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Historical Review

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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Mission

The NESSI mission is to develop a visionary strategy for software and services driven by a common European Research Agenda, where innovation and business strengths are reinforced by:

- Providing European Industry and the Public Sector with efficient services and software infrastructures to improve flexibility, interoperability and quality;

- Mastering complex software systems and their provision as service oriented utilities;

- Establishing the technological basis, the strategies and deployment policies to speed up the dynamics of the services eco-system;

- Developing novel technologies, strategies and deployment policies that foster openness, through the increased adoption of open standards and open source software as well as the provision of open services;

- Fostering safety, security and the well-being of citizens by means of new societal applications, enhanced efficiency of industry and administrations, and competitive jobs; hence transforming the European economy into a knowledge-based economy and enabling the European software and IT services industry to attain a stronger global position. NESSI operates in the context of a wide continuum of information and communication technologies, and envisages close collaboration with other global research initiatives.

The NESSI-SOFT FP6 Support Action supported the realization of the NESSI ETP, in collaboration with the NESSI instances (Steering committee, Board, SRA Committee and Communication Committee).

1.2 Scope

Over the next decade, every electronic device will incorporate interaction capabilities supporting the provision of services to both devices and people within continuously changing scenarios, addressing specific business needs and situations in a continuum which de-facto defines a new global system.

This new system is no longer purely computer-based, nor is it focused mainly on exchanging information. On the contrary, ICT will increasingly play a role to dynamically support the operations of businesses and the everyday life of citizens in a seamless and natural fashion.

Key properties underlying this evolution include openness, scalability, dynamicity and proactiveness, uncoordinated governance and the absence of central control, limited predictability. This evolution is mirrored by the move to distribute solutions not as single software environments but as services – an

evolution in which Europe aims to play a major role to evolve towards an Internet of Services.

It is with this shared vision that European Technology Platform NESSI was launched in September 2005. Three years later, NESSI is promoted by 22 industrial and academic partners and a community of 500 members from 300 organisations.

From its initial vision, NESSI has achieved major results:

- Elaboration of a NESSI Strategic Research Agenda;

- NEXOF concept : the NESSI Open Service Framework;

- Strategic projects identification and the design of NEXOF contribution process to gather the widest possible support towards its delivery;

- Application scenarios elaboration;

- Working groups organisation on services adoption, technology or applications.

NESSI-Soft played a major role in supporting NESSI during its foundation years from April 2006 to March 2008.

1.3 Advances

NESSI represents a major advance; it is the first time ever that industry and academia have united their forces to define a common service oriented strategy and a target delivery – NEXOF, the NESSI Open Service Framework.

From 2006 to 2008, NESSI-Soft supported NESSI's goals and ambitions and contributed to:

- *Refining NESSI's vision* – with 3 volumes of the NESSI Strategic Research Agenda, the definition of NEXOF and the NESSI movie on future scenarios.
- *Implementing the NESSI vision* – through the creation of Strategic projects
- *Linking with national* NESSI platforms across Europe
- *Creating NESSI events*
- *Moving beyond NESSI* – to reach out to the services community in the context of the Future Internet. In 2008, NESSI teamed up with four major ICT ETPs (eMobility, EPoSS, ISI and NEM) to propose ServiceWave, a new series of conferences designed as the meeting place for industry and academia. ServiceWave is also elaborated in collaboration with ICSOC, the International Conference on Service Oriented Computing.
- *Fostering participation to NESSI* – through 14 active working groups: 10 technology-focused working groups, 2 adoption working groups dedicated to the SME community and to Open Source and 2 application working groups on health and i-Government.

- *Disseminating NESSI* – over 2 years, NESSI participated to over 160 events. With a quarterly newsletter and an active information Web site, NESSI issues information not only to its 500 members but also to 1,300 active contacts.

1.4 Positioning in a global context

At the global level, the question is not whether the delivery of software is shifting towards a service oriented model, but rather *how* and *when* can this evolution be achieved to guarantee quality of service, ubiquitous operation and continuous availability. Relying on the Internet as an underlying infrastructure, the services evolution needs the Future Internet to be in line with the requirements of a service oriented economy. New alliances between traditional IT industry, telecommunication companies, mobile service providers, media corporations, suppliers of consumer electronics and search engine companies will drive the deployment of the Future Internet to enable

- Service platforms and front ends
- Virtualized service delivery and real-time multimedia
- Technology-independent standards for interoperability.
- End-to-end solutions for instant, context-aware and personalized service creation

NESSI-Soft played a key role supporting NESSI establishing collaborations with other European Technology Platforms such as eMobility and NEM.

1.5 Contribution to standardization and interoperability issues

NESSI – enabling the next wave of *interoperable* services through :
- ✓ Existing standards
- ✓ Extended standards

In an era of services, interoperability is the major goal – ensuring that services elaborated by different parties can seamlessly blend to create the environment that best fit user needs. Interoperability is a major reason why the industrial partners of NESSI teamed up, it is the guiding line that drives NEXOF's elaboration. To achieve interoperability, NESSI relies on standards. NESSI's approach is to adopt existing standards and, when needed, provide adaptation to align them better to their intended use. When, and only when, existing or evolving standards do not fulfill the required needs will NESSI promote a new standard.

NESSI-Soft supports activities of the NESSI Standards committee.

1.6 Target users / sectors in business and society

NESSI – enabling the next wave of services for
- ✓ Service and software developers

    ✓ System integrators

    ✓ End users

    ✓ Private corporations

    ✓ Public administrations

NESSI's ultimate goal is to enable the next wave of services, providing NEXOF to free service developers and integrators from constraints linked to identification, security, interoperability, quality, privacy etc. Target sectors range from public health, government and educational services to energy, transport, skills and mass services to individual users. Beyond the transformation of existing domains, NESSI foresees the emergence of new applications born from the exchanges between currently disconnected areas. Therefore, target users of NEXOF include software and application developers, systems integrators, technology and service providers, as well as private and public end-users.

1.7 Overall Benefits for business and society

NESSI – enabling the next wave of services to ensure

    ✓ Faster time to market

    ✓ Protection of mid and long term investment

    ✓ Independence from a single provider

    ✓ Increased competitiveness of the Software and Services European economy

Service providers, whether SMEs or large organisations, will benefit from *faster time to market* of new services through service infrastructures that offer industrial grade quality.

For public and private corporate users, the availability of NEXOF compliant infrastructures will provide a guarantee of current and future interoperability, independence from a single provider with backing of the industrial community as a whole. In other words *protecting their investments.*

1.8 Business Scenarios

In NESSI's vision, the service approach coupled to service infrastructures such as NEXOF helps overcome existing limitations linked to incompatible databases, remote access to private information, security and privacy issues that hinder exchange of information etc. Scenarios of the future bring the service level beyond single corporations or administrations and open the door to end user personalization.

1.9 NESSI-Soft Achievements

NESSI-Soft has

- At content level

    o delivered 3 volumes of the NESSI Strategic Research Agenda;
    o defined NEXOF - the NESSI Open Service Framework;

- o initiated the NESSI research structure and Strategic Projects;
  - o defined user scenarios and the user strategy;

- At community level

  - o established the NESSI Office;
  - o managed the open membership process;
  - o supported the creation of 15 Working Groups and Committees;

- At visibility level

  - o organised 3 major NESSI events;
  - o participated to 160 events;
  - o created the NESSI Scenarios movie and the 2007 Interactive DVD;
  - o distributed 7 newsletters and 10 information flyers;
  - o implemented Web and Wiki support.

These achievements are detailed in section 3 of this document.

NESSI-Soft contributed to NESSI's implementation during its founding years from 2006 to 2008.

The logo "contributing to NESSI" was devised during those years, highlighting how the NESSI ETP aims to build on a service community that is

✓ **Involved**

✓**Interested**

✓**Participative**

✓**Ready to deliver**

Read on to discover in more details how NESSI-Soft contributed to NESSI.

2 THE NESSI HOLISTIC MODEL

From its initial mission and vision, NESSI identified major research challenges to be addressed, in order to move closer to creating the "Internet of Services". These are:

- Interaction with the service which is: permanent (always available), seamless (available through all modes of communication), transparent (hiding the details of the technology) trustworthy (confidence that the service can be relied upon), and adaptable across a wide range of applications.

- Management of services in a world which is open, dynamic, without centralised governance, and behaves in an unpredictable manner. This includes all the aspects of lifecycle management: operational management, service design, service development and deployment, and service delivery assurance.
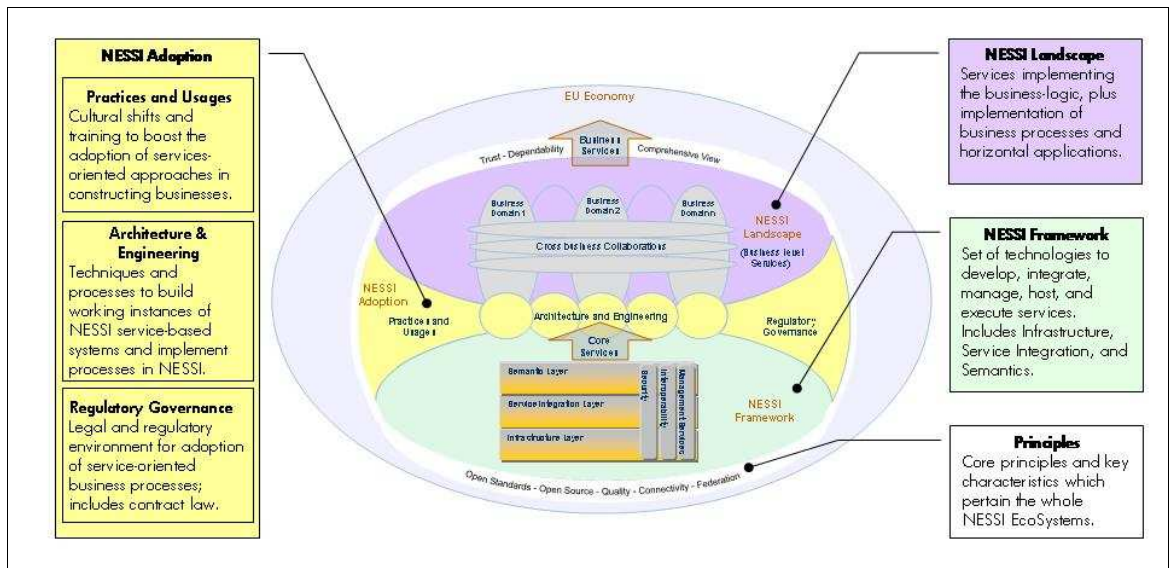
To fully succeed, technology research cannot be performed without a clear understanding of the evolution of the applications serving business needs in real contexts. European society challenges that attract major research and development efforts are health and government, but other sectors such as transport and mobility or energy efficiency show that the list can well be extended and that service technologies are indeed fundamentally impacting many applied areas. NESSI SRA recommendation is:

- to address these challenges in a multi-facetted way through technology research, development and integration as well as research on holistic service systems and their influence factors, research on the user perspective and finally explorative large-scale and long-term test-bed activities that will drive a new quality of European services enabled by ICT.

Transforming the Internet into services requires more than technology; this challenge can only be achieved through a balanced approach addressing simultaneously all angles of this transformation. NESSI models this transformation through a holistic view, in the context of an all-inclusive ecosystem in which the new economic models are developed. This view highlights the following areas:

- NESSI Framework ("NESSI Core"): Software, ICT Architectures and ICT Infrastructures where data evolves into knowledge, and which helps humans coordinate the execution of complex tasks. This focuses on facilitating a cost-effective provisioning and seamless composition of services, supporting pervasive and ubiquitous application scenarios.

- NESSI Adoption ("The Art of NESSI"): Socio-economic, human capital, public policy, and scientific foundations of the transformation to a European services economy, tightly coupled with the technology engineered in the NESSI Framework.

- NESSI Landscape ("Powered by NESSI"): Business services and business processes implemented and deployed using the technology defined in the NESSI Framework, leveraging the socio-economic models defined in the NESSI Adoption.

NESSI Holistic View

3   NESSI-SOFT ACHIEVEMENTS

3.1 Presentation

During the project lifetime, NESSI-SOFT partners supported NESSI in its goal to implement the initial vision using a tool which was new for most of us: a European Technology Platform.

The achievements accomplished over the lifetime of NESSI-Soft are encouraging in the effectiveness of the ETP model. These include

- The definition of the global ETP strategy : why are the partners collaborating, what is the overall need, what is the industrial and academic interest to contribute? Refer to the NESSI vision

- SRA elaboration: what are we going to deliver, why and to what extent? Refer to the NESSI SRA volumes.

- SRA implementation: how are we going to deliver the SRA proposal? Refer to the NESSI Open Service Framework – NEXOF – description and the NESSI research structure.

- NESSI adoption: what are we going to do to ensure that NESSI's approach is adopted by a majority of ICT stakeholders and to the benefits of the users? How do we support collaboration across Europe and beyond? Refer to the user strategy, to the adoption activities in SMEs and Open Source, to the links established with national NESSI platforms

Activities are performed by:
- NESSI Committees and Working groups
- Supported by the NESSI-Soft Partners and the NESSI Office

3.2 Refining NESSI's vision and Strategy

NESSI global strategy has been elaborated by the Board and the Steering Committees. Position papers on research and European Software Industry were also issued under their umbrella:

- Strategic orientation: ERA position paper,
- ETP position paper on Future Internet ,
- European Software Strategy

All these papers based their content on the 3 volumes of the NESSI Strategic Research Agenda, the definition of NEXOF and the NESSI movie on future scenarios.

These activities in turn were realised as direct result of the NESSI Community, over the NESSI-Soft lifetime and with its complete support.

In more details, these community activities led to the

- Delivery of the NESSI SRA Volume 1 in 2006 – framing the context of the service economy, which introduced the NESSI holistic model

- Delivery of the NESSI SRA Vol.3 FP7-1 NESSI input for FP7 WP 2007-2008 to the EC on 07/2006. Issued in multiple issues, volume 3 focuses on short, mid and long term roadmaps. This release focused on on contribution to the FP7 work programmed for 2007-2008.

- Delivery of the NESSI SRA Volume 2 "Strategy to Build NESSI" at the NESSI GA of December 2007, which introduced NEXOF and the open contribution model. The draft released in December 2007 was followed by a final version in March 2008.

- Delivery of the NESSI SRA Vol. 3.FP7-2.exec - NESSI input for FP7 – WP 2009-2010 to the EC. on 02/2008. This second release focused on contribution to the FP7 Work Programme for 2009-2010.

- Enlargement of NESSI Community through involvement of not only NESSI Strategic Projects awarded at FP7 Call 1 (NEXOF-RA, RESERVOIR, SLA@SOI, SOA4ALL, MASTER, EzWeb) but also other projects interested to join (e.g. PRIMELIFE and/or TAS3 in ICT Security field),

- Advancement of "Open Service Framework" (NESSI visionary) concept

- Continuous support to and coordination of NESSI Working Groups (as a permanent mission) especially from the specific viewpoint of directing and aligning their contributions to better support SRA Committee in its tasks (mainly directed towards production of final release of SRA).

3.3 Implementing and deploying the NESSI vision

The most important focus of NESSI is the delivery of NEXOF, the NESSI Open Service Framework. The framework includes many different areas, which are defined in the successive volumes of the SRA, with

- The NEXOF concept

- The Research structure

- Projects ideas

- Project collaboration

Research projects will contribute to NESSI strategy implementation, with the following already existing as of June 2008:

- 6 NESSI Strategic Projects: EzWeb, Master, NEXOF-RA, Reservoir, SOA4ALL, SLA@SOI.

- 3 NESSI Compliant Projects: TAS3, Compas, PrimeLife2.

- 3 Support Actions: NESSI-Soft, NESSI-Grid, NESSI-2010

- 1 Network of Excellence: S-Cube (outside of NESSI but has established close cooperation)

The research structure that NESSI defined gives a clear framework to the research projects:

	Role	Output	Recommended Consortia
Strategic Projects (NSP)	Main innovation: Implement coherence of NESSI Reference architecture in specific or cross-cutting areas with advances of state of the art Critical to the success of NESSI Designed to tackle a large scope while minimizing risks	Major contributions to NEXOF with compliance to principles of open source, open standards Active support to the operation of the NESSI Working Group structure	Partner leadership and commitment Working Group members
Compliant Projects (NCtP)	Designed in compliance with the NESSI vision and Strategic Research Agenda Compliance is self-assessed by consortium through proposed check list available on Web site. NESSI does not intervene in the filling in of the proposed check-list which is left to the sole responsibility of each consortium, company or research institute.	No obligation but optionally, selection from one of the following: Contribution to NEXOF (if included, should be compliant with rules of open source, open standards) Contribution to a commercial implementation of NEXOF Validation / demonstrator of a NEXOF implementation in a focused application area	No recommendation

NESSI-Soft

- *contributed to the elaboration of the NESSI research structure*
- *ensured its dissemination*
- *maintained a link with the project communication representatives to ensure the information flow*
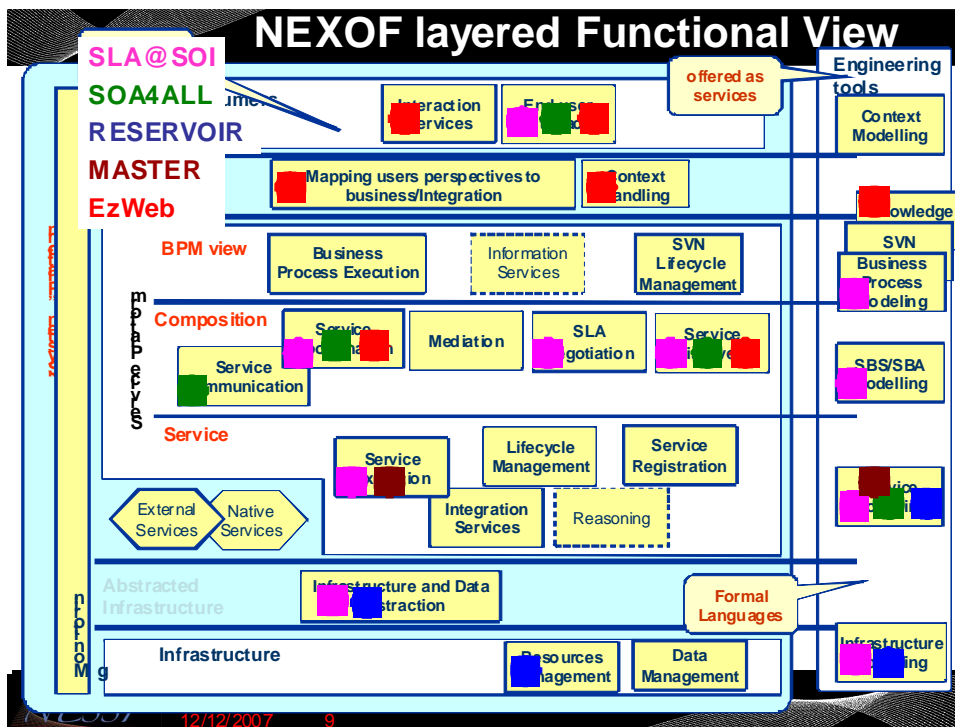
3.4 NEXOF & NESSI Strategic Projects

The NEXOF framework is built through an open contribution model, managed for the years 2008 and 2009 by NEXOF-RA, an FP7 IP project.

Contributions come from many sources, including the NESSI Strategic Projects which deliver key elements of NEXOF. In this context, the most important technology areas are: Trust, Security, Dependability; Service Oriented Infrastructure and SLA management framework; Semantic web Services, Context management, Front end access, service composition.

NESSI vision is being implemented through the creation of Strategic projects which address research areas identified by the NESSI SRA;

Project contribution map the NEXOF functional View

3.5 The role of NEXOF-RA

Beyond the initial role played by NESSI-Soft, the operational collaboration between NESSI Strategic and Compliant projects will be managed and animated by NEXOF-RA, the NESSI Strategic project dedicated to defining and delivering the NEXOF Reference Architecture.

NEXOF, NESSI Open Service Framework, is an integrated, consistent and coherent set of technologies and associated methods and tools intended to:

- provide European Industry and the Public Sector with efficient services and software infrastructures to improve flexibility, interoperability and quality;

- master complex software systems and their provision as service oriented utilities;

- establish the technological basis, the strategies and deployment policies to speed up the dynamics of the services eco-system;

- develop novel technologies, strategies and deployment policies that foster openness, through the increased adoption of open standards and open source software as well as the provision of open services;

- foster safety, security and the well-being of citizens by means of new societal applications, enhanced efficiency of industry and administrations, and competitive jobs.

- The overall ambition of the NEXOF project is to deliver a coherent and consistent open service framework, ranging from the infrastructure up to the interfaces with the end users, leveraging research in the area of service-based systems to consolidate and trigger innovation in service-oriented economies. Moreover, NEXOF will be domain independent and will be accompanied with a sound methodology and tools to be properly instantiated into a broad range of application domains by a number of end-user communities (including Large, Medium and Small enterprise) on different technologies.

- NEXOF-RA, which means NEXOF reference architecture, is the first phase of this strategic and challenging project. It aims at elaborating an open framework reference architecture fostering and organising collaboration between NESSI projects either Strategic or Compliant.

The deployment strategy is based on the setting up of a pan European infrastructure network linking different laboratories, enabling the testing and validation of compliance to NEXOF on the one hand and the deployment and validation of NEXOF through scenarios. This proposal is not currently implemented but should be worked on in the coming 2 years.

3.6 Adoption

From the start, NESSI's vision included adoption as a major activity for NESSI. It was clearly introduced in the NESSI Holistic model, and NESSI-Soft has supported adoption activities throughout its lifetime.

The adoption strategy first identified the pillars, then moved on to implementation.

3.6.1 Adoption strategy

The "Adoption strategy" pillars include:

- Elaborating Scenarios that drive research to innovation and setting up User communities in key application domains

- Aligning European and National research programmes to gain critical mass and speed, avoiding duplication while creating synergies.

- Promoting standards

- Reinforcing participation and adoption in the ICT industry through SME and Open source software communities involvement

- Developing synergies with other ICT industry domains such as telecommunication networks, mobility, multimedia and content to find common ground for innovation

3.6.2 Adoption Strategy implementation

During its lifetime, NESSI-Soft supported the adoption strategy by

- The Scenarios elaboration in 2006 which led to the NESSI Scenarios of the Future movie released in February 2007,

- The user strategy development initiated in 2007,

- The ICT ETPs joint activities initiated in 2006 and reinforced in 2008

- The continuous links set up with national NESSI and other service related platforms

In addition to this direct support, Committees and Working Groups have been and will continue to be set up in order to implement the Strategy, including:

- Standardisation Committee (2007) and Open Source Working group (2008) target standardisation and a very lively community of software developers in Europe. Standardisation tasks were included in the NEXOF-RA NESSI Strategic project.

- SME Working Group to ensure that SMEs benefit from the research results as quickly as possible in order to reduce the innovation time to market. SME tasks were included in the new NESSI 2010 support action and in the NEXOF-RA NESSI Strategic project.

- Application domains working groups - iGovernment and eHealth – to enforce the alignment of NESSI activities to market needs. .

The ETP ICTs collaboration include:

- Meetings in 2006 and 2007 with eMobility, EPoSS, ISI and NEM

- creation of two Working Groups: one WG defining a common vision for Future Internet, one WG analysing the possibility of creating a common JTI on the topic of Future Internet in 2008

- Common information booth and session proposed at ICT 2008

- Future Internet session during the 2008 ServiceWave conference that is organised in cooperation with all ETPs (December 2008)

- Collaborating in participation to Future Internet Assembly activities

- Initial plan to define common research proposals for Call 4 and Call 5 under FP7

Collaboration with national platforms include:

- The creation of 7 National NESSI platforms with similar structure and vision to NESSI in Bulgaria, Hungary, Norway, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia and Spain. New platforms are under way such as the Italian national platform.

- Many of the national actors participating in those national platforms are also part of NESSI, facilitating the exchange of information.

- NESSI documents are being distributed to all those national platforms and adopted as reference documents for them. For example, the program Jacquard is the national pendant of NESSI. In the Netherlands a structure of ICT Innovation Platforms has been created, modelled to the ETP set-up.

- NESSI GA 2007 incorporated a session on national and international collaborations where national platforms presented their latest advances.

In the following phases, depending on the outcomes of the NESSI strategic plan, NESSI partners intend to expand they efforts towards

- European Regional and National research clusters as well as International Cooperation

- Other application domains such as Energy, Transport, Manufacturing, Mega services over the Internet...

3.7 Disseminating NESSI

The dissemination and communication activities achieved major results. All communication activities were implemented with the support of NESSI-Soft.

 Starting from a communication and dissemination strategy approved annually by the NESSI Steering Committee, *NESSI-Soft supported NESSI* in

- organizing major NESSI events, including

  - o NESSI Office inauguration and launch of NESSI Movies on scenarios of the future

  - o NESSI 2006 General Assembly on 8th June 2006. It was an important step to enlarge partnership and launch the creation of Horizontal Working Groups (technology)

  - o NESSI 2007 General Assembly on 11th and 12th December 2007 which gave a clear view of NESSI strategy and implementation.

- advertising the SRA and the supporting NESSI research organisation / open contribution model

- supporting the organisation of the Future Internet Assembly promoted by the European Commission through meetings and events such as the Bled conference of April 2008. At this event, NESSI operated an information booth and co-organised a working session dedicated to services

- participating to over 160 events over 2 years.

- designing and publishing quarterly newsletters and providing online an active information Web site. NESSI issues information not only to its 500 members but also to 1,300 active contacts.

- designing and publishing 6 NESSI Strategic and Compliant Projects posters (EzWeb, NESSI-2010, NEXOF-RA, Primelife, Reservoir, SLA@SOI)

During 2008, NESSI will actively participate to the ICT conference in Lyon as well as launch a new series of conference focused on services. The first edition, ServiceWave 2008, will take place in Madrid in December 2008 (10 to 13), immediately after the Future Internet Assembly event organised by the European Commission in the same premises on 9th and morning of the 10th of December 2008.

ServiceWave is organised by NESSI in collaboration with

- four major ICT ETPs (eMobility, EPoSS, ISI and NEM) to propose ServiceWave, a new series of conferences designed as the meeting place for industry and academia.

- ServiceWave is also elaborated in collaboration with ICSOC, the International Conference on Service Oriented Computing.

- To reach out to the services community in the context of the Future Internet, ServiceWave 2008 will include a scientific track, industrial panels, common ETP sessions on Future Internet and working meetings

NESSI-Soft supported the elaboration of ServiceWave, a task that is continued by the new NESSI-2010 support action.

3.8 Fostering participation to NESSI through WGs or committees

The NESSI community participates actively to the implementation of the NESSI vision through Committees and Working Groups, which belong to one of the following categories:

Extensions of the Steering Committee

- SRA committee

- Future Internet Committee

- Strategy & Communication Committee

Vertical (application domains) area

- E health working group

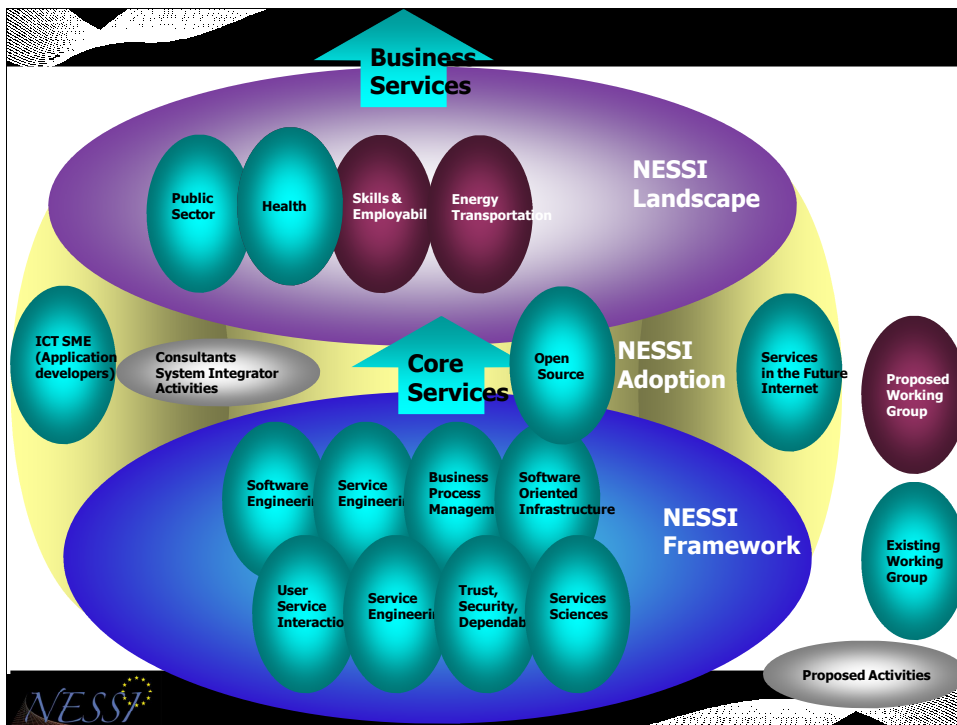- iGovernment working group

Adoption area

- SME working group

- Open Source working group

- Standardization Committee

- Future Internet Committee

Horizontal Area (NESSI framework)

- Service-Oriented Infrastructure

- Service Engineering

- Software Engineering

- Business Process Management

- User Service Interaction

- Semantic Technology

- Trust, Security and Dependability

- Services Sciences

Working Groups map

The Working Groups and Committees contribute to specific activities of NESSI. For instance,

- Early 2006, committees worked on SRA Volume 1 and Volume 3 (contribution to the WP 2007-2008).

- End of 2006, all SRA Committee and Vertical Working Groups had been created and worked on NEXOF concept and projects ideas.

- In 2007, all the teams worked on the Implementation of the SRA plan, project ideas and elaboration until September 2007 followed by the start of the NEXOF collaboration process.

- Between May2007 and March 2008 Committees and horizontal Working Groups contributed to SRA volume 2 and Volume 3.

Meanwhile concertation or collaboration activities have been launched under the aegis of the EC between FP7 projects about:

- The Future of Internet Initiative

- Collaboration between FP7 Challenge 1.2 projects.

All Committees and Working Groups activities were supported by NESSI-Soft in terms of launch and the creation of their manifestos,communication & dissemination, external visibility during events.

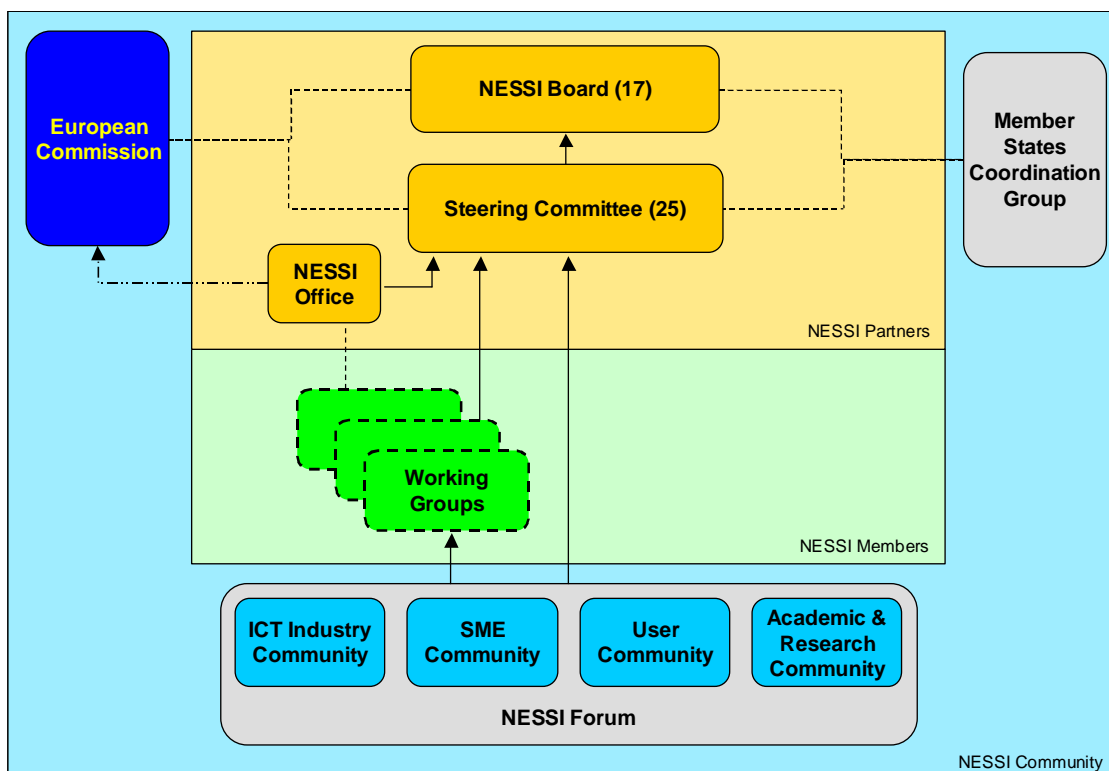## 3.9 NESSI – an organised platform with a structured governance

3.9.1 Overview

NESSI, the Networked European Software and Services Initiative, was launched in September 2005 by 13 companies and enlarged to 22 partners and 300 members Q1 2008.

NESSI is led by industrial partners and aims at **uniting all stakeholders** from research and industry around the creation of the NESSI Framework.

In this context, NESSI-Soft

- o provided NESSI with the necessary organizational, administrative and secretarial support,
- o actively assisted NESSI in the implementation of its mission and achievement of its goals,
- o created the NESSI Office support structure
- o elaborated the financial funding model of NESSI

To steer the ETP, NESSI partners set up a Board, a Steering Committee and a comprehensive Governance model. Partners also created the NESSI Office whose goals are to provide NESSI with administrative, logistics, secretarial and organisational support.

NESSI is driven by the NESSI Board, which is the highest committee level and which meets twice a year.

Platform operations are further refined by the NESSI Steering Committee which meets every 4 to 6 weeks. In addition, specific committees (SRA, Future Internet, Standardisation, and Strategy & Communication) focus on specific topics in close collaboration with the NESSI Steering Committee.

3.9.2 NESSI Office – The central NESSI support organisation

The NESSI Office was set up in Brussels and has been operating since July 2006. The NESSI Office provides a central point to support and inform all NESSI members and interested parties. It covers the entire NESSI initiative, and handles many activities key to sustaining the momentum of the NESSI Communities and their coordination including:

- Providing central, updated and timely information to all, using and providing Web site, mailing lists robots, wikis.

- Managing Membership and partnership process: Handling the membership process, through an end-to-end procedure

- Supporting Committee and working groups: Coordinating the information flow between NESSI entities, from Working Groups to Committees and between the different on-going research areas

- Supporting the Board and Steering Committee: Preparing background information to the NESSI Board and Steering Committee to allow these bodies to take well informed decisions

- Contributing to Communication tasks: Organising NESSI events, participating to external events, supporting design, printing flyers...

- Providing logistics services (meeting hosting, IT services)

The NESSI Office offers a whole range of services which are defined according to available resources provided by NESSI-Soft, by the NESSI partners and aligned to instructions given by the Board. Since 2006, an Office Assessment has been performed using the results of a probe, Key Performance Indicators and, for the final report, a budget critical analysis.

IT services are provided through a web site, mailing lists and a WIKI.

3.10 Funding model

The Platform is funded by industrials partners and supported by support actions NESSI-Soft (until March 2008), NESSI-Grid (until November 2008) and NESSI-2010 (from April 2008 to March 2010)

- In 2006 and 2007, Industrial Partners financed their participation on a shared flat fee basis.

- For 2008 and 2009, the financial model is still being analysed.

- For 2006 to 2010, NESSI partners are in addition actively investing human resources for common activities such as operation of NESSI Office, dissemination activities (events, flyers, IT infrastructure, newsletters etc), interlinking (national platforms) etc. These partners receive funding from the NESSI SSAs NESSI-SOFT and NESSI GRID and since April 2008 from NESSI-2010.

- No membership fee is requested

4   LIST OF NESSI-SOFT PARTNERS AND MEMBERS

4.1 Membership

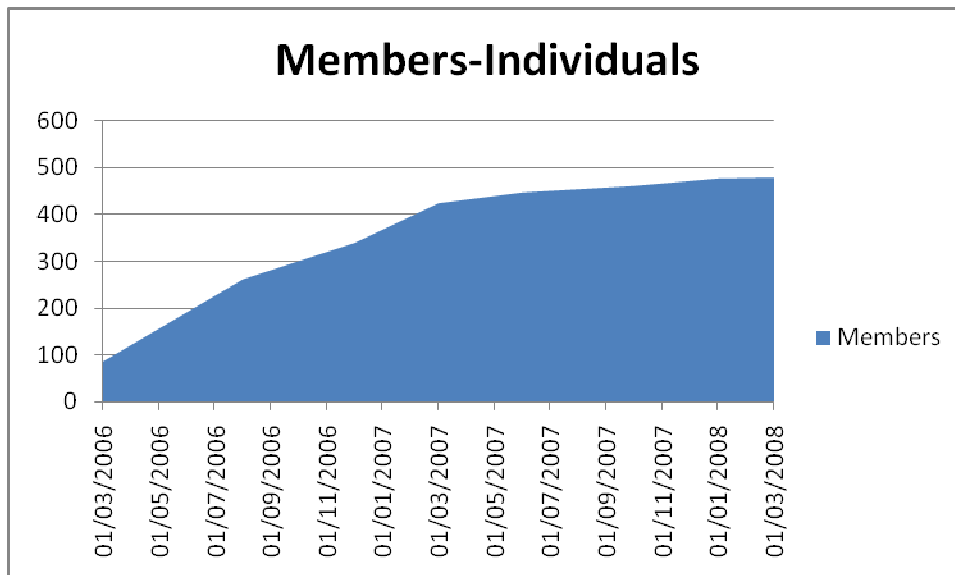As of March 2008, 500 individuals from 296 member organisations contributed to NESSI

Registered Member organisations	295
Pending Registrations	1

ICT	61
SME	66
Academics	156
Users	12

The evolution of membership since 2006 shows a steep increase until beginning of 2007, and a continuous but steady increase since then.

The list organisations which are NESSI member is given on the Web site and is regularly updated at http://www.nessi-europe.eu/Nessi/Aboutus/Members/MembersList/tabid/165/Default.aspx.

It is also interesting to show the evolution of the number of individuals (500 persons in 2008) who wish to participate to NESSI.

4.2 Partnership

The list of NESSI Partner companies and organisations is available on the web site: http://www.nessi-europe.eu/Nessi/Aboutus/Partners/PartnersList/tabid/161/Default.aspx

NESSI currently counts 22 partners. No major change occurred in the last period. New Steering Committee Chair election is foreseen by the end of 2008.

A reinforcement of Academics participation in the Steering Committee is still currently being analysed.

Alcatel-Lucent
Atos Origin SAE
British Telecom
Engineering Ingegneria Informatica
Fraunhofer Institute for Algorithms and Scientific Computing
Hewlett Packard
OW2
IBM
Lero
LogicaCMG Plc.
Mo.M.A. - Modelli Matematici e Applicazioni
Nokia
RODAN SYSTEMS S.A.
SAP
Siemens
Software AG
Sun Microsystems
Telecom Italia
Telefónica Investigación y Desarrollo S.A.U.
THALES
TIE
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

5 THE WAY FORWARD

While NESSI-Soft provided key support to NESSI, NESSI does not end with NESSI-Soft. The platform has elaborated its major steps for the coming years. These activities will be supported

a) by the industrial partners

b) through the support actions NESSI-2010 and NESSI-Grid

c) through the NESSI Strategic Projects

d) through any contributing project, as defined by the open contribution model

The major steps for NESSI over the coming years

a) the elaboration and the delivery of NEXOF and the management of the open contribution model;

b) the investigation of the adoption barriers in terms of services, at the legal, infrastructure and systemic levels;

c) the creation of additional scenarios to validate NEXOF through real-life approaches;

d) the effective linkage with user communities, specifically in the areas of iGovernment and health, with additional areas under analysis such as energy, transport, skills and learning;

e) the collaboration with the other ICT ETPs.

More specifically, in 2008 and 2009, already identified activities include

- the Future Internet Initiative

  o NESSI ETP is working with ICT ETPs eMobility, EPoSS, ISI and NEM to define a common research agenda and proposal for implementation of the Future Internet. The 5 ETPs and, in a second phase, interested companies will analyse the possibility to create a JTI as tool to build critical mass and impact on that challenge.

  o NESSI projects are involved in the Future Internet Assembly and cooperate with projects from different technical domains. NESSI will continue to work, as much as possible, in a coordinated way through NEXOF-RA for better collaboration to deliver the NESSI Service Open Framework.

- SRA elaboration. SRA elaboration will be planned in relation with the NEXOF outcomes and the emergence of new approaches such as Future Internet Initiatives.

- SRA implementation

  o Collaboration between projects under the NEXOF-RA plan

  o Collaboration between FP7-Challenge 1.2 projects and Future Internet Assembly projects

- o Gap analysis and new research opportunities to create Strategic Projects for FP7 – Calls 4 and 5
- o Execute NESSI Strategic projects

- ETP organisation and logistics.
  - o Finalise the funding model for 2008 and 2009
  - o Support the creation of a legal entity which will take over the NESSI Office.
  - o Create a funding model applicable to the new set of NESSI projects that should start in 2010 and 2011

- Adoption Strategy
  - o Implementation of the User Strategy
  - o Future Internet strategy implementation
  - o SMEs involvement in FP7 Calls 4 and 5
  - o Cooperation with member states and National Platforms
  - o International cooperation
  - o Open Source Community involvement

- Dissemination
  - o Continue to build up NESSI's image and role
  - o Create the new service conference ServiceWave of which the 1st edition is organised in December 2008 in collaboration with ETPs eMobility, EPoSS, ISI and NEM, Networks of Excellence CoreGrid and S-Cube, Support Actions EIFFEL, 4NEM and NESSI 2010, IEEE and ICSOC.

6 AVAILABILITY OF RESULTS

- All public documents are available on the NESSI web site. This includes the SRA volumes, the Holistic Model flyers, the newsletters, the presentations delivered at NESSI events etc.

- The two NESSI DVDs are available on request at the NESSI Office (NESSI Movie and Interactive NESSI 2007 GA)

- Printed copies of the NESSI flyers and newsletters are available on request at the NESSI Office (not all newsletters are printed).

7   CONCLUSION

NESSI-Soft supported NESSI during a period where

✓ *it grew from 13 partners to 500 members and 22 partners*

✓ *it created a fully fledged governance*

✓*it organized the NESSI Community through 15 working groups and committees*

✓ *it defined its key delivery, NEXOF the NESSI Open Service Framework*

✓ *it created the new service conferences - ServiceWave*

NESSI has the vision, the organization, the research challenges and the ultimate result – watch NESSI develop.

www.servicewave.eu

www.nessi-europe.eu