



Sparkle and Google Cloud: Transforming the Future of Research and Education



As official OCRE Cloud Framework provider, Sparkle delivers integrated cloud solutions based on Google Cloud and Google Workspace for Education services



By adhering to OCRE Cloud Framework, which is a powerful contractual vehicle facilitating purchase processes, R&E institutions can benefit from Sparkle's one-stop-solution based on Google Cloud and Google Workspace for Education services, blended with on-site professional services and an expert customer support powered by Noovle, TIM Group's center of excellence for cloud and edge computing.

Google Cloud Platform allows Customers to avoid the vendor lock-in with its commitment to open source, multicloud and hybrid cloud, allowing to use data and run applications on any cloud or in any environment. Google Cloud distributed cloud solutions provide consistency between public and private clouds, enabling businesses to modernize and developers to build faster.

Google Workspace for Education is aimed to provide school communities with tools that elevate teaching, learning, collaboration and productivity, all by the mean of a one, simple, helpful, flexible and secure platform. Google Workspace for Education is offered with three new and tailored editions: Google Workspace for Education standard, Teaching and Learning upgrade and Google Workspace for Education Plus.

Along with Google services, Noovle applications like Tellya, Quelix and OnTheMap offer specific solutions which can further support and facilitate the activities of universities and research centers.

An experienced team of consultants will accompany institutions throughout the purchasing and implementation process to make sure that cloud services are perfectly integrated into their daily research activities. In addition, customers will have full control on their resources and costs through a user-friendly management console.

Advantages:

- **Special discount programmes**
- **Service Authentication through eduGAIN**, the global research and education inter-federation service for Single Sign On access
- **Data Egress Charges Exemption**: data traffic charges are waived with no limit on the total value
- **On-site and in local language consultancy** through a network of selected partners for design and coordination of migration projects, development of cloud native applications, operations and management
- **24/7 support and introductory workshops** to facilitate service on-boarding
- **Management console** to set users and Identity and Access Management (IAM) policies, self-order and self-provisioning services and to monitor resources, consumption and associated costs

Since 2016 Sparkle works with major organizations that have set up framework agreements and collaborates with various cloud service providers enabling research and education organizations to provision services without the need for time-consuming and costly procurement processes.

In this context, at the end of 2020 Sparkle has been awarded as Google Cloud integrator within the **Open Clouds for Research Environments (OCRE) Framework** promoted by a consortium incorporating CERN, RHEA, Trust-IT and led by GÉANT, Europe's leading organization supporting the uptake of advanced digital services for the benefit of universities and research entities.