CHAIN Project
Preliminary Name & Ideas
(and Issues)

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Motivations

- **New approach needed** - All the EGEE external projects are in their second or third phase and it's very unlikely that a further step will be funded (by EC).

- **A strategy for convergence** - It's time to demonstrate that the efforts of inter-projects coordination and collaboration are converging and deemed to be supported.

- **No room (& funds) in EGI** - EGI (as far as we know), is restricting the financial support to the core European e-Infrastructure.

- **Value for EU** - Europe has led the activities of Grid Infrastructures till now and should continue to do so.

- **Value for Science** - International scientific communities need a set of coordinated and well managed e-Infrastructures.

- **Technology push** – Gathering e-Infrastructures in a coordinated system will increase the weight towards software and middleware editors in the direction of standards and interoperability.

Ideas & Objectives

- **Gateways** - EU Countries/Regions act as Gateways to other Regions/Continents.

- **Support Interoperations** with other regions & continents (Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia, Africa, Middle-East, etc.).

- **Support international scientific communities** which are naturally spanning several regions.

- **Sustainability** – Study and deploy a coordinated plan of long term sustainability tailored to the different regions.

- **Extending ERA/EGI** - Support the integration of new EU countries and their process of becoming members of EGI.

Issues

- What about DEISA ? – It would be interesting to embrace all the nuances of e-Infrastructures including HPC, Cloud, etc.

- Different speeds among the regions (e.g. Africa vs Europe, US & China).

- What about the non MS partners ? – How will non-EU partners be funded & how many ?

- How scientific communities will be involved & supported ?

- In perspective (3 - 4 years) will this be a part of the future EGI assets ?

Possibilities

- Select a couple of very relevant communities to inject requirements and validate the project's results (directly involved or through NGIs).
- Non-EU partners involved to address items such as sustainability and interoperations with their region.
- One partner representing DEISA.
- One partner representing GEANT/ ALICE/ TEIN/ EUMEDCONNECT/NRENs (DANTE ?).
- One partner to coordinate Dissemination.
- Training to complement EPIKH and other initiatives.
- New flavours: Cloud, Virtualisation, etc.
- Industrial Partner to take care of the synergies with industrial trends and technology transfer.

Choices

- ## Is this an I3 project (or a SA) ?
  - Service Activities (Operations) easier to be included
  - Larger budget
  - Not clear which will be the topic to be addressed in the next call (INFRA-2009-1.2.x ?)
- ## Which are the possible EU partners ?
  - INFN ?, CIEMAT ?, GRNET ?, CNRS ?, CERN ?, EGI ?, CESNET ?, ESA ?, …….
- ## Which are the non-EU partners (if any) ?
  - One or two representatives of the addressed regions ?
- ## Who else ?
  - The project should however be very limited in the number of partners (10-15) in order to be manageable.

CHAIN and Call 5 proposals

- Any approved project will be considered as complementary: no duplication.
- All Call 5 proposals are Support/Coordination Actions: no or very limited Service Activities.
- CHAIN will be the mediator of requirements and the collector of results by constituency.
- A 3 years project will not completely overlap with the successful call 5 proposals.
- Negotiations will start by end of June 2009 and taken into account in the proposal.

To do list

- Delimit exactly the field of activity of the project: Objectives, Regions, Strategies, Tasks, Deliverables, etc.

- Define the consortium with clear and transparent choices.

- Organise a team to draw the main lines of the proposal.

- Organise new meetings in May and June. Opportunities are:
  - e-IRG Workshop in Prague 14-15 May 2009
  - TERENA Conference TNC2009 in Malaga 8-11 June 2009

Last but not least …. the name

- European Gateways to External E-infrastructures (EGEE) (sounds familiar isn't it ?)

- European Gateways for Interoperation (EGI) (Not available !)

- Gateways (very simple)

- Coordination & Harmonisation Of Operational Services in E-infrastructures (CHOOSE).

- Building European Gateways to e-INfrastructures (BEGIN).