

## Updated Plan of Work and Spend Profile for UK GOSC/NGS

In response to the approved funding of the GOSC-2 proposal by JISC/EPSRC, the detailed workplan for the coming 2.5 years has been modified slightly as outlined below. The work package structure remains the same and only details have changed.

### Programme of Work

#### Work-Package 1: Management

Description: Running throughout the project, this work-package aims to ensure the overall co-ordination of the project including the development of a detailed work-plan; to ensure adequate liaison and reporting between the project and stakeholders including funding bodies and information resource providers. Note some "management" effort will in practice be distributed across a number of the other workpackages.

*Deliverables: Project work plans; overall project deliverables.*

#### Work-Package 2: Support Centre

Description: Frontline support to end users and partners. This will involve the provision and operation of services including, but not exclusively, the UK Certification Authority, the UK NGS/GOSC website and helpdesk service. In addition auxiliary services such as central monitoring tools, resource brokers, myproxy servers and VO management systems would be provided and maintained by the support centre. Management of the user lifecycle from user registration through user accounting and associated policing would be controlled by the support centre.

*Deliverables: operational helpdesk and specified services with performance and monitoring statistics made available.*

#### Work-Package 3: Core node deployment and operations

Description: The operation of the core service. This work package is also responsible for the specification, procurement, housing, system management and availability of the Core compute and data clusters.

*Milestones: Procure, install and commission new Core compute and data hardware at Manchester, White Rose Grid, Oxford and CCLRC by December 2006.*

*Deliverables: To operate the existing infrastructure and migrate seamlessly to the new capacity by April 2007. To meet the availability requirements as defined by the NGS/GOSC Management. Deployment plan for baseline service provision including support for user and service migration where appropriate. Gradual deployment of and support for baseline grid services (section 3 above) according to this plan (in collaboration with ETF and WP8).*

#### Work-Package 4: Resource and Partner Integration and Monitoring

Description: Integration and support for new partners through expansion of the existing "buddy" system. Extension of the integration work to include access to data from National data centres (MIMAS, EDINA and AHDS), key data resources from bio-medical and other domains and research facilities (ISIS, DIAMOND, LHC). In addition we will work with the JISC VizNET Visualization Network to integrate visualization services with the NGS.

*Deliverables: Full integration and support of up to 10 additional NGS partners and a number of affiliates, including HECtoR, a University campus grids, UK Tier-1 centre for Particle Physics, and tested interfaces to at least 3 key data sources; large facility, national data centre and institutional repository.*

### **Work-Package 5: Sustainability and business plan**

Description: Work with stakeholders and funders to understand the future development and support needs for the UK's emerging e-infrastructure. Develop appropriate plans and business models for the components of the NGS: Support Centre, Operations, core infrastructure and development. Also develop longer term partnership models taking into account the new FEC regime in UK Universities.

*Deliverables: Plans for sustainable development and support of the NGS and GOSC.*

### **Work-Package 6: Application Support**

To produce a production quality web-based portal which meets the majority of users' needs by January 2007. Thereafter, to continue to work with research community projects and with the JISC VRE programme and any follow on to ensure their effective integration with NGS.

*Deliverables: Produce an Application licensing framework and process such that licenses for licensed software meet the owner's conditions. User Support for the portal to be included in the GOSC helpdesk. To produce a portal development roadmap ensuring that the user's needs are met and that production values are maintained.*

### **Work-Package 7: Outreach, Training and User Documentation**

The provision of courses that will develop systems administrators, operations managers and security staff at the sites providing NGS nodes. To produce a sustained and high-quality programme of training events, a roadshow and presence at other discipline-centred meetings, in order to attract users and to equip them to be successful users of the NGS facilities. The development and provision of advanced courses for application developers and users in order that they are able to port or create new facilities using the NGS e-Infrastructure. The organisation and editorial framework for documents that will help such NGS users. Building on the material developed through these outreach and training programmes and on prior work, provide an easily accessed web-based resource of training and self-paced learning material. Ongoing training to support the operation of partner sites and the UK authentication framework (e.g. registration authorities).

*Deliverables: the initial set of induction courses, training material, web-based facilities and scheduled presentations will meet most users' needs by January 2007. A repertoire of high priority advanced materials meeting needs identified in a survey completed during Q4-2006, will be available by June 2007.*

### **Work-Package 8: Core service Development.**

Description: Support for critical development activities required to implement baseline and value added services on the NGS in support of work package 3. Significant stand-alone developments will not be undertaken, and where possible local modifications will be done in collaboration with the original developers. In addition, core developments to support NGS production services, such as user lifecycle support, will be carried out where they can not be contracted or negotiated with third party suppliers such as OMII.

*Deliverables: Patches and integration developments required to deploy and support baseline and value added services. NGS specific tools to support distributed user lifecycle management.*

### **Work Package 9: Road mapping**

Description: To develop and update the NGS technology and service roadmap at least annually.

*Deliverables: NGS roadmap*

### **Changes with respect to the Proposal of February 2006**

The major changes from the proposal submitted at the beginning of 2006 are listed below

1. Hardware refresh schedule has been brought forward by approximately 3 months.
2. The funds from this award dedicated to hardware refresh for the NGS core nodes has been reduced from to £1,450,000 from £2,092,000.
3. Some rebalancing of the detailed activities allocated to WP3 (core operations) and WP4 (partner monitoring).
4. Funds allocated to possible future external community projects have been removed. It is hoped that much of this functionality can be recovered through collaboration with OMII.
5. Slightly de-scoped training and partner integration. Again we hope to recover this activity through partner contributions and other opportunities.