UAE Research and Education Network

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The United Arab Emirates (UAE) was formed as a federation of seven emirates (Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Ras Al Khaimah, Fujairah, Umm Al Quwain), which came together as one state on the 2nd of December 1971. The federal capital of UAE is Abu Dhabi and it is ruled by the President of the UAE, Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed al Nahyan. The Vice-President and Prime Minister is Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum, who is also the ruler of Dubai.
United Arab Emirates
Internet = Al Shabakah
AI ANKABUTIA
Internet = Al Shabakah
AI ANKABUTIA

ANKABUT = SPIDER
Internet = Al Shabakah
AI ANKABUTIA

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Ai ANKABUTIA

ANKABUT = SPIDER
UAE is the Fastest Growing Economy in the Middle East

Educational Institutions – both local and International - have been mushrooming in the past few years.

UAE has always been an early adopter of Technological Advancements.

Government Vision

Need to attract Top Class Researchers to the region
Sharjah University City

- American University of Sharjah
- Sharjah University
- HCT Sharjah
- Police Academy
- Skyline College
Dubai is to have a Dh12 billion academic city, as part of a government initiative to invest in quality higher education and training.

Dubai Academic City will provide the opportunity for more than 150,000 students to study at some of the best local, regional and global institutions that will be housed within its campus.
Abu Dhabi University City
Khalifa University of Science, Technology and Research (KUSTAR) set up by ministerial decree in 2007.

Etisalat University College – a pioneer in ICT Technology Education – merged with KUSTAR

KUSTAR to have independent RESEARCH CENTER.

New Campus planned in Abu Dhabi.
NextGen, a new company named NextGen will develop new technologies that will provide industry leading solutions in areas such as deep computing, Telematics and information security.

**super-computing on demand.** Provide the Business Partners of Dubai Biotechnology and Research Park (DuBiotech) with the capability to conduct research using IBM's Blue Gene.
Libraries Consortium

- The vision for the national higher education libraries is that all students, faculty and staff will have timely and efficient access to the collections and resources of all the libraries.

Dubai Public libraries to go online

- Residents in Dubai will soon be able to access thousands of books, periodicals, magazines and newspapers online as public libraries in the city get transformed into e-libraries.

American University of Sharjah Library

- The library also provides access to 30,000 electronic books and over 50 full-text databases and other online resources.
10 Billion $ foundation will source and manage a wide range of initiatives, including the establishment of research programs and research centers. It will also develop research in universities across the region.
The Fund is driven by a strong vision to make the ICT sector the leading sector in the Middle East through enabling and fostering progressive innovation in the field.
Strengths

- Fund Availability
- ICT fund.
- Emirates Telecommunications Corporation (Etisalat) as a backbone operator
- UAE is a regional HUB through EMIX
- ANKABUT is a non-profit project
Weaknesses

- Poor research culture in the UAE
- Limited E&RN experience in UAE

Opportunities

- Taking the lead (local and regional)
- Good market size (local and regional)
Threats

- Negative response from customers
- Market uncertainties
- Competition
- Regulatory
Vision

- Create an opportunity for the UAE to be a global leader in Education and Research.

Mission

- Provide Leading Edge Network Infrastructure to centers of Learning and Research within the UAE to foster collaboration and corporation between them.
- Provide for connectivity with peers at the international level to effectively participate and collaborate in research activities.
Objectives

- The range of activities facilitated by ANAKBUT will allow individuals and organizations to push back the traditional boundaries of teaching, learning and research methods.
- To provide for effective communication and collaboration between students, researchers and institutions.
- ANAKBUT has a central role to play in the realization of this potential and the achievement of client and government objective.
- ANAKBUT will help educational institutions to advance their IT infrastructure.
Objectives

- ANAKABUT will support changing client needs through delivery of existing and new value-added services to staff, students and researchers.
- ANAKABUT will strengthen ties with the wider education sector while enhancing core services for the higher education sector.
- ANAKABUT will secure on-going funding and resources to achieve network objectives.
- ANAKABUT will demonstrate good value for money.
Potential customers

- 5 Government Universities (25-30)
  - HCT (12 campuses), IAT (5 campuses), EUC, UAE University, Zayed University (3 Campuses)
- 50 Non Government Universities (approx)
  - AUS, AUD, UoS, Ajman, Al Ghurair, RAK academic city, Dubai Academic city, Abu Dhabi Academic city.
- Schools and other Institutions
  - More than 1200 schools, (Public and Private), Libraries, Hospitals, Museums and Zoos.
ANKABUT Proposed Phase-2 Design
Steps taken:

- Agreed on forming a consortium of universities that will be in charge of the UAE R&E network.
  - Made sure that every institution will contribute to funding the establishment.
  - Unify efforts to attract government funds including the Telecom. Development Fund.
- Costing and draft business plan
- Bylaws
World Class Research Networking

GÉANT: The Multi-Gigabit pan-European Research Network

GÉANT is operated by DANTE, The European Research Networking Organisation

Global Connectivity October 2003
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NRENs</th>
<th>User Fees</th>
<th>Gov. Subsidies</th>
<th>Funding Model</th>
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<td>Austria (ACONET)</td>
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<td>Belgium (BELNET)</td>
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<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Switzerland (SWITCH)</td>
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</tbody>
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Steps taken ..

- Agreed on forming a consortium of universities that will be in charge of the UAE R&E network.
- Business Model Prepared
- Identified Network Provider
- Funding Sources Identified
- Costing and draft business plan
- Bylaws
Steps taken:

- Submitted Proposal to ICT fund
- Funding Approved – Awaiting Contractual Formalities to be completed
- Etisalat (Network Provider) Project Plan Being prepared.
- Survey Being Undertaken to establish additional Fiber requirements
Steps taken..

- Internet2 Interconnection agreement will be signed tomorrow
Steps to be taken:

- Finalize Project Plan with Etisalat once the survey is complete
- Submit Project Plan to ICT Fund
- Sign Agreement with Etisalat
- Sign Agreement with ICT Fund
- Manage the Project
- Mobilize the Consortium of Universities
- Applications on ANKABUT
UAE Research and Education Network

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