

NCSA e-AGE 2011 Statement of Support

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Around the globe, researchers and educators are addressing many of the same key problems. The complexity of these problems is increasing rapidly - so is the complexity of the cyber resources and tools we have been developing to find solutions to these problems. This trend will continue and likely accelerate in the foreseeable future. More and more, it is becoming the case that the world needs to come together to establish common and open cyberinfrastructure allowing different perspectives and areas of expertise to be synthesized for jointly tackling the problems that are not separated by national borders, cultural differences, and disciplinary foci (e.g., public health, emergency management, environmental management, other key areas). Cyberinfrastructure resources and services over expansive and high-speed networks need to be built and evolved with open international collaborations empowered, which will play increasingly important roles in resolving the most challenging problems facing our world and society.

As a community, we are still in the early stages of building collaborative and open cyber-frameworks that can effectively bring together the expertise and resources needed for solving large-scale complex problems. NCSA, the National Center for Supercomputing Applications, at the University of Illinois has been a world leader working in this context for 25 years, with partners in numerous fields from many different parts of the world. We would welcome new opportunities to interact with colleagues in Jordan, and in other parts of the Eastern Mediterranean to see how we can work together. Your objectives for e-AGE 2011 are very important to advancing science, education, and engineering not only among the Arab States, but also in connecting them productively with other parts of the world. We wish your workshop a great success!