Introduction of the ICES Foundation - participation at IFIP WSIS June 2017 (Final version)

The main challenge of humanity in the 21st Century is to integrate the great pools of scientific knowledge that have thus far been accumulated, and to synthesize these assets into a deep holistic public understanding of the planet on which we live. The tools needed to do this include digital modelling, simulation and visualization, utilizing an array of modern computing platforms and open data from public sources and sensor networks. Based in Geneva, the International Centre for Earth Simulation (ICES Foundation) has established a not-for-profit, non-political platform to carry out this work on a global basis. It can partner with the appropriate UN agencies to develop a modern real-time, interactive, immersive decision-support platform to aid in the achievement of all 17 SDGs. In particular, it can bring clarity to the interaction of natural and socio-economic systems, especially where climate change, global warming, extreme weather, sea-level rise, flood, drought, public safety, health & education, infectious disease, earthquake, tsunami, landslide, wildfire and other hazards to life on Earth are involved, and the likelihood of disaster is high.

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