

The EGI Cloud Federation

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Introduction

EGI is a federation of national and domain specific resource infrastructure providers comprised of individual resource centres. Many of these resource centres have been experimenting with the deployment of cloud infrastructures to improve the local delivery of services. Federating these local cloud resources is a priority for EGI as several of its current and new user communities need a service-oriented and ondemand computing and data infrastructure. The Task Force activities are organised in six, six-month long phases. During each phase, the Task Force evaluates a set of scenarios that an EGI federation of clouds should support.

Objectives

- Deploy a test bed to evaluate the integration of cloud resources within the existing EGI production infrastructure.
- Write a blueprint document for EGI Resource Providers that wish to securely federate and share their cloud platforms as part of the EGI production infrastructure.
- Identify and work with user communities willing to be early adopters of the EGI federated clouds test bed.
- Provide feedback to relevant technology providers on their implementations and any changes needed for deployment into the production infrastructure.
- Investigate and catalogue the requirements for community-facing services based on or deployed through cloud resources.
- Identify issues that need to be addressed by other areas of EGI (e.g. policy, operations, support & dissemination).

Membership

CESNET GWDG Cyfronet FZJ OeRC EGI.eu IN2P3 KTH The FedCloud task force has four types of membership for both institutions and companies: CESGA CETA Resource Providers: contribute part of their cloud resources to the test bed. IGI SZTAKI Technology Providers: contribute technical know-CNAF RADICAL how and development effort. STFC DANTE User Communities: contribute use cases, scenarios and requirements. SixSq TUD Liaisons: contribute partnership with international CNRS initiatives involving cloud computing. Masaryk To Feb 2013, the task force counts about **70 members** FCTSG INFN from 40 institutions across 13 nations: **IFAE** SARA 22 Resource Providers 10 Technology Providers BSC 7 User Communities **GRNET** 4 Liaisons **LMU IFCA IPHC** IISAS SRCE Imperial

Use Cases

- Structural biology We-NMR: Gromacs training environments.
- Musicology Peachnote project: music score search engine and analysis platform.
- Linguistics CLARIN: scalable 'British National Corpus' service (BNCWeb).
- Biodiversity BioVeL / EU-BrazilOpenBio: remote hosting of OpenModeller service.
- Space science ASTRA-GAIA: data integration with scalable workflows.
- Software Engineering SCI-BUS: simulated environments for portal testing.
- Software Engineering DIRAC: deploying ready-to-use distributed computing systems.







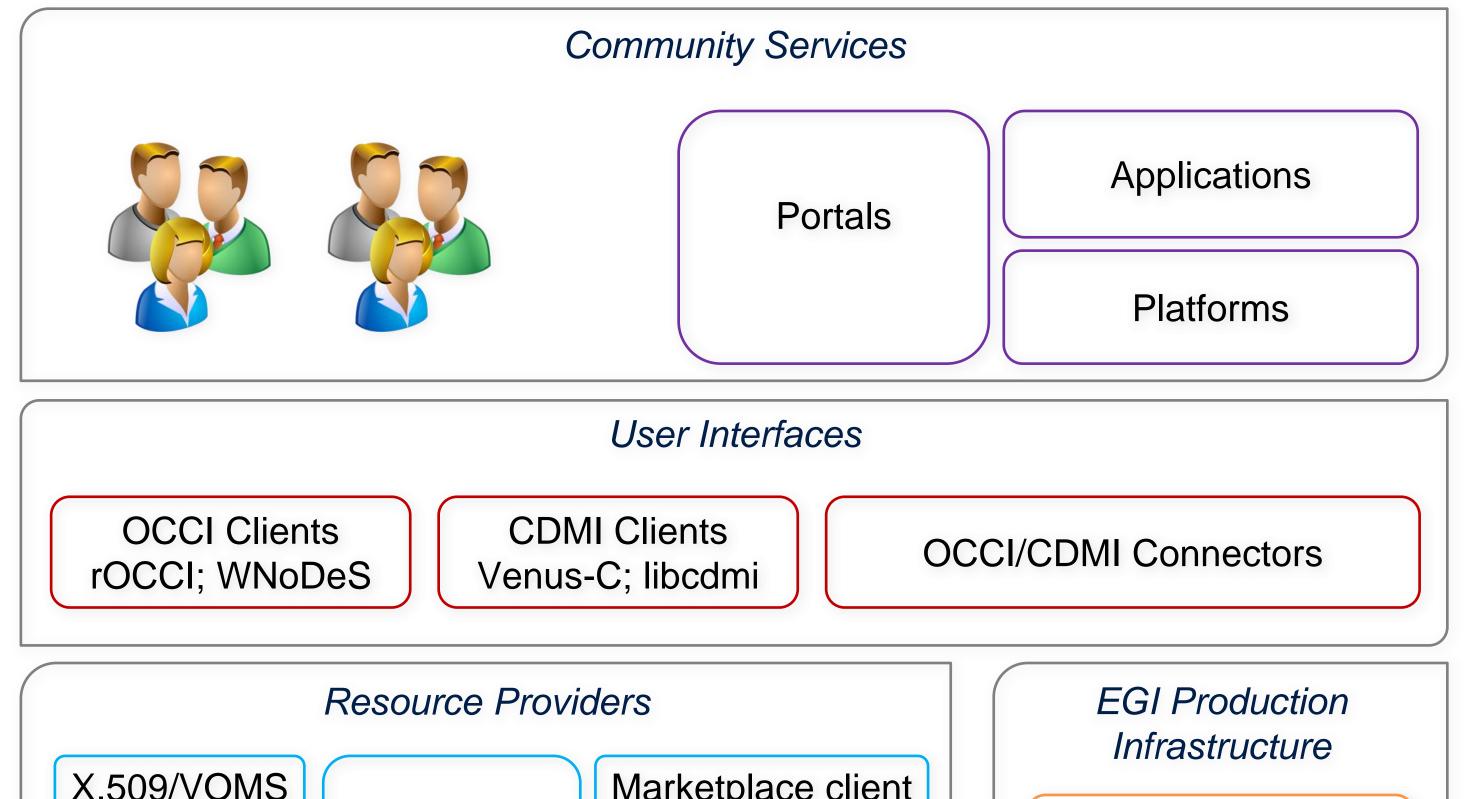


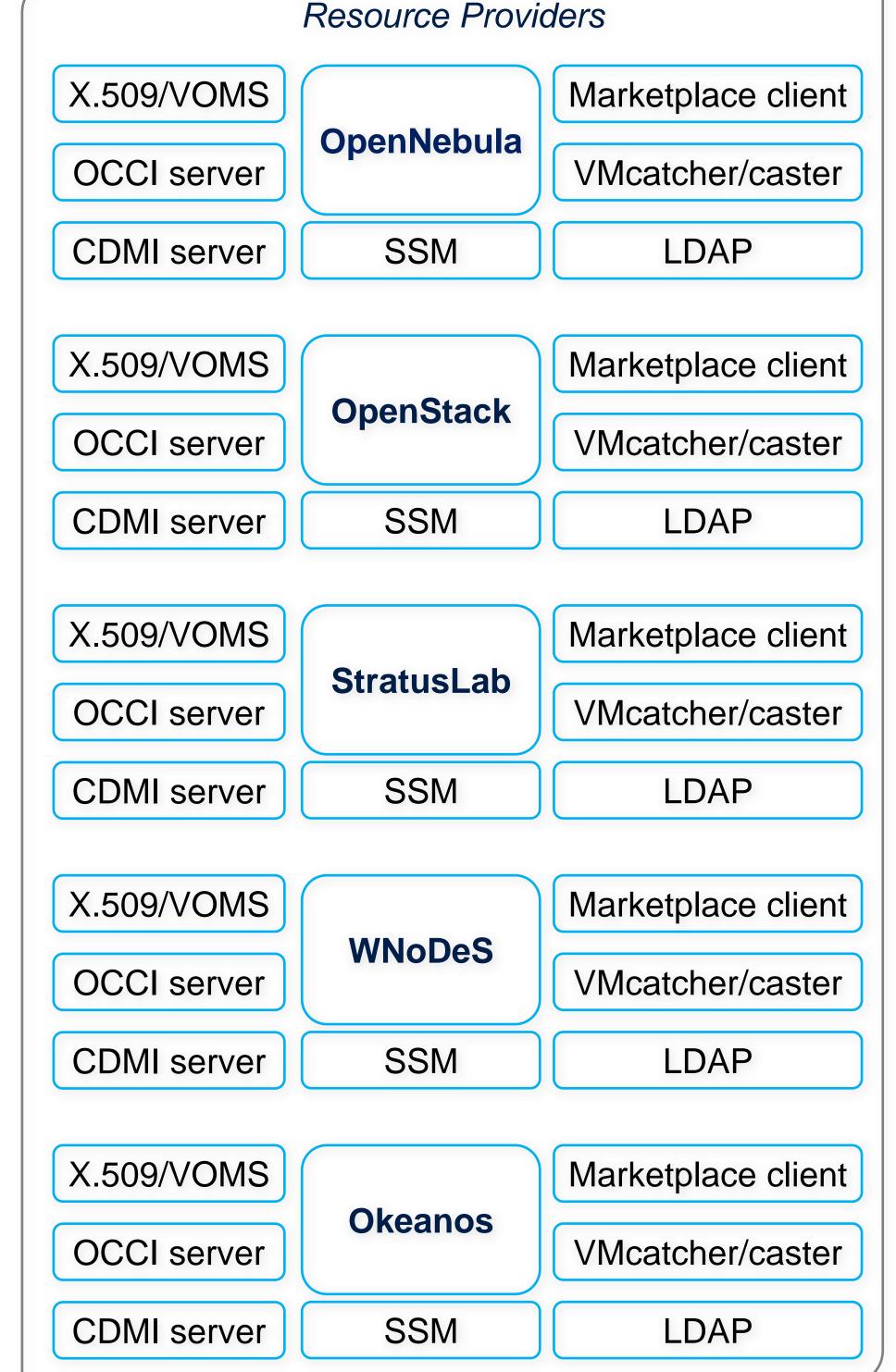


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Deployed Federation Test Bed

The test bed deployed by the task force allows for the EGI user communities to access transparently heterogeneous cloud infrastructures via standardised interfaces. The test bed is integrated within the EGI production infrastructure so that users can utilise their personal certificates and their VO memberships to access both cloud and grid resources. Accounting, service availability, monitoring and information discovery are obtained by extending the existing infrastructure while new services are offered for image sharing and metadata publishing. Users may directly access the federation via OCCI and CDMI clients but APIs are also available so that the federation may be used as a backend for platforms and portals.





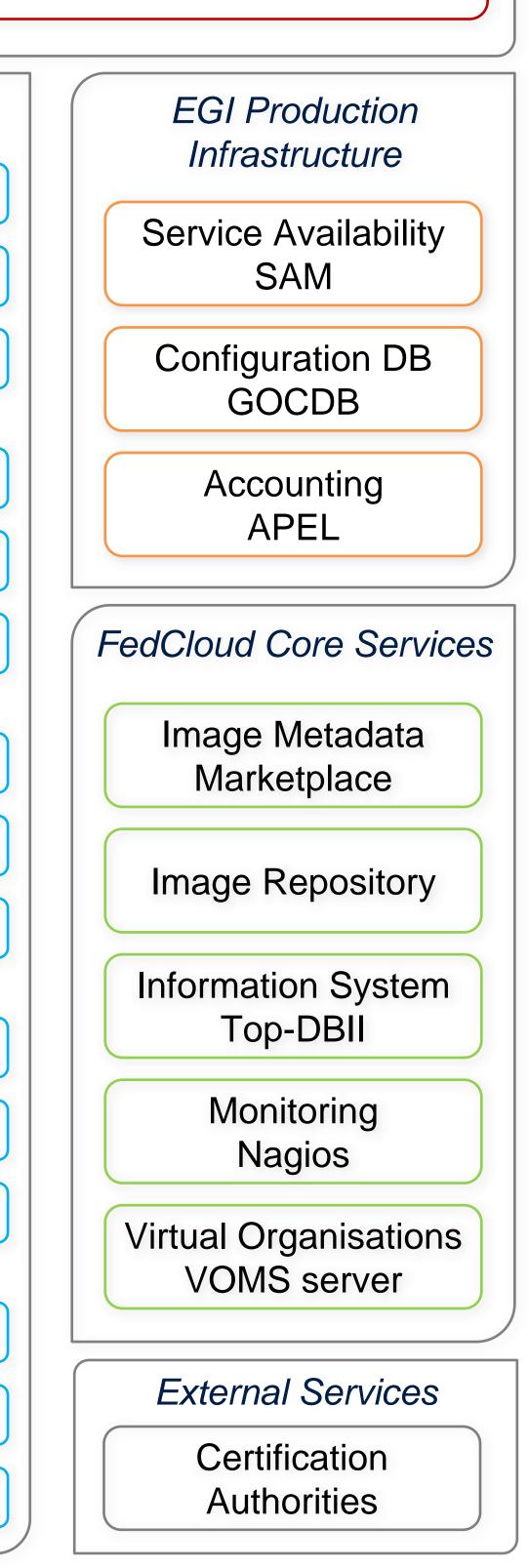


Figure 1. Architecture of the federation test bed deployed by the FedCloud Task Force.

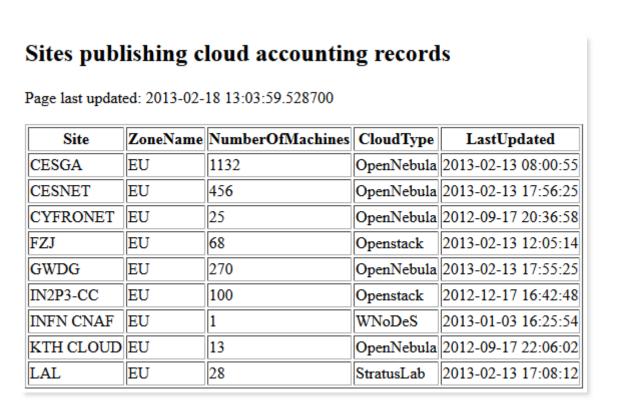


Figure 2. APEL federated accounting with extended Usage Record (UR) schema.

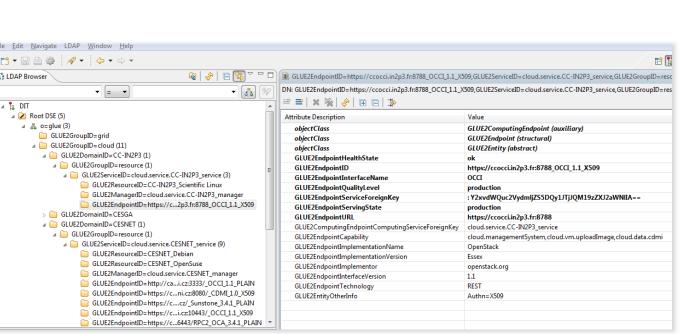


Figure 4. Top-BDII with extended Glue2 schema to describe cloud resources..

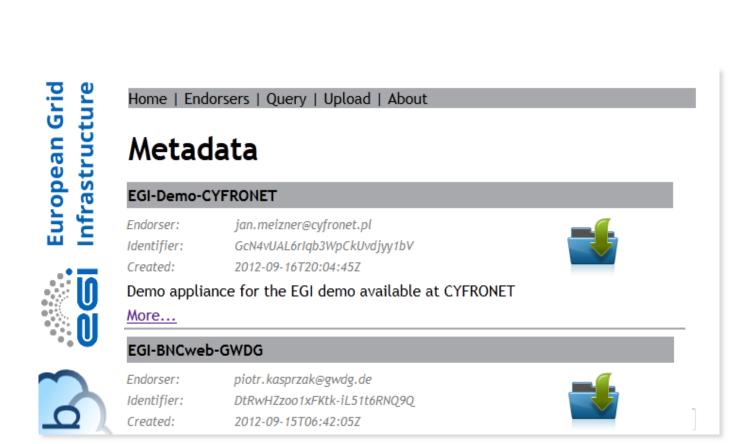


Figure 3. Marketplace service for the publication of image metadata.



Figure 5. Nagios probes to monitor the central and local services of the cloud federation.





