Achieving the Millennium Development Goals: A Challenge for Global Higher Education

New Knowledge Partnership:

For example Summer School in Hanoi, Vietnam 2004 of GTZ, Humboldt University (HU) Berlin & University for Social Sciences Hanoi (USSH)

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With an innovative learning-design, GTZ-summer-schools intend to build bridges between theoretic and practical knowledge and thereby tackle some of the major obstacles in the field of higher education. This year, during their participation in a 4 week summer-school, an interdisciplinary group of 30 Vietnamese students, were enabled to:

- identify issues, relevant to their country's development: for example the growing coffee-sector; fresh-water and sewerage-problems, buffer-zone management of natural parks;
- assign those issues to the respective policy-fields in this case: WTO-membership; Natural Resource Management; Water Resource Management into the broader context of international conventions and treaties, institutions and memberships,
- connect the global context to the current development plans and projects in their country, and actually visit this projects.

Thereby, they practiced how to define their own possible contribution to the sustainable development of their country from the point of view of the respective scientific discipline.

An efficient system of Higher Education fulfils manifold tasks for the development of a country. The intellectual ownership for a countries development path can be sustained by adequate higher education strategies. Learning networks transcend borders!

Furthermore, the participants were empowered to identify:

- possibilities to access knowledge-resources within the global education structures
- (e.g. relevant websites, e-learning + mailing-lists),
- opportunities to integrate into south-south-knowledge networks and to understand
- how to use these networks for their further education (joint-degrees, grants etc.) and
- to recognise and to improve their individual learning-style.

The objective of this and any further summer-school is to enable a new generation of academics to formulate authentic standpoints within the process of internationalisation in their own countries and plant the seeds for an adequate Master-course in Globalisation and Sustainable Development. You are very welcome to visit our interactive learning-space in the internet: http://gtz.coachingplatform.com/LEservlets/IRS?to=Workspace.0-11597

Workshop 4: Global Partnership

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