Building National Expertise—
NREN Experiences in Somalia and Ethiopia

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1. Ethiopia’s Experience
2. Somalia’s Context
3. The NREN—a tool for national economic development
4. Moving Forward and Next Steps

Overview
Comparative Experiences

SomaliREN

6 main operators and little regulation

FGS and regional administrations

Ethio Telecom

National Ministry of Education

EthERNET
Steaming ICT Capacity Building Strategy  
Facilitating Local Content Development

Spanning urban-rural divide

("Supplementing" under-resourced universities)
Established in 2001 and currently connecting 36 member institutions

Government-run and funded under the supervision and guidance of the Ministry of Education

Two-body system of governance
REN and local content development

• Meeting national needs
• Building on external partnerships
• Inter-institutional support

Ethiopia
REN & Bridging the Urban-Rural divide

- Technological Resource sharing
- Research exchange
- Distance Learning Partnerships

Ethiopia
REN and Inter-University Learning

- Partnerships with International universities
- Inter-university classes
- Tele-research
Founded in 2009, SomaliREN and has expanded from 9 to 14 member universities

Game changer--EASsy submarine cable in Mogadishu, Q1 2014, connectivity still pending

Private, non-government organization
The NREN & Streamlining an ICT strategy

- Links between member institutions
- Support on standardized assessments
The NREN—A Physical and Social Network

- Resource sharing
- Virtual learning and instruction opportunities

Somalia
The NREN—Training of Trainers and institutional capacity

• Building institutional capacity along with human resource capacity
Key Takeaways

ToT Development

Standardized Strategies

Research and Technology Sharing

Service delivery and Intra-institutional infrastructure
Next Steps
Thank you

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