Preface

The current Internet is a tremendous commercial success and has become widely spread after having started as an academic research network to become a network for the everyday life for ordinary people. The Internet of today has its origins from the 70-ties, and was essentially simple but open for new applications and designed for the fixed network. It is however been increasingly challenged by the new transmission technologies based on radio and fiber, as well as by the new applications and media types that increasingly rely on overlays to make up for shortages in the core Internet architecture. In particularly, the even greater success of mobile networks has questioned the current Internet, which has reached a state of high complexity with regard to support of mobility, interoperability, configuration and management and vulnerability in an untrustworthy world.

The project 4WARD, started January 2008 and completed by June 2010, had the task to research on Architecture and Design for a Future Internet. The project took a clean slate research approach, which means that in its research it was not constrained by the current Internet. It does not mean however that the project favored a clean slate deployment, but rather saw a migration approach in how to apply its research results into the current Internet.

The project was partly EU funded under the EU Framework Programme 7 and consists of the 33 partners (see Appendix). There have been over 120 persons in the project, and for this reason it is not possible to list all that have contributed to the project and results. We would however like to acknowledge all for their valuable contributions. Further to that, we would like to acknowledge the help and support the project has experienced by the project officer Dr. Paulo de Sousa and the good collaboration we have had. The work of Daniel Sebastiao (IST, Lisbon) in the editing work is also acknowledged.

This book describes the salient results out of this project and covers not only technical results but deals also with socio-economic issues.

The Editors

Disclaimer

This book has been produced in the context of the 4WARD Project. The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme ([FP7/2007–2013]) under grant agreement n° 216041. All information in this document is provided "as is" and no guarantee or warranty is given that the information is fit for any particular purpose. The user thereof uses the information at its sole risk and liability. For the avoidance of all doubts, the European Commission has no liability in respect of this book, which is merely representing the authors view.