The ERINA Study

Recommendations for Exploiting Research INfrastructures potential in Key IST Areas

A study performed by
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e-infrastructure
European Commision
Information Society and Media

Objectives

- Identifying exploitation opportunities of Research e-Infrastructures in three domains (Health, Government, and Education)

- Present a set of recommendations on possible actions to exploit these opportunities beyond e-Science at a European level

Why ERINA?

- Research e-Infrastructures have reached a good level of maturity
- Scientists become potential vehicles for disseminating new solutions and methods based on e-Infrastructures
- How can other sectors of general interest - such as Health, Government and Education take advantage of this accumulated experience?

Approach

- Investigation of a number of case studies and analysing them in terms of the potential use of e-Infrastructures in the three domains
- Using a quantitative and qualitative approach
  - the ERINA methodology

The ERINA Methodology

The key indicators used are related to:

- Economic efficiency
- Operational efficiency
- Accessibility
- Time saving
- Knowledge enhancement
- Environmental impact
- ICT infrastructures

Main Findings

The list of opportunities:

Health

Sharing knowledge, Decision-making simplification and organisational burden reduction, IT costs reduction

Government

Harmonisation of practices and access to shared resources, territorial management and planning, peak-load support for public administrations

Learning

Seamless access to a wider market space of learning resources, mobility of teachers and students, support in the creation of personal learning spaces for the lifelong learning

ERINA Recommendations (1)

- **Pan-European coordination and local implementation**
  - EU Member States should sustain the creation of synergies among the three domains and e-Science, by means of pan-European initiatives
- **Building the right critical mass**
  - The EC and other funding agencies of the EU Member States should reinforce programs that support Research User Communities beyond e-Science
- **Promote trustworthiness and adequate practices**
  - The EC should identify proper actions to communicate the results achieved in EU-funded initiatives and the potential benefits and opportunities following the adoption of advanced technologies

ERINA Recommendations (2)

- **Ethical, Legal and Socio-Economic barriers**
  - The EU Member States should work on the removal of any barriers that may hinder a future adoption of a common ICT infrastructure among e-Science and the three information society key areas (e-Health, e-Government, e-Learning)
- **Look for long term sustainability**
  - The EC and the Member States support, also with appropriate legislation, the creation of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP), for the use of publicly funded Research Infrastructures, to ensure long term sustainability

ERINA Conclusions

- e-Infrastructures represent a great opportunity for Europe both from the organisational and technology point of view
- In all the three areas (e-Health, e-Government and e-Learning) it is possible to create synergies and leverage on existing e-Infrastructures so as to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of on-line public services
- Emergent economies may learn from European experiences and build on them “THE solution” to narrow the digital divide with respect to other economies