25th e-IRG Delegates Meeting
Budapest, Hungary, June 1st 2011
- Summary Report -

The 25th e-IRG delegates meeting took place in Budapest under the auspice of the Hungarian EU-Presidency. During the meeting the progress of the e-IRG White Paper 2011 and the consequent recommendations were discussed. The delegates were informed about the status of the Data Management Task Force and the Task Force on Cloud Computing. Furthermore the future collaboration with ESFRI was discussed and the data management issue has been seen as a promising topic.

Reports and news from the e-IRG

During the opening presentation the e-IRG chair **Gudmund Høst** reflected on the core values of the e-IRG, noting that e-IRG's „internal vision" should be a learning organisation where transparency, interactive mode of work and open discussions and agendas lead to continuous improvement of the organisation and its working methods.

The e-IRG White Paper 2011 draft findings were presented at meetings and events of expert groups and on the 4th meeting of high-level representatives. The given presentations are available on the e-IRG website under http://www.e-irg.eu/publications/external-e-irg-presentations.html

The e-IRG has been invited to continue the fruitful collaboration with **ESFRI** and to develop a best practices document on Data Management in Research Infrastructures. Some of the ESFRI projects could pilot the development. This collaboration is recognized as highly welcome since it is relevant to a series of ESFRI roadmap projects..

The e-IRG vice-chair **Rosette Vandenbroucke** reported from the INTEL exascale workshop where developments and policies have been presented on how to reach exascale computing. Power consumption was a major concern throughout the event.

The e-IRG co-chair **Lajos Balint** explained the consultation process initiated by the EC to get input for the Common Strategic Framework (CSF, now Horizon 2020) for future EU Research and Innovation Funding. He presented the e-IRG response document, which is published with all the other contributions on the CSFRI website[1].

Report from the e-IRGSP3

Rossend Llurba reported the main support team activities, which mainly comprise the support in the White Paper 2011 process and the e-IRG Action Plan. Furthermore the support project provides activities to support the e-IRG chair, the Executive Board and the organisation of the events in Poland.

News from the Commission

Pekka Karp informed the delegates on the activities for the preparation of the CSF. The consultation has been finished and has resulted in a high number of responses including around

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[1] http://ec.europa.eu/research/csfri

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1400 questionnaires and 800 position papers. In the CSF meeting on June 10th a draft summary was to be presented and a finalised version was planned to be announced by mid July.

He also reported that a communication on HPC is being prepared aiming at the EC taking a position with regards to keeping and building up HPC capacity in Europe involving industrial participation. The next call, which is announced towards the end of July, will also address the future of PRACE.

From the first meeting of the e-Infrastructure Policy Forum (eIPF) it was reported that representatives of 19 Member State governments have attended and that this first meeting was dedicated to organisational aspects. The eIPF is an expert group chaired by the EC and consisting of national government representatives responsible for e-Infrastructure matters. The major goal of the eIPF is to regularly debate and exchange early information between public policy makers in an effort to align national and EU policies and initiatives in the e-Infrastructure area. The e-IRG will be invited to the eIPF meetings, which will be held twice a year.

News from the Member Countries

The Czech e-IRG delegate **Jan Gruntorad** informed the e-IRG about the approval in the Czech Republic of the National Plan for Research Infrastructures. The Czech government has approved a programme to update the national research infrastructures. **CESNET** will coordinate the provision of e-infrastructures. He also informed the e-IRG that a new delegate, **Ondřej Novák**, has been appointed.

The Greek e-IRG delegate **Panos Argyrakis** presented the "Flagship Projects" under Future and Emerging Technologies (FET) and in particular the **FuturICT project**, which has the strongest computational links and addresses several topics of concern that are common to e-IRG.

e-IRG Policy Papers

The **e-IRG White Paper 2011** has undergone the public consultation phase. The champions for each chapter have produced updated versions that have been integrated into the final version of the White Paper which is available under http://www.e-irg.eu/publications/white-papers.html. **Rosette Vandenbroucke** stated that the recommendations from the White Paper would be also published separately in the **e-IRG Recommendations 2011** document.

Norbert Meyer reported that the work on the Task Force report on Data Management is underway. On the e-IRG Workshop in Poznan there will be a dedicated session on data infrastructures, which will provide significant input to the report. The delegates confirmed that the data issue currently is the main contact point between **e-IRG** and **ESFRI** and Gudmund Høst will discuss with ESFRI about collaboration and best practices in data management.

Task Force on Cloud Computing

The e-IRG Task Force on Cloud Computing will provide a holistic view of clouds as they have proved relevant for all e-Infrastructure providers. Rosette Vandenbroucke will be chairing the group that will produce a report by June 2012. It was decided to invite external expert contributions to the Task Force report, yet the report will be submitted for e-IRG approval. Pekka Karp noted that the Digital Agenda and the cloud computing consultation of the EC provide a window of opportunity. The e-IRG delegate from Romania **Dana Petcu** is invited to participate on the Digital Agenda cloud strategy workshop of the EC.

The e-IRG workshop in Poznan

The **next e-IRG workshop** in Poznan will be organised under the auspice of the Polish EU presidency. A **preliminary programme** of the workshop is available on the e-IRG website under http://www.e-irg.eu/e-irg-events/e-irg-workshop-poznan-12-13-october.html. It is considered to organise a tutorial for young researchers on HPC, Grid and Clouds in conjunction with the e-IRG workshop.