3 November 2005

Announcement

Latest updates on the ICT in Education website

Highlights

New Publication
The latest publication by the UNESCO Bangkok ICT in Education Unit, titled “Technologies for Education: Achievements and Future Initiatives in the Asia-Pacific Region”, describes the key achievements so far of the Asia-Pacific ICT in Education programme and the initiatives that are planned for implementation over the next few years. The publication also provides an overview of our current partnerships, as well as how interested groups and organizations can become involved and share in this programme’s activities and achievement.
http://www.unescobkk.org/index.php?id=3524

News & Events

Demonstrating the Benefits of ICT for Literacy and Community-Based Learning
A UNESCO workshop on ICT for Community Empowerment, held in Chennai, India, from 3 to 7 October 2005, demonstrated innovative techniques using ICT in teaching and learning of literacy skills and in community-based education.
http://www2.unescobkk.org/education/ict/v2_2/detail.asp?id=19466

The Potential of Refurbished PCs in Narrowing the Digital Divide Discussed at Meeting
Experts at a recent meeting at UNESCO’s Paris Headquarters discussed how developing countries could benefit from the European Directive on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment, which emphasizes that priority shall be given to PC reemployment. The participants reviewed logistical and economic models for recycling and refurbishing PCs and for sending them to developing countries with the purpose of widening access to information and of narrowing the digital divide. http://www2.unescobkk.org/education/ict/v2_2/detail.asp?id=19471

Sri Lanka Launches National ICT in Education Drive
The Sri Lankan Ministry of Education has announced a “National ICT Education Drive”, which is to be a key element of the Education Reforms process; a process aimed at producing a global citizen with local values who can meet the challenges of the new knowledge-based society.
http://www2.unescobkk.org/education/ict/v2_2/detail.asp?id=19476

Bangladesh Workshop Trains Participants in the Production of Digital Talking Books
From 10 to 15 October 2005, Young Power in Social Action (YPSA) convened the first “Focal Point Training” (FPT) session in Bangladesh for DAISY Digital Talking Books (DTB) Production. YPSA recognizes the necessity of ensuring that all groups have access to information, and is supporting and promoting efforts by the DAISY Consortium with the aim of ensuring print-disabled people and other groups are not marginalized in the emerging knowledge societies.
http://www2.unescobkk.org/education/ict/v2_2/detail.asp?id=19481
Annual “Computer Society of India” Convention Set to Discuss the Future of ICT in Education
One of the key areas for discussion in the 2005 national annual convention of the Computer Society of India, will be education. The convention, to be convened from 9 to 12 November at HiTech City in Hyderabad, will discuss a range of subjects relating to ICT in Education, including: training in ICT; the use of ICT as a tool in education; how e-learning can facilitate distance-education; and how to improve the quality of education through ICT.
http://www2.unescobkk.org/education/ict/v2_2/detail.asp?id=19486

Programmes & Projects

“Project Pygmalion” Uses Refurbished Computers to Teach English in India
Donated second-hand computers are helping to bring English language skills to children in rural India. What started in 2003 as a one-man effort by N.S. Soundara Rajan, has today grown into “Project Pygmalion”. With the support of the Institute of Leadership and Institutional Development (ILID), this project uses computers as a tool to enhance the English-speaking skills of primary-school students and is being implemented in 19 schools in villages in and around Mysore and Bangalore, India. http://www2.unescobkk.org/education/ict/v2_2/detail.asp?id=19491

Distance-Learning Gets a Boost in the Solomon Islands Via Solar-Powered Email Stations
Affordable and sustainable rural connectivity, established via wireless email networking and driven by solar-power, is enhancing and promoting distance-education and information exchange in the Solomon Islands. http://www2.unescobkk.org/education/ict/v2_2/detail.asp?id=19501

Resources

The Impact of Computers & the Internet on Learning in 11 Developing Countries
A recent report, Global Networked Readiness for Education, presents the preliminary findings of a pilot project evaluating the impact of computers and the internet in 11 developing countries: Brazil, Costa Rica, El Salvador, The Gambia, India (Karnataka), Jordan, Mexico, Panama, the Philippines, South Africa and Uganda.
http://www2.unescobkk.org/education/ict/v2_2/detail.asp?id=19510

Useful E-Learning Software for Getting Students Motivated to Learn
This article presents one of the author’s favourite e-learning programmes for the teaching-learning of mathematics and languages, and explains why programmes such as this one are useful for getting unmotivated students interested in the subject-matter.
http://www2.unescobkk.org/education/ict/v2_2/detail.asp?id=19526

What Works in Youth Employment: The Impact of New Information Technologies
This report examines the effect that ICT is having on employment and livelihood opportunities for youth. The report is part of a series of "What Works" publications by the International Youth Foundation (IYF), which examine issues in the youth development field and provide practitioners and policy makers with insights into effective educational and training practices which can assist youth worldwide. http://www2.unescobkk.org/education/ict/v2_2/detail.asp?id=19518
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).