

Cloud4SOA project – Business Application governance and SLA Management in PaaS context

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Abstract. PaaS (Platform as a Service) is a quite new paradigm that enables independent software vendors (ISVs) or organizations to create, run, integrate and manage business applications, using services provided by third party. The actual PaaS market is in constant motion, however, it is still quite young, chaotic and highly fragmented. It is foreseen only a partial consolidation process in the next years. Gartner states that the 2011 is the year of PaaS, however best practices as well as standards have only just begun to be discerned.

Cloud4SOA, European Co-Funded FP7 project has the challenge to open up the Cloud market to small-medium European PaaS providers and strengthen their market position and to treat the vendor-lock in problem. Cloud4SOA will address the above challenge enhancing the Cloud-based application development, deployment and migration by semantically interconnecting Platform as a Service (PaaS) offerings, both within the same as well as across different Cloud PaaS providers, that share the same technology, and will facilitate the access and lifecycle management for Cloud-based application developers to the PaaS offering that best matches their computational needs.

PaaS, introduces a tremendous amount of flexibility and scalability with a consequence that a list of items has to be managed more closely compared to traditional systems. Availability, Security, Quality of Service (QoS), Application Management, Privacy, location of cloud services and compliance are just some of the aspects of the cloud that have to be monitored and managed closely.

Within the Cloud4SOA project the consortium aims to face new challenges investigating new service engineering paradigms, methods and tools supporting the development of the Cloud Governance Application in PaaS context as the process of decision making, criteria and policies involved in the semantic setting-up, construction, negotiation, acquisition, development, deployment, operations, management of a cloud computing capability. Where, operations refer to the capability to monitor, evaluating SLA and alert as well as provide capability of charging (accounting and Billing). Hence and at least in Cloud4SOA context, we assume that the SLA Management issue is included in PaaS Governance.