



Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

Supporting trainers in Taiwan

Mike Mineter mjm@nesc.ac.uk

4 May 2006, ISGC 2006, Taipei

www.eu-egee.org





The "take-home message"

Enabling Grids for E-science

- 1. As <u>active</u> partners in the EGEE training activity ("NA3") your limited time for training will be even more effective!
- 2. What you do matters to your colleagues in EGEE!
- 3. Share your experience and insights with the rest of NA3
- 4. As with grids themselves... conform to some policies and gain the benefits!

Get to know the NA3 pages: http://egee.nesc.ac.uk



CGC The "take-home message" for me

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

Don't use silly animations with powerpoint What else? How can NA3 leadership support you?



1. How can this session help you?

– Have you come with any questions?

2. We could look at:

- Why have training?!
- Training in EGEE-II (activity NA3)
- What support exists?
- Example of procedures and processes: running a course
- How you can help NA3



Training & Education Spectrum

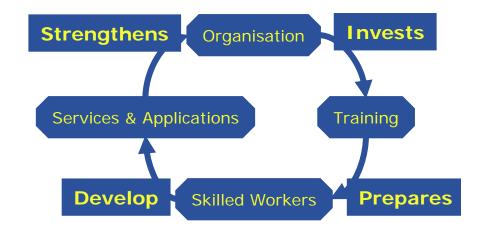
Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

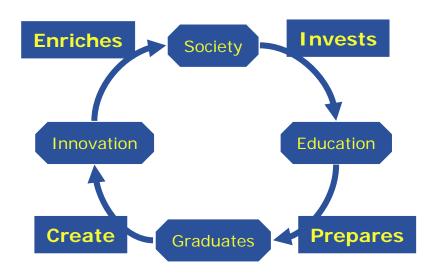
Training

- Targeted
- Immediate goals
- Specific skills
- Building a workforce

Education

- Pervasive
- Long term and sustained
- Generic conceptual models
- Developing a culture
- Both are needed

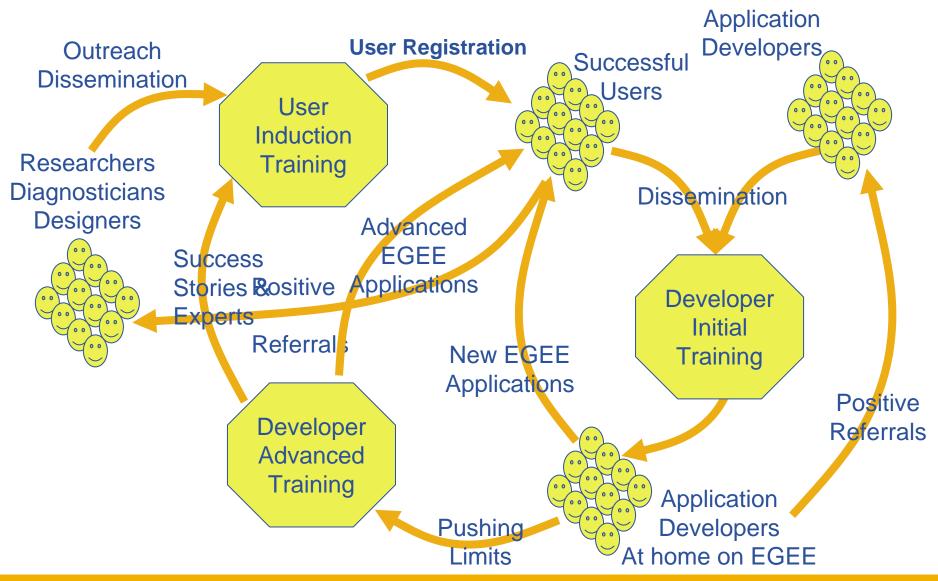






Trainers power Virtuous Cycles

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE





EGEE Goals

- Grid Infrastructure across European Research Area & the globe
- 2. Simultaneously many applications from diverse domains
- 3. Spread knowledge about the Grid and its benefits
- 4. Link national, regional and thematic Grid efforts
- 5. Provide interoperability with other Grids
- 6. EGEE-II will coordinate related Grid projects
- 7. Pave the way for a long-term sustainable Grid
- 8. Knowledge developed available in years to come



NA3: Supporting EGEE-II Goals

Enabling Grids for E-science

- Target a full breadth of disciplines & industry
- Induction and training of EGEE e-Infrastructure users
 - Recognise & serve different user communities
 - Recognise & support levels of maturity
 - Interested but not yet committed
 - Novice users to Experts
 - Recognise & support different roles
 - Users of applications & portals
 - Developers and Deployers of Applications and Services
 - Creators, Providers and Curators of Data and Information
 - Staff establishing and administering production service operations
 - Staff providing User Support (GGUS) and Technical Writers

In conjunction with all other activities in EGEE-II & other projects



Scale of the Training Challenge

Enabling Grids for E-science

- The potential users of e-Infrastructure
 - Are very numerous
 - Diverse
 - Geographically dispersed
 - And likely to avalanche as the Grid takes off
- NA3 is a small group with limited capacity
 - Approximately 1 person/country in the European Research Area
 - Limited knowledge of disciplines
 - Uneven geographic distribution
 - Requests to serve global outreach will continue / expand



Addressing our Scaling Challenge

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

Structured roles in NA3

- Edinburgh NA3 management will focus on support services
- Regions will
 - Engage in systematic requirements capture
 - Running events to match local requirements
 - Developing trainers & training material
 - Undertake defined roles with discipline × maturity × role

Trend to Services to Enable Others

- Enable self-paced learning
- Shared supported t-Infrastructure
- Expert advice

Memoranda of Understanding

- With VOs & Projects working with NA4
- Strategic Alliances
 - E.g. Education & Training CG at GGF

Managed Flexibility & Responsiveness will be essential

These require investment of significant effort



1. How can this session help you?

– Have you come with any questions?!

2. We could look at:

- Why have training?!
- Training in EGEE-II (activity NA3)
- What support exists?
- Example of procedures and processes: running a course
- How you can help NA3



What support exists?

- EGEE's "People Grid"
- Web site http://egee.nesc.ac.uk
- Advertising
 - NA3 events pages
- Registration service
 - but without money management! if you charge for events, manage that side yourselves
- Resources
 - Existing courses
 - Digital library
- Procedures
- NA3 has contact points to other activities in EGEE
 - Use them if you have questions NA3 colleagues can't answer



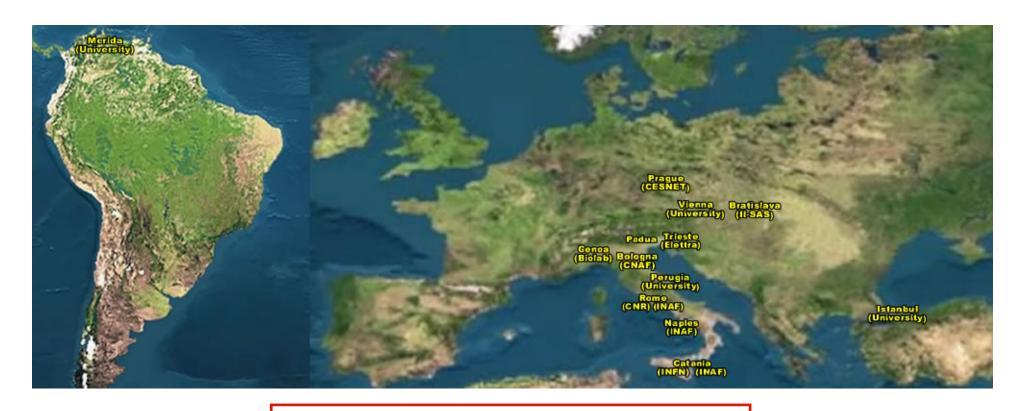
Distance learning

- Current focus is strongly on establishing a digital library
- See http://egee.lib.ed.ac.uk for current state of play
- How do you think e-Learning can support you?

- Use Access Grid?
 - For meetings with others in EGEE (not all sites have AG)
 - To contribute to courses you run
 - If you want a new module in a course
 - For a discussion session to close a course?



The GILDA Test-bed (https://gilda.ct.infn.it/testbed.html)



15 sites in 3 continents!

GILDA is coordinated by Roberto Barbera and colleagues at the **University of Catania and INFN.**



Running a course - 1

Planning

- Current focus is mainly on production grid middleware, pending schedule for gLite deployment
- Preparation of courses: Re-use material where you see fit
 - It will continue to evolve
 - Help that to happen feedback comments and new versions
 - Obtain the latest versions of material
 - Via digital library
 - Also just ask me in case there's new material en-route!
 - Using standards (PPT with this presentation as a template) helps others re-use your material – as well as using EGEE badging
- Advertising we can help presence on NA3 pages, emails
- Registration we can help (but not with collecting fees)
 - Through web page, sending you details of registrants



Running a course -2

- Practicals: use GILDA t-infrastructure
 - t-Infrastructure for training
 - Lightweight CA; quick response on short jobs;...
 - Apply for long-term certificates & accounts yourselves
 - Book to use GILDA https://gilda.ct.infn.it/request_tutorial/index.php
- At the event, follow NA3 procedures forms on NA3 homepage
 - Registration form
 - Avoids data protection issues if people give us email addresses etc.
 - Allows later emails to be sent to particiants e.g. 3 months later to assess impact of courses
 - Rarely happens at present something we need to develop!
 - Gender action plan form
 - Gather evaluations
 - "goals" should match those advertised!
 - Overall assessment important for cumulative NA3 statistics
 - For EGEE-II, we want to improve procedures your views?
 - e.g. We should get reports from tutors themselves



Running a course -3

- After the event
 - Assess evaluations!
 - Current summary form
 - Data are collated from these for EGEE reports
 - Web site
- Maintain your own list of your courses and their vital statistics (what is on the summary form) – not least so occasional reports of activity to NA3 office and on to the Project Office are trivial for you to do!



How you can help NA3

- Let us know your plans and event summaries
 - Raise the profile of Taiwan in EGEE even higher!
 - We need comprehensive statistics to understand the extent and impact of training (note also: some training is by EGEE colleagues not formally in NA3)
- Early in EGEE-II is a great time to help us improve NA3 procedures – try them!
- Help us to improve the course material!
 - It evolves with the middleware deployment plans
 - More case studies, software patterns, training modules are needed for application developer courses
 - current production middleware as well as gLite
- Keep talking to us!



Final thoughts

- The one thing we all lack is enough time!
 - We have some procedures and a lot of material that saves you from re-inventing the wheels... resist temptation and save time!
- Don't delay until you can aim for perfection in a course
 - Make plans
 - Better to do 3 good events than 1 near-perfect event!
 - More people will benefit
 - Monitor quality of events evaluations
 - And aim to improve the agenda, material and presentation each time!



Final "Final thoughts"

Above all:

- to work together in EGEE is a privilege
- Use that to build the 'people Grid!'
- Contribute to the rest of NA3 and ...
- ... let us support your training

Key contact points and resources

- NA3 website http://egee.nesc.ac.uk
- Brendan Hamill, manager of NA3, <u>brendan@nesc.ac.uk</u>
- GILDA https://gilda.ct.infn.it/
- NA3 digital library http://egee.lib.ed.ac.uk
- Also, stay in touch with me! <u>mjm@nesc.ac.uk</u>