



EGI-InSPIRE

MS232 EGI TECHNICAL FORUM

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Abstract

Event report from the EGI Technical Forum, held in Prague, between 17-21 September 2012. The report contains the detailed information collected around the event.



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II. DELIVERY SLIP

	Name	Partner/Activity	Date
From	Catherine Gater et al.	NA2	12 October 2012
Reviewed by	AMB & PMB		16 October 2012
Approved by	AMB & PMB		22 October 2012

III. DOCUMENT LOG

Issue	Date	Comment	Author/Partner
1	12 October 2012	First draft	C. Gater et al.
2	15 October 2012	Second draft	C. Gater et al.

IV. APPLICATION AREA

This document is a formal deliverable for the European Commission, applicable to all members of the EGI-InSPIRE project, beneficiaries and Joint Research Unit members, as well as its collaborating projects.

V. DOCUMENT AMENDMENT PROCEDURE

Amendments, comments and suggestions should be sent to the authors. The procedures documented in the EGI-InSPIRE “Document Management Procedure” will be followed: <https://wiki.egi.eu/wiki/Procedures>

VI. TERMINOLOGY

A complete project glossary is provided at the following page: <http://www.egi.eu/about/glossary/>.



VII. PROJECT SUMMARY

To support science and innovation, a lasting operational model for e-Science is needed – both for coordinating the infrastructure and for delivering integrated services that cross national borders.

The EGI-InSPIRE project will support the transition from a project-based system to a sustainable pan-European e-Infrastructure, by supporting ‘grids’ of high-performance computing (HPC) and high-throughput computing (HTC) resources. EGI-InSPIRE will also be ideally placed to integrate new Distributed Computing Infrastructures (DCIs) such as clouds, supercomputing networks and desktop grids, to benefit user communities within the European Research Area.

EGI-InSPIRE will collect user requirements and provide support for the current and potential new user communities, for example within the ESFRI projects. Additional support will also be given to the current heavy users of the infrastructure, such as high energy physics, computational chemistry and life sciences, as they move their critical services and tools from a centralised support model to one driven by their own individual communities.

The objectives of the project are:

1. The continued operation and expansion of today’s production infrastructure by transitioning to a governance model and operational infrastructure that can be increasingly sustained outside of specific project funding.
2. The continued support of researchers within Europe and their international collaborators that are using the current production infrastructure.
3. The support for current heavy users of the infrastructure in earth science, astronomy and astrophysics, fusion, computational chemistry and materials science technology, life sciences and high energy physics as they move to sustainable support models for their own communities.
4. Interfaces that expand access to new user communities including new potential heavy users of the infrastructure from the ESFRI projects.
5. Mechanisms to integrate existing infrastructure providers in Europe and around the world into the production infrastructure, so as to provide transparent access to all authorised users.
6. Establish processes and procedures to allow the integration of new DCI technologies (e.g. clouds, volunteer desktop grids) and heterogeneous resources (e.g. HTC and HPC) into a seamless production infrastructure as they mature and demonstrate value to the EGI community.

The EGI community is a federation of independent national and community resource providers, whose resources support specific research communities and international collaborators both within Europe and worldwide. EGI.eu, coordinator of EGI-InSPIRE,



brings together partner institutions established within the community to provide a set of essential human and technical services that enable secure integrated access to distributed resources on behalf of the community.

The production infrastructure supports Virtual Research Communities (VRCs) – structured international user communities – that are grouped into specific research domains. VRCs are formally represented within EGI at both a technical and strategic level.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	STATISTICS	6
1.1	Overall.....	6
1.2	Registration Breakdown.....	6
1.3	Social Media.....	6
2	EVENTS AND LAUNCHES	10
3	PUBLICATIONS	11
4	SURVEYS	11
5	MEDIA APPEARANCES	18
6	EGI PRESS RELEASES	18

1 STATISTICS

1.1 Overall

	Number	Number/percentage of women
Registered participants	415 (+5 cancelled)	65 / 15.66%
Contributions	305	45 / 14.75%
Speakers	203	29 / 14,28%
Session conveners	42	9 / 21,42%

1.2 Registration Breakdown

	EARLY		LATE		ON-SITE		GROUP (early)	
	Fee	registrants	Fee	registrants	fee	registrants	fee	registrants
full week	499	178	599	30	699	2	0	42
three days	420	28	515	13	610	1	0	1
two days	290	22	350	21	410	3	0	3
one day	150	20	180	23	210	8	0	3
TOTAL		248		87		14		49
Sponsors								
	10							
Speakers								
	7							
GRAND TOTAL	415							

In total there were 413 participants. A total of 280 out of these went to the conference dinner.
2 EC members were registered to and attended the conference.

1.3 Social Media

Twitter

Total number of tweets - 509

Dates - 13th to 20th

Number of tweeters - 60

Tweets by the 4 EGI accounts - 153

Tweets by non-EGI accounts – 356



Top 7 (excluding EGI accounts):

geekeconomist - 71
gera_p - 69
e_scitalk - 33
isgtw - 32
CatherineGater - 21
GolemPraha - 12
fkarayan - 11

Tweets by Day:

12th - 3
13th - 4
14th - 7
16th - 1
17th - 94
18th - 186
19th - 134
20th - 80

Example tweets:

e_scitalk - Erwin Laure: Users don't care whether they use grid or cloud, or the fashion of the day, they just want to get their work done. #egitf12

gera_p - Quiet honest and reflective question from the #egitf12 audience: are we succesful? Yes: our community is educated, No: we have lost momentum

gera_p - Scientist in the audience is asking for a predictable (grid) roadmap - Steven Newhouse replies that he wants a predictable user - #egitf12

isgtw- Helmut Heller of #IGE giving welcome speech. "Let us know your grid success stories" #egitf12

okoeroo - Always cool to see a commercial company using our software. #GridWiseTech #egitf12 #Nikhef #GlobusEurope

andreabiancini - What to expand EGI to new communities? Become an EGI champion at <http://t.co/sezmrpcY> #EGITF12

catherinegater - EC meeting: What's an ok level of job failure for business and researchers? Is this different and is over-engineering the key? #egitf12



ccbuhr - Indeed RT @geekeconomist: Perez Busquets: By funding Helix Nebula the @EU_Commission is already implementing the EU Cloud strategy #egitf12

e_scitalk - Press are interested in what e-infrastructures do (e.g. #Higgs) not how they work #egitf12

fkarayan - At EC H2020 consultation workshop: From A.Lyall's: I interpret that probably EBI-EMBL has both big and small science requirements...#egitf12

rogerofcern - Listening to work on 'cloud' solutions for computing. It's basically the Grid with an improved interface #egitf12

misurelized - RC forum at #egitf12, @europeangrid needs common processes to match offer with demand to support international collaborations (T. Ferrari)

sergiodci - GEANT can connect to commercial cloud providers as long as it is for research-related traffic #hnws1 #egitf12 <http://t.co/PXhrgyz3>

woords90 - Pelino (ICT Lawyer): Personal Data Protection legislation is a general framework applies to ALL areas handling personal data #hnws1 #egitf12

wvengen - "Civilization advances by extending the number of important operations which we can perform without thinking about them." Whitehead #egitf12

SZTAKI_LPDS - Who are the members of an e-science community? #egitf12 <http://t.co/p0EFxCrj>

Flickr

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/europeangrid>

The number of photos uploaded in Flickr using the egitf12 tag, is 19

GridCast

<http://gridtalk-project.blogspot.ch/>

There were actually 17 posts

9 webcasts (Wibke Sudholt was added last week)

Number of bloggers + names = 5 + 2 (Sean Crosby, Zara Qadir, Beatrice Bressans, Carmela Asero, Stefan Janusz, Golem, Adrian Giordani)

	<i>Gridcast blog</i>	<i>Gridcast.org</i>
Visits	330	118
Unique visitors	238	75
Pages viewed	555	156
Pages/ visit	1,68	1,32
Average time spent on the site	00:02:09	00:01:24
New visits	67.58%	55.93%
Bounce rate	66.06%	77.12%

Youtube

Two video demos uploaded:

- OpenNaaS software community: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ARFE2f-jauM>
- Monitoring National Infrastructure with Logging and Bookkeeping: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tI5m45jbxmU&list=PL8MrRo-3u8huT3_wq3lPiTkOutgGVEX-Y&feature=mh_lolz

Website

Metric	Value	TF11 Value	[% difference]
Visits	7,931	10,650	[-34.3 %]
Unique visitors	2,417	3,092	[-27.9 %]
Pages viewed	21,027	29,798	[-41.7 %]
Average number of pages viewed	2.65	2.80	[-5.7 %]
Time spent on the site	02:44	03:07	[-14.0 %]
New visits	28.66%	27.91%	[+2.6 %]
Highest number of visits in a day	338 (18 September)	523 (19 September)	[-54.7 %]

Number of visitors between 31 March, 2012 (end of Community Forum) and 23 September 2012. Compared with values from the Technical Forum 2012 website taken between 15 April 2011 and 25 September, 2011

Short links

Technical Forum Indico page (<http://go.egi.eu/tf12>): 3981 clicks

Registration short link (<http://go.egi.eu/registration-tf12>): 562 clicks

Timetable short link (<http://go.egi.eu/tf12-timetable>): 245 clicks

Conference4Me Downloads

190 users, app. 170-180 updates

2 EVENTS AND LAUNCHES

a) Globus Online launch (20 September)

Press release issued jointly with Globus and the Initiative for Globus in Europe.

http://www.egi.eu/news-and-media/newsfeed/news_0165_GlobusOnline_goes_live.html

b) EC Workshop: Distributed Computing Infrastructures for e-Science: Future Perspectives (18 September)

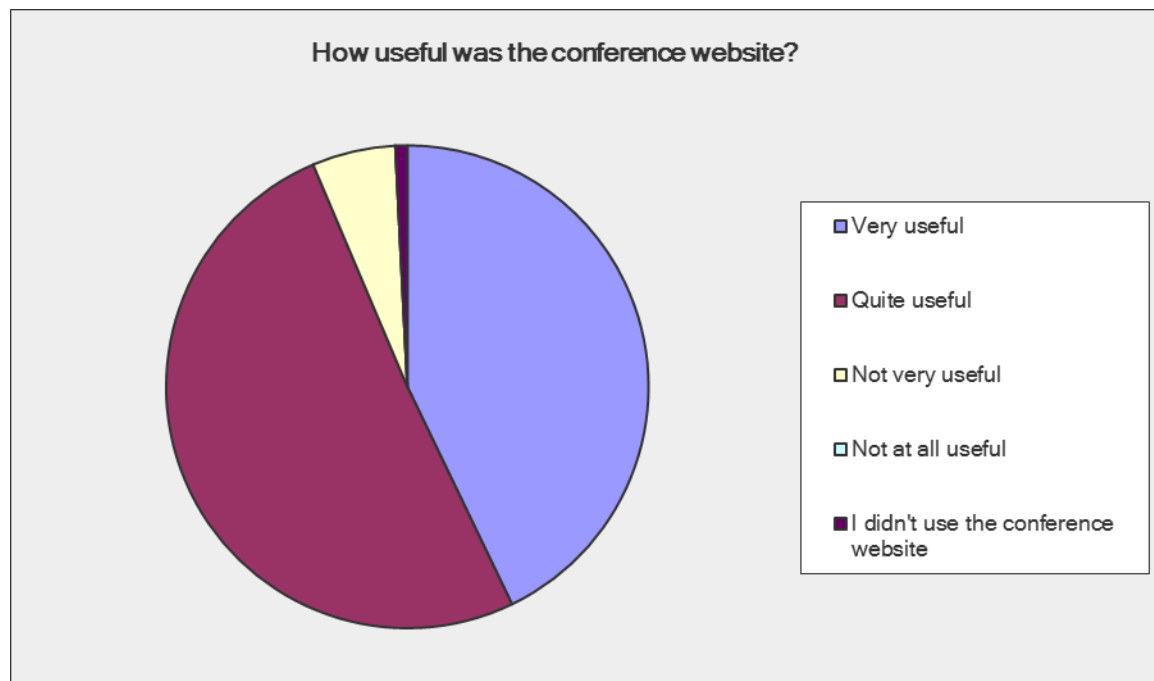
3 PUBLICATIONS

- Conference programme
- Mini programme for the badges

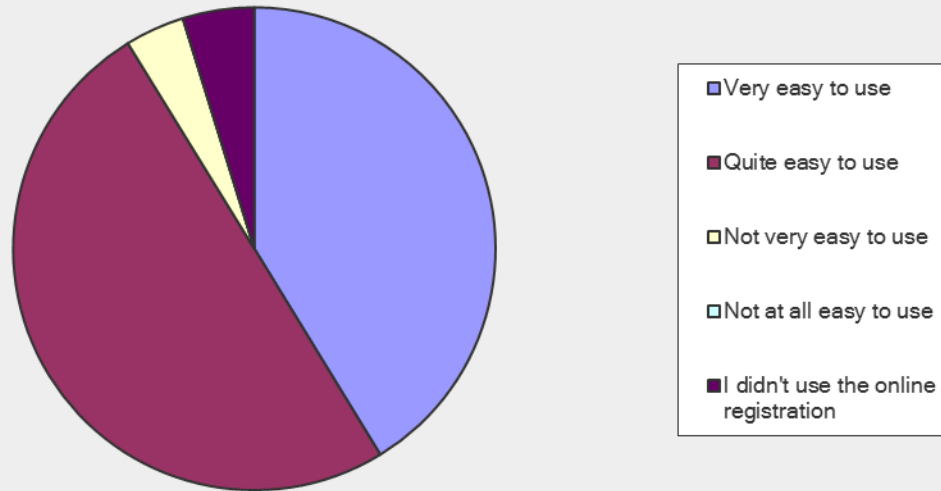
4 SURVEYS

Event survey conducted on Zoomerang, issued on open for 2 weeks.

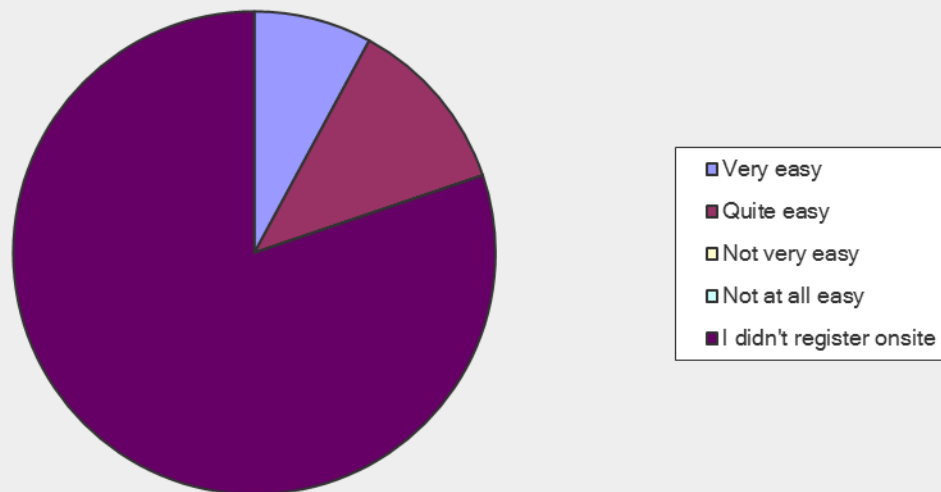
126 responses



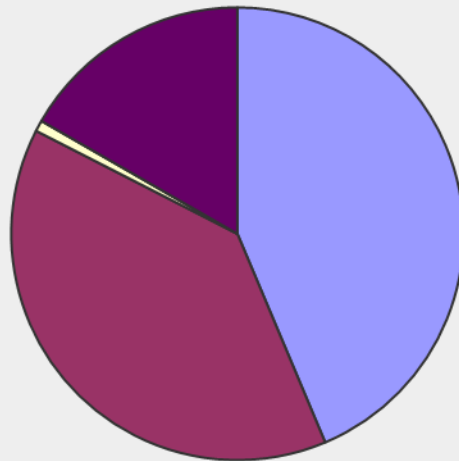
How easy to use was the online registration process?



If you registered at the venue, how easy was the process?

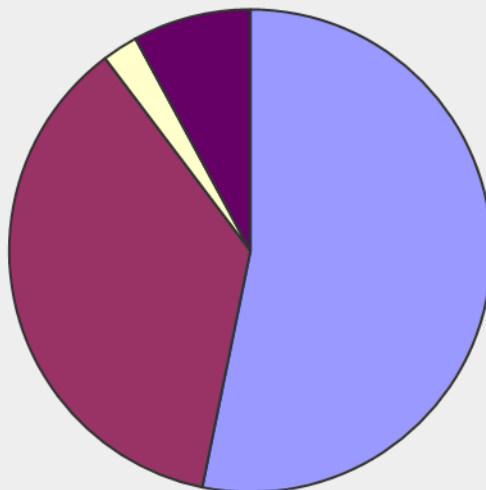


During registration and before the event, were the EGI organising team helpful?

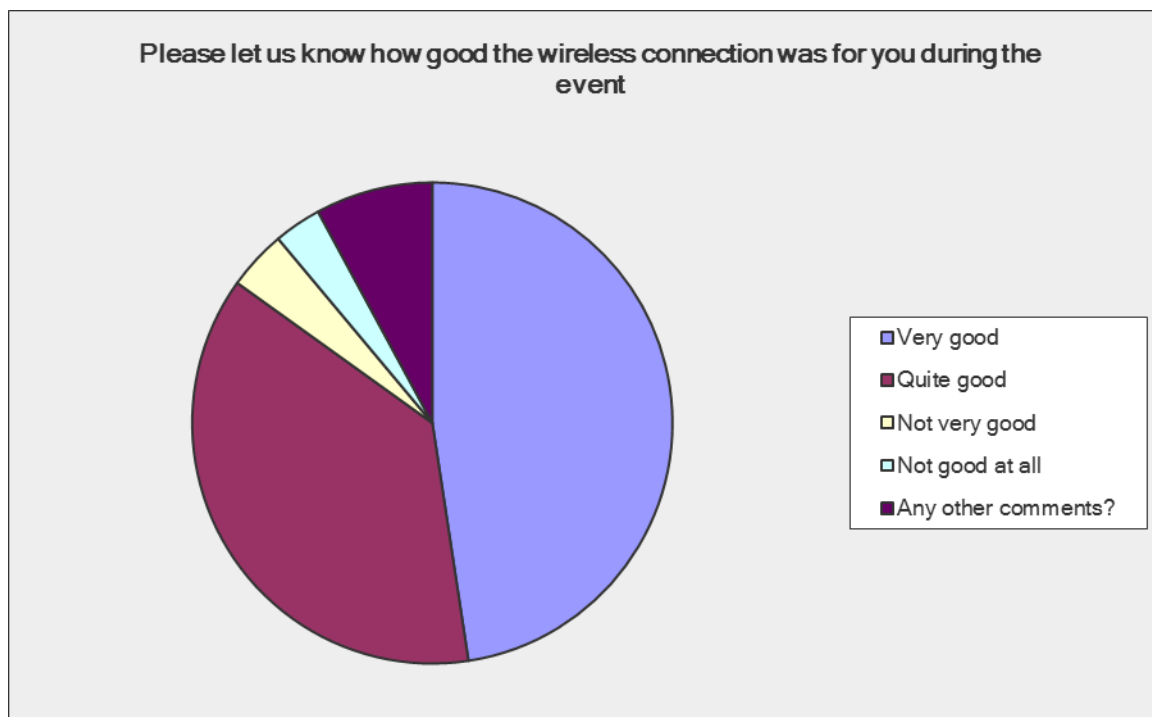
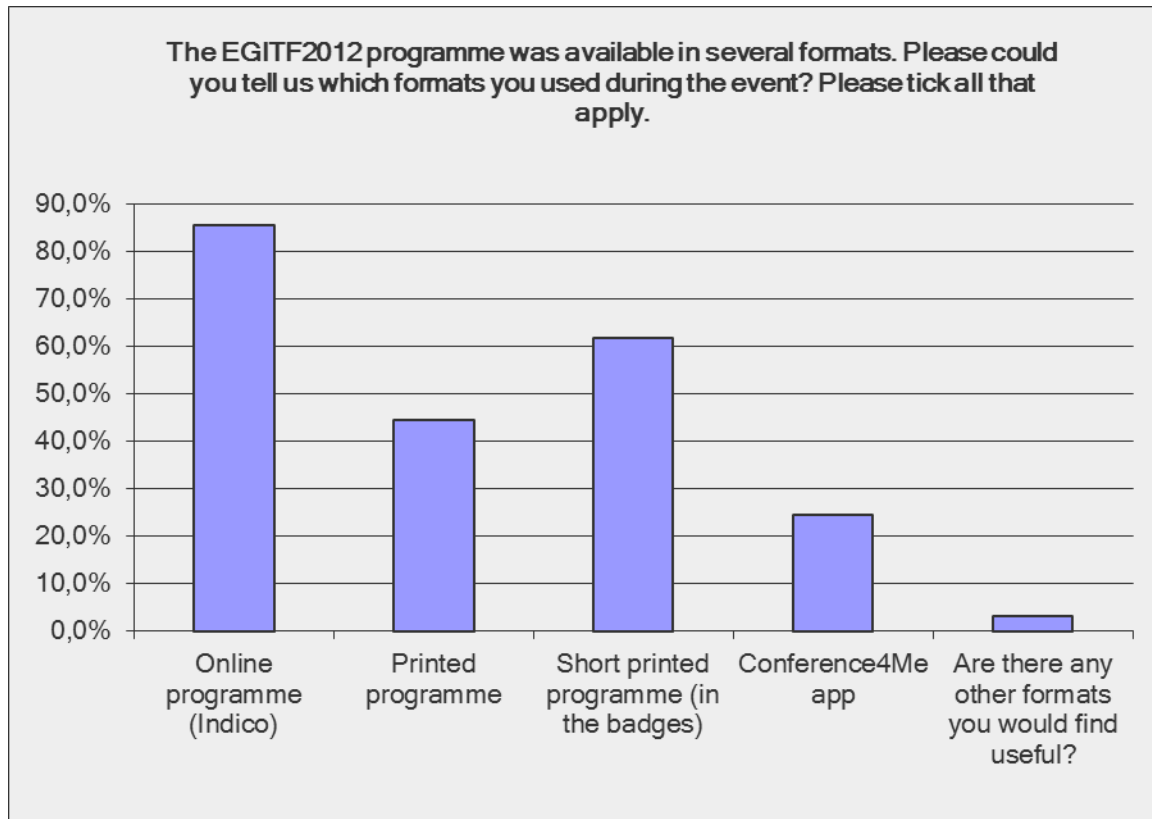


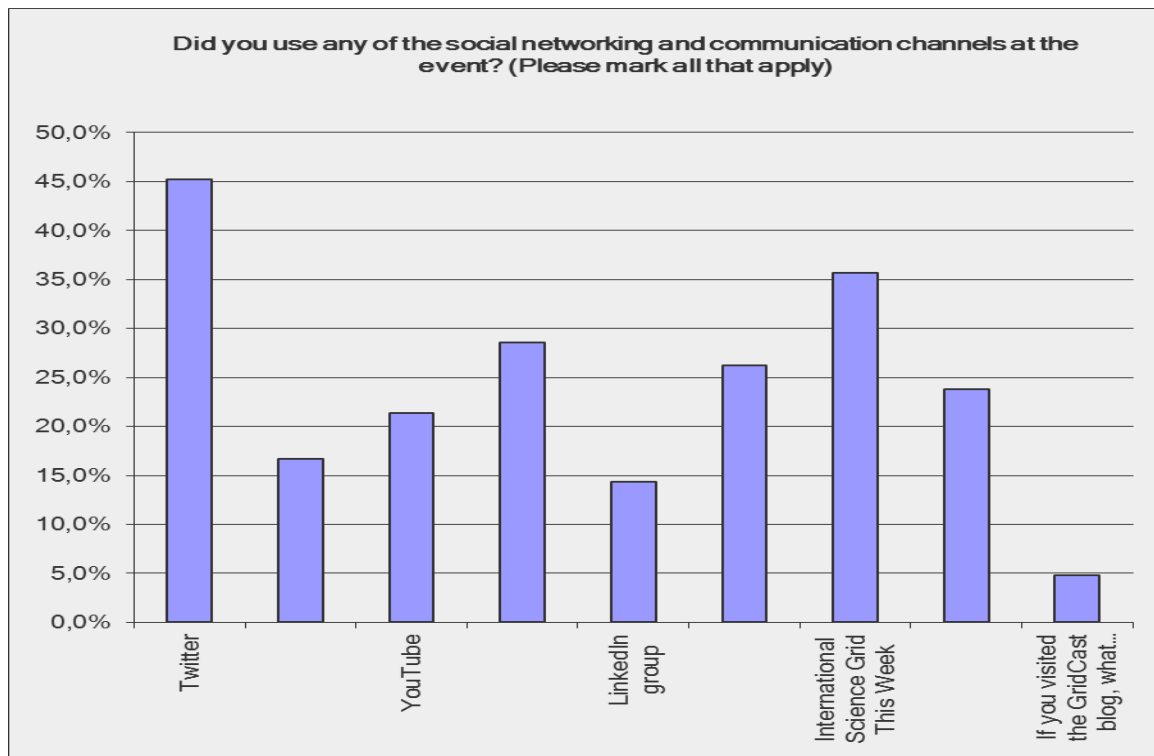
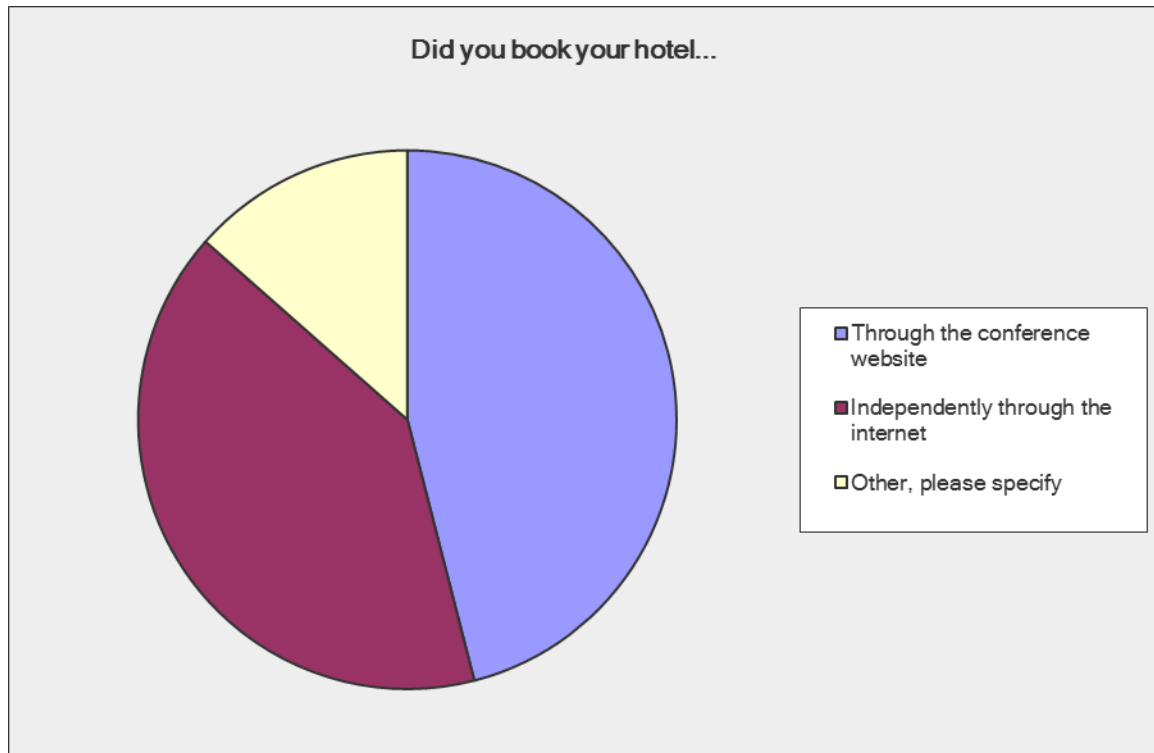
- Very helpful
- Quite helpful
- Not very helpful
- Not at all helpful
- I don't know

During the event, were the conference staff at the venue helpful?



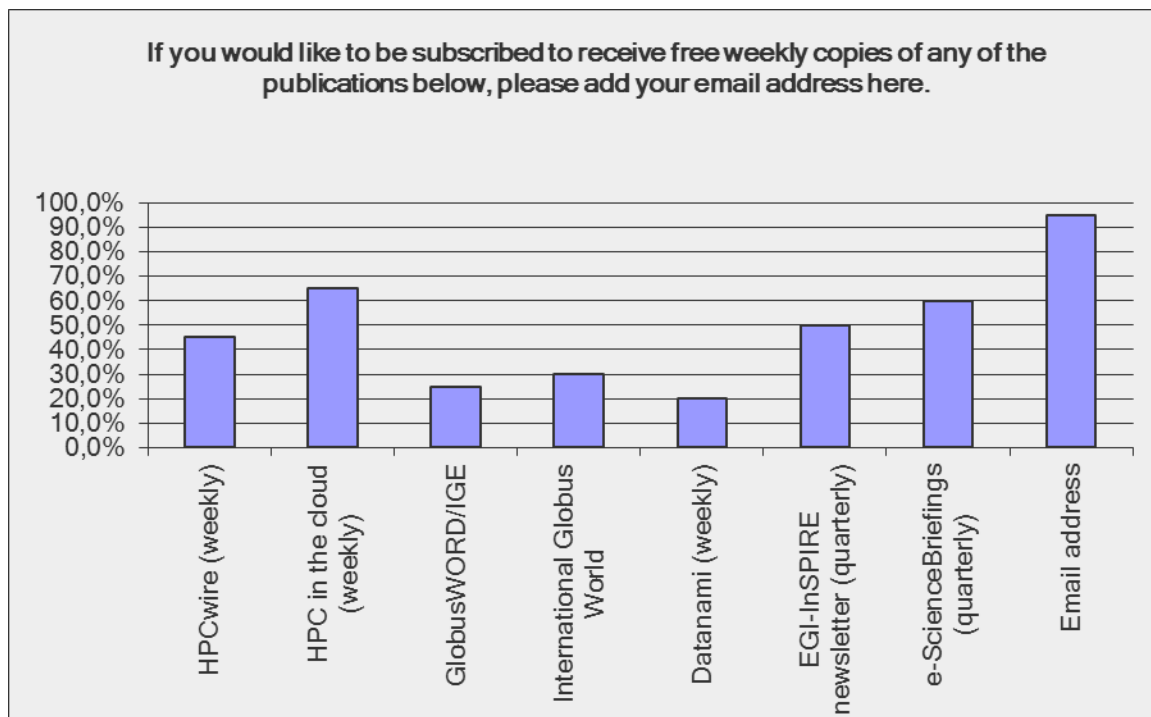
- Very helpful
- Quite helpful
- Not very helpful
- Not at all helpful
- I don't know





**Did you use any of the social networking and communication channels at the event?
(Please mark all that apply)**

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Twitter	45,2%	19
Flickr	16,7%	7
YouTube	21,4%	9
Facebook group	28,6%	12
LinkedIn group	14,3%	6
EGI blog	26,2%	11
International Science Grid This Week	35,7%	15
GridCast blog	23,8%	10
If you visited the GridCast blog, what was your main reason for visiting? Would you be interested in contributing to the blog yourself?	4,8%	2
<i>answered question</i>		42
<i>skipped question</i>		84



Compared to similar events that you have attended, do you have any feedback on the fees for the event?							
Answer Options	Good value for money	Acceptable value for money	Higher than average	Much higher than average	Does not apply	Rating Average	Response Count
The registration fees	14	60	37	10	5	2,36	126
Conference dinner	10	18	24	12	62	2,59	126
Hotel rates	29	57	9	6	25	1,92	126
Travel to the event	33	67	11	1	14	1,82	126
Fees for booth	2	21	6	2	95	2,26	126
<i>answered question</i>							126
<i>skipped question</i>							0

Selected comments

On food

“Good catering, but coffee machines out of service during session time.”

“Coffee and water could be continuously available.”

“Vegetarian options limited. Coffee supply sub-optimal.”

“Very positive, except Monday lunch”

“All fine - personally I would have liked something sweet also in the afternoon coffee break.”

“Very good! Some fruits and other healthy alternatives would have been appreciated in lunches or coffee breaks”

“quality of the coffee was below par, but this seems to be a prague-wide issue”

Venue

“Hotel Clarion was really selected in the best way - it's suitable for such events.”

“Very easy to get to the venue.”

“Layout was good with good acoustics and equipment”

“Excellent venue and it was fantastically convenient that it was inside a hotel.”

“A bit outside the centrum”

In general

“Keep up the good conferences!”

“Preparation of the community forum should involve NILs very actively”

“The grid users did not show up again :(

“EGI keeps organizing these expensive "internal events" that don't bring any new user groups.”



“booking the hotel via the conference site was more expensive than on the internet, this is unacceptable!”

“very well prepared conference in general”

5 MEDIA APPEARANCES

Globus and Grid: Blazing Trails for Future Discovery (Elizabeth Leake)

http://www.hpcinthecloud.com/hpccloud/2012-09-13/globus_and_grid:_blazing_trails_for_future_discovery.html

Grid Community Gathers in Prague (Tiffany Trader)

http://www.hpcinthecloud.com/hpccloud/2012-09-18/grid_community_gathers_in_prague.html?featured=top

Greetings from Prague

<http://www.isgtw.org/spotlight/greetings-prague>

6 EGI PRESS RELEASES

Globus Online launch (20 September)

Press release issued jointly with Globus and the Initiative for Globus in Europe.

http://www.egi.eu/news-and-media/newsfeed/news_0165_GlobusOnline_goes_live.html