

First e-FISCAL workshop

EGI Technical Forum 2011, Lyon, France

The e-FISCAL project held its first public workshop in conjunction with the European Grid Infrastructure Technical Forum 2011. The project used this opportunity to introduce the concept of the project and its goal of providing meaningful estimates of the costs of European e-Infrastructure

Financial specialist Professor Sandra Cohen of AUEB in Greece walked participants through the e-FISCAL survey and the methodology behind it to clarify the approach taken by the project. This was followed by a panel discussion including Per Öster of CSC in Finland and Maurice Bouwhuis of SARA in the Netherlands. The panellists, both representing e-Infrastructure centres with relatively mature cost models, commented on the survey and potential problems it might raise. General discussion including the audience, project team, panellists and senior European Commission staff covered how to encourage participation in the survey, and the difference between estimating cost and determining value of services.

The survey was also circulated during the event, and participants were asked to provide feedback, or if possible data based on it. Feedback received helped in updating the survey, making it simpler and easier to understand, as well as providing higher quality data.