

ASIA-EUROPE CLASSROOM NETWORK (AEC-NET) PROJECTS FOR 2009/2010



PROJECT FACTSHEET

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NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF HIGH SCHOOL OR SECONDARY SCHOOL:

Not applicable

COUNTRY:

Ireland

PROPOSED PROJECT NAME:

GoCyberGreen (www.gocybergreen.org)

SUMMARY / BRIEF DESCRIPTION ABOUT THE PROPOSED PROJECT

We have all heard in recent months and years about the impact of our 'carbon footprint'. Footprints and steps feature in the GoCyberGreen project and symbolise our ability to travel to meet partners in other

countries, get to know them and work together with them without consuming the fuel needed for international air-travel!

The GoCyberGreen project is designed as a series of **steps** that build up to a final presentation based on what has been learnt from the other partners throughout the project. Students can carry out one, two, three or all four of the steps and when enough material is available students will summarise and present what they have learnt.

The project firmly embeds new technology into the curriculum of upper second level schools (16 to 18 years). It builds on the success of three previous years' experience and aims to further encourage inter-cultural links between Asian and European schools through curricular work and exchange of files and social interaction.

Step 1: About Me

Step one invites students to go into a general forum to introduce themselves. A set of guidelines and pointers are given and the student has only to compile a suitable self-(pen)portrait for other students and teachers to see. Students should include a short statement on their thoughts on the relationship of industry and the environment.

Step 2: Green credentials: A person I admire

In this task students choose a person they think highly of – this can be anyone – from another member of their family, a national or international celebrity, a sports person, entrepreneur, community activist etc. Anyone whom they admire they choose – the person must have some “green credentials” (it could their parents for being environmentally friendly or even Brad Pitt or Al Gore for raising awareness about global warming). Students present the reasons for choosing the person with the Greenest credentials. They have to be able to convince the international partners on GoCyberGreen that the person they have chosen is worthy of this admiration! Guidelines will be given.

Step 3: My Local Area

Much like the regional profile from earlier projects this task involves the research and presentation of the area the students live in, focusing on the environmental impact of an industry/enterprise in their area. This task is best done in groups with different members taking responsibility for different elements and putting a full picture together of the place they live bearing in mind that it will be read by people across the world who may never have heard of the place or knew it existed!

Step 4: The World of Work

The fourth task is aimed at getting students to think about work – what they know from experience, (their own, or that of family or friends), work they would like to do (or not like to do) and the reasons. Essentially this task is an exploration of students' thoughts and ideas about work, employment and the economy. It can be made as simple or as complex as the teacher wants it to be. It offers a chance to explain practices that may be unusual or unique to a given country (specific local jobs), students work experience placements (if they do that sort of thing) or part-time jobs in the partner countries.

Final outcome: a reflection on what the students have learnt. ...

The security of students' online activities is of paramount importance to us. Participating teachers will be asked to supply class lists of pupils so that usernames can be created for the secure website where the project activities take place. This site is run using software called Moodle <http://moodle.org> and is designed to facilitate easy communication and collaboration in a secure environment. The site address is www.gocybergreen.org and will hold all the necessary resources and tools for teachers to complete a successful project. A General Forum (The Student Café) will be accessible for all participants (and nobody else!). Teachers and coordinators will have a separate space (The Staff Café) within the site in which to share ideas and communicate with the project coordinators.

RATIONALE FOR THE PROJECT:

Focussing on Green enterprises and environmental issues the GoCyberGreen project aims to:

1. Raise awareness about the social and environmental impact of industry and enterprise locally and globally,
2. Create an awareness among participants about the similarities and differences between industry and enterprise in the different regions of the world,
3. Give students and teachers in participating countries a greater insight into their own local environments and green industries and enterprises,
4. Raise awareness of initiatives to curb global warming and personalities involved in that effort,
5. Develop students communication and research skills through a virtual learning environment,
6. Encourage the use of ICT in the curriculum in participating schools and colleges,
7. Build teacher collaboration
8. Research the impact of the project on pupils' motivation and learning, as well as their English language and other skills' development.

EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION FROM ASIAN SCHOOLS/STUDENTS:

Students:

- Will participate in on-line forums and use different features of the platform for communication (Moodle)
- Research, planning and collaborative work
- Reflection and peer review of the submissions of other pupils

Teachers:

- Will monitor pupils' work, encourage and develop their skills in research and communication
- Will be asked to participate in online evaluation of the project (questionnaire)

EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION FROM EUROPEAN SCHOOLS/STUDENTS:

Same as above

EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION FROM THE IRISH PROJECT COORDINATORS:

- Support for and monitoring of VLE (Moodle) supply of secure login and password details to schools
- Teacher professional development in collaborative teaching approaches, internet safety and use of technology
- Writing an end of year evaluation report on the project

MINIMUM NUMBER OF SCHOOLS/STUDENTS INVOLVED:

40

PROPOSED DURATION OF PROJECT (PLEASE STATE TENTATIVE START AND END DATE):

Duration: 9 months
Start Date: October 2009
Completion Date: June 2010

ICT TOOLS / SOFTWARE REQUIRED:

- Computers with Internet access
- Digital camera/s (and possibly video and/or audio recording equipment).

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES NEEDED:

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