GEOMATICS & PARTICIPATION

study and research in the tension field between a European technology region and an African emerging country

The project, funded by the Baden-Württemberg Stiftung within its framework Baden-Württemberg-STIPENDIUM for university students – BWS plus, aims to bring students from the technology and innovation region Baden-Württemberg together with students from South Africa so that they can benefit from experience and knowledge regarding real-time geomatics at the two institutions. Today, geospatial tools facilitate incorporating geodata when making decisions to the extent that the use of geospatial tools has become natural to many. At the same time, ubiquitous use of smartphones and the Internet prompts participation. The goal of the project is to explore the differences and similarities in relevance and acceptance of citizen participation considering geodata in Europe and in Africa, and to start a long-term partnership and student exchange programme. Differences in the two university systems will be handled with the required flexibility.

MAIN PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

For initiating a sustainable cooperation between HsKA and UP we focus mainly on two measures:

- Study and research trips of 4 under- and postgraduate students from each university: to extend and train students’ professional competencies, to promote inter-cultural experiences and thus stimulate appreciation for other societies.

- Two summer schools on participatory sensing with 16 participants: advertising the respective strengths in the geomatics field of the two institutions and testing of latest developments.

1st summer school in Karlsruhe, 17-31 July 2016:
Topic: Environmental Protection through Citizen Integration
+ to support opportunities for stronger participation and active learning

2nd summer school in Pretoria, 2nd half of July 2017:
Topic: Planning in Informal Settlements
+ to empower citizens to take responsibility through active participation