

Subject: Support Letter for FuturICT Flagship Project

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The Ministry of Development, which is responsible for assessment of public institutions' investment projects and allocation of necessary grants for these projects through Annual Investment Program and facilitating international research and innovation collaboration through the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP) Information and Communication Technologies Policy Support Programme (ICT PSP), supports the initiative by the European Commission to coordinate a Europewide research effort towards visionary technological targets and launching FuturICT Flagship Initiatives.

Between 2003-2011, the Ministry of Development funded ICT and Security research areas being considered for cooperation with FuturICT have a total funding volume approx. €4.2 billion increasing year by year and provide a broad basis for possible collaborations with FuturICT. To justify its relevance, The Ministry of Development has supported national projects in the relevant fields in line with Turkey's eTransformation and building a knowledge society initiative, i.e. Turkey's citizenship card project and multimedia security eInfrastructure project.

According to Investment Program Preparation Guide, which is published in the Official Gazette annually, ICT projects are considered among the privileged projects for funding. In case the FuturICT Flagship will be selected, the Ministry shall consider the project as a privileged project in order to provide matching support for the purpose of research capacity improvement to research groups in the FuturICT Flagship in line with the objectives defined and resources available within our organization.

Sincerely yours,

Emin Sadık AYDIN

Emin Sadil AVDIN

Head of Information Society Department