

STRATEGY AND INNOVATION BOARD

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Authors: EB

Date: 05 February 2014

Document status: for EGI Council approval

Document link:

Challenge:

The EGI.eu needs to be able to dynamically adapt to the needs of user communities and make the most efficient and effective use of scientific resources and technologies. To guide EGI.eu and the EGI Council in achieving this, it needs a Strategy and Innovation Board consisting of representation from user communities, resource centres and the technology industry to provide independent advice on a number of issues including but not limited to: technological strategy, strategic moves, prioritization of services to users and outreach to and engagement with user communities.

Context:

EGI-InSPIRE Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) played a significant role in the preparation of EC reviews. EGI as such has no advisory board to refer to for guidance and advice on strategic issues. As EGI-InSPIRE finishes end of 2014, it is urgent to define the terms of reference of an advisory board that will take the continuity and expand the role of the existing EGI-InSPIRE SAC.

Purpose and Responsibilities:

The Strategy and Innovation Board will provide advice and guidance to the EGI council and to EGI.eu leadership about:

- the strategy in terms of relationship and service provision to user communities
- the strategy in terms of relationship to other e-infrastructures
- the strategy in terms of relationship to industry
- the strategy in terms of technology and innovation
- the strategy in terms of e-infrastructure organization and management

Composition:

The Strategy and Innovation Board is composed by 20 members. Membership should involve high level representatives of the following sectors

user communities – approximately 10 members

Industry and technology providers – approximately 5 members

resource centres – approximately 5 members

Members are appointed for a 2-year term renewable once. Every 2 years, a call for nomination is issued and publicized through EGI council representatives and EGI communication channels and will stay open for a period of one month. Applications are open to anyone and should include a short statement of interest (1 paragraph) and brief CV (1 page). Applications will be reviewed by EB before selection through a vote of the council.

Modus Operandi:

The Strategy and Innovation Board (SIB) will have ownership of Strategy and Innovation Recommendations – this is intended to be a living document which will be maintained and updated by regular virtual meetings (via telephone and web conferencing). In the initial construction of the document, it is anticipated that these will take place monthly, however virtual meetings may be less frequent after the initial version.

It is also anticipated that there will be a face to face meeting at least annually (for example collocated with the EGI Community Forum).

EGI.eu will offer secretarial support in the organisation of these meetings and editing of the recommendations document. Wherever possible, SIB will arrive at recommendations and/or advice by clear consensus, as determined by the Chair; a voting process will only start if consensus cannot be reached in a reasonable time or if at least one third of voting members of the Group call for a vote; a decision is adopted if more than 50% of the voting members cast their vote for the proposed decision.

Attendance to SIB meetings would be open to EGI council members, EC representatives and invited guests under EB supervision to provide the SIB with information of current direction, achievements and foreseen strategy. The recommendations document will be reviewed as a standing item at Council Meetings, and on a regular basis by the Executive Board, to provide timely feedback to the SIB, and to incorporate SIB considerations in the future direction and strategy of EGI.

2014 will be a year of transition and its members could be invited to the EGI-InSPIRE project review. A first official meeting of SIB will place in the fall of 2014.

Timeline:

Presentation in Council meeting in Spring 2014.