



eInfrastructures and the ERIA

The way forward

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From ERA to ERIA

- **European Research Area (ERA)**
 - Central pillar of research activities in the European Union, beyond the FP.
 - Key component of the strategy aiming to make the European Union the most competitive knowledge-based economy by the year 2010.
- **European Innovation Area**
 - A recognition that competitiveness is linked directly to innovation
- **The Greek Presidency considers the two areas have to converge in order to achieve the desired rates of competitiveness and sustainable growth.**



Objectives of ERIA

- **Creation of an internal market in research, knowledge, researchers and technology, stimulate competition and better allocation of resources**
- **Improving coordination of national research activities and policies**
- **Taking into account all relevant aspects of other EU policies**
- **Revisiting the “subsidiarity principle” in away that the European thinking will prevail over the national approaches.**
- **The Greek E.U. Presidency is committed to the ERIA process**



Research Infrastructures in ERIA

- The essential role of R I, particularly in providing access to users
 - has been supported for the last decade through the Framework Programmes,
 - has to be strengthened further, with considerable financial support,
 - major instruments for advancing Europe's competitiveness

- The 3/3/2003 Competitiveness Council in Brussels agreed that
"... High priority should be given to the Information Society and to increasing the capacity of scientific boardand communication networks (GEANT and GRID-the elnfastructure concept)....".



Key issues for debate

- **Need for a mechanism to jointly identify new research and technological challenges and respond to them in a rapid and effective manner**
- **Increase the financial support by both the public and private sectors for Research Infrastructures**
- **Strengthen the role of Research infrastructures for lifting mobility obstacles and promoting the integration of European scientists**
- **Increasing the contribution of the intergovernmental research organisation's Research Infrastructures in the ERA**
- **Strengthen the support for the successful deployment of Grids enabled eInfrastructure across Europe over the pan-European research network GEANT.**



The EU eInfrastructures initiative

- The objectives of EU eInfrastructures initiative is fully in line with the ERIA and
 - Provide for a framework for easier, faster and more cost-effective access to all researchers in Europe
 - Allow seamless access to all types of information resources (networking, computing, data storage) distributed across Europe.
 - Offer equal opportunities in the use of resources independent of location or affiliation of the scientist
 - Can be seen as a means to spread “Big Science” to less-advanced, remotely-located regions of our continent



The EU eInfrastructures initiative

- **R I are not only instruments for advanced science!**
- **They involve the development and use of advanced Technology and many technological Innovations**
- **It is crucial to promote rapidly the best practice in the use of R I to accelerate a later commercial uptake**
 - **how those technologies could create a competitive advantage for Europe?**
 - **how new differentiated services and products could be developed?**
 - **how the industry can be involved in the developments from the beginning?**



Greek Secretariat for R & T supporting activities

- Greece is catching up in developing a knowledge-based economy...

- ...with strong overall trends in improved innovation performance

- GSRT funds technological infrastructure in Academic and Research Institutes

- Greek Research Institutes are ready to use and provide Grid resources (use applications – offer resources)

- GRNET operates MAN in Athens at 2.5 Gbps (nation-wide by end 2003)

- Supports the extended ERIA in the Balkans and the Mediterranean

