



Memorandum of Understanding
between
CHAIN-REDS and el4Africa



1. Parties and introductory remarks

The objectives of the CHAIN-REDS project (Grant Agreement no. 306819, www.chain-project.eu) are to:

1. Extend and consolidate the international cooperation of Europe with other regions of the world in the domain of e-Infrastructures for Research and Education, reinforcing the scientific collaboration and broadening the impact of the European Research Area;
2. Promote, coordinate and support the effort of a critical mass of non-European e-Infrastructures for R&E to collaborate with Europe addressing interoperability and interoperation of Grids and other DCIs such as potential upcoming Cloud federations and HPC centres;
3. Study the opportunities of data sharing across different e-Infrastructures and continents widening the scope of the existing CHAIN Knowledge Base to Data Infrastructures and Cloud implementations;
4. Promote trust building towards open Scientific Data infrastructures across the world regions including organisational, operational and technical aspects;
5. Demonstrate the relevance of intercontinental cooperation in several scientific data fields addressing existing and emerging Virtual Research Communities (e.g. Earth Science, Climate Change, Genomics, etc.) and propose pragmatic approaches that could impact the everyday work of the single researcher, even if not structured in a Virtual Research Community;
6. Provide guidance and recommendations for roadmaps for long-term global collaboration in e-Infrastructures and harmonization of existing policies. These are envisaged to act as input to policy and decision-making mechanism, harmonized with European Digital Agenda and the Horizon 2020.

The el4Africa project (Grant Agreement no. 312582, www.el4Africa.eu) seeks to:

1. Define and implement a structured multi-channel outreach strategy to promote and strengthen Euro-African collaborative research on e-Infrastructures and their applications
2. Produce a state-of-the-art study of e-Infrastructure application uptake in Africa
3. Deliver several exciting e-Infrastructure workshops across Africa
4. Develop the first Africa Grid Science Gateway
5. Select existing flagship demonstrations from other continents and illustrate their relevance to the African context in order to stimulate policy dialogue on e-Infrastructures
6. Create awareness raising flagship African e-Infrastructures application demonstrations

CHAIN-REDS and el4Africa have a common interest in a close cooperation in order to achieve their respective objectives and promote the adoption of consolidated standards,

both in the e-Infrastructure and certification authorities / federated identity services domains, with the ultimate aim of widening the number of potential users of e-Infrastructures in Africa.

2. Common Activities

Activities which will be undertaken in common by the two initiatives are listed in Annex 1 to this MoU. The initiatives may from time to time wish to add other activities to the MoU. In such case the new activities to be added will be agreed in writing by the respective initiatives managements or people in charge, and be defined by an amendment of this MoU, simply adding a new Annex 1.

3. Communication

The Project Directors, or people in charge of the two initiatives nominated by them, will maintain regular contact to discuss any managerial matters related to the cooperation described in this MoU. Each initiative will appoint at least one Principal Point of Contact to act as the technical channels of communication between the initiatives as is necessary for the promotion of effective cooperation between the projects.

4. Administrative Matters

Each initiative will maintain full responsibility for its own activities, including the fulfilment of its obligations under its Grant Agreement with the European Commission or funding agency and provides no warranty, express or implied, in respect of its contribution to any activity agreed by the initiatives under this MoU, including but not limited to those of fitness for a particular purpose and the infringement of third-party proprietary rights.

Any proprietary rights relating to the results of activities undertaken by the initiatives under this MoU shall be jointly held by the projects, and each initiative herewith grants the other initiative a free, irrevocable and perpetual license to use such rights, including the granting of sub-licenses to such rights, for its own purposes, including the right for each project to place the results of such activities in the public domain, in its own name and under its own responsibility.

This Agreement will terminate when either of the initiatives is complete, or when either initiative gives notice of termination to the other, in which case a minimum notice of three months will be given.

Duly signed in 2-fold by:

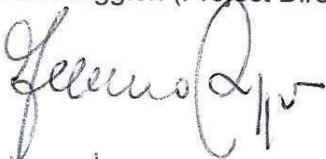
Signed on behalf of CHAIN-REDS by:

Signed on behalf of eI4Africa by:

Name: Federico Ruggieri (Project Director)

Name: Karine Valin (Project Manager)

Signature:



Signature:

KARINE VALIN

Date:

02/05/2013

Date:

26/4/2013

Karine Valin
Managing Director

Annex 1 – Coordinated Activities

The following cooperation activities will be undertaken by both parties in order to strengthen synergies and cooperation in the e-Infrastructure field in Africa, in particular to promote standards to widen and simplify access to interoperable e-Infrastructures in Africa by means of Certification Authorities and Identity Federations. Both projects will:

- Promote standard-based frameworks and paradigms, such as Science Gateways and Identity (Inter-) Federations, to access and use scalable and interoperable e-Infrastructures;
- Collaborate to the creation of federated identity services, such as Identity Providers and Federations, in Africa and for the installation of Science Gateways and applications therein and their configuration as Service Providers of Identity Inter-Federations;
- Contribute to the raising of awareness of both new potential users and decision makers in the African region, through the presentation of their respective results, about the usefulness of e-Infrastructures and federated identity services for e-Science.
- Include their respective links to the 'Useful links' section of their respective websites;
- Regularly exchange relevant news items;
- Participate in each other's events when possible, to address the access to/use of distributed computing, storage, and data infrastructures;
- Display each other's promotional material during el4Africa and CHAIN-REDS events (material to be provided by each project);
- Contribute to raising awareness of both new potential users and decision makers in Africa, through the presentation of their respective results, about the usefulness of e-Infrastructures and federated identity services for e-Science;
- Disseminate online their respective e-Newsletters and useful information materials/services (through websites and social networks);
- Collaborate via social networking activity.

CHAIN-REDS will fully exploit the collaboration with el4Africa providing complementary actions on those countries and/or institutes which are not participating to el4Africa.

CHAIN-REDS contact persons for the execution of this MoU will be:

- Roberto Barbera | CHAIN-REDS Technical Coordinator, Catania University and INFN (Italy)
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- Bruce Becker | CHAIN-REDS contact person for Africa, MERAKA (South Africa)
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el4Africa contact persons for the execution of this MoU will be:

- Karine Valin | Managing Director, Sigma Orionis (France)
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- Simon Taylor | Leader ICT Innovation Group, Brunel University (United Kingdom)
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