

EUROPEAN GRID INITIATIVE Design Study

Towards a sustainable production grid infrastructure

Europe has invested heavily in e-science programmes over the past years both at the National and the European levels with impressive results. Grid technology is recognized as a fundamental component for e-infrastructures. Many countries have launched National Grid Initiatives (NGIs) to establish National grid infrastructures.

Driven by the needs and requirements of European research community, the EGI Design Study (EGI_DS) represents a project for the conceptual setup and operation of a new organisational model of a sustainable pan-European grid infrastructure. To this day* already 37 National Grid Initiatives in Europe have recognised the need to link existing national grid initiatives and to support the setup and initiation of new grid initiatives. As a part of the EU's 7th Framework Program, the EGI_DS project will interact and encourage the member states to make the strategic decisions required to establish and support a sustainable grid infrastructure and initiate its implementation.

Guidelines of EGI Design Study: VISIONS AND OBJECTIVES OF EGI

To ensure that Europe capitalises fully on its large investment in grid infrastructures, middleware development and applications, the objectives of the future EGI are:

- Ensure the long-term sustainability of the European e-infrastructure
- Coordinate the integration and interaction between National Grid Infrastructures
- Operate the European level of the production grid infrastructure for a wide range of scientific disciplines to link National Grid Infrastructures
- Provide global services and support that complement and/or coordinate national services (Authentication, VO-support, security, etc)
- Coordinate middleware development and standardisation to enhance the infrastructure by soliciting targeted developments from leading EU and National Grid middleware development projects
- Advise National and European Funding Agencies in establishing their programmes for future software developments based on agreed user needs and development standards
- Integrate, test, validate and package software from leading grid middleware development projects and make it widely available
- Provide documentation and training material for the middleware and operations. (NGIs may wish to make the material available in turn in their local language)
- Take into account developments made by national e-science projects which were aimed at supporting diverse communities
- Link the European infrastructure with similar infrastructures elsewhere
- Promote grid interface standards based on practical experience gained from grid operations and middleware integration activities, in consultation with relevant standards organizations
- Collaborate closely with industry as technology and service providers, as well as grid users, to promote the rapid and successful uptake of grid technology by European Industry

EGI Design Study Contacts

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Partners



Greek Research and Technology Network
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Verein zur Förderung eines Deutschen Forschungsnetzes -DFN-
Verein, Germany



European Organization for Nuclear Research



CESNET, z.s.p.o
Czech Republic



Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare,
Italy



Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique,
France



Science & Technology
Facilities Council

Science & Technology
Facilities Council,
UK



CSC, the Finnish IT
center for Science,
Finland



GUP-Institut für
Graphische und
Parallele
Datenverarbeitung der
Joh. Kepler Universität
Linz, Austria

National Grid Initiatives from following countries:

Austria
Belarus
Belgium
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Germany
Greece

Hungary
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Montenegro
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Portugal

Romania
Russia
Serbia
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
UK
Ukraine