GLOBAL Plaza in Africa

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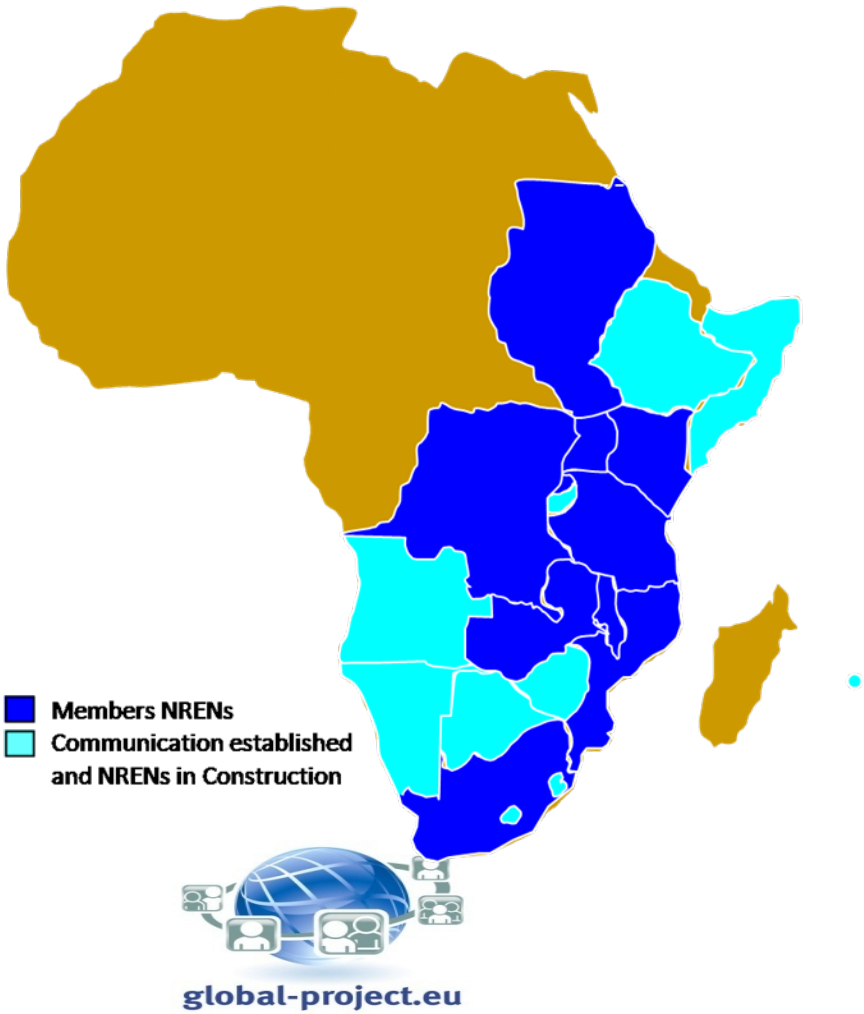
UbuntuNet Alliance is a member of the GLOBAL Consortium



- An association of NRENs, primarily in East and Southern Africa
- Member NRENs
  - SUIN, Sudan
  - MAREN, Malawi
  - KENET, Kenya
  - RwEdNet, Rwanda
  - TENET, South Africa
  - TERNET, Tanzania
  - MoReNet, Mozambique
  - RENU, Uganda
  - Eb@le, DRC
  - ZAMREN, Zambia
- Contacts established in Ethiopia, Somalia, Burundi, Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Lesotho , Swaziland and Mauritius

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GLOBAL Plaza: Opportunities for Africa

Africa is under-represented in EU-infrastructure research partnerships

However UbuntuNet NRENs from Kenya, Tanzania and Malawi have hosted or participated in international e-Infrastructure events from their institutions through GLOBAL. This results in

- Green IT – reducing institution's carbon footprint and Reduces institution's travel budget and precious time of scarce human resources
- Awareness raising of EU-Infrastructure research opportunities
- ISABEL is easy to set up and use. Does not require huge expertise

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GLOBAL Plaza: Challenges for Africa

- Bandwidth challenge, requires at least 1Mbit which with VSAT is not simple .Under - developed communication infrastructure – mostly VSATs – low quality.
- However, this is slowly going away as optical fibre in rapidly being rolled out and this, we hope, will be facilitated by AFRICA-Connect, similar to RED-CLARA

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Conclusion

- UbuntuNet Alliance greatly appreciates being part of GLOBAL.
- Participants at remote sites have the opportunity to share their knowledge and questions with a worldwide audience
- Possible intra-Africa opportunities are ebing explored
- Travel costs can be slashed
- As the project matures we hope that more sites will take advantage of the opportunity – ISABEL software has been issued to all ALLIANCE NRENS

Thank you

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