

To whom it may concern

As legal representative of Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna, I hereby confirm our interest and willingness to participate and support the initiative "Candidate Flagship FuturICT", coordinated by Prof. Dirk Helbing, ETH Zurich, that will be submitted in response to the next call for proposal of the FET-ICT Programme.

The themes that the FuturICT flagship wants to address are critically relevant for the development of new concepts, methods and models in all areas of Information and Communication Technologies, including physics and mathematics, and will find useful applications towards the development of a sustainable society.

Indeed, modern society is increasingly facing challenges deriving from economic instabilities and extreme dynamics in social behavior, raising the necessity for sustainable development to ensure proper quality of life in large metropolitan areas. These challenges require an effort at the European level and in an interdisciplinary scientific context. We consider the FuturICT flagship project as a fundamental step for a coordinated action to cope with future crises in complex social-economic systems.

A cluster of Departments (Physics, Mathematics, Computer Science, Electronics Computer Engineering and Systems) at the University of Bologna have the competence to fruitfully integrate their research skills with those of the mentioned flagship program.

Members of these Departments have strong expertise in many aspects of ICT, including mathematical models and methods for social systems, computer networks, next generation telecommunication networks, nanotechnologies, context and ambient aware applications, nanotechnologies, wireless sensor networks, embedded systems, photonics, robotics, complex systems and bio-inspired computing.

The reference persons within our organization are:

Prof. Armando Bazzani, Department of Physics

Proff. Pierluigi Contucci and Mirko Degli Esposti, Department of Mathematics

Prof. Ozalp Babaoglu, Department of Computer Science

Prof. Giovanni Emanuele Corazza, Department of Electronics, Computer Engineering and Systems

Bologna, 25 November 2010

Name and Position of Legal Representative Prof. Emilio Ferrari

Deputy Rector