



**School of  
Engineering**

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Winterthur, 14 June, 2012  
Our reference: Kasr/hirn

#### **Letter of Support FuturICT flagship proposal**

Dear Prof. Helbing

It is a pleasure for me to send you this letter of support for the FuturICT flagship proposal, by which ZHAW expresses its endorsement and financial commitment to join the FuturICT program as signing partner.

As one of the largest multidisciplinary Applied Universities of Switzerland, ZHAW is distinguished through its application-oriented character. This characteristic is reflected not only in its degree programs but first and foremost in Research and Development. The good connection to the private and public sector (including SMEs) and profound acquaintance with their problems makes ZHAW to an ideal contributor to the applied side of FuturICT.

The School of Engineering (SoE) is the department with the largest Research and Development activities. It supports FuturICT's vision of creating societally relevant impact and improving the economic and ecological sustainability through the trinity of a Planetary Nervous System, a Living Earth Simulator, and a Global Participatory Platform. Given SoE's strategic, interdisciplinary R&D focus area Energy, its important ICT activities, and the new degree program Energy and Environmental Engineering, we see a natural contribution to FuturICT's Energy Observatory and Exploratory, supported by the required ICT-foundations (Cloud Computing, Service Engineering).

While we expect the activities concerning ICT infrastructure being funded through the EU, during the ramp-up phase SoE will provide 400kCHF of funding internal research activities in the smart energy field (as outlined in the FuturGRID project sketch) during the period 2014-2015.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Martina Hirayama', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Prof. Dr. Martina Hirayama  
Dean School of Engineering, Zurich University of Applied Sciences ZHAW

Cc: Professor Steven Bishop University College London