

Dear EGEE project members,

In March EGEE is continuing the activities that have occupied it for the last several months:

- Assisting the European Grid Infrastructure, as coordinated by EGI.eu, to become a formal, operational reality,
- Planning – and looking forward to – the 5th EGEE User Forum in Uppsala, Sweden,
- And completing the final planned (and unplanned!) work as the project enters its closing phase.

As mentioned in last month's letter, the statutes of EGI.eu have been agreed and the hiring of staff has begun. Caring for the needs of users in the EGI era is being revisited. ROSCOE, CUE, TAPAS and SAFE (project proposals focusing on supporting users in application porting, training, dissemination and industrial applications) will unfortunately not be funded, however discussions are underway on how best to support users. The Evaluation Summary reports for the proposals submitted to the EC have been received and are being analysed.

A two-day meeting in Amsterdam at the beginning of this month was held as a follow-up to the All-Activity meeting in February. The participants discussed how the Virtual Organisations and Virtual Research Communities (VRCs) currently supported by EGEE NA4 can best move forward. The priority services were identified by the VRCs and various possibilities for how they can be supported by the grid community as a whole were considered. Progress on the transition from ROCs to NGIs was also addressed with a presentation of how Poland has established an NGI using a checklist prepared by the SA1 activity. The checklist and associated procedure have been revised based on Poland's experience and will be re-used by Greece followed by further countries from the Central and South East Europe federations. As previously stated, the full transition to NGIs will not be finished before the end of the project and will have to take into account local variations.

Additionally, this month a questionnaire will go out to all VRCs (and their associated VOs) and NGIs to ascertain which sites VOs expect to use and which VOs sites expect to host. This will clarify the progress in allocating resources to existing VOs.

In User Forum news, more than 280 delegates have registered and 15 exhibition booths are planned. All session speakers should make sure that they have registered for the event – the Programme Committee will be in touch with all speakers and demonstrators with detailed information soon.

The dates for the final review of EGEE-III have now been confirmed as the 23rd and 24th June and the meeting will take place at NIKHEF in Amsterdam. All the Activity Managers will be working to complete the final reports by the close of the project in preparation for the review.

And with less than two months to go till the end of the project, I wish you the best of early spring days, and will contact you again in a month.

Yours sincerely,



Bob Jones
EGEE-III Project Director



The following events are organised by EGEE or will feature important EGEE contributions. For further related events please see www.isgtw.org.

Month	Event	LINK
April	12-15, 5th EGEE User Forum, Uppsala, Sweden	http://egee-uf5.eu-egee.org
	22-23, 9th International Scientific-Practical Conference, St. Petersburg, Russia	http://www.innovation-enterprise.com/conferences/?conference=516
	23-24, Health-e-Child Conference, Sestri Levante, Italy	http://conference.health-e-child.org
May	17-20, 10th IEEE/ACM International Symposium on Cluster, Cloud and Grid Computing, Melbourne, Australia	http://www.manirasoft.com/ccgrid2010/

If you are organising EGEE-related events that you would like to publicise here please email Neasan O'Neill at n.oneill@qmul.ac.uk

