



Eco-Insight
Best Practice Database System

GEF-UNEP/IW:LEARN

International Waters Best Practice Database System

(<http://www.eco-insight.org>)

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The Challenge

- **Knowledge Sharing:**
 - How can we capture institutional memory of best practices and lessons learned?
 - During project planning and implementation?
 - How can we efficiently transfer experiences and innovations between physically separated IW managers?

The Solution

- Create a web-enabled database for storing, searching and retrieving best practices and lessons learned.
 - Accessible, user-friendly tool
 - Intuitive structure
 - Self-sustaining population process
 - Low cost

Sponsoring Organisations

- UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme)
- GEF (Global Environment Facility)
- IW:LEARN (International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network)

Why your input is needed ?

- **Design of Database:**
 - What information should be stored in the database?
 - How should this tool be improved to better serve your needs?
- **Works in Progress:**
 - See the Prototype at www.eco-insight.org
 - Everything, from URL name to database structure, needs your constructive criticism!
 - Your colleagues need access to information about YOUR valuable experiences. Please share your contributions!!

Methodology

INVENTORY

Transboundary Water Projects

Output Documents

Evaluation Reports

Project Brief

Data

Technical contacts
Task managers, Project coordinators,
Consultants, etc



EXPERIENCES

High level issues, causes, etc;

Capture lessons learnt through analysis, feedback and surveys;

Link issues to more specific actions taken in the field & associated lessons learned -- "drill down".

Categorize contributions (e.g. long term benefit, transferability, cost effectiveness, etc)

Best Practices

Synthesis of captured experiences and lessons learned

Home page

<http://www.eco-insight.org>

Search menu
(advanced/simple options)

Navigation bar
(General information, contacts, etc)

The screenshot shows the Eco-Insight website home page. At the top left, the text 'ENVIRONMENTAL INSIGHT' is displayed above the tagline 'Sharing Knowledge And Lessons Learned'. A navigation bar on the right contains icons for home, search, and other functions, with a 'Home Page' label below it. A search menu on the left includes a 'Find' button, a search input field, and links for 'Advanced Search' and 'Help'. The main content area features a welcome message, a description of the database, a list of current focus areas, and a paragraph about the platform's purpose. On the right, a 'Highlights' section lists various topics with hit counts and 'more>>' links. A vertical banner on the left side of the page reads 'Eco-Insight Best Practice Database System' and lists sponsors: GEF, IW, UNEP, and UNDP.

Highlights
(recent/popular entries)

Eco-Insight
Best Practice Database System

http://www.eco-insight.org



Eco-Insight Best Practice Database System

ENVIRONMENTAL INSIGHT [submit a new experience](#)

Peer-To-Peer Learning

Find [Browse](#)

keyword or phrase

thesaurus

cross-cutting indicators

select more than 1

geographic information

Search

[Simple Search](#) [Help](#)

[More About Sponsors](#)

[Help](#) [Result List](#)

(total found: 9)

sort by: [issue](#) [date modified](#) [# comments](#) [Submitted By](#)

[Sediment control in the Bermejo River Basin \(southern South America\)](#)

The Bermejo River Basin, in southern South America, extends over approximately 123,000 km2 , originating in the Andes Mountains of northwestern Argentina and southern Bolivia.....

Id:16, #Comments:0, Modified:25-Jul-02, Submitted By: [Pablo Suarez](#)

[Low Capacity in Marine Protected Area Management in the Wider Caribbean](#)

Coral reefs are fragile ecosystems of critical importance to the marine environment and to the economies of most countries of the Wider Caribbean.....

Id:21, #Comments:0, Modified:04-Sep-02, Submitted By: [Malden W.Miller](#)

[Institutional Framework in the Bermejo River Basin](#)

The Bermejo River Basin, in southern South America, extends over 123,000 km2, originating in the Andes Mountains of northwestern Argentina and Southern Bolivia.....

Id:18, #Comments:0, Modified:15-Aug-02, Submitted By: [Pablo Suarez](#)

[Inadequate public awareness of the issues involved in coastal zone management and in particular the Soufriere Marine Management Area \(SMMA\), Saint Lucia.](#)

Coral reefs are one of the most important and beautiful ecosystems on the planet today.....

Id:22, #Comments:0, Modified:19-Sep-02, Submitted By: [Malden W.Miller](#)

<http://www.eco-insight.org>

Options for other details
(project, documents and
user feedback)

Environment Directory - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Argentina/Bolivia - Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Bermejo Binational River Basin (GF/1010-01-05)

description

This project catalyzes implementation of the Strategic Action Program for the Bermejo River Binational Basin. It will implement strategic activities identified in the GEF-financed Strategic Action Program (SAP), that address the principal root causes of soil degradation as set forth in the transboundary diagnostic analysis (TDA) and, in doing so, will provide the necessary institutional, legal and information basis to enhance and restore the environmental functioning of the system, and provide protection to endemic species within the five component ecosystems - montane, humid forest, arid Chaco/Savannah, sub-humid Chaco, and humid Chaco. These actions with incremental costs will complement Basin-scale interventions by the Binational Commission, and the governments of Argentina and Bolivia, financed in part from national and provincial/prefectural sources and by international loan funding, many of which address expected baseline activities. Strengthening of Basin institutions, building of agency and organizational capacity, and integration of environmental concerns into economic development activities on a sustainable basis, and the promotion of the public awareness and participation are key elements of this project.

website(s) <http://www.cbbermejo.org.ar>

website(s) <http://www.oas.org/usde/water%20resources/bermejo.htm>

related map

[Help](#) [Result List](#) [Summary](#) [Project Info](#) [Attached Files](#)

Issue

Sediment control in the Bermejo River Basin (southern South America)

Submitted By: [Pablo Suarez](#)

Related Issues:

[Institutional Framework in the Bermejo River Basin](#)

[Hydrometeorological Network in the Bermejo River Basin](#)

Details (Background, Symptoms and Causes)

The Bermejo River Basin, in southern South America, extends over approximately 123,000 km², originating in the Andes Mountains of northwestern Argentina and southern Bolivia. The river, which flows some 1,300 km, links two major geographic features: the Andean Cordillera and the Paraguay-Paraná Rivers. It is the only river that crosses completely the huge expanse of the Chaco Plains, acting as a corridor for the connection of biotic elements of both the Andean mountains and the Chaco Plains.

Impact or significance of the issue

Soil degradation in the mountain portions of the Basin often results in sediment-related problems in the savanna portions. These include diminished opportunities to use the water resources of the Basin in a sustainable manner, impaired public health and welfare; loss of and damage to infrastructure and economic development potential; and undesirable biological impacts on both terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna. Such issues also can generate policies and practices that attempt to solve part of the problem but result in a fragmented and sectoral view of the Basin that exacerbates the localized and basin-wide manifestations of these impacts.

Studies found that more than 50% of the binational basin is subject to erosion processes that range from significant to very severe. While these processes are clearly related to natural conditions of topography, soil susceptibility, and torrential rain patterns, it is evident that human activities have been

Summary
(issue, solution, lessons
learned, etc)

Next Steps...

- Improve guidelines and methodology for capturing best practices and lessons learned (based on your feedback)
- Improve usability of the website
- Refine submissions to the database
- Implement strategy to publicize your contributions
- Up to \$25,000 in awards announced during World Water Forum (March 2003)