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Cloud Infrastructure, an essential component of resource sharing for African National Research and Education Networks.

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ABSTRACT:

The world has witnessed the birth of a new era – The digital information age. This global age of information technology is sweeping through the globe improving connectivity, adding intelligence to networks and generating big data, but its impact on research and sustainable development in sub-sahara Africa is minimal if not non-existent.

This paper introduces Cloud Infrastructure as an essential component of research and education networks to aid collaboration and resource sharing between national research and education networks in Africa. The paper will also examine key factors in the design, implementation, security, commercial aspects and adoption of cloud computing in an NREN.

This paper aims to address the following:

- a. Introduce the basic concepts of Cloud infrastructure and the services to be offered by an NREN or WACREN Cloud infrastructure.
- b. The different Cloud provisions and platforms with the challenges of an NREN cloud infrastructure.
- c. The paper will also examine in detail the designs and integration to existing NREN's networks with interconnections for resource sharing and collaborations within NRENs with a roadmap for successful cloud deployment.
- d. The paper will explore the commercial opportunities available to NREN's based on their investments in a cloud infrastructure within the framework of the NREN and her customers.
- e. Finally, the paper will present some business and use cases for cloud computing within NREN joint infrastructure environment.

POTENTIAL ATTENDEE:

This paper is intended for the African National Research and Education Community, Universities and Research Organizations and the government.

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