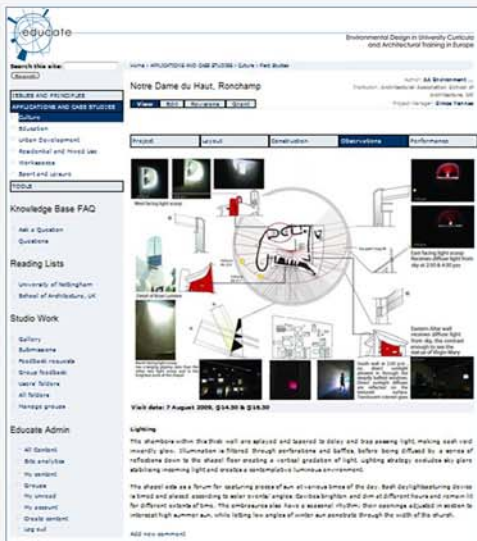


Dear EDUCATE subscriber,

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

During the month of February, the 'Framework for Curriculum Development' was published on the EDUCATE website and is now available for consultation and download from <http://www.educate-sustainability.eu/educate-framework.php>

The 'Framework' provides an outline of the mission, learning outcomes, contents, programme structure and pedagogical methods that could support the incorporation of principles and practices of sustainable environmental design in the education of architects.



Simultaneously, EDUCATE Partners have engaged with the continuous expansion of the online Knowledge Base and the development of the pedagogical facilities offered by the EDUCATE Portal, including the implementation of the *Student, Instructor, Discussion and Professional Spaces*.

The EDUCATE Knowledge Base (*image left*) will be made publicly available as a free online resource in summer 2011, and it will support an international initiative (the 'EDUCATE Prize') possibly involving several academic and professional institutions in Europe and beyond.

Throughout the next academic term, EDUCATE partner institutions will concentrate on a **pilot study** that will test the pedagogical principles outlined in the 'Framework for Curriculum Development' and the supporting tools and educational methodologies facilitated by the use of the EDUCATE Portal.

Syllabuses at undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate level will be developed and/or adjusted by partners to meet the objectives of the pilot study and also guarantee a consistent evaluation of results of the testing activities. Concurrently, in collaboration with Chambers of Architects, selected building practitioners in participating countries will be involved in the trialing of the CPD (*Continuing Professional Development*) area to be implemented on the Portal.

According to the level of engagement that individual modules at partner institutions will demand in terms of the use of the EDUCATE Portal, students may be given access to the information featured in the Knowledge Base (potentially via a module-specific reading list), have the possibility to ask questions – maybe accompanied by an annotated sketch - to their instructors, participate to a forum/discussion with their colleagues and tutors, upload their work, complete assignments and submissions, engage in peer-reviewing with other students, review the work of others and receive feedback on their design development. The use of the Portal is anticipated to create an interactive network that could facilitate a wide transfer of knowledge and methodologies, and reinforce an integrated approach to the embracement of environmental sustainability and energy efficiency in architectural design.

Details on the development of the pilot study will be featured in following editions of **EDUCATE News**. The results of the testing will be presented and assessed by the EDUCATE Advisory Board composed by project partners, representatives of Chambers of Architects and invited building professionals at a workshop to be held at TUM in Munich (Germany) in June 2011.

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

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