

MASTER PROGRAM IN GEOINFORMATICS

MSc programme in Geoinformatics will address the following problems:

1. In land and real property management Geoinformatics support the computer based land registration. GIS usage can enhance the reliability and actuality of the ownership of real properties. At present, land registration in Uzbekistan is done without GIS, mainly due to lack of competence in GIS.
2. Due to excessive pressure on its land and water resources, Uzbekistan now faces environmental problems mainly represented by land degradation and water shortage which negatively affects food supply in the country. Geoinformatics can help to map soil erosion, salinity and water logging progress, plan irrigation network for agriculture and water resource management.
3. Uzbekistan faces with the problem of growing population in cities and towns. Therefore, understanding of the possible scenarios and environmental impacts of urban settlements is an increasingly important focus of attention in science and policy.
4. In municipality level GIS is powerful tool for decision making in national development and poverty reduction strategies; a coordinated and effective response to natural hazards, epidemic; and protect vulnerable populations.



CONTACTS

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GENERAL AIM

The main aim of the project is the development and implementation of a new university program in Geoinformatics to be offered on the second Bologna level (MSc) at Uzbek partner universities. The project aims to ensure that Uzbek partner universities will have the capacity to offer a Master program in Geoinformatics that meets Bologna process, international academic quality standards, job market needs and support Uzbekistan in sustainable development.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. to develop a successful MSc in Geoinformatics;
2. to ensure that there will be qualified staff available for course delivery by organizing “train-the-teachers” courses;
3. to ensure that the universities have adequate equipment for GIS/geodesy teaching;
4. to build and ensure the sustainability of an educational network between partners.

PROJECT CONSORTIUM

Coordinator:

- University of West Hungary (UWH), Sopron, HU

Partners in Uzbekistan:

- National University of Uzbekistan named after Mirzo Ulug'bek (NUU), Tashkent
- Karakalpak State University (KSU), Nukus
- Tashkent Architecture Building Institute (TABI), Tashkent
- Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Melioration (TIIM), Tashkent
- Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education (MHSSE), Tashkent

- National Center of Geodesy and Cartography (NCGC), Tashkent
- State Unitary Enterprise "Geoinformkadastr", Tashkent

Partners in EU:

- Paris-Lodron Universität (PLUS), Salzburg, AT
- Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Stockholm, SE
- University of Greenwich (UoG) London, UK

OUTCOMES

- As-is analysis report
- Updated Bachelor program in Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre
- MSc curriculum and syllabus in Geoinformatics
- 8 MSc modules and summer school
- Developed and published teaching materials
- Retrained staff
- Trained students
- Established learning centres: website/network portal, GIS labs, GIS software, surveying equipment
- Dissemination activities
- Business plan and cooperation agreements



ACTIVITIES

At the beginning of the project a needs-analysis was accomplished and the further curriculum development was based on the result of this analysis.

A Project Advisory Board has also been set up to give advice and to promote the project throughout the 3 year.

The overall course definition was discussed by all the partners, and the general rules and templates were set for an elaborated description. The curriculum and syllabus development were followed by the development of the learning materials by the Uzbek partners.

In the UZ partner institutions the installation of GIS laboratories and the acquisition of geomatic and GIS equipment provided the Uzbek partners with up to date teaching environment. Meanwhile a teacher training process guaranteed the quality and sustainability of the master program.

The testing and reviewing of the textbooks is on-going now. It will ensure that the learning environment will meet the quality standards and the needs of the stakeholders.

After its accreditation the master programme will start (September 2014).