

**POSITION STATEMENT EXECUTIVE BOARD TU DELFT REGARDING THE RESEARCH
ASSESSMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING 2011-2016**

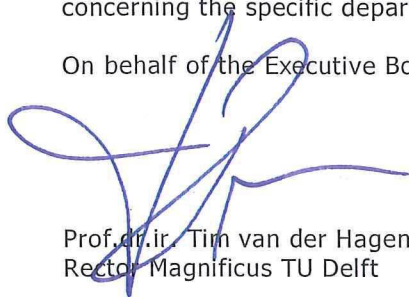
The Executive Board of Delft University of Technology has commissioned an assessment of the research carried out by the research units in the field of Civil Engineering at Delft University of Technology. The assessment was carried out in 2018 by an international peer review committee, using the Standard Evaluation Protocol 2015-2021 (www.vsnu.nl/sep). Chair of the peer review committee was prof.dr.ir. Margot Gerritsen (Stanford University). The full report of the peer review committee is available on the TU Delft website. The Executive Board wishes to express its gratitude to the peer review committee for their work and final assessment report. Via the report and the fruitful discussions with members of the Faculty of Civil Engineering and Geosciences during the site visit, the committee has provided comprehensive and informative insights that the Faculty can use to its advantage.

The Executive Board is pleased that the quality, relevance to society as well as viability of the research at the Civil Engineering research units are assessed by the committee as 'very good', and even mostly 'world leading/excellent'. The committee concludes that Civil Engineering at TU Delft is internationally recognized as a center of excellence in research, has extraordinary relevance to society, and is innovative and entrepreneurial. Still, the committee suggests for Civil Engineering to sharpen its strategic and integral thinking about societal impact.

In its report, the committee touches upon a number of subjects that can be improved or require attention. The Executive Board recognizes the remarks concerning gender diversity and PhD programmes, and agrees with the committee that the number of female faculty (also in leadership positions), and the average duration and dropout rates of PhD programmes remain a challenge. The Executive Board encourages the Faculty to embrace the committee's recommendations on these topics, as well as those concerning research integrity and metrics. The committee's remarks about research facilities will be addressed by the Executive Board via the current effort to develop a Strategic Framework for research infrastructures at TU Delft.

The Executive Board will discuss these points, as well as the observations and remarks concerning the specific departments, with the management of the Faculty.

On behalf of the Executive Board of Delft University of Technology,



Prof. dr. ir. Tim van der Hagen
Rector Magnificus TU Delft