



# European Grid Infrastructure

31 January 2011

Dear EGI-InSPIRE Project Members,

A belated Happy New Year! I hope 2011 will bring you many successes.

A draft programme for the EGI User Forum in Vilnius (<http://uf2011.egi.eu>) that is being held in conjunction with the EMI Technical Conference is now available (<http://go.egi.eu/uf2011>). It features 4 full days packed full of presentations, workshops, demonstrations and tutorials that start at 9am on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April. The programme covers how users are using the infrastructure and how the infrastructure is providing support to different user communities, the technologies from EMI and other providers that are being used within EGI and tutorials on all the latest software available from EGI and related projects.

Do not forget to register for the whole event - which includes the Conference Dinner - online (<https://uf2011.egi.eu/registration>) before the early bird fees end on 28 February and take the time to enjoy this historic capital city (<http://uf2011.egi.eu/venue/>).

Here in Amsterdam 2011 started quite well – January is barely over and we already have important progress to report. EGI has signed its first two Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) with technology providers. The Initiative for Globus in Europe (IGE), represented by Helmut Heller, was the first on 20 January. A week later on 27 January, Alberto Di Meglio signed a similar MoU on behalf of the European Middleware Initiative. We are very pleased with these agreements: building strong business relations with external technology providers is key to ensuring the long-term sustainability for the software we offer to our end-user and operations communities, developed to meet their distributed computing needs.

In January we also welcomed the members of the Operations Management Board (OMB) and the Technical Coordination Board (TCB) to Amsterdam for their first meetings of the year. The OMB discussed EGI's operations architecture, the roadmap for 2011 and the preparations for the EMI 1.0 release due at the end of April. The TCB discussions focussed on growing the links between the teams working on software quality, verification and release procedures and the EMI and IGE technology providers.

As part of our on-going developments to improve communication within the EGI community on the various activities that are now taking place across Europe we have established the EGI blog (<http://www.egi.eu/blog/>). After logging in with your EGI SSO you will be able to comment on any of the material. If you want to contribute to the blog, please email [blog-admin@egi.eu](mailto:blog-admin@egi.eu) with your SSO username. The team at EGI.eu have been posting a few entries on the latest developments on the user community support, the LifeWatch project kick-off

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event and I wrote a post about the challenges waiting for us in 2011. We all welcome your feedback and we hope your comments will fuel productive online discussions across the many areas of activity within the community.

Finally, VENUS-C ([www.venus-c.eu](http://www.venus-c.eu)), which was funded alongside EGI-InSPIRE, has now published details of its open call (<http://www.venus-c.eu/Pages/OpenCall.aspx>). They plan to fund between 10-20 pilots across a broad spectrum of application areas to help explore how applications can exploit cloud resources. Successful applicants will get financial and practical support to help their adoption and use of the resources provided from within the VENUS-C project. I would encourage your participation in this activity so as to help the whole community gain a better understanding of the potential benefits and limitations to different application communities of the emerging cloud platforms.

Until next month!

Yours sincerely,



Steven Newhouse  
EGI-InSPIRE Project Director

Upcoming Events:

Date	Event Details
<b>15-16 February 2011</b>	Cloudscape III – Taking European Cloud Infrastructure Forward Brussels, Belgium ( <a href="http://www.sienainitiative.eu/">http://www.sienainitiative.eu/</a> )
<b>11-15 April 2011</b>	EGI User Forum Vilnius, Lithuania ( <a href="http://uf2011.egi.eu/">http://uf2011.egi.eu/</a> )
<b>30 May – 1 June 2011</b>	EMI All Hands Meeting Lund, Sweden ( <a href="http://indico.cern.ch/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=124206">http://indico.cern.ch/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=124206</a> )
<b>8-10 June 2011</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> Iberian Grid Infrastructure Conference Santander, Spain ( <a href="http://www.ibergrid.eu/2011/">http://www.ibergrid.eu/2011/</a> )
<b>19-23 June 2011</b>	ISC11 International Supercomputing Conference Hamburg, Germany <a href="http://www.supercomp.de/isc11/">http://www.supercomp.de/isc11/</a>

To advertise both project and general community events please email [events@egi.eu](mailto:events@egi.eu)