Dear NESSI Community Member, this is the regular newsletter to update you on the recent developments in Technology, Policy and Society on matters relevant to NESSI.

NESSI News - December 2013

Dear NESSI Members,

2013 has been a very busy year for NESSI and many important steps have been taken.

One of the most important moments for NESSI in 2013 was the formal recognition as a European Technology Platform. NESSI is now accredited as an advisory body, being an important source for the external advice and societal engagement needed to implement Horizon 2020. Also, a NESSI Board delegation met Mr. Robert Madelin, Director General of DG Connect and discussed the objectives and main activities of the reaccredited NESSI. He clearly recognised the pervasive role of Software and Services and urged NESSI to continue play a major role in activities to create wide-ranging awareness of the vital role Software plays across sectors. NESSI will thus continue to play an active role in addressing research and innovation challenges of Europe, focusing on shaping the Horizon2020 framework to bring Europe forward in areas of Software and Services, Cloud Computing and Big Data.

In 2013, Big Data developed into an important topic for NESSI as well as for the European Union. During 2013 NESSI started to mobilise the stakeholder community from the Big Data Value Chain, an activity which will continue and intensify in 2014. NESSI also started drafting a Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) on Big Data Value and will support the launch of two consultations on Big Data Value in 2014, directed towards NESSI member as well as the broader stakeholder community. We will provide you with further details in the next edition of NESSI News.

In this edition, we would like to update you on:

- BIG DATA VALUE
- HORIZON 2020
- THE CLOUD STRATEGY
- UPCOMING EVENTS

BIG DATA VALUE – A big topic in 2013

NESSI published in January a **White Paper on Big Data** that offers a comprehensive view on technical, legal, social and market-related aspects of Big Data that have a direct impact on applications, services and software technology practices, including the opinion of the NESSI members´ community.

Ms. Neelie Kroes, Commissioner for the Digital Agenda gave **three important speeches** about Big Data Value; the Big Data revolution (March), Economic and social benefits of Big Data (May) and Big Data for Europe (November). In her speeches Ms Kroes emphasized that Big Data means growth opportunities for the European economy and society. She highlighted that knowledge is becoming the most critical resource as the engine of our economy for which data is its fuel, mentioning the need for getting better at storing, processing and analysing the vast amounts of Data. At the same time she stressed that policy makers could support this process in several ways and called for a **European Public Partner Partnership.** This partnership could gather the relevant players (researchers, software makers, venture capitalists etc.) to energise the economy, support society and to generate jobs.

At the **European Data Forum** (EDF) in April in Dublin, Ireland, NESSI presented its White Paper on Big Data giving special attention to the position of Europe software industry and research and addressing challenges in order to enable new technical and business opportunities.

The **European Council** of 24-25 October discussed the Big Data topic and concluded that Big Data and data driven innovation have enhancing potential and that technologies build on Big Data are important enablers for productivity and better service.

At the **ICT 2013** conference in Vilnius, Lithuania, organised by the European Commission the most discussed topic was data. The aim of the conference was to bring together Europe's best in ICT research with business, web start-ups and digital strategists to plan a path for Europe´s ICT research policy. Related to Big Data and Cloud, NESSI organised two networking sessions as well as an exhibition stand. During the conference, NESSI launched the Big Data Value Manifesto and called to action both public and private organisations in Europe to set up an industry-led initiative that could help coordinate efforts to build an ecosystem that puts Europe at the forefront of Big Data innovation.

HORIZON 2020 – 7 year package approved – First calls for proposals launched

After more than two years of discussion, the EU science ministers as well as the European Parliament gave their final approval to the Horizon 2020 legislative package in their meetings in November and December. The EU's next research and innovation framework programme will start timely in January and will have a total budget of about 79 billion EUR for the next seven years. Horizon 2020 will focus on three main areas: excellent science, industrial leadership and societal challenges.

On 11 December, the European Commission has published already the first Horizon 2020 Work Programmes for 2014/15. Each programme includes a description of the respective research objectives and challenges and informs on the envisaged calls for proposals and topics. Compared with the current FP7-programme, there will be fewer calls and topics in Horizon 2020. All Work Programmes and Calls for Proposals can be found on the new Horizon 2020 Participant Portal.

ICT will be an overarching R&I-topic in Horizon 2020, covering the full range of activities ranging from high-risk, ground-breaking research to innovation projects. Attention will be given to ICT-projects in the Industrial Leadership part of Horizon 2020 (LEIT-part), with a dedicated ICT Work Programme. The allocated budget for the 2014/15 in this area will amount to 1.6 billion EUR. The ICT-Work Programme gives strong support to industrial roadmaps and innovation activities. In the next two years the focus will be on:

- A new generation of components and systems
- Advanced Computing
- Future Internet
- Content technologies and information management
- Robotics
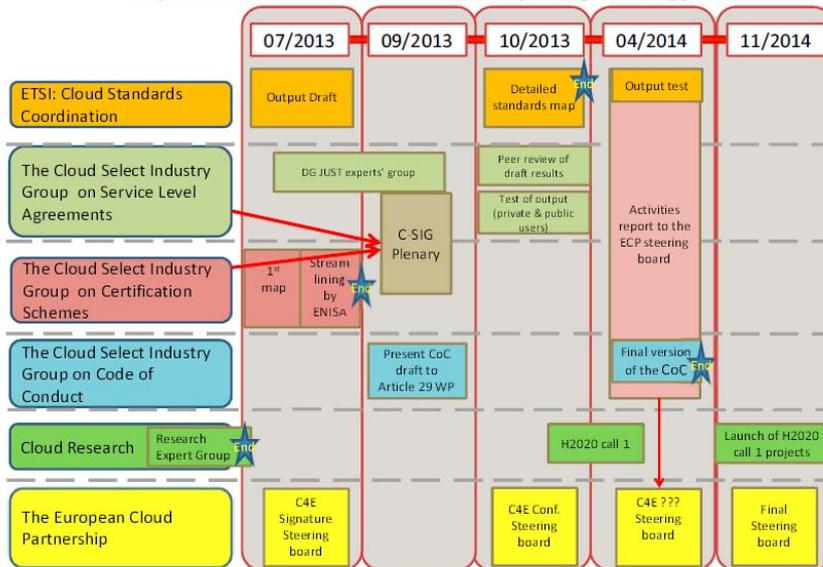- Micro- and nano-electronic technologies / Photonics

In addition, ICT will play an important role in the Societal Challenges part of Horizon 2020, as key enabling technology to address many of Europe's most pressing societal challenges in areas such as health, energy, transport, climate change and fostering secure and inclusive societies. **Further information**: MEMO on Horizon 2020.

THE CLOUD STRATEGY

The implementation of the **European Cloud Strategy** that was launched in 2012 continued also in 2013. For example, the report from ETSI on standards coordination was published on 11 December. In addition to that, on November 14, Cloud-for-Europe was launched. It will help European public authorities procure cloud products and services, thus building trust in European cloud computing as part of the European Cloud Partnership.

The implementation of the European Cloud Strategy will continue in 2014. The European Cloud Partnership (ECP) called for further harmonisation of member state´s national laws regarding location of data, ownership of digital content and transparent rules for access to data. Data portability, model contracts for public and hybrid cloud services, certification of trustworthy cloud providers are topics that continue to be discussed in 2014. With regards to Cloud security and privacy, the work by the Select Industry Group on industry code of conduct for data protection in the cloud is expected to be finalised by mid-2014. For Cloud research in H2020, there will be an information day on Future Internet on 31 January in Brussels. Please see the below overview for the activities foreseen in the upcoming year.

Implementation of the Cloud Computing Strategy

In addition, we are glad to announce that the NESSI supported project Vision Cloud was the winner of the IBC 2013 Special award. The motivation stressed the breadth of the collaboration in the project, from academic institutions to leading IT businesses and also praised the delivery of real, practical innovation in the media industry. The IBC awards programme celebrates partnerships working together to solve creative, organisational and commercial challenges, and it is clear that Vision Cloud meets that high ideal.

The Vision Cloud project, part of the European Commission's FP7 research and innovation programme, set out to bring together users, vendors and academics to develop the principles by which services and storage in the cloud can best be used for media. The consortium behind Vision Cloud contains several NESSI partners – for Engineering Ingeneria Informatica (Italy), France Telecom, IBM Haifa Research Lab, SAP and Siemens. Read more about the project here.

OUTLOOK 2014

- NESSI started to draft **Software Engineering White Paper** and is planning to organize a members consultation as well as an Software Engineering Workshop mid-2014. We will soon get back to you with further information.
- Two information and networking days with the focus on **Big Data Innovation and uptake and Big Data Research** will be organized by the EC on 15-16 January in Luxemburg.
- NESSI will support the launch of **two consultations related to Big Data value** - more information to come.
- One information day on **Future Internet**, 31 January Brussels

We hope you find this edition of NESSI News interesting and do not hesitate to contact us at office@nessi-europe.eu in case of any questions.

We finally want to thank you very much for your great support during 2013 and we wish you **a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

We look forward to further collaboration with you next year.

Best regards.

NESSI Office

Follow us on Twitter: @NESSI_ETP

Events and news in short

Upcoming events

January

15 January 2014, Brussels

H2020 Information day - Digital Security: Cybersecurity, Privacy, and Trustworthy ICT
The Unit CNECT H.4 (Trust and Security) is organizing an Information Day on its first
Horizon 2020 calls on Digital Security in 2014, both in ICT LEIT and Societal Challenge 7.

15-16 January 2014, Luxembourg

Information and networking days - data value chain and language technologies
The European Commission is organising two information and networking days to test ideas,
network with others, share ideas and experiences and possibly find partners for future joint
proposals. The event will focus on the following objectives included in the Horizon 2020
work programme 2014-2015: ICT 15 – 2014 Big data Innovation and take-up; ICT 16 –
2015 Big data-research

31 January 2014, Brussels

Horizon 2020 - Call 1 Information Day and Networking event for 'Future Internet'
The European Commission is organising an information day on Future Internet. The aim is
to provide information about fundamental changes from FP/ to H2020 as well as to show
new opportunities about this first open call for proposals in area "Future Internet" of the
'Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies' pillar. Furthermore, the objective is to
network and discover partners, to present ideas. NOTE: space is limited

February

24-25 February 2014, Brussels

Cloudscape VI - Cloud for a smart economy & smart society
This workshop is for public and private sector IT professionals who need to gain cost and
energy efficiency, help researchers accelerate discovery, provide better citizen services
and gain a competitive edge for their businesses in the global marketplace.

March

19-20 March 2014, Athens

The **European Data Forum** (EDF)
The aim is to exchange ideas among stakeholders involved in the Data Value Chain to
strengthen the European data eco-system. An important milestone will be the SRIA
presentation during the EDF.

April

24 April 2014, Brussels

ONE: Conference - Policies (R)evolution and Speeding Every European
ONE Conference facilitates the joint effort of EU partners to build links between information
networks of territorial and non-territorial cooperation for reaching the ambitious common
objectives of Europe 2020.

June 2014

17-18 June 2014, **London**

Big Data World Congress: **Discover the business value of Big Data!**
Aim of the congress is to provide a highly in-depth case for the business value in Big Data; led with practical examples, advice and evidence bringing together the pioneers and leaders of industry, science and regulation to focus uniquely on end-user applications and impacts of Big Data implementation.

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