



Enabling Grids for E-science

NA5: Policy & International Cooperation

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- **15: NA1 and NA5. Formalise co-operation with OMII-Europe to exploit the potential for synergy in the areas of inter-operability and standardisation.**
- **16: NA1 and NA5. Formalise co-operation with DEISA with a view to improving the interoperability between gLite and UNICORE**
- **17: NA1 and NA5. Initiate specific efforts to ensure that inter-operability of gLite with ARC and UNICORE is achieved before the end of the project.**

NA5 will assist in monitoring the interoperability and standardisation efforts in these areas and collaborate closely with NA1

- Recommendations **18 – 21** refer to work on sustainability
- This will be undertaken by the **EGI Design Project** when it starts (possibly in September 2007)
- The role of NA5 will be to hand over to the EGI Design Project the work and the material collected over the last year, and to support the project in its initial steps.

Recommendation 18

- **NA1 and NA5. In advancing the plans for sustainability and the national grid initiatives (NGIs), ensure that the importance of member states adopting national allocation policies is understood.**
- NA5, and later the EGI design project, should act as a catalyst for NGIs to discuss and harmonise strategies paving the way for the next phase (EGI+NGIs). Identifying national resource allocation policies is indeed challenging and proper consultation needs to take place with related stakeholders including national funding agencies (e.g. Ministries and Research Councils)
 - Consultation may take place in the next EGI workshop in Budapest (October EGEE '07 conference)
 - Links with SA1 on allocation policies should be triggered
- The EGI Knowledge Base being upon the NA5 work will have a special section (with its own menu item) on allocation policies.
 - The tool we plan to use is MediaWiki, which has a discussion page for every main Wiki page. All NGI reps will be invited to weigh in on the content of these pages, either by editing the main text or by contributing to the related discussion.

Recommendation 19

- **NA1 and NA5. In advancing the plans for sustainability and the European grid initiative (EGI), ensure that the importance of national as well as European-level allocation policies is understood.**
- **This adds to the previous recommendation seen from a different angle: the European perspective!**
- **NA5 and the EGI design study should examine and understand the commonalities and differences on national allocation policies, as well as stimulate and enforce strategies for sharing and providing easy access to resources at European level.**
- **NA5 will contribute to the EGI knowledge base and the EGI project, documenting the national/European level policies as well as recommending allocation strategies/policies for enabling resource sharing.**

Recommendation 20

- **NA1 and NA5: In advancing the plans for the NGIs and the EGI, consider what instruments of the Framework Programme might be helpful in enabling resource owners to contribute grid resources to the EGI under some form of co-funding.**
- **Similar to recommendation 19, focusing on Framework Programme instruments to enable resource sharing.**
 - Targeting resource owners who may be given incentives through FP7 instruments to contribute their assets to EGI.
 - The answer is not straightforward and needs proper thinking (as part of EGI_DS).
 - § As an example, resource owners could sign Service Level Agreements with the EGI to support multiple disciplines and a minimum service level (in terms of resources and their availability). As a benefit they also get access to other disciplines' resources, guaranteed by a minimum service level (e.g. if they give 1000 CPUs, they get at least twice as much from EGI).
- **Will be handled in depth by the EGI Design Project, especially WP2 (EGI Requirements Consolidation) and WP4 (Legal and Financial Issues).**

Recommendation 21

- **NA1 and NA5. In advancing plans for EGI in support of European e-science, consider to what extent it might be helpful for the proposed European Research Council to dispose over its own grid resources, or its own allocation of grid resources, which it could award to research groups.**
- **Investigate the possibility of a relation with ERC along the following lines:**
 - EGI as the European Grid Infrastructure provider for Research supplies the grid resources that are part of ERC's "award package" to researchers – i.e. ERC can award both funds (from EC) and resources (from EGI), under a specific agreement between the parts. And vice versa, ERC contributes resources to the EGI pool of resources (initially made up of the NGIs' resources) that can be used by EGI disciplines. In this way economies of scale and better utilisation are achieved.
- **This is very much dependent on the ERC itself (or any other organisation having the power to negotiate resources with EGI)**
- **Such discussions should be initiated in the EGI_DS (possibly WP4)**