

## Introduction on WP7/WP9

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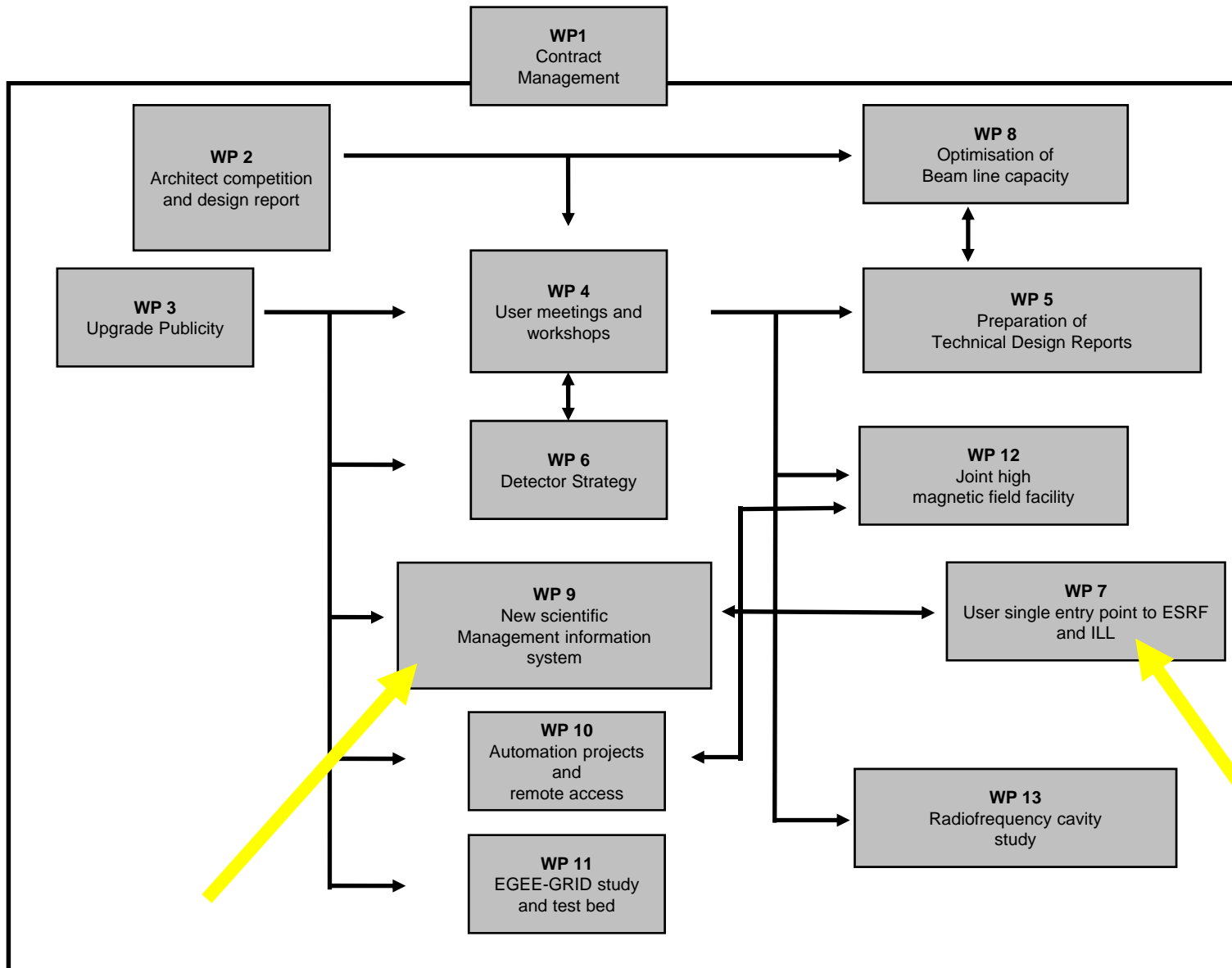
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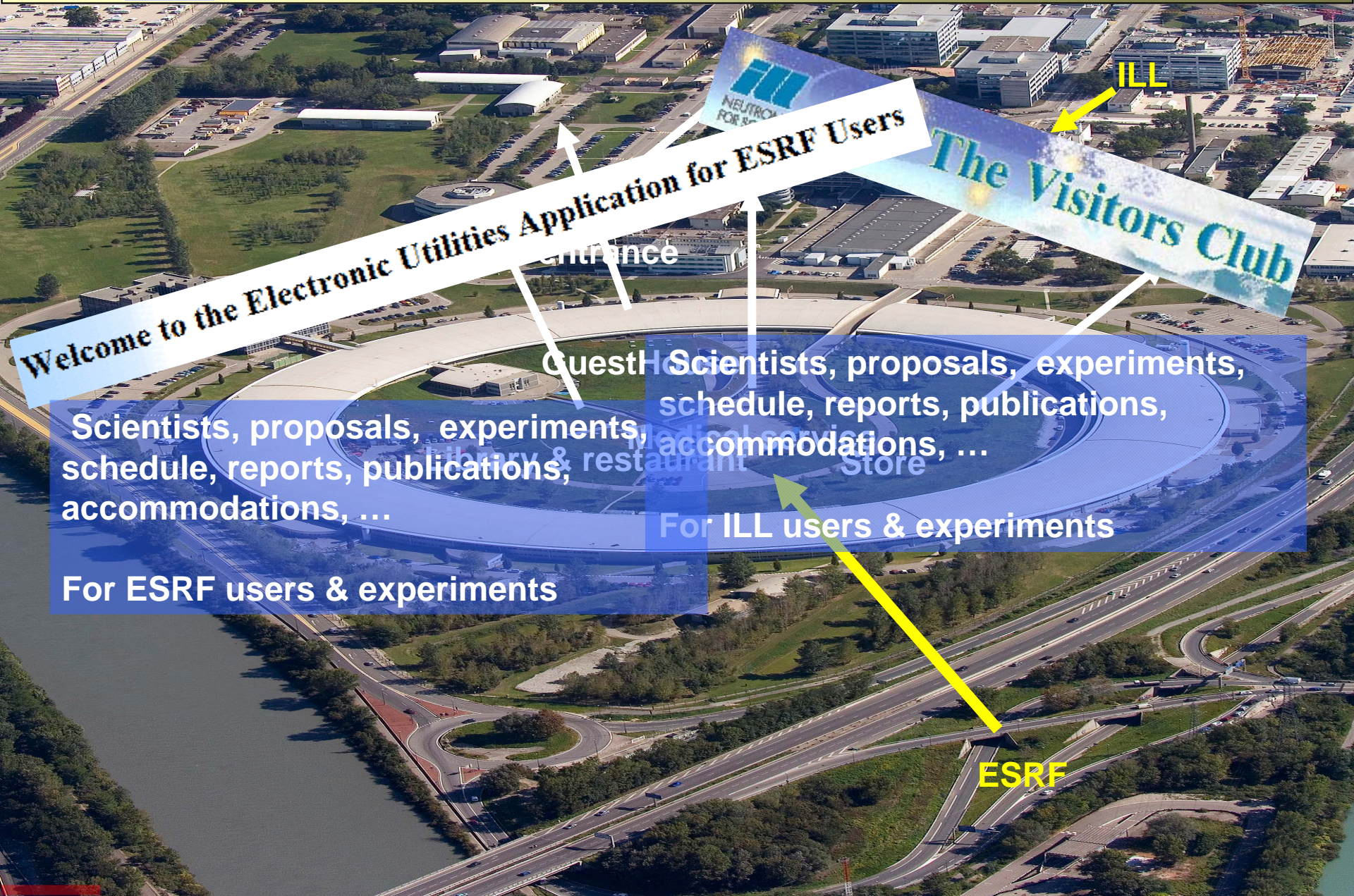


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**Welcome to the Electronic Utilities Application for ESRF Users**

**The Visitors Club**

Scientists, proposals, experiments, schedule, reports, publications, accommodations, ...

For ESRF users & experiments

For ILL users & experiments

ILL

ESRF

## Work package number 7 : User single entry point to ESRF and ILL

### Objectives

A substantial increase in **the number of users and experiments is expected due to implementation of the Upgrade Programme of the ESRF** and its neighbouring institute, the ILL.

The objective of this work package is to address **the feasibility of a single entry point for the User Community to the ESRF and ILL facilities.**

A single entry point could help in **managing users, experiments, tracking results and publications** and could act as a foundation for a broader impact with an EU-wide user database.

**The ESRF and ILL are planning forthcoming partnerships**, where a single user management system would help **in smoothing operation between the two institutes**. The question of joint applications for both neutron and photon experiments for scientific areas will also be addressed.



The study will:

- report on the **impact and benefits** of a single entry point
- **assess which scientific areas could benefit most** and **which could be promoted with joint applications for experiment time both at ESRF and ILL**
- **assess the practical issues** effecting the operation of a single entry point
- if the overall impact is positive, **propose a working structure and methodology** for a single entry point system
- this work package has **strong links to WP9** which concerns a feasibility study on a new scientific management system.



*upgrade*



Where we are today !!

## Description of work

T 1. Definition of the criteria for a single entry point. This task will use the expertise and experience available in the User Offices and User Organisations of both institutes to outline the goals of an ideal access system.

- A workshop run as a brainstorm will be set up with the User Organisations, User Offices and key ESRF/ILL operational staff.

- Definition of the criteria for a common site entrance system.

Reception, travel,  
accommodation, safety,  
...

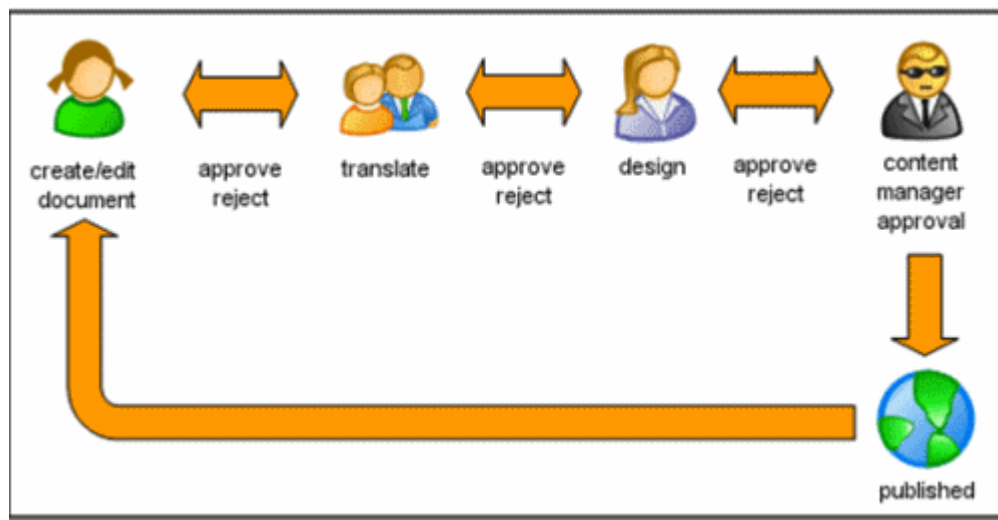
- Definition of the criteria for a common user and experiments database (including publication follow-up) up to the pan-European level.

WP9



## Description of work .... Contd.

T 2. Preparation of a methodology/workflow framework for a single entry point system able to function between the ESRF and ILL based on the criteria established in T1.



## Description of work .... Contd.

T 3. **Analysis of optimisation of the current technology frameworks and workflows** with respect to the single entry point proposal leading to a set of specifications for a joint system. **The current user systems rely on scientific management software which may not be compatible at the ESRF and ILL** and therefore require significant refinement and development or replacement.



WP9

## Description of work .... Final

T 4. Summarise the overall potential positive and negative impact of the single entry point. The positive impact of such a system could be significant in terms of ease of user access, streamlining support systems and for ESRF/ILL visibility but will have associated development costs and implications.

The previous tasks will have addressed these issues. The summary will include a road map to implement a single entry point system, should the impact be seen to be positive.



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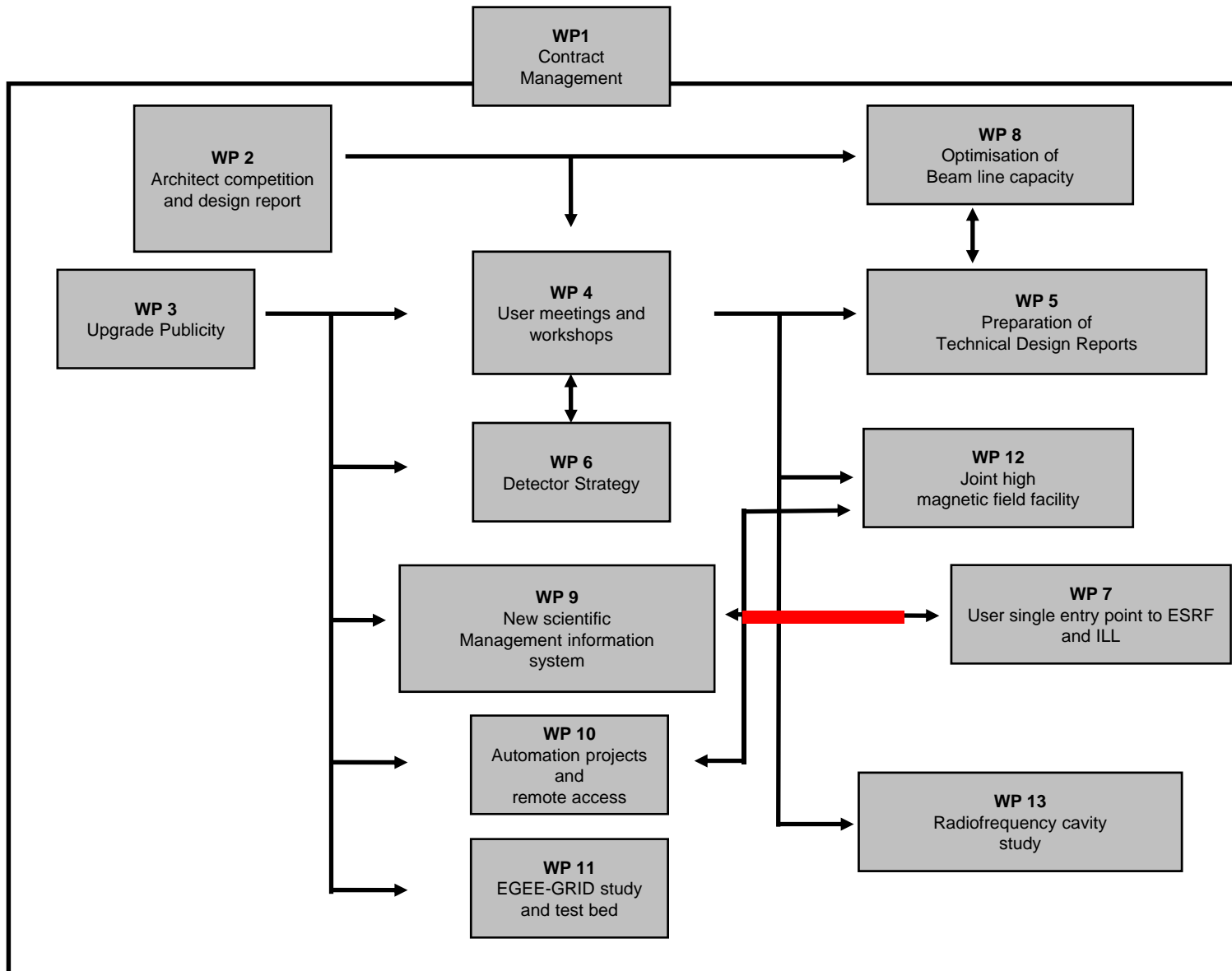
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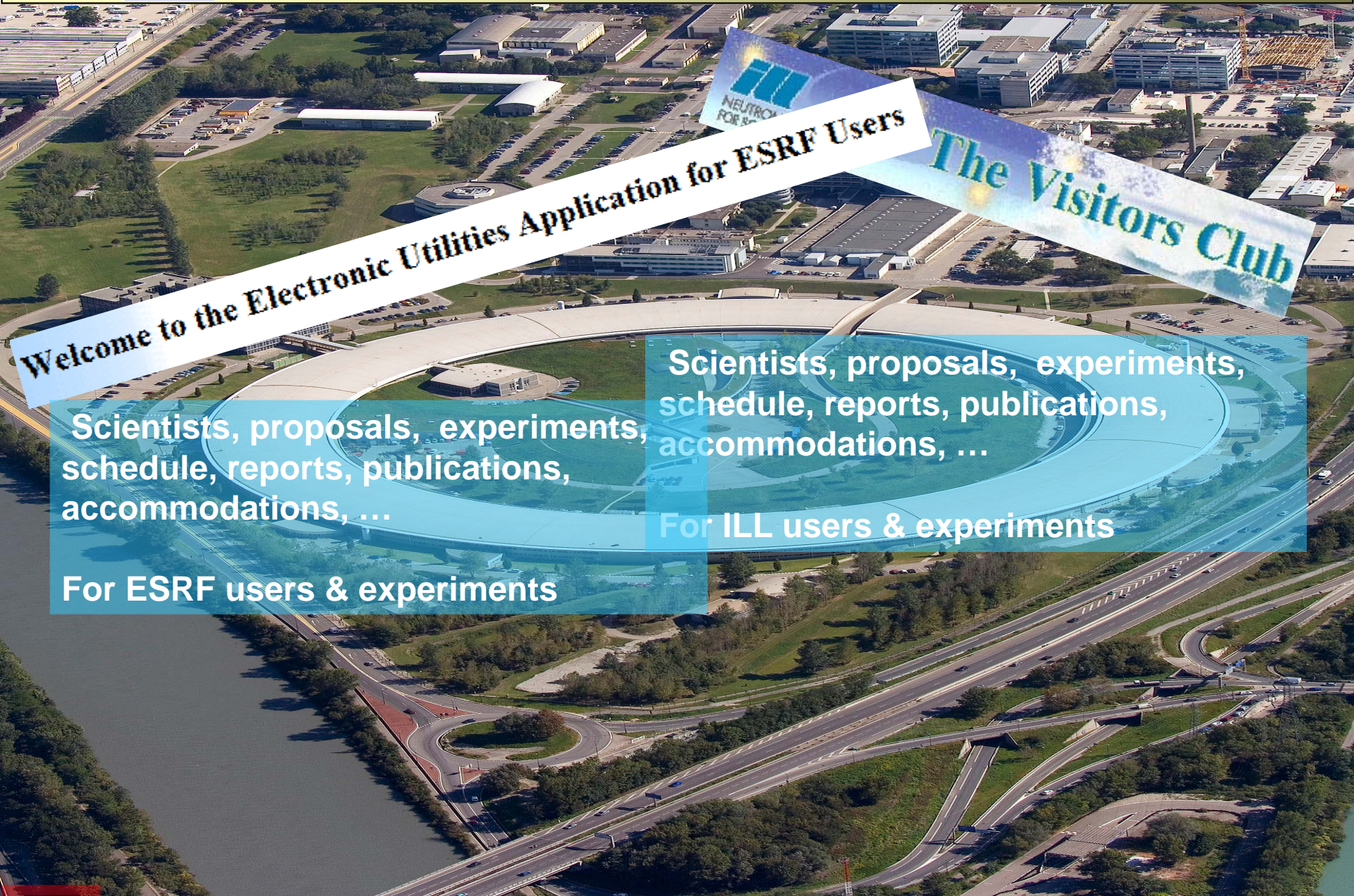
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For ILL users & experiments

For ESRF users & experiments

## WP9: Feasibility study for a new Scientific Management Information System (SMIS)

### Objectives

The objective of this work package is to study the feasibility of a **generic, standard and flexible information system** for managing the workflow from the scientific proposal to the publication in order to cope with the substantial increase expected in the number of users and their requirements in terms of experiment proposal management, sample tracing, metadata catalogue management and new possible rules of access.

The feasibility study will include **discussions with most of the national synchrotron radiation (SR) laboratories to assess the feasibility of a European wide user data base of photon and neutron scientists and to analyse the potential for software development collaborations.** In the unlikely case that the discussions with national SR laboratories show that there is no interest for a common software development, the ESRF will be the only case study.

The key point of this work package is to arrive at a document corresponding to the specification of the future SMIS system necessary for the ESRF Upgrade Programme.

## **Description of work** (possibly broken down into tasks)

T9.1 Inventory of existing software components and functions currently implemented at ESRF.

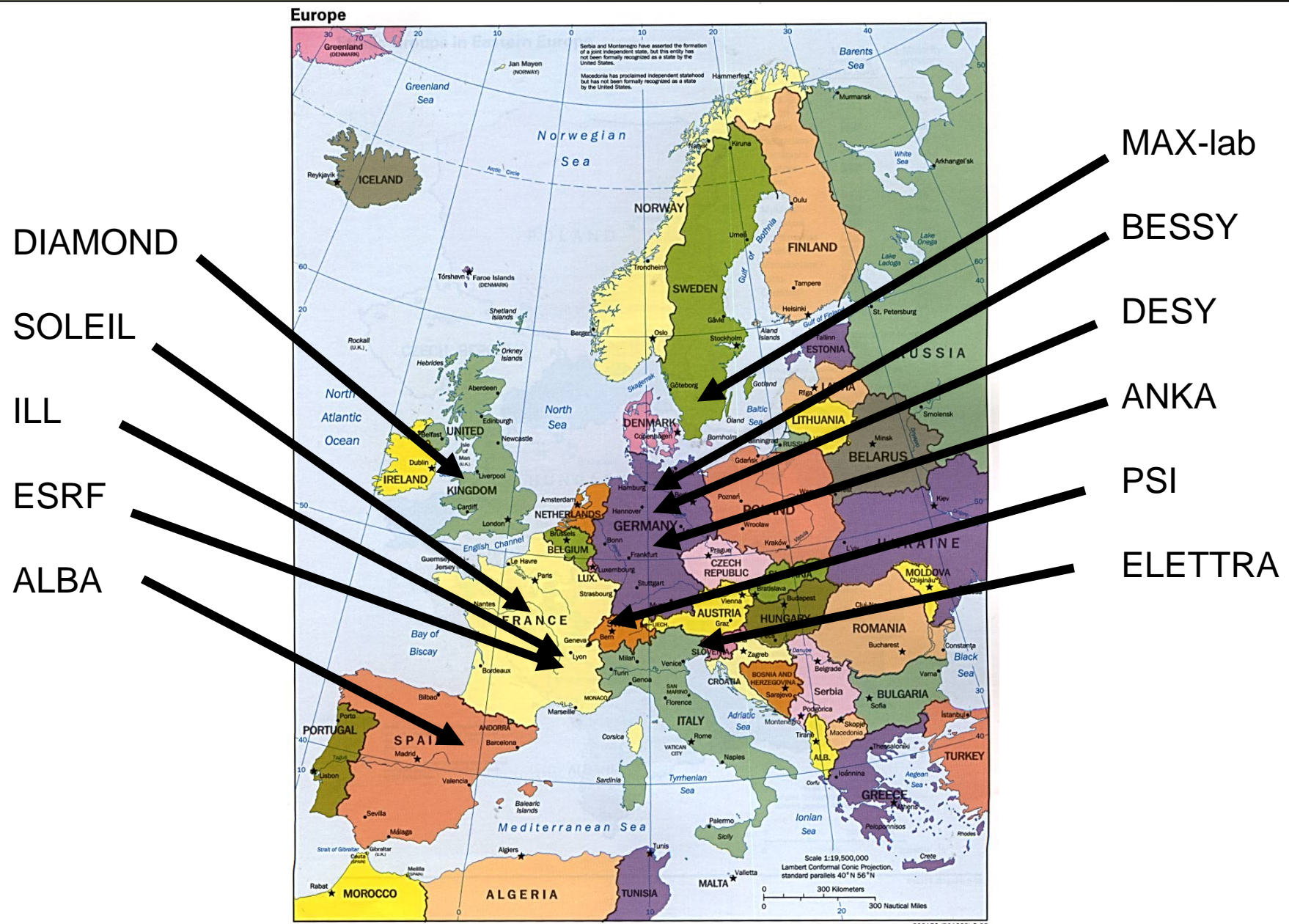
T9.2 Analysis of existing software components at partner institutes.

T9.3 Brainstorming workshop with technical experts to determine tools, technologies and methods to be used in such a project.

T9.4 A restricted workshop run as a brainstorm will be set up with the mate institutes interested in a future common SMIS system.

T9.5 Definition of ESRF specific functionalities.

T9.6 Specifications including a summary of pros and cons for sharing the software development





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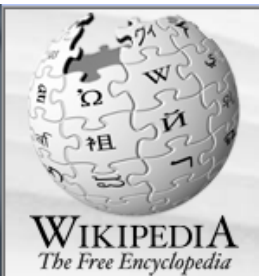
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## Brainstorming

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Brainstorming** is a [group creativity technique](#) designed to generate a large number of [ideas](#) for the solution to a [problem](#). The method was first popularized in the late 1930s by [Alex Faickney Osborn](#), an advertising executive and one of the founders of [BBDO](#), in a book called *Applied Imagination*. Osborn proposed that groups could double their creative output by using the method of brainstorming.<sup>[1]</sup>

Although brainstorming has become a popular group technique, researchers have generally failed to find evidence of its effectiveness for enhancing either quantity or quality of ideas generated. Because of such problems as distraction, [social loafing](#), evaluation apprehension, and [production blocking](#), brainstorming groups are little more effective than other types of groups, and they are actually less effective than individuals working independently.<sup>[2][3][4]</sup> For this reason, there have been numerous attempts to improve brainstorming or replace it with more effective variations of the basic technique. Although traditional brainstorming may not increase the productivity of groups, it may still provide benefits, such as enhancing the enjoyment of group work and improving morale. It may also serve as a useful exercise for [team building](#).

The term "brainstorming" has been accused of being politically incorrect and offensive to people with [epilepsy](#). There appears to be little truth to this criticism.

<sup>[5]</sup> A survey in 2005 by the UK charity [National Society for Epilepsy](#) found that 93 per cent of people with the condition surveyed do not find the word offensive.

<sup>[6]</sup>

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## WP7 - Goal of the brainstorming

**To learn from other experiences**

**To collect from ILL & ESRF staff ideas/remarks/complaints/proposals**

**!! To collect from users ideas/remarks/complaints/proposals !!**

**Questions?**