

Ankabut Update

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CEO

UAE Advanced Network for Research and Education

Internet2 Member Meeting

Spring 2010 April 26-29

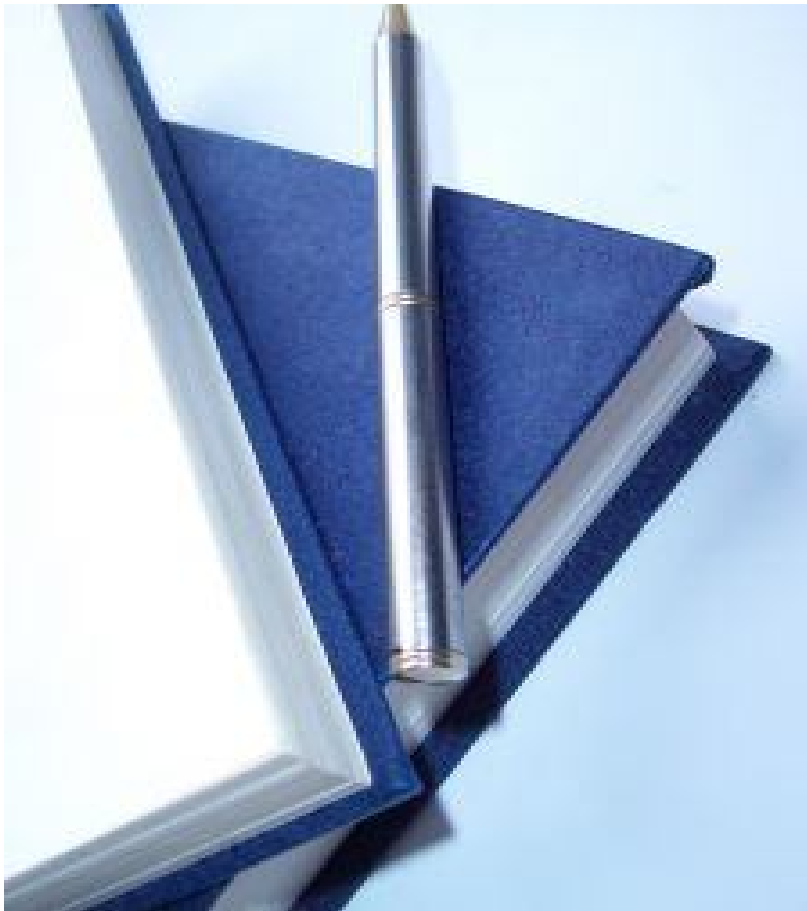
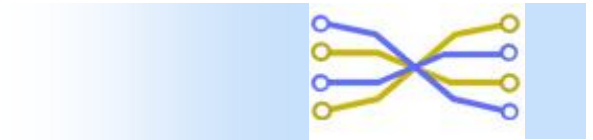
Arlington, Virginia, USA

29 April 2010



شبكة الإمارات المتقدمة للتعليم والبحوث
UAE Advanced Network for Research and Education

Agenda



Overview

Update

Conclusions

Overview of Ankabut



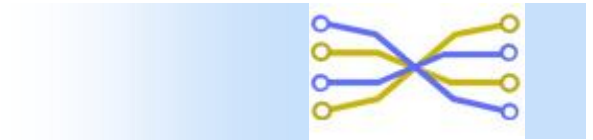
Vision

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

Mission

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

Overview of Ankabut

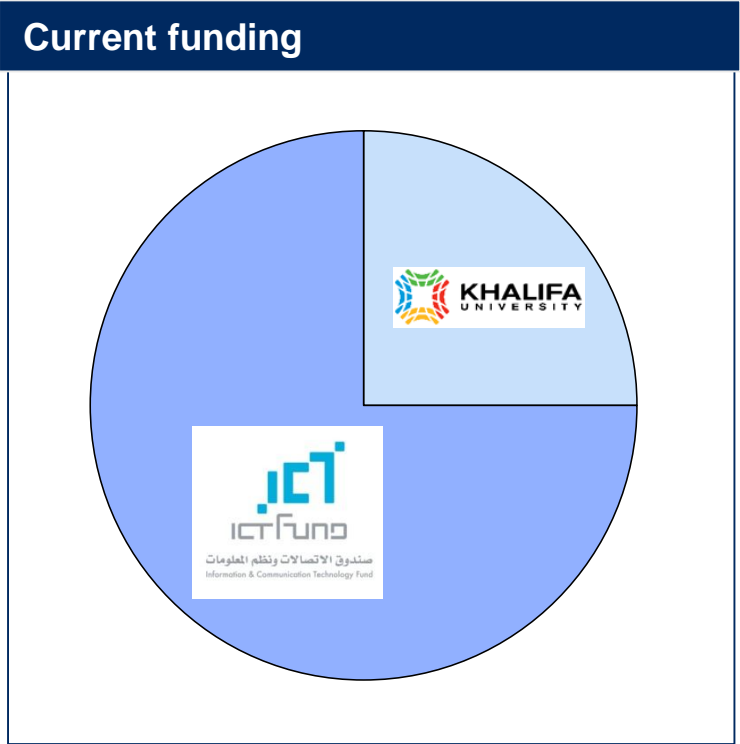
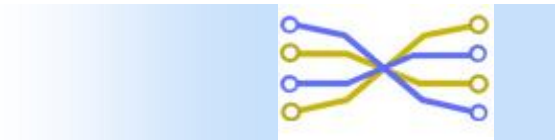


ANKABUT Project Objectives

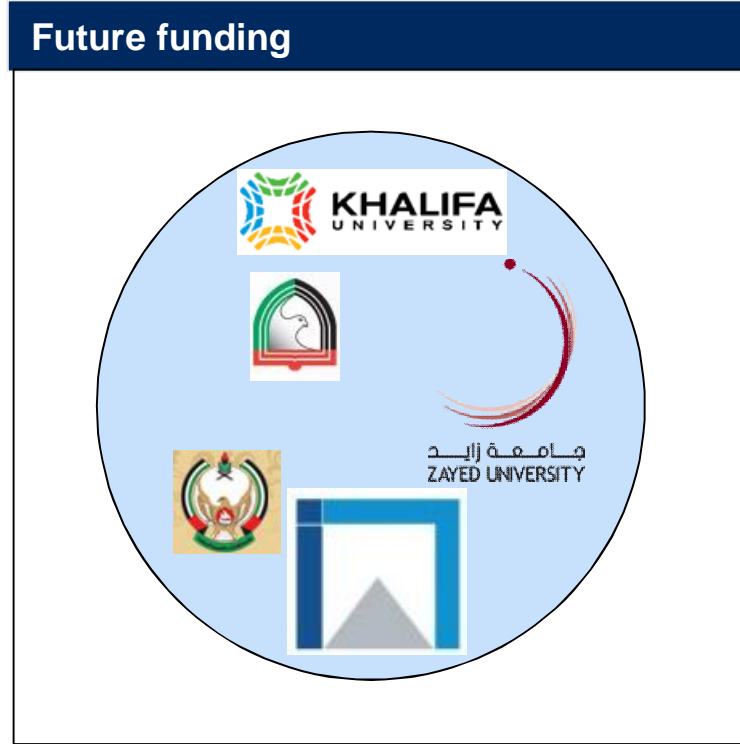
What do we do...

- **Connecting academia to advance IP networking**
- **Establish a forum to discuss collaboration**
- **Encourage collaborative research within the UAE**
- **Provide a mechanism to share lectures**
- **Encourage inter-library access**
- **Increase collaboration with international universities**
- **Connect international institutions to home networks**
- **Enable applications on the IP network**
- **Be on-time with the project schedule**
- **Maintain financial discipline**
- **Provide a mechanism for accurate reporting.**

Funding of Ankabut



- ICT fund will fund the ANKABUT project for the initial five years of operation
- During this time ,KUSTAR will manage ANKABUT in partnership with ETISALAT

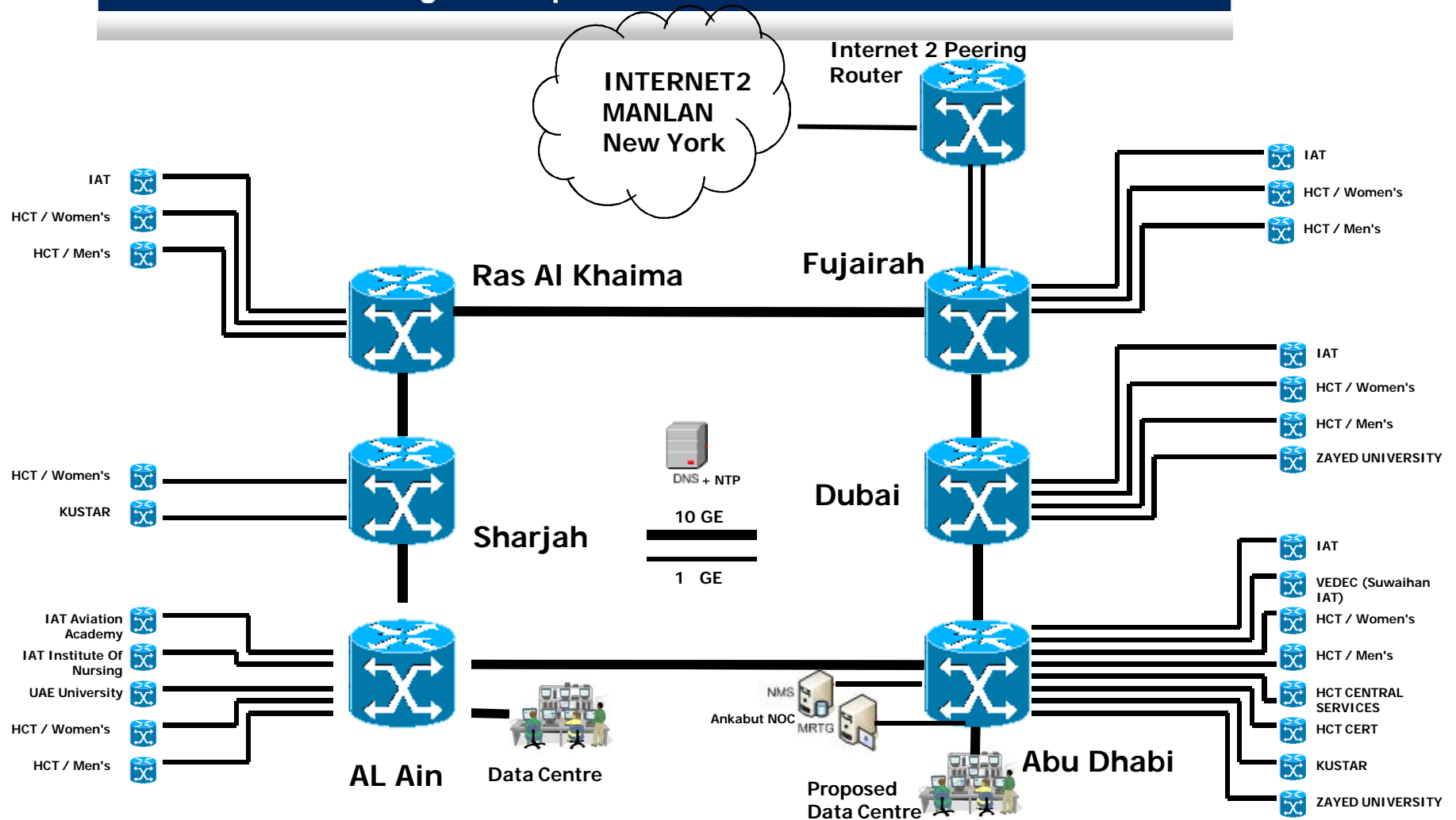


- Beyond the 5 years, ANKABUT will be spun-off as an independent organization with ownership stakes held by its users.

Ankabut National Network



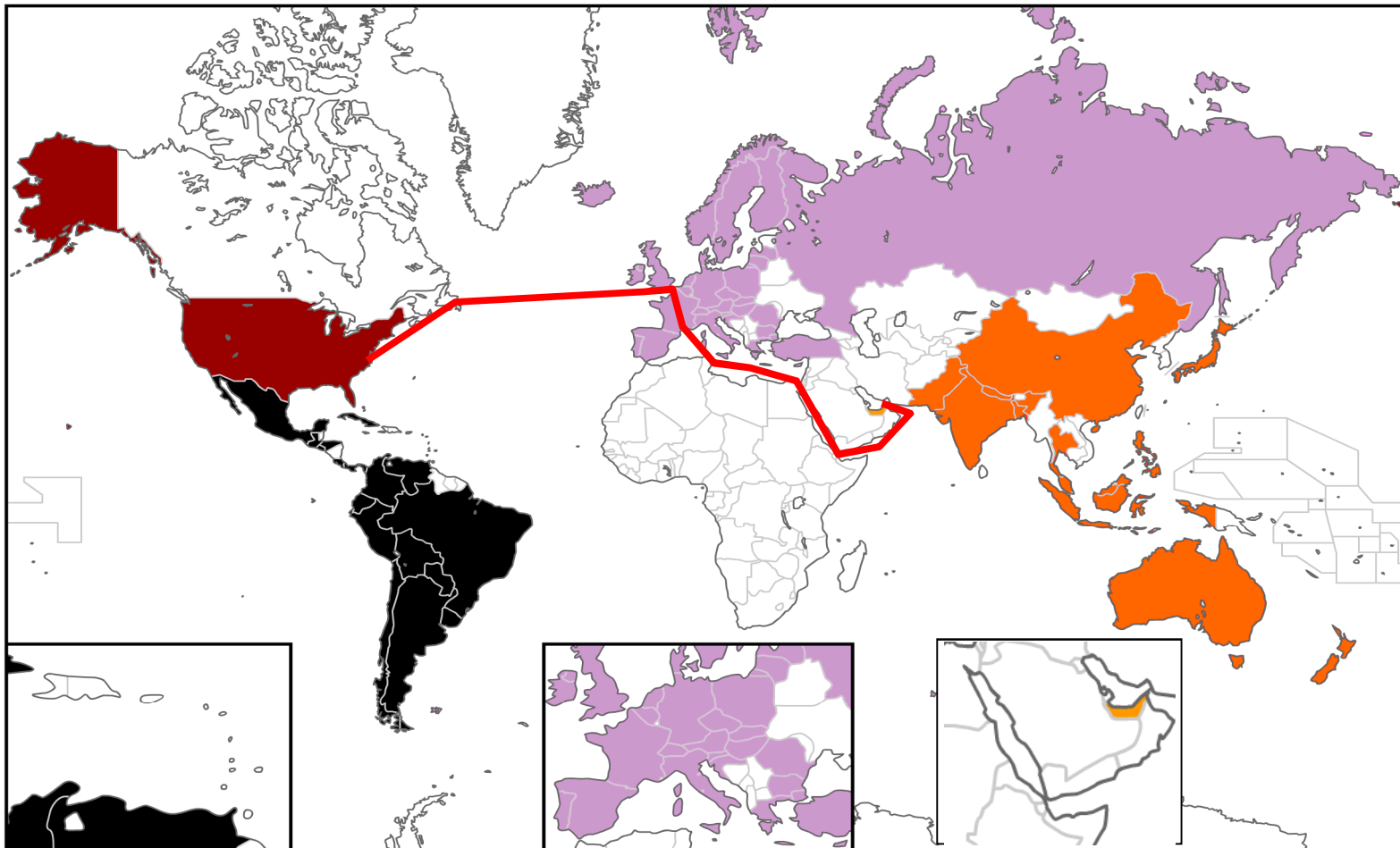
5 Universities covering 25 Campuses



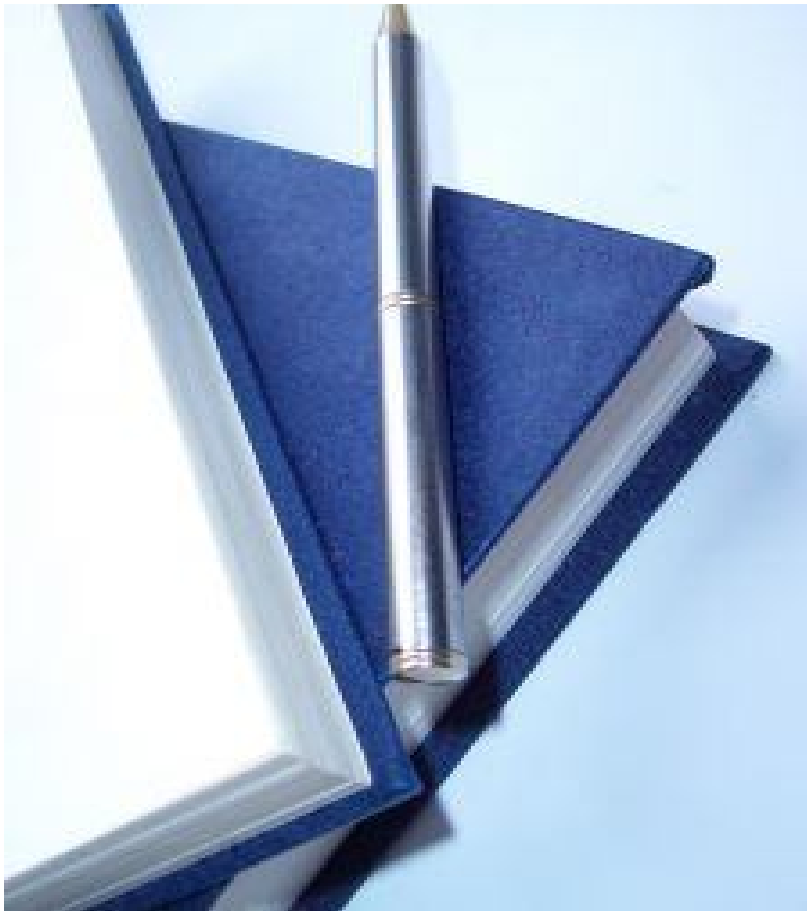
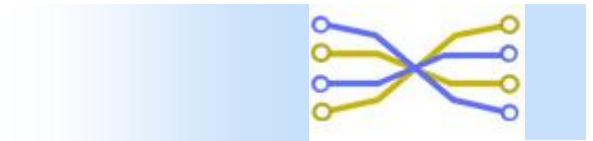
Ankabut International Network



Single International Peering Point



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Cabinet releases: UAE Vision 2021

<http://www.vision2021.ae/>

3.3 Knowledge-based and highly productive economy

Innovation, research, science and technology will form the pillars of a knowledge-based, highly productive and competitive economy, driven by entrepreneurs in a business-friendly environment where public and private sectors form effective partnerships

Outstanding information and communication infrastructure will network our businesses together and give them a leading edge as they transact and interact with the world. Individual citizens will also reap the benefits of efficient connectedness in their digital lives as they search online for knowledge and the fulfillment of intellectual curiosity.

4 First-rate education

All Emiratis will have equal opportunity and access to first-rate education that allows them to develop into well-rounded individuals, enhance their educational attainment, and achieve their true potential, contributing positively to society

The UAE will successfully encourage Emiratis to maximize their potential by remaining in school and reaching higher levels of education. School drop-outs rates will fall, university enrolment will rise, and more Emiratis will climb higher up the ladder of learning into post-graduate education.





ANKABUT Update

Telecom Operator

The Telecom Operator remains the largest hurdle to project progress. Causing delays to the project for a number items including:

- Regulatory and licensing aspects.**
- Lack of understanding the role and importance of NREs.**
- Internal business operation.**



ANKABUT Update

Legal Issues

Ankabut has been liaising with the TRA on regulatory issues and has received:

- Approval for VPNs**
- Exemption for VoIP**
- Internet1 is currently work in progress.**



ANKABUT Update

Internet2

Prof. Doug van Houweling visited Ankabut on 27th January 2010. Prof. Van Houweling has kindly met to discuss the national importance of research and education networking with:

- His Highness Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Higher Education**
- Etisalat.**
- TRA.**



ANKABUT Update

Regional Activity

There has been more NREN activity on the regional level in the Middle East.

- **Regional network proposals like the members of the EUMEDCONNECT project have proposed.**
- **The beginning of the proliferation NRENS in the Gulf region**

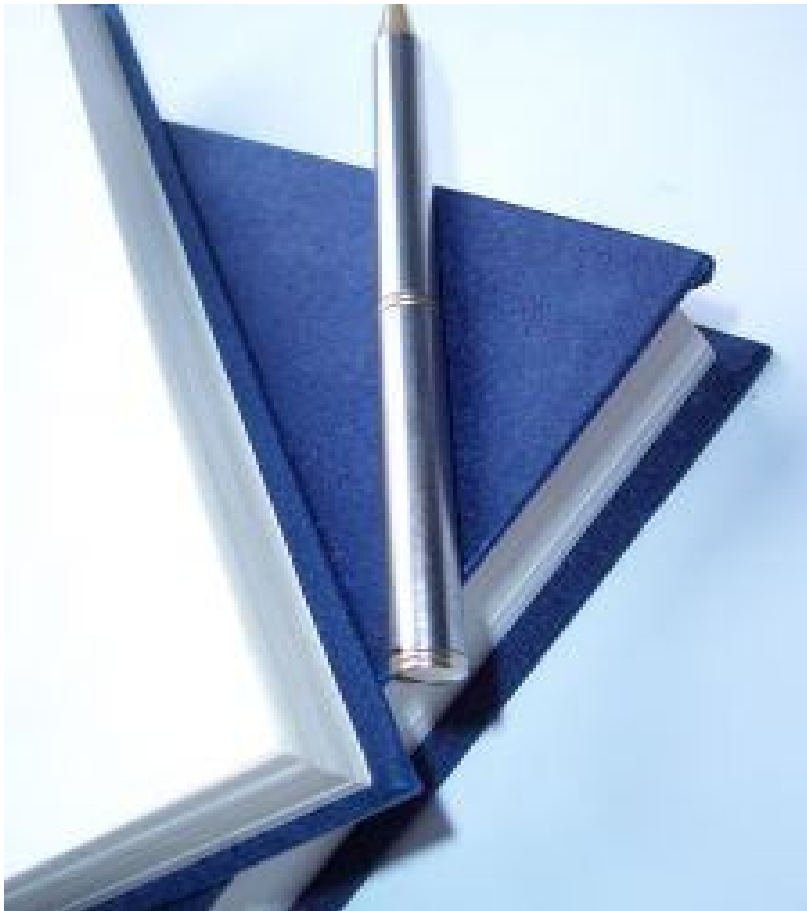
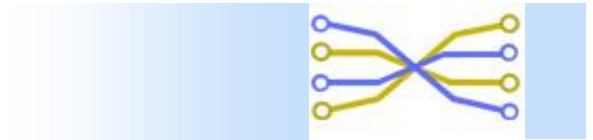


ANKABUT Update

Anakbut Users' Meeting

Ankabut has been hosting Users' meetings. In these meetings Ankabut presented feedback to the users discussing the challenges the Ankabut team has been through in the past quarter. Ankabut also has invited speakers from the education community presenting their work and vendors presenting what they can bring to the Education community.

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Conclusions

- **Ankabut has been steadily making headway towards its goals.**
- **The environment in the UAE and in the Gulf has become more hospitable towards NRENS.**
- **The major hurdles to progress still mainly come from the Telecom Operator.**