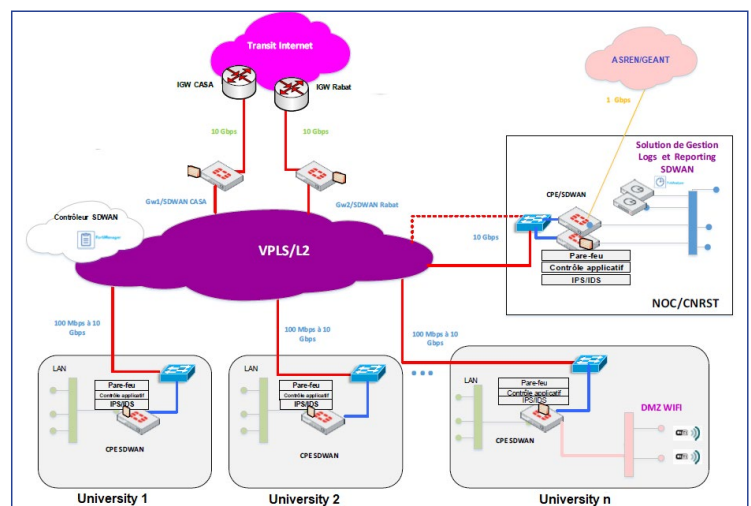


“ASREN is a non-profit company with limited liability (GmbH) and is officially registered in Germany, under the umbrella of the League of Arab States. The main goal is to connect Arab institutions among themselves and to the globe through high-speed data-communications networks. Such networks will enable 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.”

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New network topology at the Moroccan REN



On January 1, 2022, the Moroccan national research and education network (MARWAN) successfully migrated from MARWAN 4 (2017-2021) to the new architecture MARWAN 5 (2022-2026).

MARWAN, which was created in 1998 and run by the National Centre for Scientific and Technical Research (CNRST), has evolved slowly but steadily over the years despite significant governance and funding constraints.

CNRST constantly relies on the evolution of communication technologies internationally to improve the quality, service and network architecture

of MARWAN. Today, in its new topology using SD-WAN technology built on the VPN/MPLS telecom operator backbone, MARWAN 5 connects more than 250 higher education and research institutions through 133 links covering 51 cities in Morocco, with a bandwidth speed up to 10 Gbps.

MARWAN new layout showed an improvement in the network efficiency and speed, significantly improving access to the nationwide R&E connectivity across Morocco. And thanks to the recent direct link to the Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN) through its participation in the EU co-funded AfricaConnect3 project, connecting MARWAN to the European network GÉANT and the global R&E networking community; the Moroccan researchers and students is now placed in a leading position to leave a mark both nationally and internationally.

Since its inception, MARWAN has been a driver for Moroccan universities and research centers to develop new services in education, technology transfer and scientific research, increasing the uptake of their service portfolio, including High Performance Computing (HPC), eduroam, identity federation, IPv6, digital certificates, EduVPN, content caches and Software repository mirrors.

Register now for IT Security Management workshop



The banner features a dark blue background with a faint image of a person's hands typing on a laptop keyboard. At the top, logos for ASREN, Internet Society, GÉANT, NSRC (Network Startup Resource Center), and RNP are displayed. The main text reads: "Information Security Training" in orange, "Module 04: IT Security Management" in large white font, and "14th - 30th March 2022" in orange. Below this, it says "More information at: asrenorg.net/it-security-management". At the bottom, logos for Africa Connect 3, EUMED connect 3, and the European Union flag are shown.

This is the fourth and final module of the “Information Security” training program delivered by Arab States Research and education Network (ASREN) in cooperation with Network Startup Resource Center (NSRC), European Network GÉANT and the Brazilian research and education network (RNP), and with the support of Internet Society (ISOC) and the EU co-funded projects AfricaConnect3 and EUMEDCONNECT3.

The course looks at the process of how to best select and implement security measures to effectively address an organization's security requirements. This process involves examining three fundamental questions: (a) what assets need to be protected, (b) how those assets are threatened, and (c) what can be done to counter those threats. IT security management is the formal process of answering these questions, ensuring that critical assets are sufficiently protected in a cost-effective manner.

For more information and registration visit: <https://asrenorg.net/it-security-management>
Registration is free and open to all ASREN members and member organizations. Registration submissions will go through a moderation process for audience management purposes.

ORCID was meant to solve name ambiguity

As individual as we all are, our names are really not that unique, and attempts to link research activities and outcomes to a person's name have led to endless confusion in the past. Even in the same discipline, hundreds or even thousands of researchers can have the same or similar names. There can be endless variations of names, which can change over time: Yasmine Mohammad Omar Yousef, Yasmine Yousef, Yasmine M. Yousef. Researchers learned a long time ago that names are not enough to ensure credit for their work.

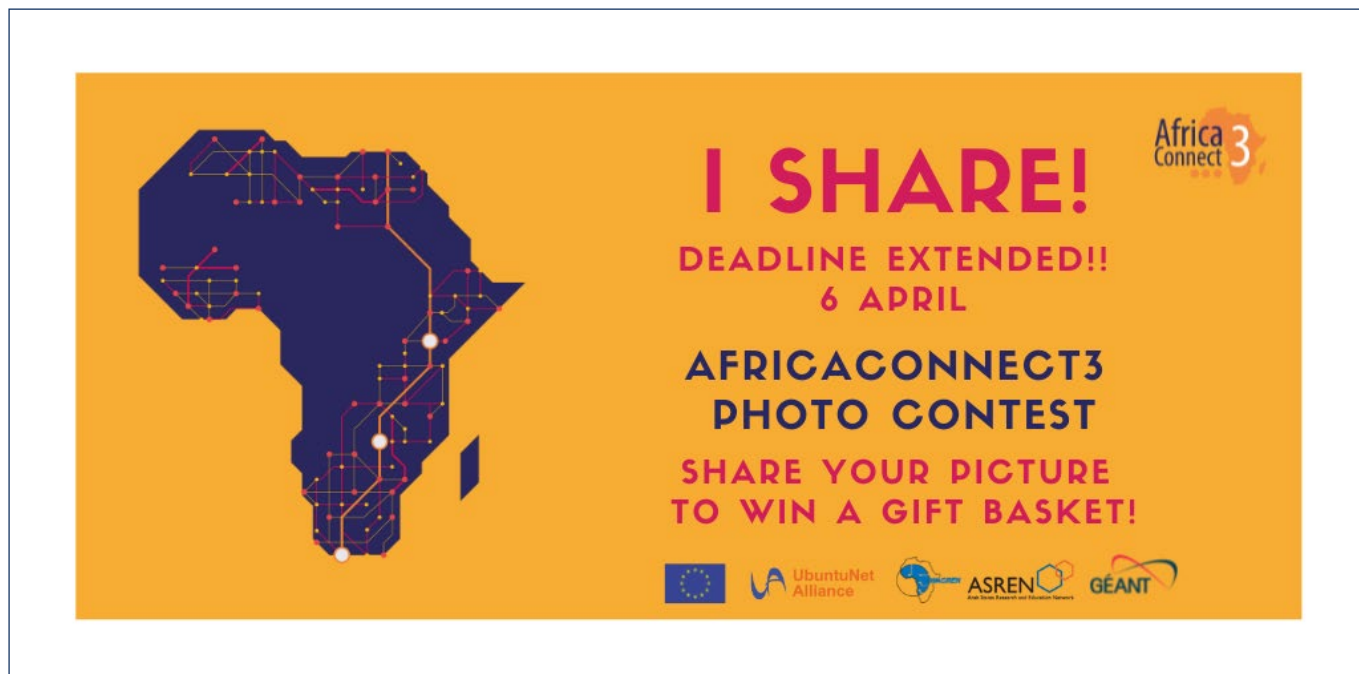
ORCID, as a name-independent person-identifier, was founded specifically to help solve the problem of name ambiguity in research, and to enable transparent and trustworthy connections between researchers, their contributions, and their affiliations.

To meet this use case, the important characteristics of ORCID iDs are that they are unique, persistent, and controlled by a single real-world individual. Unique so that people with the same name can be distinguished from one another; persistent so that one individual can maintain the same ORCID iD throughout their entire career; controlled by a single individual so that users of ORCID data can be reasonably confident that the data contained in the ORCID record is the data that the record-holder wishes to present to the world about themselves. It is not necessary for our use case for the availability of ORCIDs to be restricted to a specific class of individuals, nor for some authority to control who may obtain an ORCID.

Distinguish yourself now! Register for your ORCID iD at: <https://orcid.org/register>



DEADLINE EXTENDED – AfricaConnect3 launches online photo contest with prizes! #iShareAC3



We are excited to announce that the AfricaConnect3 (AC3) Partners are launching AC3's first Twitter photo contest I share! Started as an opportunity to build a valuable repository of user-generated images, we hope that the contest will increase awareness of the project impact on the African Research & Education community and bolster affinity with our followers!

I share! targets our partner African NRENs and fellow users of AC3-supported research and education network services. We are looking for pictures representing: users, events, training, networks and infrastructure.

The Submission deadline EXTENDED: 6 April 2022. The winners will be announced during WACREN2022.

We will select 10 winners who will be awarded each with a gift basket containing AC3 – branded merchandise. Now is your time to share your picture and be seen!

More information and details about eligibility, submission conditions and prizes at the [AC3 website](#).

TNC22 Lightning Talks – the call for proposals is now open



The banner features a dark blue background with a teal and white geometric design on the right side. The text is arranged in a clear, hierarchical manner, starting with the 'tnc22' logo in teal, followed by 'LIGHTNING TALKS' in large white letters, 'CALL FOR PROPOSALS' in smaller white letters, and 'NOW OPEN' in large yellow letters. The bottom section is a teal bar containing the location and dates 'Trieste, Italy | 13-17 June 2022', the conference theme 'NAVIGATING THE UNEXPLORED' in white, and the website 'tnc22.geant.org' in white.

tnc22
LIGHTNING TALKS
CALL FOR PROPOSALS
NOW OPEN

Trieste, Italy | **13-17 June 2022**

NAVIGATING
THE UNEXPLORED
tnc22.geant.org

The call for proposals for TNC22 Lightning Talks is now officially open.

Lightning Talks sessions have always been very popular at TNC bringing sparkle and fun to the conference through the years.

Lightning Talks focus on one key point. This can be a successful project, a story, a collaboration invitation, a demonstration or just useful advice. It is an opportunity for ideas to get the attention they deserve, in exactly 5 minutes!

It's true, it can be daunting to get up on such a big stage and captivate the TNC audience in such a short amount of time, but lightning talks presenters have carte blanche to be as creative

as they wish and can put their heart and soul in their performance.

To ensure that your proposal stands out and is successfully included in this year's conference program here are some simple, but useful steps.

- READ the guidelines
- FOCUS on your message
- TELL us a story
- THINK about content and presentation
- BE original

Lightning Talks Submission deadline:
14 March 2022.

Submit your TNC22 proposals here:
<https://tnc22.geant.org/submission-guidelines/>

Increasing student interest and engagement in space exploration conference



With a core goal to bridge the gap between space exploration and access to resources and technology for African students, FASESA is proud to present the inaugural Interest and Engagement in Space Exploration conference.

Bringing together multiple African governments, space agencies, international corporate entities as well as policymakers and educators, the conference will focus on the current aerospace and space exploration landscape in Africa and the opportunities to bring access to these vocations in every classroom throughout Africa.

Hosting industry leaders from organizations including NASA, NearSpace Launch, Planet, The Secure World Foundation, Capella Space, The Universities of Arizona, Texas at El Paso, Johannesburg and Surrey amongst others, the conference will take place between the 27th & 29th of April 2022, at the Protea Hotel Midrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.

For more information and registration visit: <https://fasesa.com/>

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