**EGI-InSPIRE**

Interim report on the mini projects

**EU MILESTONE: MS801**

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| Abstract  The EGI-InSPIRE SA4 work package has been set up as part of an amendment to the project’s DoW for PY4. This document provides a half-time report on the status of the individual mini-projects for those that last for 12 months, and a final status review for those that have finished after 6 months. |

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1. Delivery Slip

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1. Document Log

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1. 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.

1. 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>

1. Terminology

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

<<The authors should check if the acronyms are covered by the glossary page and if the definition is still correct; all the amendments should be communicated to glossary@egi.eu>>

1. 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.

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

<< The text should provide a summary of the full report so that the reader can ‘in a page’ understand the problem it has been written to cover. This includes an overview of the background material and motivation for the report, a summary of the analysis, and the report’s main conclusions.>>

<<Michel Drescher>>

<<Once all mini project reports are in>>

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# Introduction

During autumn 2012 the EGI-InSPIRE Project Office identified a number of partners that were under-spending. The EGI-InSPIRE Project Management Board decided to reallocate these unused funds to support supplemental activities that accelerate EGI's strategic goals [R 1] around Community & Coordination, Operational Infrastructure and establishing Virtual Research Environments.

On 14 December 2012 the EGI Project office announced a call for funded mini-projects within the scope and funding regulations of the EGI-InSPIRE project[[1]](#footnote-1). A total of 29 mini-projects were submitted, and by the end of January 2013, the PMB prioritised these and started negotiation with the submitters. In total, 11 mini-projects were funded, while two proposals (“Implementation and testing of central banning in the European Grid Infrastructure”, and “OpenAIRE-based Scientific Publication Repository”) were integrated into existing activities without additional funding.

The funded mini projects are organised and set up as tasks within work Package 8 (SA4) as part of the EGI-InSPIRE project. While regular contributions to the EGI-InSPIRE quarterly reports (the first contribution was made to Quarterly Report 13 [R 3]) focus on summarising the progress made and issues faced in the mini projects, this report serves as a mid-term checkpoint to review the progress so far and compare it to the goals and objectives that were agreed upon during the mini project negotiations. It serves as an opportunity for the mini project leaders and appointed shepherds to reflect on the general mechanics of how to embed the mini projects into the respective context, and adjust how the mini project generally conduct their business.

Section 2 forms the core part of this document. Starting with a brief overview of the management structure of the work package, this section provides status reports of each mini project against its own work-plan and objectives.

Section 3 concludes this milestone document with summarising the overall status of the work package.

# Mini projects status reports

## Work Package management

The Work Package management is split along project and technical management aspects: Four shepherds managing the EGI platforms described in the EGI Platform Roadmap [R 2] take care of providing sufficient context and guidance to the mini-projects so that outputs may be integrated into the EGI production infrastructure as seamless as possible. In practical terms, formal Work Package management is kept at a minimum presuming that mini-projects mostly organise themselves.

Mini-projects utilise the following EGI infrastructure:

* An overview of the mini-projects is maintained in the EGI Wiki[[2]](#footnote-2).
* Mini-projects record their meetings in EGI Indico[[3]](#footnote-3) unless folded into other EGI-InSPIRE meetings.
* DocDB, including an appropriate topic, will be used for permanent documentation[[4]](#footnote-4).
* Weekly reports are collected by WP8 management and relayed to the Activity Management Board, including an executive summary. Through this mechanism, mini-projects are encouraged (and already did so) to report delays, raise issues that require support outside the individual mini-projects, and more. Mini-projects may choose their own reporting frequency (e.g. weekly, bi-weekly) but are required to consistently follow their choice.
* A spreadsheet maps members to mini-projects, and shepherds to mini-projects. It is managed online, and anyone with the link may view it. EGI-InSPIRE PO, shepherds and WP8 management may edit it.

Two mailing lists are provided for mini-project leaders, their deputies and shepherds, and for all mini-project members, respectively, although these are rarely used except for regular weekly report collection. This is not an issue, since all mini-projects are well embedded in their target platform ecosystem.

## TSA4.2: Massive Open Online Course Development

<<Jan Bot>>

## TSA4.3: Evaluation of Liferay modules

<Martin Kuba>>

## TSA4.4: Providing OCCI support for arbitrary CMF

<<Boris Parak>>

## TSA4.5: CDMI Support in Cloud Management Frameworks

<<Ilja Livenson>>

## TSA4.6: Dynamic Deployments for OCCI Compliant Clouds

<<Marc-Elian Begin>>

## TSA4.7: Automatic Deployment and Execution of Applications using Cloud Services.

<<Enol Fernandez>>

## TSA4.8: Transforming Scientific Research Platforms to Exploit Cloud Capacity

<Bjern Hagemeier>>

## TSA4.9: VO Administration and operations PORtal (VAPOR)

<<Franck Michel>>

## TSA4.10: A new approach to Computing Availability and Reliability Reports

<< Christos Kanellopoulos>>

## TSA4.11: GOCDB Scoping Extensions and Management Interface

<<David Meredith>>

## TSA4.12: Tools for automating applying for and allocating federated resources

<< Tomasz Szepieniec>>

# Conclusion

<<Michel Drescher>>

# References

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| --- | --- |
| R 1 | EGI Strategic Plan, Dx.y, DocDB |
| R 2 | EGI Platform Roadmap, MS514, <https://documents.egi.eu/document/1624> |
| R 3 | EGI-InSPIRE Quarterly Report 13, MS127, <https://documents.egi.eu/document/1928> |
| R 4 |  |
| R 5 |  |

1. <https://mailman.egi.eu/mailman/private/inspire-taskleaders/2012-December/000106.html> (might require login) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <https://wiki.egi.eu/wiki/Overview_of_Funded_Virtual_Team_projects> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <https://indico.egi.eu/indico/categoryDisplay.py?categId=93> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <https://documents.egi.eu/public/ListBy?topicid=51> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)