EDITORIAL

Dear readers,

On the eve of the 33rd session of the General Conference of UNESCO, we would like to present an overview of the IITE activities during this biennium. For this purpose we publish the Report by the IITE Governing Board on the activities of the Institute for 2004–2005 adopted by the 7th session of the IITE Governing Board held on 10 and 11 June 2005.

I hope this issue will allow you to learn more about the IITE programme activities in three correlated areas: research and project development, training, and clearing house.

Vladimir Kinelev
Director of IITE

IITE ACTIVITIES IN 2004–2005
(IITE in figures)

Educational and training activities

Developed:
- New specialized training courses 8

Held:
- Training sessions, seminars, and workshops 22

Research and project development

Developed:
- Long-term projects 14
- Sub-regional projects 2

Under development:
- National pilot projects 2
- UNESCO cross-cutting theme projects 2

Held:
- Expert meetings, research seminars, and workshops 5
- Round table 2
- Working meetings on IITE projects and IITE national focal points 5
- International and national conferences co-organized and/or co-sponsored by IITE 15

Clearing house activities

WWW Portal (web site and online tools for information support, community building, research, and training): Up to 40,000 users from 70 countries monthly

Groupware-based online thematic seminars 18

E-learning system Distance Education

Platform
- English and Russian versions

Open WWW accessible databases >2,000 items

UNESCO IITE E-News Digest 5 issues annually

Publications issued:
- Specialized training courses and sets of training and methodological materials 7
- Analytical surveys 5
- Other publications 11

IITE Newsletters (English and Russian) 4 issues annually

Dissemination
- >2,000 copies
- >200 addresses

IITE ONLINE NEWS

26–28 September 2005 (Armenia): Training seminar ICTs in Education for People with Special Needs

24–28 October 2005 (Lithuania): Training seminar for teachers and teacher trainers ICTs in Technical and Vocational Education and Training

14–18 November 2005 (Russian Federation): Training seminar for teachers and teacher trainers Designing of ICT-Based Education Environment

I. Introduction

1. The fourth report of the Governing Board of the UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education (IITE) on the activities of the Institute during the 2004–2005 biennium is submitted to the General Conference of UNESCO at the 33rd session in accordance with Article VI (3) of the IITE Statutes.

II. The IITE Governing Board

2. This biennium the IITE Governing Board met twice, in 2004 (4–5 June) and 2005 (10–11 June). At its sessions the Governing Board has paid particular attention to the priorities of IITE programme activities adopted by the General Conference at the 32nd session, namely: to improve educational policy formulation and strategies for the application of ICTs in UNESCO Member States; to increase capacities for ICT usage in education through training of key education personnel, dissemination of training, methodological and analytical materials, preparation and application of new techniques to use ICTs in support of learning to live together, renewing curricula and teaching/learning methods in UNESCO Member States; enlarging access to information on ICT usage in education on the basis of IITE Educational Portal, strengthening the networking of national focal points and ICT specialists and institutions.

3. For these purposes IITE has concentrated efforts on three correlated areas of its programme activities: training of educational personnel; research and project development; dissemination of training, scientific, and methodological materials on the ICT application in education tailored to meet the main goal of its activities, namely, to assist UNESCO Member States to reinforce their national capacities of ICT applications in their educational systems.

4. At the sessions the Governing Board examined the IITE Programme and Budget for 2004–2005, discussed and approved the progress report on the development of IITE programme activities delivered by the Director of the Institute. The Board members noted the considerable progress made by the Institute in its development, highly appreciated the efficiency and scale of work accomplished by IITE during the biennium, its fruitfulness and helpfulness to UNESCO Member States, expressed their gratitude to the Director and staff of the Institute, and recommended that Headquarters utilize IITE and its potential more actively.

III. Programme activities

5. Striving to assist UNESCO Member States in meeting the challenges of the information society, IITE has consolidated its efforts around the following strategic sub-objectives of UNESCO’s Medium-Term Strategy 2002–2007: Identifying New Trends in Educational Development and Promoting Policy Dialogue, and Harnessing Information and Communication Technologies for Education. Contributing to the achievement of these sub-objectives, the Institute has pursued, in its programme activities, the following strategic objective formulated in IITE Medium-Term Strategy: Reinforcing National Potential in ICT Application for the Development of Education. Programme activities have been undertaken in three correlated domains: training, research and project development, clearing house activities.

6. Training activities, in accordance with the Institute’s strategic approach, training and retraining of educational personnel in the application of information and communication technologies in education have been a top priority of the IITE activities. In 2004–2005 IITE organized 22 training sessions, seminars, and workshops as well as 18 online seminars (See Annex 1).

7. The main target groups of training activities were:

• policy- and decision-makers in the education sphere, heads of national and regional education systems;
• heads of pre- and in-service teacher-training institutions, trainers of ICTs in education;
• teachers, ICT school coordinators, and other educational personnel.

8. The Institute developed its own educational programme which includes two basic courses: Basic ICT Literacy and ICT Usage for Professional Development in Education, and eight specialized training courses: ICTs for Secondary Education, ICTs in Technical and Vocational Education and Training, ICTs in Distance Education, ICTs in Education for People with Special Needs, Internet in Education, Multimedia in Education, Digital Libraries in Education, Development of Educational Personnel for Distance Education (See Annex 2). National capacities in UNESCO Member States to apply ICTs in education were strengthened through training of educational personnel — more than 500 participants from 26 countries.

9. Research on ICT application in education lays the foundation for further project development, elaboration of training and methodological materials, carrying out training activities, providing assistance to UNESCO Member States in policy formulation and implementation of national pilot projects, as well as supplying them with information in the field. IITE held a number of research seminars, workshops, and expert meetings with about 100 participants from more than 10 countries. Almost
10. Like training and research, the clearing house was one of the main domains of IITE activities. (The full list of IITE publications see in Annex 4.) The Institute undertakes efforts to broaden the access to ICT usage in education. IITE has further developed the information interaction at the global level through its national focal points’ network with four new nodes established in Bulgaria, Croatia, Mongolia, and Romania; the number of network participants has amounted to 40 all over the world (See Annex 5). All results of the IITE research, training, and clearing house activities are accessible at IITE WWW Portal consisting of web site, Information System on Information Technologies in Education database, 18 online thematic seminars, and e-learning Distance Education Platform. (For main results expected at the end of the Biennium see Annex 6.)

11. To implement the strategic objective, the Institute has concentrated resources on attaining real results and focused its efforts in four main programme areas; the corresponding themes were chosen according to the requests of Member States, recommendations of the international expert meetings and the IITE Governing Board.

Programme Area I: Supporting National Capacity Building for ICT Application in Educational Systems.

Themes:
- ICTs in Technical and Vocational Education and Training;
- ICT Usage for the Development of General Education;
- Application of ICTs for Improvement of Teacher Education;
- ICTs in Special Education.

Programme Area II: Forming an Information Environment for Education.

Themes:
- Information Environment for Education: Design and Usage;
- ICTs in Distance Education;
- Digital Libraries for Education;
- Internet in Education;
- Multimedia in Education.

Programme Area III: Improving the Quality of Education through ICT Usage.

Themes:
- Ethical, Psychological and Societal Problems of the Application of ICTs in Education;
- Indicators of ICT Application in Education;
- Development of Educational Personnel for Distance Education.

Programme Area IV: Promoting ICT Usage in Education for Learning to Live Together.

Themes:
- ICTs in History Education;
- ICTs in Teaching/Learning Foreign Languages;
- Education, Art and ICTs: Integration for the Development of One’s Personality.

12. The IITE activities within the framework of Programme Area I included the assistance in policy formulation and analysis, dissemination of knowledge about modern forms, methods and role of ICTs in special education, secondary education, technical and vocational education, higher education, and teacher training. IITE has carried out a number of studies and training activities on the abovementioned topics.

13. **ICTs in Technical and Vocational Education and Training.** To strengthen UNESCO Member States capacities in technical and vocational education and training (TVET) IITE has developed and published the specialized training course *ICT Application in Technical and Vocational Education and Training* in partnership with UNEVOC-Canada. The course was presented at the workshop *ICTs in Technical and Vocational Education and Training* (Sofia, Bulgaria) held in April 2004 for the participants from nine countries of South-Eastern Europe (SEE), namely, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, FYRO Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, and Turkey, within the IITE sub-regional project *Information and Communication Technologies for the Development of Education and the Construction of a Knowledge Society for South-Eastern Europe* (financed by the Japanese Funds-in-Trust for the Capacity Building of Human Recourses). IITE has developed the analytical survey *The Use of ICTs in Technical and Vocational Education and Training; South-Eastern Europe* based on the analysis of the results and feedback from the participants of the project.

14. **ICT Usage for the Development of General Education/ Application of ICTs for Improvement of Teacher Education.** Contributing to UNESCO research to identify new trends and challenges in secondary education, the Institute fulfills the activities aimed at improvement of the quality of education through ICT usage. Last biennium the Institute developed and published English and Russian versions of the position paper *Information and Communication Technologies in Secondary Education*, the specialized training course *ICTs for Secondary Education*, the specialized training course and certification programme *Basic ICT Literacy*. The materials were tested and used in eight training seminars held by IITE. More than 250 participants from Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, FYRO Macedonia, Republic of Moldova,
Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Swaziland, and Turkey took part in the training seminars.

15. **ICTs in Special Education.** The course was presented at the workshop ICTs in Education for People with Special Needs within the framework of IITE national pilot project for Armenia, where over 30 Armenian specialists took part.

16. **The Institute has contributed to the development of national action plans on Education for All (EFA) and their components using ICTs to attain the EFA goals.** In order to promote ICT application in education in the SEE countries, IITE held the high-level seminar Towards Policies for Integrating ICTs into Education for the countries of SEE region in February 2004.

17. Upon the request of the National Commission for UNESCO and the Ministry of Education of the Kingdom of Swaziland IITE was engaged in UNESCO/Japanese Funds-in-Trust Project for Capacity Building of Teacher Educators in the Kingdom of Swaziland. IITE provides assistance in an in-depth national assessment of the school curriculum and revision of the teacher education curriculum on the basis of the assessment, in-service training in the use of ICTs in education for the teacher training colleges of Swaziland, in-service training in the use of ICTs for Division of In-Service Training in Ministry of Education; and facilitating reference materials for Teacher Resource Centres, teacher training colleges, and the In-Service Education Unit.

18. In March 2005 the last stage of the sub-regional project Information and Communication Technologies for the Development of Education and the Construction of a Knowledge Society for South-Eastern Europe was completed. The project was an integrative venture that combined training and research activities on certain key issues of ICT application in education. Target countries of the project were Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, FYRO Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, and Turkey.

Within the framework of the project IITE hosted the high-level seminar Towards Policies for Integrating Information and Communication Technologies into Education; training seminars Retraining of School Educators on ICT Application in Secondary Education, ICTs in Distance Education; workshops Indicators of ICT Application in Education, ICTs in History Education, ICTs in Technical and Vocational Education and Training; developed the following research materials: analytical surveys ICTs in History Education in Countries of South-Eastern Europe, The Use of ICTs in Technical and Vocational Education and Training: South-Eastern Europe, statistical survey Indicators of ICT Application in Secondary Education of South-East European Countries.

19. **Programme area II** Forming an Information Environment for Education comprised research, training and dissemination of information on such themes as Information Environment for Education: Design and Usage, ICTs in Distance Education, Digital Libraries for Education, Internet in Education, Multimedia in Education.

20. **Information Environment for Education: Design and Usage.** Last biennium IITE developed the analytical survey Designing of Information Environment for Education and issued the booklet IITE Information System for Education. International authors’ team attempted to highlight expectations and problems encountered on different levels of education in efforts to enhance education community to combat the global threats. The issues of choosing and developing learning environments or information systems to support teaching and learning are discussed in the survey.

21. **ICTs in Distance Education.** Following the requests of the representatives from Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Uganda, and United Republic of Tanzania IITE continues the development of the long-term project ICTs in Distance Education to assist UNESCO Member States in coping with educational problems caused by globalization and rapid development of new technologies. The activities include the work on national and regional prospective project Information and Communication Technologies Usage in Higher Distance Education in Sub-Saharan Africa, preparation and publication of the training materials (course guide and user guidelines) Information and Communication Technologies in Distance Education, and national and regional state-of-the-art and perspectives Information and Communication Technologies Usage in Higher Distance Education in Sub-Saharan Africa. Collaboration of the formed virtual community of Sub-Saharan Africa distance education specialists — as a first step on the way of establishment of “international virtual university” — has been undertaken with the support of the IITE-developed and maintained WWW distance education platform. Training session ICTs in Distance Education was carried out at the University of South Africa (UNISA). At this session IITE trained 17 highly qualified specialists from 11 countries of Sub-Saharan Africa, namely: Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Uganda, and United Republic of Tanzania.

22. Training seminar ICTs in Distance Education was designed for nine SEE countries within the framework of IITE sub-regional project Information and Communication Technologies for the Development of Education and the Construction of a Knowledge Society. The Institute elaborated and accomplished the regular training programme Development of Educational Personnel for Distance Education. About 120 specialists from CIS countries were trained by the experts in the field.

23. **Digital Libraries for Education.** IITE being responsible for the UNESCO cross-cutting theme project Methodologies for Digital Libraries developed the specialized training course Digital Libraries in Education, two of three sections of the analytical survey Digital Libraries in Education, Science and Culture, elaborated the WWW information system for the online training and workshops planned in
26. The IITE activities in Programme area III aimed at improving the quality of education through ICT usage. The theme Indicators of ICT Application in Education covered the elaboration of a system of related indicators, its application for quantity and quality analysis in practice, measurement and succeeding assessment of ICT effects on the development and quality of education. Using the system of indicators the statistical survey Indicators of ICT Application in Secondary Education of South-East European Countries within the IITE sub-regional project Information and Communication Technologies for the Development of Education and the Construction of a Knowledge Society for South-Eastern Europe was completed.

27. Ethical, Psychological and Societal Problems of the Application of ICTs in Education. IITE prepared and published the analytical survey Ethical, Psychological and Societal Problems of the Application of ICTs in Education designed to make education accessible for everyone and to improve the quality of education through assistance in orientation in the social, ethical, and psychological tendencies in societies and education under ICT expansion.

28. IITE Programme area IV Promoting ICT Usage in Education for Learning to Live Together contains three main themes, namely: ICTs in History Education, IICTs in Teaching/Learning Foreign Languages, and Education, Arts and ICTs: Integration for the Development of One’s Personality. IITE activities within the Programme area have been aimed at promotion of mutual understanding, tolerance, respect for traditions and preservation of cultural and linguistic diversity as a prerequisite of sustainable development.

29. Supporting culture of peace and mutual understanding in the era of globalization, IITE accomplished and published the analytical survey Information and Communication Technologies in the Teaching and Learning of Foreign Languages: State-of-the-Art, Needs and Perspectives and final report and selected materials of the expert meeting Education, Art and ICTs: Integration for the Development of One’s Personality, as well as feasibility study Multimedia Encyclopaedia Russia—USA: 20th Century.

30. Projects related to cross-cutting themes. IITE participates in the development of the UNESCO cross-cutting theme project Higher Education Open and Distance Learning Knowledge Base for Decision-Makers in the CIS and Baltic states. IITE in cooperation with international working team of experts from New Zealand, Canada, India, South Africa, and United Kingdom developed the specialized training course Digital Libraries in Education. The analytical survey Digital Libraries in Education, Science and Culture prepared by IITE in cooperation with the international group of experts from India and United Kingdom. The WWW information system for the online training and workshops as well as the pilot project Digital Library on Earth Science have also been developed in the frame of the project.

IITE TRAINING ACTIVITIES


2. Training seminar Information and Communication Technologies for Higher Distance Education Usage in SSA. UNISA, South Africa. 14–19 October 2003

3. Training seminar Information and Communication Technologies for Higher Distance Education Usage in SSA. UNISA, South Africa. 8–14 December 2003

4. Training seminar for Moscow teachers and teacher trainers Retraining of School Educators in the Application of ICTs in Education. IITE, Moscow. 9 January 2004
IITE Educational Programme

IITE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Annex 3

International Conferences
1. The 3rd international forum Informatization of Education of the CIS Countries. Almaty, Kazakhstan. 27–28 April 2004
2. The 15th international conference New Computer Technology in Education. Troitsk, Russian Federation. 7–10 June 2004

Workshops
1. Indicators of ICT Application in Education. Bucharest, Romania. 16 February 2004
2. ICTs in History Education for SEE countries. Sofia, Bulgaria. 27 March 2004
3. ICTs in Education for People with Special Needs. Yerevan, Armenia. 21 May 2004
4. ICTs in Distance Education for SEE countries. Sofia, Bulgaria. 29 March – 2 April 2004
5. Workshop ICTs in Technical and Vocational Education and Training for SEE countries. Sofia, Bulgaria. 3 April 2004
6. High-level seminar Towards Policies for Integrating Information and Communication Technologies into Education. Bucharest, Romania. 16–20 February 2004
7. Training seminars ICTs in Education. European Computer Driving License (ECDL). IITE, Moscow. 3–6 March 2004
8. Training seminar ICTs in Distance Education for SEE countries. Sofia, Bulgaria. 29 March – 2 April 2004
10. Training seminar for teachers and teacher trainers from Armenia Retraining of School Educators in the Application of ICTs in Education. Yerevan, Armenia. 17–20 May 2004
11. IT-based training session for young specialists from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, and Russian Federation ICT Application in Secondary Education. IITE, Moscow. 21–23 September 2004
12. Training seminar Retraining of School Educators in the Application of ICTs in Education. Perm, Russian Federation. 18–21 October 2004
13. Training seminar for ICT specialists from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, and Russian Federation Distance Education: Organization, Teacher Training, Technologies. IITE, Moscow. 2–4 November 2004
14. Training seminar for teachers and teacher trainers Multimedia in Education. Sofia, Bulgaria. 18–21 April 2005
15. Eight training sessions Distance Education Tutor. IITE, Moscow. Since January 2004

Workshops
1. Indicators of ICT Application in Education. Bucharest, Romania. 16 February 2004
2. ICTs in History Education for SEE countries. Sofia, Bulgaria. 27 March 2004
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Annex 2

IITE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME

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<tr>
<th>Basic course</th>
<th>Specialized training courses</th>
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<td>Basic ICT Literacy</td>
<td>ICTs for Secondary Education</td>
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<td>ICT Usage for Professional Development in Education</td>
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<td>Digital Libraries in Education</td>
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<td>Development of Educational Personnel for Distance Education</td>
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Methodological and training materials
1. Development of Educational Personnel for Distance Education. Specialized training course
2. ICT Application in Technical and Vocational Education and Training. Specialized training course
3. Multimedia in Education. Specialized training course (Russian version)
4. Information and Communication Technologies in Distance Education. Specialized training course (Russian version)
5. Internet in Education. Specialized training course
6. ICTs for Secondary Education. Specialized training course
7. Information and Communication Technologies in Distance Education. Training materials: course guide and user guidelines

Analytical surveys
8. Ethical, Psychological and Societal Problems of the Application of ICTs in Education
9. Information and Communication Technologies in the Teaching and Learning of Foreign Languages: State-of-the-Art, Needs and Perspectives
10. ICTs in History Education in Countries of South-Eastern Europe
11. Indicators of ICT Application in Secondary Education of South-East European Countries
12. The Use of ICTs in Technical and Vocational Education and Training: South-Eastern Europe

Other publications
13. IITE Medium-Term Strategy 2002-2007 (Russian version)
15. Set of materials for round-table discussion Education and Knowledge Societies in the framework of WSIS
16. Building up National Focal Points’ Online Community. Recommendations
17. Policy Formulation and Practical Usage of ICTs for Higher Distance Education in Countries in Africa. Final report and selected materials
18. Higher Education Open and Distance Learning Knowledge Base for Decision-Makers. Selected materials
20. Round Table International Experience of ICT Usage in Education. Proceedings
21. Information and Communication Technologies Usage in Higher Distance Education in Sub-Saharan Africa. National and Regional state-of-the-art and perspectives
22. Multimedia Encyclopaedia Russia-USA: 20th Century. Feasibility study
23. IITE Booklet

IITE Newsletter (English and Russian) 4 issues annually
COUNTRIES NOMINATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS
FOR COOPERATION WITH IITE

Algeria
Andorra
Armenia
Azerbaijan
Bangladesh
Belarus
Bulgaria
Cape Verde
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Finland
Georgia
Ghana

Iceland
Indonesia
Iran
Kazakhstan
Kuwait
Kyrgyzstan
Lebanon
Lithuania
Malaysia
Mexico
Mongolia
Former Yugoslav Republic
of Macedonia
Namibia
New Zealand

Pakistan
Poland
Republic of Moldova
Romania
Russian Federation
Senegal
Seychelles
Spain
Switzerland
United Republic
of Tanzania
Tajikistan
Ukraine

Annex 5

MAIN RESULTS EXPECTED AT THE END OF THE BIENNIA(M(32 C/5)

Capacities for ICT Usage in Education Increased
Performance indicators – IITE results:
1. Key education personnel trained – 28 decision-makers and high
level professionals from 20 countries
2. Education personnel trained – more than 500 participants from 26
countries
3. Training materials prepared and disseminated – 8 specialized training
courses

Access to Information on ICT Usage in Education Enlarged
Performance indicators – IITE results:
1. IITE’s Educational Portal developed and used – 40,000 users from
70 countries monthly, links to IITE portal at 3,400 Internet pages,
1.5 Gb at 22 domains with 4,700 pages, 27 databases with 60,000
items
2. Networking of national focal points and ICT specialists and institu-
tions strengthened – Network of 40 national focal points worldwide
for cooperation with IITE
3. Results on key issues, training and information materials published
and disseminated – 35 analytical surveys, training, methodological
and information materials, IITE Newsletters published and dissemi-
nated

Educational Policy Formulation and Strategies for the Application
of ICTs Improved
Performance indicators – IITE results:
1. Member States where IITE is an active partner for the elaboration of
national policies – 26
2. Position papers, guides and recommendation prepared and dissemi-
nated – 12

Annex 6