Francesco Ricci is associate professor in the Faculty of Computer Science, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, since October 2006. He was previously senior researcher and the technical director of eCommerce and Tourism Research Lab at ITC-irst. He participated to several international research projects such as: etPackaging (funded by ECCA), European Tourist Destination Portal (funded by European Travel Commission), Harmoten (funded by IST), DieToRecs (Intelligent Recommendation for Tourist Destination Decision Making, funded by IST), Harmonise (funded by, IST), CARICA (Cases Acquisition and Reply In fire Campaigns Ambience, funded by IST), CHARADE (Combining Human Assessment and Reasoning Aids for Decision-making in environmental Emergencies, funded by IST). Francesco Ricci is the major designer of Trip@dvice, a recommendation technology that has been licensed to a spin-off company for industrial exploitation in 2006. Trip@dvice has been integrated in several tourism web portals, such as www.visit.europe.com, www.veneto.to, www.atl.biella.it, www.visitfinland.com.

Francesco Ricci received the degree in Mathematics from the University of Padova in 1983. From 1984 to 1986, he was a Ph.D. student at Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, Italy. From 1986 to 1987, he was with Enichem S.p.A., Milano, Italy, where he was engaged in developing expert systems and office automation applications. Since 1988 he has been a researcher at ITC-irst, where he was responsible for European projects and internal divisions (Expert System group, Knowledge Representation Lab.). From 1998 to 2000 he worked with Sodalia S.p.A. (software factory for the telecommunication market) as software architect, designing the corporate web application model. From 2000 to 2006 was the director of a research laboratory focussed on eCommerce and Tourism (eCTRL) at ITC-irst, Trento.

His current research interests include information retrieval, recommender systems, human-computer interaction, mobile services, constraint satisfaction problems, machine learning, case-based reasoning. Francesco Ricci is Senior Research Fellow of National Laboratory for Tourism and eCommerce, University of Temple, Philadelphia (USA). He has been contract professor at University of Trento and Technical University Vienna. He is the author of many scientific publications appeared on international journals (Communication of ACM, IEEE PAMI, IEEE Expert, Applied Intelligence, Int. J. of Int. Systems, Journal of Information Technology and Tourism, International Journal of Electronic Commerce, User Modeling and User Adapted Interaction, etc.) and conferences proceedings (ECAI, ICML, ICCBR, ICTAI, ITS, RecSys, AH, UM, etc.). He has been in the programme committee of many international conferences (ECAI, ICCBR, ENTER, ICML, ECML-PKDD, etc.), he has co-chaired national and international conferences (ENTER2010, CARS09, RecSys08, ICSS06, ENTER05, ICCBR2005, ARS'05, IWCBR98, RPEC'02) and acts as a referee of international journals as IEEE PAMI, Machine Learning Journal, IEEE transaction on Data and Knowledge Engineering, User Modeling and User Adapted Interaction, and Computer Journal. Francesco Ricci is in the editorial board of Information Technology and Tourism Journal and in the steering committee of the ACM Conference on Recommender Systems.