



# IV

## Capacity Building Programme



## Capacity Building Programme (FY2003)

### Overview of the Capacity Building Programme

IGES Capacity Building Programme (CB Programme) functions as a bridge to connect policy-research and policy-making by providing innovative training for decision makers to formulate research-based policies.

Therefore, the objectives of CB Programme are as follows. 1) To encourage innovative policy development by making IGES research results easily accessible to policy-makers and policy implementers. 2) To provide a large number of key decision-makers (mainly in the Asia-Pacific region) with quality learning through adopting an integrated capacity-development approach, promoting the wise use of eLearning<sup>1</sup>, and 3) To offer a needs-based combination of eLearning with face-to-face methodologies

### Providing eCourses

CB Programme provides eCourses (computer-based training courses) both on the Internet and CD-ROMs. Most of them are linked to the activities of each IGES projects. As of 31 March 2004, 38 eCourses are available on the Website (English: 29, Japanese: 9). Some eCourses which were out-dated were archived during FY2003.

Full eCourse list: Visit [www.iges.net](http://www.iges.net)

**eCourses Development:** The IGES eCourses are tutorial-like, non-academic, practical, short, self-study, and promote the research results of IGES and its partner organizations and strengthened leadership skills. In FY2003, the Programme published three new eCourses. We also initiated three other eCourses with its partner organizations; United Nations Frameworks Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)<sup>2</sup> and United Nations Environment Programme - International Environmental Technology Centre (UNEP-IETC)<sup>3</sup>.

**Who are the users?:** As of 31 March 2004, a total of 3,050 registered learners had used IGES eLearning system to develop their capacities to implement sustainable development by taking eCourses, authoring their own eCourses, and utilising on-line resources. More than 1,100 new users registered and benefited from the IGES eLearning system during FY2003. According to a survey conducted in October 2003, 35% of the IGES eLearning users work in academia, 30% in business, 19% in NGOs/NPOs, and 15% in government. About 65% of the users are from Asia.

### Improving eLearning system and approaches

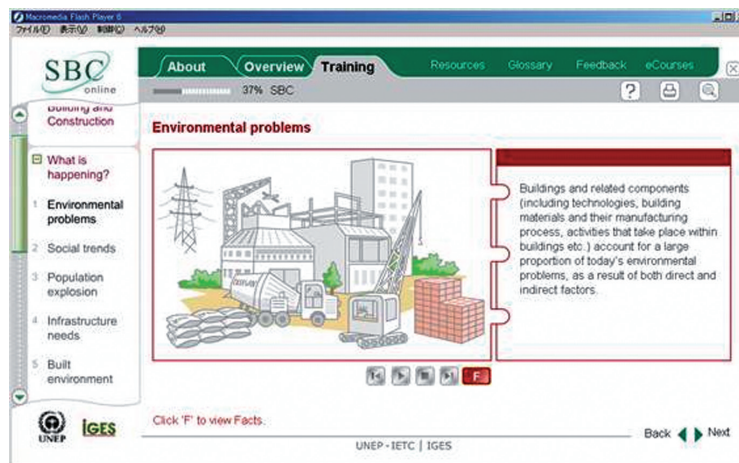
**What was improved?:** Since FY2000, CB Programme had been developing and improving IGES' own eLearning system to author and manage eLearning. During FY2003, the Programme explored options of using commercial eLearning software as well to maximize flexibility in both authoring and taking the eCourses. In March 2004, a more user-friendly eCourse template was developed so that the future eCourse can be used by other organizations. The Programme started using this new approach with further eCourse development. As a result, the development process accelerated and the eCourses are expected to be hosted by partner organizations to reach wider audiences starting FY2004. The eCourses became available in CD-ROMs and they were well-accepted especially by those who have no or unreliable Internet connections.

**How was learner support?:** CB Programme provided the registered users with technical, content, and training design support over face-to-face consultation, email and telephone. Certificates were issued to those who completed the eCourses to acknowledge successful and cooperative learning achievements.

1 eLearning has many interpretations. At the IGES Capacity Building Programme we use eLearning in a narrower sense by describing eLearning as a way of distance learning whereby learners/trainees access learning/training materials on the Internet or stand-alone CD-ROMs, and the learners/trainees communicate with their facilitators/trainers, if necessary, via emails.

2 UNFCCC: [www.unfccc.int](http://www.unfccc.int)

3 UNEP-IETC: based in Osaka, Japan, [www.unep.or.jp](http://www.unep.or.jp)



Screenshots of eCourses

### Conducting Face-to-face Training

CB Programme designed and implemented face-to-face training for LEAD<sup>4</sup> Japan Cohort 10 in July 2003. Objective of this training was to understand a broad sense of sustainable development and explore possibilities of using eLearning or information and

communication technologies (ICT) in general to enhance their activities. This yearly training was attended by eight trainees who work in various fields including government, business, academia and NGOs/NPOs.



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Photo: LEAD Japan Training (at IGES Headquarter, July 2003)

### Strategic Alliance

During FY2003, we extensively developed and further strengthened strategic alliances with like-minded eLearning for sustainable development initiatives (e.g., LEAD, UNU, UNEP-IETC, eWorld) to leverage resources and enhance the quality of on-line capacity development. Using this network, CB Programme not only shared its views and lessons learned with those organisations to enhance learning for sustainable development especially using information and communication technologies (ICT), but also developed joint-projects in developing eCourses to reach wider audiences of each organisation.

### Leadership Training through Internship

During FY2003, we offered two research internships for one LEAD Fellow from India and one IISD<sup>5</sup> intern from Canada to strengthen their leadership abilities and provide them with opportunities to exchange ideas with IGES researchers.

4 LEAD: Leadership for Environment and Development ([www.lead.org](http://www.lead.org))

5 IISD: International Institute for Sustainable Development (Head office in Manitoba, Canada, [www.iisd.org](http://www.iisd.org))

