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Andrés Segura – Coordinator of the Technological Research and Innovation Laboratory, UNED

Coordinator of the Technological Research and Innovation Laboratory (LIIT) at the Distance State University (UNED), Andrés Segura-Castillo holds a degree in Computer Science and Informatics from the University of Costa Rica and a master's degree in Technology Management from the Open University of England. His research interests encompass digital transformation in higher education, technology management with a focus on innovation, systemic inquiry as a scientific practice, and social network analysis using Big Data. Andrés has led numerous research and innovation projects in diverse fields such as technology management, media analysis, bioinformatics, communication technologies, systemic inquiry, social simulation, social network analysis, and education. Since 2009, he has represented UNED on the State Scientific Research Indicators Commission of the National Council of Rectors of Costa Rica. Additionally, he currently serves as chair of the Engineering in Medicine and Biology (EMB) chapter of the IEEE in Costa Rica, where he champions the adoption of innovative and cost-effective technologies in these fields.

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Cecilia Paredes – Rector, ESPOL

Cecilia Paredes Verduga is currently President (Rector) at Escuela Superior Politécnica del Litoral, ESPOL, in Guayaquil – Ecuador, elected in November 2017 and re-elected in 2022 for another 5 year period. She joined the Mechanical Engineering Department at ESPOL at 2001 and became Assistant Dean in the same department in 2005. She also served as a member of the Research Council from 2010 to 2012, and was elected Provost from 2012 to 2017. Her teaching interests range from materials science to entrepreneurship. Her research and development activities led her to initiate the Center for Research and Development of Nanotechnology and the Laboratory for Materials Testing at ESPOL. She became a member of the Ecuadorian Higher Education Council during 2010 and 2011, and President of the Latin American and Caribbean Consortium of Engineering Institutions (LACCEI). Currently, involved in promoting initiatives to the increase the number of women in science and engineering programs, and promote gender equality. She is a mechanical engineer from ESPOL and received a M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in Ceramic Science and Engineering from Rutgers University at New Brunswick – NJ, USA.

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Crista Ureña – Project Assistant, RedCONARE

Crista Ureña Chanto is a Project Assistant with a degree in Public Administration with an emphasis on Banking and Finance. Experienced in the public sector at both national and international levels. Currently, she serves as an assistant for the SPIDER project on behalf of Red CONARE in Costa Rica.

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Genoveva Vargas – Senior Scientist, CNRS

Genoveva Vargas-Solar is a principal scientist at the French Council of Scientific Research (CNRS) and a regular member of the Mexican Academia of Computing. She has a Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches (HDR) from the University of Grenoble, a PhD in Computer Science from University Joseph Fourier, a PhD in Literature from University Stendhal, and Master's degrees in both fields. Her research focuses on distributed and heterogeneous databases, reflexive systems, and service-based database systems, with applications in various domains like Astronomy, Biology, and Industry 4.0. She advocates for data and AI decolonization, decolonial feminism, and coordinates diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives in data science. She has led multiple research projects funded by governments and industry, promoting scientific cooperation between Latin America and Europe.

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Gianmaria Bonagura – Economist and Data Analyst, WFP

A Data Scientist and Economist with experience at the United Nations – World Food Programme (WFP), the European Central Bank, Banca d'Italia, and Prometeia, brings extensive expertise in economic analysis, statistical methods, and the digitalization of data collection and corporate processes. Passionate about democratizing data, systems, and information through Open Data and Open Source initiatives, he specializes in developing and utilizing digital tools to streamline data generation, ensuring efficient and accurate data management. His skills include leveraging advanced analytical tools and developing integrated data management ecosystems to support data-driven decision-making and evidence-based policies.

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Carlos Gamboa – Scientific Coordinator, RedCONARE

Carlos Gamboa holds a degree in Computer Engineering and a Master's in Computer Science from the Technological Institute of Costa Rica. He currently serves as the Scientific Coordinator of Costa Rica's research and education network, RedCONARE. Additionally, Mr. Gamboa serves as a researcher at the National Collaboratory of Advanced Computing within the National Center for High Technology. In this role, he has conducted research in Bioinformatics, Data Science, Artificial Intelligence, Advanced Infrastructure, and Educational Technologies

WG1**Juan Pablo Carvallo** – Executive Director, CEDIA

Juan Pablo Carvallo is the Executive Director of the Ecuadorian National Research and Education Network (CEDIA), teacher of the Azuay University, Cuenca, Ecuador, and independent consultant in the field of Information Technologies. He received his master degree in “Advanced Broadcast, Networks, Systems and Services” and his PhD in software engineering from the Catalonia Tech University, Barcelona, Spain. His research interests include software quality, software process improvement, hybrid systems architecture and requirements engineering among other. He served as Conference Chair, Program Committee Co-chair and Program Committee member, in several international conferences, and acted both as reviewer and author of papers in several conferences and journals, including IEEE RE, IEEE Software, Software Process Improvement and Practice, and Journal of Computer Science and Technology. He is the author of over 80 international scientific publications, including 47 indexed in SCOPUS.

WG1**Karina Gibert** – Full Professor, UPC

Full Professor at the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya-BarcelonaTech (UPC). Bachelor, Master and PhD in Computer Science with specialisations in computational statistics and artificial intelligence. Director and co-founder of the Intelligent Data Science and Artificial Intelligence research centre at UPC (IDEAI-UPC, 2018-). Dean of the Illustrious Official College of Informatics Engineering of Catalonia (COEINF, 2023-). Expert and co-author of the Catalan Strategy for Artificial Intelligence Catalonia.AI (Catalan Government, 2018-). Advisor to the Catalan, Spanish, and European Commission governments on AI ethics and digital transformation. Awards: WomenTech Award 2023 (Women360), National Award for Informatics Engineering 2023 (General Council of Informatics Engineering Colleges of Spain), Ada Byron Award 2022 (College of Computer Engineering of Galicia), donaTIC2018 Award (GenCat). Creu Casas Mention 2020-2021 (IEC).

WG1**Lucrezia Collu** – Innovation Analyst, EIT Digital

Innovation Analyst at EIT Digital with extensive experience in researching digital technologies in the agritech field and managing open innovation. She holds a BSc in Economics and an MSc in Management. At EIT Digital, she is responsible for implementing EU projects and overseeing education activities focused on addressing the gender gap.

WG1**Manuel José Damásio** – Associate Professor, Lusófona University

Ph.D Manuel José Damásio is an Associate Professor and the Head of the Film and Media Arts Department at Lusófona University in Lisbon, Portugal. His professional background covers different domains and areas of expertise in the fields of audiovisual and media production. He is the chair of GEECT – the European association of film and media schools and a member of the board of CILECT – International association of film and media schools. He is the coordinator of FilmEU – The European University of Film and Media Arts.

WG1**Marcelo Jenkins** – Full Professor at the School of Computer Science and Informatics, UCR

Marcelo Jenkins holds a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science and Informatics from the University of Costa Rica (UCR), and a Master's (1989) and Ph.D. (1992) in Computer Science and Informatics with an emphasis in software engineering from the University of Delaware, USA. With 33 years of university teaching experience, he is currently a full professor at the School of Computer Science and Informatics at the University of Costa Rica, where he teaches graduate courses in software engineering. Dr. Jenkins has conducted research projects in software engineering and quality assurance, authored over 100 technical articles, and won the 1997 National Science and Technology Award for his work on the application of software engineering standards in Costa Rica. As an independent IT consultant, he specializes in software engineering and quality assurance, and has delivered lectures and seminars to professionals in over 10 countries for the past 25 years. He served as Costa Rica's Minister of Science, Technology, and Telecommunications from 2015 to 2017 and became a certified software quality engineer (CSQE) by ASQ in 2003.

WG1**Marko Beko** – Professor, Universidade Lusófona

Marko Beko was born in Belgrade, Serbia. He received the Ph.D. degree in electrical and computer engineering from the Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal, in 2008. He was the recipient of the title of a Professor with Habilitation of electrical and computer engineering from the Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Lisbon, in 2018. He was the recipient of the 2008 IBM Portugal Scientific Award. According to the methodology proposed by Stanford University, he was among the most influential researchers in the world between 2019 and 2022, when he joined the list of top 2% of scientists whose work is most cited by other colleagues in the field of Information and Communication Technologies. He is one of the Founders of Koala Tech.

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María Georgina García – President, Clúster Médico Jalisco

María Georgina García Martínez holds a Medical Degree from Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara (UAG) and specializes in Clinical Pediatrics. He has been serving as President of Clúster Médico Jalisco AC since 2016 and was a member of the Governing Board of the UMAE de Pediatría de Centro Médico, Nacional Occidente until May 2022. He is an advisor on health issues for the Madrid City Council in Mexico and an evaluator for the Start Up Building Programme at Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara with Banco Santander. She collaborates with the German Healthcare Alliance and UNICEF Mexico, promoting projects for children and adolescents, and advocates for the 'First 1000 Days' public policy. He liaises with embassies from several countries to promote health research and business projects. Additionally, he is a member of SIPINNA in Jalisco, the Citizens' Sectoral Council for Social Development Planning and Measurement, and the Ethical Alliance for Health.

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Mario A. Castaño – Technical Director, CINTEL

Electrical Engineer from Universidad de los Andes (1987), with graduate degrees in Telematics (1989) from the same university, and Engineering Management (1995) and Economics (2005) from Universidad Javeriana. He worked in the areas of ICT research, development, planning and marketing projects in the Research Centre of the Faculty of Engineering (CIFI) of the Universidad de los Andes (Colombia), IKERLAN Technology Research Centre (Spain) and ITEC – TELECOM (Colombia). He is currently the Chief Technical Officer of CINTEL, the Colombian ICT Innovation and Development Center, where he coordinates the activities of the Centre and conducts applied research, studies and advisory services and training in the technological, strategic and regulatory aspects of the ICT industry, with professional emphasis on innovation, market analysis, strategy, regulation, and business opportunities for technology companies. He has been Professor of Graduate and Continuing Education at the University of the Andes and has participated as a speaker at several conferences and seminars at national and international levels.

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Miguel González – Professor, Tecnológico de Monterrey

Miguel González Mendoza holds a BSc in Electronics from Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico, MSc and PhD degrees in Artificial Intelligence from the Institut National des Sciences Appliquées (INSA) in Toulouse, France. Interest in Machine Learning, Data Management and Computer Vision applications, in which he has advised 15 PhD thesis and 32 Master's Thesis. Author of more than 120 articles in JCR, congresses and book chapters. From 1999 to 2004 he was research assistant, then postdoc at the Laboratory for Analysis and Architecture of Systems (LAAS-CNRS) in Toulouse, France. Since 2004, he works as professor at the Computer Science Department at Tecnológico de Monterrey. Coordinator of 15 national research projects (CONACYT) since 2005. Local coordinator of six European Projects FP6 and FP7 (2005-2015) and three on H2020. Member of the Mexican National System of Researchers, SNI, rank II (Jan 2016), member since 2006. President of the Mexican Society for Artificial Intelligence (2016-2018), Vice-president (2015-2016), Secretary (2011-2014), member of the board since 2008. Regular Member of the Mexican Academy of Sciences (since 2019). Regular Member of the Mexican Academy of Computing (since 2015). Young Scientist at the World Economic Forum for New Champions in Tianjin China in September 2012.

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Orestis Trasanidis – Managing Director, EIT Hub Silicon Valley

He has been involved in several innovation projects and has academic work on decision making. In recent years, he has been working at EIT Digital on developing sustainable open innovation ecosystems. He holds MSc degrees in ICT, Smart Cities, and Environmental Engineering. As the EIT AI Leader, he leads AI initiatives, coordinates projects, and leads a Community, developing tools, contributing to policy reports, and representing EIT Digital in international fora engagement. Moreover, he is the Managing Director of EIT hub Silicon Valley, working on transatlantic synergies and access to US and EU programs, aiming to bridge the ecosystems.

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Paula Alexandra Silva – Assistant Professor, University of Coimbra

Paula Alexandra Silva is a passionate scientist and educator, who believes in the power of design, values and empathy to drive positive change in the world. With a background in Human-Computer Interaction, she applies user research, human-centred design, participatory and co-design approaches, and tailored usability and user experience evaluation methods to advance digital health, accessible computing, and digital interactive systems that can inspire a world where everyone feels included and is able to participate in society. Born in South Africa but primarily raised in Portugal, she returned home to Portugal, after enriching experiences in the UK, Hawaii, Ireland, and various other locations.

WG1**Manuel Yubero** – Project Manager, FIIAPP

Manuel is a lawyer and Project Manager at FIIAPP. He has experience in the negotiation and coordination of digital projects in areas such as change management, Artificial Intelligence, data protection, cybersecurity and e-government. He has participated in various EU-LAC policy dialogues on digitalization in the framework of different regional programmes.

WG1**Steffan Gómez** – Researcher in Data Science, State of the Nation Program

Costa Rican. Political scientist. Researcher and university professor. With extensive experience in research projects in Latin America and Costa Rica. Areas of work: human development, democracy and elections, political culture, social policy, big data, and complex data visualization.

WG1**Paul Fervoy** – Chief Executive Officer, SIFTIA

With 29 years of experience in the ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) sector across the USA and Latin America, they have led technology-driven companies, founded startups that merged with regional firms, and directed multidisciplinary teams in data science and engineering. As a speaker and educator in digital marketing and data-driven automation, they currently collaborate with Siftia, specializing in data product engineering across Costa Rica, Mexico, and New York. Additionally, they serve as Honorary President of CAMTIC, representing Costa Rica's ICT industry, and Vice President of ALETI, the Ibero-American Federation of Technology-Based Business Associations. Their commitment spans industry, academia, civil society, and public sector commissions, advocating for the transformative power of digital technologies to enhance market value, citizen transparency, civil society engagement, and equitable access.

WG1**Manuel Mora** – Director of Research and Technological Development, Micitt

Director of Research and Technological Development at the Ministry of Science, Innovation, Technology, and Telecommunications of Costa Rica

WG1**Ignacio Trejos** – Director of Research, Club de Investigación Tecnológica y Tecnológico de Costa Rica

University professor of Computer Science since 1984 at the Costa Rica Institute of Technology (Full Professor). Co-Founder, Professor, and former Rector of Cenfotec University. Interests: Software Engineering, Programming Languages, Computer Science Education. Directed more than 35 Master's theses, published 40 technical or scientific articles, published over 240 opinion or dissemination articles, delivered more than 200 lectures. 'Green and Intelligent' award from CAMTIC, 2018. Award for Merit in Computer Science Education and Research by the College of Professionals in Computer Science and Computing, 2000. British Council Scholar, 1989 – 1993.

WG1**Andrea Mora** – Academic Advisor, Universidad Nacional

Coordinator of the Information and Visibility Process for R&D&I and serves as an academic advisor on Open Science, covering academic and scientific journals, the Institutional Academic Repository, the Academic Network, and Research Data Management. Additionally, manages the Support Fund for academic and scientific journals, the Translation and Publication Fund for scientific articles, and member of the Institutional Open Government Commission, the CONARE Open Science Commission, La Referencia Costa Rica, and the Central American Open Science Group – CSUCA.

WG1**Emmanuel Picado** – IT Director, IICA

Manager of Information and Communication Technologies and Digital Agriculture, with over 15 years of experience in implementing and managing information and communication technologies. Researching and implementing knowledge management strategies, focusing on how information and communication technologies contribute to achieving business strategic objectives or the successful completion of projects. Currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Business Sciences.

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Allan Campos – Researcher in Data Science, State of the Nation Program

Electromechanical Engineer with master's degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Business Administration. He holds patents as an inventor registered in Costa Rica and the United States and is published as an inventor in the United States Patent and Trademark Office. He worked for 7 years as a technological analyst at the Presidential House of the Government of Costa Rica. Additionally, he has held the position of After-Sales Manager at AutoSueca (representative of Volvo in Central America). For 24 years, he has been a Physics and Mechanics professor at various universities in Costa Rica. Since 2011, he has been the Director of the Environmental Management Area at CENAT/CONARE and for 22 years he has managed national and international projects in technological and business linkage issues at this institution. He has been logistics coordinator for multiple national and international congresses such as ISRSE-2007 and 2009, ICANN-43 (2012), Global Youth Summit-ITU/UN-2013, ELAN-2015 to 2017, Tunnel of Science, and WRO-2017, among others.

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Moisés Torres – Executive Director, CUDI

Dr. Moisés Torres Martínez has been appointed General Director of CUDI. With a background in information technology and education, he has held leadership roles at institutions like UNADM and Paragon Technologies. He's a prominent figure in supercomputing and has contributed to projects in Mexico and internationally. Torres holds a PhD in Educational Administration from UCLA.

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Martha Imelda Madero Villanueva – Academic Coordinator, CUDI

Martha is a seasoned educator with a master's in education. She currently coordinates academic programs at CUDI, a leading institution in Mexico's online education. With over 20 years of experience, she has contributed to various virtual education initiatives and held key positions at UACJ and CIITA. Villanueva has a strong background in both education and technology. She participates in different nation-wide virtual and online education initiatives. She is a member of the 'Red Late México' and the Educational Technology for Virtual and Online Education group which is a part of the National Association of Universities and Higher Education Institutions (ANUIES).

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Leandro Neumann Ciuffo – e-Science and Advanced Cyberinfrastructure, RNP

Associate Director for e-Science and Advanced Cyberinfrastructure in the Directorate of RD&I at RNP (Brazil's National Research and Education Network). His work includes interacting with scientific communities concerning new approaches to advanced network use. Currently, Leandro is involved in research projects on the topics of future internet, blockchain, open science, and high-speed data transfers. From 2006 to 2009 he worked with Grid Computing and e-Science projects at INFN-Catania (Italy), being responsible for dissemination and user support activities. Leandro holds a M.Sc. in Computer Science from the Federal Fluminense University (UFF) in Brazil.

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Belén Aguero Research Director, Political Watch

Research director at Political Watch, a think and do tank based in Madrid, with a background in cooperation policies, sustainable development and civic technologies.