

The First Integrated Environmental Information Network in the State of Kuwait

11th September 2007

The first integrated environmental information network in the State of Kuwait was presented at a public seminar on 11th September 2007 at the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR). The objective of the seminar was to showcase the achievements of the Kuwait Integrated Environmental Information Network (KIEIN) project and raise the awareness of the public especially key government institutions and academics on the facets of knowledge available using KIEIN. The project comes under the Second Country Cooperation Framework between the Ministry of Planning, UNDP and KISR.

KIEIN provides a user friendly analytical software tool using state of the art information technology to study the environmental and socio-economic situation in the State of Kuwait. Dr. Hamdy Al Gameely, manager of the KIEIN project and director of the Geographic Information System (GIS) Centre at KISR displayed the development phases of the project initially covering marine, coastal, terrestrial and atmosphere environments and expanding to socio-economic indicators. The application and expansion of the usage of the tool by decision makers is envisaged using the Special Decision Support System to ensure effective national policies are ensued.

For Dr. Gameely's presentations, click on the following links:

[Overview](#) | [KIEIN I&II](#) (5.8MB) | [KIEIN III](#) (1.12MB) | [KIEIN III Indicator & Raster Modules](#) (6.60MB).

The increasing need for spatially disaggregated data was highlighted by GIS supporting consultant, Mr. Carsten Schurmann illustrating the application of the raster module which allows researchers, geographers and planners to analyse socio-economic developments such as access to public services at the smallest spatial scale below the district level.

Emphasis on the development of national capacities on the application of the GIS technologies has been paramount with over sixteen KISR employees involved in the project. On expanding the use of this tool, Valerie Cliff, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative stated that "Concerted efforts are needed to ensure that this knowledge sharing tool is accessible and used by the public in the future".