

Federated digital services for Open Science in Southeast Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean

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Building a federated Open Science e-Infrastructure and related services is an imperative that will boost the research capabilities and make Europe more competitive player in the global research. Such common infrastructure should stretch and cover as wider areas as possible, both in the scientific fields supported, but also geographically. Bridging the digital divide and supporting the scientist from the less-developed regions will integrate their intellectual potential into the joint European efforts to keep the leading role in science and technology.

In this presentation we will describe the innovative approach developed by the project VI-SEEM focusing on:

- The integrated state-of-the-art platform, built jointly by e-Infrastructure providers and end users, consisting of computational resources (HPC, cloud, Grid), data storage and management, visualization tools and discipline-specific services, etc, provided via an integrated Virtual Research Environment.
- The fact that the platform serves a large geographical area (South Eastern Europe and Eastern Mediterranean) of about 300 million inhabitants having a diversity of e-Infrastructures with the aim to enable high-caliber research in strategic areas for the region, namely the Life Sciences, Climatology and Meteorology, and Digital Cultural Heritage.

Wishing to adopt a service-orientated approach, the project consortium has developed a catalogue of fully managed services, using the FitSM methodology. The services themselves have been designed and developed in an innovative collaboration process between both researches and service providers and operators. Such approach leads to targeted services that are highly usable to the scientific community, at the same time highly optimized and strongly supported by the service providers and operators. Additionally, the diversity of services (listed above) can be used as building blocks to perform advanced scientific workflows and produce relevant datasets and results, which are published back into the Virtual Research Environment. The developed service catalogue is fully compatible with other e-Infrastructure projects (EUDAT), enabling their easier integration into a single or federated service catalogue that is an essential component of EOSC. Access to the services is provided using eduGAIN compatible AAI (compatible with EGI RCIAM solution), allowing seamless access for the scientist, but also strong authentication and authorization on the service providers' side. The integrated Virtual Research Environment is accompanied with comprehensive training material set, facilitating its easier adoption by even larger number of scientists, students, but also SMEs and other relevant actors. The scientific excellence of the platform and its supporting consortium has been recognized by the significant number of publications of directly supported by the regional e-Infrastructure and related services.

Topic Area

The EOSC & EDI building blocks

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