



Enabling Grids for E-science

## EGEE-II activities overview

# NA3: Training and Induction

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**GRNET**

[www.eu-egee.org](http://www.eu-egee.org)



- **Training Model of Work**
- **t-Infrastructure**
- **Past and Future trainings**
- **Experiences / Ideas**

- **GRNET has undertaken overall coordination of the training and induction activities in Greece**
- **Central team of tutors has been built comprised of both GRNET and Third parties experts**
  - The central team travels around Greece delivering the trainings
  - Production and localization of training material and courses from introductory to advanced user material (material consolidation)
  - Interaction with the other SEE and EGEE-II partners for feedback and improvements
- **So far this works very smoothly**

- **A call for the hosting of the trainings is sent every 6 months to allow planning for the next months**
  - The call reaches all institutes connected to GRNET (around 100 institutes)
  - The hosting institute is also responsible for handling local logistics and facilities (rooms, projector, etc.) including local announcement/publicity
  - According to their responses the training plan is fixed (but NOT always prompt responses!)
- **GRNET provides the appropriate hardware infrastructure and services (course infrastructure) based on HellasGrid / EGEE-II**

- **Aris Sotiropoulos, GRNET, Overall Coordination**
- **Fotis Georgatos, GRNET, Head of Training Team**
- **Christos Filippidis, Demokritos, User and Application Support**
- **Nasia Asiki, ICCS, Induction training**
- **Vasilis Gkamas, CTI, User support**
- **Vangelis Koukis, ICCS, Advanced Courses (e.g. MPI)**
  
- **Vangelis Floros, Demokritos (until becoming an NA4 deputy leader)**
- **Support is given by other operational teams (ICCS, AUTH, GRNET HQ)**
  - E.g. for site administration experts from the ROC join
  
- **Training is delivered in Greek – Presentations in some cases in English (eg. in Cyprus, or in technical matters, eg. systems administration)**



**Aris Sotiropoulos**



**Fotis Georgatos**



**Christos Filippidis**



**Nasia Asiki**



**Vangelis Koukis**

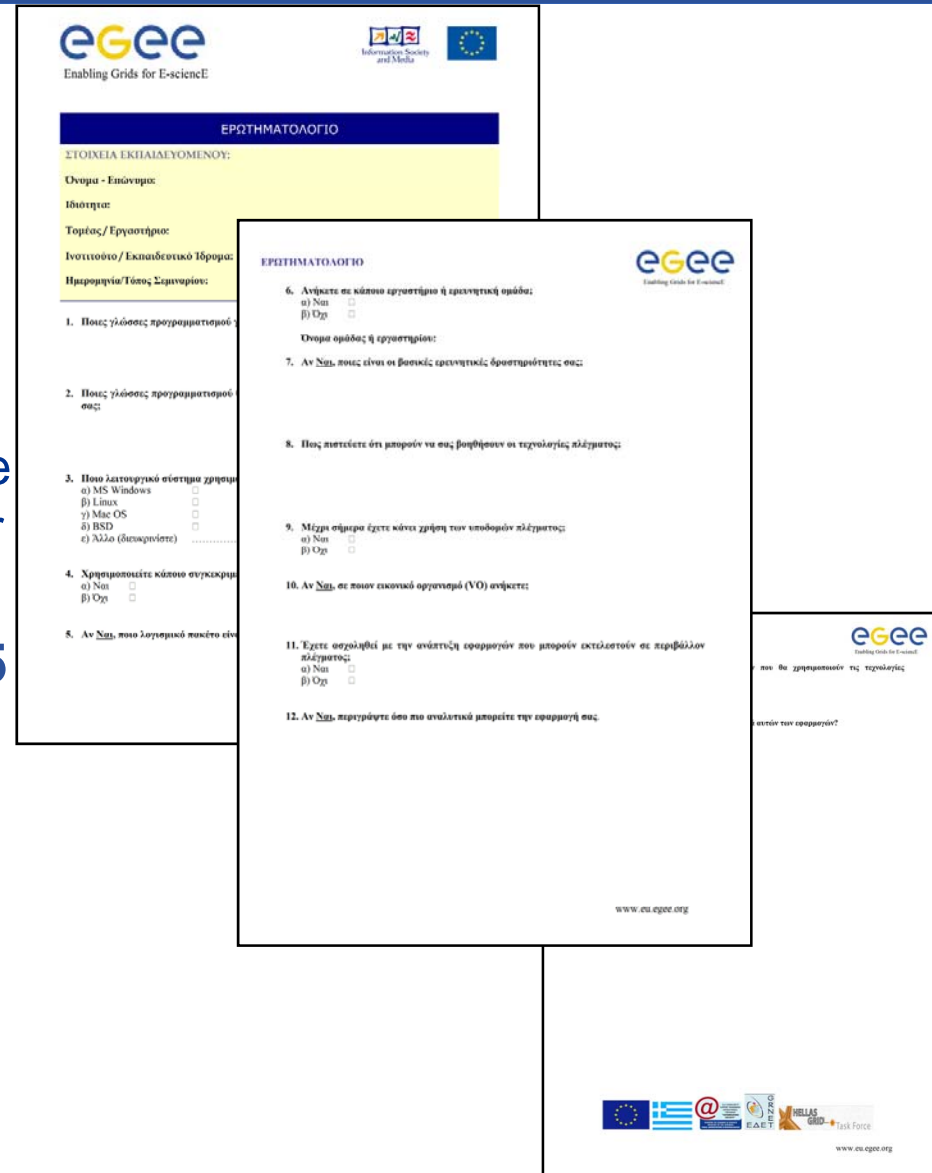


**Vasilis Gkamas**

# 2-day training plan, our Best Seller

Timeline	Day #1	Day #2
Scope:	Novices	'Bite-the-Bullet'
09:00-11:00	Introduction to the Grid (Major concepts and ideas)	How to enter the Grid (Certificates & VO registration)
11:30-13:30	Hands-On: Laboratory (submission using our t-infrastructure)	Grid and Applications (Success Stories & ad-hoc: MPI)
14:30-16:30	EGEE Grid & E-science (LCG/EGEE & SEE federation)	Sysadmins & the Grid (Highly Technical, Anything goes!)
Total hours	3x2hrs + 2hrs breaks = 8hrs	3x2hrs + 2hrs breaks = 8hrs

- In order to assess the suitability and applicability of our training events we introduced a questionnaire-based survey
  - A new version has been produced for EGEE-II with more details on applications and user orientation
- Trainings questionnaire with 15 major questions, cover:
  - User's background and profile
  - Assessment of grid potential, both as individual and as team
  - Assessment of training needs



The image shows a screenshot of the EGEE Trainings Questionnaire form. The form is titled "ΕΡΩΤΗΜΑΤΟΛΟΓΙΟ" (Questionnaire) and is divided into two main sections: "ΣΤΟΙΧΕΙΑ ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΟΜΕΝΟΥ:" (Trainee Information) and "ΕΡΩΤΗΜΑΤΟΛΟΓΙΟ" (Questionnaire). The "ΣΤΟΙΧΕΙΑ ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΟΜΕΝΟΥ:" section includes fields for Name, Surname, Institution/Educational Organization, and Program/Workshop. The "ΕΡΩΤΗΜΑΤΟΛΟΓΙΟ" section contains 12 numbered questions, each with a "Ναι" (Yes) or "Όχι" (No) response option. The questions cover topics such as programming languages, operating systems, and the user's experience with grid computing. The form also includes the EGEE logo and the website address www.eu.eggee.org.

- **Our T-infrastructure**
  - Training VO with access to the HellasGrid production infrastructure
  - Training CA (“spin-off” of the HellasGrid CA)
  - High priority queues, so trainees can actually see the results of their simple Grid applications
  - Administration team available during the training courses
- **Training accounts in user certificates valid only during training sessions**
- **New portal integrating user registration and certification**
  - To be operational after all Greek Registration Authorities (RAs) are up and running (included in the Third parties contracts)
- **Trainings have been video recorded**
  - Soon available as video on demand
  - Access Grid training is also planned (also training on Access Grid!)





Institute	City	Date	Participants
National Technical University of Athens	Athens	15/6/2006 (2d)	35
Demokritos National Research Center	Athens	22/6/2006 (2d)	30
Athens University of Economics and Business	Athens	29/6/2006 (2d)	20
Technical University of Crete	Chania	18/9/2006 (2d)	25
National Observatory of Athens	Penteli, Athens	2/10/2006 (2d)	25
University of Athens	Athens	23/10/2006 (2d)	35
University of Athens	Athens	25/10/2006 (2d)	37

Institute	City	Date	Participants
National Documentation Center	Athens	9/11/2006 (2d)	25
University of Patras	Rio, Patras	7/12/2006 (2d)	40
National Technical University of Athens	Athens	18/12/2006 (2d)	30
University of Ioannina	Ioannina	23/4/2007 (2d)	30
University of Thessaly	Volos	14/5/2007 (2d)	35
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki	Thessaloniki	19/9/2007 (1d)	20

**387** persons have participated in EGEE2 seminars

## 3 Training activities are planned till December '07

- **University of the Aegean (Samos)**
- **Academy of Athens**
- **University of the Peloponnese (Tripoli)**







- **Organisational**

- In EGEE phase I third parties were contracted to deliver Grid trainings
  - However they could deliver induction-trainings **only** mainly because of lack of in depth expertise in Grid technologies. They requested support from the EGEE SEE Greek ROC branch and other EGEE / HellasGrid teams
  - At the end of EGEE the central team was formed to tackle all types of courses (comprised by experts all over Greece)
- Preparing a training calendar plan in advance is a challenge
  - Many unforeseen difficulties (changes in the dates of students exams or classes clashing with the trainings)

- **Technical**

- Assigning User Registration to Hosting institutes posed difficulties in automating several procedures (e.g. creating trainee database, gathering training material)
  - Centralized web portal integrating user registration
  - Single place where all interested people can learn about all past and planned Grid training activities
- Using ordinary priority queues for simple training applications can make trainees disappointed,
  - Jobs not completed till the end of the training course
- Grid infrastructure glitches during trainings might be discouraging



- **Organisational**

- People already participated in training events have advanced needs (i.e. application support). More emphasis given to application support in EGEE2
- GRNET receives requests for the “classic” 2-day training course
- Those who need more advanced help, resort to NA4.

- **Specific presentation templates for specific kind of training are very helpful (e.g. Grid induction or applications)**
  - Single repositories with all kinds of presentation material and not simple search mechanism proved difficult and time-consuming
  - The NA3 Editorial Task Force (ETF) works much better than EGEE phase I and should be further encouraged! <http://www.egee.nesc.ac.uk/NA3ETF/>
- **Intra and cross-federation collaboration should be encouraged**
  - e.g. exchange of trainers in fields where federations lack expertise
  - Central coordination on this is required
- **A live NA3 discussion forum / wiki is very helpful**
  - ETF wiki!
  - The NA3 mailing list should be also more active, but also an active trainers mailing list might be useful
- **Gridification of new applications is challenging and needs the whole cycle to work efficiently (dissemination-training-user-application support)**
  - The next step after trainings (user registration and support) is important [www.hellasgrid.gr/access](http://www.hellasgrid.gr/access) <http://www.hellasgrid.gr/user-request>
- **Difficulty in bringing together Computer Science people (good programmers) with other Sciences people**

**Thank You**  
**egee-training2 at admin.grnet.gr**