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Abu-Ghazaleh: Connecting Lebanese Universities to ASREN network in London



Recently, five major Lebanese universities signed the Technology Cooperation Agreement for Research and Education (TechCARE) to create a core: “Lebanon’s national education and research network (LERN)”. LERN is now connected to the European research and Education network GÉANT under the EC co-funded project EUMEDCONNECT3. The connection is established through the main Point of Presence (PoP) of the Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN).

TechCARE will connect educational institutions within Lebanon and from Lebanon to the rest of the world, allowing for enhanced collaboration and improved e-services for the member universities and their communities of researchers and learners.

On this occasion, HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman of ASREN remarked that: “The establishment of LERN is an important milestone for Lebanon and the Arab region. It will evolve to interconnect with the Arab universities and share resources and facilities in the wider context of the pan-Arab e-Infrastructures.”

For his part, Yousif Asfour, CIO of the American University of Beirut commented: “The purpose of this agreement is not only to connect researchers and students within Lebanon,

but also to connect them to the world. Among the foundational services of TechCARE are the connections it provides to the European community - through GÉANT and its EUMEDCONNECT3 program-and the regional community through the Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN)”.

David West, project manager of EUMedConnect3, explained how pleased they were that Lebanon is participating in this EU-funded program. “GÉANT welcomes the Technology Cooperation Agreement for Research and Education (TechCARE) among Lebanese research and education institutions and is happy to provide the Lebanese R&E community with the benefits from connectivity and services provided under agreements between GÉANT and AUB,” said West. “We look forward to a continuing and growing partnership.”

Connecting Abu Ghazaleh Knowledge Stations in Jordan to the Arab States Research and Education Network in London



Amman - Upon the instructions of His Excellency Dr. Talal Abu Ghazaleh, the knowledge stations that he established in all the governorates of Jordan are now connected to the global research and education networks through the Arab States Research and Education Network main website in London.

This website is operated and managed by the Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN) in cooperation with the European Research and Education Network (GÉANT) with funding from the European Commission under the EUMEDCONNECT3 Project and Talal Abu Ghazaleh Group.

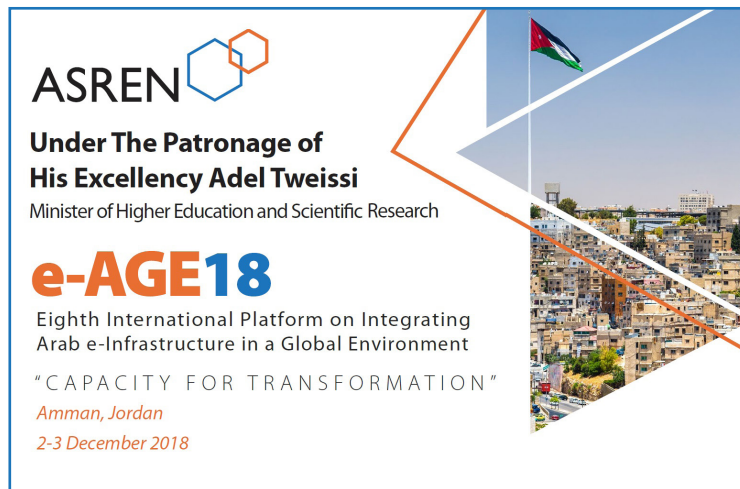
His Excellency Dr. Talal Abu Ghazaleh, Chairman of the Arab States Research and Education Network said: “We are

happy to offer this unique service to the Jordanian citizens. This service will enable them to access research and education data and resources from around the world through these knowledge stations which I was honored to provide to our community.”

The Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN) was established under the auspices of the League of the Arab States and chaired by HE Dr. Talal Abu Ghazaleh. ASREN works on establishing the pan Arab research and education network to provide network and application services to the Arab research and education communities and to connect them with their peers around the world. ASREN activities are funded and supported by the European Commission and Talal Abu Ghazaleh Group.

The purpose of the knowledge stations is the transformation towards the knowledge economy as well as placing the ITC at the service of all components of the Arab community with special emphasis on the least fortunate in order to bridge the digital divide. The Knowledge stations also aim at developing human power by equipping it with modern economy skills, enhancing its job seeking competitiveness and promoting its scientific capabilities; so that the exerted efforts integrate and contribute to achieving comprehensive economic and social development for most urban communities.

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>

The GÉANT Association - a truly international organization



The diversity in cultures amongst NRENs, as well as international collaborations from researchers, all demand a wide range of viewpoints and cultural insights: which makes diversity one of the strengths of GÉANT. It also shows how research and education networking is breaking down national barriers – not only via the physical network and the myriad of international collaborations across a plethora of fields, but also within the people network dedicated and committed to the smooth running of these.

To read the full story: https://www.geant.org/News_and_Events/Pages/The-GEANT-Association-a-truly-international-organisation.aspx

It's often said that, when walking through GÉANT's offices you will more likely hear Italian being spoken than English! But just how international is GÉANT? An informal survey in May found that we have 32 countries represented within the GÉANT offices, which in an organisation of 130 people, is an amazing figure - and goes to show exactly how diverse our workforce is.

The majority of employees, in both the Amsterdam and the Cambridge offices, are bilingual,

with a good percentage of polyglots fluent in three or even four languages. This further enriches our already multicultural working environment, giving it a unique dimension. In addition, most members of staff have lived and worked in a variety of locations across the globe and have brought to GÉANT a wealth of professional backgrounds, experience and expertise.

This spread of nationalities is a reflection of the community we serve.

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