e-ScienceTalk

QUARTER 1 REPORT: SEP TO NOV 2010

EU REPORT

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Abstract

This report summarises the activities of the e-ScienceTalk project during the first quarter of the project, September to November 2010, including a work package summary, effort figures, metrics for the quarter, issues and plans for the next quarter.

I. COPYRIGHT NOTICE

II. DELIVERY SLIP

	Name	Partner/Activity	Date
From	Catherine Gater	EGI.eu/WP4	23/10/10
Reviewed by	**Moderator:** **Reviewers:** Project team	Various	23/12/10
Approved by	**PMB**		3/1/11

III. DOCUMENT LOG

Issue	Date	Comment	Author/Partner
1	20/10/10	ToC	Catherine Gater/EGI.eu
2	23/12/10	First draft	Catherine Gater/EGI.eu
3	3/1/11	Final draft	Catherine Gater/EGI.eu

IV. APPLICATION AREA

This document is a formal deliverable for the European Commission, applicable to all members of the e-ScienceTalk project and its beneficiaries and collaborating projects.

V. DOCUMENT AMENDMENT PROCEDURE

Amendments, comments and suggestions should be sent to the authors.

VI. PROJECT SUMMARY

Over the last 10 years, the European Commission and governments have invested substantial funds in distributed computing infrastructures. Scientists have access to state-of-the-art computational and data resources located around the world, putting European research into a leading position to address the greatest challenges facing us today, such as climate change, pandemics and sustainable energy. The advent of the European Grid Infrastructure, combined with the blurring of boundaries between grids, clouds, supercomputing networks and volunteer grids, means that a clear consistent source of information aimed at non-experts is now more important than ever, through dissemination projects such as e-ScienceTalk, that cross national boundaries.

Objectives:

- e-ScienceTalk will build on the achievements of the GridTalk project in bringing the success stories of Europe's e-Infrastructure to policy makers in government and business, to the scientific community and to the general public.

- e-ScienceTalk will work with EGI-InSPIRE and other collaborating projects to expand the scope of the existing GridTalk outputs, and to report on the interactions of grids with e-Infrastructures such as cloud computing and supercomputing.

- The project will explore options for the sustainability of e-ScienceTalk's products.

- e-ScienceTalk will produce a series of reports aimed at policy makers to disseminate key policy issues underpinning grid and e-Infrastructure development in Europe. The project will also coordinate e-concertation activities.

- The GridCafé, GridCast and GridGuide suite of websites will cover new topics and explore novel web technologies; they will integrate closely with GridPP's Real Time Monitor, combining live views of grid activity with the human aspects of computing.

- The growing weekly publication, International Science Grid This Week (iSGTW) will bring news and events to the existing and potential e-Science community under a new name of The Digital Scientist.

VII. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report covers the first quarter of the e-ScienceTalk project, September to November 2010, which started on 1 September 2010. This document reports on the activities of the first quarter in each work package, summarises any issues raised and previews plans for the next quarter. The management report includes summary effort figures, the expected spending profile for the first period and includes the project metrics for each work package.

The main outputs from WP1, Policy, Impact and Sustainability, have been in the areas of events, GridBriefings and policy related GridCasts. The work package leader also worked to establish the framework within which policy consultation will take place during the project, as outlined in D1.1 *Policy Engagement Strategy*. WP2 is responsible for e-ScienceTalk's suite of interactive websites, Gridcafé, GridCast and GridGuide, as well as the main project website and the Real Time Monitor. During Q1, WP2 rolled out the e-ScienceTalk project branding, prepared French and Russian translations of the GridCafé and ran six GridCasts at events throughout Europe. WP2 also worked on the RTM, supporting a Java web start version of the application, adding Computing Element reports to the website and improving the database dump process to enable more jobs to be shown per minute. International Science Grid This Week is produced on a weekly basis by WP3, sent to over 6800 subscribers by email, and viewed by around twice as many people each week on the iSGTW website. Efforts during Q1 have focused on D3.2 *Relaunch of iSTGW* with a new name and a new underlying content management system. From January 2011, iSGTW will become The Digital Scientist. A number of promotional posters were produced in collaboration with WP2 for display at events attended during the quarter. During the development process, WP2 has continued to publish iSGTW itself, with 13 issues produced during the quarter.

A number of issues have been identified during the quarter, including ensuring a good balance of information and contributions from collaborating projects in the GridBriefings, adding non-Roman languages to the GridCafé database, displaying multiple rather than single jobs in the RTM, lengthy consultation processes for The Digital Scientist and periodic unresponsiveness of partners in order to sign off development milestones. Mitigation measures are described for each issue.

In the next quarter, WP1 will produce the second GridBriefing, D1.2.2, which will cover the topic of supercomputing. WP2 will work on translations of the GridCafé and new content areas such as the Cloud Lounge. There will be a further GridCast in PM6 and the team will continue to develop the blog formats. WP2 will also work on bringing new sites into GridGuide. The RTM will work towards displaying jobs from WLCG and improve its presence across the e-ScienceTalk products. In January, WP3 will issue the first edition of The Digital Scientist, supported by a marketing campaign.

The project management report confirms that all final documentation has been completed and signed, pre-financing funds have been paid to EGI.eu and redistributed to partners, the Project Management Board for the project has been established and a Chair has been elected for the first year. All Deliverables and Milestones have been submitted to the EC on time. The Project Coordinator has established weekly project meetings, which include all members of the project team. The project team have also given presentations about the e-ScienceTalk at events such as eChallenges 2010 in Warsaw and the 8th e-Infrastructure Concertation Meeting at CERN in November. A number of MoUs are planned with other projects and e-Infrastructures, including e-IRGSP2/3, EUIndiaGrid, CHAIN, EMI, EGI-InSPIRE, GISELA, WeNMR and CLARA. Effort reporting for the first quarter is broadly in line with effort predicted, with some slight over reporting due to project start-up activities, and some under reporting of unfunded effort. Management issues include higher than expected travel costs for WP2 and an extended time frame to approve pre-financing payments in the EGI.eu banking system, delaying the release of the funds to partners. A new effort reporting tool, EasyTS will be introduced in Q2 to simplify effort reporting for all partners.

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1 INTRODUCTION

The e-ScienceTalk project started on 1 September 2010. This document reports on the activities of the first quarter in each work package, covering the GridBriefings, the GridCafé, GridCast and GridGuide, as well as the Real Time Monitor and International Science Grid This Week. The report also summarises any issues raised during the first quarter, and previews plans for the next quarter. The management report includes summary effort figures for the quarter and includes the project metrics for each work package.

2 MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

2.1 Summary

This section summarises the main achievements by each work package during the first quarter of the project.

2.2 Work packages

2.2.1 WP1: Policy, impact and sustainability

The main outputs from the policy, impact and sustainability work package have been in the areas of events, GridBriefings and policy related GridCasts. The work package leader also worked to establish the framework within which policy consultation would take place during the project. During GridTalk, this work package worked closely with a PERT – a policy engagement response team, including members of the e-Infrastructures Reflection Group, e-IRG. For e-ScienceTalk, this will be replaced by a policy advisory group. This will again consist of the e-IRG Board, but with additional advisors, for example from the EGI-InSPIRE project, from the European Middleware Initiative and others. Further details are described in D1.1 *Policy Engagement Strategy* [1], produced in PM3 after gathering feedback on the GridBriefings from e-IRG and the EC. A Memorandum of Understanding is also in the process of being signed between e-ScienceTalk and e-IRGSP2/3 formalising the ways in which the two projects will work together in the policy area.

In the arena of events, Q1 has been an active quarter. In November 2010, WP1 and WP4 coordinated the 8th e-Infrastructure Concertation meeting, which took place at CERN in the Globe. E-ScienceTalk liaised with DG-INFSO on the details of the programming, and provided all logistical support for the event in collaboration with the local organisers at CERN. The event attracted 110 delegates, including representatives of all the major Distributed Computing Infrastructure projects, as well as from the Virtual Research Community projects and Coordination and Support projects. CERN's Research Director, Sergio Bertolucci, welcomed the delegates to CERN, who were also offered a tour of the ATLAS Control Room.

e-ScienceTalk's WP2 created a supporting website[1], which included links to a "virtual goody bag" of materials, as well as the programme, venue information, registration page and the GridCafé forum, where delegates could post comments on the discussions. The event was webcast live by the CERN IT team and participants were also able to follow the event on Twitter using a dedicated hashtag. The event concluded with an OpenAIRE training session for project coordinators.

The e-ScienceTalk team has also attended a number of policy related events during the quarter, including hosting a joint booth with EGI at the eChallenges event in Warsaw in October. This event attracted 250 delegates from the ICT arena, including projects from Africa. WP1 also attended the e-IRG workshop in Brussels in October and was invited by the EC to report on the formal presentation of "Riding the wave: How Europe can gain from the rising tide of scientific data" to Neelie Kroes, the European Digital Agenda Commission. This was the final report of the High Level Expert Group on Scientific Data, chaired by Professor John Wood. A feature article on the event was published in

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[1] http://www.e-sciencetalk.org/e-concertation/

International Science Grid This Week[2]. At these events and others attended by WP2, copies of the second GridBriefing annual report from 2009/2010 were circulated.

A new template was also developed for the GridBriefing reports in collaboration with WP2. The new design reflects the new branding for the e-ScienceTalk project and has been used in the first GridBriefing produced during Q1, "Mapping the e-Infrastructure Landscape"[3]. The briefing draws from a number of key reports outlining the current landscape for e-Infrastructures in Europe including the Riding the Wave report, the DCI Collaborative Roadmap and an e-IRG Blue Paper. The GridBriefing was launched at the 8th e-Infrastructure Concertation meeting and has also been distributed at other events attended by e-ScienceTalk, such as Supercomputing SC10 and by email to the EGI-InSPIRE policy and dissemination mailing lists and the EGI Council, as well as the e-IRG Board members.

2.2.2   WP2: GridCafé, GridGuide, GridCast

WP2 is responsible for e-ScienceTalk's suite of interactive websites, Gridcafé, GridCast and GridGuide, as well as the main project website and the Real Time Monitor. During Q1, WP2 rolled out the e-ScienceTalk project branding - including the new logo - to all the project's products, templates and websites. The work package also produced promotional materials, such as a banner and posters to advertise the GridCasts and iSGTW at a number of events, as described below.

GridCafé

During GridTalk, a French version of the GridCafé was available, but this was not initially updated when the English version of the site was redesigned and relaunched. Work on a translation of the new content started during the final quarter of GridTalk, and in Q1 of e-ScienceTalk, the bulk of the pages were translated by the CERN translation service. The new French site is expected to be launched in December. A full review of the content of the English site was also carried out, for example to ensure that references to closed projects were updated, to add new projects, to expand the information about middleware and to check whether video content produced by the Enabling Grids for e-SciencE project is still current. A Russian translation of the GridCafé was also worked on during Q1 by a volunteer student at QMUL.

GridCast

A number of GridCasts have been held during the first quarter. At each GridCast, one or more members of the e-ScienceTalk team attended the event, blogging and in some cases recording video at the event. At some events, the e-ScienceTalk team was supplemented bloggers from other projects and organisations, such as EGI-InSPIRE, SAGrid and Emergence Tech Ltd. The details of the GridCasts are listed below and the statistics for the blog are included in the metrics section.

- **Citizen Cyberscience Summit**, 2-3 September 2010, London, UK

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[2] http://www.isgtw.org/?pid=1002779
[3] http://www.e-sciencetalk.org/briefings/EST-Briefing-15-Landscape-Newt.pdf

- **EGI Technical Forum 2010**, 14-17 September 2010, Beurs van Berlage, Amsterdam

- **ICT 2010**, 27-29 September 2010, Brussels, Belgium

- **e-Challenges 2010**, 27-29 October 2010, Warsaw, Poland

- **8th e-Infrastructure Concertation Meeting**, 4-5 November 2010, CERN, Geneva, Switzerland

- **Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference**, 9-10 December 2010, Helsinki, Finland

The GridCast at eChallenges in October was submitted as MS4.1, featuring 3 bloggers from e-ScienceTalk, 14 blog posts, including 5 videos and a booth distributing e-ScienceTalk materials at the event.

GridGuide

To tie in with the GridCast at the EGI Technical Forum in September, BiGGrid and NIKHEF were featured as 'Site of the Month' during the event. E-ScienceTalk also held a joint dissemination session with EGI, and the GridGuide was promoted to encourage the National Grid Initiatives (NGIs) to add their sites to the website. During the mini GridCast held at the Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference in December, SAGrid was featured as 'Site of the Month'.

Real Time Monitor

The Real Time Monitor is a new addition to e-ScienceTalk compared to GridTalk, and is now partly funded by the project in order to optimise co-development with the GridGuide. During Q1, the web-start version of the RTM has been available, with the new project logos added, supported by a server upgrade. This means that The Real Time Monitor can now run as a Java Web Start application, ensuring that, once downloaded and executed, the application will use up-to-date software taking into account all platform dependencies. This is especially important for the RTM, which uses OpenGL native code for the 3D graphics. More than 600 Computing Element reports are also now included in the website, in the form of piecharts[4]. In order to display jobs moving around the grid, the developers needed to gather information about the time that each job spends in different states and at different sites. This data is displayed on the website and can be analysed to understand usage patterns and problems on the grid.

During Q1, a problem was resolved with the round trip time for the RTM enquirer process. This process dumps the database to the web server, and needs to happen within a minute, so that clients can access fresh data every minute, and for the traces on the globe to remain smooth. Problems were starting to appear when the number of updates exceeded around 1500 per minute. Under some circumstances, a full database dump is needed, for example, when the globe viewer is starting up. However, the normal operation of the RTM uses only the updates i.e. a minute's worth of the database

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[4] http://rtm.hep.ph.ic.ac.uk/graphs.php

dump. To resolve the round trip problem, the creation of the updates has been separated into two processes, a "slim" version of the query, which is completed in significantly less than a second, and a full version that can take up to 30 seconds. In the longer term, this should mean that it is possible for the RTM to show more jobs happening around the world.

2.2.3 WP3: iSGTW/The Digital Scientist

International Science Grid This Week is produced on a weekly basis by WP3, sent to over 6800 subscribers by email, and viewed by around twice as many people each week on the iSGTW website. Deliverable D3.1 is to produce this publication on a weekly basis throughout the project.

During Q1, Adrian Giordani was recruited to e-ScienceTalk partner CERN as a Dissemination Officer, to work as a science writer on the iSGTW publication as well as contributing to WP1 and WP2. Recruitment is also underway under the Fellows programme for a replacement for the iSGTW Editor, Dan Drollette, who leaves at the end of April 2011.

Efforts during Q1 have focused on D3.2 *Relaunch of iSTGW* with a new name and a new underlying content management system. WP3 has been working closely with the e-ScienceTalk project team and also with the iSGTW Advisory Board on the relaunch. The iSGTW Advisory Board includes representatives from CERN, Fermilab, EGI.eu, OSG and QMUL. Further details about the composition and Terms of Reference for the Board can be found in D4.2 *Quality Assurance Guide* [R2].

The principle change for iSGTW will be to the name, and from January 2011, iSGTW will become The Digital Scientist. A logo for the relaunched publication was produced by WP2 and this, together with the new name, was decided on via a voting procedure involving the iSGTW Advisory Board and e-ScienceTalk PMB. During Q1, US web design company Xenomedia worked on building the website for The Digital Scientist using OpenPublish Drupal in consultation with working groups and strategy groups that incorporated Board and e-ScienceTalk members. The development process for the new site is described in more detail in D3.2 *Relaunch of iSGTW* [R3]. This included producing a new navigational structure for the site, a refreshed look and feel to reflect the new branding and additional interactive elements such as polls, surveys and the facility to comment on and share articles through social media channels.

A number of promotional posters were produced in collaboration with WP2 for display at events attended during the quarter, including a teaser poster displayed at the 8th e-Infrastructure Concertation Meeting at CERN in November 2011. A holding page was created by Xenomedia at the new URL for the publication[5]. A screenshot of the website was unveiled at the Fermilab booth at Supercomputing SC10, with an invitation to subscribe to the new publication. A working beta version of the site was submitted as D3.2 in PM3, and this will be fully launched with the first issue of The Digital Scientist in January 2011 after extensive beta testing by the Advisory Board.

During the development process, iSGTW itself has continued to be published on a weekly basis, with 13 issues produced during the quarter.

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[5] http://www.thedigitalscientist.org/

2.3 Issues and mitigation

2.3.1 WP1: Policy, impact and sustainability

One issue foreseen for WP1 is:

- To ensure a good balance of information and contributions from collaborating projects in the GridBriefings.

WP1 is working to mitigate this issue through the MoU with e-IRGSP2/3 and by liaising with the policy teams in projects such as EGI-InSPIRE.

2.3.2 WP2: Gridcafé, GridGuide, Gridcast

For WP2, the following issues are reported:

- Adding Russian, Chinese and other non-Roman languages to the GridCafé database.
- Displaying multiple rather than single jobs in the RTM.

In order to support adding Russian, Chinese and other non-Roman translations of the GridCafé, changes may be needed to the underlying database and a technical solution is being investigated.

As job traffic increases in the RTM, for example if all the ATLAS jobs were to be shown, it would be useful to find a way to show batches of jobs, rather than individual jobs. Graphical solutions to this issue will be investigated.

2.3.3 WP3: iSGTW/Digital Scientist

In WP3, two issues have been reported:

- Lengthy consultation processes for The Digital Scientist leading to long timeframes in converging on decisions relating to developments, then in seeing these decisions implemented.
- Periodic unresponsiveness of US partners in order to sign off development milestones.

Due to time zone differences, holiday periods and the relatively large number of people involved in the critical path decision-making process, some consultation processes for The Digital Scientist have been extensive and complex. This has coincided with periodic difficulties in obtaining a clear consensus from all those involved in agreeing that development milestones have been reached. However, the major steps for the new publication have ultimately been achieved within the deadlines and efforts will be made in the future to try to streamline the decision making processes with the new composition of The Digital Scientist Advisory Board.

2.4 Plans for the next quarter

This section outlines for the plans for each work package during the next quarter, December 2010 to February 2011.

2.4.1 WP1: Policy, impact and sustainability

For WP1, the main area of activity will be to produce the second GridBriefing, D1.2.2, which will cover the topic of supercomputing, including projects such as DEISA and PRACE. This will be distributed at events attended by the e-ScienceTalk project and also by email. WP1 will also work with WP2 on ensuring that the archive of GridBriefings from GridTalk and e-ScienceTalk are displayed in a more readable and searchable format online.

WP1 will also work towards innovation in the content of the GridBriefings, and ideas for future briefings include exascale computing, eGovernment, impact indicators, the FP8 programme and the Digital Agenda for Europe. WP1 will explore ideas for providing policy related content in alternative formats, such as video, working with the GridCast team. WP1 will continue to identify policy related events to attend and distribute materials, and to demonstrate the GridGuide and Real Time Monitor. A new name for the GridBriefings will also be explored.

2.4.2 WP2: Gridcafé, GridGuide, Gridcast

For WP2, a number of developments are planned for the second quarter.

- **e-ScienceTalk**
  - New leaflet about the project to be produced.
  - Copyright notices for each product to be applied, using Creative Commons licences where appropriate.

- **GridCafé**
  - Progress the Russian translation for the GridCafé.
  - Approach collaborating institution ASGC for a Chinese translation.
  - Work on an overall concept for an e-Science City, to include new content areas such a Cloud Lounge.
  - Work on the 3-D pilot of the GridCafé in collaboration with Virtus / New World Grid.

- **GridCast**
  - Develop new types of blog post, such as longer, more editorial posts.
  - Identify 'celebrity' bloggers to be invited to contribute to the blog.
  - Experiment with longer videos, such as a 'day in the life', a conference overview, vox pops.
  - GridCast planned for PM6 at CloudScape-III in Brussels.

- **GridGuide**

- o Work on the marketing for the GridGuide to target it better to its audiences.
- o Liaise with the National Grid Initiatives to include them on the site to increase the number of sites featured.
- o Work with collaborating projects such SAGrid and REUNA to increase the number of non-European sites.

- **RTM**
  - o Work with the PANDA team at CERN to publish WLCG data to the RTM and show bunches of jobs graphically.
  - o Link the RTM to the GridCafé in order to market the RTM more effectively.
  - o Create a short video clip showing a few minutes of grid activity on the RTM for marketing and demo purposes.
  - o Create a new logo for the RTM.

2.4.3 WP3: iSGTW/The Digital Scientist

In Q2, the main activity for WP3 will be the publication of the first issue of The Digital Scientist in January 2011 by email, supported by the new website based on OpenPublish Drupal. The final issue of iSGTW will be issued on 22 December as a short issue, signing off the publication and introducing the new one. The following features will be available in the new publication:

- Web site with new design and navigational layout
- All legacy content ported across to the new site from iSGTW
- Site taxonomies (types of content) defined
- Search and advanced search capabilities
- Content tagging (legacy and new)
- Contextual search, simple and advanced
- Registration to the site, enabling readers to comment on and rate articles
- Slide show and video galleries
- Reader polls
- Calendar including events
- ShareThis function, enabling easy sharing of the content on social media sites
- Smart phone template

Weekly issues of The Digital Scientist will be produced from January, with its usual mix of articles, links, images, videos, jobs, events and announcements. The new publication will be marketed and promoted at events attended by the e-ScienceTalk team during the quarter, and will be announced in the GridCast blog, on the GridCafé news feed and on Twitter. A short term marketing plan will be developed in collaboration with Fermilab, together with joint materials as appropriate. A longer term marketing plan will be produced by the new Editor of The Digital Scientist in PM9 as D3.3 *Strategic report on marketing*.

3 CONSORTIUM MANAGEMENT

3.1 Summary

This section outlines the consortium management activities during the quarter, carried out by WP4 the management work package.

3.2 WP4: Management

3.2.1 Project management

During Q1 all project related final documentation has been completed, signed and sent to the EC and the project partners, including the Grant Agreement, Consortium Agreement and bank account details. The pre-financing funds have been paid to EGI.eu and redistributed to partners with the agreement of the EC.

The Project Management Board for the project has been established and a Chair has elected for the first year, Dr Sarah Pearce of QMUL. The PMB has met twice in PM1 and PM3 to review the progress of the project and to establish the risk register, meeting milestones MS10.1 and MS10.2. The PMB has also reviewed and approved all the Deliverables and Milestones produced during the first quarter, as listed in section 3.2.2. All Deliverables and Milestones have been submitted to the EC on time or in advance of the deadline.

The Project Coordinator has established weekly project meetings, which include all members of the project team. During these meetings, the Work Package Leaders present the progress achieved during that week by their team, actions are reviewed and discussed, and further actions agreed. Two management deliverables, D4.1 *Dissemination plan* and D4.2 *Quality Assurance Guide* have been produced by WP4.

Presentations about the project have been given by the Project Coordinator or by e-ScienceTalk team members at the EGI Technical Forum 2010 in Amsterdam, at eChallenges 2010 in Warsaw and at the 8th e-Infrastructure Concertation Meeting at CERN in November.

A number of MoUs are planned with projects, including the e-IRGSP2/3, EUIndiaGrid, CHAIN, EMI, EGI-InSPIRE, GISELA, WeNMR and also with CLARA. These will be progressed in the next quarter.

3.2.2 Milestones and Deliverables

Table 1: Quarter 1 Deliverables

Del. no.	Deliverable name	WP no.	Nature	Due (PM)	Delivery date (PM)	Status
D3.1	Weekly issues of iSGTW	3	R	1-33	1-3	Submitted
D1.2.1	GridBriefings	1, 2	R	2	2	Submitted
D4.1	Dissemination plan	4	R	2	2	Submitted
D1.1	Policy engagement strategy	1	R	3	3	Submitted
D3.2	Relaunch of iSGTW with a new name and new underlying content management system	3, 2	O	3	3	Submitted
D4.2	Quality assurance guide	4	R	3	3	Submitted

Table 2: Quarter 1 Milestones

Milestone number	Milestone name	WP no.	Due (PM)	Delivery date (PM)	Status
MS10.1	PMB meetings	4	1	1	Completed
MS4.1	GridCasts	2	2	2	Completed
MS1	E-concertation event	1, 2, 3	3	3	Completed

Table 3: Quarter 2 Deliverables

Del. no.	Deliverable name	WP no.	Nature	Due (PM)	Delivery date (PM)	Status
D1.2.1	GridBriefings	1, 2	R	5		In progress

Table 4: Quarter 2 Milestones

Milestone number	Milestone name	WP no.	Due (PM)	Delivery date (PM)	Status
MS10.2	PMB meetings	4	4	3	Completed
MS7	Posters and marketing materials	3, 2	5		In progress
MS4.2	GridCasts	2	6		Not started
MS11	Dissemination materials	4	6		In progress

3.2.3 Consumption of effort

A summary of the effort consumption by each partner in each work package is included below. Unfunded effort is included where relevant. A summary of the percentage effort delivered in Q1 is included at the end of this section.

3.2.3.1 Overall effort figures per work package

Table 5: Overall effort achieved in Q1 in PMs (view 1)

Work package	September	October	November	Total	Year plan	Linear Q plan	% achieved
WP1	1.2	1.6	1.1	3.9	46.0	**4.2**	**92%**
WP2	1.4	1.4	1.6	4.3	64.0	**5.8**	**75%**
WP3	1.4	2.2	2.2	5.7	52.0	**4.7**	**121%**
WP4-M	0.6	0.5	0.7	1.7	17.0	**1.5**	**113%**
WP2-UNF	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.0	**0.7**	**0%**
WP4-UNF	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	5.0	**0.5**	**18%**
Total	**4.6**	**5.6**	**5.6**	**15.8**	**192.0**	**17.5**	**90%**

Overall effort figures in Q1 for each work package are broadly in line with the year plan, at 90% on average in total. There is under reporting in WP2 at 75% of expected effort for the first quarter, and over reporting in WP3. This is partly due to the fact that the CERN Dissemination Officer did not start work until one month into the project. Also, a significant amount of start-up effort has been devoted in WP3 on the relaunch of iSGTW as The Digital Scientist. As project members are shared between WP2 and WP3, the additional effort inWP3 has impacted on the effort in WP2. Once The Digital Scientist is launched, the effort across the two work packages should normalise. Unfunded effort has been under reported during the first quarter, but this is likely to be resolved by improvements in the reporting tools in the second quarter.

3.2.3.2 Overall effort figures per partner

Table 6: Overall effort achieved in Q1 in PMs (view 2)

Partner	September	October	November	Total	Year plan	Linear Q plan	% achieved
CERN	1.1	2.2	2.2	5.5	67	**6.1**	**90%**
APO	1.1	1.3	1.0	3.4	34	**3.1**	**110%**
QMUL	1.2	1.0	1.1	3.3	47	**4.3**	**80%**
IMPERIAL	0.6	0.6	0.6	1.8	26	**2.4**	**80%**
EGI.eu	0.6	0.5	0.7	1.8	18	**1.6**	**110%**
Total	**4.6**	**5.6**	**5.6**	**15.8**	**192**	**17.5**	**90%**

Q1 represents 9% of the elapsed time of the project. The total overall effort figures for the first quarter are at 90% of expected for the project as a whole. CERN has reported slightly less than the expected effort for the quarter as the second full time member of staff, the Dissemination Officer, did not start work on the project until the start of PM2. APO and EGI.eu have reported slightly over the expected effort at 110% - these slightly higher figures are to be expected during the start-up phase for the project, and it is anticipated that these will drop slightly in subsequent quarters. QMUL and Imperial have also reported under the expected effort at 80%.

3.2.4 Overall financial status

The expenditure for the first year of the project is expected to follow the profile outlined below. The pre-financing has been distributed to partners at the end of the quarter and further moneys are not expected to be distributed to partners until the end of the first period.

Table 7: Expected expenditure profile

Partner	WP1	WP2	WP3	WP4	Total	1st Year
EGI.eu				187.694	187.694	68.252
QMUL	223.513	56.858	40.627		320.998	116.727
APO	28.088	154.882	28.088		211.057	76.748
Imperial		114.181			114.181	41.520
CERN	69.164	77.562	319.344		466.070	169.480
Total	**320.764**	**403.485**	**388.057**	**187.694**	**1.300.000**	**472.727**

Table 8: Estimated Personnel expenditure Q1 (in K euros)

Work package	Sept	Oct	Nov	Cumul Direct	Cumul Indirect	Cumul Eligible	Q1 Estimated Funding
WP1	6.130	7.913	5.423	19.466	3.893	23.359	**20.829**
WP2	7.540	7.695	8.448	23.683	4.737	28.420	**25.341**
WP3	7.971	12.957	13.479	34.407	6.881	41.288	**36.815**
WP4-M	4.053	3.667	4.522	12.243	2.449	14.692	**13.100**
WP2-UNF	0	0	0	0	0	0	**n/a**
WP4-UNF	0	0	830	830	166	996	**n/a**
Total	**25.694**	**32.232**	**32.703**	**90.629**	**18.126**	**108.755**	**96.085**

In line with the under spending of the person months planned, the costs of the personnel are lower than the projected estimates. The partners have spent all together 96keuros; 129keuros were (linearly) forecast over a 3-month period.

3.2.5 WP4: Management issues and mitigation

For WP4, two issues have been raised:

- Higher than expected travel costs for WP2 during Q1.
- Extended timeframe to approve pre-financing payments in the EGI.eu banking system, delaying the release of the funds to partners.

Higher than expected travel costs were reported for WP2, potentially impacting on the number of travels that will be possible during the project. This was partly due to late booking of travel due to delays in the arrival of project funds. Investigations are underway into the predicted average costs of travel in WP2, and this will be matched to the expected need to travel during the project. If necessary, travels will be shared between partners where possible.

A new requirement for EGI.eu as coordinating partner of e-ScienceTalk, compared to GridTalk, is for all payments from the project bank account to be countersigned by both the EGI.eu management and a financial representative at the EC. Due to technical issues, the second signature from the EC was delayed by a number of weeks, with implications for some of the e-ScienceTalk partners. EGI.eu will work with the EC to ensure that this process is as streamlined as possible in future.

3.2.6 WP4: Plans for the next quarter

During Q1, effort reporting was completed using an Excel template. For Q2, effort reporting will be done by each project team member through an online tool called EasyTimeSheet, hosted by ERCIM. All Q1 effort figures will also be entered into this tool to enable full end of year reporting. Tracking of project related travels, and also unfunded effort will be achieved more easily using this tool.

The weekly project team meetings will continue during the second quarter. A face-to-face all hands meeting is planned for 9th December at CERN. At this meeting, the longer term planning for each of the e-ScienceTalk products will be discussed and actions agreed.

During Q1, e-ScienceTalk coordinated the logistical planning of the 8th e-Infrastructure Concertation meeting at CERN in November, in collaboration with CERN. The costings for this meeting are now clearer, and an amendment of the DoW is planned to describe these costs and the payment arrangements.

The Project Coordinator will attend the CHAIN Launch Event in Rome in December, with a view to progressing MoUs between projects including the e-IRGSP2/3, EUIndiaGrid, CHAIN, EMI, EGI-InSPIRE, GISELA and WeNMR.

4 PROJECT METRICS

A number of project metrics are outlined in D4.2 *Quality Assurance Guide* [R2]. The metrics for each work package for Q1 are included below. Project level metrics are indicated in bold type.

4.1.1 WP1: Policy, impact and sustainability

Table 11: Metrics for Work Package 1

Metric no.	Description	Comments	Number
1.1	**Projects covered**	**In the GridBriefings**	**15**
1.2	**Reports and briefings circulated**	**In print or by email**	**1 report (100 copies)**
1.3	**Countries where reports or briefings are distributed**	**In print or by email**	**8**
1.4	Policy articles published	In print or online	3
1.5	Policy reports written	In print or online	1
1.6	Printed policy reports circulated	To policy makers	100
1.7	Policy events organised	Number organised	1
1.8	Attendees at policy events	Number of delegates	111
1.9	Collaborating projects to which articles have been distributed	In print or by email	13
1.10	Countries to which articles or reports have been distributed	In print or by email	8

4.1.2 WP2: Gridcafé, GridGuide, Gridcast

Table 12: Metrics for Work Package 2

Metric no.	Description	Comments	Number
2.1	**Sites on GridGuide**	**Number of sites included**	**34**
2.2	**Bloggers contributing to GridCasts**	**Average number of bloggers on GridCast**	**2**
2.3	**GridCasts per year**	**Including major and mini GridCasts**	**7**

2.4	New areas of GridCafé	Covering topics other than grid computing	1 in development
2.5	Unique visitors to the GridCafé website	From Google Analytics	4422
2.6	Page views of the GridCafé website	From Google Analytics	48676
2.7	Number of bloggers for GridCast	Total number of bloggers	15
2.8	Blog entries	Total number	92
2.9	Podcasts	Total number	20
2.10	Unique visitors to the GridCast	From Google Analytics	2295
2.11	Page views of the GridCast	From Google Analytics	5343
2.12	EU sites on GridGuide	European based sites	24
2.13	Non-EU sites on GridGuide	Non-European located sites	10
2.14	Unique visitors to the GridGuide	From Google Analytics	345
2.15	Page views of the GridGuide	From Google Analytics	665
2.16	GridGuide sites on RTM	Total number	27
2.17	Countries in the RTM	Total number[6]	64
2.18	Events demo-ing the RTM	Including events attended by collaborating projects demo-ing the RTM	9

4.1.3 WP3: iSGTW/Digital Scientist

Table 13: Metrics for Work Package 3

Metric no.	Description	Comments	Number
3.1	**iSGTW subscribers**	**Registered in the database**	**6838**
3.2	**Articles on European projects**	**Based on EU funded projects**	**33**
3.3	**Projects in the iSGTW/GridCafé resources section**	**Total number**	**134**
3.4	**iSGTW printed materials distributed**	**At events attended by e-ScienceTalk or by collaborating projects**	**120**
3.5	Issues published	Issued by email to subscribers each week and posted on the website	13
3.6	US articles published	Based on US projects	30
3.7	Worldwide articles published	Based on non US or EU projects	1

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[6] http://gridportal-ws01.hep.ph.ic.ac.uk/dynamic_information/egee-locations.xml

3.8	Unique visitors to the website	From Google Analytics	39,130
3.9	Page views of the website	From Google Analytics	74,542
3.10	Countries visiting the iSGTW website	From Google Analytics	140
3.11	Marketing materials distributed	In print or by email or at events	120
3.12	Survey responses	Through Zoomerang survey tool	No survey issued

4.1.4 WP4: Management

Table 14: Metrics for Work Package 4

Metric no.	Description	Comments	Number
4.1	Deliverables submitted	By email and online	6
4.2	Milestones agreed	By email and online	3
4.3	Late Deliverable and Milestones	Submitted or agreed after the date agreed with the EC	0
4.4	e-ScienceTalk materials produced	Included printed materials, pens, banners etc	8 posters, 200 pens, 100 annual reports, 150 GridBriefings, 500 pens
4.5	Unique visitors to the e-ScienceTalk website	From Google Analytics	206
4.6	Page views of the e-ScienceTalk website	From Google Analytics	1072
4.7	Media releases issued	Issued via Alphagalileo and by email	1
4.8	Press cuttings	Measured by Google Alerts	3
4.9	Events attended	By e-ScienceTalk project team	9

5 CONCLUSION

The first quarter for e-ScienceTalk has been an active quarter, seeing the completion of the final paperwork for the project, the establishment of the management procedures and the transition from GridTalk to e-ScienceTalk. Expenditure of costs and effort are broadly in line with predictions for the quarter and all Deliverables and Milestones have been completed and submitted on time.

6 REFERENCES

R 1	D1.1 Policy Engagement Strategy https://documents.egi.eu/document/261
R 2	D4.2 Quality Assurance Guide https://documents.egi.eu/document/262
R 3	D3.2 Relaunch iSGTW https://documents.egi.eu/document/265