

Memorandum of Understanding

between

LinkSCEEM-2 and eScienceTalk

1. Purpose of this MoU

The LinkSCEEM-2 project (contract no. 261600, www.linksceem.eu) promotes the development of a high performance computing (HPC) eco-system in the Eastern Mediterranean region by interlinking and coordinating regional compute, data and visualisation resources to form an integrated e-platform. The project provides training activities and user support, and engages the regional communities through networking activities such as user meetings, training workshops, exchange of visitors, organisation of joint events, and outreach. Regional HPC centres will be contributing resources to support user communities in the region. Established EU and US LinksCEEM-2 partners provide know-how at the highest level for running and integrating such facilities, whereas international leaders in the three research areas pursued by the project, namely Climate Modelling, Digital Cultural Heritage and Synchrotron applications will ensure transfer of state-of-the-art techniques to the regional user communities, thereby linking the Eastern Mediterranean with the European and international computational science activities.

The e-ScienceTalk project (contract no. 260733, www.e-sciencetalk.eu) aims to:

- 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.

Both projects receive funding support from the European Commission in the context of its Seventh Framework Programme and have a common interest in a close cooperation in order to achieve their respective objectives.

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) specifies the way in which such cooperation will be undertaken.

2. Common Activities

Activities which will be undertaken in common by the two projects are listed in Annex 1 to this MoU. The projects may from time to time wish to add other activities to the MoU. In such case the new activities to be added will be agreed in writing by the respective project managements, and be defined by an amendment of this MoU, simply adding a new Annex 1.

3. Communication

The Project Managers of the two projects will maintain regular contact to discuss any managerial matters related to the cooperation described in this MoU. Each project will appoint one Principal Point of Contact to act as the primary technical channel of communication between the projects as is necessary for the promotion of effective cooperation between the projects.

4. Administrative Matters

Each Project will maintain full responsibility for its own activities, including the fulfilment of its obligations under its contract with the European Commission and provides no warranty, express or implied, in respect of its contribution to any activity agreed by the projects under this MoU, including but not limited to those of fitness for a particular purpose and the infringement of third-party proprietary rights.

Any proprietary rights relating to the results of activities undertaken by the projects under this MoU shall be jointly held by the projects, and each project herewith grants the other project a free, irrevocable and perpetual license to use such rights, including the granting of sub-licenses to such rights, for its own purposes, including the right for each project to place the results of such activities in the public domain, in its own name and under its own responsibility.

This Agreement will terminate when either of the projects is complete, or when either project gives notice of termination to the other, in which case a minimum notice of three months will be given.

Signed on behalf of LinkSCEEM-2 by:

Name: Constantia Alexandrou (project coordinator)

Signature: 

Date: 14/3/11

Signed on behalf of e-ScienceTalk by:

Name: Catherine Gater (project coordinator)

Signature: 

Date: 19/4/11

Annex 1 – Coordinated Activities

Training and Advanced knowledge dissemination

e-ScienceTalk and LinkSCEEM-2 will cooperate in the promotion and dissemination of grid schools and workshops in the Eastern Mediterranean aimed at forming and/or bringing up to date skilled personnel such as HPC system administrators and local user supporters;

e-ScienceTalk and LinkSCEEM-2 will work together in the following areas:

- Disseminating new applications of relevance for the Eastern Mediterranean through the e-ScienceTalk dissemination channels, such as the GridCafe, GridCast, iSGTW and GridGuide;
- Disseminating the implementation and application of selected scientific codes of interest to the Eastern Mediterranean in e-ScienceTalk publications;
- Raising the awareness of other potential users and decision makers, through the presentation of the results of the user meetings and training events, about the usefulness of e-Infrastructures for e-Science.
- Featuring information about the projects on each other's websites and dissemination materials where appropriate;
- Announcing each other's events on websites and in publications where appropriate;
- LinkSCEEM-2 will provide content and information about the project and applications of relevance to Eastern Mediterranean to e-ScienceTalk publications such as iSGTW and the policy documents, the GridBriefings;
- LinkSCEEM-2 will promote e-ScienceTalk's products to its communities and contacts, for example by offering registrants to events the opportunity to subscribe to iSGTW.