

“ASREN is a non-profit company with limited liability (GmbH) and is officially registered in Germany, under the umbrella of the League of Arab States. The main goal is to connect Arab institutions among themselves and to the globe through high-speed data-communications networks. Such networks will enable sharing and access to a variety of R&E services and applications in addition to utilization of highly sophisticated and technologically advanced computing resources available only at very few institutions in the world.”

In this issue

- Abu-Ghazaleh: New upgrade of ASREN link to GÉANT 1
- Abu-Ghazaleh: The Somali Research and Education Communities Have Access Now to the Arab and Global research and Education Networks 2
- Call for Papers The e-AGE18 Conference 3

Abu-Ghazaleh: New upgrade of ASREN link to GÉANT



HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman of the Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN) and Mr. Erik Huizer, CEO of GÉANT Association have signed an interconnection agreement to upgrade the existing link of ASREN to the GÉANT network at a capacity of 10 Gbps through the London Open Exchange.

HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman of ASREN said: “This new upgrade comes as a result of increasing connections to ASREN’s PoP in London, which currently links the national research and education networks of Jordan, Lebanon, and Morocco under the

EUMEDCONNECT3 and AfricaConnect2 project respectively. The PoP allows direct peering and connection to the research education networks in Europe and elsewhere. The co-funding of the European Union has been crucial to the success of regional REN sustainability and development.”

Mr. Erik Huizer, CEO of GÉANT said: “Since 2010, ASREN has been a longstanding and

trusted partner in catalyzing R&E networking in the Arab Mediterranean countries. R&E networks allow researchers, teachers and learners to access computationally intensive resources and to engage in international collaborations”. “This new upgrade will allow more capacity to access European resources and facilities and as a result it will enhance research collaborations among scientists in our regions”, he added.

Abu-Ghazaleh: The Somali Research and Education Communities Have Access Now to the Arab and Global research and Education Networks



The Somali National Research and Education Network (SomaliREN) has been successfully connected to the UbuntuNet Alliance for Research and Education Network and to the European GEANT network under the AfricaConenct2 Project which is cofounded by the European Commission.

The regional research and education network of the East and South Africa, Ubuntunet Alliance is the counterpart organization to the Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN) and the West and Central Africa Research and Education Network (WACREN). They work together to provide e-Infrastructure services to the African research and education communities under the EC funded AfricaConenct2 Project in cooperation with the European Research and education Network (GEANT)

On this occasion, HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman of ASREN said: “SomaliREN and Ubuntunet Alliance Network are potential partners for ASREN to boost high speed networks for research and education across the Arab region and abroad” adding that “the support of the European Commission to the AfricaConenct2 and EUMEDCONNECT3 projects has always been instrumental in setting up dedicated links to connect to the European GEANT Network for access to various computing resources and repositories”.

Welcoming the development, UbuntuNet Alliance CEO, Dr. Pascal Hoba said: “UbuntuNet Alliance is proud to confirm that despite various challenges, SomaliREN is now connected to the UbuntuNet Network. It is exciting to welcome our colleagues from the Somali Research and Education networking community; we sincerely believe that this connection will stimulate collaborations between Somalia and the global R&E community”

Abdullahi Bihi Hussein, CEO of SomaliREN said: “We are pleased that SomaliREN is finally connected to the UA regional backbone. It is a dream come true for our NREN as well as the Somali higher education and research community and institutions. This marks the beginning of the realization of a grand vision to connect all our research and education institutions among themselves and with their global partners so that access to research and education facilities and resources is achieved. We thank all partners for making this possible despite the challenges and limitations imposed by the realities on the ground”

Call for Papers The e-AGE18 Conference

The e-AGE conference had established itself as an important venue for networking among experts and scientists. In 2018, e-AGE will be held under the patronage of HE Professor Adel Tweissi, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, in Amman, Jordan during 2-3 December 2018. This year e-AGE is technically



sponsored by IEEE, and the presented papers will be submitted to the IEEE Xplore digital library. Selected papers will be published in a special issue of the International Journal of Advanced Pervasive and Ubiquitous Computing (IJAPUC). The focus will be on demonstrating successes in using the research and education e-Infrastructures at national, regional and global levels. In short words, e-AGE18 “CAPACITY FOR TRANSFORMATION” as the main theme of the conference.

e-AGE18 will include events, workshops and meetings centered around the following:

- 11th Event on Euro-Mediterranean e-Infrastructure
- 8th Annual Meeting of ASREN
- EUMEDCONNECT3 Project meeting
- AfricaConnect2 Project meeting
- Internet2 Middle East SIG Meetings
- Workshops dedicated for e-Infrastructures users
- Technical Workshops on R&E networking

Moreover, special sessions will be dedicated to specific domains, mainly focusing on experiences in connectivity and e-Infrastructure, applications and services across a variety of scientific domains. It is also important to show how research infrastructure creates tangible benefits to communities and collaborations. It is still critical to demonstrate how research connectivity can promote collaboration and innovation. Different discussions will be stimulated during e-AGE to drive outcomes and concrete results on practical steps towards developing a regional e-Infrastructure.

Authors are invited to submit full papers reporting on their original and unpublished research in e-Infrastructures and computational and data-intensive sciences. All papers will be peer-reviewed for relevance, quality and originality of research.

Posters are also welcomed, an effective poster presentation is not just a standard research paper stuck to a board. It should summarize your work with graphs and images to tell the story and should use text more sparingly. Featuring a poster at e-AGE will serve as an excellent advertisement for your work, and can act as a great conversation starter with e-AGE participants.

Topics of interest include, but not limited to:

- Scientific computing and data-intensive e-Science in areas related to energy, environment, health, climate, water, agriculture, biology, economy, medicine, as well as in social sciences and humanities.
- Perspectives on NRENs, including challenges, operation, sustainability, funding, governance, business models, security and services.
- Problem-solving environments, Virtual Research Environments, Science Gateways and collaborative tools, applications and services.
- Education and e-Learning Technologies, access to educational resources, repositories, libraries and contents, clouds, grids, parallel and distributed computing, and high performance computing.
- Internet technologies and trends, Internet of Things, Security, SDN and AAI.

For more details, please visit the conference website at:

<http://asrenorg.net/eage18/?q=Page/call-participation>

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