

# FUTURE INTERNET RESEARCH ALLIANCE – AN OPEN INITIATIVE TOWARDS A FUTURE INTERNET WITH INDUSTRIAL RELEVANCE AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT



## THE FUTURE INTERNET

The usage of the Internet has broadened significantly – and Europe’s citizens not only communicate online, but work online, self-educate, sell and shop, play, and even date online. Besides penetrating personal spaces, the Internet has fundamentally transformed business life and how enterprises conduct business. Meanwhile the Future Internet faces major disruptive challenges foremost on the application and services layer as well as the integration of its building blocks.

Guiding the evolution of the Future Internet in the present multi-stakeholder environment is a considerable challenge that requires profound understanding of business models and their technological enablers. It is high-time to consolidate and advance these discussions

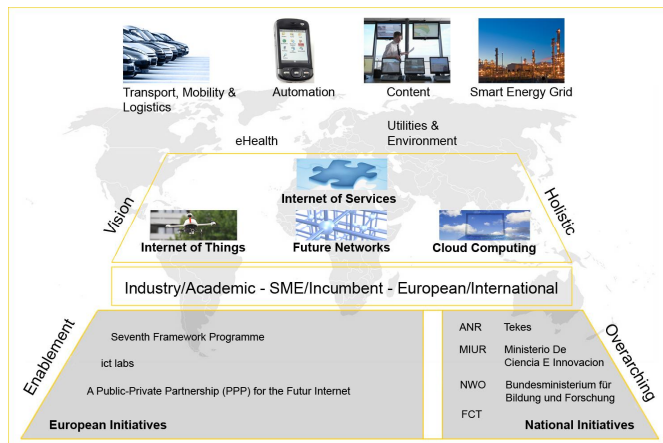
## THE FIRA MISSION

FIRA will focus its efforts to become the European reference point for the Future Internet related technology innovations (R&D) and provide the overarching guidance that enables the many activities (e.g. research) to ultimately converge towards an innovation enabling Future Internet. FIRA will be instrumental for helping making sense out of and impact with research on FI by providing a programmatic view on available technology for integration and missing pieces for R&D actions.

## THE FIRA APPROACH

In order to effectively meet the objectives the FIRA has chosen to adopt the following approach to its organization and processes:

- The FIRA is built around an open group of technical experts in their respective field who to the best of their knowledge contribute to define a sound technical agenda for FIRA that focuses on the cross-sector innovation-enabling capabilities of the FI.  
The FIRA research agenda is a technologically-driven research agenda meeting end users demands. It will be promoted on a technology as well as a political level.
- On a technical level the FIRA is developing a comprehensive set of Future Internet “Principles” that provide a framework for system and application design that supports the development of new FI applications by technology and business mash-ups and will actively evangelize them.
- The FIRA considers the inclusion of end users in the various different sectors – not restricted to ICT – as key for its success.



- The FIRA strives for providing support to achieve a European FI technology convergence for/in the process of the setup of new research projects for as many instruments as possible that contribute to the development of the FI in Europe.
- FIRA wants to become a trusted advisor for European and national research program including but not restricted to EIT KIC ICT, FP7 FI PPP and FP8.
- The FIRA aims at a stronger exploitation of synergistic effects across project borders. In particular the FIRA members being active in various research projects commit to the alignment of these projects according to FIRA principles.

In order to provide a strong basis for interaction with end users the FIRA is actively promoting the establishing of pan-European Living Labs where technology can be validated with end users in a controlled environment.

The FIRA is built on the principle that it will

- leverage the FIRA members’ participation in the various FP7 coordination activities to actively contribute to the definition of FI principles and influence running and future FP7/8 projects;
- spin-off joint proposal activities out of the FIRA members to implement the FIRA vision using available funding opportunities on a pan-European level. These proposals are based on the alignment with FIRA principles and to the continuous advancement of these principles in the course of their respective projects.

Thomas Michael Bohnert  
Director FIRA  
SAP Research CEC Zurich

Email: thomas.michael.bohnert@sap.com