

OFELIA 1st Open Call for OpenFlow Experiments Successful



The Unique Experimental Facility For Future Internet Research Based On OpenFlow Technology To Be Used And Extended

May 27, 2011 – The EU-funded project OFELIA announced the success of its first open call for using and extending the pan-European network facility based on OpenFlow enabled technology. 21 proposals were submitted to the OFELIA open call, summing to a total budget of 4.8 million Euros (3.5 million Euros requested funding). The proposals came from nine different member states of the EU (mainly Germany, Greece, and Italy), and from Norway, Turkey, Israel, China. The call is ten times overbooked in terms of available funding.

The OFELIA project creates a unique experimental facility that allows researchers to not only experiment “on” a test network but to control and extend the network itself precisely and dynamically. The OFELIA facility is based on OpenFlow, a currently emerging networking technology that allows virtualization and control of the network environment through secure and standardized interfaces.

The first OFELIA open call asked for proposals to enable advanced use and experimentation of the OFELIA pan-European experimental facility. Specifically, the project solicited proposals regarding (a) extension of the existing experimental facility, (b) measurement and evaluation and (c) functional enhancement of the experimental facility for experiments.

The evaluation of proposals in cooperation with the European Commission and the integration of the winning proposals as new partners in OFELIA are currently ongoing.

“Many of the proposals came with brilliant ideas.” said the OFELIA project coordinator Hagen Woesner, “We think of what to do with the proposals that we cannot accept this time, because we have a technical interest of seeing your brilliant ideas run on OFELIA as well as the general interest of growing a community around OFELIA. We plan a workshop in autumn 2011, where we would give all proposals the opportunity to present, discuss their ideas and potentially join forces for new consortia. It would be a shame losing the momentum that OpenFlow and OFELIA currently have in Europe”.

Generally, the usage of the OFELIA facility is provided "as is" as a free-of-charge best-effort service. Any user accepting the usage policy is welcome to experiment on the OpenFlow-enabled testbed. Based on both, experiences from the operation of the facility and feedback from the user community, open calls are issued to extend the experimental facility with additional, new use cases and scenarios. A second open call will be issued in about one year (expected deadline March 2012).

The project OFELIA is active in the 7th Research Framework programme of the European Community. The project consortium consists of the following organizations: European Center for Information and Communication Technologies (EICT), Germany; Deutsche Telekom Laboratories, Germany; University of Essex, UK; i2CAT Foundation, Research and Innovation in the Internet Area, Spain; Technische Universität Berlin, Germany; NEC Europe Ltd., U.K.; Interdisciplinary Institute for Broadband Technology (IBBT), Belgium; Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich, Switzerland; Stanford University, USA; ADVA AG Optical Networking, UK. For further information about the project, please visit the official website: <http://www.fp7-ofelia.eu/>. For additional information regarding the OpenFlow Technology, please follow the links to the Open Flow Consortium (<http://www.openflowswitch.org/>) and the Open Networking Foundation (<http://www.opennetworkingfoundation.org/>).

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