

## News from TERENA 128

### TERENA project to produce IP Telephony Cookbook

1 April 2003



Today, TERENA launched a project to create an “IP Telephony Cookbook”. The project, which will run for a period of eleven months, is carried out by technical experts from the University of Pisa, the University of Bremen and FOKUS (the Institute for Open Communication Systems of the Fraunhofer Gesellschaft), with contributions from CESNET, GRNET, the Karl Franzens University in Graz and SURFnet. The project is supported by TERENA with a sum of 10,000 euro. Five TERENA member organisations – UKERNA (United Kingdom), SUNET (Sweden), CYNET (Cyprus), ARNES (Slovenia) and CARNet (Croatia) – will together contribute another 41,000 euro to the project. The total project costs are estimated at 64,800 euro.

The initiative for the project is one of the follow-ups of TERENA’s former Task Force on Real-Time Multimedia Applications, TF-STREAM. A poll in the second half of 2001 revealed that there was substantial interest with the TERENA member organisations to exchange experiences and possibly work together in the field of IP telephony. A workshop, held in Amsterdam in March 2002, identified current and planned activities of the European research networking community and investigated possibilities for joint activities. In a second meeting, in Limerick at the TERENA Networking Conference in June 2002, a group of twenty participants discussed a detailed plan for the creation of an IP Telephony Cookbook for network engineers and system administrators at universities and national research and education networking organisations. The proposal was further developed in the subsequent months and it was approved by the TERENA Technical Committee in September 2002. Despite the considerable interest in the research networking community it then still took considerable time to collect the necessary funding.

The project will produce an overview of basic IP telephony services and the various technologies available today as well as information and guidelines on protocols and ways to set up IP telephony services. It will also investigate models and scenarios for deploying IP telephony solutions and infrastructures with a view to interoperability and regulations at the local and global level. In addition, the project will provide guidelines for connecting existing IP telephony islands to the global (H.323) dialling plan.

Further information can be found on the project website:

<http://www.terena.nl/tech/IPtel/>

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