teaching materials for the new curriculum, and its delivery to environmental and civil engineering students. Study visits, joint workshops, and training courses will be conducted with a view to improving direct co-operation.

Status

The curriculum has been finalised and translated in French, Chinese, and Vietnamese. Two workshops, two study tours, one training session, and two sanitation days have already been organised. The first delivery of the curriculum will take place in China and Vietnam between February and May 2008.

The curriculum will be revised, if necessary, on the basis of the comments from the students after the first delivery.