

***IST Africa Connect 2010***

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# **UbuntuNet: Progress and Challenges**

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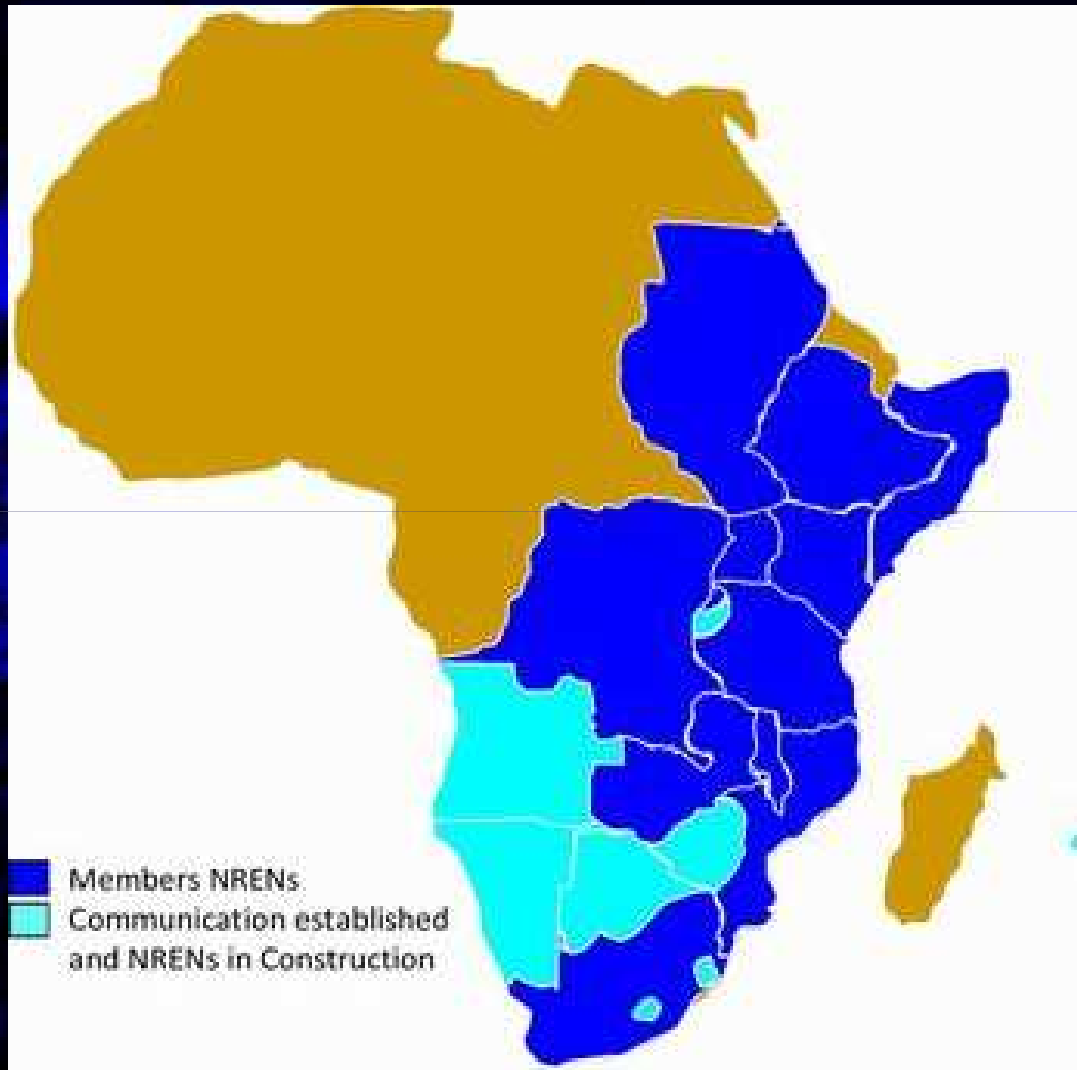
# What is UbuntuNet?

## UbuntuNet Alliance for Research and Education Networking

### To establish a Regional REN for Eastern and Southern Africa

- Non-profit association
- Head office in Lilongwe, Malawi
- Incorporated in 2006 in the Netherlands
- Now also incorporating in Malawi

# UbuntuNet Members



Eb@le, DRC  
EthERNet, Ethiopia  
KENET, Kenya  
MAREN, Malawi  
MoRENet, Mozambique  
RwEdNet, Rwanda  
SomaliREN, Somalia  
SUIN, Sudan  
TENET, South Africa  
TERNET, Tanzania  
RENU, Uganda  
ZAMREN, Zambia

# WACREN and UbuntuNet

East is East and West is West and never the twain shall meet?

Well .... Maybe, they can meet in Africa!

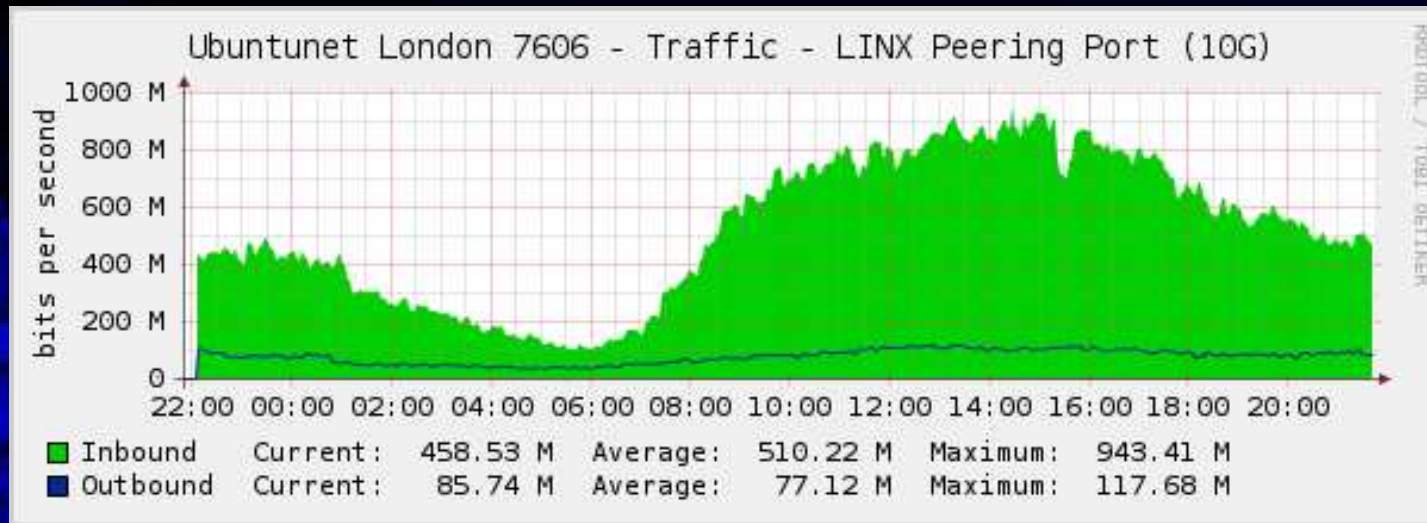
- In due course, UbuntuNet and WACREN will:
  - Sign an interconnection agreement
  - Provide each other with
    - Transit to and from African networks
    - Fail-over protection for international circuits
  - Sustain a mutually supportive, businesslike relationship

# UbuntuNet's London PoP

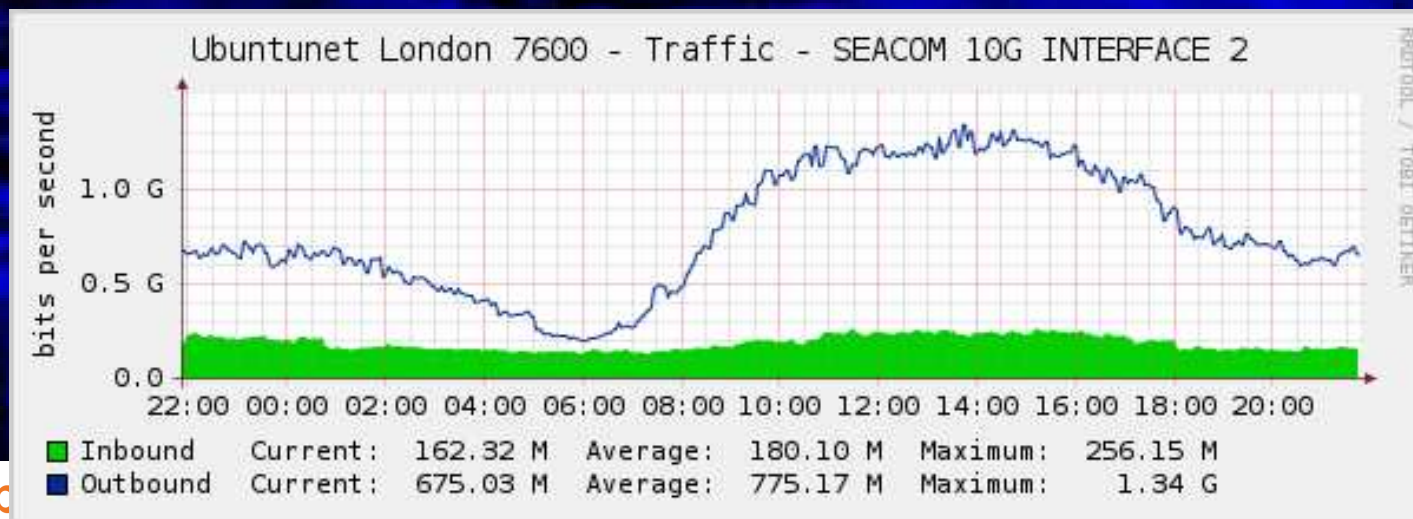
- Located in Telecity, London
  - since March 2008
- Donations:
  - 7600 router from CISCO
  - Colo and Géant interconnect from DANTE
- Business arrangements:
  - Member of London Internet Exchange (LINX)
  - Transit purchased from NTT
  - TENET operates (contracted by UbuntuNet)



# LINX traffic



# SEACOM traffic



# How are the NRENs doing?

- In-country networks
  - KENET, MAREN, MoRENet, SUIN, TENET (SANReN), ZAMREN
  - On-going developments in many countries
  - Renumbering with PI IP addresses
- SEACOM capacity to UbuntuNet London
  - KENET (155 mb/s, upgrade planned)
  - RwEdNet (155)
  - TERNET (4 x 155 Mb/s)
  - TENET (10 Gb/s)

# Challenges

- SEACOM capacity not being shared
  - Each NREN buying its own
  - No price advantage through UbuntuNet
  - UbuntuNet faced tendering obstacles
- No regional network yet
  - Not even one cross-border link yet
  - However, Hope Eternal lies in ....

## The Africa Connect Project



Thanks for listening!

