

# Collaboration Between AfriGEO and AfricaConnect3

*A Virtual Workshop*

*19 August 2020*

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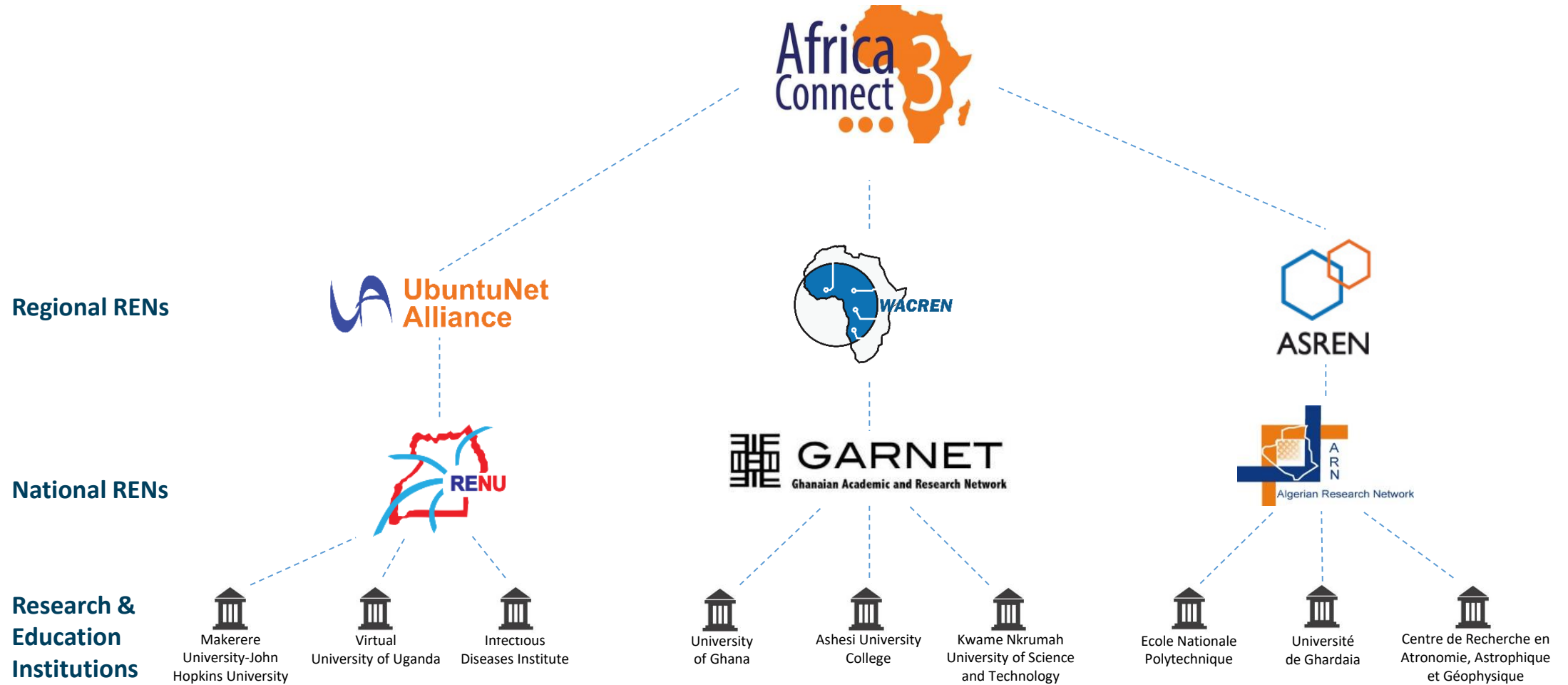
*ASREN*



The AfricaConnect3 project receives funding from the European Union under Grant Contracts DCI-PANAF/2019/411-583/584/585/586



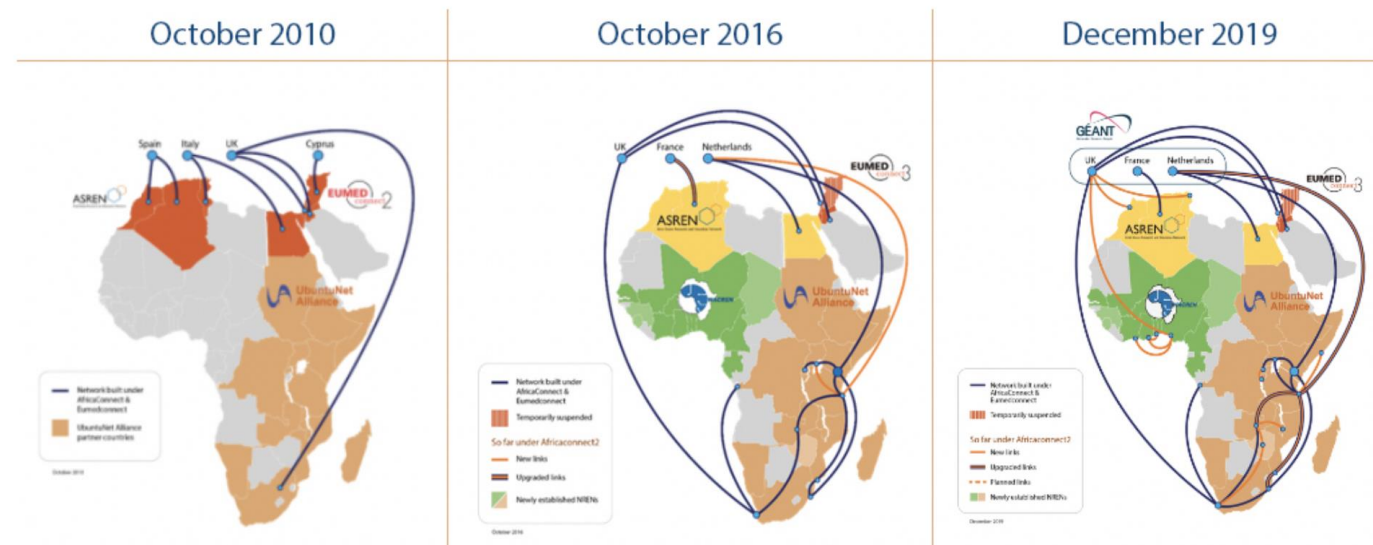
# How do NRENs connect students and researchers?



# A journey: The History of RRENs in Africa

AfricaConnect3 builds on the achievements of:

- The [EUMEDCONNECT](#) project, which has provided a research and education network for Northern Africa and the Middle East since 2004 with our regional partner ASREN.
- And the [AfricaConnect](#) project which helped establish a regional gateway for collaborative research and education (R&E) in Southern and Eastern Africa between 2011 and 2014 with our regional partners the UbuntuNet Alliance.
- [AfricaConnect2](#) saw the collaboration between the three major RRENs within the African continent: the UbuntuNet Alliance, the West and Central African Research and Education Network (WACREN) and the Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN).



## Project Profile: AfricaConnect 3

**Start date:** 16 November 2019

**Duration:** 48 months

**Funds:** European Union Grant Contract

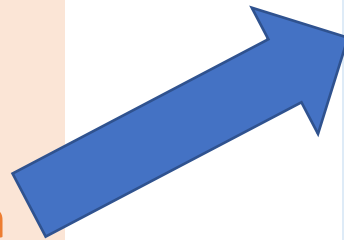
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- **Budget: 37.5M EUR (80% EU funding, 30M EUR)**
  - Funding for connectivity, equipment and cloud: **23.2M EUR**

# AC3 is also about user engagement

- **WP 4 - Advocacy for the role of digital tools in the transformation of Education and Research**

- WP 4.1 Advocacy and Donor Engagement
- WP 4.2 REN and User Engagement Conferences
- **WP 4.3 Engagement with AfriGEO and GMES in African Communities**
- WP 4.4 Project Visibility and Dissemination



- Study and identify the needs of AfriGEOS and GMES needs in terms of connectivity, access, data dissemination and other services
- Coordinate with RRENs and NRENs to get AfriGEO and GMES sites connected and to deploy eduroam and eduGAIN
- Promote the deployment of services and access mechanisms

# The Collaboration - The Concept

- AfriGEO Secretariat and ASREN to produce a concept document on this collaboration
- AfriGEO Secretariat to share the concept document with NRENs and AfirGEO community and invite them to:
  - Study the collaboration concept document and understand the role of NRENs and potential collaboration with these NRENs with focus on connectivity options.
  - Approach NRENs in their respective countries and start discussing the connectivity options in addition to other possible services and capacity building offerings
- ASREN to share the concept document with African NRENS through their respective RRENs inviting them to:
  - NRENs to study the collaboration document and then approach AfriGEO centers/sites to discuss with them connectivity scenarios and workable solutions.
  - Study and explore the collaboration on services especially eduroam and eduGAIN.



# The Collaboration – Virtual Workshop

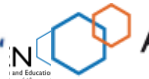
- **Main objectives**

- Provide AfriGEO with insight on research and education networks and their role in supporting the developments of research and education.
- Assess the GEO and AfriGEO community needs and demands in terms of connectivity, access to resources, computing and storage etc.
- Present the services provided by research and education networks to support the collaboration between research and education communities, like eduroam and eduGAIN.
- Present the AfricaConnect3 project with a focus on supporting and engaging with research and education communities especially AfriGEO.
- Prepare the AfriGEO community to the survey on the status of connectivity and services provided by NRENs and the actual needs and demands for connectivity, services and capacities.



# The Collaboration – The Survey

- A survey will be designed by AfriGEO, UA, ASREN and WACREN
- To be circulated to all AfriGEO member universities/institutions and research centers in coordination with RRENS and NRENS.
- The survey will be associated necessary documents and guidance with information about African NRENS so that each research center can discuss again with the NREN of his country on connectivity options (if not connected yet).
- The survey will ask about:
  - Connectivity (current and future),
  - Connectivity costs
  - Applications used and needed by the community
  - Regional and global partners,
  - Means of access, computing and storage.
- AfriGEO Secretariat and ASREN will analyze the data and report on that to the **African Union** and the **European Commission** and other potential supporting organizations.





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Tunis, Tunisia

14-15 December 2020

Alongside our Annual  
Conference **e-AGE20**

<http://asrenorg.net/eage20/>



**e-AGE20**

“Power of e-Infrastructures –  
Shaping the Future of Online  
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*Tunis, Tunisia*

*14 - 15 December 2020*



# Thank you

Any questions?



@AC3\_News



AC3-Community



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