**e-ScienceTalk**

Quarter 2 report: Dec 2010 to Feb 2011

**EU REPORT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Document identifier: |  |
| Date: | 11/05/2011 |
| Work package: | **WP4** |
| Lead Partner: | **EGI.eu** |
| Document Status: | **DRAFT** |
| Dissemination Level: | **PUBLIC** |
| Document Link: | https://documents.egi.eu/document/ |

|  |
| --- |
| Abstract  This report summarises the activities of the e-ScienceTalk project during the second quarter of the project, December 2010 to February 2010, including a work package summary, effort figures, metrics for the quarter, issues and plans for the next quarter. |

1. Copyright notice

Copyright © Members of the e-ScienceTalk collaboration, 2010. See www.e-sciencetalk.eu for details of the e-ScienceTalk project and the collaboration. E-ScienceTalk is a project co-funded by the European Commission as an Support Action within the 7th Framework Programme. E-ScienceTalk began in September 2010 and will run for 33 months. This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial 3.0 License. To view a copy of this license, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/ or send a letter to Creative Commons, 171 Second Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, California, 94105, and USA. The work must be attributed by attaching the following reference to the copied elements: “Copyright © Members of the e-ScienceTalk Collaboration, 2010. See www.e-sciencetalk.eu for details of the e-ScienceTalk project and the collaboration”. Using this document in a way and/or for purposes not foreseen in the licence, requires the prior written permission of the copyright holders. The information contained in this document represents the views of the copyright holders as of the date such views are published.

1. Delivery Slip

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Name** | **Partner/Activity** | **Date** |
| **From** | Catherine Gater | EGI.eu/WP4 | 04/05/11 |
| **Reviewed by** | **Moderator:**  **Reviewers:** Project team | Various |  |
| **Approved by** | **PMB** |  |  |

1. Document Log

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Issue** | **Date** | **Comment** | **Author/Partner** |
| 1 | 1/3/11 | ToC | Catherine Gater/EGI.eu |
| 2 | 4/5/11 | First draft | Catherine Gater/EGI.eu |
| 3 |  | Final draft | Catherine Gater/EGI.eu |

1. Application area

This document is a formal deliverable for the European Commission, applicable to all members of the e-ScienceTalk project and its beneficiaries and collaborating projects.

1. Document amendment procedure

Amendments, comments and suggestions should be sent to the authors.

1. PROJECT SUMMARY

Over the last 10 years, the European Commission and governments have invested substantial funds in distributed computing infrastructures. Scientists have access to state-of-the-art computational and data resources located around the world, putting European research into a leading position to address the greatest challenges facing us today, such as climate change, pandemics and sustainable energy. The advent of the European Grid Infrastructure, combined with the blurring of boundaries between grids, clouds, supercomputing networks and volunteer grids, means that a clear consistent source of information aimed at non-experts is now more important than ever, through dissemination projects such as e-ScienceTalk, that cross national boundaries.

**Objectives**:

* e-ScienceTalk will build on the achievements of the GridTalk project in bringing the success stories of Europe’s e-Infrastructure to policy makers in government and business, to the scientific community and to the general public.
* e-ScienceTalk will work with EGI-InSPIRE and other collaborating projects to expand the scope of the existing GridTalk outputs, and to report on the interactions of grids with e-Infrastructures such as cloud computing and supercomputing.
* The project will explore options for the sustainability of e-ScienceTalk’s products.
* e-ScienceTalk will produce a series of reports aimed at policy makers to disseminate key policy issues underpinning grid and e-Infrastructure development in Europe. The project will also coordinate e-concertation activities.
* The GridCafé, GridCast and GridGuide suite of websites will cover new topics and explore novel web technologies; they will integrate closely with GridPP’s Real Time Monitor, combining live views of grid activity with the human aspects of computing.
* The growing weekly publication, International Science Grid This Week (iSGTW) will bring news and events to the existing and potential e-Science community.

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report covers the second quarter of the e-ScienceTalk project, December 2010 to February 2011. This document reports on the activities of the second quarter in each work package, summarises any issues raised and previews plans for the next quarter. The management report includes summary effort figures, the expected spending profile for the first period and includes the project metrics for each work package.

The outputs from WP1, Policy, Impact and Sustainability, have been in events, e-ScienceBriefings and GridCasts. WP2 is responsible for e-ScienceTalk’s suite of interactive websites, Gridcafé, GridCast and GridGuide, as well as the main project website and the Real Time Monitor. During Q2, WP2 ran 2 GridCasts at events in Europe. WP2 also worked on the RTM, putting together an additional layer of PANDA jobs from ATLAS. International Science Grid This Week is produced on a weekly basis by WP3, sent to over 8000 subscribers by email, and viewed by around twice as many people each week on the iSGTW website. Efforts during Q2 have focused on the launch of the new website, initially under the name, The Digital Scientist, but afterwards reverting to iSGTW. A number of promotional posters were produced in collaboration with WP2 for display at events attended during the quarter. During the development process, WP2 has continued to publish iSGTW itself, with 7 issues produced during the quarter.

A number of issues have been addressed or resolved during the quarter, including ensuring a good balance of information and contributions from collaborating projects in the e-ScienceBriefings, lengthy consultation processes for iSGTW/The Digital Scientist and of partners in order to sign off development milestones. Mitigation measures are described for each issue. Other project issues and risks have also been identified, including protection of e-ScienceTalk product names against legal challenges.

In the next quarter, WP1 will produce the third GridBriefing, D1.2.3, which will cover the topic of cloud computing. WP2 will continue to work on translations of the GridCafé and new content areas such as the e-ScienceCity. There will be a further GridCast in PM8 and the team will continue to develop the blog formats. In May, WP3 will issue the D3.3 iSGTW Marketing Strategy.

The project management report confirms that all Deliverables and Milestones have been submitted to the EC on time. A number of MoUs are planned or have been signed with other projects and e-Infrastructures, including e-IRGSP2/3, EUIndiaGrid2, CHAIN, EMI, EGI-InSPIRE, GISELA, WeNMR and LinkSCEEM2. Effort reporting for the second quarter is broadly in line with effort predicted, with some under reporting of effort. A new effort reporting tool, EasyTS has been introduced in Q2 to simplify effort reporting for all partners. A new editor for iSGTW to take over from Dan Drollette has been recruited to start at CERN on 1 April. Plans are also underway to recruit a 0.5FTE post to QMUL to support the impact and sustainability work of WP1.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 Introduction 6

2 main achievements 7

2.1 Summary 7

2.2 Work packages 7

2.2.1 WP1: Policy, impact and sustainability 7

2.2.2 WP2: GridCafé, GridGuide, GridCast 7

2.2.3 WP3: iSGTW/The Digital Scientist 8

2.3 Issues and mitigation 9

2.3.1 WP1: Policy, impact and sustainability 9

2.3.2 WP2: Gridcafé, GridGuide, Gridcast 10

2.3.3 WP3: iSGTW/Digital Scientist 10

2.4 Plans for the next quarter 10

2.4.1 WP1: Policy, impact and sustainability 10

2.4.2 WP2: Gridcafé, GridGuide, Gridcast 11

2.4.3 WP3: iSGTW 12

3 Consortium management 13

3.1 Summary 13

3.2 WP4: Management 13

3.2.1 Project management 13

3.2.2 Milestones and Deliverables 13

3.2.3 Consumption of effort 14

3.2.4 Overall financial status 16

3.2.5 WP4: Management issues and mitigation 16

3.2.6 WP4: Plans for the next quarter 17

4 project metrics 18

4.1.1 WP1: Policy, impact and sustainability 18

4.1.2 WP2: Gridcafé, GridGuide, Gridcast 18

4.1.3 WP3: iSGTW/Digital Scientist 19

4.1.4 WP4: Management 20

5 conclusion 21

6 References 22

# Introduction

This document reports on the activities of the second quarter in each work package for e-ScienceTalk, covering the e-ScienceBriefings, the GridCafé, GridCast and GridGuide, as well as the Real Time Monitor and International Science Grid This Week. The report also summarises any issues raised or addressed during the second quarter, and previews plans for the next quarter. The management report includes summary effort figures for the quarter and includes the project metrics for each work package.

# main achievements

## Summary

This section summarises the main achievements by each work package during the second quarter of the project.

## Work packages

### WP1: Policy, impact and sustainability

WP1 has continued the redesign of the GridBriefings, which are now renamed to e-ScienceBriefings with a new template. In collaboration with WP2, html versions of the documents have been added to the e-ScienceTalk website[[1]](#footnote-1), with additional links and content compared to the printed versions. An RSS feed has been set up to allow readers to subscribe to e-ScienceBriefings[[2]](#footnote-2). This feed is now displayed on the EGI.eu website[[3]](#footnote-3) and the release of the briefings is announced on the news feed[[4]](#footnote-4).

WP1 has also produced the second Briefing, D1.2.2 Supercomputing: Empowering Research, which covers the topic of supercomputing, including projects such as DEISA and PRACE. This has been distributed at events attended by the e-ScienceTalk project during the quarter and also by email to the EGI dissemination and e-IRG mailing lists.

There has been continued collaboration with policy groups such as e-IRGSP3 to determine how to work together effectively in the future. e-IRG are now providing regular input into e-ScienceBriefing content and dissemination, including covering the supercomputing briefing as a news item on the e-IRG website. Regular meetings are held between WP1 and the e-IRGSP3 dissemination team.  
  
The policy team attended the TERENA TF-CPR meeting for the Task Force on Communications and Public Relations in Utrecht in February, which helped to build e-ScienceTalk’s visibility with the NRENs.

### WP2: GridCafé, GridGuide, GridCast

WP2 has worked on e-ScienceTalk’s suite of interactive websites, Gridcafé, GridCast and GridGuide, as well as the main project website and the Real Time Monitor.

During the second quarter, the following work was carried out.

**GridCafé**

* ASGC, Taipei was approached for a Chinese translation and this is now underway.
* Russian translated text is 75% complete and a separate website will be set up to accommodate the Russian alphabet as this cannot be included in the CMS.
* Work on an overall concept for an e-Science City continued, to include new content areas such a Cloud Lounge. This will create a landing page for the suite of Gridcafé sites, with content based on the SuperComputing and Cloud computing e-ScienceBriefings.
* Work continued on the 3-D pilot of the GridCafé in collaboration with Virtus / New World Grid.

**GridCast**

* Developed new types of blog post, such as longer, more editorial posts.
* Experimented with longer videos, such as conference overviews.
* GridCast held at the Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference[[5]](#footnote-5), 9-10 December 2010.
* A remote GridCast was held at the PRACE/LinkSCEEM Winter School[[6]](#footnote-6) in Cyprus in February, featuring blogs by participants in the school and was submitted as MS4.

**GridGuide**

* Worked on the marketing for the GridGuide to target it better to its audiences, including adding general information to the e-ScienceTalk home page.
* Liaised with the National Grid Initiatives to include them on the site to increase the number of sites featured, through attendance at the TERENA-CPR task force meeting in February in Utrecht.
* Working on MoUs with collaborating projects such SAGrid and REUNA to increase the number of non-European sites.
* Sites of the month included for major events.

**Real Time Monitor**

* Worked with the PANDA team at CERN to publish WLCG data to the RTM and show bunches of jobs graphically.
* Working on a logo for the RTM.
* Displayed the RTM at events attended by the GridCast team.

### WP3: iSGTW/The Digital Scientist

In Q2, the main activity for WP3 was the publication of the first issue of The Digital Scientist on 12th January 2011 by email, supported by the new website based on OpenPublish Drupal. The final issue of iSGTW was published on 22 December as a short issue, signing off the publication and introducing the new one. The following features are now available in the new website:

* Web site with new design and navigational layout
* All legacy content ported across to the new site from the previous iSGTW site
* Site taxonomies (types of content) defined
* Search and advanced search capabilities
* Content tagging (legacy and new)
* Contextual search, simple and advanced
* Registration to the site, enabling readers to comment on and rate articles
* Reader blog section, allowing readers to publish blogs within the site
* Slide show and video galleries
* Reader polls
* Calendar including events
* ShareThis function, enabling easy sharing of the content on social media sites
* Smart phone template compatible with iPhone and Android and other major platforms

On 14th January, a legal challenge to the use of the name The Digital Scientist was received by the Fermilab editor. After consultation with the Fermilab legal department, the Digital Scientist site was briefly taken offline, and the site reinstated under the iSGTW name. The iSGTW logo was redesigned to fit with the look and feel of the new site, while legal discussions continued regarding the use of the Digital Scientist name.

As a result of the discussions, and in consultation with the PMB and the iSGTW Advisory Board, it was agreed to discontinue the use of the Digital Scientist name, and to continue producing the weekly publication under the former iSGTW name. The first iSGTW issue using the new site was issued on Friday 21 January, and a further 5 issues were published in Q2.

A paper is now being developed by WP4 to address issues of copyright and trademarking for all e-ScienceTalk products, to be completed in Q3. Trademarking of the iSGTW name is also being explored in Switzerland under the Madrid protocol in order to protect the existing name. Further ideas for new names are being discussed by the PMB and iSGTW Advisory Board.

Also during Q2, the WP3 has contributed to the GridCast blog at the Euro-Africa ICT conference in Helsinki in December and the Lift’11 event in February in Geneva to source story ideas and make new contacts. Ambassador Gabriel Rodriguez, Director of The Directorate of Energy, Science and Technology, and Innovation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chile visited CERN on 1 February and received copies of the e-ScienceBriefings and the link to the GridCafé.

## Issues and mitigation

### WP1: Policy, impact and sustainability

One issue foreseen for WP2 is:

* To ensure a good balance of information and contributions from collaborating projects in the e-ScienceBriefings.

WP1 is working to mitigate this issue through the MoU with e-IRGSP2/3 and by liaising with the policy teams in projects such as EGI-InSPIRE. WP1 is also mitigating this issue through covering a range of DCI topics in the Year 1 briefings, including EGI, cloud computing, supercomputing and desk top grids.

### WP2: Gridcafé, GridGuide, Gridcast

For WP2, the following issues are reported:

* Adding Russian, Chinese and other non-Roman languages to the GridCafé database.
* Displaying multiple rather than single jobs in the RTM.

In order to support adding Russian, Chinese and other non-Roman translations of the GridCafé, separate html sites will be needed, as these are not supported by the content management system.

Traces showing the jobs in PANDA have been added as an extra layer to the Real Time Monitor without the requirement to display multiple rather than single jobs to date.

### WP3: iSGTW/Digital Scientist

In WP3, two issues have been reported:

* Lengthy consultation processes for The Digital Scientist leading to long timeframes in converging on decisions relating to developments, then in seeing these decisions implemented.
* Periodic unresponsiveness of US partners in order to sign off development milestones.

These issues have largely been resolved in Q2 as the new website for iSGTW has now been launched and the bulk of the redevelopment work is complete. Minor upgrades in response to feedback from the PMB, EC and iSGTW Advisory Board are now being followed up with Xeno media on an individual basis by the editorial team. These have included a review of the external blog feeds included on the home page, some publishing issues and reducing the spacing on the home page to improve the layout.

As a result of the legal challenge to the Digital Scientist name, an additional issue regarding legal challenges has been added to the management work package.

## Plans for the next quarter

This section outlines for the plans for each work package during the next quarter, March to May 2011.

### WP1: Policy, impact and sustainability

A third e-ScienceBriefing is planned for release in March 2011 “Cloud computing: What's on the horizon?” This will be released and distributed at ISGC2011 at the end of March in Taipei. A mini-Briefing will be produced based on the work presented at ISGC2011, which will be attended by WP1 and other members of e-ScienceTalk. A further Briefing on desktop grid computing is also planned for Q3. A number of press releases are also planned for the ISGC meeting, to be released in collaboration with ASGC, as well as a GridCast from the event.

WP1 will explore ideas for providing policy related content in alternative formats, such as video, working with the GridCast team. WP1 will continue to identify policy related events to attend and distribute materials, and to demonstrate the GridGuide and Real Time Monitor.

Continued contact with the TERENA communications task force is planned in the next quarter, including attendance at the TNC11 event in Prague in March.

In addition, a further 0.5FTE Dissemination Officer will be recruited to QMUL, in order to fulfil the effort commitments to WP1.

### WP2: Gridcafé, GridGuide, Gridcast

For WP2, a number of developments are planned for the second quarter.

* **e-ScienceTalk**
  + Copyright notices for each product to be agreed, using Creative Commons licences where appropriate.
  + Trademarking of the iSGTW name in Switzerland to be progressed in 3 classes.
* **GridCafé**
  + Progress the Russian translation for the GridCafé.
  + Progress the Chinese translation with ASGC.
  + Launch the concept for the e-Science City at the British Science Association’s Science Communication Conference in May in London.
  + Create the pilot of the 3-D space for the GridCafé in collaboration with Virtus / New World Grid.
* **GridCast** 
  + GridCasts are planned for a number of events, including CloudScape-III in Brussels, ISGC in Taipei, the EGI User Forum in Vilnius, the FET’11 Future European Technologies meeting in Budapest, and the Conference on the Role of e-Infrastructure in Climate Change in Trieste.
* **GridGuide**
  + Work on the marketing for the GridGuide to target it better to its audiences.
  + Liaise with EGI and the National Grid Initiatives to include them on the site to increase the number of sites featured.
  + Work with collaborating projects such SAGrid and REUNA to increase the number of non-European sites.

* **RTM**
  + Work with the PANDA team at CERN to publish WLCG data to the RTM as a new client side layer for the RTM.
  + Link the RTM to the GridCafé in order to market the RTM more effectively.
  + Create a short video clip showing a few minutes of grid activity on the RTM for marketing and demo purposes.
  + Create a new logo for the RTM.

### WP3: iSGTW

On 15 April, the long standing iSGTW European Editor, Dan Drollette will be leaving the publication. A new editor Jacqui Hayes will join CERN on 1 April to take over as Editor, supported by Science Writer Adrian Giordani. The transition between editors will be completed during QR3.

A meeting of the iSGTW Advisory Board will be held on 7 April, to review progress with the new site and to discuss future changes to the Board membership.

Weekly issues of The Digital Scientist will be produced with the usual mix of articles, links, images, videos, jobs, events and announcements. The new publication will be marketed and promoted at events attended by the e-ScienceTalk team during the quarter, and will be announced in the GridCast blog, on the GridCafé news feed and on Twitter. A marketing plan will be produced by the new Editor of The Digital Scientist in PM9 as D3.3 *Strategic report on marketing*.

# Consortium management

## Summary

This section outlines the consortium management activities during the quarter, carried out by WP4 the management work package.

## WP4: Management

### Project management

The PMB met once in PM5 to review the progress of the project and to review the risk register, meeting milestone MS10.3. The PMB has also reviewed and approved all the Deliverables and Milestones produced during the first quarter, as listed in section 3.2.2. All Deliverables and Milestones have been submitted to the EC on time or in advance of the deadline.

During Q1, effort reporting was completed using an Excel template. For Q2, effort reporting was completed by each project team member through an online tool called EasyTimeSheet, hosted by ERCIM. All Q1 effort figures were also entered into this tool to enable full end of year reporting. Tracking of project related travels, and also unfunded effort has been achieved more easily using this tool.

The Project Coordinator has continued the weekly project meetings, which include all members of the project team. A face-to-face all hands meeting took place on 9th December at CERN. At this meeting, the longer term planning for each of the e-ScienceTalk products was discussed and actions agreed.

Three MoUs have been signed during the quarter, including the e-IRGSP2/3, EUIndiaGrid and LinkSCEEM2. The Project Coordinator attended the CHAIN Launch Event in Rome in December, which helped to progress a number of MoU discussions. MoUs with CHAIN, GISELA, WeNMR, EMI and EGI-InSPIRE will be progressed in the next quarter.

### Milestones and Deliverables

**Table 1: Quarter 2 Deliverables**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Del. no.** | **Deliverable name** | **WP no.** | **Nature** | **Due (PM)** | **Delivery date**  **(PM)** | **Status** |
| D1.2.1 | GridBriefings | 1, 2 | R | 5 | 5 | Completed |

**Table 2: Quarter 2 Milestones**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Milestone number** | **Milestone name** | **WP no.** | **Due (PM)** | **Delivery date (PM)** | **Status** |
| MS10.2 | PMB meetings | 4 | 4 | 3 | Completed |
| MS7 | Posters and marketing materials | 3, 2 | 5 | 5 | Completed |
| MS4.2 | GridCasts | 2 | 6 | 6 | Completed |
| MS11 | Dissemination materials | 4 | 6 | 6 | Completed |

**Table 3: Quarter 3 Deliverables**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Del. no.** | **Deliverable name** | **WP no.** | **Nature** | **Due (PM)** | **Delivery date**  **(PM)** | **Status** |
| D1.2.3 | GridBriefings | 1, 2 | R | 8 |  | In progress |
| D3.3 | Strategic report on iSGTW marketing, social media and commercial exploitation | 3 | R | 9 |  | In progress |

**Table 4: Quarter 3 Milestones**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Milestone number** | **Milestone name** | **WP no.** | **Due (PM)** | **Delivery date (PM)** | **Status** |
| MS10.3 | PMB meetings | 4 | 7 | 5 | Completed |

### Consumption of effort

A summary of the effort consumption by each partner in each work package is included below. Unfunded effort is included where relevant. A summary of the percentage effort delivered in Q2 is included at the end of this section.

#### Overall effort figures per work package

**Table 5: Overall effort achieved in Q2 in PMs (view 1)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Work package** | **Dec** | **Jan** | **Feb** | **Total** | **Year plan** | **Linear Q plan** | **Q2 % achieved** | **Q1 % achieved** |
| WP1 | 0.72 | 0.83 | 0.89 | 2.44 | 46 | **4.2** | **58%** | **92%** |
| WP2 | 1.47 | 1.67 | 1.72 | 4.86 | 64 | **5.8** | **84%** | **75%** |
| WP3 | 1.19 | 1.86 | 2.17 | 5.22 | 52 | **4.7** | **111%** | **121%** |
| WP4-M | 0.44 | 0.44 | 0.39 | 1.27 | 17 | **1.5** | **85%** | **113%** |
| WP2-UNF | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | **0.7** | **0%** | **0%** |
| WP4-UNF | 0.06 | 0.08 | 0.08 | 0.22 | 5 | **0.5** | **44%** | **18%** |
| **Total** | **3.88** | **4.88** | **5.25** | **14.01** | **192** | **17.5** | **80%** | **90%** |

#### Overall, the effort figures for Q2 are at 80% for the quarter. This is consistent with the holiday period, which fell in the middle of the quarter in December and January. The effort figures are lower than for Q1, which were at 90% overall. WP1 shows a decrease of activity compared to Q1, with an increase in WP2 compared to Q1. WP3 is currently still exceeding the planned effort slightly. WP4-M shows under spending but it is balanced with the Q1 figures. There has been no WP2 unfunded activity reported. The WP4 unfunded effort is increased compared to Q1 but is still half of the effort planned.

#### Overall effort figures per partner

**Table 6: Overall effort achieved in Q1 in PMs (view 2)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Partner** | **Dec** | **Jan** | **Feb** | **Total** | **Year plan** | **Linear Q plan** | **Q2 % achieved** | **Q1 % achieved** |
| **CERN** | 1.19 | 1.72 | 2.16 | 5.07 | 67 | **6.1** | **83%** | **90%** |
| **APO** | 0.86 | 1.14 | 1.06 | 3.06 | 34 | **3.1** | **99%** | **110%** |
| **QMUL** | 0.89 | 1.06 | 1.11 | 3.06 | 47 | **4.3** | **71%** | **80%** |
| **IMPERIAL** | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 1.5 | 26 | **2.4** | **63%** | **80%** |
| **EGI.eu** | 0.45 | 0.48 | 0.42 | 1.35 | 18 | **1.6** | **84%** | **110%** |
| **Total** | **3.89** | **4.90** | **5.25** | **14.04** | **192** | **17.5** | **80%** | **90%** |

Q2 represents 18% of the elapsed time of the project. The total overall effort figures for the first quarter are at 80% of expected for the project as a whole. CERN effort is slightly reduced compared to the plan, and reduced compared to Q1. This will be partially compensated for in Q3 as the outgoing and incoming iSGTW editors will overlap by 2 weeks to allow for a handover. APO’s effort in Q2 is as planned at 99%, reduced from Q1. QMUL effort is reduced compared to the plan and this will be compensated in forthcoming quarters once the new member of staff is recruited at 0.5FTE. Imperial effort is decreased compared to Q1 at 63% and this will be investigated with the partner. EGI.eu effort is slightly underreported for Q2, to compensate for additional effort in Q1 due to the project start up.

### Overall financial status

The expenditure for the first year of the project is expected to follow the profile outlined below. The pre-financing has been distributed to partners at the end of Q1 and further moneys are not expected to be distributed to partners until the end of the first period.

**Table 7: Expected expenditure profile**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Partner** | **WP1** | **WP2** | **WP3** | **WP4** | **Total** | **1st Year** |
| EGI.eu |  |  |  | 187,694 | 187,694 | 68,252 |
| QMUL | 223,513 | 56,858 | 40,627 |  | 320,998 | 116,727 |
| APO | 28,088 | 154,882 | 28,088 |  | 211,057 | 76,748 |
| Imperial |  | 114,181 |  |  | 114,181 | 41,520 |
| CERN | 69,164 | 77,562 | 319,344 |  | 466,070 | 169,480 |
| **Total** | **320,764** | **403,485** | **388,057** | **187,694** | **1,300,000** | **472,727** |

**Table 8: Estimated Personnel expenditure Q1**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Work package** | **Dec** | **Jan** | **Feb** | **Cumul Direct** | **Cumul Indirect** | **Cumul Eligible** | **Q2 Estimated**  **Funding** |
| WP1 | 3,535 | 4,134 | 4,480 | 12,149 | 2,430 | 14,578 | **12,999** |
| WP2 | 8,091 | 8,934 | 9,281 | 26,306 | 5,261 | 31,568 | **28,148** |
| WP3 | 7,073 | 11,250 | 13,133 | 31,457 | 6,291 | 37,748 | **33,658** |
| WP4-M | 3,366 | 3,366 | 2,936 | 9,668 | 1,934 | 11,602 | **10,345** |
| WP2-UNF | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | **n/a** |
| WP4-UNF | 426 | 612 | 612 | 1,649 | 330 | 1,979 | **n/a** |
| **Total** | **22,491** | **28,296** | **30,441** | **81,229** | **16,246** | **97,475** | **85,150** |

In line with the under spending of the person months planned, the costs of the personnel are lower than the projected estimates. The partners have spent in total 85keuro during the quarter; 129keuros were (linearly) forecast over a 3-month period.

### WP4: Management issues and mitigation

For WP4, two issues were raised in Q1:

* Higher than expected travel costs for WP2 during Q1.
* Extended timeframe to approve pre-financing payments in the EGI.eu banking system, delaying the release of the funds to partners.

Travel costs have been mitigated as much as possible in Q2 by planning and booking travel as early as possible. However, e-ScienceTalk is dependent on the event organisers notifying us in good time whether our booth proposals submitted some months prior to the event have been accepted, and to confirm programmes so that opportunities for filming can be identified early, and the team attending the event agreed. Where possible, assistance is requested with travel costs, for example through bursaries, and financial assistance will be received for attendance at ISGC in Taipei and at the Role of e-Infrastructures on Climate Change Conference in Trieste. Some costs for speakers at the British Science Association Science Communication Conference will also be covered by the organisers.

Further payments are not anticipated to partners in Q2 and Q3. However, end of year payments in Q4 should be actioned as quickly as possible through the EGI.eu bank accounts.

An additional issue for Q2 has been raised at management level due to the legal challenge to the Digital Scientist name received shortly after the publication’s launch.

* Protection of current and future e-ScienceTalk product names from legal challenges.

In order to mitigate this issue, a paper will be produced by WP4 covering trademarking and copyright, and a trademark for iSGTW will be registered under the Madrid protocol in Switzerland.

### WP4: Plans for the next quarter

The weekly project team meetings will continue during the third quarter. A face-to-face meeting with the iSGTW Editorial Team is planned for April at CERN, to assist with the handover of the editorial role.

During Q1, e-ScienceTalk coordinated the logistical planning of the 8th e-Infrastructure Concertation meeting at CERN in November, in collaboration with CERN. The costings for this meeting are now clearer, and an amendment of the DoW is planned to describe these costs and the payment arrangements before the end of the first period. Plans are also underway for the next e-Infrastructure Concertation meeting in September.

# project metrics

A number of project metrics are outlined in D4.2 *Quality Assurance Guide* [R1]. The metrics for each work package for Q1 are included below. Project level metrics are indicated in bold type.

### WP1: Policy, impact and sustainability

**Table 11: Metrics for Work Package 1**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Metric no.** | **Description** | **Comments** | **Q1** | **Q2** |
| **1.1** | **Projects covered** | **In the e-ScienceBriefings** | **15** |  |
| **1.2** | **Reports and briefings circulated** | **In print or by email** | **1 report (100 copies)** | **1 report** |
| **1.3** | **Countries where reports or briefings are distributed** | **In print or by email** | **8** | **8** |
| 1.4 | Policy articles published | In print or online | 3 | 2 |
| 1.5 | Policy reports written | In print or online | 1 | 2 |
| 1.6 | Printed policy reports circulated | To policy makers | 100 | 0 |
| 1.7 | Policy events organised | Number organised | 1 | 0 |
| 1.8 | Attendees at policy events | Number of delegates | 111 | 0 |
| 1.9 | Collaborating projects to which articles have been distributed | In print or by email | 13 | 6 |
| 1.10 | Countries to which articles or reports have been distributed | In print or by email | 8 | 12 |

### WP2: Gridcafé, GridGuide, Gridcast

**Table 12: Metrics for Work Package 2**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Metric no.** | **Description** | **Comments** | **Q1** | **Q2** |
| **2.1** | **Sites on GridGuide** | **Number of sites included** | **34** | **34** |
| **2.2** | **Bloggers contributing to GridCasts** | **Average number of bloggers on GridCast** | **2** | **3** |
| **2.3** | **GridCasts per year** | **Including major and mini GridCasts** | **7** | **2** |
| 2.4 | New areas of GridCafé | Covering topics other than grid computing | 1 in development | 1 in development |
| 2.5 | Unique visitors to the GridCafé website | From Google Analytics | 4422 | 4020 |
| 2.6 | Page views of the GridCafé website | From Google Analytics | 48676 | 41380 |
| 2.7 | Number of bloggers for GridCast | Total number of bloggers | 15 | 7 |
| 2.8 | Blog entries | Total number | 92 | 15 |
| 2.9 | Podcasts | Total number | 20 | 0 |
| 2.10 | Unique visitors to the GridCast | From Google Analytics | 2295 | 1621 |
| 2.11 | Page views of the GridCast | From Google Analytics | 5343 | 3526 |
| 2.12 | EU sites on GridGuide | European based sites | 24 | 24 |
| 2.13 | Non-EU sites on GridGuide | Non-European located sites | 10 | 10 |
| 2.14 | Unique visitors to the GridGuide | From Google Analytics | 345 | 331 |
| 2.15 | Page views of the GridGuide | From Google Analytics | 665 | 536 |
| 2.16 | GridGuide sites on RTM | Total number | 27 | 34 |
| 2.17 | Countries in the RTM | Total number[[7]](#footnote-7) | 64 | 64 |
| 2.18 | Events demo-ing the RTM | Including events attended by collaborating projects demo-ing the RTM | 9 | 0 |

### WP3: iSGTW/Digital Scientist

**Table 13: Metrics for Work Package 3**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Metric no.** | **Description** | **Comments** | **Q1** | **Q2** |
| **3.1** | **iSGTW subscribers** | **Registered in the database** | **6838** | **7942** |
| **3.2** | **Articles on European projects** | **Based on EU funded projects** | **33** | **24** |
| **3.3** | **Projects in the iSGTW/GridCafé resources section** | **Total number** | **134** | **134** |
| **3.4** | **iSGTW printed materials distributed** | **At events attended by e-ScienceTalk or by collaborating projects** | **120** | **0** |
| 3.5 | Issues published | Issued by email to subscribers each week and posted on the website | 13 | 11 |
| 3.6 | US articles published | Based on US projects | 30 | 24 |
| 3.7 | Worldwide articles published | Based on non US or EU projects | 1 | 7 |
| 3.8 | Unique visitors to the website | From Google Analytics | 39,130 | 20,036 |
| 3.9 | Page views of the website | From Google Analytics | 74,542 | 42,528 |
| 3.10 | Countries visiting the iSGTW website | From Google Analytics | 140 | 148 |
| 3.11 | Marketing materials distributed | In print or by email or at events | 120 | 0 |
| 3.12 | Survey responses | Through Zoomerang survey tool | No survey issued | No survey issued |

### WP4: Management

**Table 14: Metrics for Work Package 4**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Metric no.** | **Description** | **Comments** | **Q1** | **Q2** |
| 4.1 | Deliverables submitted | By email and online | 6 | 1 |
| 4.2 | Milestones agreed | By email and online | 3 | 4 |
| 4.3 | Late Deliverable and Milestones | Submitted or agreed after the date agreed with the EC | 0 | 0 |
| 4.4 | e-ScienceTalk materials produced | Included printed materials, pens, banners etc | 8 posters, 200 pens, 100 annual reports, 150 GridBriefings, 500 pens | 0 |
| 4.5 | Unique visitors to the e-ScienceTalk website | From Google Analytics | 206 | 310 |
| 4.6 | Page views of the e-ScienceTalk website | From Google Analytics | 1072 | 1149 |
| 4.7 | Media releases issued | Issued via Alphagalileo and by email | 1 | 0 |
| 4.8 | Press cuttings | Measured by Google Alerts | 3 | 0 |
| 4.9 | Events attended | By e-ScienceTalk project team | 9 | 2 |

# conclusion

The second quarter for e-ScienceTalk has been an active quarter, seeing the launch of the new iSGTW website and publications, attendance and planning for several major events. Expenditure of costs and effort are broadly in line with predictions for the quarter, although slightly reduced compared to Q1 and all Deliverables and Milestones have been completed and submitted on time.

# References

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| R 1 | D4.2 Quality Assurance Guide <https://documents.egi.eu/document/262> |
|  |  |
|  |  |

1. <http://www.e-sciencetalk.org/briefings.php> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://www.e-sciencetalk.org/rss/briefings.xml> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <http://www.egi.eu/results/articles/> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <http://www.egi.eu/about/news/news.rss> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <http://gridcast.web.cern.ch/Gridcast/gridcast-Euro-Africa-e-Infrastructures-Conference.php> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. <http://gridcast.web.cern.ch/Gridcast/gridcast-PRACE-SEEM-winter-school-2010.php> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. <http://gridportal-ws01.hep.ph.ic.ac.uk/dynamic_information/egee-locations.xml> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)