

Professor dr.ir. P.J.M. van Oosterom  
OTB Research Institute for the Built Environment  
TU Delft  
Postbus 5030  
2600 GA DELFT

Rotterdam, 25 March 2013  
Ref: DIR0011/13

Subject: Maps4Society

Dear Mr. Van Oosterom,

On behalf of Mark Herbold I send you his letter in support of the Maps4Society proposal.

With kind regards,



Daniëlle Keijzer  
Executive Assistant  
Esri Nederland

25 March 2013

Professor dr. ir. P.J.M. van Oosterom  
OTB Research Institute for the Built Environment  
TUDELFT  
Postbus 5030  
2600 GA DELFT

Dear Peter,

It is a pleasure for the Environmental Systems Research Institute (Esri) to write in support of the Maps4Society proposal. We have been exposed to the excellent scientific production of your group and other groups in the proposal consortium, via our common membership in associations such as the Association of Geographic Information Laboratories in Europe (AGILE) and the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC).

In addition, we see many fruitful avenues for collaborative research and product outcomes that could address several of the geographic information research challenges to be tackled in your proposed large-scale research facility, including:

- Usability and dissemination modes;
- Management of very large data sets;
- Services, searches and optimization;
- Volunteered GI and citizen science; and
- Satellites as a service with Esri's improving imagery deployment services.

Funding the Maps4Society infrastructure will again demonstrate Dutch leadership in the global field of geoinformation. As leaders in the geographic information systems market during more than 40 years, and with many users in The Netherlands, Esri can confidently estimate the huge impact that such an infrastructure would have on scientific innovation, which is premised on access to information, of a wide range of scientific disciplines. To that end we stand ready to provide technical and capacity-building assistance to the project, when funded, to help make it successful.

Sincerely,



Mark Herbold  
CEO