

UbuntuNet **CONNECT** | 2021

Turning Challenges into Opportunities: Research and Education Success Stories During Covid-19

Virtual/ Livingstone, Zambia

10- 12 November 2021

*Yousef Torman, Managing Director,
ASREN, torman@asrenorg.net*

ASREN



Towards a New Role for NRENs

**From Making the Case for NRENs
To NRENs are Making the Case**

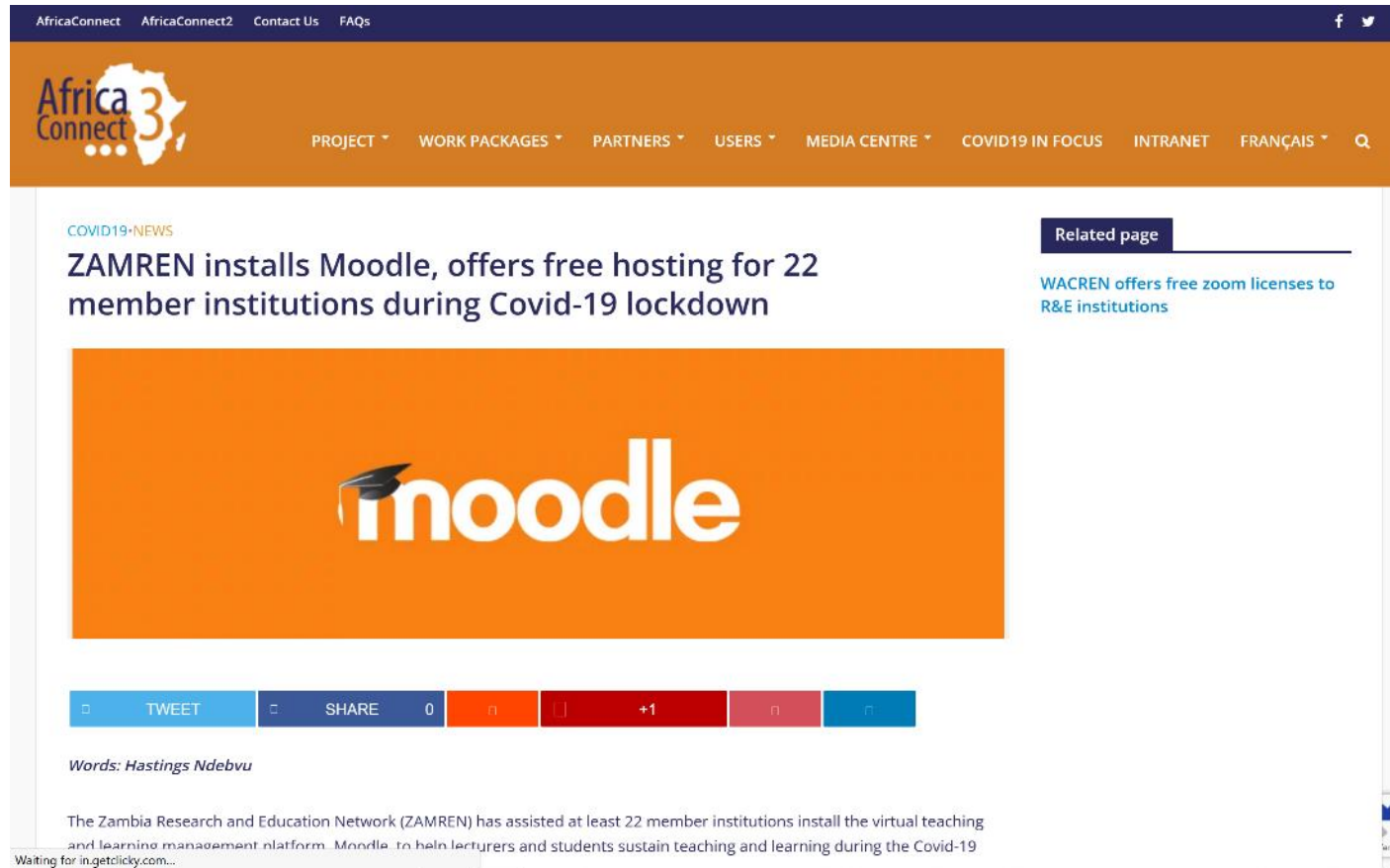


Congratulations

- For the wonderful opening
- For the excellent level of participation
- For the high level support
- For the wonderful host
- For the wonderful country and people
- For sharing experience
- For the fruitful discussions
-
-



NRENs did Excellent Job during the Pandemic



The screenshot shows the AfricaConnect website with a news article titled "ZAMREN installs Moodle, offers free hosting for 22 member institutions during Covid-19 lockdown". The article features a large orange banner with the Moodle logo. Below the banner are social media sharing buttons for Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and YouTube. The article text mentions that ZAMREN has assisted at least 22 member institutions in installing Moodle for virtual teaching and learning management during the Covid-19 pandemic.

AfricaConnect AfricaConnect2 Contact Us FAQs

AfricaConnect3


PROJECT WORK PACKAGES PARTNERS USERS MEDIA CENTRE COVID19 IN FOCUS INTRANET FRANÇAIS

COVID19-NEWS

ZAMREN installs Moodle, offers free hosting for 22 member institutions during Covid-19 lockdown

Related page

[WACREN offers free zoom licenses to R&E institutions](#)



TWEET SHARE 0 +1

Words: Hastings Ndevu

The Zambia Research and Education Network (ZAMREN) has assisted at least 22 member institutions install the virtual teaching and learning management platform, Moodle, to help lecturers and students sustain teaching and learning during the Covid-19

Waiting for in.getclicky.com...





A legal non for profit organization with Arab NRENs as shareholders for promoting world-class Pan-Arab e-Infrastructures and E-services for the R&E communities to boost Scientific Research and regional Cooperation

- **Vision:** Pan-Arab collaborative research and education projects and activities, contribute to boost the scientific research, innovation and education levels in the Arab countries by uplifting efficiency and productivity of research and education communities.
- **Mission:** To implement, manage and extend sustainable Pan-Arab e-Infrastructures dedicated for the Research and Education communities and to boost scientific research and cooperation in member countries through the provision of world-class e-Infrastructures and e-services.

ASREN Objectives



- **Build, maintain and consolidate regional e-Infrastructures dedicated to e-Science and education across the Arab countries:**
 - Developing, managing and operating a regional network that interconnects the NRENs of the Arab countries.
 - Promoting harmonization of policies and standards in relevant areas at a regional level.
 - Advocating/lobbying at the regional level amongst decision makers and stakeholders
- **Contribute to creating and sustaining NRENS:**
 - Supporting NRENs to implement leading-edge technological solutions while pursuing cost-effectiveness
 - Favouring exchange of expertise and best practices amongst NRENs' personnel in the region
- **Facilitate collaboration and cooperation among researchers and academics:**
 - Increasing availability and accessibility to knowledge resources
 - Promoting development of scientific and cultural content in Arabic
 - Facilitating knowledge exchange and transfer processes across the region and worldwide
 - Promoting the adoption and usage of e-Infrastructures and services among the scientific community
 - Strengthening regional partnerships and encouraging joint scientific research



ASREN's Region is Evolving



SHERN

TechCARE



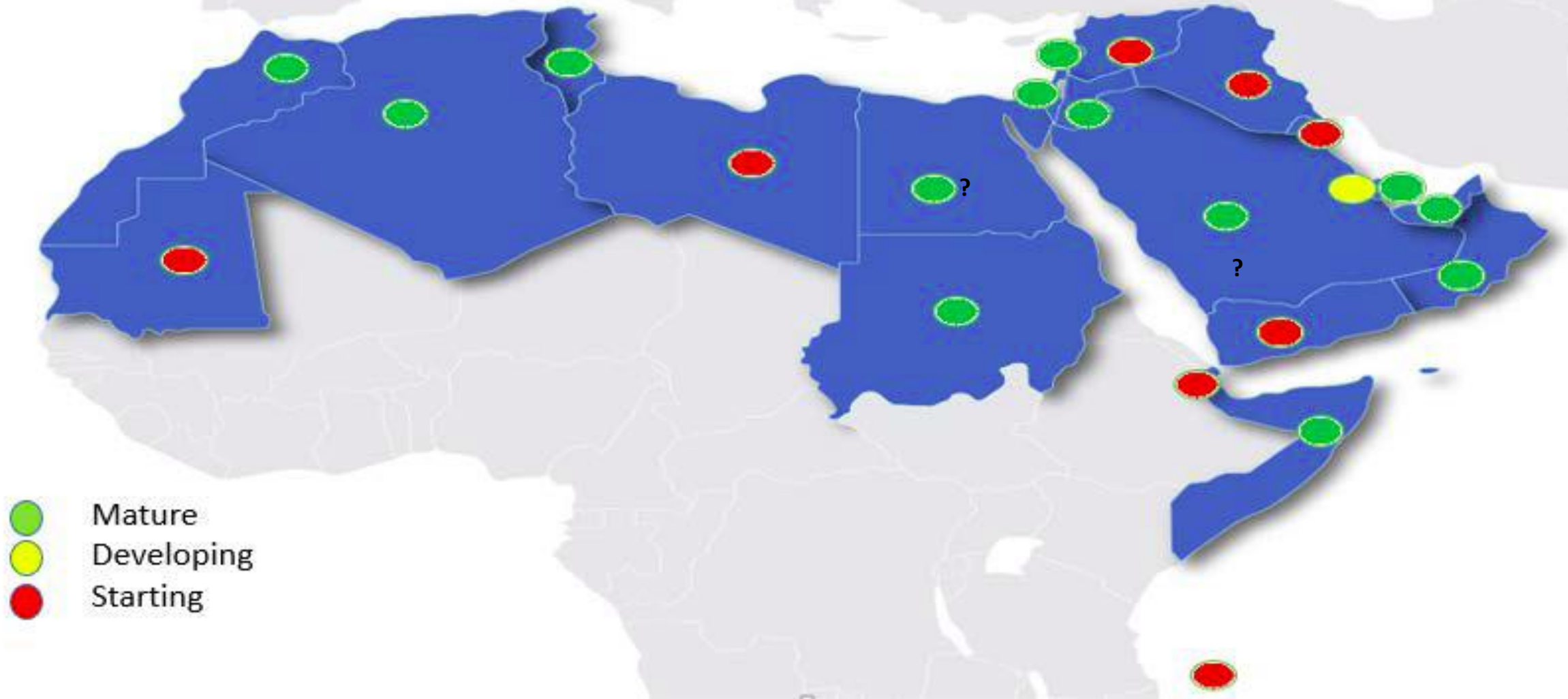
Partnering with the World



اتحاد الجامعات العربية



NRENs in the Arab region



Major Obstacles and Concerns...

- Financial support
- Technical Support
- Political Support
- Applications, Services, Contents
- Promotion
- Bureaucracy
- Monopoly, Regulations
- NRENs involvement
- Time...

I used to carry this heavy slide with me for the last 4 years.



This slide is unorganized intentionally

Yousef Torman 2005-2011

Concerns

- Lack of NREN interests and engagement in regional development
- Inability of NRENs to raise resources
- Limited support of telecom providers for RE capacity
- Limited competition for cross-border networks
- Limited number of champions at NREN levels



Salem Alagdash 2013

Challenge:

- 1- Leadership commitments.
- 2- Telecom operator.
- 3- Regulation.
- 4- Finance.
- 5- Clear organization .
- 6- Infrastructure.
- 7- Lack of collaborative projects (local & international).
- 8- e-Education tools.
- 9- Mobility.
- 10- Social Networking.
- 12 - communication and knowledge sharing between users &NRENs.
- 13- Security and Data Ownership.
- 14- New users with little IT & technology knowledge (NREN).
- 15- Technology knowledge of the researcher.



**Fahem Al Nuaimi, CEO, Ankabut, UAE,
Internet2 SIG Meeting, Abu Dhabi, 17 March 2013**

Fahem Al Nuaimi 2012



**Six months of history,
December 2013 to June 2014**

Welcome to the Case for NRENs portal

A pool of resources to assist national and regional R&E networks (NRENs and RRENs) 'make a case' towards their users, funders and partners.

A toolkit of guidance materials to support in particular new and emerging NRENs.

[Find out how to use and contribute to this portal](#)

NRENs are essential in providing advanced ICT services to the research and education communities. Whilst they are well established in [Europe](#), countries in other parts of the world **face difficult challenges persuading stakeholders of the inherent value in operating an NREN.**

There is **no one-size-fits-all model for a successful NREN.** However, many share similar challenges and can benefit from being part of a **learning and sharing community.**

Affiliations

The portal was developed in response to demand from a number of regional networks where NRENs are starting up to share global experiences and best practice.



About us



NREN Case Review Group

Members of the Review Group that compiled this portal include veteran R&E networking professionals and representatives of the regional network organisations from outside Europe.

[Find out more.](#)

Get in touch with NREN mentors in your region

If you are a new NREN or about to start up and need advice and guidance, R&E networking representatives in your region are available to assist and mentor you:

- North Africa & Middle East: [Yousef Torman](#) (ASREN)
- West & Central Africa: [Omo Oaiya](#) (WACREN)
- Eastern and Southern Africa: [Dr Pascal Hoba](#) (UbuntuNet Alliance)
- Asia-Pacific: [Dr ByungKyu Kim](#) (TEIN*CC); [Markus Buchhorn](#) (APAN)
- Central Asia: [Askar Kutanov](#) (CAREN)
- Caribbean: [Colleen Wint](#) (CKLN)
- Latin America: [Florencio Utreras](#) (RedCLARA)

Latest contributions

Feasibility Study for a UN Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries

Proposal submitted by an expert panel to the UN in Sept 2015, which outlines the role of NRENs in facilitating a Technology Bank for LDCs.

[Download the PDF](#)

Cookbook for ZAMREN applicants

Guidelines to assess the ICT maturity level of institutions applying to join ZAMREN, applicable also to other emerging NRENs.

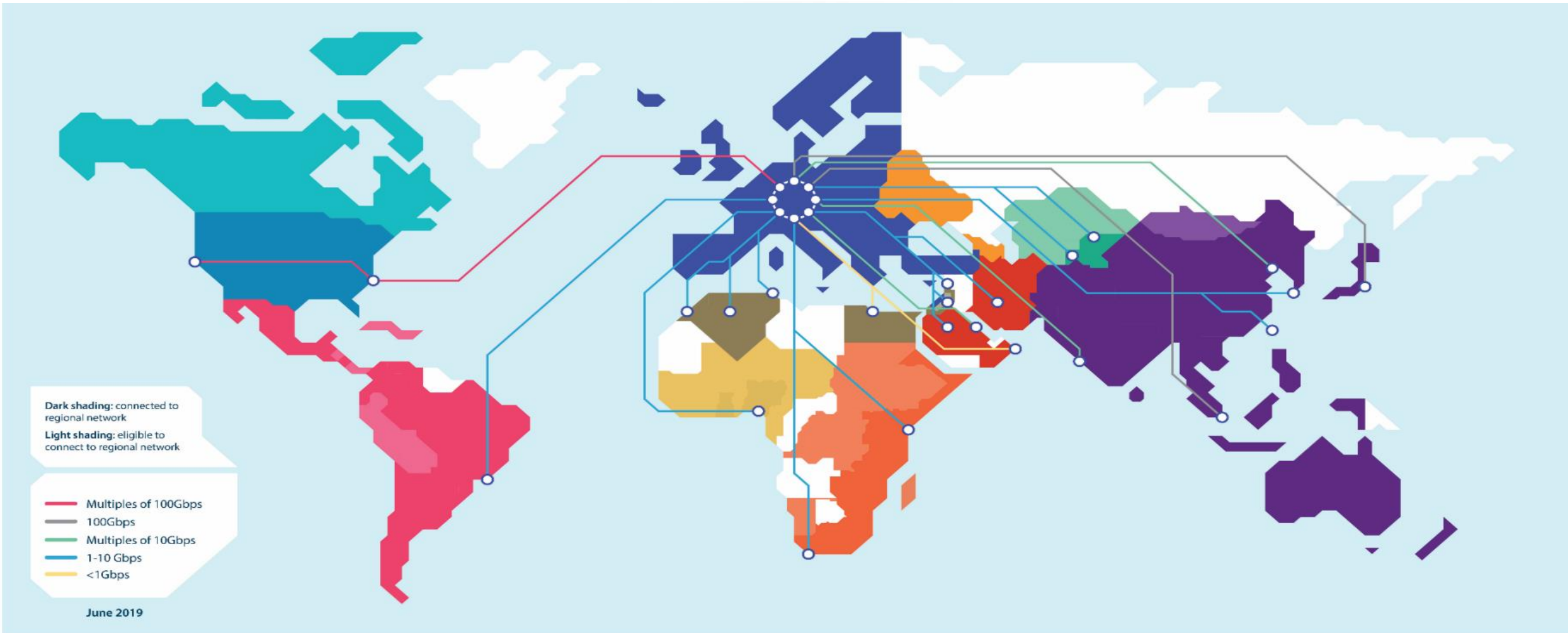
[Download the PDF](#)

Implementing NRENs in landlocked African countries

Challenges and critical success factors in setting up



At the Heart of Global Research and Education Networking



Canada & USA



Latin America



Europe



North Africa & Eastern Mediterranean



West & Central Africa



Eastern & Southern Africa



Central Asia



Asia-Pacific



Other R&E Networks



Connecting the Eastern Mediterranean research and education communities

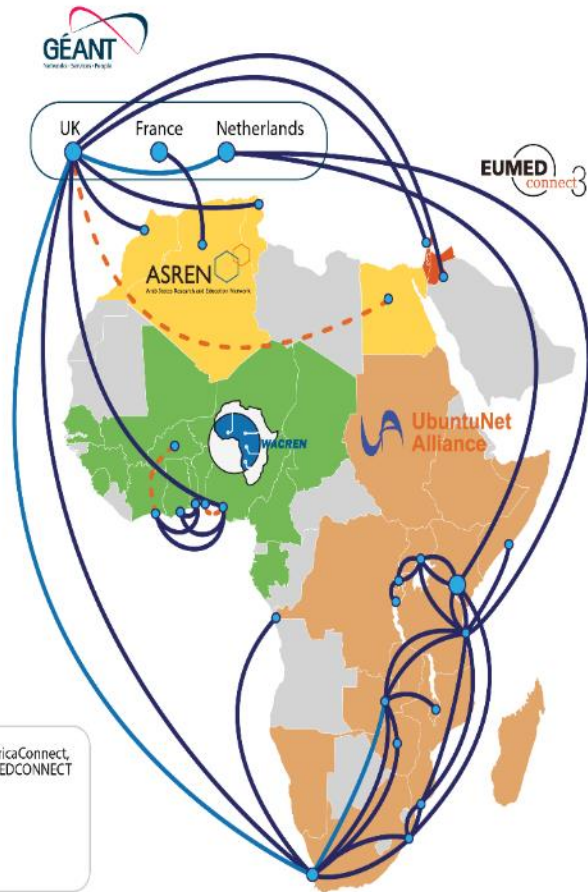


This project is funded
by the European Union



المنظمة العربية لشبكات البحث والتعليم
Arab States Research and Education Network

Africa Connect 3



February 2020



What do we aim to achieve?

- There overall objective of the AfricaConnect 3 project is to enhance human capital development within the continent
- The specific objective is to increase the use of digital technologies by African education and research institutions
- The expected results (outputs) for each of the three geographical clusters of the action are the following:

Output 1:

Access of tertiary education and research institutions to affordable and adequate e-infrastructures is improved

Output 2:

Dedicated services and applications are developed for the benefit of research and education communities

Output 3:

Adequate human resource capacity and expertise is built within the research and education communities

Output 4:

Awareness of the role of digital transformation of research and education is raised

AfricaConnect 3 Activities and Work Packages

- **WP 1 – Expand and Upgrade Research and Education Network and e-Infrastructures**

- WP 1.1 Maintenance and Management of Regional Network
- WP 1.2 Expansion and Upgrade of Connectivity for NRENs
- WP 1.3 **Cloud-based e-Infrastructure for African Open Science**

- **WP 2 - Development of R&E Services and Applications**

- WP 2.1 Service Outreach and Deployment Support
- WP 2.2 **Trust and Identity Services, eduroam....**
- WP 2.3 Proactive Cybersecurity for NRENs and their Digital Assets
- WP 2.4 **Federated Identity Management for Libraries**

AfricaConnect 3 Activities and Work Packages

- **WP 3 – Research and Education Networks Capacity Building**
 - WP 3.1 Governance and Systems Review of UA, WACREN and ASREN
 - WP 3.2 Sustainability Plan
 - WP 3.3 Sharing of Best Practices between NRENs
 - WP 3.4 Capacity Building under the Africa Training Initiative
 - WP 3.5 Women Empowerment in the African NREN community

- **WP 4 - Advocacy for the role of digital tools in the transformation of Education and Research**
 - WP 4.1 Advocacy and Donor Engagement
 - WP 4.2 REN and User Engagement Conferences
 - WP 4.3 Engagement with User Communities (AfriGEO and GMES in Africa are examples)
 - WP 4.4 Project Visibility and Dissemination

What an NREN (v2) is not—*what it must become*

specialized regional ISP—*essential global platform*

afraid to take risks and experiment—*innovation incubator*

supply-side market player—*demand-side market maker*

contract broker—*market aggregator*

knowledge carrier—*knowledge multiplier*

provider of shrink-wrapped solutions—*economic development engine*

business-as-usual partner—*transformation vehicle*

neutral collaboration connection—*collaboration enabler*

disinterested community service—*community developer*

political tool—*political stabilizer*

National R&E Networks: Not just networks anymore



Observations, Global Trends, Priorities

- UN SDGs → Science, Research, Education, Community Engagement
- Science and Science Diplomacy
- Open Science, Open Access, Open Data....
- Science Communities and Communities of Practice
- Scientific Computing
- Science Collaboration Platforms
- Internet Access, Security and Governance
-

NRENs Should not live/work isolated from these trends



Achieving UN SDGs through Science and R&E

- Promote and raise awareness of the importance of SDGs to policy makers, students, researchers and academics
- Explore means and tools towards achieving them
- Share/exchange knowledge and activities by NRENs in other countries/regions towards these goals including policies and actions
- Promote Science as an instrument for the development of communities to progress towards the achievement of the UN SDGs

Host ?

Convener ?

Operator ?

**Service
Provider ?**

Secretariat ?

Intervenor ?



Open Science, Open Access, OER....

- Take the lead to promote and disseminate UNESCO's recommendations on Open Science in coordination with relevant stakeholders
- Consolidate efforts to promote Open Science through conferences, fora, knowledge hubs, workshops, brainstorming sessions and concept debates.
- Initiate/host/operate services and applications
- Coordinate with similar efforts and activities by other NRENs/RRENs around.
- Disseminate science, open science and collaborative research towards achieving the SDGs and addressing the common needs of the country/region.

Host ?

Convener ?

Operator ?

**Service
Provider ?**

Secretariat ?

Intervenor ?



Open Science Platforms, Clouds, Tools...

- Follow national and regional initiatives on adopting Open Science Platforms such as the EOSC Europe.
- Establishing a community of librarians and data specialists across the region following the LIBSENSE project
- Organizing dedicated workshops on open access and open data to promote the culture of “Open Science” at the institutional and technical levels
- Deploying national/regional Open Science Harvesting Platform to integrate national/ institutional repositories

Host ?

Convener ?

Operator ?

**Service
Provider ?**

Secretariat ?

Intervenor ?



Science Communities and Communities of Practice

- Identify research communities and promote the creation of research communities and communities of practice at national and regional levels
- Encourage Science Dialogue with researchers and communities of practice.
- Provide these communities with collaboration tools and access to resources around the region and beyond
- Provide mobility services like eduroam, eduGAIN and eduVPN
- Provide capacity building/training to facilitate and optimize the use of ASREN's and NRENS' service offering.
- Encourage the use of open source, open educational resources and MOOCs and build on existing efforts especially those provided by regional and national initiatives.

Host ?
Convener ?
Operator ?
Service Provider ?
Secretariat ?
Intervenor ?



Internet Governance, Security, Access

- Cooperate/coordinate with Internet* organizations
- Host/operate Internet Exchange
- Operate/host Internet Society Chapters
- Take the responsibility as a stakeholder in Internet Governance
- IETF
- CERT/CSIRT
-
-

Host ?
Convener ?
Operator ?
Service Provider ?
Secretariat ?
Intervenor ?



Its Time to Rely on NRENs

**Making the
Case for
NRENs**



**NRENs
are Making
the Case**

Its Time to Rely on NRENs

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION NETWORKS IN THE SERVICE OF CLIMATE ACTION





Financiado por la Unión Europea

EUROCLIMA+ EN COP26

06/11/21 - 11.45 CET



 Live in 4 days
November 6, 1:45 PM

 Set reminder

ASREN to feature at Science Summit @UNGA76

ASREN 

23 September 2021
10:00 - 12:00 CEST



Science Summit at UNGA76



About



IGF2021



Intersessional



IGF Initiatives



Publications &
Reports



Calendar



Press

Home

IGF 2021 Town Hall #45 Exchanging research data responsible to save the planet

Add this session to my schedule

Session

Time

Wednesday, 8th December, 2021 (12:45 UTC) - Wednesday, 8th December, 2021 (13:45 UTC)

Room

Ballroom C

Add to Calendar

Organization's Website

<https://www.geant.org>

Theme

(EMERGING AND CROSS-CUTTING) Inclusive IG ecosystems and digital cooperation

Subtheme

Assessing Internet governance approaches and mechanisms and fostering inclusiveness: What are the main strengths and weaknesses of existing Internet governance approaches and mechanisms? What can be done, and by whom, to foster more inclusive Internet governance at the national, regional and international levels?

Advancing global digital cooperation: What opportunities are provided by the current focus on digital cooperation resulting from the UN Secretary-General's Roadmap for digital cooperation? What role should the IGF play (and how) in advancing global digital cooperation?



WACREN

1,056 Tweets

Following



On #openscience in #Africa, Prof @Baryamureeba - Chairperson of Uganda Technology and Management University says, we need to open up "quality, not just anything". Speaking at the @LIBSENSE #OpenScience Policy Development Workshop as part of the @UbuntuNet Connect 2021

ns and/or Conclusion Cont'd

...ing environment focused on early career researchers (EC...
... cohort of PhD holders in various STEM disciplines that would eval...
... collaborations and sharing of information across Africa and be...
... Educational Resources" and collaborative educational progr...
... African universities and research institutions and fully open...
... nt and use of "Research assessment and evaluation instrume...
... onal level to assure quality in research.
... Policy and Strategy Frameworks based on open science princ...
... es and strategies to guide member institutions in coming up v...
... research development and management.
... atory bodies should ensure that senior academics especially...
... rds. **Senior Academics should take sabbatical leave and write b...**
... nd Partnerships should be pursued and prioritised by all univer...
... research. Research institutions should also pursue international...
... is disseminated internationally, faculty should be encourage...
... l workshops and publish in high impact international journals...
... rch Institutions should work towards fully embracing open scienc...

LIBSENSE Open Science Policy Development Workshop

Virtual
Monday, 8th November 2021
10:00 - 13:00 CAT

Register at
<https://events.ubuntu.net/event/65/>



I THANK YOU. END.

GEANT NEWS and 4 others



12

16



AfricaConnect3 @AC3_News · Nov 8

Dr Ana Persic, says, the @UNESCO believes #openscience recommendations are intended to enhances "openness among scientists and openness with the society". @LIBSENSE #OpenScience Policy Workshop. ✓✓

GEANT NEWS and 9 others




13

19



← → ↻ 🏠 https://conteudo.mp.br/forum_rnp2021#rd-section-kst11eil 📄 a 🌟 ⚙️ 🗄️ 👤 ⋮



10º CBTms
Congresso Brasileiro de Telemedicina e Telessaúde

FORUM RNP 2021
DIGITAL

CBIS²¹
XVIII Congresso Brasileiro de Informática em Saúde

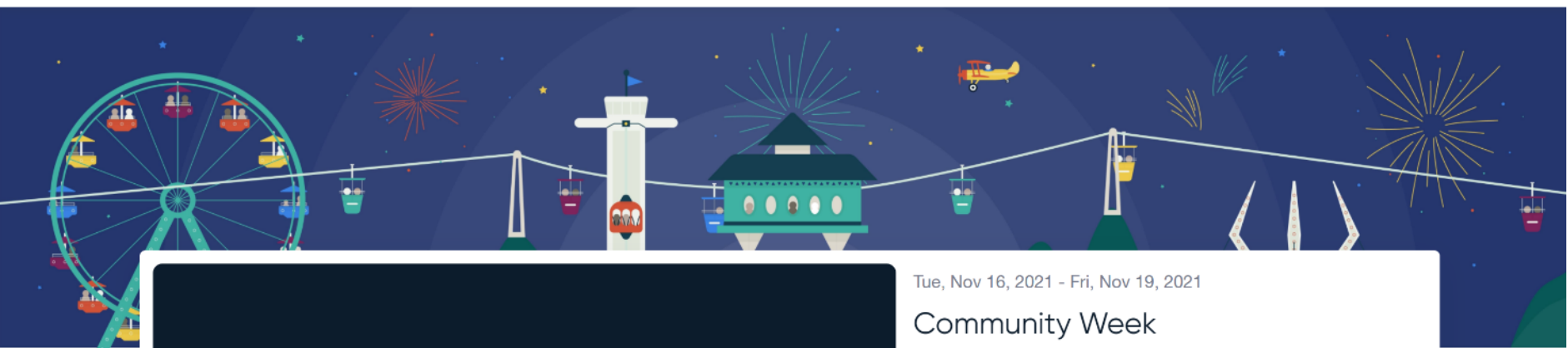
SBIS 35

EVENTO DIGITAL
2021

NOVEMBRO
22
a 26

DESENVOLVIMENTO
HUMANO E
SAÚDE DIGITAL
EM FOCO

FAÇA A SUA INSCRIÇÃO





Internet Society

Community Week **November 16 - 18 2021**

Tue, Nov 16, 2021 - Fri, Nov 19, 2021

Community Week

Post to Facebook


   

[Register](#)

One of the benefits of becoming a member of the Internet Society comes from being part of a network of people. Every day we help each other solve problems, discover solutions, share stories and cheer each other on as we create a bigger, stronger Internet for everyone. After all, if your people network becomes bigger and stronger, the Internet can become bigger and stronger too!

This community spirit, known to many as the 'Internet way,' is a big part of what makes the Internet itself such a marvel.

Date and Time

 Tue, Nov 16, 2021 at 4:00 PM - Fri, Nov 19, 2021 at 12:00 AM (EET)
[Add To Calendar](#)

e-AGE21

ASREN



ASREN's 11th Annual Conference
8-9 December 2021 (Hybrid)
Hammamat Tunisia



Thank you

Any questions?

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