Memorandum of Understanding
between
CHAIN-REDS and EUDAT

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 polices. These are envisaged to act as input to policy and decision-making mechanism, harmonized with European Digital Agenda and the Horizon 2020.

EUDAT (http://EUDAT.eu/) vision is to support a Collaborative Data Infrastructure which will allow researchers to share data within and between communities and enable them to carry out their research effectively. EUDAT aims to provide a solution that will be affordable, trustworthy, robust, persistent and easy to use. Its mission is then:

1. Help fulfil the vision of a European Data e-infrastructure by providing a sustainable platform of technologies, tools and services driven by user needs.
2. Engage users (including individual researchers along with representatives from universities, research labs, and libraries) in defining and shaping a platform for shared services that makes it possible for data-intensive research to span all the scientific disciplines.
3. Produce the common low-level services that are required to provide the level of interoperation and trust of data that is necessary to support both widespread access to data, and the long-term preservation of data for use and re-use.
4. Ensure that the data infrastructure is sufficiently robust to keep pace with the expected acceleration of the scale and complexity of scientific data being generated within the ERA and beyond

CHAIN-REDS and EUDAT receive funding support from the European Commission in the context of its Seventh Framework Programme.

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:

Name: Federico Ruggieri (project director)

Signature:

Date: 20/01/2014

Signed on behalf of EUDAT by:

Name: Damien Lecarpentier (project manager)

Signature:

Date: 20.01.2014.