

Playing Our Part - the Contribution of AFRICAN RENs to the SDGs



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On behalf of the AC3 Communications Team





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AGENDA

-  Why this journey?
-  What we have discovered so far
-  The way forward
-  Q&A



Main Goal



- The overarching goal is to contribute to the advocacy drive for African RENs by showing their relevance to the local and global society.
- By finding and publishing concrete evidence of the contribution of AfRENs to help meet the SDGs.

Expected Outcomes



Enhanced engagement between RENs and policy decision-makers



Opportunities for funding from local and global organisations



Projects/activities outcomes and stakeholders' needs aligned



Attract and nurture new partnerships locally and globally

Activity Milestones



The Timeline



4 QUALITY EDUCATION



According to the UN, the world was not close to achieving the targets set for SDG 4, **even before COVID-19 struck.**

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/education/>

4

Goal 4

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

RENs support for academic continuity

- eduroam expansion
- Turnkey video solutions
- Zero-rated data package
- E-learning solutions



4 QUALITY EDUCATION



- Over 5 million students and researchers have benefitted from REN connectivity and services
- 1900+ institutions
- 35 African countries.



4 QUALITY EDUCATION





The UN says, “the World is not on track to achieve gender equality by 2030”

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal5>

Goal 5

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Tunisia is the first country in Africa with 55% of women researchers

CCK

Women at the REN workplace

RENU & GARNET

ICT4Girls program to gain hands-on skills in physical computing and data analysis

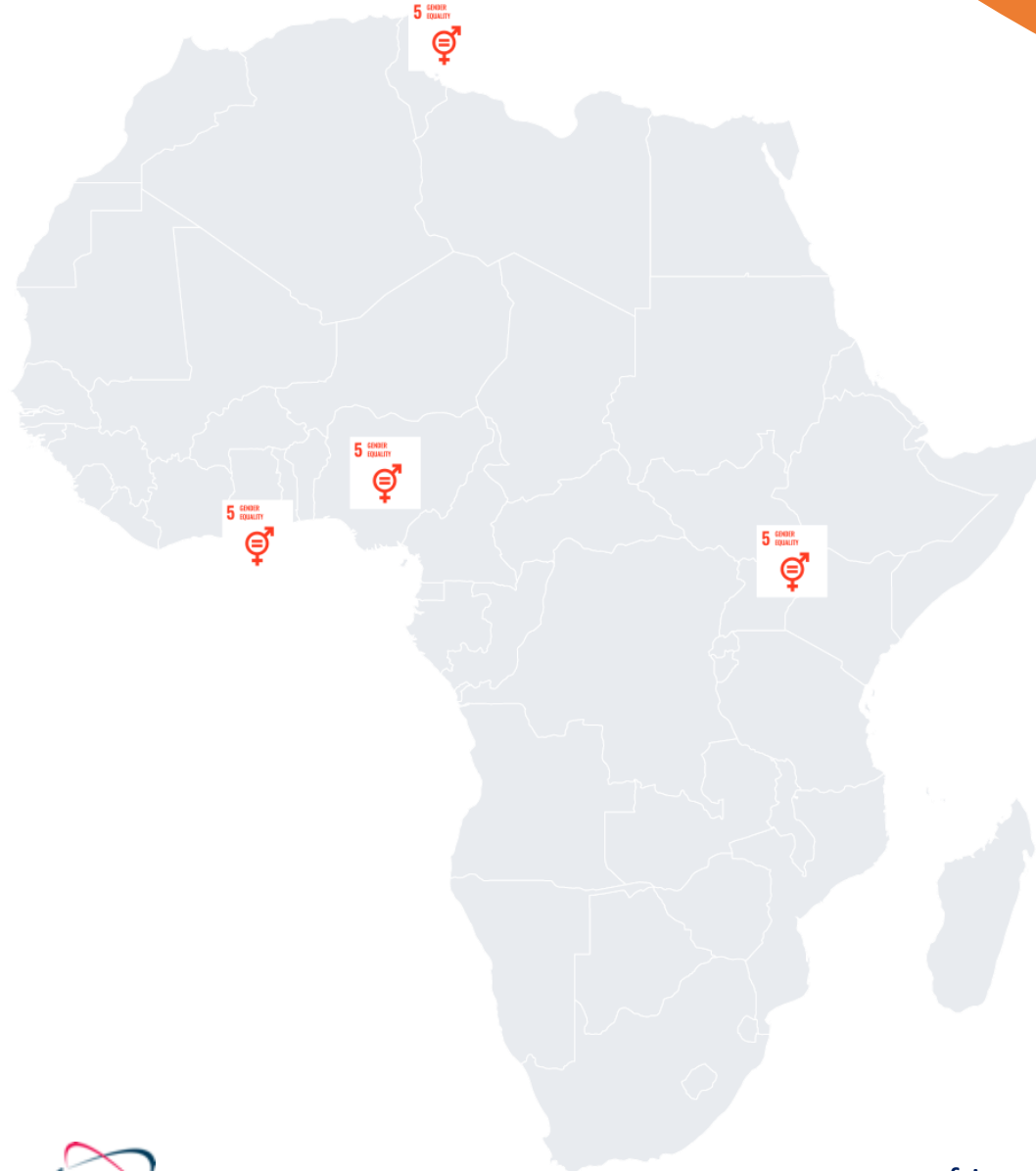
Eko-Konnnect

Women in STEM programme including online courses and hackathon event on basic programming

WACREN & UA



5 GENDER EQUALITY



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



RENs in Africa strive to create decent work environment, equal opportunity and fair income for their employees (males, females, youth)

African RENs

The Campus Network project offers Wi-Fi coverage across all campuses and this facilitates the creation of business incubators

CCK

8

Goal 8

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



EU-cofounded AC3 is supporting RRENs to upgrade and expand digital infrastructure and connectivity

AC3

eduroam innovations including metro eduroam, eduroam-on-the-go

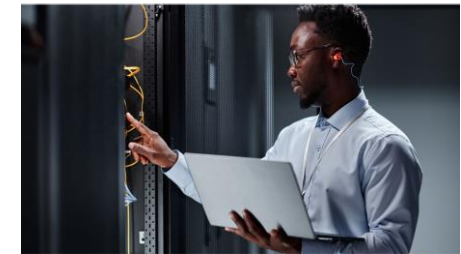
RENU

NRENs foster the spirit of innovation through cutting edge initiatives

RRENs & NRENs

Strengthening open access and open science with LIBSENSE

LIBSENSE





Goal 13

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

CCK is establishing a data centre fully compliant with energy saving standards. And working with GIZ to install a photovoltaic panels to generate electricity.

RENs

A collaboration with regional and international bodies to access weather data for analysis and predictions

WACREN





Through peering, GÉANT connects the RENS which, in turn, provide NRENS with high-performance, high-resilience peering facilities

Cross-continental

RRENs contributed to the review of the Continental Education Strategy for Africa

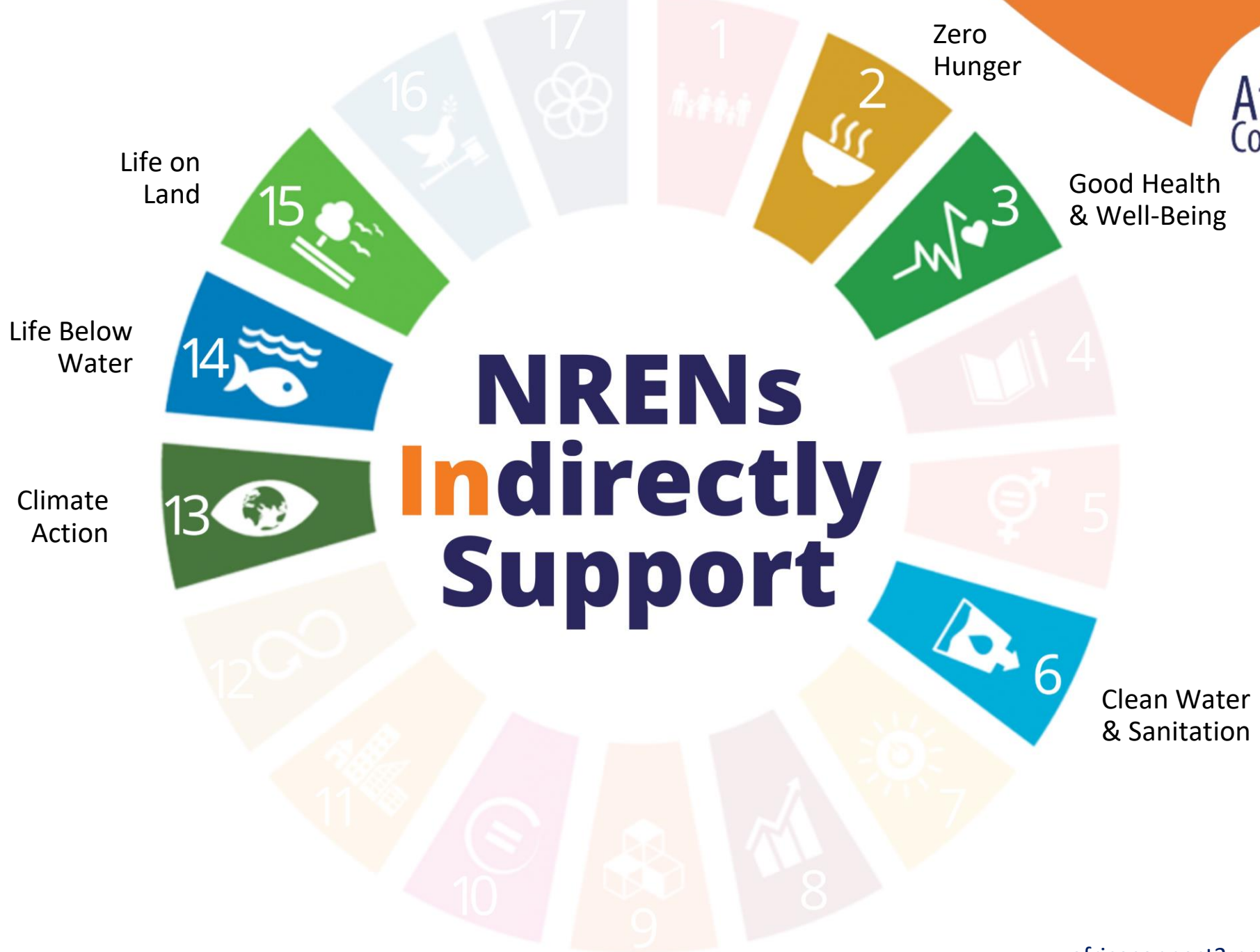
RRENs

Capacity building mechanisms

LIBSENSE, the Africa Training Initiative







Goal 17

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.



DIRECT

INDIRECT

 4 QUALITY EDUCATION	21+	SDGs Targets – 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6
 5 GENDER EQUALITY	6	SDGs Targets – 5.1, 5.5, 5.b
 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	6	SDGs Targets – 8.5, 8.6
 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	12+	SDGs Targets – 9.1, 9.5, 9.a, 9.b, 9.c
 13 CLIMATE ACTION	2	SDGs Targets – 13.3, 13.b
 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	9+	SDGs Targets – 17.6, 17.8, 17.9, 17.13, 17.16, 17.17

 4 QUALITY EDUCATION	5+	SDGs Targets – 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6
 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	1	SDGs Targets – 8.3
 13 CLIMATE ACTION	4	SDGs Targets – 13.31, 13.3

Clarion Call



1

SDGs Policy & Strategy

Outline RENs' commitment to the SDGs and set out specific targets and goals.

2

Staff & Stakeholders Education

Educate stakeholders on how they can contribute to achieve the set targets and goals. Appoint *SDGs Champions*

3

Support for SDGs research and initiatives

Leverage on resources to support SDGs-related research and activities.



4

REN Green Initiatives

Introduce sustainability practices into the work environment. Consider using energy-efficient data centres, waste recycling, green IT etc

5

Monitoring & Reporting

Devise a framework to identify track, monitor, assess and report on the progress towards SDGs-related goals

6

Partnership & Collaboration

Collaborate with communities, and other stakeholders to jointly address challenges related to the SDGs. Partnerships can enhance the collective impact on sustainability goals.

7

Monitoring & Reporting

Devise a framework to identify track, monitor, assess and report on the progress towards SDGs-related goals

8

Support Policies SDGs -Biased Policies

Support advocacy for policies that promote SDGs, such as open access to research, net neutrality, and data privacy. Participate in discussions to influence policy direction

9

Celebrate Achievements

Disseminate the outcomes and impacts of SDG activities to the local and global communities, especially governments and funding organisations

HELP ON THE WAY



1

TEMPLATE

NREN SDGs Policy
Paper Template

2

TRACKER

NREN SDGs Yearly
Progress Tracker

3

PUBLICATIONS

List of SDGs-
focused Publications

4

FUNDERS

List of Potential
Funders of SDGs-
aligned
organisations

5

ARTICLES

Support for
syndication of SDGs
impact stories





Resources

AfricaConnect3: www.africaconnect3.net

UbuntuNet Alliance (E&S Africa): www.ubuntunet.net

WACREN (W&C Africa): www.wacren.net

ASREN (North Africa): www.asrenorg.net

GÉANT (pan-European): www.geant.org

GÉANT Interactive Map: <https://map.geant.org>

In The Field: <https://www.inthefieldstories.net/>

Case for NRENs: <https://casefornrens.org/>

Thank you

Any questions?



@AC3_News



AC3-Community



africconnect3.net



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