

Public Summary - 27th e-IRG Delegates Meeting

Warsaw, December 9th, 2011

The 27th e-IRG delegates meeting was the second one under the auspices of the Polish EU Presidency. The meeting started with an 'open' part in which key representatives from major European e-infrastructures attended

Future Organisation of e-IRG

Gudmund Høst, e-IRG chair, welcomed the delegates and in particular the invited representatives from main European e-infrastructures. The first part was dedicated to the future organisation of the e-IRG itself and the e-IRG Roadmap 2012 and the second part was the closed delegates meeting.

In their presentations the **representatives from EGI, OpenAIREplus, EUDAT, GÉANT and TERENA** provided their views on e-IRG and illustrated which strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for the e-IRG exist from their point of view. After the presentations the e-IRG Chair invited the external participants to rework the e-IRG SWOT analysis together with the delegates.

The e-IRG Roadmap 2012

Leif Laaksonen presented the ideas for the e-IRG Roadmap 2012. He recorded that all invited projects consent with the integrating role of e-IRG. Dr Laaksonen further said, that ESFRI is looking with confidence to e-IRG. He proposed that the e-IRG Roadmap 2012 should assess the development of e-infrastructure service provision with focus on the next 3-5 years. It should take economic and social impact, and governance policy aspects into account. Dr Laaksonen sketched the responsibility for the Roadmap 2012, where in addition to the e-IRG delegates and the support programme major horizontal e-infrastructures initiatives will be invited to participate from the beginning. Main aspects treated in the Roadmap 2012 will be e-infrastructure trends and paradigm shifts. The proposed topics are Scientific and Public Data, Cooperation with Industry, the general direction, desiderata and open issues of e-Infrastructures, and the "fourth layer", the linking of user communities to the e-infrastructures. The guests expressed their willingness to contribute to the Roadmap 2012, and it was remarked that active participation could be more effective than the contribution as an expert at the review stage. Furthermore it was expressed that an involvement in the consultation phase would be too late for major changes. Dr Høst thanked the guests for their useful input.

Reports and News from the e-IRG

In the closed e-IRG delegate meeting **Gudmund Høst** concluded that 2011 was an active year for the e-IRG. He noted that three publications were published (White Paper 2011, Recommendations 2011 and "e-Infrastructures in support of the Digital Agenda") and four others are in preparation (Task Force Report on Cloud Computing, Task Force Report on Data Management, the reaction to "GÉANT 2020 as the European Communications Commons" and the e-IRG Roadmap 2012). Dr Høst said there have been several consultations and others are going on (ERA, Horizon 2020, ESFRI) and that e-IRG has started to reshape itself for the future. To continue this process e-IRG established a working group, which aims to create a proposal for the future organisation of the e-IRG.

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Report from the e-IRGSP3

Rossend Llurba reported about the main activities of the e-IRG support programme, which included support of the policy document creation process of e-IRG, assistance of the editorial process of the policy documents and dissemination of the results of e-IRG. Furthermore the support programme provided one-page summaries of external documents related to the objectives of e-IRG.

News from the Commission

Pekka Karp gave a detailed presentation of HORIZON 2020, the €80 billion EC proposal for the next EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. HORIZON 2020 will replace three programmes (FP7, CIP and EIT) and will have three priorities: Excellent Science, Industrial Leadership and Societal Challenges. The proposed funding for Research Infrastructures is €2,802 million, which includes e-infrastructures. Dr Karp presented the activities of HORIZON 2020, with a focus to the Research Infrastructure part (1. Developing the European RIs for 2020 and beyond, 2. Fostering the innovation potential of RIs and their human capital and 3. Reinforcing Europe's RI policy and international cooperation). e-Infrastructures are mainly included under "Developing the European RIs for 2020", while e-IRG is specifically mentioned under point 3. Questioned if integrating activities for e-infrastructures will be part of HORIZON 2020 Dr Karp answered that this is basically possible because Horizon 2020 aims to be a more integrated programme than FP7. These aspects can be discussed in consultations to follow. Dr Karp invited e-IRG to co-organise two of the HORIZON 2020 consultation meetings during the spring 2012 (Distributed Computing/Grids and Human Resources and Training) with a possible support of e-IRPSP3 for the logistics.

Reaction to the GEG Report

Kees Neggers sees the GEG report as excellent opportunity to show leadership and provide proactively a reaction from e-IRG. Furthermore he stated that speed and direction of the response would be key to be heard in the discussion phase. **Gudmund Høst** agreed and holds the action with assistance from Kees Neggers.

e-IRG Action Plan

The e-IRG Roadmap 2012 and the involvement of external partners were discussed intensively. The further discussion reflected on the evolution in and of the data area and how e-IRG will accompany and guide the development. The Terms of Reference of the e-IRG Roadmap 2012 were approved. The Chair informed that ESFRI would appoint an e-IRG contact person. The delegates found this to be a very positive development and decided that this contact person could attend the future delegates' meetings as an observer.

Rossend Llurba presented the updated Action Plan and reported the status of the e-IRG actions. **Sverker Holmgren** was nominated as responsible person for the action item on European Software Strategy, experts from Finland, the Netherlands, Poland and the UK will be identified. **Dieter Kranzlmüller** will be the responsible person from the e-IRG support programme. A reviewed Action Plan with priorities will be prepared for decisions at the March delegates meeting.

e-IRG Policy Papers

Norbert Meyer reported the status of the e-IRG Blue Paper on Data Management and informed that it was discussed with the ESFRI Executive Board. Selected ESFRI projects (BioMedBridges, CRISP, DASISH and ENVRI) will contribute to the Blue Paper. The topics of the Blue Paper will be: data infrastructure, reliability and replications, metadata, unified access and security.

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The delegates were informed that the e-IRG document “e-Infrastructures in support of the Digital Agenda” had been finalized and printed. This document will be sent to the Commissioner Kroes and further disseminated.

Task Force on Cloud Computing

Rosette Vandenbroucke presented the status of report of the Task Force on Cloud Computing and invited the delegates to provide their comments before the document will be carried forward in e-IRG’s document creation process into the consultation phase.

Activities during the Danish EU Presidency

Rene Belsø reaffirmed that the first delegates meeting during the Danish EU Presidency will take place in Copenhagen on March 20th, 2012 preceding the International Conference on Research Infrastructures (ICRI 2012). The e-IRG workshop will be held on 11-12 June and mainly organised by Nordforsk. The second delegates meeting will take place on June 13th.

Activities during the Cyprus EU Presidency

The Chair explained that because Cyprus is not an e-IRG member the e-IRGs workshop and delegates meetings would not be hosted from Cyprus. **Patrick Aerts** informed that the Netherlands were willing to organise the e-IRG workshop and a delegates meeting. Greece expressed interest in organising the other delegates meeting jointly with Cyprus. Because the topics to be brought up at the workshop are important for e-IRG and Cyprus will not be member of the Executive Board, the delegates approved the nomination of a delegate from the Netherlands to join the Board.

AOB

The Chair informed the delegates on a request from the SEERA-EI ERANET project that 6 South Eastern European (SEE) countries (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro and Serbia) wish to be represented in the e-IRG as region. It was decided that named delegates of this region would be affiliated into a mailing list to provide them related information.