21 January 2005

ANNOUNCEMENT

We at UNESCO extend our deepest sympathy to the millions of people affected by the Indian Ocean tsunami. We would like to dedicate this announcement to all those who have lost their lives or loved ones, and to those who have contributed to relief and rehabilitation efforts in the past month.

As tsunami-affected communities start to rebuild their lives and as infrastructure and the educational systems are being reconstructed, education and technologies play key roles in informing people about disaster risks and in motivating them to reducing their risk to future disasters.

Below are resources and news related to disaster education and ICT.

Latest news and additions to the ICT in Education site

Headlines

UNESCO offers support to tsunami-affected countries
UNESCO has developed online resources on the role ICT and education play in tsunami relief and recovery.

UNESCO participates in World Conference on Disaster Reduction
The World Conference on Disaster Reduction is being held from 18 to 22 January 2005 in Kobe, Japan. There are a series of sessions on knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience. These sessions are led by UNESCO, UNICEF and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. There are also special sessions on the tsunami disaster.

Programmes and Projects

UNDP promotes ICT in Education in the aftermath of Cyclone Heta
UNDP's ICT for Development Programme in Niue, a Pacific Island, includes activities in the area of crisis prevention and recovery. In the aftermath of Cyclone Heta on 5 January 2004, ICT played an important role in education for recovery and reconstruction.

The Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre pioneers e-learning in Asia
The Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC) partners with 15 selected universities and training institutes in Asia to incorporate disaster risk management in their urban planning courses through an Internet-based platform for e-learning - Blackboard. This website provides downloadable case studies, course modules, project reports and useful links to other disaster-related e-learning sites.

MSSRF Rebuild Lives
The MS Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), a Global Knowledge Partnership (GKP) member, is using their Village Information Project network resources (people / volunteers, information, ICTs) to develop an effective relief and rehabilitation programme for the coastal villages of Southern India in consultation with the affected communities themselves.
Resources

Digital Divide Network Hosts Space for Sharing Lessons Learned from the Tsunami
On digital divide network there is a space dedicated to disaster relief and emergency preparedness. The website includes news, featured articles and useful online resources on the role ICT can play in relief, rehabilitation and preparedness efforts after the tsunami disaster. The website also has a 24-hour virtual meeting room which allows real real-time interaction with audio, whiteboard, chat and application sharing.

Emergency Management Australia develops online tsunami materials
Following the tsunami, Emergency Management Australia (EMA) worked closely with education, disaster and emergency management experts from Australia to develop new materials for primary and secondary schools explaining the recent disaster. EMA's website contains generic lesson plans, images, history, links and other information for learning about all aspects of emergency management.

Save the Children provides online tsunami resources
The Education Unit at Save the Children prepared online resources on tsunami and safety for primary and secondary schools.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration focus on education
The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration provides a range of tsunami-related resources for students and teachers.

Best wishes,

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Our web team invites you to become more of a part of this ever growing and dynamic site, contributing pertinent information in the field of ICT in education to our databases (www.unescobkk.org/education/ict/databases), and enriching content in our main pages. Add your favourite articles, policy papers, websites, etc. to our Information Resources Database (http://www2.unescobkk.org/education/ict/v2/search.asp?id=3), highlight outstanding projects in our Projects and Programmes Database (http://www2.unescobkk.org/education/ict/v2/search.asp?id=5), or let your peers know about the very latest news and events (http://www2.unescobkk.org/education/ict/v2/search.asp?id=4).