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Global Linkage Over Broadband Links

GLOBAL

*European Commission Seventh Framework Project
(Research Infrastructures Activity – contract nr. 223120)*

GLOBAL Networking Session 5 – D 2.5

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1 Introduction

Deliverable 2.5 "GLOBAL Networking Session 5" provides an overview of GLOBAL's activities on the realisation of virtual events during the period from 1st August to 31st October (three months). The main goal of this deliverable is to present already realised events in this period and briefly identify the activities that are related to the preparation of the next event.

During the period from 1st August to 31st October we realised **one event**:

- **EULAKAS Summer School:** "The Role of Social Science in the Construction of Knowledge-based Societies: Latin American and European Perspectives"

The Summer School was a joint activity of the EULAKS project, funded by the European Community's Cooperation Programme (Social Sciences and Humanities) under the 7th FP for Research and Technological Development. The central aim of the Summer School was the creation of a face-to-face linkage between young European and Latin American researchers and senior scholars in the social sciences and humanities with a focus on the design and implementation of public science, technology and innovation (STI) policies.

Selected modules of the Summer School were transmitted as virtual conferences in collaboration with the Virtual Conference Centre of the FP7 project [GLOBAL \(Global Linkage Over Broadband Links\)](#).

The before mentioned event is presented in more detail in the second part of this deliverable.

2 Description of GLOBAL Networking Session events

2.1 EULAKS Summer School: "The Role of Social Science in the Construction of Knowledge-based Societies: Latin American and European Perspectives"

1. General Event Information

Event Name:

EULAKS Summer School

Date:

17 – 30 August 2009

Location:

Mexico City, Mexico

Event Organiser:

EULAKS project (www.eulakas.eu)

Event Web Address:

<http://summerschool.flacso.edu.mx/>

Event Type:

- Board Meeting
- Committee Meeting
- Educational Meeting
- Public Show
- Symposium
- Summer School
- Workshop

Event Frequency:

- One Time Only
- Semi-Annual
- Quaterly
- Monthly
- Other

If other, please specify:

Brief General Overview of the Event¹:

The Summer School was a joint activity of the EULAKS project, funded by the European Community's Cooperation Programme (Social Sciences and Humanities) under the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development. The Summer School was locally coordinated by the Latin American Faculty for the Social Sciences (FLACSO Mexico).

“The principal aim of the Summer School was the creation of a face-to-face linkage between young European and Latin American researchers and senior scholars in the social sciences and humanities with a focus on the design and implementation of public science, technology and innovation (STI) policies oriented towards enhancing the formation of human resources able to respond to the challenges in research, institutional governance and knowledge circulation that is the base for consolidating knowledge societies.

The Summer School was composed of seminars and work groups that are aimed at stimulating the discussion among students and provides them the base for the formulation and elaboration of specific problems related to the dynamics of evolving knowledge societies. The overarching themes that articulate the different teaching modules of the Summer School were:

- i. The processes and dynamics of knowledge generation and diffusion (both at the national and international level) that underpin the co-evolution of science, technology and society and which are indispensable to understand and explain the significance and effects of new paradigms in industrial production, and institutional and relational structures of societies.
- ii. The design of public policies oriented towards innovation at European and Latin American level have broadened the space to identify objectives, guidelines of action and instruments to mobilise resources and social energies in the long and short run. The introduction of shared strategies (public and private) transforms the institutional structures, thus generating new authorities and functions that change the governance relations in society and specifically between the actors in the field of science, technology, and innovation.
- iii. Processes of creation and application of new knowledge are a complex phenomenon that involves the interaction between a diversity of institutions and actors that assume distinctive roles in the process of innovation and technological development. It is therefore important to analyse the new combinations of interactions that emerge in the development of innovative capacities.
- iv. The new paradigms like ICT, biotechnology and nanotechnology introduce changes in the productive and institutional structures of countries and redefine industrial development processes and reconfigure the socio-economic dynamics of innovation systems. At the same time, they have a strong impact on the restructuring of the knowledge base and the knowledge absorption capacity of industrial sectors. ICT, biotechnology, and nanotechnology foster new mechanisms for R&D investment, human resource formation, and collaborative R&D arrangements between science and industry.”²

¹ http://www.eulaks.eu/attach/Call_Summer_School_en.pdf

² <http://www.eulaks.eu/>

Event Programme:

	Monday 17/08	Tuesday 18/08	Wednesday 19/08	Thursday 20/08	Friday 21/08
10.00 - 11.30	<p>Welcome Giovanna Valenti Director of FLACSO MEXICO</p> <p>EULAKS' Project Presentation Dirk Johann (EULAKS)</p> <p>Presentation of the Summer School Programme Monica Casalet (FLACSO-Mexico)</p>	<p>Evolution of Technological Innovation: The use and positioning of Latin America</p> <p>Mario Cimoli –ECLAC, Chile</p>	<p>Evolution of Technological Innovation: The use and positioning of Latin America</p> <p>Mario Cimoli – ECLAC, Chile</p>	<p>What does it mean to be Human in Light of the Converging Technologies Agenda? Towards a 21st century Social Science</p> <p>Steve Fuller – University of Warwick, UK</p>	<p>Seminar: Science Industry Relationship: Technology Transfer</p> <p>CIDESI (Centre of Engineering and Industrial Development)</p> <p>Queretaro-Mexico</p>
	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	
12.00 - 13.30	<p>Growth and Innovation</p> <p>Mario Cimoli – ECLAC, Chile</p>	<p>Contemporary challenges to the Ethics of Science: the construction of a road map for Ethics on Climate Change</p> <p>Hebe Vessuri – Venezuelan Institute for Scientific Research (IVIC)</p>	<p>Round Table</p> <p>Hebe Vessuri – IVIC Mario Cimoli – ECLAC, Chile Steve Fuller – University of Warwick</p> <p>Coordinator: Rosalba Casas Director of Social Science Institute-UNAM, Mexico</p>	<p>Workshop: European Union Projects</p> <p>Dirk Johann – EULAKS Klaus Schuch – Centre for Social Innovation</p>	
13.30 - 13.45	<p>Information about the Announcement of the 7th Framework Programme</p> <p>Rita Torres – UEMEXCYT</p>				
13.45 - 16.00	<p>Visit FLACSO's Mexico Headquarters / Lunch</p>	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
16.00 - 17.30	<p>What does it mean to be Human in Light of the Converging Technologies Agenda? Towards a 21st century Social Science</p> <p>Steve Fuller – University of Warwick, UK</p>	<p>What does it mean to be Human in Light of the Converging Technologies Agenda? Towards a 21st century Social Science</p> <p>Steve Fuller – University of Warwick, UK</p>	<p>Workshop: European Union Projects</p> <p>Dirk Johann – EULAKS Klaus Schuch – Centre for Social Innovation, Austria</p>	<p>Trends, promises and opportunities of current Science. Differential orientations for its applicability in Europe and Latin America</p> <p>Hebe Vessuri - Venezuelan Institute for Scientific Research (IVIC)</p>	

	Monday 24/08	Tuesday 25/08	Wednesday 26/08	Thursday 27/08	Friday 28/08
10.00 - 11.30	<p>Building Indicators for Science and Technology: European and Latin American vision</p> <p>Daniel Villavicencio – Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Unidad Xochimilco</p>	<p>Opportunities for combining technology with Natural resources in the new paradigm</p> <p>Carlota Pérez – Universities of Cambridge and Sussex, UK, and Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia</p>	<p>The specificity of innovation processes in less developed countries: implication for policy design</p> <p>Judith Sutz – Universidad de la República, Uruguay</p>	<p>Technology Transfer in a Protectionist Environment</p> <p>Ana Maria Pacon – International Consultant on Intellectual Property</p>	<p>The Biotechnology paradigm. Challenges and opportunities in developing countries</p> <p>Graciela Elena Gutman – National Council Scientific and Technical Research (CONECIT), Argentina</p>
	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	
12.00 - 13.30	<p>Foresight characteristics as a path to Policy design</p> <p>Javier Medina – Universidad del Valle, Colombia</p>	<p>"Innovation policies as social policies" or how to link knowledge production and innovation processes to sustainable and inclusive development</p> <p>Judith Sutz – Universidad de la República, Uruguay</p>	<p>Academy-industry links and the third mission of the universities</p> <p>Maria Nedeva – Manchester Business School, UK</p>	<p>New Literacies Cristobal Cobo – FLACSO México</p> <p>IT-spin off experiences: European and Mexican cases</p> <p>Juan Manuel Ahuactzin – Research Director of Proyabes SAS</p>	<p>Prospects of biotechnology in the EU and in the Eastern countries</p> <p>Piotr Stankiewicz – Nicolaus Copernicus University, Poland</p>
	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
16.00 - 17.30	<p>The specificity of Innovation processes in less developed countries: main issues</p> <p>Judith Sutz – Universidad de la República, Uruguay</p>	<p>Foresight Experiences</p> <p>Javier Medina – Universidad del Valle, Colombia</p> <p>Roberto López Martínez - Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México</p>	<p>The Biotechnology paradigm. Challenges and opportunities in developing countries</p> <p>Graciela Elena Gutman – National Council Scientific and Technical Research (CONECIT), Argentina</p> <p>Prospects of biotechnology in the EU and in the Eastern countries</p> <p>Piotr Stankiewicz – Nicolaus Copernicus University, Poland</p>	<p>ICT development in Latin America: Prospects and Opportunities</p> <p>Sebastian Rovira – ECLAC, Chile</p> <p>IT-spin off experiences: European and Mexican cases</p> <p>Juan Manuel Ahuactzin – Research Director of Proyabes SAS</p>	<p>Nanotechnology in the EU and LA: developments, challenges and perspectives</p> <p>Ineke Malsch – Malsch Techno Valuation, Netherlands Edgar Zayago – Universidad Autónoma de Zacatecas</p>
17.30 - 18.30	<p>European Research Policy: from co-ordination and collaboration to integration and the ERA</p> <p>Maria Nedeva – Manchester Business School, UK</p>	<p>Nanotechnology in the EU and LA: developments, challenges and perspectives</p> <p>Ineke Malsch – Malsch Techno Valuation, Netherlands Edgar Zayago – Universidad Autónoma de Zacatecas</p>	<p>Nanotechnology in the EU and LA: developments, challenges and perspectives</p> <p>Ineke Malsch – Malsch Techno Valuation, Netherlands Edgar Zayago – Universidad Autónoma de Zacatecas</p>	<p>Nanotechnology in the EU and LA: developments, challenges and perspectives</p> <p>Ineke Malsch – Malsch Techno Valuation, Netherlands Edgar Zayago – Universidad Autónoma de Zacatecas</p>	<p>Technology transfer in biotechnology and nanotechnology. Comparative study of some countries experiences</p> <p>Ana Maria Pacon – International Consultant on Intellectual Property</p>
19.00			<p>Cocktail Summer School participants and COECCYT's guest</p>		

Number of Participants:

38 students, 3 speakers, and 3 organisers per day

Internet Access:

Although CLARA – as technical organiser of the event – was told that the bandwidth in FLACSO was 2Mbps, the network capacity during the sessions never surpassed 200 Kbps. CLARA had to decrease the bandwidth usage from 1Mbps (typical) to 512kbps because of

packet losses for the virtual event. The partner UPM was supporting the event during all the morning sessions, giving valuable advice to overcome the packet losses (like lowering the bandwidth, using only VNC mode, not to follow the speakers with the camera or make zoom in takes)

2. GLOBAL Contribution

Brief overview of the GLOBAL contribution:

Selected modules of the Summer School were transmitted as virtual conferences in collaboration with the Virtual Conference Centre of the FP7 project GLOBAL (Global Linkage Over Broadband Links).

CLARA as a GLOBAL project partner was in charge of the technical coordination, but they also collaborated with the identification of CLARA-connected institutions from the proposed list of participating institutions given by the coordinator of EULAKS, Dirk Johann.

From the list of proposed Latin American institutions, CLARA communicated with the Director of the corresponding NRENs to investigate the connectivity of the respective institution to RedCLARA. In case the connectivity was not sufficient, the NRENs offered them to host the participants in their Videoconference Room (already equipped with Isabel). That was the case of the NRENs of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, and Perú.

Location of the event recordings:

The EULAKS Summer School was recorded and has been made available as downloadable version under:

<http://200.37.45.83/> in the "Servicios/Repositorio/GLOBAL" section. The respective link was sent to the EULAKS project for sustainable usage on their website.

3. Remote sites

19 remote sites fulfilled the technical requirements to connect to the Summer School event:

Remote sites from ARGENTINA:

Institution Name	Comments from then NREN Director
Redes de indicadores de ciencia y tecnología (Iberoamericana e Interamericana)	Private institutions, not connected to Innova-Red, but since their offices are close to InnovaRed Headquarters, the Director of the NREN kindly offered the facilities of their Videoconference Room.
IDIS, Instituto de Investigaciones Sociológicas	
Asociación de Bioética y Derechos Humanos	
Universidad Nacional de Quilmes	Connected to Red de Interconexión Universitaria

Remote sites from BRASIL:

Institution Name	Comments from then NREN Technical Officer
FLACSO Brazil	Not connected, but it is located in Brasília. If needed, participants were invited to use the facilities of the RNP Office in Brasilia.
PPGCS, Programa de Pos-Graduação em Ciências Sociais da Faculdade de Filosofia e Ciências, UNESP	UNESP is a public university in the Sao Paulo State with excellent connectivity.
PPGSOC, Programa de Pos-Graduação em Sociologia, UFRGS	UFRGS is a federal university in Porto Alegre with also excellent connectivity

Remote sites from COLOMBIA:

Institution Name	Comments from then NREN Director
Division de Humanidades y Ciencias Sociales UNINorte	All these institutions have good connectivity to RedCLARA
COLCIENCIAS	
CES – Centro de Estudios Sociales	
IESCO, Instituto de Estudios Sociales Contemporaneos	
Facultad de Ciencias Sociales y PENSAR (Instituto de Estudios Sociales y Culturales) de la Universidad Javeriana	

Remote sites from PERU:

Institution Name	Comments from then NREN Technical Officer
GRADE - Grupo de Analisis para el Desarrollo	Private institutions, not connected to RedCLARA, but invited to INICTEL-UNI facilities.
CEPES, Centro Peruano de Estudios Sociales	
Red para el desarrollo de las ciencias sociales en el Peru	
Centro de Investigaciones Sociales, Económicas, Políticas y Antropológicas, (CISEPA-PUCP)	Located in the PUCP University with excellent connectivity

Remote sites from GUATEMALA:

Institution Name	Comments from then NREN Director
FLACSO Guatemala	Not connected to RedCLARA, but with sufficient internet connectivity
AVANCSO, Asociacion para el Avance de las Ciencias Sociales	

Remote sites from SPAIN:

Institution Name	Comments from then NREN Director
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM)	Partner in the GLOBAL project

FLACSO Guatemala, Universidad de Rio Cuarto de Cordoba Argentina, and INICTEL-UNI concluded preliminary tests. InnovaRed connected few days, depending on the time zone possibilities and particular topics interest of the attendants.

Two employees from CLARA travelled to México to support the operational handling of the *Isabel* installation for the 3 days of the GLOBAL coverage. CLARA brought to México following equipment:

- 2 video cameras,
- 2 tripods,
- 3 laptops,
- 2 video capture cards (one personal property and the other bought for GLOBAL use), and
- cables and adapters,

The local organiser FLACSO provided 2 PCs for the installation of the *Isabel* videoconferencing system.

In contrast to the other performed GLOBAL events, the institutions were connected during different times of the Summer School. The reasons for this are manifold, like the long duration of the summer school programme, the choice of the participants to join whenever they have interest but also organisational reasons (i.e. like public holidays in Argentina and Guatemala). The list of connected remote sites is as follows:

- FLACSO Guatemala
- INICTEL/UNI from Peru
- InnovaRed from Argentina
- Universidad de Rio Cuarto en Argentina
- UPM from Madrid

Because of the low bandwidth problems, the recordings appear to some extent with some delays in the VNC presentation of slides, pixilation, and other quality losses. Considering the circumstances, the recordings are acceptable for extensive use by the EULAKS project.

4. Performance indicators

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR								
Virtual participation enabled by GLOBAL support								
EVENT NAME	Number of remote sites	Number of 3 rd country remote sites	Number of remote speakers connected to event	Number of remote speakers connected from 3 rd countries	Number of people attending an event locally	People reached via remote auditoria	Number of remote auditoria connected from 3 rd countries	Countries connected to the session
EULAKS Summer School	5	3	0	0	38 students, 3 speakers, and 3 organisers each day	13	13	Spain, Peru, Argentina, Guatemala
					44			

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	
Live streaming and accessing event repository (streaming/downloading)	
Metric/Measure	Indicators (figures)
How many people have followed an event live? (streaming)	no more than 5
How many people have viewed or downloaded an event recording?	The event was recorded, but in chunks from pause to pause. There

	are 3 videos for each day, one from the beginning to the first coffee break, the second from the end of the coffee break to the lunch, and the third from the lunch to the end. Each video is approx 1.5GB. FLACSO downloaded the videos to provide them on their website.
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Lessons learnt:

Although the list of remote sites is fairly large, the actual attendance of remote sites was disappointing for the GLOBAL team. It is important to note that both the preparation and the actual performance did not differ from GLOBAL events previous held. Therefore, the team consulted with CLARA (as supporting institution) and the EULAKS summer school organisers. The following condensed lessons learnt can be summarised:

- All the different steps of the networking events (organisation, technology, training, and testing as well as the actual performance) need specific attention from the target group. All our previous partner organisers had high technical competence. Organisations or projects with very low technical competences need a much higher consideration of their usual working environment.
- Many participants were technically not confident enough to set up the *Isabel* videoconferencing tool themselves. Since in several cases technical support was not provided by their institution, attempts at remote participation failed. Consequently, GLOBAL needs to provide solutions also for technically unskilled participants (like special web-applications or different training material)
- Technical unconfident remote participants were offered to use the facilities of the different NRENs. This seemed to be a very good opportunity for the participants; however, this strategy did not succeed. Thus, one conclusion of this experience is that the integration has a higher likeliness to be successful if the *Isabel* tool can be used in one's own facilities (own office or PC).
- Although the summer school offered an attractive programme for students and researchers, the timing (holiday period) did hinder interested people to participate remotely. As a consequence, the commitment for remote participation was lower than it was for local participation.
- For two countries, the initial start of the summer school (when the most interesting presentations were held – according to EULAKS) was a public holiday. Many participants from these two countries who dropped out answered that they thought that the first day would have been most beneficial to them. Stepping in at a later stage was not motivating enough to them.

5. Marketing & Promotion

Promotion of the GLOBAL event:

- Direct Mail & Distribution (Entry forms, Promotional brochures & posters)
- Global Project Website
- Event Website
- Newsletters
- Media & Television Advertising
- Others

3 Other activities – preparation of upcoming events

3.1 Fifth BELIEF-II symposium



CHPC National Meeting 2009 and 5th BELIEF Symposium

Advancing research competitiveness through collaboration:
towards an integrated South African cyberinfrastructure

Monday 07 December - Wednesday 09 December 2009
Sandton Convention Centre
The Bill Gallagher Room

Dear Colleagues

On behalf of the Centre for High Performance Computing (CHPC), I would like to express my sincere gratitude to each of you for the enthusiasm, interest and support that you have contributed towards the development of the CHPC. To invite you to participate in the 2009 CHPC National Meeting and 5th BELIEF Symposium to be held during the period 7-9 December at the Sandton International Convention Centre.

In this year's joint event, I trust you will find an exciting programme that covers an array of important topics. This event aims to highlight the development of the CHPC within the national cyberinfrastructure intervention supported by the Department of Science and Technology (DST). The importance of the cyberinfrastructure will also be illustrated through a selective successful research projects from different local and international reputable institutions. Furthermore, as a member of the BELIEF-II (Bringing Europe's eElectronic Infrastructure to Expanding Frontiers – Phase II) consortium, the CHPC will make use of this event to cultivate dialogues that are aimed at enhancing our service delivery and strengthening an integrated partnership amongst local and international stakeholders. It is hoped that through the three-day interactive workshop, we can fully explore how the research communities can take maximum advantage of this sizeable investment. I therefore encourage you to participate in this meeting, to share your knowledge, voice your opinions and provide your support in pursuit of harnessing a vibrant ecosystem in the context of DST's cyberinfrastructure intervention.

I look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely

A. J. J. van der Merwe

<http://www.chpcconf.co.za/>

Brief description and objectives as described on the event site³

“The development of sustainable cyber-infrastructure (e-Infrastructures in Europe), which will allow and encourage the sharing of knowledge and technology among various communities, is still a challenge that needs to be met. The increasing number of initiatives worldwide dealing with cyber-infrastructure calls for creation of effective synergies among them, as innovation can be achieved through cross-disciplinary interaction. Furthermore, the provision of easy, fast, seamless, and cost-effective access to research infrastructures is crucial for all researchers around the globe.

The South African research community and society has to address the above mentioned issues as well. By leveraging international science and technology collaboration and establishing global links to international programs, South Africa can contribute to and take advantage of international efforts in redressing the Digital Divide.

³ <http://www.chpcconf.co.za/index.cfm?x=home>

The aforementioned issues will constitute the discussion framework for the joint event of the Centre for High Performance Computing (CHPC) and BELIEF II project, which will be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from the 7th to the 9th of December 2009. The event is aimed at advancing research collaboration and competitiveness through an integrated South African national cyber-infrastructure. Furthermore, it will showcase some of the recent progress in the South African (SA) cyber-infrastructure and its role in SA and developments in Africa. Keynote research and application results utilising the cyber-infrastructure will be illustrated, and the latest international developments will be discussed.

The event intends to explore the contributions and expectations from policy makers, research communities, ICT vendors, industries, and academia. Through a series of presentations and open discussion forums, both local and international stakeholders will have the opportunity to jointly harness synergies, in an attempt to promote existing cyber-infrastructure activities and foster new special interest groups.

As one of the three pillars within the Department of Science and Technology's (DST's) national cyber-infrastructure initiative, the core mission of the CHPC is to increase the competitiveness of South Africa through promoting the adoption of high performance computing (HPC) and data technologies and tools across all sectors. In order to satisfy DST's grand vision, the CHPC attempts to foster a multi-array of vibrant and productive computational research communities alongside experimentalists. The CHPC aims to leverage its computational platforms, expertise and funding to facilitate the advancement of South Africa - from bioinformatics, engineering and astronomy to humanities, finance, and arts - in both public and private sectors.

The BELIEF-II project is funded by the European Commission through the FP7 initiative and its aim is to support the goals of e-Infrastructure projects to maximise synergies in specific application areas between research, scientific and industrial communities. The project's strategic objective is to coordinate the efficient and effective communication of results, networking, and knowledge between e-Infrastructure projects and their users to promote worldwide development and exploitation."

Proposed programme

The CHPC National Meeting 2009 and 5th BELIEF Symposium will be organised as a three days event (latest version of the program from: 18 November 2009)

Day 1: Monday 07 December 2009: Sandton Convention Centre

Theme: SA National Cyber-Infrastructure and BELIEF-II partnership

H. Sithole

*Director: Centre for High Performance Computing (CHPC), Meraka Institute, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
Department of Science and Technology (DST) representative*

C. Wright

Manager: Cyberinfrastructure, Meraka Inst., CSIR

S. Benians

*Bringing Europe's eElectronic Infrastructure to Expanding Frontiers - Phase II (BELIEF-II) coordinator
European Union Commission Representative*

Theme: The Pillars of SA National Cyber-Infrastructure

J. Chen

Acting Operations Manager: CHPC, Meraka, CSIR

D. Thobye

Acting Technical Manager: CHPC, Meraka, CSIR

C. Kuun

Project Manager: SANReN, Meraka, CSIR

D. Adams

Chief Director: Emerging Infrastructure, Department of Science and Technology

A. Turunen

Prace Dissemination Manager

R. Maharaj

Executive Director: HICD, National Research Foundation

M. Read

JISC

Theme: International partners' contribution**C. McIntyre**

Senior Vice President, Strategic Operations and High Performance Computing Initiative, Council for Competitiveness (US)

B. Jones

EGEE/EGI

L. Laaksonen

eIRG

Round Table Discussion:

Theme: Exploring the way forward in creating a sustainable growth of Cyber-Infrastructure, research and applications through a range of purposeful partnerships

Discussion topics:

- Funding agencies' commitment and long-term goals
- Education as the cornerstones (towards creating a critical mass of skilled researchers and bridged the digital divide)
- Best practises: lessons learnt from our international partners and how to apply them in South Africa and Africa
- Fostering collaboration amongst Africans and between Africa and international partners

Tuesday 08 December 2009: Sandton Convention Centre**Theme: Research and applications of Cyber-infrastructures****W. Landman**

Senior Scientist, South African Weather Service

H. Lederer

Max Planck Institute

F. Ruggieri

EGEE & INFN

B. Spottiswoode

Director, Combined Universities Brain Imaging Centre

M. Molatudi

Interim Manager of the Bioinformatics Cape Biotech Trust

H. Reagon

Director, Knowledge Services Human Sciences Research Council

J. Jonas

Associate Director: Science & Engineering SKA South Africa

Theme: Key Technology Tools and Support of Cyber-infrastructure**S. van Rensburg**

Executive Director for ICT, University of Cape Town (UCT)

T. Chiotis

GRNET

P. Kirsten – GLOBAL project

University College London

M. Inggs

ACE Lab. Principal Scientist, CHPC, Meraka Institute, CSIR, and Professor, Department of Electronic Engineering UCT

B. Becker

SAGrid Coordinator, Meraka Institute, CSIR

Principal Investigators

New CHPC Consortium Projects

Round Table Discussion:

Theme: Creating research partnership

Discussion Topics

- How should Cyber-Infrastructure work with the researchers and enhance their research output
- In pursue of providing turn-key solution to the researchers; providing technical support to the researchers
- How could Cyber-Infrastructure leverage international partnership to benefit our researchers

Wednesday 09 December 2009**Breakaway Sessions - Sandton Convention Centre**

- Microsoft HPC++
- Bio-informatics, Bio-Technology, Telemedicine and eHealth
- Many-Core Processing and Advanced Computer Engineering
- Coupled Climate Model Development and Application
- HPC Computer Aided Science & Engineering Discussion
- ICT Practitioners
- Application of Monte Carlo Simulations in Nuclear Science

Breakaway Sessions - Protea Hotel Balalaika

- Computational Chemistry
- Computational Finance

GLOBAL actions:**1. Programme preparation:**

The organisational preparation of the event includes mainly consolidating the programme with the event organiser:

a) Design of the training session

- GLOBAL will perform a first training session for stakeholders during this event. The training will mainly focus on the usage of the GLOBAL services and tools in order to ensure sustainable usage. Since the connection works well for the partner UbuntuNet, the integration of other African institutions via the training is considered as very useful by

the partners and the main organiser. Thus to deploy a GLOBAL training session during this event is highly valuable for the project.

Following Programme has been set up for the training session:

- 1) Introduction to Isabel and the GLOBAL Plaza (20min),
- 2) The Open Source release of Isabel and of the GLOBAL Plaza (10 min),
- 3) The Isabel Services (25 min),
- 4) Isabel Platform set up (35 min),

Several remote speakers (UPM) will perform the training as well as the three GLOBAL persons, who will attend locally the meeting and support the local participants,

b) Invitations of remote speakers

As regards remote speakers, the main organiser agreed on the integration of two remote presentations:

- European Commission opening speech on day 1
- Peter Kirstein, UCL – key note speech on IPV 6 on day 2

Since both remote sites are very familiar with the ISABEL tool, only a short testing is planned for the event.

In specific Peter Kirstein, as partner in GLOBAL, will be able to connect without any expected issues due to the extensive use for the monthly consortium meetings. Still, some testing will be performed to ensure the smooth running of the event.

The speakers are aware that their talk is connected to many different other sites and that a recording will be published for a sustainable usage.

c) GLOBAL Plaza

During the last events, GLOBAL has established for the events the so-called GLOBAL plaza. The plaza allows some selected remote sites to shortly introduce themselves to the auditorium. The plaza demonstrates not only the features of the ISABEL tool, but has a highly social aspect by giving the remote sites the feeling of being really integrated into the conference. Also, it allows the remote sites to get some attention by the whole auditorium, thus has a high effect of marketing and demonstration for them. The auditorium on the other hand profit by the realisation that the event is extended to many other different countries and remote sites.

For this event, four remote sites will be selected to present themselves. It has been agreed between BELIEF and GLOBAL that the presenting remote sites should have a clear connection to the programme and that an Africa focus should be fostered. In addition, UPM (Juan Quemada) will shortly introduce the *Isabel* tool and will make promotion for the training event on the 3rd day.

d) Evaluation of the events

This event will also serve as first opportunity to collect data about the impact of the ISABEL tool. Therefore questionnaires will be distributed amongst the local participants and sent back to IJS. An online questionnaire for the remote site has been prepared to receive also feedback from the remote site integration. The results will have an impact on the setting up of the next GLOBAL networking events to improve the service for the stakeholders. The final results will be presented in the final report and the annual review.

2. Technical Requirements

- All technical aspects (e.g. connectivity etc.) must have been checked well in advance prior to the event
- BELIEF-II and GLOBAL will get directly in contact regarding technological requirements and running of trials
- The local GLOBAL organisers must take care of back up material in case of failure on the networks and incapability to run the Isabel session
- UPM needs to take care about the technical part of the session
- Network provider: to provide a detailed map of the network topology of both local and international portion.
- Network provider: to confirm the possibility of performing an Isabel test with us at the network nearest to the final location already available from the service provider
- Network provider: Take into account the possibility of increasing the budgeted bandwidth to 4 Mbits, in case the network tests do not reach enough quality.
- UPM: to send instructions on how to install an Isabel PC for the network tests.

3. Organisational aspects

In addition to the organisational aspects of the program, several other organisational aspects had to be handled

- Local support of GLOBAL partners – 3 people will attend locally the conference (UPM and UBUNTU)
- Determination of roles for handling of the GLOBAL event:
 - Role 1: Isabel Floor Manager (link between the organisers and the Isabel team with the following tasks
 - Inform in advance the Isabel team about program details and changes
 - Train, inform & help speakers, chairs, ... in the use of Isabel
 - Telling the camera men if the shot should be modified and how
 - Controls proper broadcasting and projection of event
 - Role 2: Session, script & sound management. (Abel Carril, UPM)
 - Role 3: Isabel network, sound and presentations. (Carlos Barcenilla, UPM)
 - Role 4: Camera-1-Speaker/chair (Takes care that camera is properly framed and focussed on speaker)
 - Role 5: Camera-2-Audience
 - Takes care that camera is properly framed and focussed on attendees
 - Focuses and frames person making a question during question round

4. Dissemination of the Event

- Dedicated website set up by GLOBAL
- General promotion of the event at several web pages for information, registration and instructions under:
http://isabel.dit.upm.es/mediawiki/index.php/BELIEF_II_South_Africa_Symposium
- Recordings available at VCC and Belief II web page
- Direct email invitation to e-Infrastructure stakeholders (approx. 70 mailing addresses) and personal invitation (i.e. GRENA)

4 Evaluation of local participants and Virtual Conference Centre (VCC)

Jožef Stefan Institute (JSI) proposed two types of GLOBAL evaluation: (1) Evaluation of the local participants and (2) evaluation of the Virtual Conference Centre (VCC).

4.1 Evaluation of local participants

JSI prepared three types of questionnaires (**local / remote / organiser**) to distribute amongst the participants:

- 5-point Likert scale was used in the questionnaires;
- The questionnaires will be available also on-line on the GLOBAL web page;
- GLOBAL project (particular organiser of each event) will distribute the questionnaires at all GLOBAL events, collect the data and prepare the report;

4.2 Evaluation of the Virtual Conference Centre

JSI proposed the methodology of the usability testing of the VCC - two types of evaluation:

- 1) **Evaluation done by GLOBAL experts (cognitive walkthrough)** (this type of evaluation was already done with version 1.0. of the VCC by the end of last year).
- 2) **Evaluation done by real users (usability testing)**
 - **Each partner provided at least 3-5 persons (inexperienced users);**
 - Each test participant was requested to fill out the **Questionnaire sheet** (participant identification data – gender, job, area of expertise...);
 - JSI in cooperation with UPM **defined 5 most important (core) VCC functionalities** and translated them into task scenarios (Space creation, file upload, comment posting, event administration, etc.);
 - Each test participant was asked to fill out the **Feedback Questions** where we got some important COMMENTS regarding the specific task);
 - Each test participant was asked to fill out the **Follow-up Questionnaire SUS;**
 - Each testing user needed approximately 1 hour to perform the tasks specified and to fill out the questionnaires.

Usability testing was performed in 43 and 44 week of 2009. A detailed usability report of the VCC will be presented in the next deliverable.

5 Conclusion

The main aim of the GLOBAL project WP 2 is the organisation and realisation of “**GLOBAL Networking Sessions**”. The GLOBAL project should organise a minimum of 3 “GLOBAL Networking Sessions” events per year. The following events were already performed:

- a) **GEANT2 (Bled, Slovenia, March 2008)**
- b) **TERENA Networking Conference (Brugge, Belgium, May 2008)**
- c) **EGEE 08 Conference – Enabling Grids for E-science (Istanbul, Turkey, September 2008)**
- d) **BELIEF-6CHOICE India Symposium (New Delhi, January 2009)**
- e) **TERENA Networking Conference 2009 (Malaga, June 2009)**
- f) **GLOBAL e-Infrastructure Networking Event I (June, 2009)**
- g) **GLOBAL e-Infrastructure Networking Event II (July, 2009)**
- h) **Second International BELIEF symposium (São Paulo, July, 2009)**
- i) **EULAKS Summer School (Mexico City, August, 2009)**
- j) **Fifth International BELIEF symposium (Johannesburg, December, 2009)**

Virtual events have a geographic dimension which does not exist in co-located events and which has to be taken into account in designing the content, setting of topics and agenda, appointing speakers, scheduling, and gathering because speakers and chairs can be in different physical auditoria.

6 Bibliography

- [1]. Fifth International BELIEF symposium - http://www.beliefproject.org/Plone/Members/belief/my_events/5th-belief-symposium
- [2]. EULASK Summer School - <http://summerschool.flacso.edu.mx/>
- [3]. GLOBAL project – www.global-project.eu