



# Workprogramme 2014-15 e-Infrastructures

**DCH-RP final conference  
22 September 2014**



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eInfrastructure  
DG CONNECT  
European Commission



European  
Commission



## **DEVELOPMENT AND DEPLOYMENT OF E-INFRASTRUCTURES AND SERVICES FOR RESEARCH**

Jason de Caires Taylor,  
underwater statue, Cancun Mexico  
<http://www.underwatersculpture.com/>





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# Vision

- ACHIEVING DIGITAL ERA
- BRIDGE DIGITAL DIVIDES
- EVERY RESEARCHER DIGITAL





# Approach

## Transversal

Cutting across disciplines and sectors

## Support tomorrow's science

Open science, open access, best solutions

## Enabling innovation

Developing and testing innovative solutions

Servicing industry and SMEs

Spinning out technologies

# **DRIVERS for change**

- **MORE COMPUTING POWER**
- **BIG DATA**
- **GLOBAL CONNECTIONS**
- **GLOBAL PARTICIPATION**
- **OPEN IS BETTER**
  - **WITHIN AND BETWEEN  
SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITIES**
  - **BETWEEN SCIENCE AND SOCIETY**

# CHALLENGES

- **Need for long term perspective**
  - **Operational continuity**
  - **Sustainability**
- **Efficient and effective use of national and EU funding**
- **Resolving strategic, policy, legal, technical, financial and governance issues**
- **Innovation as a priority**
  - **Support SMEs**
- **Support to Horizon 2020**



**FET**  
Human Brain Project,...

**LEIT**  
Big Data in ICT,...

## Societal Challenges

**SC1**  
Research on  
Alzheimer

**SC2...**

**SC3**  
Earth observation

**SC4, SC5, ...**

**e-Infrastructure  
integrates resources  
and services...**

**Networking  
Computing  
Data  
Software  
User interfaces**

**e-Infrastructure to support:**

- **Research under Horizon 2020**
- **Open Access policy**
- **Open Data pilot**
- **Data Management Planning**
- ...

A classical painting depicting the Titan Atlas, a muscular man with a lion's mane, crouching and holding up a large, glowing globe of the Earth on his shoulders. The scene is set against a dramatic, cloudy sky.

**e-Infrastructures**



# Research Infrastructures in Horizon 2020

Developing the European research infrastructures for 2020 and beyond			
	Developing new world class RI	Integrating and opening existing national RI of pan-European interest	Development, deployment and operation of ICT based e-Infrastructures
Fostering the innovation potential of Ris and their human capital			
Reinforcing European RI policy and international cooperation			

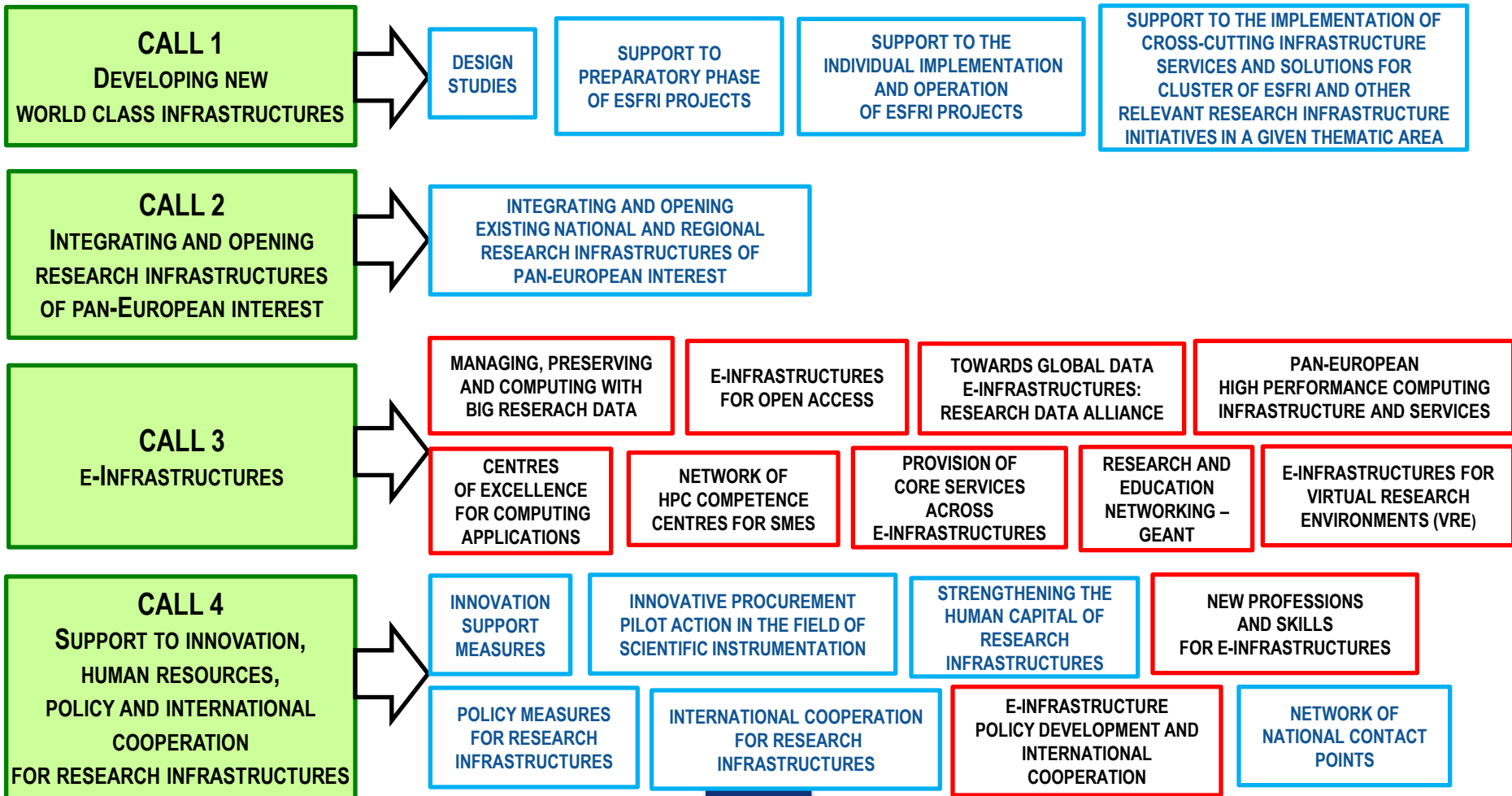
Matrix approach to implementation





# RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE (DRAFT)

## Work Programme 2014-2015





European  
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## INTEGRATED e-INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

### VRE

E-INFRASTRUCTURES FOR  
VIRTUAL RESEARCH  
ENVIRONMENTS (VRE)

PROVISION OF  
CORE SERVICES  
ACROSS  
E-INFRASTRUCTURES

### DATA

### COMPUTING

NETWORK OF  
HPC COMPETENCE  
CENTRES FOR SMES

MANAGING, PRESERVING  
AND COMPUTING WITH  
BIG RESEARCH DATA

RESEARCH AND  
EDUCATION  
NETWORKING –  
GEANT

CENTRES  
OF EXCELLENCE  
FOR COMPUTING  
APPLICATIONS

E-INFRASTRUCTURES  
FOR OPEN ACCESS

### CONNECTIVITY

PAN-EUROPEAN  
HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING  
INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

TOWARDS GLOBAL DATA  
E-INFRASTRUCTURES  
RESEARCH DATA ALLIANCE

### SUPPORT

E-INFRASTRUCTURE  
POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND  
INTERNATIONAL  
COOPERATION

NEW PROFESSIONS  
AND SKILLS  
FOR E-INFRASTRUCTURES





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**INTEGRATED  
e-INFRASTRUCTURE  
SERVICES**

across...

# Industry

**Automotive**

**Oil and gas**

**Pharmaceuticals**

**Smart cities**

**Health**

**Climate change**

**Physics**

**Social sciences**

.....



# Call 3 **Topic 1**: Managing, preserving and computing with big research data

MANAGING, PRESERVING  
AND COMPUTING WITH  
BIG RESEARCH DATA

## Challenges:

- **Capacity increase** to manage, store and analyse extremely large, heterogeneous and complex **research datasets**, including text mining of large corpora
- Integrated, secure, permanent, on-demand and service-driven, privacy-compliant and **sustainable e-infrastructures incorporating advanced computing resources and software**
- **Provision of services** cutting across a wide-range of scientific communities and addressing diverse of computational requirements
- **Legal constraints and requirements**, system and service architectures, formats, types, vocabularies and legacy practices of scientific communities

**CLOSED**





# Call 3 Topic 1: Managing, preserving and computing with big research data

MANAGING, PRESERVING  
AND COMPUTING WITH  
BIG RESEARCH DATA

## Scope:

- A federated **pan-European data e-infrastructure**
  - cost-effective and interoperable solutions for data management and long term preservation
- **Services** for quality and reliability
  - including certification mechanisms and services
- Federating data management and curation tools and services
  - on the basis of an **open architecture**
  - support development of **Data Management Plans**
- Large scale virtualisation of data/compute centre resources
- Support to **European Grid Infrastructure** to achieve
  - long-term sustainability of grid infrastructures in Europe
  - added value to NGI's

**CLOSED**



# Call 3 Topic 1: Managing, preserving and computing with big research data

## ... scope:

MANAGING, PRESERVING  
AND COMPUTING WITH  
BIG RESEARCH DATA

*Proof of concept & prototypes of data infrastructure- enabling software*

- extremely **large** or highly **heterogeneous data** sets
- e.g. for databases or data mining

*Enabling aggregation of content for textual analysis*

- Platform for **text mining**, analytics, visualisation
- Consulting and counselling services on the legal framework and permissions to text mine collections

*PaaS platform **platform as a service***

- Long-tail communities regard IaaS as too time consuming with uncertain benefit
- PaaS level of abstraction reduces the learning curve and provides an easier and powerful tool
- Building on today's e-infrastructures including EGI and cloud providers
- Probable candidates: running PaaS implementations and other developed under FP7





# Conditions for the Managing, Preserving and Computing with Big Research Data to

MANAGING, PRESERVING  
AND COMPUTING WITH  
BIG RESEARCH DATA

- Type of action:
  - Research and Innovation Action
- Call 3 – e-Infrastructures
- Deadline for the submission of proposals:
  - 02/09/2014
- Overall budget: **55** M€

**CLOSED**



# Call 3 **Topic 5**: Centres of Excellence for Computing applications

CENTRES  
OF EXCELLENCE  
FOR COMPUTING  
APPLICATIONS

## *Challenges*

Establish a limited number of user-centred Centres of Excellence (CoE) in the application of HPC for addressing scientific, industrial or societal challenges. They may be thematic, transversal or challenge driven.

### *The CoE's are expected to be:*

- **User-driven**, with the application users and owners playing a decisive role in governance
- **Integrated**: encompassing not only HPC software but also relevant aspects of hardware, data management/storage, connectivity, security, etc.
- **Multidisciplinary**: with domain expertise co-located alongside HPC system, software and algorithm expertise
- **Distributed** with a possible central hub, **federating capabilities** around Europe, exploiting available competences, and ensuring **synergies** with national/local programmes



## Proposals for CoEs will provide pan-European services such as:

CENTRES  
OF EXCELLENCE  
FOR COMPUTING  
APPLICATIONS

- **consultancy** to industry and SMEs
- developing, optimising and scaling HPC application **codes towards peta and exascale** computing
- testing, validating and maintaining codes and managing the associated data
- quality assurance
- **co-design** of hardware, software and codes
- **research** in HPC applications
- addressing the **skills gap** in computational science

## They will aim at:

- synergy with **exascale** R&D through **co-design**
- Sustainability & clear **business plans**
- **creating communities** around specific **codes** that impact the target sectors, involving ISVs, and exchange of **best practices** in particular for SMEs
- a governance structure driven by the needs of the **users**
- commercial **management expertise**





## Example application/thematic areas

- Medicine & life sciences
- Biology, genomics and drug discovery
- Weather, climate & solid earth sciences
- Industrial applications & engineering
- Materials science, chemistry, and nanoscience
- Astrophysics, high-energy physics and plasma physics

Other examples might be oriented around **societal/industrial challenges**, such as 'personalised health/medicine', 'cleaner production', 'safer car', 'smart cities' ...

...or around **industry sectors** like pharma, automotive, oil and gas ...

CENTRES  
OF EXCELLENCE  
FOR COMPUTING  
APPLICATIONS

**CLOSED**



## Expected Impacts

- Improved access to computing applications and expertise
- Improved competitiveness for companies and SMEs
- European leadership in applications that address societal challenges and/or industrial applications
- More scientists and engineers trained

International co-operation is encouraged where there are clear mutual benefits and the partners have the relevant HPC capacity

CENTRES  
OF EXCELLENCE  
FOR COMPUTING  
APPLICATIONS

**CLOSED**



## Conditions for the Centres of Excellence topic:

CENTRES  
OF EXCELLENCE  
FOR COMPUTING  
APPLICATIONS

- Type of action:
  - Research and Innovation Action
- Call 3 – e-Infrastructures
- Deadline for the submission of proposals:
  - 14/01/2015
- Overall budget: **40 M€**
- **8-10 CoEs are expected to be funded**
  - Follow up Call is expected in the future
- Indicative budget per proposal: **4 -5M€**

**CLOSED**





## Call 3 Topic 9 Virtual Research Environments - VRE

E-INFRASTRUCTURES FOR  
VIRTUAL RESEARCH  
ENVIRONMENTS (VRE)

- VREs are... groups of researchers, typically **widely dispersed**, who are **working together** through ubiquitous, trusted and **easy access to services** for **scientific data, computing and networking** in a collaborative, **virtual** environment: the e-Infrastructures
- **Characteristics:**
  - Address the needs of **specific scientific communities** – in support of e-Science;
  - Have users from **both academia and industry**;
  - Involve bottom-up research and develop **user-oriented services**;
  - Are based on **e-infrastructures**



# Call 3 Topic 9: Virtual Research Environments - VRE

E-INFRASTRUCTURES FOR  
VIRTUAL RESEARCH  
ENVIRONMENTS (VRE)

## Specific Challenge:

Capacity building in interdisciplinary research through community-led development and deployment of service-driven digital environments for large-scale cross-disciplinary research collaboration and data interoperability

## Expected Impact:

- **More effective collaboration** between researchers and increased take-up of collaborative research by new disciplines
- Easier discovery, access and re-use of data, resulting in **higher productivity** of researchers
- **Accelerate innovation** via access to integrated digital research resources across disciplines



# Call 3 Topic 9: Virtual Research Environments - VRE

E-INFRASTRUCTURES FOR  
VIRTUAL RESEARCH  
ENVIRONMENTS (VRE)

## Scope:

- Integration of resources **across all layers of the e-infrastructure** (networking, computing, data, software, user interfaces) → cross-disciplinary data interoperability
- Requirements from real use cases → integrate heterogeneous data from multiple sources and **re-use tools and services** from existing infrastructures
- Target: any area of Science and Technology, especially **interdisciplinary** ones
- **Standardised** building blocks and workflows, well-documented interfaces and interoperable components
- Define **semantics, ontologies and metadata** to enable data citation and promote data sharing, to ensure interoperability
- **Easy-to-use functionalities**





## Conditions for the VRE topic:

E-INFRASTRUCTURES FOR  
VIRTUAL RESEARCH  
ENVIRONMENTS (VRE)

- Type of action:
  - Research and Innovation Action
- Call 3 – e-Infrastructures
- Deadline for the submission of proposals:
  - 14/01/2015
- Overall budget: **42 M€**
- Indicative budget per proposal: **2 – 8 M€**

# New professions and skills for e-infrastructures



## HOW TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN SCIENCE AND ICT?



**New professions and  
skills for e-infrastructures**  
**Coordination and Support Action**

# HOW TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN SCIENCE AND ICT?







## Call **4** Topic 4: New professions and skills for e-infrastructures: Challenges

NEW PROFESSIONS  
AND SKILLS  
FOR E-INFRASTRUCTURES

### Specific Challenges:

- Researchers, university professors and students need adequate **support in computing and networking**, as well as in handling, analysing and storing large amounts of digital content.
- **Education programmes** for the emerging professions of **e-infrastructure operators, research technologists, data scientists or 'data librarians'** need to be defined and developed
- **Professional recognition** of these communities and the development of appropriate curricula, training and skills are crucial to ensure effective services to institution staff and students.
- **Wider opportunities for training** of these communities need to be offered



# Call 4 Topic 4: New professions and skills for e-infrastructures: Challenges

NEW PROFESSIONS  
AND SKILLS  
FOR E-INFRASTRUCTURES

## Scope:

- Defining/updating a **university curricula** for e-infrastructure
- **Training programmes** for e-infrastructure professionals
- Establishment of these professions as **distinct professions**
- Networking and **information sharing** among e-infrastructure operators
- **Awareness raising** and promotion of e-infrastructures community champions



# Call 4 Topic 4: New professions and skills for e-infrastructures: Challenges

NEW PROFESSIONS  
AND SKILLS  
FOR E-INFRASTRUCTURES

## Impact:

- The number of education institutions offering **degrees** for e-infrastructure experts, research technologists, data scientists and data librarians should **increase**.
- Graduates and practitioners in these fields should gain **access to degrees**, programmes, information sharing tools and training opportunities to improve their skills.
- The number of individuals **able to design, develop and maintain** e-science tools and services as well as to support researchers with computational and data expertise, should **increase significantly**.





# Call 4 Topic 4: New professions and skills for e-infrastructures: Challenges

NEW PROFESSIONS  
AND SKILLS  
FOR E-INFRASTRUCTURES

## Conditions for the topic:

- Type of action:
  - **Coordination and Support Action**
- Call 4 – Support to Innovation, Human resources, Policy and International cooperation
- Deadline for the submission of proposals:
  - **14/01/2015**
- Overall budget: **2.5 M€**



## Conditions for the Call on e-Infrastructures:

### Specific conditions :

- Proposals should be structured around **Networking, Service and Joint Research Activities**
- The **Software** to be developed needs to be **open source**
- A **Data Management Plan** to be developed enabling data preservation, on-line discoverability, authorisation and re-use of data
- Clear **Metrics (KPIs)** to be proposed and used;
- **Open Access to Publications** resulting from the project;
- Usefulness of services to the end user community and financial **sustainability** to be ensured;



# Where should the emphasis be?

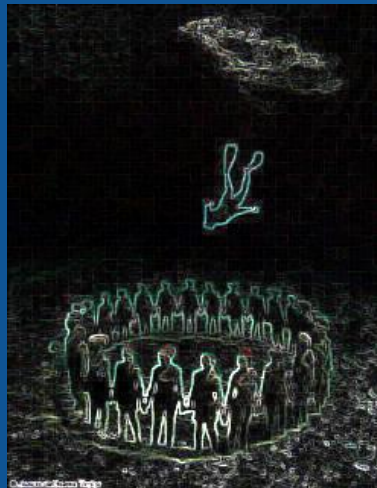
- Services
- Thinking innovation
  - With both suppliers or users
- Mainstreaming skills development
- Integration between data and computing
- Business plans for financial sustainability
  - ...and partnerships with the private sector
- Supporting policies
- open data and software
- Sharing basic operations services and building blocks
- Monitoring performance (KPIs)







# THANK YOU



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