



## EGI-Engage

# Technical Forum 2015 is organised

### M2.2

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### Abstract

This milestone aims to provide a factual description of the EGI flagship events organised in 2015. The report includes the results of surveys and other information. The first event was the EGI Conference 2015 (19-23 May 2015), organised in Lisbon and hosted by LIP. The second event was the EGI Community Forum 2015 (10-13 November 2015), held in Bari and hosted by INFN.



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## DELIVERY SLIP

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## TERMINOLOGY

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

## Contents

1	EGI Conference 2015 .....	5
1.1	General information .....	5
1.1.1	Key dates .....	5
1.1.2	Co-located events .....	5
1.2	Communications and outreach.....	7
1.2.1	News & blog mentions.....	7
1.2.2	Outreach.....	8
1.3	Statistics .....	9
1.3.1	Overall .....	9
1.3.2	Registration breakdown .....	9
1.4	Survey.....	10
1.5	Final remarks .....	11
2	EGI Community Forum 2015 .....	13
2.1	General information .....	13
2.1.1	Co-located events .....	13
2.2	Communications and outreach.....	15
2.2.1	News & blog mentions.....	15
2.2.2	Outreach.....	16
2.3	Statistics .....	18
2.3.1	Overall .....	18
2.3.2	Registration breakdown .....	18
2.3.3	Occupancy of rooms .....	19
2.4	Survey.....	20
	<i>(Q2) What was your main source of information about the conference?.....</i>	<i>22</i>
2.5	Final remarks .....	22

## Executive summary

The **EGI Conference 2015** took place in Lisbon, Portugal, 18-22 May 2015. The event was hosted by EGI.eu and IBERGRID, a partnership between the Portuguese National Distributed Computing Infrastructure (INCD) and the Spanish National Grid Initiative, and was dedicated to the theme: Engaging the Research Community towards an Open Science Commons.

The local organising team is based at the Laboratório de Instrumentação e Física Experimental de Partículas – Lisbon (LIP).

The **EGI Community Forum 2015** took place in Bari, Italy, 10-13 November 2015. The event was organised by EGI.eu in collaboration with the partners of the Italian National Grid Initiative (INFN, INAF and INGV) and hosted by INFN-Bari.

The EGI Community Forum aimed at gathering tool developers, infrastructure providers, data providers and research communities to work together towards open science.

This document covers reports on the facts and figures collected during and about the event.

# 1 EGI Conference 2015

The EGI Conference 2015 took place in Lisbon, Portugal, 18-22 May 2015. The event was hosted by EGI.eu and IBERGRID, a partnership between the Portuguese National Distributed Computing Infrastructure (INCD) and the Spanish National Grid Initiative, and was dedicated to the theme: Engaging the Research Community towards an Open Science Commons.

The local organising team is based at the Laboratório de Instrumentação e Física Experimental de Partículas – Lisbon (LIP)<sup>1</sup>.

The Conference hosted several co-located meetings:

- EUBrazilCC workshop: Monday, 18 May
- European Globus Community Forum: Wednesday, 20 May
- OGF44: Thursday-Friday, 21-22 May

Event website: <http://conf2015.egi.eu/index.html>

Event's Indico pages: <https://indico.egi.eu/indico/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=2452>

## 1.1 General information

### 1.1.1 Key dates

The conference was held between 18 and 22 May 2015. The key dates in the run-up for the event were:

- 26 January - Early-bird registration opens
- 10 February - Call for participation opens – posters and demos
- 13 March - Deadline to submit abstracts for Posters and Demos
- 31 March (extended) - Deadline to submit abstracts for Posters (extended)
- 5 April (extended to 12 April) - End of early bird registration
- 11 May (anticipated for logistical reasons to 6 April) - Deadline to register a booth for the exhibition
- 11 May - Online registration ends

### 1.1.2 Co-located events

The co-location policy asked the partners to:

- Develop content that complements (but not overlaps with) the programme of the EGI Conference
- Ensure that all their attendees register through the conference registration system
- Does not overlap with the main EGI Conference plenary sessions

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<sup>1</sup> <http://lisboa.lip.pt/index.php?lg=pt>

Summaries originally posted in the conference website: <http://conf2015.egi.eu/colocated/>

### *EUBrazilCC workshop*

Monday, 18 May

The EU Brazil Cloud Connect project (EUBrazilCC) proposes the creation of a general-purpose intercontinental federated e-Infrastructure joining different frameworks, like private clouds, supercomputing and cloud opportunistic resources to meet the demands of a wider range of user communities thanks to open standards for interoperability.

The aim of this workshop was to share the experience acquired in the EUBrazilCC project and to present the federated e-Infrastructure and the use cases.

The workshop featured technical presentations of researchers from academia and industry interested in mechanisms for an interoperable and dependable infrastructure in a federated environment and supporting scientific applications.

More information: <http://www.eubrazilcloudconnect.eu/>

### *European Globus Community Forum 2014*

Wednesday, 20 May

The European Globus Community Forum (EGCF) annual event provides a unique opportunity for European Globus users and developers to present and discuss their work as well as to talk about challenges, find solutions, and exchange best practices. 'Orchestrating Workflows' was the timely, yet often overlooked, focus of this year's conference. As usual, there was ample opportunity for participants to give feedback on Globus technologies and their personal research requirements within a true community atmosphere.

More information and programme: <http://www.egcf.eu/events/egcf-2015/>

### *OGF 44*

Thursday-Friday, 21-22 May

OGF 44 ran a series working and community group meetings in the Security Area and the Open Cloud Computing Interface (OCCI) working group.

A Cloud Interoperability Plugfest took place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day offering a hands-on developer-oriented standards implementation and software testing taking place during this period. Topics comprised testbed information sharing, instance availability, logistics, setup - and OCCI, CDMI and related technologies. Opportunities were given to learn, provide and test implementations of open standards using testbeds made available to participants for this purpose. Standards to be highlighted at this event include the OGF Open Cloud Computing Interface (OCCI), the SNIA Cloud

Data Management Interface (CDMI), and opportunities will be available for experts or community members interested in other standards, such as OASIS-Open TOSCA, DMTF CIMI, etc. to bring implementations and inform the community of their ongoing activities. This event was open to all participants with remote participation available - <http://cloudplugfest.org>

## 1.2 Communications and outreach

### 1.2.1 News & blog mentions

The Community Forum was mentioned in the following pages by external sources:

- Supporting research with grid computing and more  
<http://www.isgtw.org/feature/supporting-research-grid-computing-and-more>
- Opening science to the world; opening the world to science  
<http://www.isgtw.org/feature/opening-science-world-opening-world-science>
- EGI Conference 2015: An opportunity for facilitating infrastructure in the agri-food research context <http://blog.agro-know.com/?p=3462>
- EUDAT @ EGI Conference 2015, 18-22 May 2015, Lisbon, Portugal  
<http://eudat.eu/events/eudat-egi-conference-2015-18-22-may-2015-lisbon-portugal>
- INERTIA Mobile App Presentation at EGI 2015 Conference <http://www.inertia-project.eu/inertia/news/show.html?id=87>
- EGI Workshop on how to choose an open license for data or code  
<http://www.software.ac.uk/news/2015-02-24-egi-workshop-how-choose-open-license-data-or-code>
- Platforms for Citizen Science, by Civic Epistemologies - Lisbon, 19 May 2015  
<http://www.promoter.it/platforms-for-citizen-science-by-civic-epistemologies-lisbon-19-may-2015>
- EGI Conference 2015 (report, by LifeWatch Greece)  
<https://www.lifewatchgreece.eu/?q=content/egi-conference-2015>

The event was mentioned in the communication channels of LIP and those of many sister projects and organisations, for example:

BDVA - BEgrid - CETA-CIEMAT - CHAIN-REDS - Civic Epistemologies - COOPEUS - DANS-KNAW - Digital meets Culture - EUBrazilCC - France Grilles - Fundación del Centro de Supercomputación de Castilla y León (FCSCCL) - Institut des Grilles et du Cloud du CNRS - Norgrid - SLING (Slovenian NGI) - Ukrainian National Grid Initiative - WeNMR

The conference was also a topic of the following news items, published in the EGI news feed:

- 18-05-2015 [EGI Conference 2015 gets underway in Lisbon, Portugal](#)
- 01-04-2015 [Jorge Gomes, from the Portuguese NGI, interviewed by iSGTW](#)

- 30-03-2015 [Last week to register for the Lisbon Conference with early bird rates](#)
- 04-03-2015 [The programme of the EGI Conference 2015 is now online](#)
- 26-01-2015 [Registration for the EGI Conference 2015 is now open](#)
- 26-11-2014 [The next EGI Conference will be in Lisbon](#)

## 1.2.2 Outreach

### 1.2.2.1 Event website

Metric	EGI Conf'15 Value	CF2014 Value
Pages viewed	11,139	13,619
Unique page views	8,945	11,329
Time spent on the page	01:11	01:43
Highest number of page views in a day	753 (18 May)	975 (19 May)

This table represents the number of visitors from 22 March to 22 May 2015 (end of event), compared with values from the Community Forum 2014 (19-23 May 2014) website taken during a similar period<sup>2</sup>.

### 1.2.2.2 Short links

As a tool to measure the traffic to key event pages, we created google short links to monitor the amount of clicks.

The results are:

- Registration pages: <http://go.egi.eu/reg2015> 1449 clicks
- Indico homepage: <http://go.egi.eu/c15> 858 clicks
- Posters and demos page: <http://go.egi.eu/C15-PD> 471 clicks

<sup>2</sup> MS248 EGI Community Forum 2014 Event Report - <https://documents.egi.eu/document/2242>



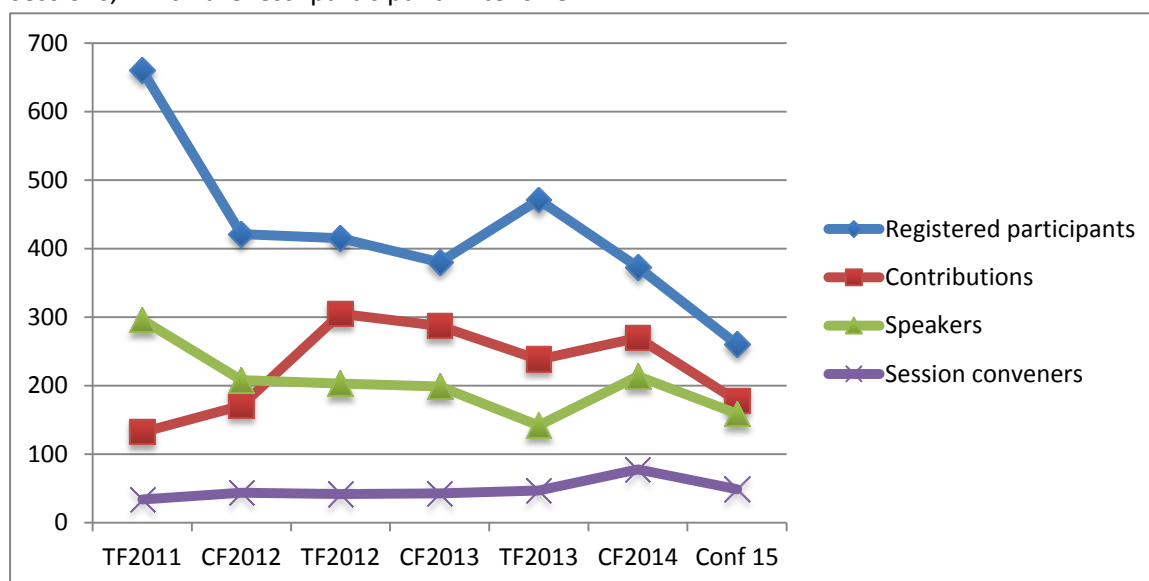
## 1.3 Statistics

### 1.3.1 Overall

Number of... <sup>3</sup>	Conf 15	CF2014	TF2013	CF2013	TF2012	CF2012	TF2011
Registered participants	<b>260</b>	373	471	380	415	421	660
Contributions	<b>178</b>	270	238	287	305	171	132
Speakers	<b>159</b>	214	142	199	203	208	296
Session conveners	<b>49</b>	78	47	43	42	44	34

The EGI Conference 2015 follows the downward trend of registered participants. The trend is mostly due to:

A shift of event focus from technical issues towards (future) user engagement activities and sessions, which are less 'participant'-intensive



### 1.3.2 Registration breakdown

The conference in Lisbon was attended by 260 participants. The breakdown of registrations is as follows:

Fee type	#Participants						Dinner	Total
	Early	Fee	Late	Fee	Onsite	Fee		
Full	125	500	47	550	6	600	170	178
1 day	10	180	14	210	8	240	5	32
2 days	10	360	11	420	7	480	3	28
Booth	4	900					4	4

<sup>3</sup> Taking into account the speakers and the sessions of co-located events.

Invited Full	10			8	10
Invited 1 day	5			3	5
Invited 2 days	3			0	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>260</b>

Registrations per co-located event:

- EUBrazilCC workshop: 24
- European Globus Community Forum: 37
- OGF44: 41

## 1.4 Survey

Following the event, we sent an online survey to all participants, of which 69 replied<sup>4</sup>. The questions were:

Q1 Do you have any comments about the programme for the event, for example the plenary speakers, parallel sessions or workshops?

Q2 How useful was the conference website?

Q3 During registration and before the event, was the organising team helpful?

Q4 Please let us know your feedback on the conference catering i.e. the coffee breaks, the welcome reception and the lunchtime catering

Q5 Do you have any comments on the conference dinner on Wednesday, for example about the menu, the service or the venue?

Q6 Do you have any comments on the conference materials, e.g. online programme, conference folder?

Q7 Which wireless connection did you use? Any comment?

Q8 Do you have any comments about the online registration & payments system?

Q9 Do you have any comments on the conference venue, for example the size and layout of the rooms, how easy it was to get to the venue, acoustics or equipment?

Q10 If you were an exhibitor or a demonstrator, do you have any comments on your experiences at the event e.g. the instructions, the space allocated, the facilities, the wifi, the booth costs, the exhibition and demo hall?

Q11 Compared to similar events that you have attended, do you have any feedback on the fees for the event?

Q12 The next EGI event will be the EGI Community Forum in Bari in November. Do you have any suggestion for the Programme Committee?

<sup>4</sup> The first answer (which appears at the end of the tabled replies is a test)

Q13 Finally, is there any other feedback you would like to give us?

The complete answers to the survey are given in an annex to this report.

## 1.5 Final remarks

The EGI Conference 2015 brought together 260 registered delegates to participate in a 5-day event. Globus, EUBrazilCC and OGF organised co-located events.

Overall, the event was judged to be a success (as reflected in the comments documented in the survey attached) by the delegates who have answered the post-forum survey. However, with each event, lessons learnt are always identified in order to continuously improve for future events, which were:

### *Posters and demos*

While the location of the demo booths and poster boards was ideal, next to catering areas and close to the sessions, an important criticism about the organisation of the poster and demonstration session to take into consideration for next events were:

- The poster session competed with main sessions and attracted few participants. → *If a poster session is organised, schedule it during low-competitive slots.*
- The demo session did not work this time around, even though the model used in this conference mirrored the Helsinki Community Forum (where it worked very well) without much consideration. → *If a demo session is organised, do not use models from other events blindly. Ensure a convener is present to 'manage' the session.*

### *Co-locations*

One of the co-located events (OGF 44) failed to deliver a schedule of contributions sufficient to justify the number of slots and the number of rooms allocated to the event, as per their request. Of the 12 slots allocated for OGF 44, only about half were used justifiably. This resulted in rooms not being used (but nevertheless being paid for). This unfortunate situation may be due to the lead organiser having not had enough time to prepare logistics and the programme (despite his obvious interest and good will), and the fact that OGF43 took place only 2 months before this conference (March 2015).

→ *If co-locations are to be pursued, care must be taken to ensure that the organisers of the co-located events are: 1) going to be present; 2) motivated to the success of the co-located event (i.e. are willing to lead the development of an appropriate programme); 3) are aware of the time required to do so. There is no point in trying to convince people to co-locate. If they need convincing, it's unlikely to be worth it.*

### *Number of registrations*

The number of registrations (260) was lower than expected. Some generic thoughts on why this happened, despite the general enthusiasm for Lisbon as a venue.

- Reduced travel budgets in the EGI-Engage era
- Reduced scope of the project (EGI-Engage left out areas covered in the EGI-InSPIRE DoW that historically attracted many attendants)
- A delay in the signing of the Consortium Agreement that blocked the release of travel funds at some institutions.

#### *Parallel sessions and plenary sessions*

A recurring theme of the survey's replies (also in previous surveys related to previous events) is a request to reduce the number of parallel tracks and the number of keynote speakers. The attendees suggest that the programme could be more focused on less, but more meaningful sessions. The same applies to keynote speakers.

→ *Consider the number of parallel tracks and consider reducing the number of invited speakers.*

#### *Other recommendations*

→ *The registration pages for EGI Council meetings co-located at an event should remind participants that they are expected to contribute with (at least) a one-day fee.*

→ *The online programme should be available early as possible to allow potential attendants to evaluate context and interest.*

## 2 EGI Community Forum 2015

The EGI Community Forum 2015 took place in Bari, Italy, between 10 and 13 November 2015. The event was organised by EGI.eu in collaboration with the partners of the Italian National Grid Initiative (INFN, INAF and INGV) and hosted by INFN-Bari.

The EGI Community Forum aimed at gathering tool developers, infrastructure providers, data providers and research communities to work together towards open science.

The EGI-Engage project organised a day of face-to-face meetings on the Monday ahead of the forum and three co-located meetings took place on Friday, 13 November.

The forum attracted the sponsorship of both public and commercial organisations: the PRISMA project, TIM Impresa Semplice, Engineering, Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Puglia, Politecnico di Bari. The event also counted with the institutional support of: the Region of Puglia, the Municipality of Bari and the University of Bari<sup>5</sup>.

Event website: <http://cf2015.egi.eu/>

Event's Indico pages: <https://indico.egi.eu/indico/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=2544>

### 2.1 General information

#### 2.1.1 Co-located events

The co-location policy for the CF2015 changed substantially with respect to previous events. As before, the prospective co-location partners were asked to:

- Develop content that complements (but not overlaps with) the programme of the EGI Conference
- Does not overlap with the main EGI Conference plenary sessions

In previous events, the cost of organising the co-location was supported by the attendants of the co-location, via a registration / payment procedure joint with the main CF2015 event.

This time, the local organisers offered a free registration to co-location attendants, and recouped the expense of co-location by charging the organisers directly. The organisers of each co-location were asked to:

- Pay for the cost of renting the room they used
- Pay for the cost of catering for X attendants, where X is the number of attendants registered in each co-location
- Make a pro rata contribution to the cost of renting common areas (e.g. catering area)
- Make a pro rata contribution towards expenses with technical equipment / facilities
- Make a contribution towards the general organisation of the event, as an overhead of 5-10%

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<sup>5</sup> <http://cf2015.egi.eu/sponsors/>

The co-located events at the CF2015 were:

### *EDISON project: Expert Liaison Group meetings*<sup>6</sup>

This closed session was for those who had been invited to join one of the three Expert Liaison Groups (ELG) convened as part of the recently funded EU EDISON project. EDISON has been established to support the development of the data science career path into a recognised profession. The three ELGs represent employers, universities and data experts, and met to contribute to the project's aim of supporting and accelerating the process of establishing data scientist as a certified profession.

EDISON will run for 24 months and has seven core partners from across Europe that included EGI.eu. The project is coordinated by Yuri Demchenko at the University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands.

See the project website for further details on the aims and objectives of EDISON. <http://edison-project.eu>

### *Community Workshop on the Open Science Cloud: Shaping the Open Science Cloud of the Future*<sup>7</sup>

The workshop offered an opportunity to focus on the requirements and challenges of the infrastructure needed for:

- making the entire primary record of a research project publicly available online as it is recorded.
- opening research data, i.e. managing research data to optimize access, discoverability and sharing for user and reuse
- documenting, opening and sharing research code, and making it freely available for collaboration
- publishing the output of the research process and make it freely accessible for maximum use, reuse and impact
- bridging the gap between research and society with citizen science

The workshop, co-organized by EGI, GEANT, OpenAIRE and EUDAT2020, devoted ample time to discussion and offered the opportunity to users, e-Infrastructure and Research Infrastructure providers, publicly funded and commercial cloud providers, data providers, international research collaborations and policy managers to gather and discuss three key points:

1. the mission and vision: what are the needs that the Open Science infrastructure addresses and services it should offer?

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<sup>6</sup> <https://indico.egi.eu/indico/sessionDisplay.py?sessionId=61&confId=2544#20151113>

<sup>7</sup> <https://indico.egi.eu/indico/sessionDisplay.py?sessionId=62&confId=2544#20151113>

2. the development: what are the services and processes still missing that the infrastructure must deliver?
3. the governance: who are the service providers and the users, who is responsible of funding and procuring such infrastructure, what are the policies that need to be changed?

### *INDIGO DataCloud project meeting*<sup>8</sup>

On Friday, 13 Nov, two meetings of the INDIGO-DataCloud project took place immediately after the conclusion of the EGI Community Forum. These meetings, reserved to invited INDIGO-DataCloud participants, were the INDIGO Project Management Board (PMB) in the morning and the INDIGO Technical Board (TB) in the afternoon. These two bodies steer the technical development of the INDIGO-DataCloud project, whose goal is to create an open Cloud platform for Science. INDIGO-DataCloud is an H2020 project, funded from April 2015 to September 2017, involving 26 European partners and based on use cases and support provided by several multi-disciplinary scientific communities and e-infrastructures. The project will extend existing PaaS (Platform as a Service) solutions, allowing public and private e-infrastructures, including those provided by EGI, EUDAT, PRACE and Helix Nebula, to integrate their existing services and make them available through AAI services compliant with GEANT's inter-federation policies, thus guaranteeing transparency and trust in the provisioning of such services. INDIGO will also provide a flexible and modular presentation layer connected to the PaaS and SaaS frameworks developed within the project, allowing innovative user experiences and dynamic workflows, also from mobile appliances.

## 2.2 Communications and outreach

### 2.2.1 News & blog mentions

The 2015 Community Forum was covered by the local media in Italy, following a press release written by Pina Salente, part of the local organising team. The success of the press release (and lessons to be taken in) is probably due to the fact that it was: 1) written in Italian, 2) by a professional that knows the media landscape, 3) focus on the local Bari / University of Bari role in the forum (not directly about the event itself). Examples of local coverage are:

- Fisica, per la prima volta in Italia il congresso europeo dell'«Egi» (Corriere del Mezzogiorno, 10 November 2015)  
[http://corrieredelmezzogiorno.corriere.it/bari/cronaca/15\\_novembre\\_10/fisica-la-prima-volta-italiail-congresso-europeo-dell-egi-d27b9010-8789-11e5-b16f-562f60a54edb.shtml](http://corrieredelmezzogiorno.corriere.it/bari/cronaca/15_novembre_10/fisica-la-prima-volta-italiail-congresso-europeo-dell-egi-d27b9010-8789-11e5-b16f-562f60a54edb.shtml)
- A Bari i geni europei dei supercalcolatori (Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno, 9 November 2015)  
<http://www.egi.eu/export/sites/egi/news-and-media/press/Gazzetta-del-Mezzogiorno.jpg>

The Community Forum was also mentioned by other external sources, for example:

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<sup>8</sup> <https://indico.egi.eu/indico/sessionDisplay.py?sessionId=63&confId=2544#20151113>

- EGI Community Forum 2015 <https://www.researchitaly.it/en/understanding/press-media/events/egi-community-forum-2015/>
- Sci-GaIA to be presented during EGI Community Forum 2015 <http://www.sci-gaia.eu/2015/09/29/sci-gaia-to-be-presented-during-egi-community-forum-2015-bari-italy-november-10-13-2015/>
- EGI EUDAT interoperability use cases workshop at the upcoming EGI Community Forum 2015 <https://eudat.eu/events/egi-eudat-interoperability-use-cases-workshop-upcoming-egi-community-forum-2015-11-november>
- EGI Community Forum 2015 <https://www.lifewatchgreece.eu/?q=content/egi-community-forum-2015>
- BlueBRIDGE for research communities: how we have contributed to the EGI Community Forum 2015 <http://www.bluebridge-vres.eu/events/bluebridge-research-communities-how-we-have-contributed-egi-community-forum-2015>
- EGI Community Forum 2015: Building Next Generation e-Infrastructures through Communities [https://www.eumonitor.eu/9353000/1/j9vvik7m1c3gyxp/vjup4jl76mze?ctx=vg9ibb65quyr&tab=1&start\\_tab1=5](https://www.eumonitor.eu/9353000/1/j9vvik7m1c3gyxp/vjup4jl76mze?ctx=vg9ibb65quyr&tab=1&start_tab1=5)
- EGI Community Forum 2015 <http://www.h2020.cz/cs/vynikajici-veda/evropske-vyzkumne-infrastruktury/akce/egi-community-forum-2015>
- European Grid Infrastructure (EGI) to open Call for Participation in EGI Community Forum 2015 <http://primeurmagazine.com/weekly/AE-PR-07-15-78.html>
- EGI Community Forum 2015: Building Next Generation e-Infrastructures through Communities [http://www.europa-nu.nl/id/vjup4jl76mze/agenda/egi\\_community\\_forum\\_2015\\_building\\_next?ctx=vg9phwrz4dzh&tab=1](http://www.europa-nu.nl/id/vjup4jl76mze/agenda/egi_community_forum_2015_building_next?ctx=vg9phwrz4dzh&tab=1)

The conference was also a topic of the following news items, published in the EGI news feed:

- 10-11-2015 [EGI Community Forum 2015 gets started in Bari](#)
- 12-10-2015 [CF2015 - early-bird extension and programme details](#)
- 08-09-2015 [The registration for the Community Forum is open](#)
- 11-06-2015 [EGI Community Forum 2015: Call for Participation](#)

## 2.2.2 Outreach

### 2.2.2.1 Event website

Metric	Value
Pages viewed	8,593
Unique page views	7,005



Time spent on the page	00:52
Highest number of page views in a day	488 (10 November)

This table represents the number of visitors from 1 June to 24 November 2015. No direct comparison is possible because EGI did not have a flagship event in autumn 2014.

The metrics of the websites dedicated to the EGI’s flagship events have been steadily declining from forum to forum. This trend is accompanied by and explained by an increased prioritisation of Indico pages as main source of event information. Indico metrics will from now on be collected.

### 2.2.2.2 Indico pages

The main CF2015 Indico page can be found at:

<https://indico.egi.eu/indico/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=2544>

What follows is metrics for the 10 most popular pages, regarding the period from 1 June to 24 November 2015.

Indico page	Pageviews	Unique pageviews	Highest number of page views in a day
1) Timetable	7,197	4,192	1,002 (11 November)
2) Homepage Indico CF2015	4,754	3,514	207 (9 November)
3) Registration	1,747	1,235	124 (8 September)
4) Scientific Programme	1,627	1,226	82 (8 September)
5) Hotel Accommodation	1,468	844	73 (3 November)
6) Tutorials	1,064	716	69 (7 October)
7) Open Science Cloud workshop	915	659	101 (13 November)
8) Logistics	840	607	53 (6 November)
9) Social events	625	511	67 (6 November)
10) Schedule of demonstrations	362	278	42 (9 November)

### 2.2.2.3 Short links

As a tool to measure the traffic to key event pages, we created google short links to monitor the amount of clicks.

The results are:

- Registration pages: <http://go.egi.eu/cf15-reg> 314 clicks
- Registration pages: <http://go.egi.eu/cf15-reg-indico> 664 clicks
- Indico homepage: <http://go.egi.eu/cf15> 2196 clicks

## 2.3 Statistics

A substantial part of the figures reported in this section, in particular everything related to attendance, were provided by Giorgio Maggi, lead member of the local organising committee.

### 2.3.1 Overall

Number of... <sup>9</sup>	CF2015	Conf 15	CF2014	TF2013	CF2013	TF2012	CF2012
Registered participants	<b>287*</b>	260	373	471	380	415	421
Contributions	<b>219</b>	178	270	238	287	305	171
Speakers	<b>150</b>	159	214	142	199	203	208
Session conveners	<b>49</b>	49	78	47	43	42	44

\* of which: 4 were invited as sponsors, 8 were event staff and 275 were attendees and speakers

### 2.3.2 Registration breakdown

The forum had 275 attendees and speakers. The breakdown of their registrations is as follows:

Fee type	#Participants						Total
	Early	Fee	Late	Fee	Onsite	Fee	
Full	165	400	16	480	2	560	183
1 day	15	135	16	165	6	190	37
2 days	12	245	11	295	2	345	25
Co-located events only	7	0	22	0	1	0	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>199</b>		<b>65</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>275</b>

Registrations per co-located event:

- EDISON meeting 15
- Open Science Cloud workshop 102
- INDIGO DataCloud meeting 34

Registrations per country of origin:

Country	Participants	Country	Participants
<b>Italy</b>	80	<b>Slovenia</b>	4
<b>Netherlands</b>	30	<b>Australia</b>	3

<sup>9</sup> Taking into account the speakers and the sessions of co-located events.

France	22	Hungary	3
United Kingdom	22	Slovakia	3
Spain	15	Ukraine	3
Germany	14	Brazil	2
Poland	10	Macedonia	2
Switzerland	10	Taiwan	2
Greece	8	Turkey	2
Sweden	8	Romania	2
Czech Republic	6	Austria	1
Portugal	5	Bulgaria	1
Belgium	5	Nigeria	1
Croatia	5	United States	1
Finland	4	Canada	1
			275

### 2.3.3 Occupancy of rooms

Below is a breakdown of room occupancy per session, per day.

#### 2.3.3.1 Tuesday, 10 November

Session [Attendants]	Europa	Scuderia	Federico II	Sala A+A1
Coffee Break				
11:00-12:30	FedCloud use cases [60]	Cross-border procurement [20]	Open Grid Forum [7]	Security groups progress [21]
Lunch Break				
13:30-15:30	Tools and services from Research Infrastructures [36]	EGI Marketplace [21]	Tutorial: Introduction to the FedCloud [>60,full]	EGI-Engage Collaboration Board (closed) [22]
Coffee break				
16:00-18:00	Tools and services from Research Infrastructures [35]	Innovating with SMEs & industry [36]	Tutorial: Virtual Appliances [38]	Tutorial: DIRAC service [16]

#### 2.3.3.2 Wednesday, 11 November

Session [Attendants]	Europa	Scuderia	Federico II	Sala A+A1
9:00-10:30	EGI-EUDAT	Research	Tutorial: HAPPI	LifeWatch CC

	interoperability [50]	Infrastructures Horizon 2020 [32]	toolkit [3]	workshop [16]
Coffee Break				
<b>11:00-12:30</b>	Data without boundaries: legal [31]	Federated accelerated computing [60]	Tutorial: Chipster in the FedCloud [14]	Disaster Mitigation CC workshop [10]
Lunch Break				
<b>13:30-15:30</b>	Data without boundaries: markets & requirements [14]	EGI FedCloud - PaaS & SaaS [82]	Tutorial: NGS data analysis [8]	Services for human brain research [23]
Coffee break				
<b>16:00-18:00</b>	Data without boundaries: metadata [29]	EGI FedCloud - PaaS & SaaS [44]	Tutorial: Programming w/ COMPSs [9]	Long Tail of Science: tools and services [42]

### 2.3.3.3 Thursday, 12 November

Session [Attendants]	Europa	Scuderia	Federico II	Sala A+A1	
<b>9:00-10:30</b>	Council (closed)	Status & evolution of the EGI AAI [74]	Tutorial: D4Science [9]	Demand of data science skills [24]	
Coffee Break					
<b>11:00-12:30</b>		AARC project workshop [27]	Tutorial: Security training [36]	Academic supply of data science [30]	
Lunch Break					
<b>13:30-15:00</b>		Astronomy and Astrophysics e-infrastructures [38]	Tutorial: EUDAT infrastructure [30]	X	
Coffee break					
<b>15:30-17:00</b>	Community Clouds [26]	Virtual Research Environments [21]	Advances in CompChem and material science [11]		

## 2.4 Survey

Following the event, we sent an online survey to all participants, of which 48 replied. An identical survey was released through the Conference4Me app, but only 2 people replied. The reason for lack of response may be related to deficient promoting of the survey through the app.

The questions were:

**Q1:** Do you have any comments about the programme for the event, for example the plenary speakers, parallel sessions or workshops?

**Q2:** What was your main source of information about the conference?

Options given: The INDICO pages, The Conference4Me app, The CF2015 website, Mails and news

**Q3:** During registration and before the event, was the organising team helpful?

Options given: Very helpful, Quite Helpful, Not at all helpful, I don't know

**Q4:** Please let us know your feedback on the conference catering i.e. the coffee breaks, the welcome reception and the lunchtime catering

**Q5:** Do you have any comments on the conference dinner on Thursday, for example about the menu, the service or the venue? Did you like the city tour before dinner? Should we repeat this format in future events?

**Q6:** Do you have any comments on the conference materials, e.g. online programme, conference bag?

**Q7:** How was the Internet connection throughout the week?

**Q8:** Do you have any comments about the online registration & payments system?

**Q9:** Do you have any comments on the conference venue, for example the size and layout of the rooms, how easy it was to get to the venue, acoustics or equipment?

**Q10:** If you were an exhibitor or a demonstrator, do you have any comments on your experiences at the event e.g. the instructions, the space allocated, the facilities, the wifi, the booth costs, and the exhibition and demo hall?

**Q11:** Compared to similar events that you have attended, do you have any feedback on the fees for the event?

Options given:

The registration fees: Very expensive, Expensive, Acceptable, Good value, Does not apply

Accommodation fees: Very expensive, Expensive, Acceptable, Good value, Does not apply

Travel to the event: Very expensive, Expensive, Acceptable, Good value, Does not apply

**Q12:** The next EGI event will likely be in Amsterdam in April. Do you have any suggestion for the Programme Committee?

**Q13:** Finally, is there any other feedback you would like to give us?

The complete answers to the survey are given in an annex to this report.

A summary of the replies to multi-choice questions is provided below:

*(Q2) What was your main source of information about the conference?*

Answers (multiple choices possible):

Choices	Responses	
The INDICO pages	40	83.33%
The Conference4Me app	8	16.67%
The CF2015 website	12	25.00%
Mails and news	14	29.17%

*(Q3) During registration and before the event, was the organising team helpful?*

Choices	Responses	
Very helpful	36	75.00%
Quite Helpful	10	20.83%
Not at all helpful	0	0%
I don't know	2	4.17%

*(Q11) Compared to similar events that you have attended, do you have any feedback on the fees for the event?*

Choices	Very expensive	Expensive	Acceptable	Good value	Does not apply
The registration fees	2 (4.26%)	12 (25.53%)	28 (58.57%)	5 (10.64%)	5 (10.64%)
Accommodation fees	2 (4.26%)	2 (4.26%)	30 (63.83%)	11 (23.40%)	2 (4.26%)
Travel to the event	2 (4.26%)	5 (10.64%)	30 (63.83%)	10 (21.28%)	0
<i>Total</i>	6	19	88	26	7

## 2.5 Final remarks

The EGI Community Forum attracted 287 registrants to participate in a 4-day event. Overall, the event was judged to be a success by the delegates who have answered the post-forum survey.

Take away points:

*Absence of plenary sessions on every conference day*

On one hand, the lack of plenary talks was welcomed by the delegates. Informal feedback suggests that the subsequent increase in time for workshops / sessions was a plus.

On the other hand, some delegates have expressed the view that the conference seemed less well attended because they weren't able to see everyone in one room and get a feel for how many

people were actually at the event and more fragmented – precisely because we didn't have a unifying event at the beginning of each day. The feeling of a fragmented conference can also be explained by the layout of the venue, divided into different buildings used in different sessions.

→ *There seems to be pros and cons to the approach. No generic lesson can be taken from this one experiment.*

### **Social events**

The comments on the social dinner were positive overall. From the survey, we can extract two main lessons:

→ Extra care should be exercised when choosing entertainment for the conference dinner. The organisers must make sure that music (if present) should be ambient and should not be too loud that conversations become impossible.

→ *The guided tour of Bari was very well received and respondents recommended a repetition of this type of social event. Although keeping in mind that not all host cities are appropriate for such initiatives, organisers of future events are encouraged to propose social events of a cultural as a complement, or alternative, to food & drink receptions.*

### **Co-location policy**

The change in co-location policy made sure that co-located events did not become a burden to the overall budget. If the model is followed in future events:

→ *Invoicing details should be collected ahead of the event, to expedite the collection of financial contributions after the forum*

→ *All financial arrangements should be clearly stated in emails (potentially an MoU) circulated and acknowledged well ahead of the event itself*

### **Catering**

Although the quality of the food was overall praised, the survey's responses highlight that:

→ *the organisers must ensure that catering will be provided in sufficient quantities throughout the entire lunch/coffee break (and not just at the start).*