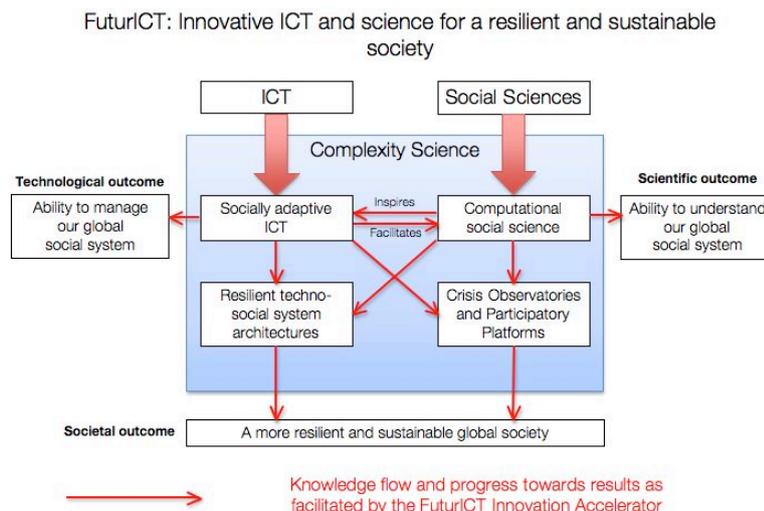


The FuturICT Knowledge Accelerator:

Creating Socially Interactive Information Technologies for a Sustainable Future

Humanity faces enormous challenges ranging from financial and economic instability over conflict to environmental destruction and climate change, all linked directly to the difficulties in understanding and managing the consequences of our collective activities. Now, a diverse group of leading scientists has unveiled an extraordinary plan to meet these challenges through a project inspired by large-scale enterprises such as the Apollo Project.

The ultimate goal of the FuturICT flagship project is to understand and manage complex, global, socially interactive systems, with a focus on sustainability and resilience. Revealing the hidden laws and processes underlying societies constitutes the most pressing grand challenge of our century and is equally important for the development of novel robust, trustworthy and adaptive information and communication technologies (ICT), based on socially inspired concepts. Integrating ICT, Complexity Science and the Social Sciences will create a paradigm shift, facilitating a symbiotic co-evolution of ICT and society. Data from the complex globe-spanning ICT system will be used to develop models of techno-socio-economic systems. In turn, insights from these models will inform the development of a new generation of socially adaptive, self-organized ICT systems.



The FuturICT Flagship will develop the **Innovation Accelerator** and include:

- **The Living Earth Simulator**, an open participatory platform to simulate global-scale systems involving the interactions of up to 10 billion agents. It will enable the identification of challenges and opportunities on a global scale. The systemic risk analysis will become possible through the integration of a number of crisis observatories.
- **Crisis Observatories**, specialized competence centres running massive data mining and large-scale computer simulations. They will detect possible crises, such as bubbles or crashes in financial markets, reveal advance warning signs of critical shortages, identify risks of wars or social unrests, emerging epidemics, or environmental instabilities, and explore policy options, including their possible side effects.

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For more information, see: <http://www.futurict.eu> and information stand 26 (The Observatorium/FuturICT)