



05 May 2015

Dear Members of the EGI-Engage Collaboration

Welcome to the first issue of the **EGI-Engage Letter**! Now that our project is in its third month, let me take this opportunity to inform you about the project status and on-going progress.

I am glad to announce that the **EC signed the Grant Agreement on the 27th of April** and beneficiaries are now in the process of signing the project accession forms.

**EGI-Engage will be publicly launched at the EGI Conference 2015** (Lisbon, 18-22 May). The programme (<http://go.egi.eu/cf15timetable>) features a blend of technical, user engagement and policy sessions. I am proud to say that many new and prospective international research communities will be present at the conference presenting their technical roadmaps and requirements. For the first time in EGI events, the conference will host a rich business engagement and innovation track and in a number of sessions we will explore new territories like e-Learning requirements services and requirements for education and the data scientist, citizen science cross-border procurement and more. This is an exciting forward-looking conference that pushes evolution and innovation. Come to Lisbon to contribute to the future of EGI!

**On-line registration closes on the 10<sup>th</sup> of May** (<http://conf2015.egi.eu/>).

The **Collaboration Board** (CB) membership is complete: the first CB meeting will take place on the 21st of May during the EGI Conference 2015 in Lisbon. The CB agenda includes the appointment of the chair, the finalization of the Collaboration Agreement and the approval of the Project Management Board structure and composition.

The **Activity Management Board** (AMB) is in full operations and meets bi-weekly. The Activity Managers are currently busy preparing the yearly activity plan and working on the definition of the quality plan, which includes the definition of KPIs and metrics. All work package activities are in full swing.

The **Competence Centres** had their kickoff meetings, and cloud infrastructure integration activities started involving D4SCIENCE – the hybrid infrastructure providing services for marine science involving 50 distinct data providers – and the Canadian Astronomy Data Centre (CADC) to realize an international cloud infrastructure for astronomy and astrophysics offering virtual data spaces on cloud and scalable access to relevant datasets. EGI and EUDAT first collaboration activities are on the table and will be further discussed in Lisbon. A new Virtual Team Project for Scalable Federated Data Access<sup>1</sup> supporting all Competence Centres aiming at realizing a distributed testbed offering different technologies and solutions, was launched in April in collaboration with the Indico DataCloud project.

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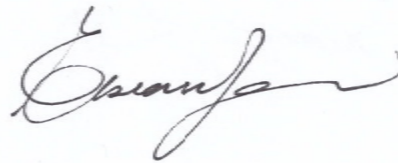
<sup>1</sup> [https://wiki.egi.eu/wiki/VT\\_Federated\\_Data](https://wiki.egi.eu/wiki/VT_Federated_Data)

General information about the project is now provided by the **EGI-Engage web pages** (<http://go.egi.eu/EngageWeb>), while the **EGI-Engage wiki** (<http://go.egi.eu/EngageWiki>) is the collaborative space supporting project activities on a daily basis. Meeting agendas are available on **Indico** (<http://go.egi.eu/EngageMeetings>). **Templates with a new design for EGI-Engage presentations, project documentation and posters can be downloaded at** [http://www.egi.eu/about/logo\\_templates/](http://www.egi.eu/about/logo_templates/). The EGI-Engage quality management pages provide you with additional links and useful information like mailing list contacts, quality procedures, copyright, software licensing and more (<http://go.egi.eu/EngageQM>).

I take the opportunity to announce that the **19<sup>th</sup> issue of the Newsletter “Inspired”** was recently released – <http://go.egi.eu/Issue19>, in the newsletter you will find out more about the EGI-Engage project itself, the Competence Centres, and activities in the EGI Collaboration. We always look forward to publishing articles from our project partners and collaborating projects; if you are interested in contributing an article please get in touch with our communications team: [press@egi.eu](mailto:press@egi.eu)

In looking forward to meeting many of you in Lisbon, I am glad to announce the dates of the **Community Forum 2015**: the event hosted by INFN in Bari will take place from the **10<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2015**. Save the date!

Yours sincerely.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tiziana Ferrari', written in a cursive style.

Tiziana Ferrari, EGI-Engage Technical Coordinator