Dear colleagues,

Last week you have all received the draft Terms of Reference for the future Task Force on Education. With this email I kindly remind you of the process and timeline.
Roadmap:

- The draft Terms of Reference (ToR) is shared with the workshop participants and educational members. (See attached.)
- NRENs and interested partners will confirm via email the **support** to form a TF and also **nominate** and/or vote on a chair.
   Deadline Tuesday, 3 December 2019.
- After the final confirmation of support to create a TF the GÉANT Community Committee (GCC) will receive an official submission request.

Task Forces are open for all organisations (NRENs, universities, governments or commercial companies…etc). If your organisation would like to already now endorse the creation of the Task Force then we kindly ask you to respond within by **the 3rd of December 2019**. Endorsement can be made from different levels; personally, from parts of the organisation (department) or from the whole organisation.
Please note that it is possible to join the task force also at a later stage.

Furthermore I would like to encourage you all to submit a presentation for our annual conference TNC20 before **28th of November** on an educational technology related topic: https://tnc20.geant.org/submission-guidelines/

Thank you and wish you a nice day!

Best regards,

The NREN educational experts group

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PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING TEMPLATE TO PROPOSE A GÉANT Task Force

General Information:

Task Force Name:	*Task Force - Educational Services and Activities (TF-EDU)*
Brief Description:	*The Task Force proposes to gather information, discuss and develop tools and best practices to address the common issues NRENs are dealing with regarding their educational services and activities. The areas include digital learning environment (Learning Management Systems (LMS), Learning Analytics (LA), Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)...e.t.c.), eduID, Open Educational Resources (OER) and more.* *The results of the Task Force will yield joint activities, projects, documentation and tools for NRENs.*
Chair:	*TBC*
Coordinator:	*Gyongyi Horvath (GÉANT)*
Topics / Keywords:	*LMS, VLE, LA, eduID, OER*
Supporting NRENs:	*URAN, CSC, DeiC, CARNET, FCT, KIFU, LITNET, RASH, SWITCH, GARR, RENATER, CESNET, MARNET, ASNET-AM, SUNET, GRENA, ARNES, RENAM, IUCC, PSNC, UNIT, Jisc, SURF, Malta, GRNET, RoEduNet, ACOnet, Montenegro, TUBITAK, AMRES, BREN, RedIRIS, RESTENA, SANET, CYNET, Belnet*
Support (Others):	*IMS Europe, Srce, NORDUnet*
Initial Charter Period:	*2 years*
Mailing list	*tf-edu@lists.geant.org*

Aims:

The Task Force aims to establish collaboration across the education sector on commonly identified topic areas, providing coordinated approach to improve NREN educational services and activities.

This will include:

- Establishing a Task Force as a trusted forum with members that actively participate and are involved in the results of the Task Force.
- Providing a platform to promote the sharing of best practices, tools and policies related to educational services and activities in our community. This may result in a repository or knowledge exchange activity.
- Mapping the NRENs' individual educational services and activities with the aim of co-creating a roadmap for further collaborative development of educational activities.
- Discuss, share ideas and give feedback leading to a better understanding of the common challenges and opportunities (e.g. lifecycles). Shared opinions can result into common standards that provide guidance for the wider community and NRENs;
- Liaising with other groups and projects within and outside of GÉANT when an education related specialised area is discussed jointly and provide feedback on initiatives. As an example and first liaison would be with eduID and the existing T&I activities (e.g. eduGAIN) and projects within GN4-3 (e.g. T&I incubator) to assist with developing services.

TF-EDU will open the space for sharing own practice (good as well as failures to learn from), and in this will have two major tracks:
A. TF will serve as a strategic platform for creating overviews of edu technologies landscape in NREN community and beyond;
B. TF will liase between interested parties and support the creation and work of smaller working groups that will dynamically form around specific services, challenges and opportunities in the area of edu technologies.

The Task Force is meant specifically for those people who are working on educational services and activities within their organisation (whether it is an NREN or an education related institution or organisation). The outcomes of TF-EDU will be shared with the wider GÉANT community.

Outcomes of TF-EDU will include:
- Exchange and share experience, knowledge and best practices to implement educational aspects of NREN services and activities;
- A roadmap for further collaborative development of the educational offer of NRENs; and
- Documents and tools that can help NRENs in building further the portfolio of educational services and activities.

Outputs or immediate results of TF-EDU will include:
- Overview of European NRENs educational services and activities;
- Annual survey of NRENs educational services and activities;
- Two knowledge exchange workshops per year;
- Working groups on specific services, challenges and opportunities.

Work Items:

Work item responsibilities will be divided up among the community representatives and will be reported on to the Task Force.

#	Work Items and descriptions 2020 and 2021	Work Item Leader	Results or Deliverable
	Overview of European NRENs educational services and activities	Gyongyi Horvath, GEANT	- Table of NREN educational activities and services - Identified potential joint activities / projects
	eduID	Michiel Schok, SURF	- Create and lead a sub-group within TF-EDU - Create an overview of educational identity services.
	Adoption and forming open standards	Wietze de Vries, SUNET	- Overview of available and upcoming standards for edu tech.
	Annual survey	Dragana Kupres, CARNET	- Maintain, update and carry out the educational survey among NRENs.
	Workshop at TNC20	Gyongyi Horvath, GEANT	- Coordinate with a steering committee the meeting arrangements and content.

More Information:

During autumn 2018 an NREN educational expert group was created with a couple of interested partners responsible for their organisation's educational activities. The group had regular calls to discuss and identify possible existing activities in this field, created a glossary and developed a survey for NRENs.

The Survey to NRENs educational services and activities was conducted February / March 2019, mapping this area for Europe and the expert group started developing the content of the first face-to-face workshop was held on Monday, 17 June at TNC19. Following the success of the first workshop, the second workshop was held 4-5 November 2019 in Budapest with again very good attendance level.

Collaborations

TF-EDU is complementary to some existing SIGs, TFs and other programs.
These include:

- GÈANT Cloud Activity
- SIG-TNE
- SIG-Multimedia
- MyAcademic ID
- TF-RED

This is not an exclusive list of collaborations. We will want to engage with other initiatives as the opportunities arise.

Annex 1: Standard Terms of Reference

1. Task Forces are established under the auspices of the GÉANT Community Programme to provide a forum for exchanging and promoting ideas, experience and knowledge, as well as fostering collaborations among National Research and Education Networks and academic and research institutions.

2. The Task Forces focus activity predominantly in Europe. Each Task Force will collaborate with organisations outside the European area or on a broader scope with relevant initiatives whenever opportunities for collaboration arise that support the aims of the Task Force.

3. The Chair of the Task Force will be responsible for preparing the agenda of each meeting and for co-ordinating the work of the Task Force. S/he will also be responsible for the agreed deliverables being produced. Additional work item leaders will support the chair in ensuring the smooth operation of the Task Force and in preparing the agenda for specific or ad-hoc sub-group meetings, whenever they are deemed necessary.

4. The secretary of the Task Force will be appointed by GÉANT. S/he will be responsible for managing membership of the mailing list or lists, maintaining and publishing information on the web site, taking the minutes at each meeting and for making the necessary logistical arrangements.

5. The Task Force will operate with a two-year mandate. At the end of the two-year period, the GÉANT Community Committee (GCC) may recommend to renew the mandate of the Task Force. If the mandate is not renewed, the Task Force will be dissolved. The Task Force may also be dissolved if the GCC considers that it is making insufficient progress or that its activities are no longer useful or relevant, or if the Task Force chair resigns and no replacement can be found.

6. The Task Force will be open to any individual who can offer appropriate expertise, manpower, equipment or services. Participation will be on a voluntary basis.

7. The Task Force will meet at approximately four-monthly intervals (facilities for remote participation will be made available). Physical meetings will be held at various locations, taking care to reduce overall costs to participants.

8. Reports and other results of the Task Force shall be placed in the public domain, with the exception of sensitive information.

9. The Task Force will have a mailing list for communication between the participants. The mailing list archive will be publicly available. Separate mailing lists may exist for specific work items or sub-tasks.