

Networks for European, American, and African Research (NEAAR)

The Networks for European, American, and African Research (NEAAR) collaboration is a powerful, cross organizational project that will provide services and bandwidth connecting researchers in Europe, Africa, and the United States. This project will have an immediate impact on the research environment and also supports future application and technology advances.

Indiana University (IU) will jointly lead the NEAAR collaboration with GÉANT, the European research and education network (REN), in a cooperative partnership with the African regional RENs: the UbuntuNet Alliance, the Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN), the West and Central African Research and Education Network (WACREN), as well as the South African National Research Network (SANReN) and the Tertiary Education and Research Network of South Africa (TENET). Through its extensive regional partnerships, NEAAR has the potential to reach R&E communities in over 80 countries across three continents.

NEAAR has the potential to be transformational to scientific research by providing not only the network but also the human expertise to make the most of international collaborations and data sharing, thereby increasing research and educational opportunities. Through additional capacity to Europe and targeted support of data and networking support services in Africa, NEAAR will be able to support a wide variety of research sharing between Africa and the US. Advanced data sharing fundamentally changes and extends the research that is feasible between partners, and NEAAR has the potential to have an unprecedented impact on US-Africa collaboration.

This presentation will detail the NEAAR technological plans for network connections and data-enhanced exchange points. It will also describe the multi-faceted work that is being planned to engage end users to make better use of network connections across the region. We will address our planned work with application groups. We will also detail related work with network flow data that can help understand the use, performance, and capacity planning for networks.

Primary author: SCHOPF, jennifer (Indiana University)

Co-authors: Ms STOVER, Cathrin (GEANT); Dr HOBA, Pascal (Ubuntunet Alliance)

Presenter: SCHOPF, jennifer (Indiana University)

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