

SIDSNET/CPACC INTERNET TRAINING WORKSHOP REPORT

Guyana
20th to 22nd September, 1999

Ian King
Information Systems Coordinator/GIS Specialist

Introduction

The SIDSnet/CPACC Internet Training Workshop was conducted in Georgetown, Guyana from 20th to 22nd September at Solution 2000, an Internet Service Provider (ISP). Mr. Andrew Mancey, Network/Information Specialist at the Sustainable Development Network Programme for Guyana and I, conducted the training. I also provided the workshop supervision on behalf of SIDSnet and CPACC

Attendance

Sixteen persons from twelve government agencies attended the workshop. Unfortunately, a few of the participants only attended for one or two days out of the three. The full list of attendance is attached to this report.

Agenda

Mr. Mancey and I amended the agenda of the meeting prior to the workshop. This was further adjusted based on the pace of the workshop and the needs of the participants. The final agenda is attached and reflects the emphasis on Web Page development, which was a priority for the participants.

Costs

The local costs of the workshop were US \$600 for the venue and US \$300 for materials and supplies. The latter includes printing, copying and refreshments.

Workshop Review

There were some logistical difficulties involved in the organisation of the workshop due to my involvement in a separate CPACC training activity the week prior to the workshop. Further, local responsibility for workshop coordination was not totally clear. These difficulties proved minor, and with the understanding, capability and flexibility of Solutions 2000, the workshop progressed fairly smoothly.

Most of the participants were had limited experience with any aspect of the Internet. One or two were casual users and a few had no prior direct experience before the workshop. The majority had no knowledge of SIDSnet with only one person having heard of this initiative before.

Generally, the workshop appeared productive as the participants' responses on the questionnaires indicate. The workshop assisted in de-mystifying the Internet, helped participants how to use key elements of the Internet, including email and browsing, and also provided basic skills in web page development. Important web resources were also introduced, including the web sites of SIDSnet, SDNP and CPACC, as well as searching facilities. Printed material and references were also circulated to participants for further information. This proved useful along with the SIDSnet CD ROM, particularly given the need to focus the workshop on fewer topics given the needs and experience of the participants.

Conclusions

Like the workshop in St. Vincent, the Guyana workshop proved to be successful due to the interest of the participants and the commitment of the trainers. It is also clear that the supervision provided by having a CPACC representative in attendance is necessary for addressing problems as these occur. This last point is important if the workshop is to be seen as a national activity rather than the responsibility CPACC and SIDSnet.

Final Agenda for SIDSnet/CPACC Workshop
Guyana
Solutions 2000, Georgetown
20th to 22nd September 1999

Day 1

9.00 am to 10.30 am - Introductions

Welcome

Mr. Andrew Mancey, Network/Information Specialist, Guyana SDNP)

Workshop Introduction, Objectives and Background

Mr. Ian King, CPACC Information Systems Coordinator, SIDSnet/CPACC Workshop
Coordinator and trainer

Participants Introduction and Objectives

Workshop Structure

Mr. Ian King

SIDSnet, SDNP and CPACC Overview

Mr. Ian King and Mr. Andrew Mancey

10.30 am to 10.45 am – Break

10.15 am – 12.20 pm – Internet Discussion

Internet History and Overview (revised CEPNET presentation)

Mr. Ian King & Mr. Andrew Mancey

Internet and Developing Countries (including SIDS)

Mr. Ian King

12.20 pm – 1.40 pm – Lunch

1.40 pm – 3.00 pm - Web Browsing

SIDSnet Site and CD ROM Overview

Mr. Ian King

Browser Introduction

Mr. Andrew Mancey

3.00 pm – 3.15 pm Break

3.15 pm – 4.15 pm- Web Browsing continued

CD ROM Practical Exercises

Browsing WWW

Day 2

8.30am – 10.00a.m. - Email

Email Introduction

Mr. Ian King

Web-based Email

Mr. Ian King

Practical Exercise

10.00am - 10.15am - Break

10.15am – 12.00 noon - HTML

HTML Introduction

Mr. Andrew Mancey

HTML Tools - Converting Documents and Netscape Composer

Mr. Andrew Mancey

Practical Exercise

12.00 noon – 1.30 pm - LUNCH

1.30 pm – 3.00 pm - HTML Continued

Practical Exercise

3.00 pm – 3.15 pm Break

3.15 pm – 4.15 pm- HTML Continued

Practical Exercise

Day 3

8.30am – 10.00a.m. - HTML Continue

Practical Exercise

10.00am - 10.15am - Break

10.15am – 12.00 noon - Web site Design and Internet Based Applications

Web site Design and Office Integration

Mr. Andrew Mancey

Search Demo and Exercise

Mr. Andrew Mancey and Ian King

12.00 noon – 1.30 pm - LUNCH

1.30 pm – 3.00 pm - Advanced Internet Facilities and Wrap-up

Telemedicine/Domain Names

Mr. Andrew Mancey & Mr. Ian King

Presentation by Local ISP

Mr. Edwin Workman, Managing Director, Solutions 2000

General Discussion

Questionnaires

Closing

PARTICIPANTS OF THE SIDSNET/CPACC INTERNET TRAINING WORKSHOP
Georgetown, Guyana, 20th To 22nd September

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