

Mario Franco  
President of FCM - Foundation for Mobile Communications

Mario made studies in philosophy. His background is linked to the associative structures in different areas from youth to development and environment. Later on he dedicated to public policy, focussing on Information and Communication Technologies. As from 1995 he has been involved in eInclusion projects and programs at national and international level.

In 2008 he assumed the post of President of [FCM - Foundation for Mobile Communications](#) having previously been coordinator of the Portuguese Information Society Fund – preceding FCM. Mario leads a team that has developed and managed the e.School Program. This Program has allowed the access to a mobile computer and internet to 1.7 million people in Portugal, considered one of the most successful initiatives in this field.

As manager of the e.School Program, Mario has been working with many companies, governments and institutions, in particular he chaired the International Expert Group of [World Telecommunication Policy Forum](#) (WTPF) organized by the [International Telecommunication Union](#) (ITU) and he has been a member of the Strategy Council of The [Global Alliance for Information and Communication Technologies and Development](#) (GAID) of the United Nations.

From 1996 to 2004, he was Chairman of the [Foundation for the Promotion of Information Technology](#) (FDTI) and afterwards he worked as a consultant until 2008.

As a follow up of his experience in education and technology at different levels, including international level, Mario is now coordinating the **Millennium@EDU Program** <http://millenniumedu.org> to make accessible the information, communication and scientific technologies (ICSTs) to learning, education and inclusion under comprehensive initiatives with impact in local socio-economic development. The **Millennium@EDU Program** is committed to contribute for the United Nations Secretary-general Initiative “Education First” <http://www.globaleducationfirst.org>.