



## Abu-Ghazaleh Highlights ASREN and GÉANT Commitment to Strengthen the Arab Connectivity Network

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Lebanon's Minister of  
Telecommunications  
HE Mr. Boutros Harb  
International Platform  
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AMMAN – Under the patronage of HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, chairman of the Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN), the EUMEDCONNECT3 and AfricaCONNECT2 (AC2) project meetings were held with the attendance of representatives of the national research and education networks in the Arab region as well as the European GÉANT network as the projects coordinator.

The objective of the meetings was to review progress and support the development of the pan-Arab research and education networks via the European Commission co-funding program.

The framework for the cooperative work between ASREN and GÉANT includes e-Infrastructure development, operating regional PoPs, and peering of research and education traffic as well as providing seamless access to resources and repositories available at worldwide research and education networks.

Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh indicated, "ASREN is committed to supporting and enhancing Research and Education e-infrastructures in the Arab region. It has setup a high-speed linkage and provided services for the research communities building on its partnerships and EU funded projects".

He added, "I would like to develop an action plan to increase dedicated connectivity, enhance competitiveness in access, and develop interoperability platforms with our peers in Europe, the US, and elsewhere."

Mr. David West, the project manager of EUMEDCONNECT3 and AC2 projects indicated, "Over the past years, ASREN has inspired several cooperation projects in connectivity, services, and access. It has demonstrated great capabilities in developing the pan-Arab e-Infrastructures and establishing its first aggregation PoP in London for peering traffic for research and education with its counterparts at the regional level. We are proud of this cooperation and ASREN has demonstrated a great commitment for the establishment of the international links with Jordan, Lebanon, Algeria, Egypt, Tunis, Morocco, and Palestine".

ASREN has organized a specialized four-day workshop on Border Gateway Protocol of Networks and Management in cooperation with the US Network Startup Resource Center. Participants from nine countries worldwide attended this prestigious workshop.

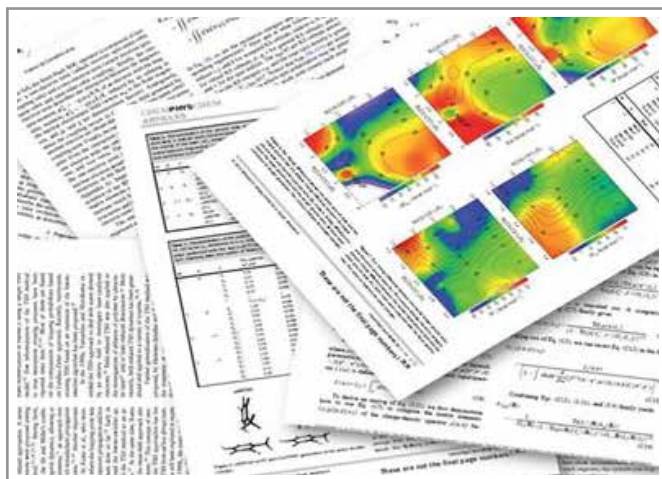
ASREN is a partner in the EU-funded EUMEDCONNECT3 project, which supports high-speed connectivity to link with Europe the eastern Mediterranean countries: Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, and Syria. It is also a partner in the EU-funded AC2 project, which supports high-speed connectivity to link with Europe the southern Mediterranean countries: Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco.

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## International Platform on Integrating Arab e-Infrastructures in a Global Environment – e-AGE 2016

*AMMAN* – Authors are invited to submit papers to be presented at e-AGE 2016; the 6th Annual Conference to be organized by the Arab States Research and Education Network during December 1-2, 2016 at the American University of Beirut, Lebanon.

The e-AGE series of conferences have been held for the past five years making the conference an important venue for networking among experts and scientists from all over the world. The theme of e-AGE 2016 to be hosted by the American University of Beirut is "Ubiquity and Cohesiveness of e-Infrastructures".



Authors are invited to submit abstracts of research by October 31, 2016 on topics related 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 and access to research and education resources, repositories, libraries and contents, clouds, grids, parallel and distributed computing, and high performance computing.
- Virtual Research Environments, Internet of Things, Science Gateways, Federation of Identities, and AAI services.
- Visualization and Virtual Reality

For more details, please visit the conference website at:  
<http://asrenorg.net/eage2016/?q=Page/call-participation>

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This project is funded  
by the European Union