ASREN

Arab States Research and Education Network

ASREN *Newsletter*

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ASREN Joins the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) as an Academia Member

Under the support and guidance of HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman of the Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN), ASREN joined the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) as an Academia Member.

The main reason for joining ITU is to be part of this very important community and to learn more about ITU activities and to work together on developing the Pan Arab Research and Education Network and e-Infrastructures. Joining ITU came out as a result of close coordination with the ITU Regional Office in Cairo and other regional and international organizations in order to join efforts to overcome the challenges and obstacles in the telecom sector in the Arab region.

ASREN recently started the preparations for the ArabConenct Initiative which aims to establish and develop dedicated research and education networks e-Infrastructures and services in the Arab region at both national and regional levels. This ArabConenct will then interconnect these national and regional networks to the international and global research and education networks which will enable the research and education communities in the Arab Region to communicate and collaborate with other communities around the world.

"We are confident that our partnership with ITU will be very instrumental in implementing the ArabConenct Initiative by supporting and adopting this initiative and by overcoming the telecom regulatory and pricing challenges in the region", HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman of ASREN said.

"We value your membership. It is an expression of your commitment to the development of the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) sector for the benefit of world citizens, without exclusion", Brahima Sanou, Director Telecommunication Development Bureau at ITU said.

TAIEX and ASREN to Support SESAME Users in Jordan

AMMAN - Under the Patronage of HE Dr. Khaled Toukan, Director of SESAME and Chairman of the Jordan Atomic Energy Commission (JAEC), and the Support and funding of the Technical Assistance and Sponsors Information Exchange Instrument of the European Commission (TAIEX), and in cooperation with the SESAME Jordanian National Committee (SJNC), the Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN) and the Synchrotron-light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle East (SESAME) have successfully conducted a workshop for the Jordanian SESAME users in Amman.

The main objective was to promote SESMAE and the valuable opportunities of European Synchrotron Sources to the Jordanian Users communities. More than 100 active scientists and researchers from various Jordanian

universities and research organizations attended this workshop. Participants showed great interest in utilizing SESAME and highlighted the essentiality of having ASREN and GEANT connectivity as a research-enabling tool.

The scientific program of the workshop covered topics in current states of SESAME Synchrotron, SESAME Computational Facilities and Links and Research opportunities and applications using the XAFS/XRF Beamline, IR Beamline and MS Beamline, in addition to research infrastructures and capacity building opportunities.

In the opening session, HE Dr. Khaled Toukan welcomed the attendees and encouraged them to focus on the workshop sessions to develop their scientific research activities as this is a unique opportunity to learn from each other and exchange experience with the European users participating in the workshop.

Dr. Abdul-Halim Wriekat, Chairman of the Jordanian National Committees for SESAME introduced the scientific aspects of this workshop, highlighted SESAME Synchrotrons, research opportunities and applications using the beamlines namely: XAFS/XRF, IR and the Material Science (MS).

Mr. Yousef Torman, Director of the Pan Arab Research and Education Network (ASREN) raised the awareness on the importance and necessity for establishing research and education networks at both national and regional levels to better enable collaboration between researchers and to facilitate sharing resources and access to data repositories and research communities.

Several presentations were conducted by the guest speakers and Synchrotron experts from Europe on the use of the beamlines. Technical developments and success stories, emphasizing the importance of the computational sciences and other research domains were presented and discussed by the Jordanian SESAME users.

Call for Papers
EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND INNOVATION - The e-AGE 2017 Conference Cairo – Egypt, 3-4 December 2017

CAIRO - The e-AGE conference had established itself as an important venue for networking among experts and scientists. In 2017, e-AGE will be held under the patronage of His Excellency Mr. Ahmed Aboul-Gheit, secretary general of the League of Arab States in Cairo, Egypt, 3 – 4 December, 2017. The main theme of e-AGE 2017 is "EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND INNOVATION".

e-AGE 2017 will include events, workshops and meetings centered around the following:

- 10th Event on Euro-Mediterranean e-Infrastructure
- 7th Annual Meeting of ASREN
- 9th Annual Conference of the Arab Organization for Quality Assurance
- EUMEDCONNECT3 and Africaconenct2 Project Meetings
- 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 and accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings.

Topics of interest include, but not limited to:

- Scientific computing and data-intensive e-Science in the scientific 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 AAIs.

For more details, please visit:
http://asrenorg.net/eage2017/?q=Page/call-participation

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