UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

FACULTY OF GEO-INFORMATION SCIENCE AND EARTH OBSERVATION
DATE: 03-07-2025

SUBJECT: **Shaping a strong and sustainable future for ITC**

Dear ITC Alumnus,

We're reaching out to share information about the future of the Faculty of Geo-information Science and Earth Observation (ITC). As one of our 25,000 alumni, you are part of a global community with a deep connection to ITC's mission, people, and impact. Your continued support and engagement are vital, especially now.

A necessary change
Due to significant reductions in government funding for development cooperation, ITC is facing a structural financial shortfall of approximately €2.5 million per year. While this situation is beyond our control, the consequences are real. Despite earlier measures to absorb the impact, a reorganisation has become unavoidable. Sadly, we anticipate a reduction of jobs as part of this transition.

More than cuts – strengthening ITC
This reorganisation is not just about making ends meet. It's a moment to refocus, restructure, and strengthen ITC for the future. Our mission remains unchanged: Capacity building, applying, sharing, and effectively using geo-information and earth observation knowledge and tools to address global challenges. The efforts are not just about financial resilience—they are about ensuring ITC remains an adaptive, effective and globally relevant faculty.

Supporting our people
We fully recognise the uncertainty and concern this process brings, especially for those directly affected. The faculty board is committed to handling this transition with fairness, transparency, and care. Supporting our staff, students and alumni, remains our top priority.

What can ITC do for you and what can you do for ITC
ITC's strength has always come from its people—our students, our staff, and you, our alumni. The bond we share transcends borders and careers. We are committed to keeping you informed as we move forward. Thank you for your ongoing trust and commitment. Together, we will build a stronger, more sustainable ITC. If you have any suggestions, please reach out to me, the Dean of ITC Freek van der Meer.

Warm regards,
Faculty of Geo-information Science and Earth Observation (ITC)
University of Twente

Freek van der Meer
Dean of ITC

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