

Science and Engineering Research Program Project Description

Institute: Institute of Environmental Planning

Project title: Development of an webbased Spatial Decision Support System for an improved communication

Project description: The major societal challenges of our time, such as climate change, biodiversity crisis, urbanization, land and resource scarcity, require major transformation processes. Since transformations are difficult to reverse, they should be based on well-informed decisions. To feed the decisions also with facts, Decision Support Systems (DSS) can be used. These systems present the data-based information in a way that is understandable and as comprehensible as possible for the decision-makers. Due to this characteristic, they are also well suited for the communication of socially complex challenges.

The goal of the project is to further develop and improve such a DSS. This DSS should offer the possibility to communicate scientific data to decision makers, but primarily serves the communication with citizens in order to increase interaction - in the sense of Citizen Science - and acceptance of transformation processes. The DSS is intended to enable communication via web-based maps, as web technology facilitates the sharing of information and information presented via maps is easier to comprehend.

The intern's work supports the research group's exchange with citizens as well as local stakeholders in the topics of urban transformation, climate adaption via environmental planning.

Required skills: In addition to the interest in the topics of open source, open data, data communication, web design and the science-society interface an at least basic knowledge of programming or web development would be desirable.

Contact/supervisor: Manuel Beissler
beissler@umwelt.uni-hannover.de