



Abu-Ghazaleh highlights NEAAR backbone to speed up scientific discovery

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AMMAN – H.E. Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman of the Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN), emphasized the importance of the collaboration of Networks for European, American, and African Research (NEAAR) for increasing data sharing and speeding up scientific discovery across Africa, US, and Europe. NEAAR is a powerful cross-organizational project that provides services and bandwidth connecting researchers in the US with their counterparts in Europe and Africa.

Indiana University (IU) jointly leads the NEAAR collaboration with GÉANT, the European research and education network (REN), in a cooperative partnership with the African regional RENs: the

UbuntuNet Alliance in south and east Africa, ASREN in north Africa, and WACREN in the west and central Africa.

Jennifer Schopf, Principal Investigator of NEAAR at IU, announces: "A new 100Gbps transatlantic subsea cable supplied by AquaComms has been switched on to enable extensive data sharing between continents". She added: "It is expected that improved intercontinental networks will accelerate scientific breakthroughs in food security, environment preservation, and treatment of chronic diseases by allowing researchers to share data and results and to use research and computational resources more quickly".

Cathrin Stöver, co-Principal Investigator of NEAAR at GÉANT, said: "This new link is the first step of a multiple-phase collaboration set to create a new exchange point in Africa and benefit from EU-funded AfricaConnect2 pan-African network extensions for enhancing regional research and education collaboration"

Abu-Ghazaleh highlights the role of EUMEDCONNECT3 in advancing e-Infrastructure for research and education in Jordan, Lebanon, and Palestine



AMMAN – HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman of the Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN) highlights the role of the EU-funded EUMEDCONNECT3 project in advancing e-Infrastructure for research and education in Jordan, Lebanon, and Palestine. The project has been extended for 3 years and its co-funding has been increased from 36% to 60% of the overall costs. This will enhance regional e-Infrastructure and will support international research and education (R&E) connectivity for Jordan, Lebanon, and Palestine. The contract amendment for the increase and extension was formalized earlier this month with the Directorate-General for

Neighborhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR) of the European Commission within the EC allocation of €3.2M funding.

HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh emphasized the importance of technological literacy as a key factor for the socio-economic and scientific progress of the Arab region. He recognized the role of the EUMEDCONNECT3 in enhancing the technological literacy and enabling international collaboration. He said: "The R&E networks serve as scientific platforms for academics, researchers, scholars and policy makers for cooperation, implementing joint projects, and crystalizing research and educational findings that support solving issues of relevance to the Arab region".

David West, GÉANT's EUMEDCONNECT3 project manager, commented: "This extension and increase of funding share by the European Commission are important development mechanisms of the Arab regional network and its interconnection with the GÉANT pan-European network to facilitate R&E collaborations since the project inception in 2004. The EUMEDCONNECT program led to the first regional network outside Europe that spurs R&E networking and collaboration in the region."

ASREN's Emphasis at UbuntuNet in Uganda to Develop the e-Infrastructures in Africa



ENTEbbe - The Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN) participated in the annual conference of the UbuntuNet Alliance UC2016, which took place in Entebbe Uganda represented by its Executive Director Yousef Torman.

During the conference, specialized workshops to representatives of the National Research and Education Networks (NRENs) on both technical and communications aspects were held.

ASREN Chairman HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, highlighted the importance of participation in such events.

“We are proud with our longstanding relationship with the UbuntuNet Alliance as we share common objectives. We coordinate efforts for the development of research and education infrastructures in Africa together with GÉANT and WACREN.”

In a pre-conference workshop, Torman gave a presentation on user engagement and delivered a message at opening session.

He also discussed with officials and representatives of regional and international organizations the opportunities of future cooperation in new areas that help develop and enhance services offered to users through research and education networks.



Arab States Research and Education Network

Talal Abu-Ghazaleh University, Bldg, No.45, Abd Al-Raheem Al-Waked
Street
Shmeisani, Amman
Tel: +962 6 5100 250

Email: info@asrenorg.net |  **ASREN**

asrenorg.net



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