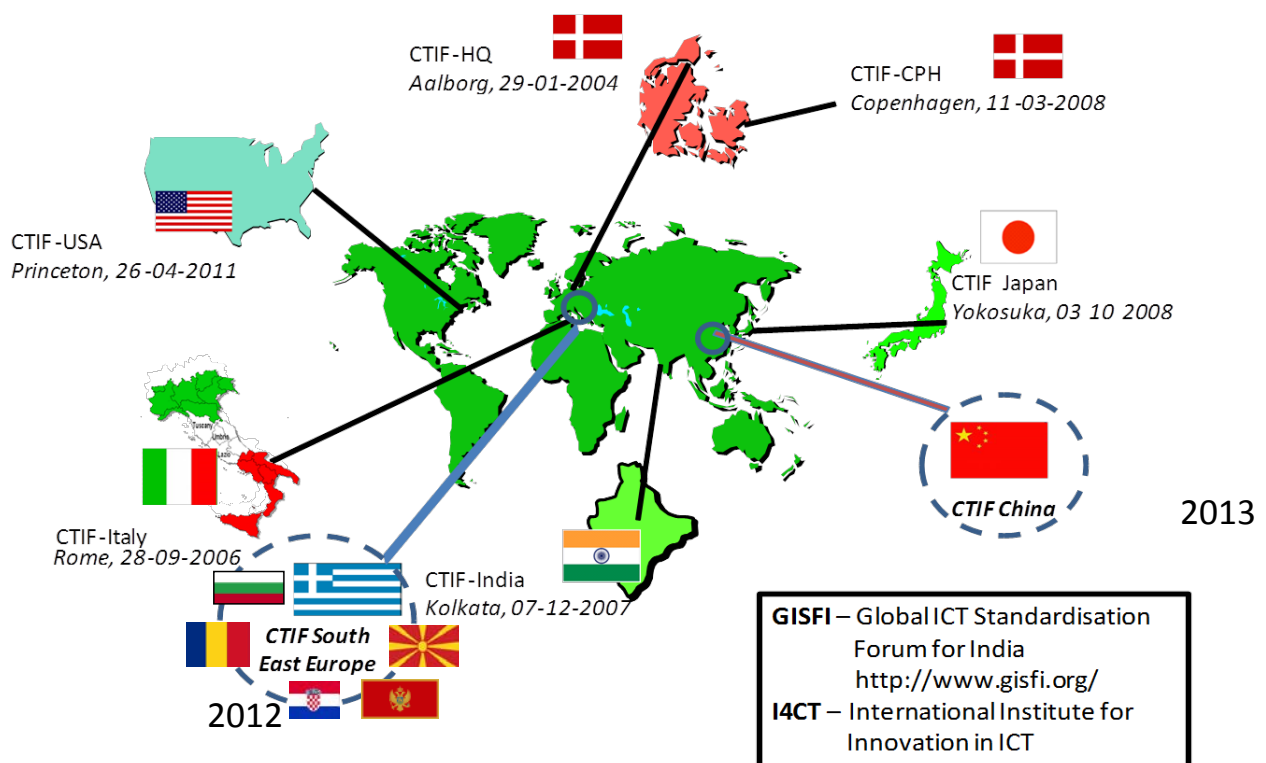


# CTIF-South-East Europe: A Paradigm in Institution Mobility for Higher Education and Research

*Draft Concept*

## Introduction

The Center for TeleInfrastruktur (CTIF)-South-East Europe is proposed as a division of CTIF-Global, which is an ICT-based inter-/cross disciplinary research center with focus on scientific innovation and academic education. The current and expected distributions of the divisions of CTIF-Global worldwide are shown in Fig.1:



Figur 1 Worldwide distributions of CTIF-Global divisions with expectations for 2012 and 2013.

## Mission and Vision

CTIF South-East Europe complements the CTIF-Global cross-border educational and research activities by strengthening the existing CTIF networks in the region of South East Europe and by introducing new scientific potential to those existing collaborations.

The mission of CTIF-South East Europe is to build upon the cooperation framework of CTIF-Global to establish a **Telecommunications Laboratory for Fundamental and Transformative Research with Global Impact** while supporting virtual student and research staff mobility.

CTIF-South East Europe will function as a research and academic center within CTIF-Global with focus on fundamental telecommunications research and education. Both, fundamental theory and business perspectives will be part of the educational program.

## **Motivation**

The seating of CTIF South Europe will be at AIT in Athens, Greece. The reason for this is the already year-long cooperation at PhD level between AIT and CTIF, AAU. Since the signing of the MoU in 2008, a total of 15 students have been pursuing their PhD degree, with one student already graduated with a PhD degree from Aalborg University and several expected to complete in 2012. CTIF has signed cooperation agreements with Croatia- University of Zagreb and University of Dubrovnik ; Bulgaria-Technical University of Sofia; Romania-University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest; Montenegro-University of Montenegro; Republic of Macedonia- University of Cyril I Methodius, Skopje.

Under the umbrella of CTIF South East Europe, these cooperation will produce an increased number of students graduating with a single or joint degree, and will give the benefits of a foreign study culture to the students of the countries part of the CTIF South East Europe at a low personal cost and a beneficial spillover of the higher education sector of the country of their origin.

Financial support will be sought by means of project funding from industrial, EU and national funds.

## **Structure and Organisation**

CTIF-Global is the body that will manage and head the CTIF-South East Europe activities together with the CTIF-South East Europe Board. CTIF-South East Europe will also be supervised by the CTIF Executive Board.

CTIF-Global will handle the transfer and sharing of research staff among divisions and across external and internal networks with CTIF-South East Europe:

- Joint PhD supervisions
- Joint research projects
- Exchange of senior staff
- Joint Master's program