

PRESS RELEASE

Tübingen, 28 March 2023

Linking Research and Practice

German Federal Ministry of Education and Research Grants €7.5 Million to Collaborative Project Advancing Digital-Supported MINT (STEM) Education.

Together with other partners, including the Leibniz Institut für Wissensmedien (IWM), the University of Tübingen is promoting digital education in MINT subjects. From 1 April 2023, it will be part of one of the government-funded competence centres that will research and develop the use of new technologies in mathematics, informatics, natural sciences and technology (MINT). The joint project "MINT-ProNeD" will receive 7.5 million euros from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research for a duration of 2.5 years and will connect teacher training centres and other institutions across Germany. At the heart of the cross-state project consortium is a close collaboration between the five Schools of Education in Baden-Württemberg (Binational School of Education Konstanz, Heidelberg School of Education, School of Education Freiburg FACE, Profesional School of Education Stuttgart-Ludwigsburg, Tübingen School of Education) and the Centre for Teacher Education of the University of Kaiserslautern-Landau.

The project consortium aims to develop research-based training and advisory concepts in different locations. These concepts will support teachers in the adaptive and process-oriented use of digital technologies: Adaptive learning aims to tailor teaching as closely as possible to the individual needs of each pupil. In this way, the increasing heterogeneity of classes, including in MINT subjects, can be effectively addressed.

Three networks will be established within the project consortium. The Tübingen Centre for Digital Education (TüCeDE) is responsible for coordination. The "MINT Network Training" will offer research-based training for adaptive teaching with digital media in the MINT subjects for all types of schools. The "MINT Network Curriculum Development" will develop an advisory concept in the form of professional learning communities to support schools in curriculum development. In the "MINT Network Future Innovation Hub", researchers will investigate innovative technologies such as virtual reality or artificial intelligence methods for their suitability for MINT education.

"The close link between research and practice is one of our strengths," says project leader Professor Andreas Lachner from TüCeDE. "In MINT-ProNeD, nine universities and three non-university research institutes are working together with the respective state institutes for teacher training and school development on a uniform training and advisory concept." MINT-ProNeD stands for "Professional Networks for the Promotion of Adaptive, Process-Oriented, Digital-Supported Innovations in MINT Teacher Training" and is one of six planned collaborative projects across Germany. The German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) is providing more than €200 million to support the establishment of collaborative projects for digitally supported teaching in various subject areas.

Project partners in MINT-ProNeD:

Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg, German Institute for Adult Education (DIE), Leibniz Institute for Educational Research and Information (DIPF), Leibniz Institut für Wissensmedien (IWM), Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich, University of Education Freiburg, University of Education Heidelberg, University of Education Ludwigsburg, University of Kaiserslautern-Landau, University of Konstanz, University of Stuttgart.

Cooperation partners in MINT-ProNeD:

Institut für Bildungsanalysen Baden-Württemberg (IBBW), Zentrum für Schulqualität und Lehrerbildung Baden-Württemberg (ZSL), Pädagogisches Landesinstitut Rheinland-Pfalz (PL), Akademie für Lehrerbildung und Personalentwicklung Dillingen (ALP).

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Das Leibniz-Institut für Wissensmedien (IWM)

Das Leibniz-Institut für Wissensmedien (IWM) in Tübingen erforscht, wie digitale Medien Wissensund Kommunikationsprozesse beeinflussen. Die grundlagen- und anwendungsorientierte Forschung rückt neben institutionellen Lernfeldern wie Schule und Hochschule auch informelles Lernen im Internet, am Arbeitsplatz oder im Museum in den Fokus. Am IWM arbeiten Wissenschaftlerinnen und Wissenschaftler verschiedener Disziplinen zusammen, vor allem aus der Psychologie, Kommunikationswissenschaft, Neurowissenschaft und Informatik. Das 2001 gegründete außeruniversitäre Forschungsinstitut ist Mitglied der Leibniz-Gemeinschaft.