



ASREN Update

Internet2 Middle East SIG Meeting
Khalifa University
Abu Dhabi
17 September 2012

Yousef Torman

Managing Director, ASREN

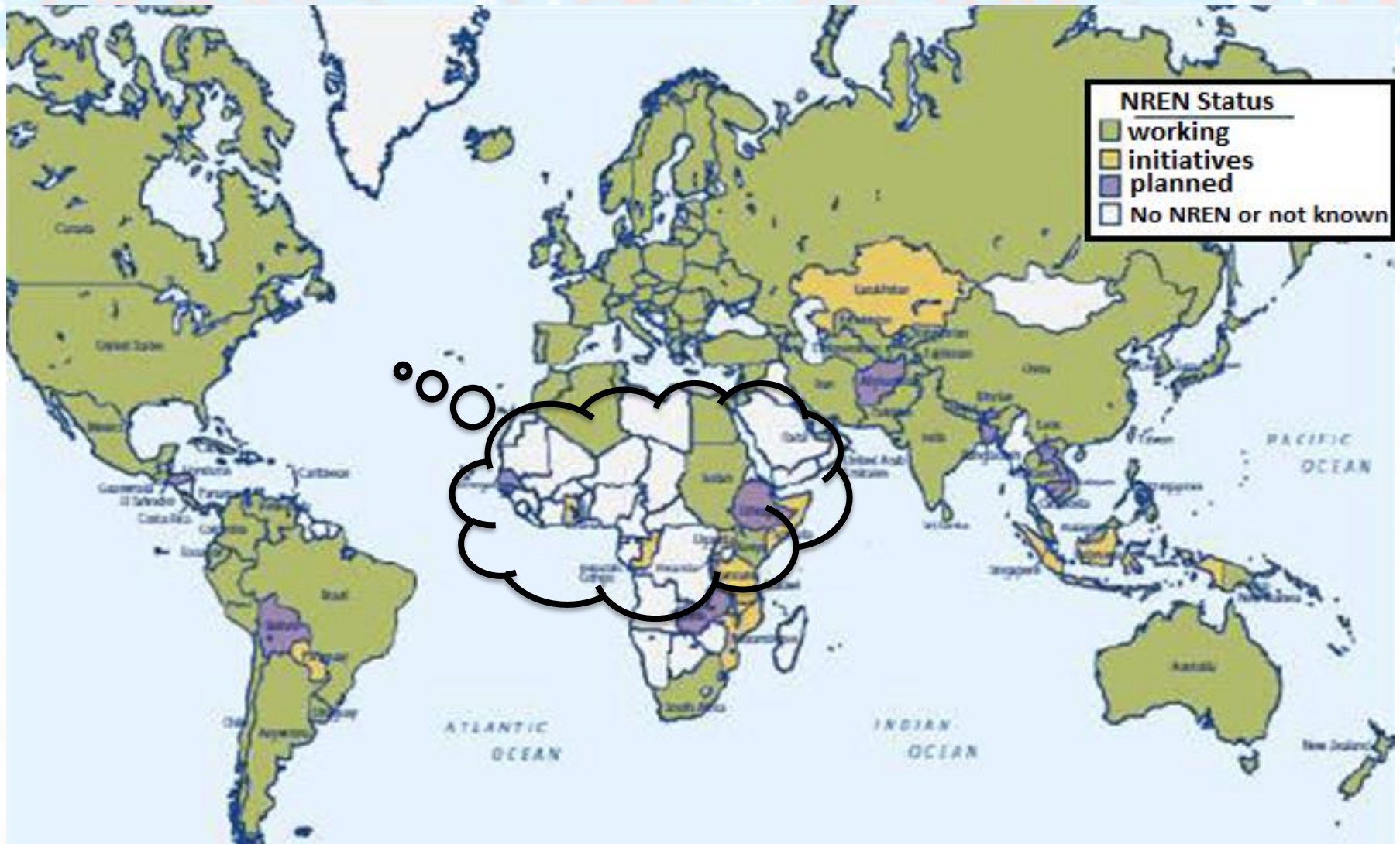
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NRENs Status

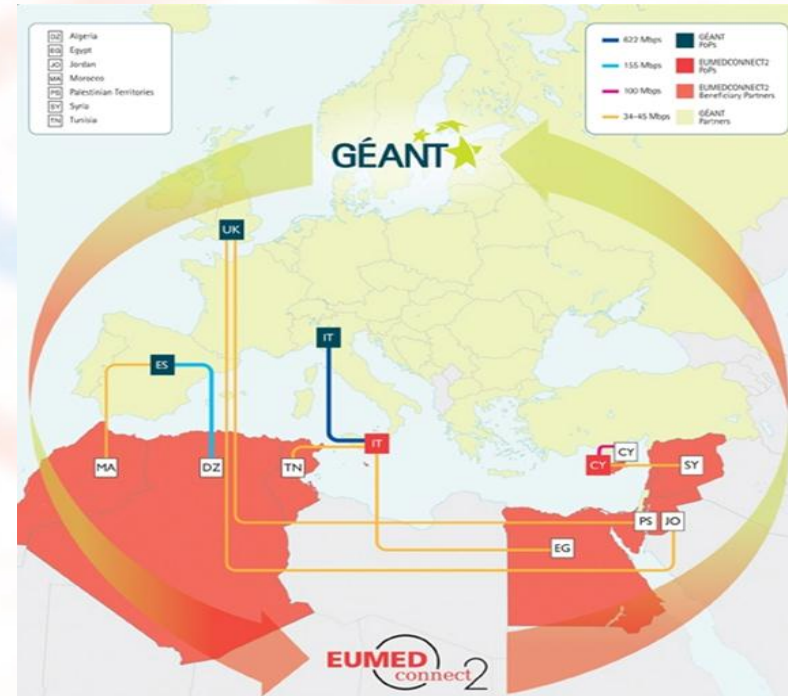


EUMEDCONNECT Programme

EUMEDCONNECT Research and Education network project 2004 -2014 (3 phases), 14M Euro of EC funding

The only regional Research and Educational Network in the Arab Region

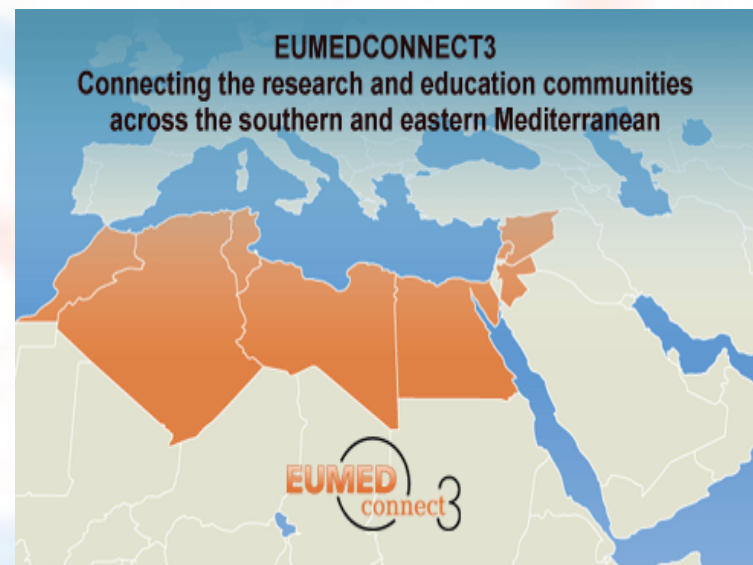
National Research and Education Networks in Algeria (ARN), Egypt (EUN), Tunisia (CCK), Jordan (JUNET), Morocco (MARWAN), Palestine (PALNET) and Syria (HIAST) were connected to its European counterpart GÉANT



More 2 million users in around 700 institutions

The EUMEDCONNECT3

- **A new phase EUMEDCONNECT3 runs 2011 - 2014**
- **Co-ordinating Partners: DANTE and ASREN**
- So far Algeria & Palestine are connected using EUMEDCONNECT funding
- Scheme is open to: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia
- Opportunity to extend the network to other Arab countries
- A first step towards a Pan-Arab network for research and education



Other Supporting Projects



The EUMEDGRID Support Project



Coordination and Harmonization of Advanced e-INFRASTRUCTURES



Exchange Programme to advance e-INFRASTRUCTURE Know-How



Linking Scientific Computing in Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean



Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN)

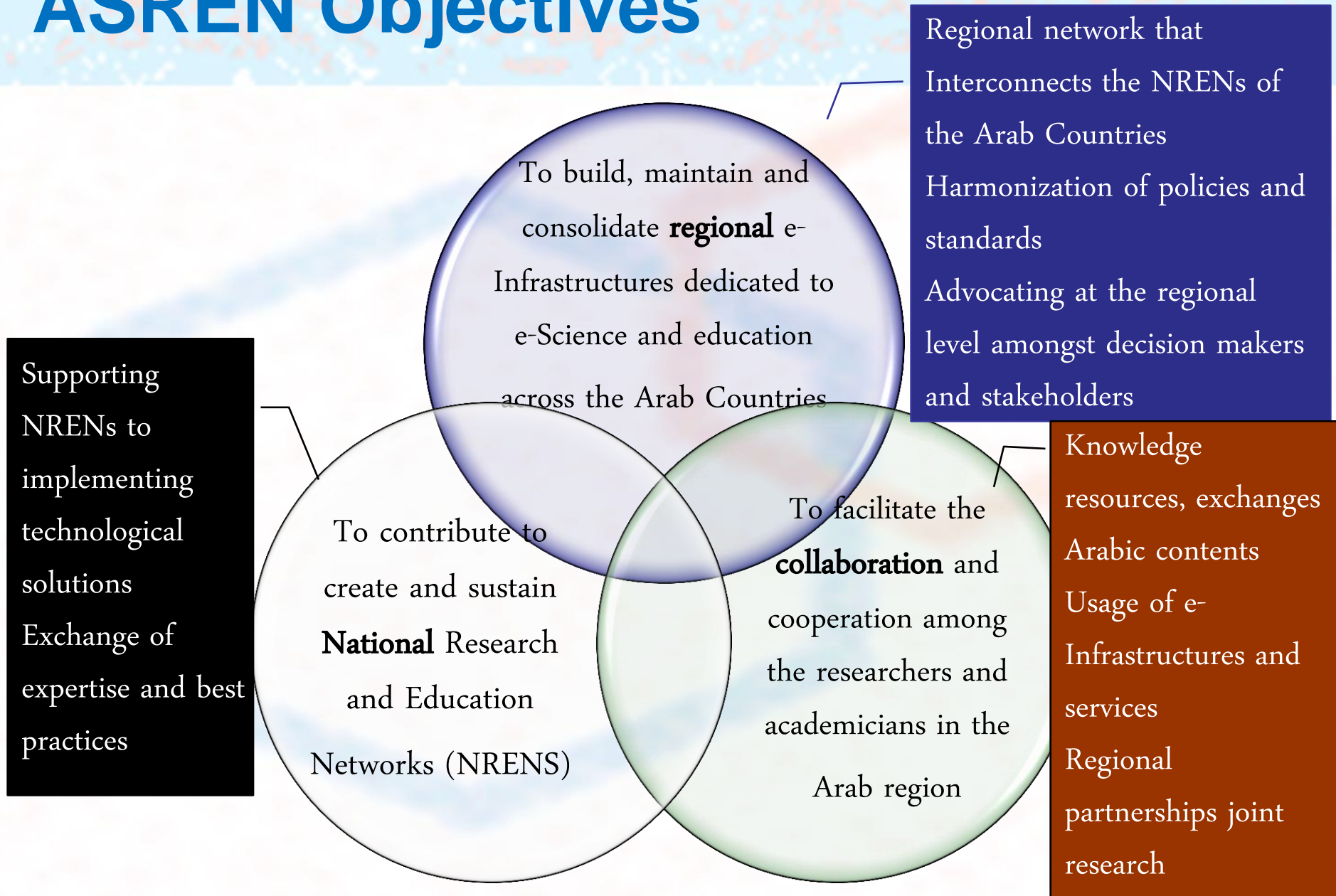
ASREN is the association of the Arab region NRENs and strategic partners.

Promoting world-class Pan-Arab e-Infrastructures and E-services for the Research and Education communities to boost Scientific Research and regional Cooperation

ASREN: Vision and Mission

- **Vision Statement:** Pan-Arab collaborative research and education projects and activities, contribute to boost the scientific research, innovation and education levels in the Arab countries by uplifting efficiency and productivity of research and education communities.
- **Mission statement:** To implement, manage and extend sustainable Pan-Arab e-Infrastructures dedicated for the Research and Education communities and to boost scientific research and cooperation in member countries through the provision of world-class e-Infrastructures and E-services.

ASREN Objectives



ASREN Functions

Core Functions

Interconnection

(NRENs interconnection, Network operations center, technical/ financial resources)

Network Management

design topology, tendering and managing NRENs interconnection, monitoring traffic and providing technical support and training to member (NRENs)

Commercial Management

Managing contracts/ agreements with network suppliers/ NRENs funds , funding agencies and conducting advocacy

Interoperability

Guidelines for security policy/ interoperability of services and protocols for supporting applications

Support Functions

Cloud computing, Content, elearning resources, eLibrary, Research,

One Year of History (2010)

- ASREN was proposed in Cairo, January 2010, by Arab NRENs during the EUMEDCONNECT2/EUMEDGRID Support Meetings.
- Announced in Brussels March 2010 During the 3rd EUMEDEVENT.
- Planning meetings were conducted during the EUMEDCONNECT2/EUMEDGRID Support meetings in Algeria (July 2010) and Rome (November 2010)
- Launched in the League of Arab States in Cairo under the Patronage of HE Amre Moussa, December 2010. and Chaired by HE Talal Abu Ghazaleh with high level participation



2011, A year of achievements

- ASREN was present in many activities and events around the world addressing the research and education communities, specially the Arab World.
- ASREN was officially registered in Germany as a non profit GmbH with 3 shareholders (JUNet of Jordan, CNRST of Morocco and Talal Abu Ghazaleh Consulting GmbH)
- ASREN became official partner in the EUMEDCONNECT3 project which aims to provide connectivity to the Arab-Med countries to GEANT
- ASREN is partner with CHAIN project which aims to coordinate and harmonize the e-Infrastructures around.
- ASREN conducted and participated in several workshops in Lebanon, Malta, UAE, Tanzania, Czech Republic, France, Egypt and more

The e-AGE 2011



<http://eage2011.asrenorg.net>



- The **1st International Platform on Integrating Arab e-infrastructure in a Global Environment, e-AGE2011**, conducted in Amman December 2011 under the Royal Patronage.
- The conference was attended by high level representatives including Ministers and decision makers, academics, network professionals, researchers, scientists from 32 countries.
- The event included:
 - EUMED Event 4
 - Internet2 SIG Middle East Meeting
 - ASREN 1st Annual Meeting
- 11 Arab NRENs were present and 8 NRENs signed letters of accord to start joining ASREN

Activities & Achievements 2012

ASREN was there:

- Sharing Knowledge Across the Mediterranean, Tunisia, May 2012
- AfREN and AfNOG meeting in Banjul, May 2012
- MENOG 10, Dubai April 2012
- PIREN meeting Rabat, March 2012, **Thanks to Redouane Merrouch**
- EGI Forum, Munich April 2012
- Beirut, May 2012
- Kuwait, June 2012, **Thanks to Anwar al Yousef**
- Arab ICT Ministerial Meeting, Algeria, June 2012, **thanks to Aouaouche El-Maouhab**
- WSIS Forum 2012, Geneva, May 2012, **Thanks to Ahmed Dabbagh**

Activities & Achievements 2012

ASREN Shareholders:

- 8 NRENs signed Letter of Accord with ASREN during the e-AGE2011 in Amman to start the process of joining ASREN.
- Algeria was the first to start the process of joining ASREN, unfortunately, CERIST is not allowed sign as a shareholder based on the Algerian Law. Layer of ASREN is working on other alternatives for Algeria.
- Sudan is now a full ASREN
- Somalia, Palestine and later Tunisia started the official process to join ASREN as a shareholder.
- ASREN is approaching and following up with other Arab NRENs.

Activities & Achievements 2012

Connectivity

- Unfortunately, Only Palestine and Algeria are now connected through the EUMEDCONNECT3 project.
- Other Partners are not connected due to financial related issues
Details in the EUMEDCONNECT3 session.
- ASREN is investigating other scenarios for establishing the Network and providing connectivity.
- For this purpose, ASREN approached several worldwide and regional cable owners and operators and opening dialogue with Ubuntunet Alliance to discuss collaboration.

Details: NRENs are invited to the discussion in ASREN – EUMEDCONNECT3 meeting at Al Ain 19 September 2012

Activities & Achievements 2012

Minister of Higher Education in Lebanon inaugurates the Lebanese NREN

- HE Prof. Hassan Diab, Lebanese Minister of Education and Higher Education Professor Hassan Diab, inaugurated the Lebanese Network for Scientific Research and Education during a workshop that was held in cooperation with the National Council for Scientific Research, ASREN and the EUMEDCONNECT3 Project, in the presence of HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman of ASREN.



Activities & Achievements 2012

Minister of Higher Education in Tunisia praises ASREN and commends on its role

- HE, Moncef Bin Salem Received Yousef Torman, Managing Director of ASREN and Mohamed Jemni, General Manager of CCK, Tunisia and discussed with them the importance of ASREN as an opportunity for developing the collaboration in research and education in the Arab World. He also decided to have CCK as a shareholder of ASREN.



Activities & Achievements 2012

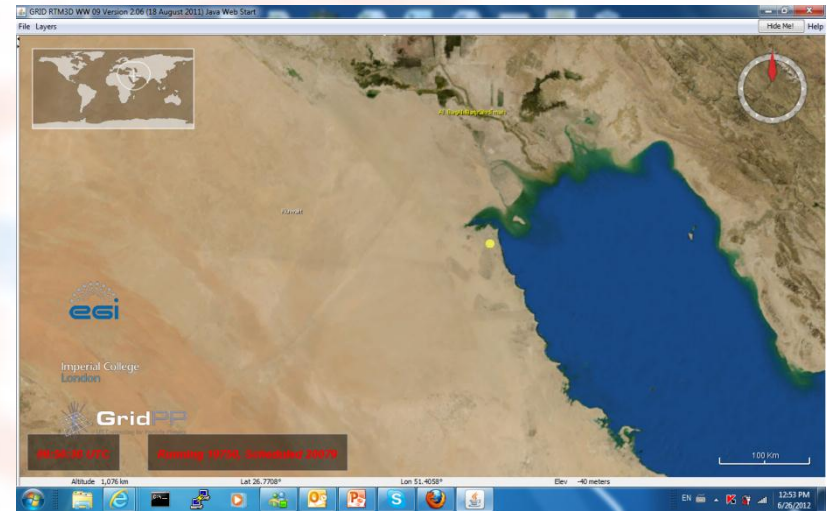
Funding

- ASREN prepared a Multi Stake Holder Concept Document and shared with the World Bank, Internet2 and the EC to start a pilot project to
 - Conduct a study on the infrastructure availability to be used in establishing the Regional Arab Network, and
 - To implement pilot project to:
 - Establish NREN in some selected Arab Countries
 - Develop Some selected NRENs and
 - Establish a regional connectivity between these countries.
- Submitted Proposal to the Connect-Arab- Summit
- Approaching ITU and the Arab Internet Governance Forum

Activities & Achievements 2012

Grid Site at Kuwait University

- Kuwait University with ASREN had implemented and installed a Grid Site in Kuwait University as a pilot project and makes it a part of the ASREN Arab Grid infrastructure. A full grid site with all related services is installed and configured at Kuwait University. This KU Grid Node extends the collaboration between ASREN and Kuwait University and further connects the users in Kuwait University to ASREN Grid.



Activities & Achievements 2012

Networking with world wide organizations

- ASREN is collaborating and opening dialogue with:

LAS, EC, World Bank, ITU, IFC, Internet2, Ubuntunet Alliance, Africa Connect, Ripe, ISESCO, AUA, AICTO, ISOC,

and trying to approach QF, MBR, Islamic Bank for Development,

- ASREN is hosting the 11th Middle East Operators Group 30 September – 9 October 2012.



ASREN

Arab States Research and Education Network

2nd International Platform on Integrating Arab e-infrastructure in a Global Environment

e-AGE 2012

**"Collaborate towards developing
regional e-Infrastructures"**

Zayed University, Convention Center
Dubai Academic City
United Arab Emirates

12-13 December, 2012

ASREN 
www.asrenorg.net



Ministry of Science and Technology
المعهد الوطني للبحوث والدراسات العلمية





Thank You

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