

UbuntuNet Alliance, Redington and AWS to Advance Education and Research in Africa

Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 23rd July, 2024 – Redington, the leading technology aggregator and innovation powerhouse across emerging markets and Amazon Web Services (AWS), an [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), Inc. company (NASDAQ: AMZN), today announced a strategic partnership with UbuntuNet Alliance, a consortium of National Research and Education Networks (NRENs) across Africa.

This collaboration empowers UbuntuNet Alliance to provide its members with seamless access to a comprehensive suite of AWS cloud solutions. NRENs will benefit from the scalability, security, and agility of the AWS cloud, enabling them to support advanced research initiatives, foster educational innovation, and accelerate scientific discovery across Africa.

"This partnership is a significant step forward in empowering our NREN members to deliver cutting-edge solutions to their research and education communities," said **Professor Madara Ogot, CEO at UbuntuNet Alliance**. "By leveraging the combined expertise of Redington and AWS, we can offer our members a robust and secure cloud platform that will fuel groundbreaking research and education across countries in Africa."

Cloud is playing a vital role across education in Africa. By offering remote access to educational resources, reduced costs for institutions, and improved collaboration opportunities, cloud platforms empower students, teachers, and researchers across the continent. From online courses and virtual classrooms to shared research projects and streamlined administration, cloud technology has the potential to revolutionize learning experiences and unlock a new era of educational accessibility and innovation in Africa.

"To unleash the full potential of the cloud for education and research across Africa, high-speed internet connectivity is essential. Through a collaborative approach, where we combine resources and negotiate as a united front, we can significantly reduce network infrastructure costs. These savings are directly passed on to our NRENs, and ultimately benefit universities and academic institutions throughout the continent. The Redington and AWS partnership will play a key role in helping us to leverage the benefits of cloud effectively," Ogot added.

The collaboration will also provide NRENs with access to Redington's extensive experience and technical support. Redington will offer expertise in cloud procurement, implementation, and ongoing management, ensuring a smooth transition to the AWS cloud for UbuntuNet Alliance members.

"We are thrilled to partner with UbuntuNet Alliance together with AWS to deliver the power of the cloud to NRENs across the Africa continent," said **Nehal Sharma, VP, Cloud Solutions Group, at Redington**. "Our combined expertise will empower researchers and educators with the tools they need to drive innovation and progress on the continent."

Stein Mkandawire, CEO of the Zambia Research and Education Network (ZAMREN), said, "ZAMREN is excited to be part of this groundbreaking initiative. The availability of high-performance, reliable AWS cloud solutions will be a game-changer for Zambian researchers and educators. It will enable them to collaborate more effectively with colleagues across Africa and around the world, and to conduct research that can address critical challenges facing our country and continent."

"AWS is committed to supporting research and education institutions around the world," said **Antonio Carrozzo, EMEA Education & Research Lead, AWS**. "We are excited to partner with UbuntuNet Alliance and Redington to bring the benefits of the AWS cloud to NRENs in Africa. This collaboration will provide researchers and educators with the resources they need to push the boundaries of knowledge and make a positive impact on their communities."