DC-NET

Summary: Being an ERA-NET project DC-NET aims to develop and to strengthen the co-ordination among the European countries of public research programmes in the sector of the digital cultural heritage. The project will integrate the research capacities of the participant member states, will identify their commonalities and will valorise existing programmes and projects in order to initiate the deployment of a wide and comprehensive European e-Infrastructure that will increase the research capacities of the digital cultural heritage community. In particular, the DC-NET infrastructure is going to be an evolution of the MICHAEL service (www.michael-culture.org) that was developed by 21 European countries, between 2004 and 2008, with a total investment of over 90 million euro.

Objectives: The final objective of DC-NET is the deployment of a robust and comprehensive data infrastructure for the digital cultural heritage that will include a wide range of end-to-end services and tools facilitating the integration and strengthening of the research capacities in the sector. This objective is pursued through a set of short, medium and long terms plans.

Action plan: The project consists of seven work-packages, which span the project lifecycle from the initial establishment of a community of common interest to the production of a Joint Activities Plan endorsed by the relevant government ministries of each Member State. The DC-NET project will contribute to the coordination of the research priorities of Ministries of Culture, their Agencies and other cultural bodies (museums, libraries, archives, audiovisual, archaeological sites, etc.) across Europe in the area of the eInfrastructures targeted to the digital cultural heritage. The project will coordinate the manner in which cultural actors can and should engage with national and European e-Infrastructures to generate innovative services, tools and data sets to support the research of multidisciplinary communities. A programme of seminars, workshops, meetings and conferences will involve all the relevant stakeholders. A plan of joint activities for e-Infrastructure-enabled research in the sector of digital cultural heritage will be generated and the joint activities will be initiated.

Coordination or support activities: The core activities of the DC-NET project focus on integration and coordination of the research programmes regarding digital cultural heritage which are owned and managed by Cultural (and Research) Ministries and their agencies, in close cooperation with the e-Infrastructures community across Europe.

Project acronym: DC-NET

Contract nº: RI-246618

Project type: CSA-CA

Start date: 01/12/2009

Duration: 24 months

Total budget: 716 336 €

Funding from the EC: 650 000 €

Total funded effort in person-month: 65

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Project participants:

ICCU	IT
MCC	FR
EVKM	EE
MKRS	SI
HMC	GR
RA	SE
OKM	HU
STIS	BE

Keywords:
e-Infrastructucture, digital cultural heritage

Collaboration with other EC funded projects:
CHARISMA
NET-HERITAGE
ATHENA

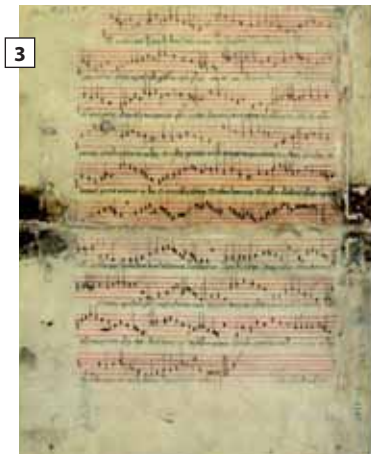
continued overleaf

As an ERA-NET coordination action, the main activity of the DC-NET project is to bring people together, to explore how e-Infrastructures can add value to the research in the cultural heritage sector and to pool programmes and resources to sustain the envisaged research and development. DC-NET will dedicate significant effort to events which bring stakeholders together to explore requirements and opportunities.

A large dissemination campaign is planned, including two Conferences, under the aegis of the Belgian and Hungarian Presidencies of the European Union, respectively in 2010 and 2011. A program of national training events is planned during the second half of 2011 in order to prepare the next implementation phase.

User communities
The new data e-Infrastructure that will result from the implementation of the DC-NET Joint Activities Plan is targeted towards a multidisciplinary virtual research community composed by ICT research centres and cultural institutions in order to improve their scientific collaboration, innovation capacities and port-folio of services through more empowered functions (access, searchability, storage, usability, visualisation, preservation, etc.). The Network of Common Interest established by DC-NET is composed of representatives of this community.

International aspects
Interest for participation in the European e-Infrastructure initiative has been expressed by other world regions, e.g. the Mediterranean Region and from China, which acknowledge the challenges offered by the digital cultural heritage for the development of the research e-Infrastructures and for the improvement of the services to the citizens, the education, the cultural tourists, the creative industry, etc.



1. Reading room, original church of the Jesuit College (XVII century), University Library of Genoa
2. Giovanni Vespucci, Universal Nautical Geo-map
3. Musical fragment (XV century)
4. Agro Veronensi, University of Padua
5. Sundial, Virgilio Spada Museum, Vallicelliana Library

Digital Cultural heritage NETwork — RI

e-infrastructure

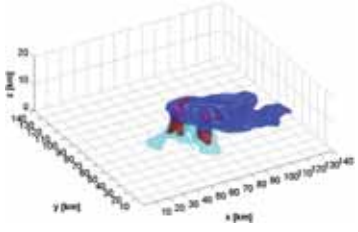
DRIHMS

Summary: In the Lisbon strategy, the 2005 European Council identified knowledge and innovation as the engines of sustainable growth and stated that it is essential to build a fully inclusive information society. In parallel, the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (Hyogo, 2005), defined among its thematic priorities the improvement of international cooperation in hydrometeorology research activities. This was confirmed at the Joint Press Conference of the Center for Research on Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED) with the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) Secretariat (2009), where it was noted that that flood and storm events are among the natural disasters that most impact human life.

Hydrometeorological science has made strong progress over the last decade at the European and worldwide level: new modelling tools, post processing methodologies and observational data are available. Recent European efforts in developing a platform for e-science provide an ideal basis for the sharing of complex hydrometeorological data sets and tools. Despite these early initiatives, however, the awareness of the potential of the Grid technology as a catalyst for future hydrometeorological research (HMR) is still low and both the adoption and the exploitation have astonishingly been slow, not only within individual EC member states, but also on a European scale.

Objectives: The main goals of DRIHMS are to cross-fertilize the match between the HMR and the ICT communities and to boost European research excellence and competitiveness in hydrometeorological research and Grid research by bridging the gaps between these two communities. The DRIHMS objectives are "SMART": Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Timely.

Action plan: The key element of the DRIHMS project will be the organization of a set of networking activities (including web based questionnaires, restricted consultation meetings and open conferences), involving both hydrometeorology scientists and Grid scientists. They will be designed to overcome current limitations in the sharing of tools and knowledge in the Euro-



DRIHMS
DISTRIBUTED RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE FOR HYDRO-METEOROLOGY STUDY

Project acronym: DRIHMS

Contract nº: RI-246703

Project type: CSA-SA

Start date: 01/11/2009

Duration: 18 months

Total budget: 320 924 €

Funding from the EC: 250 000 €

Total funded effort in person-month: 30

Web site: www.drihms.eu

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Project participants:

CIMA	IT
DLR	DE
LMU	DE
IMATI-CNR	IT

Keywords:
Hydrometeorology, ICT, survey, cross-fertilization

Collaboration with other EC funded projects:
BELIEF II

Distributed Research Infrastructure for Hydro-Meteorology Study — RI

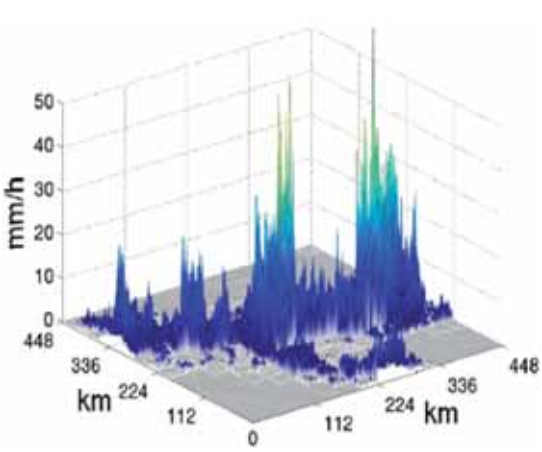
European Commission
Information Society and Media

continued overleaf

pean HMR community, in the creation of common knowledge of what is available and, possible, also in the production of new knowledge from last generation hydrometeorological processes observing/modeling systems.
DRIHMS will identify the hydrometeorological hot research areas that require a network-based and distributed approach, in terms of hydrometeorological data and software sharing.

Consequently, DRIHMS will discuss, define and communicate the requirements for porting and deployment of state-of-the-art hydrometeorological research applications and tools over heterogeneous Grid middleware.

Coordination and/or support activities: The DRIHMS networking activities will find their synthesis in the formulation of a white paper and several scientific research contributions regarding the use of Grid technologies for basic and applied research in the hydrometeorology science area. The document will identify existing gaps (issues such as lack of funding, missing technologies, and limiting factors such as missing communication among different scientific communities) and possible strategies to fill them. Thus, it will provide to the European Commission an effective support for a policy development aimed at strengthening the international cooperation based on e-infrastructure suited for hydrometeorological research and at boosting European HMR potential and its exploitation.



User communities: The DRIHMS project is proposed by a consortium of hydrometeorology and ICT (LMU and IMATI) research centers that integrate multidisciplinary and complementary know-how enabling to uptake the use of Grid-related technologies in the hydrometeorological science area.
The consortium understands itself as catalyst for other European research centers. The DRIHMS audience will be represented by HMR and ICT institutions contributing to projects and initiatives, at the regional, national and international level, that are strongly related with this project (e.g. HyMex, MEDEX, DEISA, EGEE).

International aspects: The DRIHMS project will address International cooperation through a system of different activities.
DRIHMS will enable an effective collaboration and cross-fertilization between the HMR and the Grid sciences through the involvement of key experts belonging to these two communities in the consultation and networking processes. Furthermore, DRIHMS results will be presented at major international conferences and published in relevant peer-reviewed journals.

eI-Africa

Organisation of an e-Infrastructure Summit in sub-Saharan Africa — RI

European Commission Information Society and Media

Background: In the last decade, the African continent has quite significantly changed politically and economically and seems to have entered a true period of economic and social development, and started to move — under the aegis of the African Union (AU) created in 2002 — towards an integrated area of peace and prosperity. In this context, many world powers have logically been striving during this period for closer links with the African continent. The European Union (EU) has made few significant steps in this direction by: i) Adopting a "EU strategy for Africa" in 2005; promoting in particular a more coordinated approach of the European Member States policies and activities regarding Africa; ii) Agreeing with the AU, end of 2007 in Lisbon on the "Africa-EU Joint Strategy and Action Plan — JSAP", thus going beyond donor-recipient arrangements, and paving the way for a partnership of equals based on mutual interest. The EU's wish to treat Africa as one region is quite challenging, not only because Africa remains diverse (development status, population size, political stability, etc.) but also because current EU policies and programmes typically consider three main areas in Africa: North Africa (addressed through the "Euro-Mediterranean Partnership" — Euromed), Sub-Saharan Africa (addressed through the "ACP-EC Partnership Agreement") and South Africa (addressed through a Strategic Partnership signed in 2007). Africa has also recognised that Science and Technology (S&T) and ICT are key vectors for bridging the scientific and digital divides, for reducing poverty and ensuring socio-economic development, for reaching the Millennium Development Goals, and, eventually, for supporting the sustainable evolution of Africa. The Africa S&T Consolidated Plan of Action formulated by the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the AU, the creation of the African Ministerial Council on Science and Technology, and the African Regional Action Plan on the Knowledge Economy, are only some of recent examples of Africa's determination to rely on S&T and ICT to achieve its growth and development objectives. It is therefore quite logical that one of the 8 thematic partnerships identified in Lis-

ei-africa
www.ei-africa.eu

Project acronym: eI-Africa

Contract nº: RI-246650

Project type: CSA-SA

Start date: 01/10/2009

Duration: 18 months

Total budget: 280 680.00 EUR

Funding from the EC: 250 000.00 EUR

Total funded effort in person-month:15,5

Web site: www.eI-Africa.eu

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Project participants:
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Keywords:
e-Infrastructures
Euro-Africa
Strengthening Cooperation
Conference
Networking

Collaboration with other EC funded projects:
EuroAfrica-ICT.org
ERINA4Africa
BELIEF II
FEAST
And all other related projects

continued overleaf

bon in 2007 on the occasion of the EU-AU Summit is a "Partnership for Science, Information Society and Space" (also known as the "8th partnership"). This thematic partnership focusing on 19 lighthouse projects is under implementation since October 2008 and should widely contribute to strengthening S&T cooperation links between the two continents in the ICT domain. e-Infrastructures are logically playing a key role in the development of this cooperation, benefitting from the "EU-Africa Partnership on Infrastructure" signed in October 2007, the quick development of African NRENs and their interconnection, the launch of the FEAST feasibility study, the AfricaConnect flagship project supporting the development of NRENs in sub-Saharan Africa and their interconnection to the European's GEANT network, the AXIS flagship project, etc.

Summary: eI-Africa aims at strengthening the cooperation on e-Infrastructures between Europe and Africa thanks to — among other things — the organisation of the "2010 Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference" — a very first exciting conference filled with discussions and debates, networking opportunities and knowledge-sharing among key stakeholders in the field and policymakers coming from all over Europe and Africa. Event addressed topics: the e-Infrastructures programme (from networks to usages, from research networking to global virtual research collaboration, etc.); Innovating the scientific process (global virtual research communities); Accessing knowledge (scientific data); Experimenting in silico (simulation and visualisation); Sharing the best computational resources (e-Science grid, supercomputing); Linking at the speed of the light (GÉANT).

Objectives: The project has the strategic objective to promote European e-Infrastructures developments and exploitation in Africa and to develop stronger cooperation links between Europe and Africa. Meeting the networking needs of the e-Infrastructures domain, the "2010 Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference" aims at becoming a key place for main stakeholders in the field coming from all over Africa and Europe. The Conference organising team is gearing up for a very first exciting event filled with discussions and debates, networking opportunities, and knowledge-sharing among all key stakeholders in the field and policymakers. This event — the first of its kind in the field — aims at standing out as the premier gathering place for all experts and stakeholders engaged (or interested) in the e-Infrastructure domain.

Action plan: In order to reach these objectives, a set of targeted activities has been planned within the 18-months period of the project and structured into three work packages: Project dissemination (website, collaterals, brochures, posters, contribution to external events and publications, etc.); e-Infrastructures Conference (the Conference will most probably be co-located with the "3rd Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research" to be held in Helsinki, Finland, on December 2010); Project management (day-to-day communication with the European Commission regarding administrative and financial duties and the transmission of all the requested documents).

Coordination and/or support activities: — The eI-Africa project involves a single participant: the initiative is coordinated by Sigma Orionis, a European organisation supporting collaborative research and global innovation in ICT. However, the implementation of three different Event Committees allows the project coordinator to benefit from the support of all interested key stakeholders in the field: a "Honorary Committee" (composed of EC and AUC officials together with international, regional and local authorities), an "Advisory & Programme Committee" (composed of e-Infrastructures experts), and an "Organising Committee" (composed of members of the European Commission, the African Union Commission and the eI-Africa project). Other constituencies: "Associated partners" (associations, NGOs, Chambers of Commerce,..), "Media partners" (supporting the promotion of the event throughout Europe and Africa) and "Donors" (supporters of African participation in the conference).

International aspects: As an International e-Infrastructure project, eI-Africa seeks to reinforce the relevance of Europe's e-Infrastructures in Africa, to raise awareness on e-Infrastructures in Africa, and to ensure that e-Infrastructures project activities can get the highest visibility on the African continent.

Organisation of an e-Infrastructure Summit in sub-Saharan Africa — RI e-infrastructure

e-InfraNet

Summary: The **vision** of eInfraNet is to be the high-level policy body developing policies to reinforce and promote efforts to foster world-class ICT infrastructures.

The **aim** of eInfraNet is to develop a network that will develop and strengthen cooperation and coordination between national e-infrastructures and smooth their efficient integration in the European Research Area. The proposed project will establish an effective dialogue between national e-infrastructure programme owners and managers in Europe, at the European Commission level and globally.

The proposed ERA-NET will coordinate on a European level the e-infrastructure policies, promoting pan-European collaboration of scientists from all S&T fields.

Objectives: The **specific objectives** of the project are listed below:

- To **identify all programmes** implemented or planned throughout Europe and the major international initiatives in the focus areas of the project.
- To **analyse the programmes and policies** highlighting the potential for common action and identifying issues that may need additional work for integrating
- To **provide a platform for debating** on the needs and future direction of e-infrastructures on a European and international level, building on the work and experience of the national governments and institutes
- To provide a platform where national e-infrastructure programmes and EC e-infrastructure programmes can **exchange strategic views a**nd explore better integration of European e-infrastructures
- To support **optimal and integrated transnational usage** of European e-infrastructures
- To **reduce the fragmentation** of e-infrastructure research initiatives across Europe by preparing and implementing joint activities.
- To **achieve progress** with some joint programmes and calls possibly implemented within the life-time of the project with a view to extending them to include more countries in the future. This will be made possible by the variable geometry approach adopted by this project.

Project acronym: e-InfraNet

Contract n°: RI-246651

Project type: CSA-CA

Start date: 01/01/2010

Duration: 36 months

Total budget: 1 382 246 €

Funding from the EC: 1 250 000 €

Total funded effort in person-month: 122

Web site: www.e-infranet.eu

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Project participants:

HEA	IRL
HEFCE	UK
SURF	NL
FCT	PT
LAS	LV
MICINN	ES
CSC	FI
NIIFI	HU
TUBITAK	TR

Keywords:
Cloud Computing
Openness
Green Computing

Collaboration Planned with other EC funded projects:
e-IRG
OpenAIRE
DRIVER

continued overleaf

- Support **the establishment of an e-infrastructure Policy Group**. This group would be open to all public authorities that wished to contribute. Its participants would be delegate of ministries and funding agencies.

Action plan: The work plan of eInfraNet is following recommended structure for ERA NET projects. The first four work-packages are laid out in line with this **typical structure of an ERA-NET**. Because of their nature, these activities will be started in linear time sequence. However, most of the work-packages operate indefinitely after commencing as they will be addressing different topics as the eInfraNet evolves and continues in the future. For example, when the initial information exchange is completed and initial priorities identified (WP1), the preparation of joint activities will start (WP2) and it will be followed by their implementation (WP3). But at the same time the information exchange on other focus areas in preparation for further joint activities will be on-going.

The initial key focus areas will be on:

- Cloud Computing
- Green and Environmental Computing
- Openness (Open Access, Open Source and Open Opportunities).

The WP4 will consider the implementation of common programmes and calls in the most developed focus areas. At the same time it deals also with **sustainability issues**, setting the foundations for the continuation of the project activities after the initial three-year period is completed.

In parallel there is a **dissemination work-package** (WP5) that will deal with wider communication and networking activities, within and outside the e-infrastructures community. They will work closely with the Steering Committee and the European Commission and provide input for relevant European Commission initiated dissemination activities.

The last work-package (WP6) is dedicated to **management** and the coordination of the project.

User communities: Emphasis is given to the effective communication amongst the project partners as well as the communication of project developments to target groups outside the consortium. To achieve that the following activities will be undertaken:

- Regular Steering Committee and Project Meetings
- Provision of a project web-site and wiki
- Publication of reports

International aspects: The eInfraNet activities will have a continuing impact on the sharing of research resources. This network will therefore improve the collaboration of national and regional programmes and further reduce the fragmentation of the European funding landscape; this is well in line with the ideas of the European Research Area.

Close cooperation and mutual learning will create broad and coherent expertise on programme level and help to promote the convergence of funding programmes and the avoidance of unnecessary overlaps.

The exchange of information and good practice at national and EU levels will also have an impact on the efficient use of funding and will help to optimise these shared programmes across Europe.

This will be particularly helpful for new players in these efforts, such as newly created funding programmes, particularly those in associated countries and new member states.

ERINA4Africa

Summary: ERINA4Africa is an initiative aimed at fostering cooperation between the EU and Africa with a win-win perspective: (1) Africa may benefit from the development of Research Infrastructure policies based on EU experiences and best practices, and (2) the EU will have the chance to demonstrate on-the-field benefits of exploiting Research Infrastructure in key ICT areas where public funding would be relevant, namely e-Health e-Government, and e-Learning.

Objectives: Based on the results of ERINA study funded by the EC, this proposal aims to provide African and EU policy makers with a detailed analysis of exploitable scenarios of existing (and new) e-Infrastructures in Africa. In doing so ERINA4Africa seeks to:

- Create a **virtual observatory** on trends and current evolution of e-Infrastructures in Africa with the perspective of gathering concrete requirements to boost Academic and Industrial research;
- Develop a **foresight study** identifying qualitative as well as quantitative benefits in adopting African Research Infrastructures as basic building blocks for other key IST areas via the ERINA methodology; and
- Provide a series of **virtual conferences and local meetings** to both promote and validate the project results.

Action Plan: During the 14 months of this project, ERINA4Africa will:

- Map the **demand side** of Africa e-Infrastructure potential to understand what projects are being run, with which technology, how it these are financed, who are the partners and what geographical scope. The project will map the services and the scientific data being used & generated.
- Map the **supply side** of African e-Infrastructure research to evaluate innovation potential of e-Infrastructures in Africa, in the areas of e-Health, e-Government and e-Learning.
- Create a **virtual observatory** of case studies and best practices related to the adoption of e-Infrastructures in the fields of e-Health, e-Government, and e-Learning. Case studies will be stored on the website and made accessible and searchable via a series of parameters.

Project acronym: ERINA4Africa

Contract nº: RI-246663

Project type: CSA-CA

Start date: 01/10/2009

Duration: 14 months

Total budget: 451.844 €

Funding from the EC: 370.000 €

Total funded effort in person-month: 50

Web site: www.erina4africa.eu

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Project participants:

UBRUN	UK
ENG	IT
UBUNTUNET	MW
KTH	SV

Keywords:
Sub-Saharan Africa, Research Infrastructures, e-Infrastructure, Grid, knowledge transfer, collaboration, Digital Libraries, Scientific Repositories, Industrial Research, Concertation meetings, Coordination

Collaboration with other EC funded projects:
GLOBAL, eIAfrica, BELIEF-II, GEANT, EGEE.

continued overleaf

European Commission
Information Society and Media

Exploiting Research Infrastructures Potential for Boosting Research and Innovation in Africa — RI

- Drawing on the ERINA study methodology:
  - Perform **quantitative analysis** to measure the benefits of e-Infrastructure and Global Virtual Research Communities in Africa.
  - Perform **qualitative analysis** to focus on the key processes in e-Infrastructures in Africa. In particular, this will analyze the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) of their adoption.
- Design and implement an effective **communication strategy** and to deliver appropriate instruments to promote the online platform and the overall project activities and study results.
- Create a **website** to promote the Erina4Africa project and its distinct phases and supporting the virtual observatory and data collection.
- Organise three events (one workshop in Malawi, one workshop in Rwanda, and a final conference) as well as working side by side with eIAfrica and ISTAfrica.

Support Activities: ERINA4Africa provides two types of support activities. The first is a series of events that will 'dig' into the issues of research infrastructures potential. These take the form of three one-day workshops that are scheduled for Rwanda (April), Malawi (September) and a final one in a location to be agreed (October/November). The second is the creation of the virtual observatory. This will consist of a representative set of case studies and best practices to assist in the realisation of projects in e-Health, e-Learning and e-Government. A key objective of all planned ERINA4Africa events will be the promotion of best practices from the countries involved in order to share knowledge, encourage and inspire innovative ideas, federate approaches, spread best practices as well as stimulate cooperation. The events ultimately aim at broader synergies and facilitate collaborations. The consortium envisage the creation of a global alliance that will serve as a backbone to simplify future resource/service exchanges, tackle the issue of fragmentation of research and provide opportunities for reaching out to sibling scientific communities.

User communities: ERINA4Africa will exploit the partners' networks within the EU and Africa to ensure a wide dissemination of knowledge and best practises. The consortium's databases, also based on previous successful projects where the partners were involved, of key e-Infrastructures players will help attract support and recruit participants. Networks to be contacted also to gather inputs for the final study include: Policy makers, Embassies, National Associations, Chambers of Commerce, Local Authorities, Ministries and National Contact Points (NCPs). Moreover, ERINA4Africa will solidify and further expand its network penetration in strategic geographic areas of Africa.

International Aspects: By its nature, ERINA4Africa will act as a bilateral aggregator and therefore can identify and bring together knowledge resources including Universities, Research Institutions, Industry, Policy makers, and Government agencies from different countries in Africa and Europe. ERINA4Africa seeks to assist in overcoming cultural barriers that occasionally hamper collaboration especially with emerging economies where the level of adoption of e-Infrastructures has not yet reached full maturity. By helping nurture a culture of collaboration and developing approaches for supporting efficient research networks of people, ERINA4Africa will push into the forefront technical challenges and will help outline outcomes and solutions for end users in emerging communities of practice.

EU-IndiaGrid2

Summary: EU-IndiaGrid2 capitalises on the achievements of the FP6 EU-IndiaGrid project and huge infrastructural developments in India. EU-IndiaGrid2 will act as a bridge across European and Indian e-Infrastructures, leveraging on the expertise obtained by partners during the EU-IndiaGrid project. EU-IndiaGrid2 will further the continuous e-Infrastructure evolution in Europe and India, to ensure sustainable scientific, educational and technological collaboration across the two regions.

Objectives:

- Consolidate & enhance cooperation between European and Indian e-Infrastructures for the benefit of EU-Indian collaboration in e-Science
- Support specific user communities in the exploitation of grid infrastructure in areas strategic for EU-Indian collaboration
- ensure a sustainable approach to e-Infrastructures across Europe and India through dissemination actions, meetings & workshops
- foster and enhance cooperation with other European initiatives in the Asian region and worldwide

Action plan: EU-IndiaGrid2 will leverage on the EU-IndiaGrid project achievements and the strong cooperation links established with the foremost European and Indian e-Infrastructure initiatives paving the way for successful sustainable cooperation across European and Indian e-Infrastructures. EU-IndiaGrid2 aims to achieve sustainable EU-Indian e-Infrastructure cooperation by supporting a set of relevant applications, promoting their results, as well as the benefits and impacts of e-Infrastructures for Euro-Indian collaboration. In particular EU-IndiaGrid2 will address relevant institutions and policy makers relying on the leading role of its partners in e-Infrastructure activities both in Europe and India

Support activities: The project responds to the call objective "*To promote international interoperation between the e-Infrastructure and similar infrastructures from other regions (e.g. USA, China, India, Mediterranean etc) with the aim of reinforcing the global relevance and impact of European e-Infrastructures*" by articulating activities into four main work packages.

Liaison with other Projects & Organisations (WP2) will pursue cooperation activities with the most relevant e-Infrastructure initiatives and institutions both in Europe and India, capitalising on the leading role of its partners in the most relevant European & Indian e-Infrastructures projects and on the close links already established

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Project acronym: EU-IndiaGrid2

Contract n°°: RI-246698

Project type: CSA-SA

Start date: 01/01/2010

Duration: 24 months

Total budget: 1 225 958 €

Funding from the EC: 740 000 €

Total funded effort in person-month: 301.5

Web site: www.euindiagrid.eu

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Project participants:

INFN	IT
CMSUC	UK
CEA	FR
GARR	IT
TRUST-IT	UK
ICTP	IT
BARC	IN
CDAC	IN
ERNET	IN
IISC	IN
IITD	IN
PUNE	IN
SINP	IN
TIFR	IN
VECC	IN

Keywords:
e-Infrastructures, grid computing

Collaboration with other EC funded projects:
EGEE3, EELA-2, EUMEDGRID-Support, EUAsiaGrid, BELIEF

Sustainable e-Infrastructures across Europe and India — RI

European Commission Information Society and Media

with projects and relevant actors by the EU-IndiaGrid project. **Operational infrastructure and interoperability support (WP3)** will deliver support to the Interconnection and Interoperation of e-Infrastructures across Europe (EGEE -EGI) and India (WLCG, GARUDA and National Knowledge Network (NKN)). **User communities support (WP4)** will sustain a set of applications within user communities strategic for EU-Indian collaboration fostering the benefits of technology achievements on scientific collaborations. Necessary actions to favour optimal resources exploited by such user communities, thus contributing to *the emergence of sustainable approaches for the provision of cross-disciplinary research services* will be identified and performed. **Communication and Awareness raising (WP5)** will reinforce the global relevance and impact of the results achieved by the project and will contribute to increasing awareness and use of joint e-Infrastructures, identifying engaging and supporting a Euro-Indian e-infrastructure community and *reinforcing the global relevance and impact of European e-Infrastructures.*

User communities: EU-IndiuaGrid2 targets a number of user communities:
Climate change is a worldwide concern and climate change studies are among the priorities in European and Indian research programs. In particular climate change is one of the flagship activities within the NKN program. EU-IndiaGrid2 aims to support climate change modelling studies on European and Indian e-Infrastructures thanks to the involvement of premier research groups with leading international reputation and a solid collaboration basis enhanced and strengthened in the course of EU-IndiaGrid.
High Energy Physics through the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) program represents one of the unique science and research facilities to share between India and Europe in the field of Scientific Research in general and in the ICT domain in particular. The role of the EU-IndiaGrid project in this specific activity has been again widely recognised at the highest level and EU-IndiaGrid2 will play an important role in sustaining this community.
Biology and Material Science requires computational tools and techniques spawning different disciplines. This broad scientific area will challenge the project in setting up and providing cross disciplinary research services. The successful work of its predecessor EU-IndiaGrid, performed in these areas, allowed the establishment and the reinforcement of relevant EU-Indian collaborations supported by premier Institutions within the Consortium.
The enlargement of such significant user communities is the key to sustainability since motivate the e-Infrastructures existence and then drive their development. EU-IndiaGrid2 will sustain a set of applications strategic for EU-Indian collaboration which can exploit the possibilities offered by network and grid infrastructures.

I**nternational aspects:** EU-IndiaGrid2 will continue the strong cooperation links established by EU-IndiaGrid with the most relevant European projects and institutions e.g. EGEE-III and EGI, GÉANT, and the major Indian e-Infrastructure Initiatives — GARUDA, Indian National Grid Initiative, National Knowledge Network. It will also continue its collaboration with the Worldwide LHC Computing Grid initiative, supporting the cooperation with WLCG Indian regional component right at the beginning of LHC data taking. These actions will contribute at promoting international interoperation between European and Indian e-Infrastructures with the aim of strengthening the development of a European policy for research infrastructures and to address specific needs for international cooperation in this field, thus achieving critical mass and driving global policies.

EUMEDGRID-Support

Summary: EUMEDGRID-Support (2010-2012) builds on the successful outcomes of EUMEDGRID (2006-2008), and spotlights Europe and the Mediterranean and Middle-east regions through an open dialogue aimed at increasing stakeholder and community awareness on the fundamental importance of e-Infrastructures with the ultimate goal of ensuring long-term sustainability. The work already done in the EUMEDGRID project has led to a pilot Grid Infrastructure which covers almost all the Mediterranean Area.

EUMEDGRID-Support will start from there and make a further step to push towards a larger production quality e-Infrastructure and the adoption of more sustainable organisational models for the provision of services.

Objectives: The main objective of the project is to promote the deployment and usage of e- Infrastructures in the Mediterranean Area, supporting new and existing applications, awakening the interest of stakeholders and policy makers, preserving and expanding the existing e-Science human network, enlarging and training this community, and maintaining continuity to e-Infrastructures, which are operating in synergy with existing and future European e-Infrastructures.

The principle objectives and ensuing activities will be based around:

- Facilitating the deployment and usage of e-Infrastructures in the Mediterranean and supporting existing and new applications.
- Cooperating with existing and future e-Infrastructure projects and initiatives to establish sustainable e-Infrastructures in Europe and in the Mediterranean Area.
- Strengthening the existing e-Science human network built by the previous EUMEDGRID project and widening it to new user communities and to new countries.
- Offering training programmes in collaboration with EPKIH and EUMEDCONNECT2
- Fostering National Grid Initiatives

Action plan: To reach these objectives the project has implemented a series of activities. The first includes support to scientific communities organised with two tiers of Competence Centre(s): local and high-level technical expertise and guidance. The second will be through providing support for the extension and consolidation of the EUMEDGRID e-Infrastructure, by focusing on sustaining the current sites and integrating new ones. Guidance will also be provided for the integration of Mediterranean Certification Authorities into

Project acronym: EUMEDGRID-Support

Contract n°: RI-246589

Project type: CSA-SA

Start date: 01/01/2010

Duration: 24 months

Total budget: 867 495 €

Funding from the EC: 740.000 €

Total funded effort in person-month: 173

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CCK	TN
CERIST	DZ
CNRST	MA
COMETA	IT
CYNET	CY
EUN	EG
GARR	IT
CNRS-IDG	FR
HIAST	SY
JUNET	JO
TRUST-IT	UK
TUBITAK-ULAKBIM	TR
UOM	MT

Third Parties:

HealthGrid	FR
IUGAZA	PS

Keywords:
e-Infrastructures, Grid, Support Action, Mediterranean

Collaboration with other EC funded projects:
EGEE/EGI
EPKIH
Erina4Africa
EU-IndiaGrid2
EUMEDCONNECT2
GENESI-DEC

continued overleaf

EUGridPMA. In parallel, studies and reports will be published on the advantages of e-Infrastructures, their opportunities for developing countries and specifically for the Mediterranean region. Financial and organisational e-Infrastructure aspects, integration and cooperation approaches with other initiatives, as well as sustainability issues will be analysed in a brochure or booklet that will be distributed to policy makers, stakeholders and civil servants in order to stimulate their interest.

Further actions are provided in terms of knowledge development through appropriate education activities and training courses. A well calibrated advanced knowledge dissemination activity is also planned in cooperation with other projects, the most relevant ones being EPIKH and EUMEDCONNECT2. Workshops and special events are also organised in order to enhance the effectiveness of all the project's activities on scientific communities and policy levels.

Coordination and/or support activities: The EUMEDGRID-Support Project has a structured work plan starting from the detailed objectives previously described. The EUMEDGRID-Support Project implementation plan is designed with the following coordinated activities:

- Consolidating and facilitating the opportunity to sustain an EUMEDGRID e-Infrastructure organising specific communication events targeted to high level policy, influential persons and stakeholders.
- Mobilising the EUMEDGRID human network to facilitate existing and new user communities and obtaining feedback and consensus from the Scientific and Academic communities introduced to the e-Infrastructures and Grid technology.
- Contributing to the major output of an EUMEDGRID Impact Report — This involves the collection of results and success stories to be shown to the politicians, basing the dissemination message more on facts than on words. The contributions will specifically address Policy level content and stakeholders.

User communities: Supporting applications, user communities and their extension is another fundamental pillar of the EUMEDGRID-Support action. Dedicated activities are aimed at enlarging and consolidating the e-Infrastructure environment in order to have the largest possible community to operate the necessary backing to the high policy activity. The project focuses on supporting technical application developments and users maintaining the high momentum already obtained by the previous EUMEDGRID activities.

The EUMEDGRID pilot infrastructure includes 25 sites distributed across 13 countries, with all relevant grid services up and running. The infrastructure is maintained by the EUMEDGRID project consortium and a system of Competence Centres supporting the applications and user communities.

Countries connected

- Algeria
- Cyprus
- Egypt
- Israel
- Malta
- Morocco
- Syria
- Tunisia

Applications

- Archaeology
- Hydrology
- Physics
- Biology
- Engineering
- Robotics
- Cognitive Sciences

National Grid Initiatives

- Algeria
- Morocco
- Tunisia
- More are at a planning stage in neighbouring countries
- Turkey

International aspects: In addition to the EUMEDGRID-Support Infrastructure spanning several nations and continents, collaboration with the other initiatives in the region, in Europe and worldwide opens up international possibilities for synergies including e-Infrastructure projects such as EUMEDCONNECT2, EGEE, EGI, LinkSCEEM, SEE-GRID-SCI, EELA2, EUAsiaGrid, EUChinaGRID, EU-IndiaGrid and others. The project will also liaise with other relevant international initiatives and organizations in the field, such as e-IRG, UNESCO and the "Sharing Knowledge Foundation", as well as with national research and education initiatives and networks across Europe and the Mediterranean.

This interactive process of cooperation and cross-fertilization will be pursued through the organization of common international workshops for the exchange of experiences of communities and through the coordination of booths and stands at relevant events.

GRDI 2020

Summary: Today, rapidly increasing amounts of scientific data are archived in distributed repositories each with specific access and management technologies using different file formats and metadata tools. There is a need for a coordinated approach for global federation of professional state of the art Data Management Institutions to bring these diverse communities to share concerns and experiences on data sharing and exchanging practices to help achieve & exploit data across various disciplines in an interoperable way. **GRDI2020** establishes a framework for obtaining technical, organisational, and policy recommendations that will guide the development of ecosystems of Global Research Data Infrastructures (GRDIs).

"GRDI2020 enables the development of an ecosystem where all research data infrastructures can converge and provide open and long-term access to data repositories in a unified infrastructure" Silvana Muscella, Trust-IT Services & GRDI2020 Coordinator

Objectives: The project outlines the main priorities in the field of Global Research Data Infrastructures in order to:

- Bring research, scholarly-communication, and digital-archive communities together to foster and engage in understanding the necessary technology and applications
- Shaping European and global priorities while emphasising the importance of interoperability and cross-disciplinary issues
- Offering researchers opportunities to discover new services for exploiting data and effective production of new knowledge;
- Synchronising requirements and challenges across thematic communities, and bridge differences between the needs of research, education and innovation activities
- Producing guidelines, best practices, and recommendations able to influence the building of GRDIs
- Raising the global value of significant European Data Infrastructure innovations by establishing an international GRDI forum

Action plan: GRDI2020 is pro-active in delivering key goals. From the inception of the project the web-based GRDI2020 web 2.0 channel offers continued and effective dialogue between the research data infrastructure communities, while the establishment of the Advisory Board (AB) ensures that the project leverages international networks and that the strategy for a vision for Global research data infrastructures globally is appropriately aligned with EC objectives. The project aims at outlining the main priorities in the field of Global Research Data Infrastructures in a GRDI Roadmap, anchored on sound techni-

Project acronym: GRDI2020

Contract nº: RI-246682

Project type: CA

Start date: 01/02/2010

Duration: 24 months

Total budget: 595 469 €

Funding from the EC: 490 000 €

Total funded effort in person-month: 56.45

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Athena RC	GR
KTH	SE

Keywords:
Research Data Infrastructures
Data management
Community building

Collaboration with other EC funded projects:
4D4Life
D4 Science II
DL.org
Driver II
Open-Aire
Europeana
GENESI-DR
OGF-Europe

ESFRI Projects:CESSDA
CLARIN
DARIAH
ELIXIR
ICOS
LIFEWATCH

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cal recommendations produced by two GRDI2020 Working Groups. Its outreach series of international events and thematic working meetings increase the ability of the research community, industry, and academia to influence the development of a competitive global ICT infrastructure beyond i2010.

Support activities: Two annual GRDI2020 workshops ensure knowledge sharing; development and community building transcending national and political boundaries; improvement of cross-sector collaboration; a platform for the development of a GRDI portfolio of case studies and best practices; and further advancement of progress already made on GRL2020 (Global Research Library 2020) drivers. GRDI2020 also actively supports the EC's High Level Expert Group on Data Infrastructures by delivering two Preparatory Meetings dedicated to defining the vision for 2030 for scientific data infrastructures as well as supporting the content of the Work programme 2011 and future perspectives for FP8. Furthermore, meetings serve as a preliminary study to then provide the results at GRDI2020 international workshops, as well as providing valuable insight into the future of data infrastructure that can support the GRDI2020 Roadmap Study.

User communities: GRDI2020 allows scientists, representatives of relevant research communities, representatives from industry, and policy makers to exchange working and research experiences and debate new ideas for the purpose of contributing to the creation of an EU Agenda for Research Data Infrastructure development. GRDI2020 engages with developers and users from domains such as Climate Change, Energy, Earth Sciences, Biodiversity, Virtual Observatories and Standardisation bodies, as well as communities with a focus on cross or interdisciplinary research. Furthermore, GRDI2020 actively works to support ESFRI projects with key ESFRI representatives being members of the GRDI2020 AB & WGs.

"GRDI2020 will allow scientists, representatives of relevant research communities, representatives from industry, and policy makers to exchange working and research experiences and debate new ideas for the purpose of contributing to the creation of an EU Agenda for Research Data Infrastructure development." Fabrizio Gagliardi, Microsoft & GRDI2020 AB

International aspects: GRDI2020 connects and engages with current and new data research communities worldwide by providing an ecosystem for knowledge exchange through targeted communication activities and a community-focused, interactive website. GRDI2020 builds on current international networks and value-add synergies formed through GRL2020 (Global Research Library 2020) workshops in US, Europe and Asia which helped form a foundation for GRDI2020. In addition, international outreach workshops will attract both a European and Global audience taking place at venues both in and beyond Europe.

GRDI2020 — Building on the international foundations of GRL2020

HPCWorld

Summary: High Performance Computing (HPC) centers had an impressive development during the last decades thanks mainly to local efforts associated to national initiatives that support and improve research activities based on demanding numerical applications. In order to have the highest return from such massive economical and political commitment, HPC resources must be exploited at the highest level. Their access must be effective and capillary, their services must allow more and more people to use the resources. The HPC applications' outcomes and results must represent a resource and a benefit for the research community as a whole and, more generally, for society. Furthermore, HPC research projects must be properly evaluated and selected, in order to verify their technical feasibility, the presence of adequate competencies, the excellence of the scientific programme, the suitability to international research programme and main scientific development streamlines.

HPCW addresses the above issues, with the major objective of identifying a standard set of criteria and procedures and an associated methodology to drive the major HPC e-Infrastructure initiatives in the deployment of services, in the allocation of resources and in the support to users' access.

The methodology aims at maximizing resources and optimizing their usage thus ensuring the best outcome of rationalized research investments in Europe. It will foster intra-European co-operation with a worldwide perspective in mind, promoting European science and its impact and contribution to world class scientific achievements. The objective is to enhance the effectiveness and coherence of national and Community research policies, strengthening the international cooperation beyond the continental boundaries, promoting synergies between the European HPC e-Infrastructure and similar infrastructures from other regions (e.g. USA, New Zealand), improving the global relevance and impact of European e-Infrastructures.

Objectives: HPCW's specific objectives are:

- the production of a "Selection and Evaluation Model Handbook"; the Handbook will provide and publicize a common high-level

HPCW RLD

Project acronym:
HPCWorld

Contract n°°: RI-246711

Project type: CSA-CA

Start date: 01/11/2009

Duration: 18 months

Total budget: 499 960 €

Funding from the EC: 250 000 €

Total funded effort in person-month: 42

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BSC	ES
FZJ	DE
GENCI	FR

Third parties:

SDSC	USA
BLUEFERN	NZ

Keywords:
e-Infrastructures, High-performance computing,
Peer-review, Evaluation, Allocation of resources.

Collaboration with other EC funded projects:
HPC-Europa2
DEISA 2

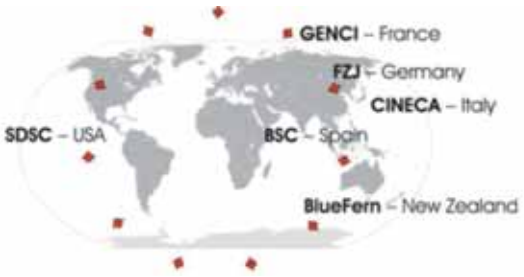
continued overleaf

model usable as a sort of "guidelines manual" for European and not European E-Infrastructures, of any kind of nature.

- the performance of a multilevel and multichannel assessment of the current routines in act in Europe and outside, in order to individuate good practices to be studied and re-elaborated toward a model offering a clear and defined path but at the same time potentially applicable to and usable by any European and non European research e-Infrastructure. The assessment will be performed starting from HPC infrastructures but also on RI of different nature, in order to extrapolate a transversal and basic procedure valuable for any kind of scientific community and easily customisable with higher level layers focused on the specificities of each community and/or infrastructure.
- the accomplishment of an international exposure of the project activities and outcomes; this target will ensure that the model is designed with the knowledge of world-wide and multidisciplinary habits in the field and relying on the ones that appear more trustable and effective. On the other side the internationality will be pursued in the dissemination activities as well, in order to offer to the designed model a large exposition and relevance and possibility of being widely adopted. This object will foster the world-wide standardisation of exploitation of and access to the e-Infrastructures resources.

Action plan: The project will develop a study and offer to the relevant stakeholders a model that blends together the practices already existent and operating inside the single European and non European countries. The consortium will explore and analyze the procedures of selection of adopted in the various countries for high-end research activities, taking specific care in extending the "users' base" to countries not directly represented in the project, in order to have a large survey to work on. Furthermore, it will design a standard model that will bring together the best practices in use. The adoption of such scheme will homogenise the procedures for accessing the RIs, in spite of their provenience, being that from the country operating the infrastructure or from an external country, possibly getting to an international homogenisation of the supplying a prototype selection model, suitable to a broad spectrum of applications and infrastructures.
Furthermore it will contribute to the actual implementation of the principle of "open access to the Research Infrastructures".

International aspects: The HPCW team is composed of two different parts: the HPCW consortium and a group of extremely relevant and experienced experts in the field of the management of the access to HPC research infrastructures.



The HPCW consortium itself has a deep expertise and a consolidated experience in HPC and in management of Research Infrastructures. It is made up of six leading HPC key actors working on research on HPC tools and methodologies and offering access to their advanced infrastructures. The partnership aims at providing advanced computational services in an integrated way to the research communities working at the forefront of science.
The involvement of two relevant HPC centres as San Diego Supercomputing Center in the USA and BlueFern in New Zealand implies the enrichment of the consortium in terms of experience and knowledge of non EU countries in the field. The consortium benefits, with the involvement of these two institutions, from the enlargement of the vision on how the access to RI is deployed at international level (through the centres themselves, their direct contacts, their local and international collaborations and their involvement in national or supranational projects).
Due to the deep involvement of all the actors in internal and international cooperation in HPC initiatives, the HPCW consortium succeeded in creating an extended group of experts, coming from both Europe and US, interested in contributing. Such widened group includes key representatives of the European major HPC centers, of the US Teragrid, Incite, National Science Foundation and NASA. All those relevant experts brought to the consortium their broad competence and experience in the management of the biggest HPC access programmes worldwide.

OpenAIRE

Summary: OpenAIRE delivers *"an electronic infrastructure and supporting mechanisms for the identification, deposition, access, and monitoring of FP7 and ERC funded articles"*, through the establishment and operation of the European Helpdesk. All deposited articles to the products of EU-funded research are freely accessible through the www.openaire.eu portal, which also supports *"a special repository for articles that can be stored neither in institutional nor in subject-based/thematic repositories"*. The electronic infrastructure built by the project are based on state-of-the-art software services of the D-NET package developed within the DRIVER and DRIVER-II projects and the Invenio digital repository software developed at CERN. Thematically, the project focuses on peer-reviewed publications in at least the seven disciplines highlighted in the Open Access pilot (energy, environment, health, cognitive systems-interaction-robotics, electronic infrastructures, science in society, and socioeconomic sciences-humanities). Geographically, however, it has a definitive "European footprint" by covering the European Union in its entirety, engaging people and scientific repositories in almost all 27 member states and beyond.

Objectives: OpenAIRE's three main objectives are to (i) *build support structures* for researchers in depositing FP7 research publications through the establishment of the European Helpdesk and the outreach to all European member states through the operation and collaboration of 27 National Open Access Liaison Offices; (ii) *establish and operate an electronic infrastructure* for handling peer-reviewed articles as well as other important forms of publications (pre-prints or conference publications). This is achieved through a portal that is the gateway to all user-level services offered by the e-Infrastructure established, including access (search and browse) to scientific publications and other value-added functionality (post authoring tools, monitoring tools through analysis of document and usage statistics); (iii) work with several subject communities to *explore* the requirements, practices, incentives, workflows, data models, and technologies to deposit, access, and otherwise manipulate *research datasets* of various forms in combination with research publications.

Action plan: OpenAIRE applies a work breakdown structure, in which work packages are wrapped in the three activity areas: *Networking, Service and Research*. There is continuous exchange, interaction and information flow among these areas: the Service activities provide the operational basis for both the Networking and Research activities. The Research outcome on usage statistics services feeds technological upgrades and innovation into the Service activities and the feasibility studies for depositing research datasets to Networking

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Project acronym: OpenAIRE
Project nº: RI-246686
Project type: CP-CSA
Start date: 01/12/2009
Duration: 36 months
Total budget: 5 027 379 €
Funding from the EC: 4 170 000 €
Total funded effort in person-month: 605
Web site: www.openaire.eu

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NKUA	GR	ULIB	SL
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CNR-ISTI	IT	IMI-BAS	BG
SURF	NL	HUNOR	HU
UNOTT	UK	CASPUR	IT
UNIBI	DE	Trinity College	IE
ICM	PL	VSB-TUO	CZ
UMINHO	PT	Univ. of Helsinki	FI
CERN	CH	UKON	DE
UGENT	BE	NHRF	GR
eIFL	NL	UIT	NO
CSIC	SP	KOSSON	RO
DTU	DK	UL	SI
EMBL-EBI	UK	COUPERIN	FR
WDDC	DE	UU	NL
CGIAR	IT	UNIVIE	AT
FECYT	SP	LU	LV
UCY	CY	UT	EE
KTU	LT	MCST	MT

Keywords:
Digital repository, infrastructure, Open Access, FP7 pilot, deposit publication

Collaboration with other EC funded projects:
DRIVER, CLARIN, IMPACT, METAFOR, CESSDA, DARIAH, BELIEF, PEER

activities for further promotion. Networking activities ensure the community uptake from and for the Research and Service activities through the geographical organization and close coordination of the 27 National Open Access Liaison Offices. Each area is described in more detail below. The work packages of OpenAIRE have been designed with well-defined tasks that are allocated to partners according to their expertise.

Networking activities: The Networking activities area is concerned primarily with the task of supporting a European Centre though the operation of the *European Helpdesk,* which assists researchers in meeting the requirements of the FP7 pilot, e.g., guiding them to the most appropriate repository, helping them to understand the nature of open access and the license schemes behind it, assisting them with the actual upload process if needed, etc. Each of the 27 National Open Access Liaison Offices setup by the project serves as its representative in each state, becoming two-way intermediaries between researchers, research institutions, and policy makers on the one end, and the project services and relevant European concerns on the other. OpenAIRE liaisons with relevant stakeholders and continues a pre-existing collaboration. This includes publishers, European-level Open Access organisations, i.e., SPARC Europe, Knowledge Exchange, and the Open Access Working Group of the European University Association, as well as organisations developing and maintaining Current Research Information Systems (CRIS).

Service activities: The Service activities area ensures the stable technological operation of the OpenAIRE portal in terms of a production system. It provides a 24/7 operational service for the publication deposition though the use of the orphan repository and the interoperation with the existing repository infrastructure. It provides access for all FP7 pilot and ERC publications and offers end users value added services: post authoring and document/usage monitoring tools. It also monitors and guarantees the portal correct run-time operation and investigates on how to improve and enrich its functionalities in the direction of data management and usage statistics, by possibly exploiting the outcome of Joint Research Activities.

Joint Research activities: The Research activities area addresses the *"Preparatory action towards the extension of the e-infrastructure ability to cope with storage, management and access of scientific data"* by performing research on crucial challenges and preparing future avenues of development of Open Access based e-Infrastructures related to subject-specific requirements, while also studying the administrative, project related data maintained in a research management system. It also focuses on two aspects of usage statistics: collecting them from various sources (such as the OpenAIRE portal, the orphan and local repositories, the web (webometrics) and citation data) and analysing them by applying statistical algorithms to extract measurable impact information.

User communities: There are four principal stakeholders that will use OpenAIRE services and technologies: (i) Research Communities (individual researchers and research institutions) using the provided deposition functionalities to fulfill FP7 pilot and ERC OA guidelines, (ii) National Open Access initiatives which will be coordinated to further promote the OA movement to researchers and institutions, (iii) Repository Managers willing to interoperate to exchange OA publications and usage statistics to gain more visibility for their institutions, and (iv) Scientific communities wanting to explore ways of deposition and management of research datasets.

International aspects: Even though the production system of the support infrastructure is the first priority of OpenAIRE, work and results will also be embedded in national and international research activities. OpenAIRE performs research in data-centric e-Infrastructures with respect to three specific challenges: usage data, research data and data from CRIS's. In summary, the work will be deeply embedded in national or international research activities in multiple ways and also bring about considerable impact to research progress in the field, particularly in the field(s) of e-Infrastructures with respect to infrastructure interoperability, usage data, research data and CRIS-systems. Also, specific care has been taken by integrating partners that represent specific scientific communities in order to prevent OpenAIRE becoming a "closed shop" in the e-Infrastructure world.

OSIRIS

Summary: Research infrastructures (RIs) are facilities, resources and related services used by the scientific community to conduct top-level research in their respective fields. European RIs are key instruments in bringing together a wide variety of stakeholders to look for solutions to problems facing society today. In the near future there will be large scale investments in improving and replacing European RIs. These future investments will be predominately oriented towards transnational RIs.
The OSIRIS (Towards an Open and Sustainable ICT Research Infrastructure Strategy) consortium is composed of participants involving several and highly relevant Public Authorities and National Champions across 13 EU Members States and Associated Countries and regions with direct links to existing and future ICT European RIs (i.e. High-Performance Computing, Grids, Networks, Micro/Nanoelectronics and Future Internet).
Through its objectives, the OSIRIS project opens a novel initiative regarding the structure and management of European ICT RIs that will cover existing and crucial gaps related to the necessary dialogue between the main stakeholders of European ICT RIs. The mission of OSIRIS is the creation of a open and living working group that will analyse in a continuous process the relationship between present and future European ICT RIs, Public Authorities and National Champions facing present and future issues and thus aligns itself with the ESFRI roadmap and its intention to build European capacity within the context of European ICT RIs.
Objectives: The main objectives of the OSIRIS project initiative are to build the platform, mechanism and models required to secure the efficient involvement of Member States, Associated Countries and regions to develop cross border public-public partnerships and to establish a coordinated approach to future large scale investments in transnational European ICT RIs.
OSIRIS therefore has been established with the necessary structure and elements to reach:

- The establishment of an Open living working group (platform) able to provide continuous analysis and recommendations on existing and future European ICT RIs regarding cross-border shared methodologies and best practices;
- The development of procedures, rules and management mechanisms to be codified in the MoU for the continuation of the OSIRIS living working group for coordinated investments in large scale transnational ICT RI's in Europe;
- Sustainability models and recommendations for future coordinated investments within and across European ICT RIs, emphasizing on complementary or common planning of investments and investment policies;

Towards an Open and Sustainable ICT Research Infrastructure Strategy — RI

European Commission Information Society and Media

Project acronym: OSIRIS

Contract n°: RI-248295

Project type: CSA-CA

Start date: 01/01/2010

Duration: 24 months

Total budget: 1 017 416 €

Funding from the EC: 818 367 €

Total funded effort in person-month: 88.85 PM

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IMEC	BE
CSIR	ZA
CSEM	CH
MHEST	SI
NCF	NL
TUBITAK	TR
TNI-UCC	IE
ISERD	IL
INFN	IT
MFA	HU
IMCS	LV
IZM	LV
AVCR	CZ
CESNET	CZ
UPSUD	FR

Keywords:
Research Infrastructures, High Performance Computing, Grids, Micro/Nanoelectronics, Future Internet

Collaboration with other EC funded projects: GEANT, PRACE, EGI

continued overleaf

- Development of shared common cross-border methodologies and best practices to deploy and implement models for enhancing and extending public-public partnerships into public-private ones.

Action plan:
The philosophy behind the OSIRIS proposal is the establishment of common action frameworks within the context of European ICT RIs. With such regard, the OSIRIS consortium has been built on a solid structure grouping key actors empowered to initiate and sustain a close collaboration with management structures and representatives of the main European ICT key stakeholders. The OSIRIS methodology is strongly based on the expertise and adequacy of the consortium members and on their direct links to European ICT RIs.
The methodology conceived extends far beyond the end of the OSIRIS project.
Coordination OR support activities: The main expected result of the project is the establishment of an Open living working group (platform). During the course of the OSIRIS project it can only be expected that the foundations will be laid for this platform including guidelines for future interaction within this platform. On the long-term, beyond OSIRIS, this platform should able to provide continuous analysis and recommendations on existing and future European ICT RIs regarding cross-border shared methodologies and best practices.
User communities: The OSIRIS project initiative addresses the need of coordination and collaboration frameworks that Public Authorities and national Champions are facing within the context of European ICT RIs. Since the present needs are on a European scale it is therefore highly necessary to count with initiatives at a global European scale. Moreover no truly validated models capturing essential features that will serve for common methodologies could be achieved without a full coordination among the members of the OSIRIS project initiative and even more among the key stakeholders in the context of European ICT RIs. OSIRIS involves a group of coordinated active members in charge of preparing and running a plan to produce consistent background information with focus on the roles of Public Authorities and National Champions in the context of European ICT RIs and elaborate the needed strategies. Moreover OSIRIS is open to input from Industry and SMEs and will build on the key contributions from representatives of GEANT, PRACE, PRINS, EGI and Future Internet.
On the whole the contributions of the OSIRIS project initiative will help to increase the competitiveness and strategic freedom of European countries and industries in the areas covered by present and future ICT RIs. It would reduce the dependency of key economic sectors on foreign imports of equipment and software. A strong joint strategy would ensure return on investment to the participating Member States and Associated Countries and regions by contributing to the development of innovation friendly environments. This in turn will encourage further investments and will create a virtuous cycle for further developments.
International aspects: The OSIRIS consortium partners believe that there is a European need for sustainable models and suggestions to facilitate the cooperation between Public Authorities and National Champions from the EU Member States and Associated Countries and regions regarding future investments in ICT RIs. The models to be developed in the ORISIS project should eventually support the establishment of a common European vision and strategy for the management and coordination of RIs. An important platform for the refinement and adaptation of the proposed models and the dissemination and future deployment of a common strategy is the living working group of RI stakeholders that will be founded in the frame of OSIRIS.

outGRID

Summary: outGRID will be a first step toward a global scientific grid infrastructure, it will trigger convergence within the neuroscientific community and, in the long run, the biomedical research community at large.

outGRID builds on the results of FP7 neuGRID (www.neuGRID.eu) project which is being developed to provide large sets of brain images paired with grid-based computationally intensive algorithms for studies of neurodegenerative diseases. Two infrastructures with similar aims are operational or under construction overseas. In Canada, the Montreal Neurological Institute (MNI) aims to develop a pan-Canadian platform (CBRAIN http://cbrain.mcgill.ca) for exchange and distributed processing of 3D/4D brain imaging data. In the US, the LONI — Laboratory of Neuro Imaging at UCLA (the University of California, Los Angeles — http://www.LONI.ucla.edu) already provides a number of algorithm pipelines to perform a wide range of brain image analyses that come with an intelligent and interactive distributed visual programming environment.

These three complementary neuroscience initiatives could converge to one unique worldwide facility, given the following enablers: (i) the databasing software of neuGRID is the same as CBRAIN's, (ii) an ultra broad band connection links Europe to Canada (GTRN), and (iii) both platforms are under construction, thus providing latitude for channelling towards interoperability. Interoperability of neuGRID with LONI is facilitated by (i) the database structure of neuGRID being the same of LONI, i.e. that of the North American Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative (ADNI), (ii) an ultra broad band connection links Europe to US (GTRN) and (iii) neuGRID may adopt LONI's workflow authoring system for algorithm pipelining.

outGRID will organize workshops in Europe, Canada, and the US to promote the exchange of technical information, direct the development of the infrastructures towards interoperability.

Project acronym: outGRID

Contract n°: RI-246690

Project type: I3

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Total funded effort in person-month: 117,6

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HEALTHGRID	FR
MNI	CA
University of California, Los Angeles	US
KCL	UK

Keywords:
e-Infrastructures, computational neuroscience, Grid computing, EGEE gLite, GEANT, SOA

Collaboration with other EC funded projects:
neuGRID
Health-e-Child

continued overleaf

Objectives: The first main objective of outGRID is to define activities (including research and development) and outline technical specifications for interoperability among the three infrastructures. The second objective is to foster, within its lifetime, the maximum possible degree of interoperability allowed by this Support Action. The last objective is to lay the foundations for a larger research and development effort aimed to achieve full interoperability among the three infrastructures.

Action plan: Work Package 1 (WP1) will initiate requirements alignment between infrastructures, based on which WP2 will outline the relevant integration effort estimate and promote initial interoperability. WP3 will disseminate the results of WP2 to the scientific community to promote synergies and examplify convergence while WP4 will leverage on WP2 and WP3 to affect policy and decision makers. WP5 will manage the whole project.

Support activities: WP1 (Fact Finding) will allow to capitalize upon and share knowledge by collecting detailed technical information about the three infrastructures (so-called fact finding) with the aim of outlining technical similarities and differences, identifing hurdles to interoperability and facilitating factors to leverage on. WP2 will Foster Interoperability through information/communication activities, operational support and monitoring, and will identify/formalize technical specifications to achieve full interoperability. Activities will be carried out by neuGRID technical personnel in Europe based on the results of WP1. WP2 activities will be carried out based on the results of WP1 and through personal (workshops/working groups) and digital (email) means by neuGRID technical personnel who will interact with homologous from the MNI and UCLA partners. WP3 (Promoting Awareness Among Scientists) will encourage worldwide synergies with the neuGRID-CBRAIN-LONI triad by disseminating outGRID's information in scientific communities (e.g. neuroscientists and Grid experts). WP4 (Impacting On Policy Making) will leverage on the results of WP2 to promote a common strategy for research and development funding by EU, US, and Canadian agencies.

User communities: outGRID addresses the needs of the neuroscientists community working in the field of imaging of Alzheimer's disease, for whom outGRID will represent opportunity to make full use of a large interoperable infrastructure where data, algorithms, and computational power can be found in a unified and user-friendly environment. Primarly, outGRID is an effort directed towards the construction of a huge international user-oriented computational infrastructure, where formulation and specification of potential new applications in conjunction with end user communities will be take in great consideration.

International aspects: outGRID aims to technically address additional challenges in the construction of an International neurosciences facility, such as multilevel data management, secure access to distributed data archives and the delivery of a suite of collaboration tools for neuroscientists. Each of the three project pillars constituting outGRID has a number of International collaboration which come with the neuroscientists user community involved in the projects as well as through its technical partners.