At the Chair of Automotive Technologies at the Department of Mechanical Engineering we are looking for an interested and qualified student to conduct his/her Interdisciplinary Project (IDP) on the topic:

Rethinking transportation for farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa
Development of a lean online platform for farmers to source transportation services in Ethiopia and Côte D’Ivoire

The challenge
Rural and scattered farming communities in Ethiopia and Côte d’Ivoire face major challenges to bring their agricultural produce to market because of high prices for transportation. These prices again result from a variety of external factors such as a lack of infrastructure, no public transport or transportation cartells. Farmers either pay a high premium or have to carry heavy loads for more than 10km to reach the next market place. Especially female farmers spent most of their time carrying goods.

Project:
Within the aCar Mobility Project, our team tries to tackle this problem together with local partners by implementing holistic service concepts that make the market for rural transportation more transparent. We are looking for someone to work with us on the following tasks:

- Taking part in co-developing concepts for suitable transportation services
- Implementing a basic IT-structure to cater for different scenarios
- Developing a lean smartphone app optimized for farmer’s needs

You will be working together with a thriving team and get the chance to be part of a growing TUM-Africa-community that wants to bring challenges like this to the attention of international research.

If you think, your skillset is relevant for these tasks, we’d love to hear from you. Drop us your CV and a short description to pizzinini@ftm.mw.tum.de