



Energy for Sustainable Development Online Course

A capacity building initiative for energy and development specialists

The International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics (IIIEE) at Lund University, Sweden, is exhibiting the Energy for Sustainable Development (E4SD) Online Course initiative at the eLearning Africa 2009 conference.

The overall objective of the E4SD Online Course initiative is to provide improved understanding of the relationship between energy systems and sustainable development and how delivery of clean, affordable energy services can serve as instruments to reduce poverty and to reach the Millennium Development Goals. The course is a joint initiative by the IIIEE, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the Global Network on Energy for Sustainable Development (GNESD).

The target audience for the E4SD Online Course encompasses development specialists from government, NGOs, multilateral and bilateral Official Development Assistance businesses, and the private sector who engage in energy and development activities in developing countries. Participants have a range of educational and professional backgrounds and typically several years of practical experience. The target audience is broader than energy experts and also includes development workers.

The E4SD Online Course is delivered entirely through distance online education and requires an average of 80 hours of study effort spread over 8 weeks. The course is designed to provide a comprehensive introduction to a range of key energy for sustainable development issues. These include the linkages between energy, social and development issues such as poverty, gender, urbanization, health, livelihoods, economic development and the environment.

The E4SD consortium seeks to establish new partnerships with African organisations that are active in the field of energy, development and education. Collaboration may take several forms including: participation in the course; facilitation of the recruitment of high-level decision makers as participants; provision of expert support and strategic partnership for course development; and delivery of E4SD Course sessions to regional audience groups.

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