Memorandum of Understanding

between

CHAIN-REDS and EIFL

1. Parties and introductory remarks

CHAIN-REDS is a project funded by the European Commission (Grant Agreement no. 306819, www.chain-project.eu) which ends on May 31, 2015 . The objectives of the project are to:

1. Extend and consolidate the international cooperation of Europe with other regions of the world (Asia, Africa and Latin America) 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 polices. These are envisaged to act as input to policy and decision-making mechanism, harmonized with European Digital Agenda and the Horizon 2020.

EIFL (www.eifl.net) is an international not-for-profit organisation founded in 2003, based in Europe with a global network of partners. Working in collaboration with libraries and library consortia in more than 45 developing and transition countries in Africa, Asia and Europe, , EIFL enables access to knowledge for education, learning, research and sustainable community development. EIFL core initiatives include:

- **Access to Knowledge for Education, Learning and Research** – ensuring well-resourced libraries, modern Information Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure and skilled staff to provide essential support to students and scholars.
- **Access to knowledge for sustainable community development** – helping to transform lives through innovative services in public libraries.

The Open Access (OA) programme has been an integral part of EIFL since 2005. EIFL took part in the Budapest Open Access Initiative, that first coined the term “open access”, the free online availability of research literature, and has also contributed to new recommendations “Ten years on from the Budapest Open Access Initiative: setting the default to open.” Through the EIFL-OA programme, we educate the researchers and students about the changing scholarly communication landscape; and advocate for the adoption of OA policies and mandates by research funding agencies, universities and research organisations. Through capacity building, we enable institutions to launch and sustain OA repositories and

to publish OA journals in order to maximise the visibility and usage of research output; to share open research data and open educational resources. Currently there are 510+ OA repositories and 3,400+ OA journals in EIFL partner countries. OA policies that ensure that research funded by institutions is made freely available have now been adopted by 38 institutions in the EIFL network. EIFL participates in the OpenAIREplus project (2nd Generation of OA Infrastructure for Research in Europe) along with 41 other partners covering 31 European countries, funded by the EC 7th Framework Programme, facilitating access to the entire OA scientific production of the European Research Area, providing cross-links from publications to data and funding schemes. EIFL is responsible for interaction with National Open Access Desks (NOADs) and oversees and guides NOADs in 12 Eastern European countries: Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and Slovenia.

CHAIN-REDS and EIFL receive funding support from the European Commission in the context of its Seventh Framework Programme and both parties have activities in Asia, Africa and Europe.

Both initiatives have a common interest in a close cooperation in order to achieve their respective objectives and promote the adoption of consolidated standards in the e-Infrastructures for Research and Education, with the ultimate aim of widening the opportunities of data sharing across different e-Infrastructures and continents.

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 EIFL by:
Name: Federico Ruggieri (project director)	Name: Rima Kupryte (Director)
Signature:	Signature:
Date: 28/06/2013	Date: 2013-06-27

Annex 1 – Coordinated Activities

Promotion of standards to widen and simplify access to interoperable e-Infrastructures; Digital Repositories integration into the CHAIN Knowledge Base

The CHAIN KB has been originally meant to collect up to date information about the state of the art in all the regions addressed by the project and the information obtained has been integrated with other data and has been made available on the project web site with an attractive graphical interface (http://www.chain-project.eu/knowledge-base). The CHAIN KB is being further extended to include information on Open Access Document and Data Repositories.

- EIFL will encourage integration of 510+ OA repositories in EIFL partner countries into the CHAIN Knowledge Base, using the OAI-PMH standard and the Dublin Core metadata schema.
- EIFL will check the repositories already included, and send CHAIN-REDS the URLs and the OAI-PMH endpoints of any other repositories which do not appear in the map.
- EIFL will contact digital libraries in the region not-supporting OAI-PMH access and promote the adoption of this standard, in order to include those libraries in the CHAIN Knowledge Base.
- CHAIN-REDS will integrate the OA repositories into the CHAIN Knowledge Base
- CHAIN-REDS will ensure the interoperability of the OA repositories with relevant data sets in the CHAIN knowledge base
- Both projects will contribute to the raising of awareness of both new potential users and decision makers in developing and transition countries, through the presentation of their respective results, about the usefulness of e-Infrastructures for e-Science.

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

- Prof. Federico Ruggieri – INFN-Roma Tre – Via della Vasca Navale, 84 – 00146 Rome – Italy - +390657337232 – federico.ruggieri@roma3.infn.it
- Prof. Roberto Barbera – Department of Physics and Astronomy – University of Catania - Via Santa Sofia, 64 - 95123 Catania –Italy– +390953785504 - roberto.barbera@ct.infn.it

EIFL contact persons for the execution of this MoU will be:

- Rima Kupryte – Director – c/o ADN Kronos, Piazza Mastai 9, 00153 Rome, Italy – Tel: + 39 06 5807216/17 – rima.kupryte@eifl.net
- Iryna Kuchma – EIFL Open Access Programme Manager – c/o ADN Kronos, Piazza Mastai 9, 00153 Rome, Italy – Tel.: +38 050 311 34 50 – iryna.kuchma@eifl.net