

LETTER OF SUPPORT – Maps4Society

**To:**

Rijkswaterstaat  
A. Versluis  
Postbus 5023  
2600 GA DELFT

**date:** March, 15th 2013

**subject:** Support to Maps4Society

Dear Mr. Versluis,

NMDC is a strategic collaboration initiated by the partners Alterra-WUR, Deltares, KNMI, PBL, RIVM, TNO and was until the end of 2012 supported by the *Programma Vernieuwing RijksDienst*. In 2012 the RWS joined the participation and brought in the project Delta-model in which NMDC-partners provide expertise as well as model- and data facilities for the calculation of different scenario's. NMDC is now at the beginning of a new maturing phase in which partners aim to provide a platform for cooperation and facilitating the application of models, data and expertise for dealing with issues in the field of water, atmosphere and subsoil. In all of these sectors up-to-date geographical information is a key-issue.

With great interest NMDC learned about your initiative to improve the existing national geo-information infrastructure by initiating the Maps4Society programme and to develop the Maps4Society consortium.

We support your initiative for establishing the consortium and fulfilling your programme because we see a lot of benefits for our organization and the Dutch community as a whole. The development of the geo-information towards a cyclic and integrated process will be highly beneficial for our network. NMDC aims to achieve applicable geo-data for the projects we support and the available models and software we provide. The NMDC partners create, develop, maintain and run e.g. 3D numerical models that cover all three spheres of Earth.

- i. 3D atmospheric models to predict weather forecasts, air quality and e.g. in case of external safety risks (explosions);
- ii. 3D subsurface models to predict ground water flows and quality. Of importance in case of extreme weather conditions, like rainfall or droughts;
- iii. 3D hydrodynamic models that can predict storm surges or water quality.

All of these models have a strong temporal component compared to the more traditional 2D geo-data information. NMDC faces the challenge to exchange and disseminate the required data for the models via web services (data cloud).

We hereby declare that our organization is open to discuss opportunities for contributions to project proposals

We see Maps4Society as 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.

NMDC wishes you all the best in fulfilling the initiative of the Maps4Society programme and the development of the Maps4Society consortium.

Yours faithfully,

The NMDC partner board

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several fluid, connected strokes, extending horizontally across the page.

Ir. W.J. Nieuwenhuizen  
Chairman