

To whom it may concern,

As Director and legal representative of IMT Institute for Advanced Studies, Lucca, I would like to express our strong interest and support for the initiative "Candidate Flagship FuturICT" coordinated by Prof. Dirk Helbing, ETH Zurich, which will be submitted in response to the next call for proposals of the FET-ICT Programme.

IMT can be simultaneously defined as a *Graduate School*, an *Institute for Advanced Studies* and an *Institute of Technology*. Within the *IMT Graduate School*, the integration between research and education is designed around two broad multidisciplinary research areas (Economics and Institutional Change, Computer Science and Applications), which, while stemming from the fundamental concept of "*The Sciences of the Artificial*" (Herbert A. Simon), sustain our PhD programs. As an *Institute for Advanced Studies*, IMT is characterized by its mission to reach the international research frontier and to contribute to push it ahead, concentrating its activities within a limited number of key areas. Moreover, the Institute attracts a persistent flow of visiting scholars. IMT's identity as an *Institute of Technology* is defined by the aim of integrating relevance and excellence in research. Against this background, IMT has decided to adopt an innovative organizational model for its activities, which evolves around a computational and organizational platform, which exploits the complementarity between the Institute's distinctive capabilities in global computing, massive text and data mining, integration and management of heterogeneous knowledge bases, quantitative analysis of real world economic facts and phenomena. In addition, IMT promotes interdisciplinary research in Economics, Political Sciences, Sociology, Physics, and Computer Sciences. In addition, it integrates a rich set of skills as well as macro and micro data mapping onto multiple domains relevant for comparative institutional, economic, and social analysis at the European level.

At IMT, a rich cluster of competences and research units will be involved in the Flagship, collaborating with prof. Helbing and with the other partners. Members of our team have distinctive capabilities in many areas relevant to the project, as Distributed Systems, Global Computing, Grid Computing, Economics of Networks, Topological and Stochastic Investigation of the Evolution of Large Socio-Economic Networks, Comparative Institutional Analysis, Microeconomic Analysis of Market Formation and Evolution, Simulation of the Evolution of Large, Multiscale, Socio Economic Systems; Exploration of Key Properties of Large Economic Systems. Finally, while our scientific organization has an academic orientation, our scholars and fellows collaborate intensively with public and private institutions, in areas which are key for policy making and business development.

The people involved within our organization are:

Prof. Fabio Pammolli, Prof. of Economics and Management, Director – Referent - f.pammolli@imtlucca.it
Prof. Rocco De Nicola, Prof. of Computer Science - Computer Science and Engineering Res. Area - Univ. of Florence and IMT.
Prof. Massimo Riccaboni, Prof. of Economics and Management University of Trento and IMT
Prof. Andrea Vindigni, Prof. of Economics - Economics and Institutional Change Res. Area - IMT
Dr. Mark Dinuccio, Assistant prof. of Economics -Economics and Institutional Change Res. Area- IMT
Dr. Luc La Fuente, Assistant prof. of Computer Science –Computer Science and Engineering Res. Area - IMT

Hence, we confirm our interest and willingness to support the initiative and to participate actively to the preparation of the project proposal and then in successfully implementing and promoting the Project activities.

Yours sincerely,

The Director
IMT institute for Advanced Studies
(Prof. Fabio Pammolli)

