Computational sciences and computer simulations in particular, are playing an ever growing role in fundamental and applied sciences. The aim of this Forward Look is to develop a vision on how computational sciences will evolve in the coming 10 to 20 years. Based on a scenario of how this field will evolve and on the needs of the scientific community, a strategy will be presented aimed at structuring software and hardware support and development at the European level.

The Organising Committee of this Forward Look adopted web based tools to publish preliminary reports and to organise the day-by-day life of the initiative:

- **Forward Look Portal:**
  https://cyberinfrastructure.caspur.it:
  contains information about the Forward Look ongoing activities, and important provisional.

- **Two mailing lists:**
  cyberinfrastructure-oc@caspur.it, which is used for circulating messages among members of the Organising Committee; cyberinfrastructure@caspur.it, which is extended to everyone who wants to receive news about the Forward Look.

- **Document Management System:**
  https://cyberinfrastructure.caspur.it/kt:
  all the documents examined and produced in the context of the Forward Look are stored on the document management system (DMS).

**ESF Forward Looks**

ESF Forward Looks provide medium to long-term authoritative visions on science perspectives in broad areas of research bringing together ESF Member Organisations, other research organisations and the scientific community in creative interaction. Forward Look reports and other outputs such as ESF Policy Briefings assist policy makers and researchers in defining optimal research agendas and in setting priorities. Quality assurance mechanisms, based on peer review where appropriate, are applied at every stage of the development and delivery of a Forward Look to ensure its credibility and impact.

www.esf.org/flooks
Timeline of activities

- November 2006
  Six small-scale, parallel, community level workshops. The aim of this series of parallel workshops is to define the needs about the software Cyber Infrastructure within each scientific community.

- January-February 2007
  Workshop with the aim of defining the common Software CyberInfrastructure. The aim of this workshop is to identify the expertise needed to setup the envisioned Software CyberInfrastructure, including those areas which are not available within the scientific communities participating to the Forward Look.

- February-March 2007
  Workshop to gather the expertise needed to realise the Software CyberInfrastructure. The realisation of a software infrastructure is usually a multidisciplinary endeavour which requires expertise from many different areas such as computational sciences, computer science, software engineering, supercomputing centres, hardware manufacturers and independent software vendors. The aim of this workshop is to gather all these people together to devise an operative plan for the implementation, deployment, operation and management of the Software CyberInfrastructure.

- June-July 2007
  General Conference.
  The provisional final report will be presented to a large number of members of target national and international institutions such as EC, ESFRI, National Research Councils, HPCN centres and universities. Participants will be requested to discuss conclusions and recommendations of the provisional Forward Look report, which will be made available prior to the conference.

- End 2007
  The final report will be released.

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For the latest information on this Forward Look consult the following website: www.esf.org/lincei