

GLIF - Global Lambda Integrated Facility



GLIF Secretariat Sponsorship & Continuity of Funding

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Overview

- **All running costs met from voluntary sponsorship from GLIF participants**
- **22 organisations contributed amounts between EUR 500 & 10,400 for total of EUR 66,576 in 2012**
- **Probably around 60 participating organisations in GLIF**
- **Financial contributions have remained relatively stable, but balanced budget relied on subsidy from TERENA**
- **Limited success in attracting new sponsors (although PSNC added in 2012)**
- **Reserves depleted to 3 months funding (effectively 1 year's deficit)**



Problems with existing scheme

- Reserves depleted to levels that endanger continued operation of GLIF
- Limited scope for additional activities to enhance and expand GLIF
- Difficult to calculate fair methods to raise revenue if costs increase and/or sponsors drop out
- Little consistency in contributions from organisation-to-organisation
- No guidelines on who should sponsor and how much
- No tangible benefits associated with sponsorship



Revision process

- **Governance WG agreed following principles on 14 Sep 2012:**
 - **Develop more coherent sponsorship tiers**
 - **Develop guidelines as to what would be appropriate contributions for particular types of organisations**
 - **Look to increase revenue to develop range of activities**
- **New funding proposal drafted on 15 Aug 2012:**
 - **Discussed by WG Chairs and minor amendments suggested**
 - **Revised proposal circulated to existing sponsors in (early-) Sep 2012**
- **Several existing sponsors had suggested that higher contributions could be possible if more notice was provided and/or contributions were linked to a kind of membership**



Proposed new scheme

- No decision or agreement has been made yet!
- Consent of sponsors is required!



Proposed new sponsorship categories

- **International GOLE operator**
 - Critical to connecting global communities
 - Typically has 4 or more international links
- **National Lightpath operator**
 - Serving country or territory (e.g. NREN)
 - Typically runs optical exchange
- **Regional Lightpath operator**
 - Serving region of country or territory (e.g. regional R&E network)
 - May or may not operate optical exchange or have international links
- **Lightpath user**
 - University or research institute with lightpaths



Linking sponsorship categories to units

- International GOLE operator = 6 units
 - National Lightpath operator = 4 units
 - Regional Lightpath operator = 2 units
 - Lightpath user = 1 unit
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- Add up units from sponsors (currently 80 units)
 - Divide budget by total units to determine unit value
 - Unit value determines recommended contribution



Sponsorship 2013

- **Aim to collect EUR 80,000 for 2013**
 - **Cover EUR 63,300 operating budget**
 - **Allows for reduced contributions / loss of sponsors**
 - **Build up reserves**
- **EUR 80,000 ÷ 80 units = EUR 1,000 per unit**
 - **International GOLE operator = EUR 6,000**
 - **National GOLE operator = EUR 4,000**
 - **Regional GOLE operator = EUR 2,000**
 - **Lightpath user = EUR 1,000**



Caveats

- **Some sponsors fall into more than category**
 - **Note - sponsors placed in highest category in draft proposal**
- **Some sponsors don't fit into any particular category (e.g. CERN)**
- **Categories intended to be self-selecting and may be 'downgraded'**
 - **Note - if too many sponsors select lower categories, unit value may need to increase**
- **Transitional period may be required**
- **Some rebate for hosts of Global LambdaGrid Workshops may be considered**

