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UZWATER NEWSLETTER

28 November 2013

Dear Uzwater colleagues,

This newsletter is there to keep you all updated on the work and development in the Uzwater project. There are close to 100 persons involved now; that is great, but it makes it impossible to know what is going on everywhere in the network. Because of that we need a newsletter. It will be very simple but hopefully serve its purpose. I suggest that we take turn in producing the newsletter between all the partners, both in Uzbekistan and in the EU countries. This issue comes from Uppsala University. Please tell me if you have articles to be published or want to write the entire Newsletter.

All the best

Lars Rydén

Coordinator Uppsala University

Now when we are not together the homepage is our only meeting ground. Please visit the homepage at least once a week: www.uzwater.ktu.lt. Register so you have access to Intranet. The homepage will be in three languages – English, Uzbek and Russian.



From the visit to Uzbek universities in October. Vice-rector of the National university of Uzbekistan receives a gift from Rector of Uppsala University handed over by Prof. Lars Rydén (to the right) during the meeting on October 24.

Uppsala University: Weekly pub for sustainable development

Today Thursday 28th of November Uppsala University Centre for Sustainable Development organises the first of a series of pubs for discussing sustainable development, and having a good time together. This is an initiative that may be an idea to copy for some of the universities in the network. It is always good with not so formal meetings.



Work on core course *teachers' guides* are now in full swing

The most urgent issue in the project now is to complete Work Package 1 (WP1). It is called

Development of curricula, courses, teaching materials, teaching methods for Master Programme in environmental science and sustainable development with focus on water management at partner universities.

WP1 consists of four parts.

WP 1.1 *Two training visits to EU Universities.* This was carefully taken care of as no less than 4 groups of 8 or 9 representatives from the Uzbek partner universities visited the EU partner universities earlier this year. As a result each Uzbek University in the project has 4 persons fully active in the project, which is a very nice result.

WP 1.2 *Curricula and syllabi of Master Programme.* In the EU the Curriculum and Syllabus of a course are rather small and formal documents, only stating basic conditions for the course. In Uzbekistan a much fuller description of the course is required. This is clear from the formats to be used. (These can be downloaded from the homepage.) They rather ask for “teachers’ guides”, as explained in WP 1.3.

WP 1.3 *Learning resources.* It is described in the project application as

A team will be established for each of the core courses with participation from Uzbekistan and EU universities. These will work out course description, course content, planning of lectures, seminars with students’ presentations, labs for some of the courses, case studies, study material, examination and course evaluation forms.

Presentably there are 15 course teams writing such “Teachers’ guides” for the core courses. The course teams should be available on the home page (to be sent to the webmaster Christian Anderson by the EU universities coordinators) as well but we are still waiting for some of them. WP2 should be completed by December 15.

WP 1.4 *Study material for 15 core courses.* This will certainly be the most difficult and biggest work in Work Package 1. The work is meant to be started as soon as the Teachers’ guides etc. are ready, that is by 15th of December, and be ready on 15th of April. The material existing in the Baltic University Programme is going to be a basic resource to do this. This also allows all questions on the copyright of material to be solved, but certainly new texts are needed and we can look forward to a few months with much authoring of textbook material, when the New Year 2014 begins.



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Global arena: COP 19 in Warsaw a disappointment

The most important event on the global arena last two weeks in the area of sustainable development and environmental protection was the global climate negotiations. These are part of the United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) yearly meetings, so called Conference of the Parties, COP. This time it is no. 19, in Warsaw, Poland. The task was to prepare for a global agreement on reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions expected to be signed in Paris in two years. Sorry to say very little was done to achieve that. A global agreement on reducing emissions of GHGs is still far away. Rather the use of coal, which is worsening GHG emission, is increasing in our world today. I was in Poland last week to see the negotiations being neglected by both media and officials.

Lars Rydén



Four students in front of the Uzwater Centre at the Tashkent State Technical University.

Tashkent State Technical University – Uzwater Centre is open

The Tashkent State Technical University has already opened its Uzwater Centre as is seen on the picture with four students. We trust they are going to join the master programme next year. In all there will be 8 centres for the new master programme. So far 3 have been opened as we saw during our visit. Perhaps there are more? Please send in reports and pictures!