



> Returnaddress P.O. Box 20951 2500 EZ The Hague

TU Delft  
OTB Research Institute  
Professor dr. ir. P.J.M. Oosterom  
Postbus 5030  
2600 GA Delft

**Spatial Policy Directorate**

Directorate for National  
Spatial Planning  
Beleid Geo-Informatie

Rijnstraat 8  
P.O. Box 20951  
2500 EZ The Hague  
Internal Postal Code 350  
The Netherlands  
[www.rijksoverheid.nl](http://www.rijksoverheid.nl)

**Contactperson**

Drs. D.W. van Barneveld

T +31 (0)70-3394062

M +31 (0)6-25094586

**Our reference**

2011055809

Date

Subject Support for MAPS4SCIENCE

Dear professor Van Oosterom,

It is with great interest that we learned about your initiative to develop a large scale research facility 'Maps4Science'. From our role as coordinating ministry for geo-information a facility like this is very important to us. It plays right into the central objective of our GIDEON policy document, i.e. making geo-information as widely available as possible. We strongly believe that this facility will further this goal. Especially, when efforts to create this facility are mutually aligned with the plans for the creation of a shared service organization geo-information for the public sector. We are looking forward to discuss how we can strengthen both initiatives by making them complementary.

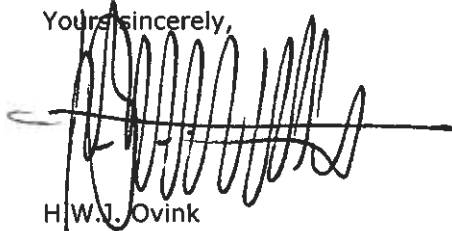
Moreover, we are convinced that better disclosure of geo-information resources for the sciences will prove beneficial for our knowledge and understanding of a wide array of policy issues. New insights and new technologies will affect decision making and public service delivery positively. This rings true for all government, but especially in the field of infrastructure, spatial planning and the environment for which our ministry carries the prime responsibility. We are interested in finding opportunities to cross pollinate this facility with other research agendas like Urban Regions in the Delta.

We also see possibilities for commercial spin-off which will contribute to a more knowledge-based economy. Application of geo-information within the *topsectoren* spring to mind.

In short, we support your consortium and your application heartily. We hope this endorsement will contribute to a favourable decision by NWO's Roadmap committee.

**Spatial Policy Directorate**  
Directorate for National  
Spatial Planning  
Beleid Geo-Informatie

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'H.W.J. Ovink', written over a horizontal line.

H.W.J. Ovink  
Director  
Directorate for National Spatial Planning

**Our reference**  
2011055809