

RESOURCES AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS

There is an ongoing need to ensure that young people acquire a broad understanding of water sustainability and its implications for their own lives and the broader community.

In this project the Water for Life Education Program partners with the NSW Science Teachers' Association and the NSW Geography Teachers' Association to:

- ◆ Develop appropriate water-related teaching and learning materials
- ◆ Develop a professional development package
- ◆ Work with teachers from the Greater Sydney region to use the resources.

The objective is to develop water sustainability awareness, attitudes and behaviours in young people, and to equip them to play an informed and active role in conserving water for current and future needs.

This project builds on and extends other school programs to ensure that years 5 to 10 science and geography teachers have access to high quality teaching and learning resources on water sustainability, and are effectively trained to use them.

Project activities

Focused on science and geography for Years 5-10 in NSW, the project involves:

- ◆ Reviewing existing water education resources
- ◆ Developing ready-to-use teaching and learning materials which include:
 - Resources and activities (hard-copy, CD and web-based)
 - Sequencing and scope based on the syllabus
 - Links to other educational materials
- ◆ Developing a professional development package
- ◆ Ongoing professional development via teachers networks and events

Resources and tools

The resources, which will be available via www.waterforlife.nsw.gov.au, are in the final stages of development and include the publication of:

- ◆ Teaching resources including the learning objects/scenarios
- ◆ A list of existing resources that support science and geography teaching and learning in schools about water sustainability

- ◆ A professional development package to train a group of teachers from the Sydney/Blue Mountains/Illawarra regions to enable them to:
 - implement the teaching resources within their own schools and districts
 - train other colleagues in the use of the materials.

How to get involved

You may like to be involved in the upcoming professional development or have your resources considered for inclusion in the mapping of teaching materials that will be made available to teachers and schools. If you would like to contribute to the project or receive updates on the materials developed please contact:

Science: the STANSW Office by email: office@stansw.asn.au

Geography: the GTANSW Office by email: geog@idx.com.au

Project Partners

This project is a partnership between the NSW Science Teachers' Association, the NSW Geography Teachers' Association and the NSW Department of Water and Energy, with the support of the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change, the NSW Department of Education and Training, the Office of the Board of Studies and Sydney Water.



The **Science Teachers' Association** of New South Wales is a non-profit professional teachers' association run by science educators for science educators. STANSW has a well established reputation for developing and providing high quality professional learning events and resources to primary and secondary teachers across NSW. Its advice, input and resources are highly valued by education systems, corporate organisations and government and non-government organisations developing and delivering relevant curriculum resources to schools.



The **Geography Teachers' Association** of New South Wales is an incorporated body which represents the interests of professional geography teachers. Its purpose is to provide a forum where teachers of geography and the wider community may exchange views. The activities of the Geography Teachers' Association include publishing and distributing materials related to the teaching of geography, promoting professional in-service education of geography teachers, making awards to geography students and teachers and encouraging research in geographical education.

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