Resource Center Forum

- the main goal of the the forum should be to promote the technical cooperation among the large high throughput CC in Europe

- it should provide a way of exchanging information, discuss on technical issues or aspects that are of common interests

  - and which, of course are not dealt with in other contexts, like WLCG, or that need complemented input/feedback/activities by the CC

- the forum in my view should have the main task of:

  - creating opportunities for regular information exchange, stimulating and organizing the discussions, forking working groups whenever appropriate

  - forum meetings should, in my view, work in "executive" mode, i.e. to analyze proposals, discuss them, review the progress and take decisions

M. Morandin

Topics (I)

- evolve the current Grid infrastructure into a European "cloud" integrated infrastructure
    - there is an EGI task force working on Federated clouds
    - however:
        - the use case are pretty abstract and general
        - there is no specific reference to issues that arise from the need of evolving and interoperating our current Grid infrastructures;
        - the main activity of the task force is essentially to run available solutions in test beds; there isn't much discussion on what the CC are really doing or planning, the constraints they have to deal with, the practical aspects of deploying and managing cloud services
    - I believe that a working group in the EGI RC forum can complement what the EGI task force is doing

M. Morandin

Topics (II)

- application domain

    - our center could in principle offer services for a wide variety of users

    - there are clearly scientific communities that are well organized, even beyond HEP, and that could, if interested (and willing to contribute for what they get) exploit effectively our CC

    - however, sometimes we receive also requests from communities that are trying to address computing problems that could greatly benefit from the services a big computing center can provide, but that don't have the technical expertise for developing appropriate solutions by themselves

    - These developments may require significant efforts, but if we share solutions, and/or cooperate in their development, it may become possible to address more use cases with less investment of our human resources.

M. Morandin

Backup slide

- We feel an evolutionary path toward new services is missing at the European level

  - On the one hand, there are "traditional" services like Grid computing
  - On the other hand, there seems to be focus on "definining Cloud profiles"
    - Conceptually interesting, but done many times in the past
  - No clear, sustainable path toward scalable, multi-center implementations and service offerings

- Some areas where capabilities are lacking:

  - Workload management systems; authentication systems; flexible information systems (take for example MPI, GPGPU, VM availability and instantiation – for Grids and Clouds); inter-cloud connectivity.

- We need the Grid, the Cloud, the local and site-specific services (now)

  - But again, we can't afford to build "test infrastructures", or to offer separate services, or to reduce service levels for existing key customers in the hope to attract others.

M. Morandin