



FINNISH NATIONAL
AGENCY FOR EDUCATION

HEI ICI

Higher Education Institutions Institutional Cooperation Instrument

Geo-ICT

Geospatial and ICT capacities in Tanzanian Higher Education Institutions

Academic Disciplines Geography, Geoinformatics, Information and Communication Technology

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Coordinating Institution University of Turku

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Description of the Project

Geospatial and ICT capacities in Tanzanian Higher Education Institutions (Geo-ICT) is focusing on improving the quality of higher education and research environment in the sector of geospatial-ICT, and strengthening the role and relevance of HEIs in development of the society in these sectors. The project aims at improving the skills and pedagogical competence of staff (output 2.1), renewing teaching structures and materials (output 2.2) and upgrading research and education environment with key infrastructures (output 2.3). These qualities are foundation for the prosperity of Tanzanian geospatial and ICT expertise. Second, the project aims at improving HEI's stakeholder networks and collaboration modalities (output 4.1) and introducing HEIs with relevant and catalysing role in the innovation realization and entrepreneurship support for the emerging geospatial/ICT business sector in Tanzania (output 4.2). At the end of the 3-year project, the quality and societal relevance of geospatial and ICT research and education in four Tanzanian HEIs is improved. University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), Ardhi University (ARU), State University of Zanzibar (SUZA) and Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) have increased synergy, interdependency and well performing stakeholder collaboration in GIS/ICT expertise and its applications in the society. We will measure these improvement in quality by the number and diversity of MSc and PhD research projects/theses based on geospatial and ICT solutions; by the number and diversity of professionals (PhD, MSc) trained and employed in GIS/ICT solutions and applications, and we will identify improvement in societal relevance through various shared HEI activities in the sector of GIS/ICT research and education through monitoring stakeholder satisfaction to HEIs' research and education quality, and by looking into the number of entrepreneurship innovations/start-ups in geospatial and ICT sector.

Key Results to be Achieved:

1. *Teaching and research staff is more competent in geospatial and ICT skills, and more capable of tackling with environmental and social problems in Tanzania*
2. *The contents and methods of teaching are improved and research environments in GIS/ICT are improved and existing ones more effectively used*
3. *There is increased synergy and interdependence among partner universities, their stakeholders in GIS/ICT expertise and uses of these skills and resources in the society*
4. *HEI's have improved modes of collaboration with the public, private and civil society actors. HEIs act as catalysts for GIS/ICT business ecosystem development and graduates are more skilled actors in the private sector*

