

LETTER OF SUPPORT – MAPS4SCIENCE

To:

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

date: 30 August 2011

subject: Support to MAPS4SCIENCE

Dear professor Van Oosterom,

With great interest that we learned about your initiative to develop a large scale research facility Maps4Science. From our role as data provider, supplier and innovator, a facility like this is important to us, because we believe that developing new science methods is crucial to improve the quality and efficiency of information services.

Het Actueel Hoogtebestand Nederland (AHN) is a multi-annual (1997-2012) program in cooperation between Rijkswaterstaat (RWS) and the water authorities. We aim to produce a nationwide height model of the Netherlands to promote the continuity of the data collecting and distribution, to reduce the costs of data collecting by means of cooperating and to ensure data quality. We also promote the use of the data by third parties by lowering the legal, organizational, technical and financial barriers.

We support your consortium and your application because we see the following benefits for our organization and the Netherlands science community like: the contribution of science in government agencies, lifting barriers, improving research, importance of continued research on the data acquisition, sharing and use.

We hereby declare that our organisation is open to discuss opportunities of this facility for further using and exploring our datasets, in particular height data like the AHN (Actueel Hoogtebestand Nederland; www.ahn.nl).

Maps4Science is an important initiative that will be a crucial enabler for many scientists to improve and extend their research. Maps4Science will enable the Netherlands science community to reach and keep a top level position in a broad range of science 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 science.

Yours sincerely,
Actueel Hoogtebestand Nederland



ir. R. van der Velden
program manager