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UbuntuNet CONNECT | 2026

 Lilongwe, Malawi


 29 – 30 Oct 2026



UbuntuNet Alliance Partnership Programme

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 UbuntuNet Alliance

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UbuntuNet Alliance Partnership Programme

As the Regional Research and Education Network (RREN) for Eastern and Southern Africa, UbuntuNet Alliance has direct access to the research and education community in this region. The Alliance comprises **17** member NRENs, with **14** connected to the internet backbone, serving over **2,000** institutions and more than **2 million** students and staff. The Alliance maintains constant engagement through dedicated mailing lists, a monthly email newsletter (**2000+** subscribers), social media (**4,000+** followers), year-round capacity-building events, webinars and the annual UbuntuNet-Connect conference attracting over **200** practitioners.

These statistics and proven track record make UbuntuNet Alliance a valuable partner for your organizations. The Alliance provides a channel through which service providers can increase visibility, promote services, directly engage with key decision-makers, and boost regional usage.

The **UbuntuNet Alliance Partnership Programme** is a **year-long**, mutually beneficial initiative that allows your organization to participate in the Alliance's capacity-building calendar, access the community through various channels, and showcase your services and products at the UbuntuNet-Connect conference.

By joining the partnership programme, service providers can take advantage of **throughout the year**:

1. **UbuntuNet-Connect 2026 Conference**
2. **UbuntuNet Alliance capacity building webinars and events**
3. **UbuntuNet Alliance Mailing Lists and Monthly Newsletter**
4. **UbuntuNet Alliance Social media audiences**



UbuntuNet-Connect 2026: Shaping Digital Horizons

Shaping Digital Horizons reflects UbuntuNet Alliance's vision of advancing **resilient, inclusive, and sustainable digital infrastructure** that underpins research, education, and innovation across Eastern and Southern Africa. The theme recognises that connectivity is a foundation for future-ready research ecosystems, intelligent services, and cross-border collaboration. UbuntuNet-Connect 2026 will explore how National Research and Education Networks (NRENs), partners, and policymakers can collectively shape digital futures that are **secure, open, innovative, and responsive to regional priorities**. Keynote presentations, panel discussions, and paper presentations that address topics and anchor discussions on the conference theme are invited.

Important Details

- **Location:** Lilongwe, Malawi
- **Dates:** 29 - 30 October 2026
- **Venue:** Pearl Convention Center
- **Hosts:** The Malawi Research and Education Network (MAREN)



UbuntuNet Alliance Celebrates 20 Years

In 2026, UbuntuNet Alliance proudly celebrates **20 years** of advancing research and education networking across Eastern and Southern Africa. Over the past two decades, UbuntuNet Alliance has expanded significantly in both membership and network capacity. Now boasting a membership of **17 NRENs**, connecting **14** of them to a network that has a **20GBps** capacity, impacting thousands of institutions and millions of students and staff across the region.

The celebration of UbuntuNet Alliance turning 20 years old will culminate at the ubuntuNet-Connect 2026! Showcasing the impact that the Alliance has made over the past two decades and looking ahead at the future of research and education in Africa.



Diamond Partnership

\$ 15, 000

Year Round partner benefits

- 5 webinars across the year
- Feature in 3 NUANCE monthly newsletters
- Promotion of surveys and feedback initiatives subject to relevancy
- Promotion of webinars and events subject to relevancy

UbuntuNet-Connect 2026 benefits

- 5 free conference passes
- 6 sq mt branded exhibition booth with power supply, table, 2 chairs, TV screen & networking area.
- Contact details of conference participants subject to their consent
- Opening plenary presentation slot (10 minutes)
- Parallel session presentation slot
- Conference branding and visibility
 - Full page advert in conference printed programme
 - Logo visibility on conference nametags
 - Logo visibility on event webpages and portals
 - Inclusion of organization brochures and handouts in the event pack

Gold Partnership

\$ 10, 000

Year Round partner benefits

- 3 webinars across the year
- Feature in 2 NUANCE monthly newsletter
- Promotion of surveys and feedback initiatives subject to relevancy
- Promotion of webinars and events subject to relevancy

UbuntuNet-Connect 2026 benefits

- 3 free conference passes
- 3 sq mt branded exhibition booth with power supply, table, 2 chairs.
- Parallel session presentation slot
- Conference branding and visibility
 - Half page advert in conference printed programme
 - Logo visibility on event webpages and portals
 - Inclusion of organization brochures and handouts in the event pack



Silver Partnership

\$ 5, 000

Year Round partner benefits

- 2 webinars across the year
- Promotion of surveys and feedback initiatives subject to relevancy
- Promotion of webinars and events subject to relevancy

UbuntuNet-Connect 2026 benefits

- 2 free conference passes
- Conference branding and visibility
 - Logo visibility on conference nametags
 - Logo visibility on event webpages and portals
 - Inclusion of organization brochures and handouts in the event pack

Bronze Partnership

\$ 3, 000

Year Round partner benefits

- 1 webinar across the year

UbuntuNet-Connect 2026 benefits

- 1 free conference passes
- Conference branding and visibility
 - Logo visibility on event webpages and portals
 - Inclusion of organization brochures and handouts in the event pack

Amber Partnership

\$ 1, 000

UbuntuNet Alliance has a strong relationship with partners who continue to show support for the UbuntuNet-Connect conference. These partners will receive conference branding recognition and visibility throughout the conference through the conference webpage and printed materials.



Exhibition Opportunities

Organizations have the opportunity to partner with our annual research and education conference by participating as exhibitors. This event serves as a dynamic platform for showcasing innovative products, services, and research findings to a diverse audience of industry leaders, educators, and researchers. Exhibitors will benefit from extensive networking opportunities, increased visibility, and the chance to engage directly with potential collaborators and customers. Join us to highlight your contributions to the field and connect with key stakeholders in the industry.

Exhibition Stand 2 Sq mt

All booths come with a power supply, 2 chairs, 1 table and Logo branding

\$ 1,500

