

ETH Zurich
Prof. Dr. Dirk Helbing
Chair of Sociology, in particular of Modeling and Simulation
CLUE 1
ClausiusstraBe 50
8092 Zurich
Switzerland

Dear Professor Dirk Helbing,

On behalf of the Lisbon University Institute (ISCTE-IUL), I would like to express our full support of the FuturICT Flagship initiative.

ISCTE-IUL is a high-quality public university institute and one of the most dynamic and innovative in Portugal, mainly in the areas of Management and Economics, Sociology and Public Policy, Social Sciences and Humanities, Information and Communication Technologies and Architecture. ISCTE-IUL consistently aims for higher levels of excellence, innovation, internationalization and entrepreneurship. The Institute has a strong link to and impact in science, economy and society. Currently ISCTE-IUL has about 8000 students, a half of them in doctoral and master programs, and 400 professors. ISCTE-IUL is a research university with a multidisciplinary and inter-disciplinary approach, including nine research units that conduct excellent research and continuously run more than 200 scientific projects. In the specific research area of FutureICT, the Centre for Research and Studies in Sociology (CIES-ISCTE) is leading the interdisciplinary research in social science domains, including 102 researchers actually in activity. CIES has been granted the unusual label of "Excellent Laboratory" by the Portuguese Government, distinguishing the best laboratories in the country. Namely, CIES integrates "The Observatorium" research group, whose activities, as you know, are very closely related to the scientific aims of FutureICT.

ISCTE-IUL intends to develop its research in the line of FutureICT goals, contributing with about 1 M € for a three year period to the development of FutureICT related projects within ISCTE-IUL, through various means including national and international research projects. Around 30 researchers will be affected to FutureICT related projects during this period. ISCTE-IUL will be pleased to allow the use of its facilities for research and also for organising the FutureICT national community, as it has been happening during the current phase of the project. Our commitment will be valuable while allowed by the economic climate of our country and of our institution, and while justified by the participation of our researchers in the project.



Luis Reto
Rector