

Zurich, 05/10/12/AK

To the Coordinators of the FET Flagship Project - FuturICT  
Prof. Dirk Helbing, ETH Zürich  
Prof. Steven Bishop, University College London

**Letter of Support: FET Flagship - FuturICT**

Dear Prof. Helbing, dear Prof. Bishop

We are delighted to underline ETH Zurich's strong support of the FuturICT project.

ETH Zurich has a long and outstanding history of being a pathfinder and incubator for new and visionary research ideas and is one of the most important hubs of European research networks. In today's complex world, the next major scientific breakthroughs, along with their expected socio-economic impact, will require ETH Zurich to be a key player in a program of the ambition and size of FET Flagships.

With this letter ETH Zurich expresses its full support for the FuturICT project. The information given in this letter reflects the facts known at the date of its signature.

If the proposal is funded, ETH Zurich will support FuturICT during the Ramp-up Phase as follows:

- A new professorship on Social Network Analysis in the Department of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences with a budget of 1-1.2 Mio CHF per year including infrastructure.
- 1 Mio CHF in cash per year for strategic support for FuturICT-project.
- In the next years ETH will invest about 20 Mio CHF per year in the national High-Performance Computing and Networking (HPCN) with the Swiss National Supercomputing Centre (CSCS) at the ETH Zurich. FuturICT will strongly benefit from HPCN and will have full access to it.
- The ETH Risk Center, whose aim is to build an integrated view of risk landscapes and develop the means to understand, assess, compare and manage these, is one of the main strategic centers where currently important investments are made. About 25 Mio CHF of donations from industry and foundations have been raised in the last years and are invested in creating professorships in the field. Furthermore the Risk Center has been founded to coordinate and stimulate cross-disciplinary platforms and Futur-ICT will profit from this initiative.

On a national level, ETH Board, the ETH Domain's strategic management and supervisory body, is expected to support successful flagships in Switzerland. ETH Board will discuss and decide the concrete cofunding for the ramp-up phase after the successful FET Flagships have been communicated and detailed funding requests are available. The dedicated cofunding from ETH Board will be in addition to the support from ETH listed above.

ETH Zurich would like to emphasize that the aims of the FuturICT-projects are perfectly in-line with the overall strategy of ETH Zurich. As the co-leader of the FuturICT-project ETH Zurich would like to express once again its strong support for the FuturICT consortium. We look forward to a positive decision of the European Commission in favor of FuturICT.

Sincerely

ETH Zurich



Prof. Dr. Ralph Eichler  
President



Prof. Dr. Roland Siegwart  
Vice President Research and Corporate Relations