

# South-East European Research Area for eInfrastructure

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[www.seera-ei.eu](http://www.seera-ei.eu)

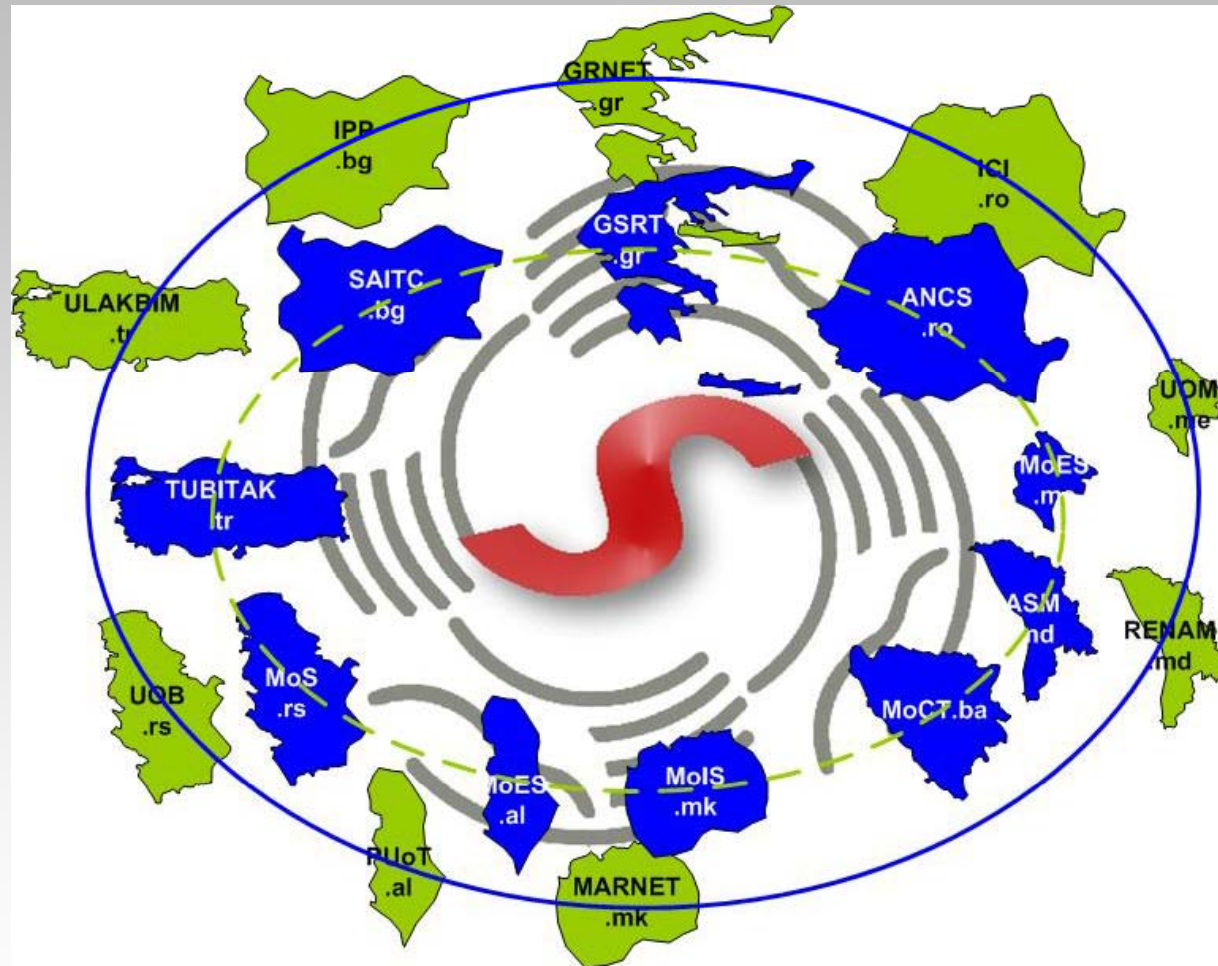
# Timeline: 6 years of close collaboration in SEE

- **SEEREN1/2:** establishing the regional inter-NRN interconnectivity and GEANT links [DGINFSO]
- **SEEGRID1/2:** building the regional Grid infrastructure within and beyond EGEE [DGINFSO]
- **SEEFIRE:** studying the feasibility of long-term solutions for dark fiber backbone in the region [DGINFSO]
- **SEELIGHT:** implementation of the lambda facility in the region [Greek HPRB]
- **SEE-GRID-SCI:** eInfrastructure for large-scale environmental science: meteorology, seismology, env. protection. Inclusion of Caucasus. [DGINFSO]
- **SEERA-EI:** regional programme managers collaboration towards common eInfrastructure vision and strategy [DGRTD]

# SEERA-EI: the project

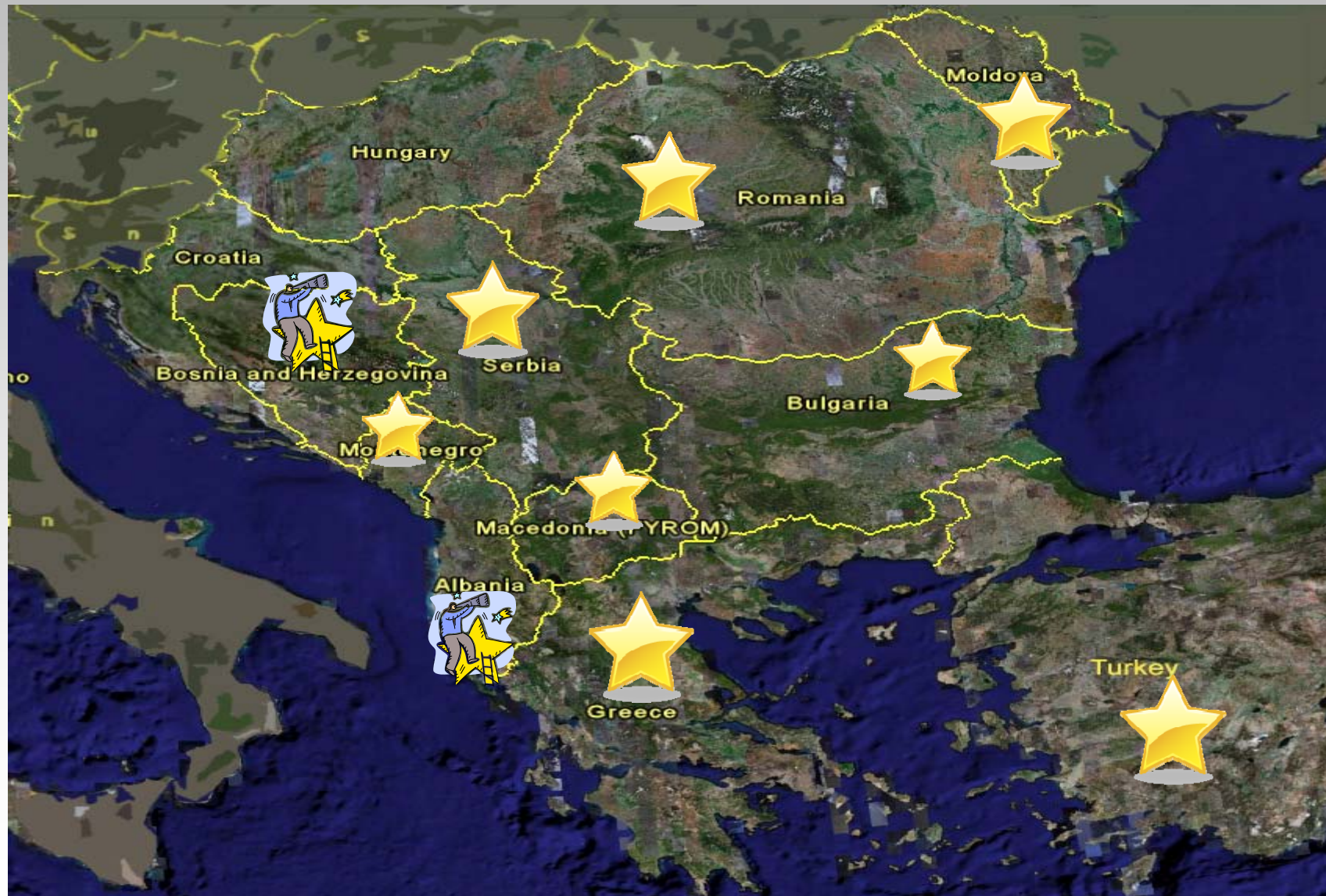
- **Area:** "INFRA-2008-3.1: ERA-NET supporting cooperation for research infrastructures in all S&T fields"
- **Start:** 1 April 2009
- **Duration:** 36 months
- **Total budget:** 2 000 000 €
- **Funding from the EC:** 1 500 000 €
- **Total funded effort, PMs:** 451
- **Contract n°:** RI-228052
- **Project type:** Coordination and support action

# SEERA-EI: partnership



Ministry partners + eInfra partners programme manager partners

# Crucial sustainability building blocks: NGI/NRN status



Stable



In development

# SEERA-EI: core objective

- Core Objective – Develop and strengthen the coordination and cooperation of national eInfrastructures programmes in the region of South-East Europe.
  - The core objective of the SEERA-EI project is to engage national key programme owners in the field of Research Infrastructures (eInfrastructures) in SEE in common dialogue and planning, to establish a sustainable and sustained communication platform, and to undertake activities targeting durable cooperation in building the common regional Research Infrastructures vision, strategy and action plan.

# Work Organisation

Work package No	Work package title	Type of activity	Lead beneficiary No	Person-months	Start month	End month
WP1	Project administrative and operational management	MGT	GRNET	17	M01	M36
WP2	Information exchange and analysis of national programmes	COORD	ROEDUNET	109	M01	M36
WP3	Identification of harmonized national activities and joint regional activities	COORD	TUBITAK	122	M12	M36
WP4	Design and implementation of joint activities	COORD	MoS-RS	127	M12	M36
WP5	Dissemination and liaison with pan-European initiatives	COORD	SAITC	76	M01	M36
	TOTAL			451		

## WP2: information exchange and analysis of national programmes

- Objectives:
- Create a human network on the level of programme owners in the region
- Promote trust building between programme managers
- Establish a **platform for exchange of information** regarding past and current national programmes in the area of eInfrastructure.
- Facilitate face-to-face meetings regarding exchange of information between programme managers
- **Gather and systemise data** regarding past and current national programmes in eInfrastructures

## WP3: Identification of harmonized national activities and joint regional activities

- Objectives:
- Produce a set of **best practices** for national eInfrastructure programme formulation and management.
- Produce recommendations for **standardized evaluation and monitoring practices**, taking into account local specificities.
- Produce a **baseline minimum specification for a national eInfrastructure programme**, flexible enough to cater for local needs
- Achieve **commitment of national programme owners** for implementation of national programmes according to guidelines identified.
- Identify potential areas for joint regional activities complementary to the national activities.

## WP4: Design and implementation of joint activities

- Objectives:
- Identify scope for international cooperation
- Implement the short term soft actions including one potential common proof-of-principle call
- Implement short-term policy-level actions
- Identify long-term actions and prepare the necessary administrative background

## WP4: short-term soft actions

- Clustering of current national-level projects and their mutual reinforcement
- Guidelines for evaluation of national programmes, including cross-evaluation
- Actual post-evaluation of national programmes
- Joint dissemination and training activities
- Short-term exchange of staff (focused on bi-lateral best-practice visits)
- Joint database of experts/advisors and regional committees.
- Stimulation of bi-lateral activities
- Collection of impact indicators. The set of impact indicators will be defined early on in the process (for example existence of the definition of common criteria for monitoring and evaluation of respective national programmes, joint activities, progress towards sustainability, etc.).

## WP4: short-term policy-level actions

- Cooperation agreements and MoUs for resource sharing, etc
- Drafting of the joint common vision and regional strategy position paper for eInfrastructures
- Investigation of European Research Infrastructures legal framework as a possible mechanism for formal legalisation of the regional eInfrastructures.
- Analysis of forecast national budgets
- Sustainability analysis, in terms of exploration of funding models for longer term
- Identification of complementary funding opportunities for the regional eInfrastructures - including accession mechanisms and NATO
- Consideration of leveraging the other branches of funding and national funds (example being the eHealth initiatives in Serbia)

## WP4: short-term policy-level actions

- Striving to put the eInfrastructures on the agendas of the ministries, aiming at results such as explicit inclusion of eInfrastructure concepts in open science calls.
- Carrying out research on the European policy level, specifically with ESFRI and eIRG.
- Consideration of appropriate mechanism for involving the regional scientists in the PRACE initiative
- Investigation of the mechanism for regional representation in EGI, eIRG and other international initiatives

## WP4: preparation of long-term actions

- Exploration of possibility of joint funding of the common initiatives (programme or actual RI) e.g. panel for Grid candidate regional applications to be run on the regional eInfrastructure, regional Grid or Network operations centre, Regional Grid Initiative, or similar.
- Drafting of the regional workprogramme / **joint action plan** to be endorsed provisionally by programme owners. This is long-term vision for lasting coordination
- Drafting of a template for pilot regional calls
- Definition of regional schemes for evaluation and monitoring of regional programme
- Estimate of potential regional budgets

## WP5: information exchange and analysis of national programmes

- Objectives:
  - A platform for PR, communication and dissemination of information about SEERA-EI, including also liaisons and SEERA-EI branding
  - Ensuring that the relevant activities in eInfrastructure programme coordination on the European level are followed in detail and contributed to significantly
  - Liaison with eIRG, ESFRI and EGI
  - Liaison with regional eInfrastructure activities
  - Organization of an open event of EU Ministries
  - General dissemination activities of project results

# Conclusions

- Research Infrastructure a core building block for new science
- Regional technical cooperation brought forward significant results and a stable, sustainable research infrastructure
- Policy-makers collaboration is envisaged to leverage these results with concrete long-term sustainable support for eInfrastructure activities in all countries in the region; as well as regional investments and programmes

**Thank you!**

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