

01.06.2012

Dear FuturICT Coordinator,

This letter is to introduce the FuturICT-TR consortium and express its intent to join the FuturICT FET Flagship initiative.

FuturICT-TR consortium consists of TÜBİTAK, KOÇ UNIVERSITY and SABANCI UNIVERSITY. TÜBİTAK is the national authority of science, technology and innovation not only responsible from making cut-edge research but also shaping the policies and strategies contributing to Turkey's future R&D and innovation. KOÇ UNIVERSITY and SABANCI UNIVERSITY are founded by Vehbi Koç Foundation and Sabancı Foundation, which are respectively in close relation to KOÇ HOLDING and SABANCI HOLDING group companies that represent roughly 25% of the entire GDP of TURKEY. Hence, the FuturICT-TR consortium has close relations with a wide spectrum of public and private organizations that are the main potential stakeholders and end users of FuturICT. Further details on the FuturICT-TR consortium can be found in the Annex.

TÜBİTAK Science Board, which is the highest decision authority, was informed about the FET Flagship initiatives on 7 April 2012 and Board decided to support Turkish presence in FET Flagship initiatives which relate to important fields of action in Turkey. Turkey is ready to provide matching fund for Turkish organizations which take part in FET Flagship Initiatives. We are also planning to take part in ERA-NET+ projects which will support selected FET Flagships.

The FuturICT-Turkey consortium intends to strongly contribute in the Exploratory Areas of "Technology", "Environment" and "Economy" (in reference to Fig. 2.2. in the FutureICT Final Report). Hence, we would greatly appreciate the opportunity to join the FutureICT Flagship and host you in Istanbul in the earliest convenience to discuss the possible collaboration avenues.

We are looking forward to collaborating with you.

Sincerely,

FuturICT-TR Consortium

## Annex

# FuturICT-TR CONSORTIUM



**TÜBİTAK**

TÜBİTAK (<http://www.tubitak.gov.tr>), The Scientific & Technological Research Council of Turkey, is the leading governmental R&D organization having high-level institutes making research covering a wide range of S&T fields, i.e., information and communication technologies, security, energy, genetics and bio-molecular engineering, food and life sciences, materials, earth and marine sciences, chemistry, textile and metrology. TUBITAK is directly linked to the Ministry of Science, Industry and Technology and has been a key player in leading R&D and S&T activities in Turkey. Under the TUBITAK umbrella there exist 22 research institutes having expertise in emerging fields of fundamental science and applied research. TUBITAK has prepared the Horizon 2023 initiative reflecting Turkey's research strategies and priority contributing to national investment and international collaboration strategy. With its position, TUBITAK is the public authority for defining thematic priority research fields and support public and private organizations within several funding mechanisms. Beyond its strategic role in defining and managing the research policies, TUBITAK also leads scientific actions in close coordination with universities, enterprises, non-profit organizations, end-users and other stakeholders. More than 4000 researchers, many of which have PHD or master degree, conduct research both in national and international level. TUBITAK institutes have been involved in more than 70 FP7 projects and more than 150 international projects including bilateral programmes, FP6, Eureka, CIP, IPA, NATO and NSF projects. Note that TUBITAK employs the national contact points responsible from FP7 thematic areas yielding access to a wide network of Turkish researchers in Turkey. The relevant TUBITAK research institutes will be contributing to the success of the FuturICT-TR consortium.



**KOÇ  
ÜNİVERSİTESİ**

KOÇ UNIVERSITY (KU) (<http://www.ku.edu.tr>) is an endowed, non-profit institution of higher education, founded in 1993 by the Vehbi Koç Foundation in Istanbul, Turkey. Since its establishment, Koç University has quickly become one of the leading research universities in Turkey, attracting accomplished, high-caliber researchers from all over the world. The vast majority (97%) of 400 faculty members have received their Ph.D. degrees from the most highly selective and reputable universities in the world, including the United States and Europe. Currently, the university is ranked among the top three universities in Turkey in terms of the number of international research publications per faculty member per year, based on publications in peer-reviewed journals listed by the Institute of Scientific Information (ISI). Koç University places a great value on innovative research and on projects involving

international collaboration. Currently, there are 324 projects from various disciplines funded by national, European and world-wide institutions. With regard to the European Union's 7th Framework Program, 18 faculty members have received the Marie Curie (MC) International Reintegration Grant (IRG), four fellow researchers have received MC Career Integration Grant (CIG) and three fellow researchers have received the first International Outgoing Fellowships (IOF) and one fellow researcher has received International Incoming Fellowship (IIF) grant in Turkey. The University has fruitful collaborations with European universities through the financial support provided by the Framework Programs, which enhanced the research capacity of the institution. Koç University is actively participating in the Erasmus program. The University actively participates in the international, academic, and research programmes financed via grants issued by various institutions, foundations and private sector actors such as Koc University – Surface Science and Technology Center (funded by State Planning Organization with ~10.000.000 USD) and Koc University-Energy Research Center (funded by TUPRAS with ~5.000.000 USD).



SABANCI UNIVERSITY (<http://www.sabanciuniv.edu>) is one of the highest-ranking research universities in Turkey. Since its establishment in 1999, via over 150 million Euros of investment by Sabancı Group (the second largest conglomerate in Turkey), many national and international research projects were initiated in cooperation with various national and international institutions. Current research grants and contracts have reached 31.8 million Euros where by EU FP6 and FP7 grants constitute almost 25 percent of this portfolio. SU was the leading university in terms of funding per faculty member in FP6. SU research team has previously conducted research on privacy preserving data analysis and embedded system security in the context of several projects from FP5, FP6, and FP7 under FET Open scheme. In particular, CODMINE (Confidentiality of Data against Data Mining Methods) project from FP5, GeoPKDD (Geographic Privacy-aware Knowledge Discovery and Delivery) from FP6, and MODAP (Mobility, Data Mining, and Privacy) from FP7 were all from Future and Emerging Technologies Open scheme and MODAP is being coordinated by SU.

KOÇ UNIVERSITY key faculty members that will be involved in this consortium are:

- A. Murat Tekalp [<http://home.ku.edu.tr/~mtekalp/>]
- Ozgur B. Akan [<http://home.ku.edu.tr/~akan/>]
- Sibel Salman [<http://home.ku.edu.tr/~ssalman/>]
- Metin Turkay [<http://home.ku.edu.tr/~mturkay/>]
- Can Erkey [<http://home.ku.edu.tr/~cerkey/>]
- Alptekin Kupcu [<http://home.ku.edu.tr/~akupcu/>]
- Sinem Ergen [<http://home.ku.edu.tr/~sergen/>]
- Suleyman Ozekici [<http://home.ku.edu.tr/~sozekici/>]
- Ceyda Oğuz [<http://home.ku.edu.tr/~coguz/>]

- Emine Yilmaz [<http://home.ku.edu.tr/~eyilmaz/>]

SABANCI UNIVERSITY key faculty members that will be involved in this consortium are:

- Yucel Saygin [<http://people.sabanciuniv.edu/ysaygin/>]
- Erkey Savas [<http://people.sabanciuniv.edu/esavas/>]
- Albert Levi [<http://people.sabanciuniv.edu/alevi/>]
- Nilay Noyan [<http://people.sabanciuniv.edu/nnoyan/>]
- Ozgur Gurbuz [<http://people.sabanciuniv.edu/ogurbuz/>]
- Ozgur Ercetin [<http://people.sabanciuniv.edu/oercetin/>]

TÜBİTAK key researchers that will be part of the FuturICT-TR consortium are:

- Alper Kanak, EU Projects Programme Manager
- Thomas Brochmann Pedersen
- Salih Ergun
- Hüseyin Demirci
- İsa Kıyat
- Hüseyin Aslan
- Muhammet Ali Can
- Atilla Hasekioğlu
- Aydın Yeniay
- Çağatay Karabat
- Mehmet Sabır Kiraz