



2 May 2011

Dear EGI-InSPIRE Project Members,

It was wonderful to see over 400 of you in Vilnius last month. Your active participation in the User Forum – through presentations, discussions and participation in the many sessions – made the meeting such a resounding success. My thanks again to the local organisers – LitGrid and BAIP – and the EMI project, who co-located their first Technical Conference at the event.

The EGI booth was the venue for an MoU and SLA signing marathon with more than ten agreements finalised in two days. These agreements have helped to consolidate our relationship with technology providers to UMD (EMI, IGE, StratusLab and SAGA), infrastructure providers in Latin and South America, and new user communities. You can read more about the User Forum and other news from the EGI community in the Spring issue of 'Inspired', our project newsletter (<http://go.egi.eu/Spring11>).

And now, as we close the curtain on a great User Forum, it's time to announce that the call for participation in the 2011 EGI Technical Forum is open! This is especially important if you want to co-locate workshops, tutorials or other meetings at the event. The Technical Forum will be held in Lyon between 19-23 September, in co-location with Grid2011 and the Open Grid Forum's next major European meeting (OGF'33). We already have a website online (<http://tf2011.egi.eu>), where you can read more details about the programme and the venue as they become available.

Incredibly, this month also marks the start of the second year of the project already! The User Forum was a definite proof of the breadth and diversity of the EGI community and was a true reflection of all the hard work and progress of the last year. It also highlighted some of the challenges for the next twelve months for us all in defining and developing an ecosystem where this amazing community can continue to thrive.

The engagement with our current and new user communities that operate at national, European and international levels is one of these challenges. Providing a set of technical services that can be embedded in NGI or VRC portals to assist users in discovering the resources available to them within their country or community continues to be a priority for the coming year. Extending the visibility of the service, applications and tools coming from the current heavy users of the infrastructure to help their sustainability by growing their user community is another area that will be pursued. Both of these strategies are open to activities that go beyond the current EGI-InSPIRE project, so if you know of a service,

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application or tool that can help users make better use of EGI resources, please let the User Community Support Team know on ucst@egi.eu.

One of the other major themes of the next year will be how we adopt virtualisation within the infrastructure. This will be a focus of the Technical Forum in September and to help us develop a plan, I would like to invite you to attend our upcoming User Virtualisation Workshop in Amsterdam (12-13 May). The event will bring together end-users, resource and technical providers, to discuss if and how EGI should move towards providing an Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) model to support data-intensive research. If you are planning to attend, don't forget to register this week (<http://go.egi.eu/uvw1>) as places are limited.

Yours sincerely,



Steven Newhouse
EGI-InSPIRE Project Director

Upcoming Events:

Date	Event Details
12-13 May 2011	EGI User Virtualisation Workshop Discussions (Science Park, Amsterdam) (https://go.egi.eu/uvw1)
16 – 20 May 2011	Role of e-Infrastructures for Climate Change Trieste, Italy (http://agenda.ictp.it/smr.php72238)
18 – 19 May 2011	European Globus Community Forum (EGCF) Munich, Germany (http://go.ige-project.eu/egcf1)
31 May – 1 June 2011	EMI All Hands Meeting Lund, Sweden (http://indico.cern.ch/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=124206)
8-10 June 2011	5 th Iberian Grid Infrastructure Conference Santander, Spain (http://www.ibergrid.eu/2011/)
9-10 June 2011	Federated identity management for scientific communities CERN, Geneva, Switzerland (https://indico.cern.ch/event/129364)
19-23 June 2011	ISC11 International Supercomputing Conference Hamburg, Germany (http://www.supercomp.de/isc11/)

To advertise both project and general community events please email events@egi.eu