



EGEE Contributions to e-Infrastructure policy work

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Introduction

The theme of this talk is "Policy forums and EGEE"

- EGEE as a Support Organization
- EGEE as a Host
- EGEE as a participant handled mainly elsewhere in this review
 - Standardization work, joint groups

Practical, concrete Motivations for this activity:

- Remove policy level stumbling blocks that might slow down or prevent the work of EGEE and the collaborations it is involved in
- Part of the overall effort to ensure that the project is not working in isolation

Sub-Topics:

- EGEE supporting, shaping and driving the work of the e-Infrastructures Reflection Group
- EGEE hosting the first Concertation event on e-Infrastructures
- Status, future challenges



elRG Policy Forum Support

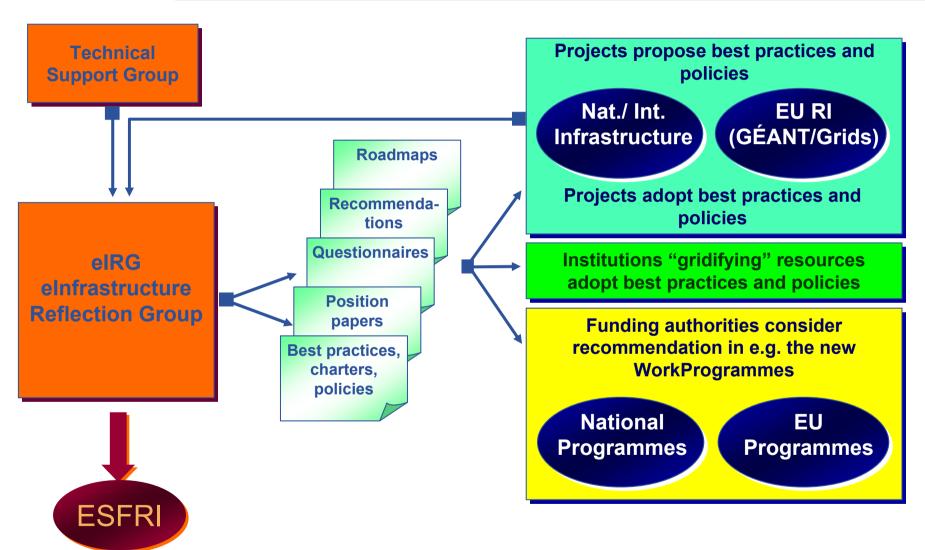
Enabling Grids for E-science

- The e-Infrastructures Reflection Group (eIRG)
 - Mission: study and promote policies for easy and cost-effective shared use of electronic resources in Europe
 - 25 countries (government-appointed representatives), EU: 2 members
 - Stronger link with ESFRI in the future 10-20 year roadmap
- The link with the eIRG predates the EGEE project
 - Large part of the EGEE community has been involved since the beginning of the eIRG
- Two major eIRG events during the "EGEE era"
 - Dublin meeting, April 2004
 - Den Haag meeting, November 2004
- Changes in the meantime
 - Kick-off of the EGEE NA5 activity
 - Support for the eIRG a key component of the activity
 - Broadening the scope of the eIRG work.



elRG in Action

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Source: Mario Campolargo, European Commission, eIRG meeting, Den Haag



elRG White Paper Process

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- Clarified roles
 - Editor
 - Subeditors
 - Version manager, integrator
- For the Den Haag version:
 - Created a new structure to reflect the issues
 - Based on the discussion with the eIRG board, EU and the support team
 - Refined the original roadmap
 - November 2004 focus areas: Authorization, Accounting, Acceptable Usage Policies and User Support
 - Integrated text from previous versions only as needed
 - Above will be part of the recommended process in the future?
- Process and the Support team likely a major contributing factor in the success
 - Very tight schedule
 - End result met with general approval



The concertation event

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- Organized in Den Haag, 22-23 November 2004
 - Combined with the EGEE-2 project conference
- Participation from broad range of projects
 - Over 200 Grid developers present at the event
 - EGEE adopted the role of a host:
 - Pre-event questionnaires asking for input
 - Session chair duties shared with other projects
 - Influenced the contents of the deliverable "European Grid project Synergy Roadmap"
- Follow-up activity ongoing
 - Invitation to join the technical working groups sent out on 21 January
 - Very open invitation
 - Participation is not limited to EU-funded or "European" projects



Issues and Mitigation

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Slightly isolated activity from the rest of the project

- Result of the quick ramp-up needed leading to the eIRG and Concertation events -> focus on external contacts
- Mitigation plans: closer contact with other networking activities,
 broadening the contact interface of NA5 with other activities
 - Lateral contacts between NA5 and other networking activities (NA2/NA4) initiated.

Nature of the activity creates a degree of uncertainty

- The role and structure of the eIRG and concertation meetings is likely to evolve in the future.
- Scheduling of the meetings is not controlled by the EGEE project.

Scoping issues with the policy work

- In which are the forums EGEE should get involved?
- To what degree?
- There is a wide array of European forums, with varying timescales and size - what level of integration and consolidation to support, and how?



Plan for next period

- Important deliverables and steps for the next 9 months
 - Deliverables
 - Progress report on International Cooperation Activities, PM12
 - Next version of the eIRG White Paper, PM15
 - European Grid Project Synergy report, PM18
 - Steps
 - Support the launch of the cross-project Working Groups
 - Technical support, facilitation
 - Move gradually from the role of a host to the role of a participant
 - Facilitate the Grid and Grid & Networking infrastructure concertation events
 - Production of an "EGEE view of the eIRG White Paper" document
 - How the recommendations of the eIRG match with the practices and plans of the EGEE project.



Summary

EGEE has engaged on broad range of policy-level discussions

- Provides a service for the eIRG
- Supports concertation activity with the whole Grid and networking infrastructures area
- There are very few structural challenges remaining
 - Sustainability of the eIRG support?
 - Defining the extent of involvement in the research oriented collaboration
- Most of the issues manageable in evolutionary manner
 - Closer integration of the policy level networking activities with the main EGEE focus has been initiated
 - Supporting the cross-project interaction and its consolidation
 - The role of the eIRG is important in these efforts