

## Community Engagement & Support

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- Introduction
- Barriers to Take-Up
- Tools & Standards
- Use Cases & Service Usage Models (SUMS)
- Outcomes
- Questions

## Community Engagement and Support

- One of the four themes of the e-Infrastructure Programme
- Aims:
  - *Ensure that the tools and services developed in the e-Infrastructure Programme are meeting the needs of the research community and complementing national developments*
  - *Extend the e-research community into new disciplines, groups and activities by engagement with both existing ‘e-science’ communities and new adopters.*
  - *Address ways in which the Research community can be enabled to exploit e-infrastructure services, tools, and resources to support new capabilities and research practices.*

- 3 Call Areas:
  - I. Barriers to Take-Up of e-Infrastructure Services;
  - II. Support for Research: Tools & Standards;
  - III. Use Cases and Service Usage Models for e-Infrastructure.
- Total Funds : £950,000
- Projects should last 2 years - start March 2007 and complete by end of March 2009

UK Research Community is the primary beneficiary in this call area

- Arts & Humanities;
- Biotechnology and Biological Sciences;
- Engineering and Physical Sciences;
- Medical Sciences;
- Natural Environment;
- Particle Physics and Astronomy;
- Social Sciences.

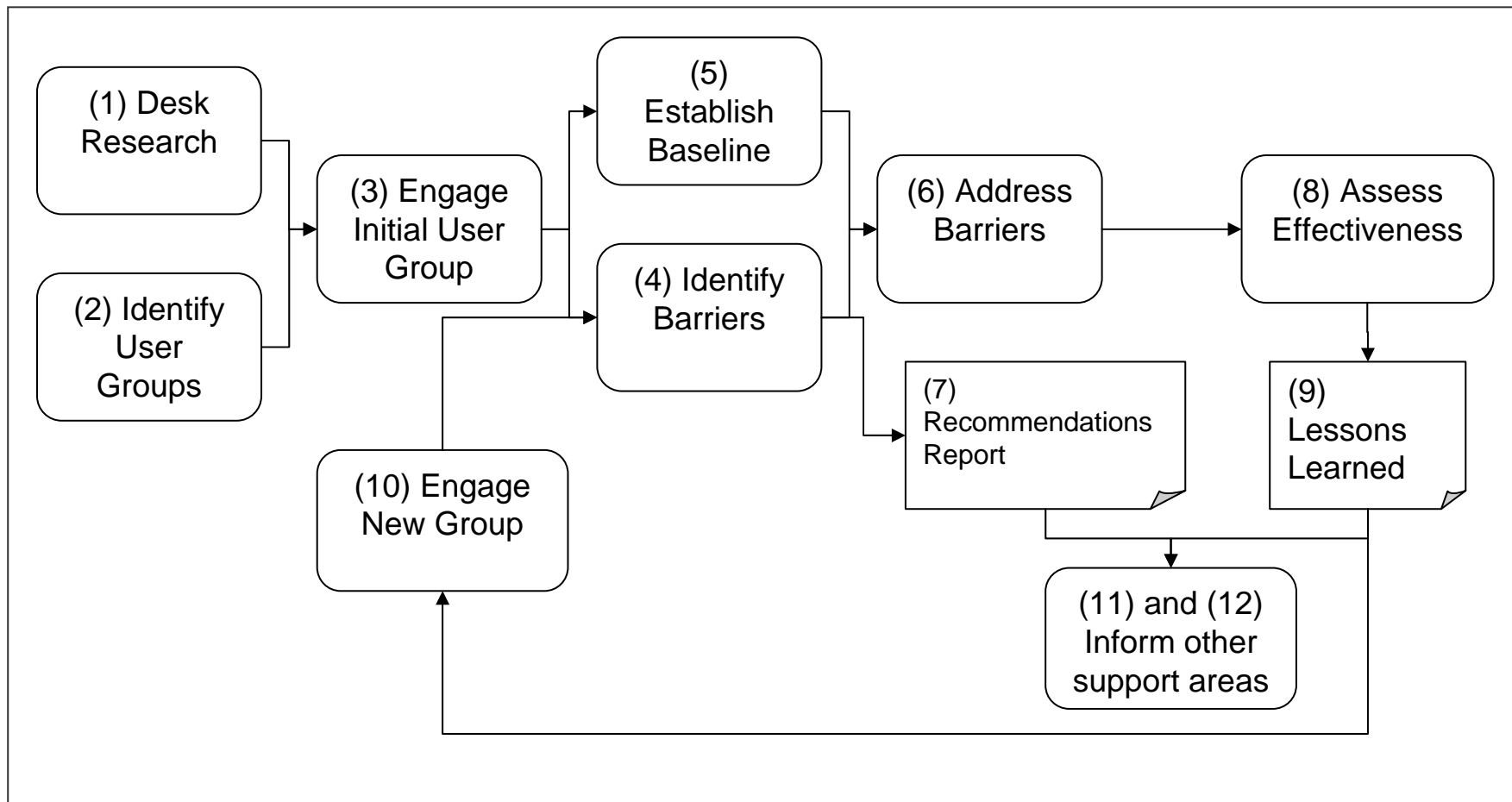
See: UK Research Councils [www.rcuk.ac.uk](http://www.rcuk.ac.uk)

- All projects must show evidence of building upon work from
  - **JISC** programmes, e.g. Virtual Research Environments (VRE), Digital Repositories, Users & Innovation
  - the UK **e-Science Core Programme** ([www.rcuk.ac.uk/escience](http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/escience)), e.g. initiatives such as the National and regional e-Science Centres and Digital Curation Centre, and e-Science research projects such as AstroGrid, Comb-e-chem, CoAKTinG, OGSA-DAI
  - **UK** developments – e.g. Office of Science and Innovation e-Infrastructure Roadmap, and Research Council activity such as the AHRC ICT Programme
  - **International** developments, e.g. Standards in the Grid community (e.g. OGF, Globus)
- Cover **3-4 of the research disciplines** (either the Arts & Humanities or Social Sciences as one area of focus)

### I. Barriers to Take-Up of e-Infrastructure Services

- 1 project
  - Project should start March 2007 and complete by end of March 2009
  - A budget of around £350,000 is available
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- A phased approach to identify barriers and to address these through research, user engagement, training and awareness-raising, and assessment, comprising :
    - Examination of barriers to take-up of a selection of existing JISC funded 'e-infrastructure services'.
    - A user requirements and assessment exercise focusing on 'early adopters' of these services

## Barriers to Take Up – Phased Approach



Project are expected to involve selected JISC-funded services:

- Access Grid Support Centre – [www.agsc.ja.net](http://www.agsc.ja.net)
- Data Centres – EDINA (<http://edina.ac.uk> ), MIMAS ([www.mimas.ac.uk](http://www.mimas.ac.uk)), UKData Archive ([www.data-archive.ac.uk/](http://www.data-archive.ac.uk/)), AHDS ([www.ahds.ac.uk](http://www.ahds.ac.uk))
- Digital Curation Centre (DCC) - [www.dcc.ac.uk](http://www.dcc.ac.uk)
- National Centre for Text Mining (NaCTEM) – [www.nactem.ac.uk](http://www.nactem.ac.uk)
- National Grid Service (NGS) – [www.ngs.ac.uk](http://www.ngs.ac.uk)
- UKERNA – [www.ja.net/about/ukerna/ukerna.html](http://www.ja.net/about/ukerna/ukerna.html)
- Viznet - <https://wiki.viznet.ac.uk/bin/view>

The work should build upon a range of relevant and core activity, for example

- JISC Projects, Programmes, and Services:
  - the Training & Awareness programme, e.g. ReDRESS - <http://redress.lancs.ac.uk> ;
  - JISC funded services and pilot services that support training, e.g. NGS - [www.ngs.ac.uk](http://www.ngs.ac.uk); UKERNA - [www.ja.net/services/training](http://www.ja.net/services/training) ; DCC – [www.dcc.ac.uk](http://www.dcc.ac.uk) ; eScience Support Centre for the Arts & Humanities – [www.ahessc.ac.uk](http://www.ahessc.ac.uk)
- Other training initiatives, e.g. NeSC - [www.nesc.ac.uk](http://www.nesc.ac.uk); NCESS - [www.ncess.ac.uk/events](http://www.ncess.ac.uk/events) ; Netskills- [www.netskills.ac.uk](http://www.netskills.ac.uk)
- Research activity in the UK, e.g. ESRC study 'Adoption of e-Research Technologies; AHDS *e-Science Scoping Study*. [www.ahds.ac.uk/e-science/e-science-scoping-study.htm](http://www.ahds.ac.uk/e-science/e-science-scoping-study.htm) )
- International developments - *Draft report of the American Council of Learned Societies' Commission on Cyberinfrastructure for Humanities and Social Sciences (2006)* - [www.acls.org/cyberinfrastructure/cyber\\_report.htm](http://www.acls.org/cyberinfrastructure/cyber_report.htm); *The UK e-Science Programme Gap Analysis* ([www.nesc.ac.uk/technical\\_papers/UKeS-2003-01/](http://www.nesc.ac.uk/technical_papers/UKeS-2003-01/))

- Active engagement with research communities
- A baseline report on the current state of user adoption in relation to e-infrastructure services;
- Workshops to identify user needs
- Evaluative training for identified early adopters
- A set of recommendations on
  - (a) what needs to be resolved in order for e-infrastructure services to be better used;
  - (b) how training can assist in overcoming barriers to adoption of e-infrastructure services
- Lessons learned

### II. Support for Research: Tools & Standards

- 1 project
  - Project should start March 2007 and complete by end of March 2009
  - A budget of around £300,000 is available
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- Provision of advice about and consolidation of technical standards and e-infrastructure tools (e.g. middleware, standard APIs, and web service protocols) that are in development and used by the research community.
    - ‘open and adopted’ standards and tools underpinning e-infrastructure systems
    - provision of unbiased recommendations for open and adopted, as well as proprietary tools (where they are known to have become adopted in the community).

The work should build upon a range of relevant and core activity, for example:

- JISC Projects, Programmes, and Services
  - TechWatch\_reports ([www.jisc.ac.uk/techwatch](http://www.jisc.ac.uk/techwatch))
  - UKOLN Standards Catalogue - <http://standards-catalogue.ukoln.ac.uk/>
  - VRE project on Standards Interoperability (eReSS – [www.hull.ac.uk/esig/eress/](http://www.hull.ac.uk/esig/eress/))
- UK research community bodies like OMII-UK ([www.omii.ac.uk](http://www.omii.ac.uk)) and internationally, such as EGEE ([www.eu-egee.org](http://www.eu-egee.org)) and Internet2 ([www.internet2.edu](http://www.internet2.edu))
- Organisations involved in the development or implementation of standards, e.g. UKOLN ([www.ukoln.ac.uk](http://www.ukoln.ac.uk)), and internationally, e.g. W3C ([www.w3.org](http://www.w3.org)) and Globus ([www.globus.org](http://www.globus.org))
- The work is also intended to inform and contribute to the JISC e-Framework ([www.e-framework.org](http://www.e-framework.org))

- An authoritative focal point that coordinates disparate information on open tools and standards
- A coordinated and centralised baseline set of resources and unbiased recommendations
- A searchable and taxonomically arranged database of e-research tools (descriptors) and standards (descriptors) and related information.
- Dissemination and engagement with relevant JISC-funded services & national organisations

### III. Use Cases and Service Usage Models (SUMS) for e-Infrastructure

- 1 project
  - Project should start March 2007 and complete by end of March 2009
  - A budget of around £300,000 is available
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- Collect use cases on working methods and practices in the use or engagement of e-infrastructure tools and technologies by the research community
  - Draw a set of SUMs to contribute to the JISC e-Framework initiative ([www.e-framework.org](http://www.e-framework.org) )
  - Undertake evaluative and comparative work in order to provide a more accurate overview of the current and new landscape of working methodologies (e.g. disciplinary comparisons of e-infrastructure component use)

This activity should build on a range of existing work, for example:

- The e-Learning reference model projects (<http://www.elframework.org/refmodels/ladie/www.elframework.org/refmodels/>) and the Information Environment Service Registry (<http://iesr.ac.uk/> )
- Disciplinary based investigations, e.g. work of the AHRC ICT Methods Network ([www.methodsnetwork.ac.uk/](http://www.methodsnetwork.ac.uk/) )

- A set of 15 or more use case scenarios
- A set of service usage models drawn from the use cases
- A report with a comparative overview and identification of common solutions, issues, and gaps drawn from the use cases

### Outcomes:

- Broader, more effective and quantifiable use of the UK e-infrastructure
- Support for new capabilities and research practices underpinned by UK e-infrastructure services and/or service functions
- Further inform directed funding and future programme development of services and tools required for effective delivery of UK e-infrastructure
- Increase in sustainable communities of use and best practice

- Questions and answers on the call

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