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eGIS+

Flexible Learning Models within Geographical Information Systems (GIS) for Vocational Training

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Srand: Employability and online learning

Abstract

A successful previous project (Leonardo da Vinci programme) was implemented during 2002-2006. The objectives were to establish co-operation between European Universities and GIS users and to develop modularised courses intended for flexible learning. Ten partners from six European countries (BU, LT, NO, NL, PT, SE) participated. During the project a study program, 100 % Internet based, corresponding to one year full time study was implemented – resulting in eight course modules which were developed and tested during the project. An evaluation was performed, based on digital questionnaires and interviews with users. GIS – Geographical Information Systems – is a computer-based tool for handling and analysing digital map data to which are connected attribute data (spatially dependent phenomena), for statistical treatment – such as resource- and environmental planning, transport logistics, registration of archaeological findings etc.

The objectives of eGIS+ (2007-2009) in the Lifelong Learning Programme are to develop results from the E-GIS project www.e-gis.org and to target a broader range of GIS user groups, test new LMS and different media softwares, translate course material into partner languages, create a variety of duration of course modules (modules from just few minutes duration, without credits, up to 10 ECTS), create flexibility to a larger extent. In eGIS+ the partnership is extended, totally 8 countries and 10 partners.

Expected results will be to create awareness about GIS applications and usability to a higher extent and to spread the GIS knowledge to broader audiences. Many people nowadays, use GIS applications in daily life unconsciously.

Key words: Geographical Information Systems (GIS), Netbased Learning, Sharing experiences, Networking - European Universities, Learning Management System (LMS), Open Source.