

# Revival of Maps4Science!

Newsflash nr 8 – March 2013

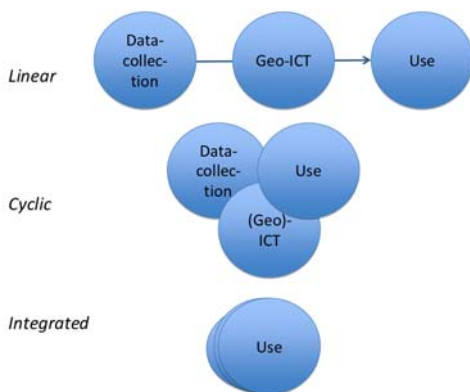


## Maps4Society Partnership takes form

During the workshop in September last year, the basis for the Program Proposal Maps4Society has been designed. The proposal will be submitted to the Partnership Program STW. The aim of this Partnership Regulation is to investigate questions and wishes from practice. The Maps4Society consortium consists of: Rijkswaterstaat, Kadaster, the Netherlands Space Office (NSO) and the Netherlands Geodetic Commission (NCG). Together they will invest 1.5 M€ (cash) for research, after which – if STW approves the program – STW doubles the amount to 3 M€. In this case the research will be set out via open calls by STW.

Companies will have the possibility to participate in-kind (or cash) in the project proposals submitted by the universities.

## Development geo-information chain



The program proposal focuses on the new paradigm of continuous monitoring and predicting of spatial processes instead of

the old 'map thinking' aiming at recording spatial situations. In this way integration will be established between the geo-information chain and ICT and its use. The program concentrates on 6 research themes with a link to 5 use cases.

## Response is welcome!

To reinforce the link with the professional field, response on the draft program proposal is more than welcome. The draft program proposal can be downloaded from [www.maps4science.nl](http://www.maps4science.nl); you are kindly invited to send in your response a.s.a.p. to [jacqueline@immanagement.nl](mailto:jacqueline@immanagement.nl). In addition support letters clarifying the importance and/or the utilization possibilities are also welcome. STW will take a decision about the program proposal at the end of April. In case of a go the call will be open before summer.

## Utilization meeting March 15 at GBN

STW made clear that it is important to stress the importance of the economic impact of the utilization of the research as described in the Maps4Society proposal. In order to further this dialogue we organize – in cooperation with GeoBusiness Nederland (GBN) – a utilization meeting on March 15 (9.30-11.00 hours) at GBN in Woerden. You are kindly invited to join this meeting. During this meeting you will be informed about the developments. Furthermore it is the intention to sharpen the program proposal w.r.t. to utilization. In case you like to join us for this utilization meeting please inform us not later than March 11 via e-mail at [info@geobusiness.nl](mailto:info@geobusiness.nl).

## Maps4Science continues (starts) in 2 new projects!

The project proposal “**Massive point clouds**” submitted for the eScience call of NWO/SURF/eScience has been awarded. The start date of the project is March 1,

2013. Besides TU Delft (GIS Technology Section, the Library and the Shared Service Center ICT), the 3TU-Datacentrum, Oracle, Rijkswaterstaat, Fugro and the Netherlands eScience Center are participating. The subsidy amounts to 0.5 M€ of which 200 K€ will be used for an eScience engineer of the Netherlands eScience Center. The duration of the project is 2 years.

Modern geographic data acquisition technologies generate point clouds with billions (or even trillions) of elevation/depth points. One example is the height map of the Netherlands (the AHN2 dataset). The point clouds have attracted a lot of attention from other research disciplines, such as: flood modelling, dike monitoring, forest mapping, generation of 3D city models, etc. However, the main problem with these point clouds is that they are simply too big (several terabytes) to be handled efficiently by common ICT infrastructures.

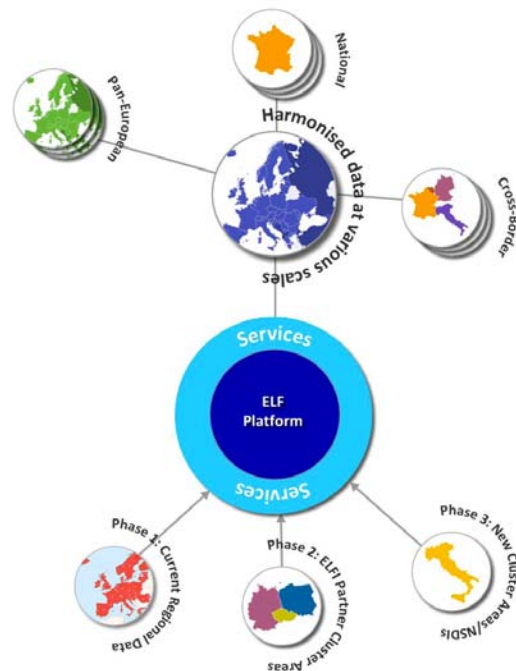
## New 'Big data' geo-ICT techniques for eScience

Within the project several new 'big data' geo-ICT techniques will be developed in order to improve the accessibility and use of point clouds and to support eScience on the disciplines mentioned before.

On March 1 also the **"European Location Framework"** (ELF) project has started. A large European consortium of 30 parties, including the Dutch Kadaster, TU Delft and quite a number of European Cadastres/ Mapping Agencies, companies and knowledge institutes are participating in this project. In this case the budget is 13 M€ and the duration of the project is 3 years.

## Value adding at European level

ELF facilitates the creation of innovative value-added services via access to the INSPIRE-compliant, pan-European geo-information. The services offer a "Data as a Service" model for basic geo-information, supporting "Software-as-a-Service" (SaaS) cloud GIS platforms for services for many innovative SMSs. During the project, but also after the project, the ELF Platform will be available for application development. A beautiful basis for creating international added value!



Concluding: these projects form a great new start for Maps4Science. Congratulations to all involved!

## New NWO/eScience call

NWO and the Netherlands eScience Center have opened a new call 'Data Science: Challenging Big Data' with emphasis on the cooperation between companies and knowledge institutions. Preliminary proposals should be submitted before April 11, 2013 (and the final proposal before October 10, 2013). For more information see: <http://esciencecenter.nl/nieuws/435-nlesc-nwo-open-call-on-data-science-initiated-nl/>

## About Maps4Science

At this moment, the M4S consortium has 10 partners: TU Delft (commissioner), UvA, WUR, UU, UT/ITC, VU/EduGIS, DANS, Alterra, NLR en Geonovum.

The main goal is to up-scale the national geo information research infrastructure with European potential and to improve spatial breakthroughs in other sciences.

Support is being given by the *ICT Innovatieplatform Geoinformatie* (IIPGEO), AeroVision and *Jacqueline Meerkerk Management*.

The complete proposal and all support letters can be found at [www.maps4science.nl](http://www.maps4science.nl)

**Contact:** Prof. Peter van Oosterom: [info@maps4science.nl](mailto:info@maps4science.nl)