The doctoral study project is part of a research programme that is funded by the Volkswagen Foundation and has the title "Governance and Social Action in Sudan after the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of January 29, 2005". Professor Wohlmuth was one of the main applicants of the programme and head of the programme from September 2005 to August 2008. He is currently associated with the follow-up programme (2008 - 2010) as a project partner. The programme consists of a network of universities in Sudan (North and South), Kenya and Ethiopia. Research workshops in all these countries, Master and PhD programmes, and a rich publication activity characterise the activities (see the programme homepage entry: http://www.iwim.unibremen.de/forsch_grawert.htm).

IWIM has a reputation in Sudan Studies. The Sudan Economy Research Group(SERG) started its work in 1978 with a project on "Sudan's BreadbasketStrategy: Implications for the Country and for the Arab World", that was funded by the German Society for Peace and Conflict Research. Many projects and programmes of SERG have followed since (see the SERG homepage entry: http://www.iwim.uni-bremen.de/africa/Sudanforschung.htm). In the group have served experts such as Dr. Peter Oesterdiekhoff, Dr. Dirk Hansohm, Dr. Elke Grawert and Dipl.-Oec. Markus Wauschkuhn. The Sudan Economy Research Group (SERG) has also issued since the end of the 1970s a Discussion Paper Series (SERG Discussion Papers: http://www.iwim.unibremen.de/publikationen/pub-sudan.htm see the SERG homepage entry: http://www.iwim.unibremen.de/africa/Sudanforschung.htm), and has cooperated with international organizations and the Government of Sudan. SERG was doing a major study for the World Bank on Sudan's Economic Policies, cooperated with World Bank and UNDP on various courses in Bremen for planners from the Ministry of Finance and Planning in Khartoum on "Structural Adjustment Policies in Developing Countries", has participated in the work of the Employment Mission of the ILO to Sudan, and had a lead role in the work on the First Human Development Report for Sudan, done by UNDP. The study by Mister Berhanu will become finalized in the coming months. A Sudan Country Workshop in December 2009 will highlight the main results for a wider academic and mediaaudience.