

Summary

MAAC (www.maac.ma) is a legally-recognized organization under the umbrella of Moroccan Education And Resource Network-MEARN focusing on giving back to their communities. Indeed, During the year 2008/2009, Moroccan Education and Resource Network (MEARN) has been mentoring Access alumni in various activities, mostly community service projects, more than 40 Access alumni from Oujda to Agadir gathered in May 01/03,2009 in Rabat and created the Moroccan Access Alumni Club-MAAC.

In July 2009,MAAC team has been very active in facilitating and implementing iEARN international youth summit that gathered more than 120 youth around the world.The program included several workshops , training sessions and cultural activities.

In September 2009, and in an effort to serve as a catalyst for moving videoconferencing forward among youth in Morocco with their peers in so many places of the world , and in order to help Global Nomad Group in their mission to foster dialogue and understanding among the world's youth;MAAC accepted whole heartedly to collaborate with this organization and host a dynamic working group of educational leaders for building capacity in videoconferencing and fostering cultural mutual understanding and dialogue among Moroccan and American youth .

Background

Youth can change what many elders couldn't change if they are given the suitable chance, because they have the ambition and the desire for a happy peaceful world. In Morocco, young people represent a great proportion of the total population; many of them don't have the chance to act positively and making great contributions to solve the problems of the society

Community service can be a great way to learn more about the place where we live , enhance our educational opportunities and strengthen our ability to contribute to the development of our societies.

Examples of community-service activities can be donation campaigns for national charity , helping illiterate people by spreading awareness among them, giving hand by visiting some orphans ,visiting patients in hospitals and let them feeling that there are many people who care for them, taking practical actions to help street kids, child laborers, planting trees, fighting schooling dropout...

“Acting Locally and Serving Community” is a community-service project that focusing on the participation of youth to help them “TAKING ACTIONS”, this project will involve mainly Access students around Morocco.

“Acting Locally and Serving Community” is not a project based on a research but a practical work done by a team.

Aims of the Project :

- 1- Reinforcing Access students leadership skills
- 2- Improving Access students communication and public speaking skills
- 3- Improving English language learning.
- 4- Reinforcing the culture of collaboration and sharing
- 5- Instilling on Access students the culture of community services
- 6- Reinforcing Access students skills on ICTs tools like :Blogs, Podcasts, storytelling, websites, interactive discussions, ...

- 7- Extending the Network of Access Alumni around the country
- 8- Setting MAAC resources portal
- 9- ...

Components of “Acting Locally and Serving Community” project

- November 2009: Access centers selection
- December 2009 : Facilitators Training Workshop
- December 2009/March 2010 : Project implementation
- May 2010 :Access Summit
- December2009/May 2010:MAAC portal design and development

1. Selection of participating Access centers

MAAC will work closely with MEARN and RELO to involve the following access centers: Beni Mellal, Casablanca, Fes, Agadir, Tangier, Marrakech, Oujda, Khouribga and Taza. Project facilitators will be mainly composed by Access Alumni club members and English teachers who are already engaged on teaching Access students.

Timing: November 2009

2. Facilitators Training Workshop

A typical workshop lasts two days will includes 18 facilitators from the Access Centers. MEARN team is experienced with all aspects of planning; conducting and evaluating training workshops, will tailor training materials to fit specific needs. Workshop will focus on different tools and methodologies needed to implement the community service activities. As a result, facilitators will return to their regions with the knowledge needed to conduct and facilitate community service activity, workshop contents and outline will be placed on MAAC website at : www.maac.ma

Timing: December 2009

3. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

MEARN and MAAC will be supervising the coordination and the follow up of different phases of this project.

Facilitators will use MEARN forums to share and exchange how they are implementing their projects.

Access students will use Password-protected iEARN forums (One of the world's leading collaboration server platform) to join discussions and interactions during the different steps of the project. All participants are asked to continue contributing to the iEARN discussion forums on an on- going basis

A small “mini-grants of 100 \$” will be provided to each center to cover some of the expenses related to

Their project and others activities.

Timing: December 2009/March 2010

4/ACCESS SUMMIT

In conjunction with MEARN fifth national forum, Access summit will be organized during the first week of May 2010, the event will gather the facilitators and five Access students from each participating centers. Each center will be asked to present their work and exhibit their activities.

The Access summit outline and program will be placed on MEARN website at :

www.maac.ma

One highlight of the event is the official launching of MAAC portal.

Timing: April 2010

5/MAAC PORTAL

MEARN team in close collaboration with MAAC will work together to build MAAC portal using Content Management System software and technologies, the portal will include youth resources, upcoming events, agenda of activities, success stories and relevant articles. MEARN will train MAAC team on how updating and maintaining the portal.