

# The European Initiative for Mediterranean Research Networking - EUMEDCONNECT

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# EUMEDCONNECT Partners

- Coordinating Partner - DANTE
- MED Partner countries/beneficiaries:
  - Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey
- EU partners:
  - GARR, GRNET, RedIRIS, RENATER
- Funded up to 10 M EURO/80% by European Commission – DG EuropeAid EUMEDIS programme
- Remaining funding from beneficiaries.



# EUMEDCONNECT Objectives

- Connect the MED Partners to each other and to GÉANT
- Catalyse the development of National Research and Education networking by MED Partners
- Stimulate international R&E collaborations by MED Partners, including 20 EUMEDIS Pilot application projects
- In this way:
  - Ease the EU-MED digital divide
  - Globalise research
  - Strengthen human relationships and stability



# EUMEDCONNECT Phases

- Planning studies (Phase 1) – Dec 2001 to June 2002
- Tendering (Phase 2A) – Nov 2002 onwards
- Service (Phase 2B) from Jan 2004 to June 2006

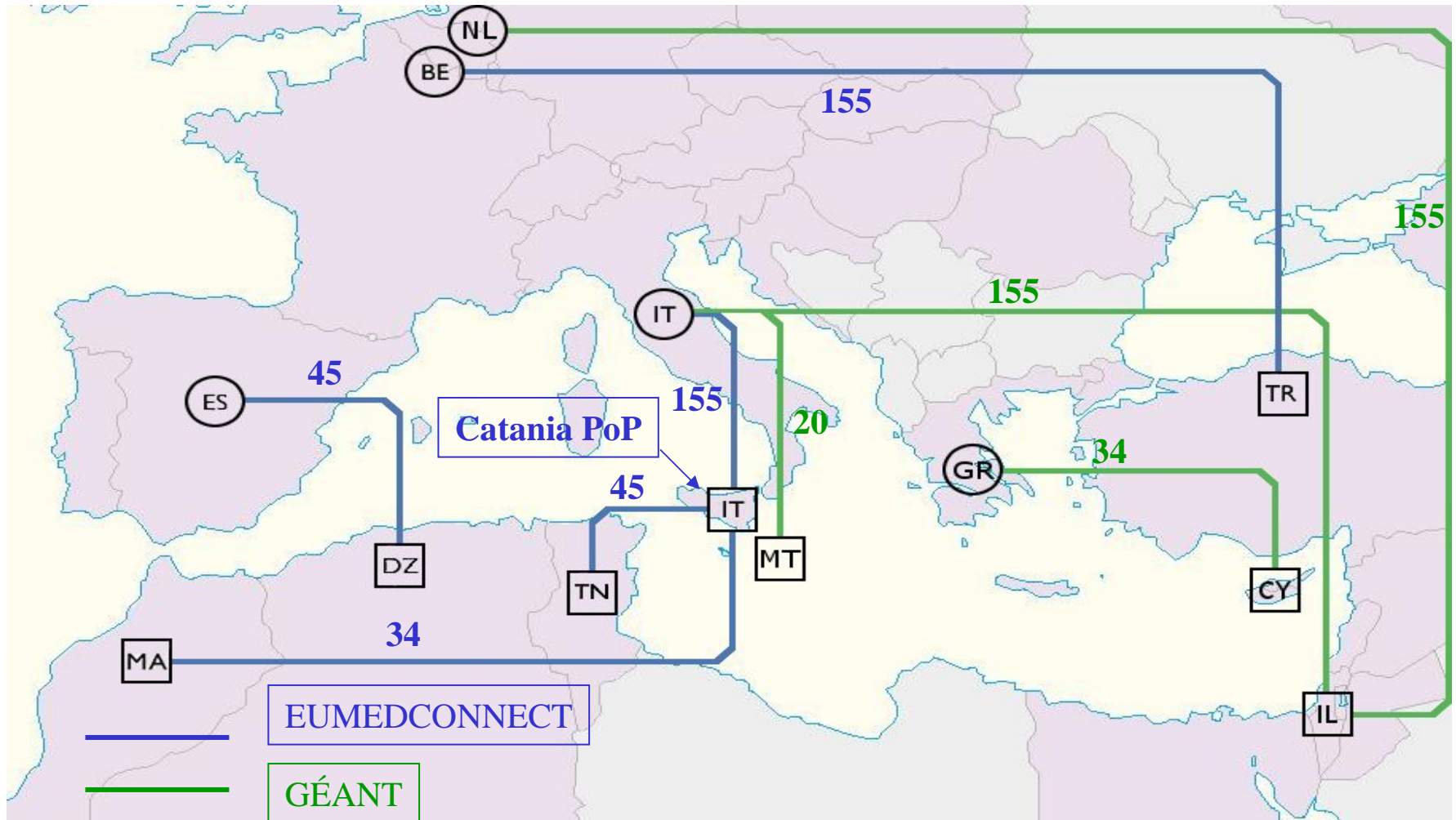


# Mediterranean Networking Issues

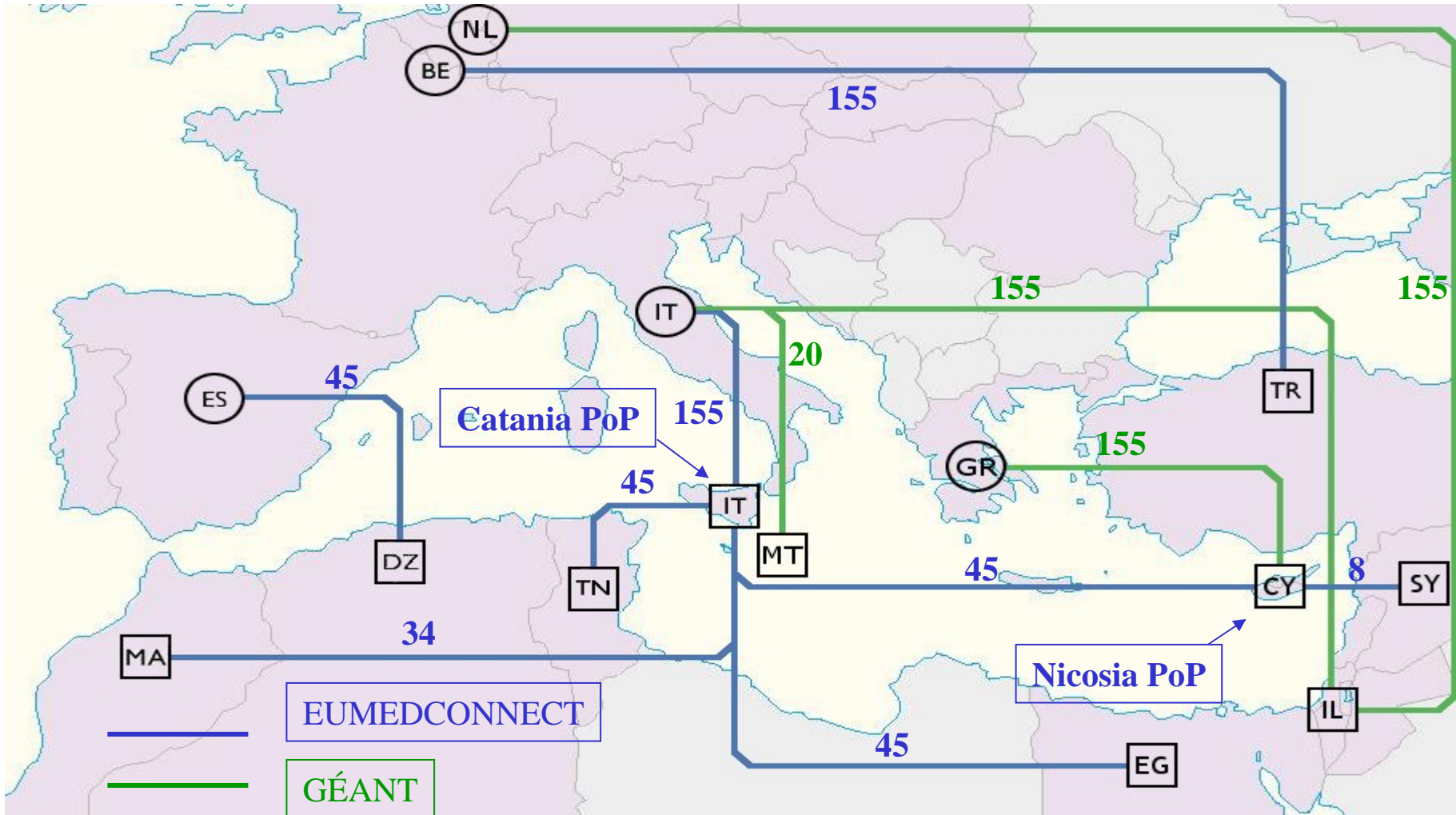
- Limited cable infrastructure
- Monopoly national operators in almost all MED countries
- High prices in commercial market
- National networks still developing
- Lack of regional cohesion



# Current Topology



# Planned Topology

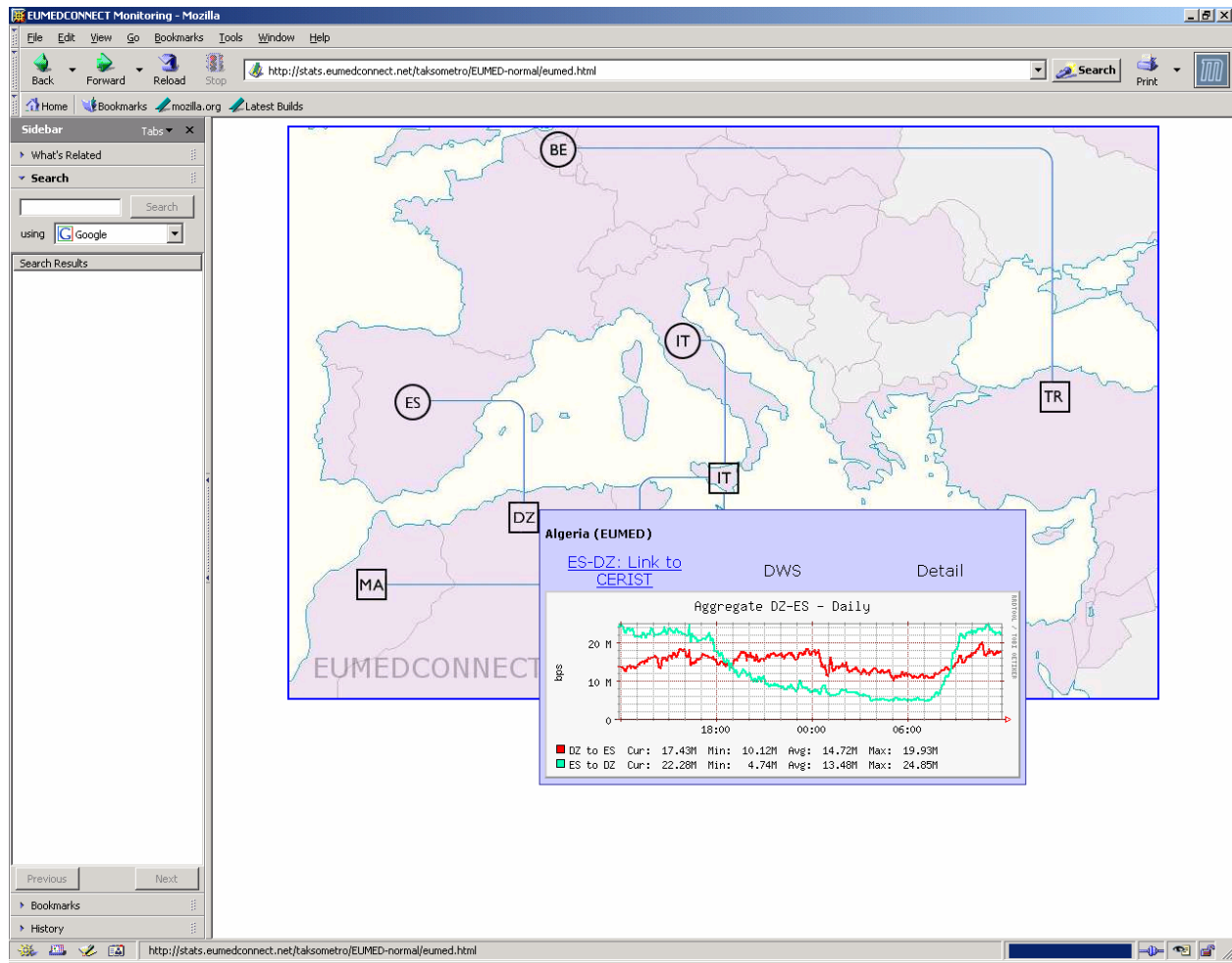


# Network Support

- Network equipment:
  - First node set up, initially using recycled GARR Cisco 7500 equipment
  - Vendor donation options being explored
- Co-Location
  - First PoP established in University of Catania, supported by GARR
  - Second PoP planned for Nicosia
- Network Management
  - Subcontracted to CS (runs the GEANT NOC)



# Monitoring



# EUMEDCONNECT Deliverables for Beneficiaries

- Intra-Mediterranean and MED/European networking:
  - IPv4; IPv6 and multicast planned
- Connectivity to all GÉANT users and transit Partners' networks
- Commodity Internet access (chargeable option, subject to AUP)
- Technical support and training
- Doorway to international research network community



# Conclusions

- 7 of the 12 MED-Partners now connected by EUMEDCONNECT and/or GEANT, plans in place to raise to 9.
- Foundations laid for greater R&E collaboration between MED and EU
- EUMEDCONNECT acting as role model for further Actions: ALICE, SEEREN, TEIN2



# Acknowledgements

Breaking the EU/MED digital divide has been tough... but is finally proving rewarding thanks to support from:

- European Commission (AIDCO and INFSO)
- European NRENs – GARR, GRNET, RedIRIS and RENATER
- GÉANT NREN PC
- Beneficiaries

