

Rijkswaterstaat  
A. Versluis  
Postbus 5023  
2600 GA DELFT

**Prof.dr. H.T. van der Molen**

Visiting address Burgemeester Oudlaan 50  
Postal address Postbus 1738  
3000 DR Rotterdam  
Phone +31 10 408 2064  
E-mail vandermol@fsw.eur.nl  
Internet www.eur.nl/fsw/english

Our registration  
hvdm/fsw/16466/mv

Your registration

Date  
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Subject

Support to Maps4Society

Dear Mr. Versluis,

It is with great interest that we learned about your initiative to develop a consortium Maps4Society. From our role as a research institute, this is important to us, because gaining insights in the use of geo information and geo information systems and the implications for governance is a leading topic in our research program and academic debate.

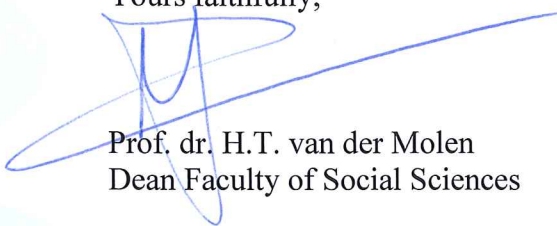
The Erasmus University Rotterdam and particularly the department of Public Administration has been researching topics on geo information the past years and has published on the subject in various academic journals as well as the publication of books and doctoral theses. Subjects in relation to geo information included: transparency of data, governance of geo infrastructure, standardisation issues, agenda setting and policy making matters, water management, risk management and land use planning. Our organization continues to hold the ambition to fulfil a leading role in the academic debate on geo information from a governance perspective.

We support your consortium and your programme because we see the following benefits for our organisation and the Dutch community: the development of new knowledge on geo information and its relation to governance, nationally as well as internationally. Additionally we see added value in the valorisation of these results to partners in the field, both public and private. Not only can we continue our research on geo information but it will also strengthen our international position in the academic field.

We hereby declare that our organisation is open to discuss opportunities for contributions to project proposals, in particular those relating to governance questions, land use, risk management and the water sector and is willing to invest in bringing together a qualified consortium of interested parties who will contribute to the realization of an attractive research proposal.

Maps4Society is an important initiative that will be a crucial enabler for the Dutch industry to improve and extend their business. Maps4Society will enable the Netherlands science community to reach and keep a top level position in a broad range of domains. It will allow us to play a leading role in the research and innovation into open, shared, and linked location data and how it can be used in many fields of application.

Yours faithfully,



Prof. dr. H.T. van der Molen  
Dean Faculty of Social Sciences