Activity Summary: Marketplace and Service Registry

The goal of the marketplace and service registry activity is to design a simple entry point for researchers to discover and access resources and services from those interested in making them available, either as central portal or as custom views for organizations and communities.

Sharing and discovering world-class research resources (computing, software, data, instruments, etc.) and services (consulting, sample preparation, collaborations, etc.) is essential for helping researchers to be competitive.

We think that this can be done using a "marketplace" concept, where free and paid resources can be listed and discovered. In addition, this marketplace could enhance visibility for resource and service providers, raising awareness of what they can provide as well as helping to promote cross-disciplinary research.

The key functionalities envisioned for the marketplace are:
- Easy discoverability of resources and services, with advanced filtering and information on capability and service levels.
- Resources and services with the ability for users to rate them.
- Ability for service providers of the EGI federation to register a resource or service and make it available to others. This could any be any type of academic or commercial service or resource relevant to research (data, software, instruments, services, etc.).
- Ability to define visibility and access to resources or services by user, research group, organization, project, and community. Only exposing resources and services to the right audience.
- Customizable views that can be defined for labs, communities, and organizations.
- Integration with federated identity management solutions to simplify access for users.
- Possibility for resource providers to define usage quotas and statistics.
- Users can access free and for fee resources and services.
- Resource providers can manage the lifecycle of services and resources via requests, authorisation, usage, accounting, and billing.

Offering this functionality is a step towards a functional open science commons vision, which will foster innovative research, as well as collaborations between industry and academia.

To create a marketplace solution that can give added value for users and resource providers we would like to involve key stakeholders in developing the concepts and requirements in order to best meet the needs of researchers. If you are interested in this activity please contact marketplace@mailman.egi.eu.