



Procurement Innovation for Cloud Services in Europe



The delivery of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) services is changing fundamentally. **Cloud-based services are replacing traditional local - or on-premises - software and infrastructure installations for many public sector organisations.**

This applies to government but also to **public research organisations, including libraries**, which currently deal with the outburst of big data and the need for additional computing capacity.

While technology service options continue to evolve, procurement processes and policies have remained firmly rooted in historical practices that are no longer effective.

In order for public research organisations of all sizes to take advantage of the best solutions the market has to offer nowadays, a more flexible and agile procurement process must be created and implemented.

Bringing innovation to how cloud service are procured in Europe

PICSE - A European Procurers' Platform

The main goal of PICSE is to set up a European Procurers' Platform capable of raising the level of understanding in issues related to the procurement of cloud services. Based on an initial set of use cases from the science domain, this unique repository of information will support a network of procurers, promote the cloud services market and help procurers understand the implications of the work being achieved under the cloud computing strategy.

The road to PICSE

PICSE arose from the outcome of the Helix Nebula initiative, of which all three PICSE partners (CERN as the Coordinator, CSA & Trust-IT Services) are members. The work achieved by the Helix Nebula initiative during its two-year pilot phase has shown that cloud services are suitable for scientific workloads performed by public research organisations. And these are now prepared to consider procuring commercial cloud services on a significant scale.

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TOP FIVE OBJECTIVES

1. Set up a European Procurers' Platform
2. Make the procurement model for cloud services simpler
3. Provide a range of best practices for implementing results
4. Set out a realistic roadmap for cloud procurement over the next 5 years
5. Lay the foundations for future joint procurement actions

Who is PICSE for?

- Public Research Organisations
- Libraries

Stay Tuned!

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HORIZON 2020



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Lowering barriers in procuring cloud services

Although the use of cloud computing is increasing, prospective customers, especially in the public sector and in the research community, face a number of challenges when it comes to procuring services. Early this year PICSE conducted a survey on barriers in procuring cloud services. The survey results demonstrated that barriers to cloud service procurement mainly relate to the **adoption of new technology** and the **procurement process** itself. The first category encompasses **legal jurisdiction impediments**: services are often hosted in one country and consumed in another, hence cloud consumers' uncertainty about data location and the applicable laws. The knowledge of both **contractual and operational aspects** is another important factor. The barriers posed by the procurement process vary according to which type of process is used. Restricted procurement processes suffer from a **lack of competition** while open procurement processes are **time consuming** and imply **higher tendering and evaluation costs**. In addition, the nature of cloud services and the pay-per-use method can complicate budget planning for research organisations.

To combat this situation and increase the uptake of cloud computing services in the public research sector, cloud service providers (CSPs) are advised to **increase transparency in their offers** by focusing on security, privacy and data management, ensuring trustworthiness of their privacy policies and improving the Service Level Agreements (SLA). Similarly, users should recognize that the commoditisation of IT services brings economic advantages even if customisation might increase IT budget. A complete report of the survey will be soon released on www.picse.eu. **Stay Tuned!**

Are you facing the cloud procurement challenge?

PICSE gives you access to a unique & compelling portfolio of cloud procurement guidelines and best practices from public research organizations.

This will teach you how to purchase cloud services.

Contact us at: info@picse.eu

"Fast forward to the Digital Single Market: procurement of cloud services" panel

26 June 2015, Geneva, Switzerland

On the 26 June 2015, PICSE will be part of the panel "Fast forward to the Digital Single Market: procurement of cloud services" by presenting the early achievements of the project.

The focus will be on the barriers in procuring cloud services and on the innovative procurement approaches to purchase cloud services. The panel is part of the **Helix Nebula Initiative: Towards a European Open Science Cloud** workshop.

The workshop aims to explore further avenues for the establishment of an open, secure and trusted cloud computing Marketplace for European science, businesses and citizens.

Join us to share your views!

Register now at

<http://indico.cern.ch/event/388437/registration/>



Picse facts

- » H2020 Coordination and Support Action
- » Total budget: 500 K€
- » Duration: 18 months
- » Start date: 1 Oct. 2014

Partners



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