



A summary of the work and the results

What is COMFU?

Comfu.org (Common Future) is a global online learning community for young people.

On Comfu net learners can publish and share their work with young people from around the world. They can, for instance, create their personal profile, form groups, write news, articles, personal blogs and comments and share photos and videos.

A log on is required to see the personal profiles of the participants.

To facilitate the work the following have been developed:

- a *handbook* for each project describing the different phases, tasks and deadlines.
- *an infocentre/resources*
- a *videotour*
- a *comfi netqueter*

Furthermore a community manager follows and assists the process closely. He also has the mandate to exclude members who do not behave according to the netiquette.

Comfu is an educational engine that can be fed with different contents and learning goals, but the 'Driver' and the basic structure are the same.

Comfu gives young people from around the world a unique opportunity to create relationships, friendships, dialogue and collaboration with other young people, whom they would not have met otherwise. They also get the possibility to learn about differences and similarities of their countries and cultures.

Climate Project

In September 2009 Comfi.org was initiated with support from the Danish Tips & Lotto funds as well as the Danish UNESCO Associated School Project.

From September 2009 - March 2010 more than 350 learners from mostly ASP schools in Nepal, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Lithuania, Serbia, Lebanon, Jordan, Columbia, Canada, Ghana and South Africa used Comfu.org to do their preparatory work for a Youth Climate Conference in Copenhagen.

Based on a handbook with structured tasks and deadlines the students, among other things, researched,

presented and debated their personal and national climate profiles and described and debated their visions for the future.

Climate Music



In May and June 2010 the second project on Comfu took place.

As a natural sequel to Comfu's CO₂ Handbook, members were engaged in a creative process, where everyone contributed to the same music track: *What a Wonderful World*.

All young people from around the world were invited to participate.

The aim was to send the message that there is hope for the future, despite climate changes, if we focus on positive aspects and what we have in common.

See handbook for more information.

Reviving World Heritage

From October 2010 to June 2011 several hundred students from UNESCO ASP-schools in Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Oman, Bahrain, Egypt, Palestine, Sudan and Denmark worked together at comfu.org to make their World Heritage Sites vivid and relevant.

The aim of the project was to strengthen World Heritage Education and intercultural dialogue through ASP schools in Arab States and Denmark.

The project consisted of the following elements:

- Learners from ASP schools in the participating countries made video presentations of WHE sites, events related to the sites, intangible heritage and potential future sites
- Online communication and dialogue based on the video presentations
- A Youth conference in Copenhagen, Denmark, for selected delegates from the participating countries



The Handbooks

The handbook is a central tool containing guidelines for and organization and deadlines of the work described.

The learners are encouraged to change between working of-line and on-line. That gives them the possibility to make their own research in the local community and to debate knowledge and attitudes with their teacher and classmates before they publish them.

Various methods and means of expression are used to support the use of different learning styles and enhance creativity and innovation.

The model situation – vision – action is often used to structure the work:

Learners must obtain knowledge about the present situation, express their visions/attitudes for the future and define/debate what they can do/action to move from the situation to the vision.

In that way the learners are actively engaged in constructing content and knowledge. They are sharing ideas, collaborating with peers and creating new media-rich learning experiences.

Statistics

There has been

- 890 members from more than 30 countries on comfu.org
- 26146 activities – i.e. publications, uploads, comments, status-updates, friendships started etc.
- 939 blogs
- 123 groups
- 4542 photos uploaded
- 466 videos published

Many of the learners who took part in the climate project also joined and contributed to Reviving World Heritage because of interest and the social atmosphere. Also people from countries who had not been invited to take actively part in any of the projects joined comfu.

Even after the project has been finalized, more than 1000 visitors log in every week to see if a new project is coming up.

Vision

The vision is to find ways to revive comfu with exiting new projects and make it possible for students around the globe to experience the comfu spirit.