

ASREN *Newsletter*

August 2019, Issue 41

"ASREN is a non-profit company with limited liability (GmbH) and is officially registered in Germany, under the umbrella of the League of Arab States. The main goal is to connect Arab institutions among themselves and to the globe through high-speed data-communications networks. Such networks will enable sharing and access to a variety of R&E services and applications in addition to utilization of highly sophisticated and technologically advanced computing resources available only at very few institutions in the world."

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Call for Papers - e-AGE19 Groundbreaking Research and Education Networks



The graphic features the ASREN logo (blue hexagon) on the left. To its right is a large orange arrow pointing towards a photograph of a modern city skyline at sunset. Below the arrow, the text "e-AGE19" is written in large orange and blue letters. Underneath that, in smaller text, is "GROUNDBREAKING RESEARCH & EDUCATION NETWORKS". At the bottom, it says "Abu Dhabi, UAE" and "11-12 December 2019".

The e-AGE conference had established itself as an important venue for networking among experts and scientists. In 2019, e-AGE will be held at Khalifa University in Abu Dhabi, UAE during 11 - 12 December 2019. This year the focus will be on demonstrated successes in using research

and education e-Infrastructures and a need for interoperable high speed networks at national, regional and international levels. In short words, e-AGE19 is coming with “GROUNDBREAKING RESEARCH AND EDUCATION NETWORKS” as the main theme of the conference.

e-AGE19 will include events, workshops and meetings centered around the following:

- e-AGE Annual Conference
- The 12th Event on Euro-Mediterranean e-Infrastructure
- The 9th annual shareholders meeting of ASREN
- EUMEDCONNECT3 Project meeting
- AfricaConnect2 Project meeting
- Internet2 Middle East SIG Meetings
- Workshops dedicated for e-Infrastructure users

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, 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, cloud, grids, parallel and distributed computing, and high performance computing.
- Internet technologies and trends, Internet of Things, Security, SDN and AAIs.
- Artificial Intelligence tools, deep learning, big data, and open science platforms.

For more details, please visit the conference website at: <http://asren.org.net/eage19/>

Register for UbuntuNet-Connect 2019

In a bid to speed up the registration process and verification of participants at UbuntuNet-Connect 2019, organisers of the conference are calling on all prospective participants to pay their registration fee before travelling to Antananarivo.

Participants are being asked to register early and pay their registration fee via bank transfer as there is no planned payment of registration fee onsite in Antananarivo.

Prospective participants are being encouraged to benefit from the early bird registration, which closes on 18th October 2019.

International early bird registrants are required to pay a registration Fee of \$200 while the early bird registration fee for local participants is \$100. Participants that will



register after the 18th October will pay \$250 if they are international and \$150 if local.

Registration for the conference is already open. To register please create an indico account, if you do not have one already at

<https://events.ubuntunet.net/event/24/registrations/15/>. The organisers shall send you an invoice with full bank details which you can use to pay for your registration fee.

The registration fee will give participants access to full conference packages during meeting days which include health breaks, lunch, conference dinner and cocktail, name badge and assorted exciting conference giveaways from the organisers.

Register now and be part of the fun in Antananarivo.

[Source: https://ubuntunet.net/2019/08/register-for-ubuntunet-connect-2019/](https://ubuntunet.net/2019/08/register-for-ubuntunet-connect-2019/)

International Conference Seeking Solutions to Africa's Challenges Held in Nairobi



Represented by its Executive Director Yousef Torman, the Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN) participated in the RIC2019 Conference and the Fourth AfriGEO Symposium held in Nairobi during 12-16 August 2019. The Conference and the Symposium were organized by the Regional Center for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD). RCMRD was established as an inter-governmental organization and currently has 20 Contracting Member States in the Eastern and Southern Africa Regions; Botswana, Burundi, Comoros, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somali, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The objective of this conference is to spur exchange of ideas on fast tracking application of earth observation and geo-spatial technologies in the development of decision-making. The theme for this year's conference was "Earth Observation for Evidence-Based Decision Making"

During the 4 days conference attended by 450 participants and 65 speakers, all discussed the use of space technology to tackle climate change and other weather-related disasters on the continent. They also discussed formulating ideas toward the utilization of earth observation and geospatial technology in

development and decision-making with focus on agriculture and food security, weather and climate, water and water-related disasters, land use, administration and management, and the creation of innovation hubs.

ASREN Director made a presentation and participated in a panel discussion with focus on the importance of research and education networks in supporting the earth observation communities. He also emphasized on the opportunity provided by the AfricaConenct2 and AfricaConenct3 Projects as an opportunity for these communities to build on through providing high-speed and high quality network access and R&E services.



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