



Prof. Dirk Helbing
ETH Zurich
Dept. Humanities and Social Sciences
Chair of FuturICT Science Committee
Clausiusstrasse 50
CH-8092 Zurich

Re.: Letter of Support

19 November 2010

Dear Prof. Helbing

I would like to express my strong interest in – and full support for – the FuturICT flagship initiative developed under your Chairmanship.

As CEO of the European programme Climate-KIC I welcome your efforts in bundling resources and activities for a quantum leap in understanding and managing complex techno-socio-economic-environmental systems. The development of new information and communication technologies and tools to support decision makers is much needed for management, leadership and tackling the grand challenges humanity is facing – in Europe and the rest of the world.

Climate change is one of the greatest challenges for humanity. It is here where Climate-KIC comes in. Climate-KIC will directly benefit from the know-how and understanding developed in the FuturICT project when exploring promising pathways towards low-carbon prosperity and a sustainable future. Creating an interface between Climate-KIC and FuturICT will also allow us to study impacts of climate change on techno-socio-economic systems.

Climate-KIC, the Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC), is an initiative of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) to drive technological innovation in the area of climate change through integrated and creative partnerships between business, academic and public institutions.

There are other areas of interest to both the FuturICT and Climate-KIC communities: advances in supercomputing capabilities along with the development of new simulation techniques which are crucial for international climate-change adaptation and mitigation strategies as well as the involvement of private, public and academic partners on regional and European levels.

Climate-KIC is therefore looking forward to collaborating with FuturICT on a range of subjects.

Yours sincerely,

Jan van der Eijk
CEO Climate-KIC

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