

## **How is your country moving Geography into the future? Germany**

**Daniela Schmeinck**

The development of “Bildungsstandards” is important for each subject for both the guarantee of quality (Qualitätssicherung) as well as for the further content related development of the subject.

For some of the school subjects the Secretary of the Constant Conference of the Ministers of Education and Arts of the Federal States of the Federal Republic of Germany (in German: Ständige Konferenz der Kultusminister der Länder der Bundesrepublik Deutschland – Kultusministerkonferenz (KMK)) has provided these papers. Geography as a school subject was not implemented in this Nevertheless geographer as well as geography educators and geography teacher are convinced about the need for developing such standards also for Geography. The German association for Geography (in German: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Geographie (DGfG)) has therefore worked out similar Standards for Geography. The standards are to ensure and develop the quality of the educational processes, to give a homogeneous fundament to the various German geography curricula and to position Geography in the educational-political context.

The final document is available online as well as in a printed version.

In October 2008 the Secretary of the Constant Conference of the Ministers of Education and Arts of the Federal States of the Federal Republic of Germany (in German: Ständige Konferenz der Kultusminister der Länder der Bundesrepublik Deutschland – Kultusministerkonferenz (KMK)) has provided a German wide common framework for content related Standards for the subject and didactics in teacher training (in German: Ländergemeinsame inhaltliche Anforderungen für die Fachwissenschaften und Fachdidaktiken in der Lehrerbildung). The document is the result and the consequence of the implementation of a bachelor and master degrees into teacher training. It offers the possibility to compare and evaluate degrees from different universities and works as a guideline for the accreditation of new teacher related study courses.