

**Connecting the research
and education communities
across Africa**



Why AfricaConnect2?

AfricaConnect2 builds advanced internet networks for research and education (R&E) across the entire African continent and connects them to other world regions via the pan-European GÉANT network. This allows African students, researchers and academics to collaborate with their peers all over the world and will firmly place Africa on the global map for research and education.



Co-funded by the European Union, AfricaConnect2 is part of the Africa-EU Partnership agenda to:

- promote digital inclusion
- support Africa's efforts to attain the UN Sustainable Development Goals through improved access to education and research resources
- facilitate Africa's participation in global R&E collaborations including Horizon2020



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Without the help of RENU, Uganda's NREN, we simply could not have succeeded in creating Zeenode with the aim to enhance the student experience at Kyambogo University. Access to RENU's uncapped bandwidth and cloud platform was instrumental for us, as was the fact that we are connected to other institutions.

Josh Muzaaya, Developer and CTO at Zeenode



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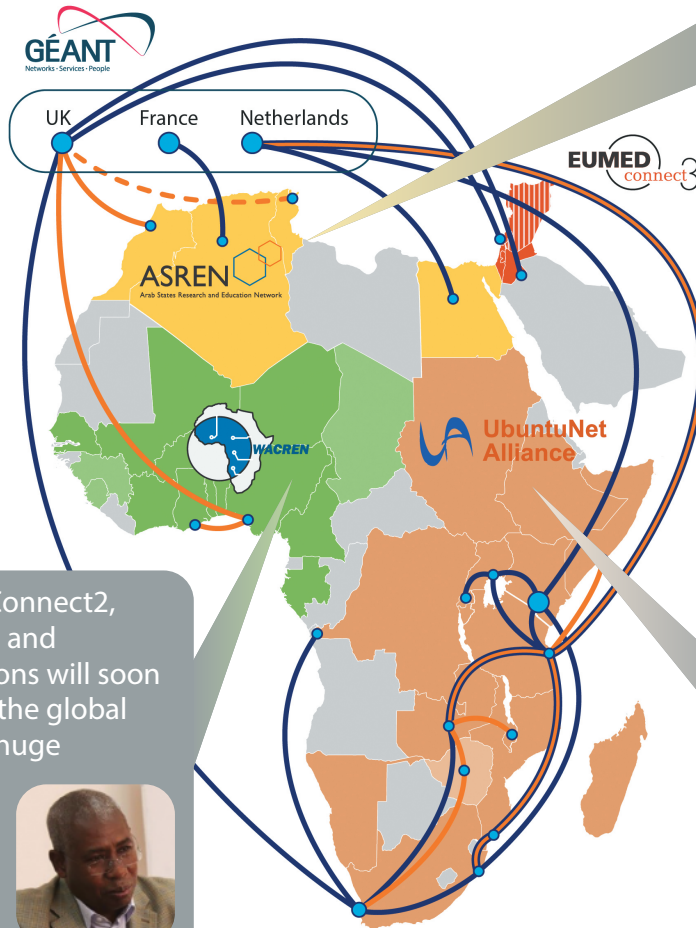
Knowledge, education and culture cannot progress when they are isolated. Our AfricaConnect programmes are breaking the physical and national boundaries hampering the creation of a real scientific and education community in Africa and between Africa and Europe. By connecting people and institutions we together foster the development of cooperative research programmes for a better future.

Domenico Rosa, Head of Unit at the EC Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO) – Africa-EU Partnership – African Peace Facility



Building the African research and education network

AfricaConnect2 follows the success of the AfricaConnect project which contributed to the creation of the UbuntuNet, the high-speed R&E network for Eastern and Southern Africa. It also builds on the achievements of the Eumedconnect project in Northern Africa* and will extend connectivity into West and Central Africa.



“ I trust AfricaConnect2 will enforce positive changes across Africa while supporting the needs of our community and allowing more international collaborations. ”



Yusef Torman,
Co-Managing
Director of ASREN

- Network built under AfricaConnect & Eumedconnect
- ▨ Temporarily suspended
- So far under Africaconnect2**
- New links
- Upgraded links
- - - Planned links
- ▨ Newly established NREs

September 2018

“ Thanks to AfricaConnect2, higher education and research institutions will soon be connected to the global REN, unleashing huge potentials. ”



Boubakar Barry,
CEO of WACREN

“ With AfricaConnect2 we want to pursue our vision of a connected and engaged pan-African research and education community. ”



Pascal Hoba, CEO
of theUbuntuNet
Alliance

AfricaConnect2 involves three African regional networking organisations and their European counterpart GÉANT.

The pan-African approach allows to adjust to the geographical, cultural and organisational context of the regions, their different stages of network development, as well as their sources of funding and long-term prospects.

*In July 2015, the North African partner countries (Algeria, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia) became partners of the AfricaConnect2 project. The countries still served by EUMEDCONNECT3 are Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine.
**Extra links have been procured in Eastern and Southern Africa outside of the projects' framework. To see the entire network in the UbuntuNet area please visit: <https://www.ubuntu.net/network-topology>

What to expect from AfricaConnect2



Benefits for students and researchers

- High-speed reliable connectivity
- Advanced collaborative services (telemedicine, cloud computing, eduroam, etc.)
- Gateway to global R&E collaborations
- Access to educational resources and innovative e-learning tools



Benefits for Africa

- Supports applications with high societal impact (climate change, biodiversity, malaria)
- Bridges the digital divide and fights brain drain
- Helps create an inclusive Information society to support more competitive markets
- Fosters social cohesion and development by creating more opportunities
- Provides the foundation for a pan-African research and education network



Benefits for NREN* partners

- EU funding support for the regional activities of the beneficiaries
- Connectivity provided and managed by the UbuntuNet Alliance, WACREN and ASREN at best rates
- Capacity building at campus and NREN levels

*National Research and Education Network



Working with the connected community of NRENs and regional partners in Africa and Europe, AfricaConnect2 is building sustainable research and education connectivity across the African continent. Infrastructure and network services developed for the specific needs of the research and education community will connect the world to Africa's scientists, students and educators.

Cathrin Stöver, Chief Collaborations Officer at GÉANT



How to connect

For guidance on how to connect please visit: www.africaconnect2.net

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