

**In this issue:**[New Years Message](#)[New Colleague](#)[Annual Work Plan 2013](#)[Network Managers and Partners Meeting - Costa Rica](#)[Upcoming Training of Trainers](#)**Happy New Year!**

The Cap-Net Secretariat would like to wish all partners and networks a happy and prosperous 2013! The year has started well in advance for us following our Annual Network Managers meeting in Costa Rica and the subsequent management board meeting in the Netherlands before the end of 2012. Cap-Net has a challenging year ahead in which it is not only expected to deliver in terms of an ambitious workplan, but also to start the implementation of a revised strategy and meet the expectations of the partner networks with its efforts to strengthen their functionality and operations.

New Colleague

Yasmina Rais El Fenni joined the Cap-Net secretariat as of 21 January 2013, as Capacity Development Analyst, replacing Nick Tandi temporarily.

Yasmina holds a MPA in Public Administration from the University of Roskilde, Denmark. She specialized in economics, with a strong focus on gender issues. She holds a BA from Kingston University, London where she specialized in international relations and good governance. Previously, Yasmina worked for UNOPS headquarters in Knowledge Management, coordinating training for all personnel and developing toolkits in various sectors ranging from finance to project management. After this, she worked for UNDP for over 2 years, gaining a strong grasp of human resource management, recruitment and career development.



Before joining Cap-Net, Yasmina relocated to South Africa from Denmark, where she was project coordinator for an organization dealing with children with Aids. She put her fundraising and donor relations experience to the test, raising significant amounts of funds throughout the continent. Yasmina's main passion is gender, seeking to build capacity in programmes to ensure gender equality through knowledge sharing and empowerment. Yasmina can be contacted at yasmina.rais@cap-net.org

Annual Work Plan 2013

The ambitious Annual Work Plan for 2013 reflects in anticipation, the character of the Cap-Net 2014 – 2017 strategy that is now under development. There is a need to focus more effort on strengthening partner networks and prepare them to meet their objectives and implement their programmes. The last year has shown that a number of networks do not comply with their annual work plans and targets due to a lack of capacity management issues. Emphasis will therefore already be placed on improving the delivery of capacity development, strengthening networks and knowledge management practices, in addition to project management and providing assistance in work planning and implementation.

There are a number of activities that Cap-Net will support this year, ranging from peer review of networks to training in network management tools, mobilization of state-of-the-art knowledge and implementation for on the ground capacity development. The work plan aims to increase delivery of activities, events and knowledge products.

Network Managers and Partners Meeting – Costa Rica



The new Cap-Net strategy (2014 -2017) for one, but even more so, the vision beyond this strategy and focussing on the next decade ahead of us, created the overall theme for the meeting. The discussion on the vision of Cap-Net documented some common principles and values which bind the network together, ranging from Accountability, Grassroots interaction, to Teamwork and Transparency. Some time was taken at the meeting to discuss a potential Sustainable Development Goal on Water Resources Management.

Water resources could also be a Sustainable Development Goal (SDG), sometime was taken to discuss a potential SDG that could be used.

Another major topic was the consideration of the private sector as a major water user, and thus essential target group, as well as potential partner for capacity development. The private sector also has vital access to funds, networking capabilities, a strong knowledge of water issues including potential solutions. It would however significantly benefit from an improved understanding of its impacts as companies and sectors on water systems at large. Such interaction would create a possitive basis for improving exisiting training tools to be adapted and tailored for the private sector.

Two new working groups of network managers were established: Private Sector Engagement and Cap-Net Support, adding to the existing ones of Monitoring and Evaluation Learning Plan (MELP) and Strategy Development, making the total number of active working groups, four.

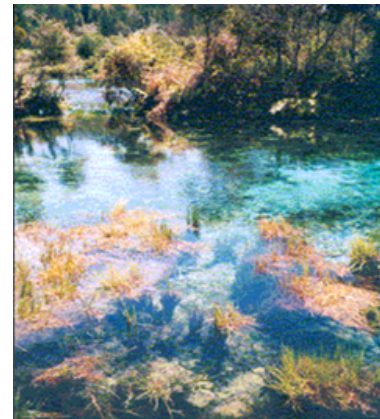
Network managers elected a new board member, Dr. Neena Roa of SCAAN, and also re-elected Damian Indji of LA-WETnet for another two-year term at the management board.

Upcoming Training of Trainers in Costa Rica March 2013

A larger number of training of trainers courses have been planned, kick-starting the virtual campus programme, improving implementation of the monitoring evaluation and learning plan (MELP), and peer review of network management and delivery. The latter is very important for two reasons namely; preparing ourselves for the next strategy and evaluation of Cap-Net Phase 3 which will start in 2014. The focus on most of these activities is to strengthen partner networks to take up new challenges and be prepared for increased delivery.

Here is a breakdown of training of trainers subjects proposed for 2013:

1. Integrated drought management
2. Agriculture
3. Sustainable sanitation in IWRM
4. GIS and earth observations in water management
5. Water loss and demand management
6. Coastal zone management
7. Water footprint
8. Network management



The objective of this Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop in Costa Rica, scheduled from 11 - 15 March 2013, is to enhance the capacity of trainers to offer and deliver training workshops to water practitioners on the use of earth observation satellites data and products in support of IWRM. The workshop will address the following:

- Technical skills required to access and select appropriate satellite imageries and products relevant to IWRM projects.
- Approaches to satellite imagery processing and feature extraction.
- Design of IWRM-related applications using Earth Observation (EO) tools.
- Review the use of EO in the following thematic areas: Watershed characterization, flood mapping,

rainfall monitoring, drought assessment, groundwater assessment, water quality management.

This will be the second edition of the ToT course on earth observation tools in support of Integrated Water Resources Management, following the first edition in the University of Twente, The Netherlands. The Faculty of Engineering of the University of Costa Rica will host this course and supply the physical infrastructure and hardware required for its proper development, also making available one of its IT laboratories for this purpose.

The target group for this course is trainers across the world linked to the **Cap-Net** global capacity building network. The trainers should have some working knowledge of remote sensing and/or Geographic Information Systems and be involved in IWRM capacity building in their region. Preferably the participants should be professionals involved in the fields of Geography, Engineering, Geology, GIS, and other akin areas.