

Dear EDUCATE subscriber,

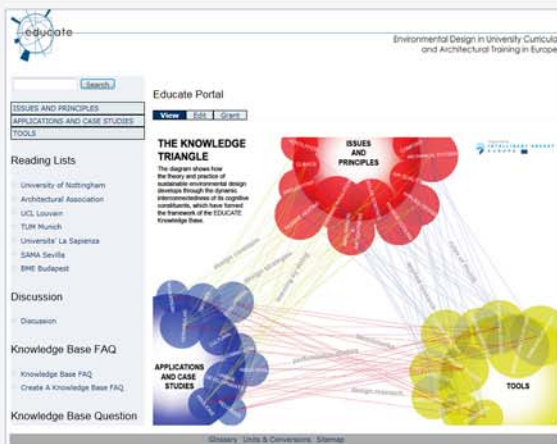
Welcome to the April 2011 Edition of **EDUCATE News!**

A Pilot Study is currently under development at the academic institutions partners of EDUCATE and in collaboration with supporting Chambers of Architects. The study aims to test the pedagogical developments informed at EDUCATE organisations following the analysis of the international state of the art of curricular structures and the exploration of inter-, intra- and extra-disciplinary contributions to pedagogical advancement in the field of sustainable environmental design, which were performed by the partners during the initial stages of the project.

Concurrently, the Pilot Study intends to ascertain the effectiveness of the integration in the architectural pedagogy of the facilities offered by the EDUCATE Portal, an interactive e-learning system developed by the project team to support teaching & learning of sustainable environmental design in pre- and post-professional education.

The Pilot Study is currently involving more than a thousand users around Europe, including 32 *experts* of sustainable environmental design – authors of the topics contained in the EDUCATE Knowledge Base, a central part of the EDUCATE Portal – 102 *instructors* – including university teachers, lecturers, full-time and part-time studio tutors – 863 *students* – currently enrolled in courses at undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate level – and 24 independent *building professionals* selected by partners and Chambers of Architects throughout Europe.

Different groups of users are engaging with the facilities offered by the EDUCATE Portal in various ways, according to the specific pedagogical methodologies, course contents, programme structures and set learning outcomes of partner organisations. This includes:



Home Page of the EDUCATE Portal

- Browsing through the EDUCATE Knowledge Base, where the cognitive domains of sustainable environmental design are structured in Issues & Principles, Applications & Case Studies and Tools;
- Accessing customised Reading Lists set up by experts and instructors;
- Engaging in discussion with other groups of users;
- Asking questions to experts concerning topics of the Knowledge Base;
- Consulting lists of Frequently Asked Questions;
- Uploading design studio work, at various stages of development;
- Requesting feedback from experts and instructors;
- Providing feedback to peers.

After the initial stages of the Pilot Study, the EDUCATE Knowledge Base will be open to institutions external to the EDUCATE Consortium in the context of an international competition on sustainable environmental design – the **EDUCATE Prize** – that will encourage the participation of individual (and groups of) students from academic and professional institutions at each level of progression in their architectural education.

Further information on the development of the Pilot Study and on the forthcoming organisation, themes, submission categories, requirements and awards for the EDUCATE Prize will be given in following editions of EDUCATE News!

For more information about EDUCATE, please see the project website:
<http://www.educate-sustainability.eu>

Supported by: