

## **Sub Project 10 – Capacity Building**

### **1. Project Statement**

This project is about empowerment, giving decision-makers and stakeholders the ability to examine options in a systematic and integrated fashion, and about training a generation of experts (5 PhDs and 2 Masters) who can carry on the development and implementation of the decision tools. The research (sub projects 2 through 7) will generate the advanced training and the systems, but it will not be effective unless those in the user communities have the capacity to use the systems. It is also about awareness heightening – conveying an understanding as to the fact that options and their implications can be systematically interrogated and assessed.

### **2. Objectives and Targets**

By end of project -December 2008:

- 5 PhD and 2 Masters with programmes completed.
- Everyone who can benefit from understanding how the decision support tools work will have the opportunity to achieve an understanding relevant to their needs.

### **3. Review of State of Knowledge**

Not applicable

### **4. Description of Work**

- Provide training to best international standards for 6 PhDs and 2 research Masters that will combine expertise in their relevant fields and the ability and enthusiasm to link this expertise to a decision-making context.
- Prepare and publish a Manual – web based and hard copy – showing how Moland and the related models work and how to use them.
- Explore the feasibility of offering a Masters Degree in Urban Studies – with modules available from UCD, TCD, NUIM, DIT
- Convene annual conference on key insights in integrating environment and development in urban setting using Manual and related materials
- Develop range of short courses -half day to one week – demonstrating in hands on use of Moland and related models. These will need to be customised to the needs of the various client groups. For example, special customised sessions for agency personnel in the EPA, National Roads Authority, Sustainable Energy Ireland, Regional Authorities, national government departments etc. will be provided, as will short awareness heightening sessions to illustrate potential. Systematic feedback on these sessions will be used to improve their relevance and quality over time.

### **5. Project Management**

This sub-project will be led by the Manager of the project, in collaboration with the Modelling group and others as appropriate.

### **6. Expected Results**

See 'Objectives and Targets'

### **7. Composition and Experience of Team**

In addition to the Project Manager, it is planned that each of the PhD and research Masters student will have as part of their job description to assist in capacity building, by spending time with relevant agencies and helping explore applications in this context.

### **8. Facilities/Capabilities**

Urban Institute Ireland has excellent training facilities, customised to meet the needs GIS-

related courses and conferences. It is envisaged that considerable capacity building will take place on site, where the particularities of the individual users can be accommodated.

#### **8. Declarations on Other Sources of Funding and on Tax Clearance**

UCD, TCD and NUIM rely on this funding to cover marginal costs and have not sought additional funding; whereas ERA-Maptec provides 50% funding through their own sources.

University College Dublin will provide a current Tax Clearance Certificate, on request from the Environmental Protection Agency.

#### **9. Compliance with National Policies on the Environment, Gender and Poverty**

Urban Institute Ireland (UII), UCD (Project leader) UCD conforms with the university policy with respect to best practice in the areas of ethics, the environment and socio-cultural matters, including poverty. In particular, this project focuses on the development of an in-depth understanding of the environmental issues associated with urban areas. University College Dublin has an Equal Opportunities Committee with the brief to support Gender Mainstreaming within the university.