UbuntuNet Alliance *For Research and Education Networking*

Sub-Award Grant Summary

Sub-Award Number	IOI-2025-02: 12
Award Date	January 21, 2026
Sub-Awardee	Sudan Research and Education Network (SudREN)
Primary Contact Name	Dr. Babiker Hussien Ahmed
Primary Contact Email	ceo@sudren.edu.sd
Address (include country)	P.O. Box 2081, Khartoum, Sudan
Purpose	NREN participation in the grant to UA from the Invest in Open Infrastructure Fund for Network Adoption entitled: "Unlocking Potential: Open Institutional Repositories in Africa for Global Impact" as the activities documented in the Grant Proposal.
Duration	January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2028
Amount	1. US$10,000 (direct grant) 2. US$56,165 (Support for two in country trainings under Work Package 2 and 3, UA shall pay all vendors/suppliers directly).
Payment Schedule	1. Direct Grant – From February 2026 and after signed contract received. 2. In Country Training Support: Payments will be made as they arise.
Reports	Brief annual reports due December 2026, 2027 and 2028.

UbuntuNet Alliance *For Research and Education Networking*

January 13, 2025

Sub-Awardee Name: Sudan Research and Education Network
Sub-Award Number: IOI-2025-02: 12

Dear Dr Babiker Hussein Ahmed ,

UbuntuNet Alliance was awarded a three-year grant by the Invest in Open Infrastructure (IOI) for Network Adoption for the project "Unlocking Potential: Open Institutional Repositories (OIR) in Africa for Global Impact." The approved proposal is attached.

An extract of the General Conditions for the Award as provided to us by IOI follow:

General Conditions

1. UbuntuNet Alliance (UA) will disburse funds to the **Sub-Awardee** named in the Sub-Award Agreement. The Sub-Awardee will refund any unused portion of the funds if the Sub-Awardee does not complete the work described in the purpose during the timeframe specified in the Sub-Award Agreement.
2. The Sub-Awardee will use funds to fulfill the purpose described in the approved proposal (attached), in accordance with applicable law, including all requirements of the IOI Fund for Network Adoption. This specifically includes but is not limited to compliance with health and safety regulations, data protection and privacy laws (including GDPR where applicable), modern slavery and human trafficking laws, safeguarding requirements for vulnerable persons, anti-bribery and anti-corruption laws, tax evasion prevention requirements, financial sanctions and export control laws, and all relevant regulatory and ethical guidelines for research conduct. Funds will not be used to influence an election, engage in activities intended to influence legislation (lobbying) as provided under US Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Sections 501(c)(3) and 4911, engage in political or other activity prohibited by IRC Section 501(c)(3), or support a person or organization engaged in terrorist activity. Sub-Awardee must obtain and maintain all necessary licenses, permits, and approvals required for the project throughout the award period.
3. The Sub-Awardee will acknowledge IOI Fund for Network Adoption in any materials or media produced in connection with the activities and in any public statements made regarding the grant, including but not limited to interviews, speeches, press releases, website announcements, and publications. Sub-Awardee agrees to use the following language: "*This project has been made possible in part by an award from Invest in Open Infrastructure (IOI) Fund for Network Adoption.*"
4. The Sub-Awardee will notify UA within 30 days of any changes to the primary contacts listed in the Grant Summary; loss of other funding, filing of litigation, or a development that has, or could have, an adverse effect on the Awardees finances or affect the ability of the Sub-

Awardee to fulfill the purpose of this award or other obligations in the Grant Summary; or any changes to the purpose of the award.

5. The Sub-Awardee will defend, indemnify and hold UA, including its directors and employees, harmless against any third party claims, liabilities, losses, damages, and expenses that arise directly or indirectly from project execution; breach of agreement; actions that cause UA to breach the agreement.
6. UA holds the right to terminate this agreement at any time if the Sub-Awardee uses the funds for a purpose outside what is stated in the Sub-Award Agreement; the Sub-Awardee makes any misrepresentation in a report or statement made to UA. If UA takes such action, the Sub-Awardee will be notified of this effect, with the termination effective 10 days after delivery.
7. If either UA or the Sub-Awardee breaches any obligations in this agreement, the non-breaching party may provide the breaching party with notice of the breach. If the breaching party fails to cure the breach within 60 days after receiving the notice, the non-breaching party may terminate this agreement effective immediately upon delivery to the breaching party of a written notice.
8. The Sub-Awardee will repay to UA any unused portion of the funds within 30 days after effective termination.
9. This agreement expresses the final, complete, and exclusive agreement between the Sub-Awardee and UA.
10. The Sub-Awardee and UA are and remain independent parties. The arrangements in this agreement do not create a partnership, joint venture, employment, fiduciary, or similar relationship. Neither the Sub-Awardee nor UA has the power or authority to bind or obligate the other to a third party or commitment in any manner.
11. The Sub-Awardee certifies that it complies with the principles of Equal Employment Opportunity and that it has a policy against discriminatory harassment. The Sub-Awardee will ensure that any individual engaged in work associated with this award will act in accordance with those policies and professional norms and ethics.

Project engagement and strategic support requirements

12. **Required participation:** The Sub-Awardee will participate in regular meetings and sessions with the UA team:
    a. **Steering Committee:** Bi-annual Steering Committee meetings to review current project status. These shall be held as pre-events to UA Annual General Meeting (May each year) and UbuntuNetConnect Conference (October each year).
    b. **Open Institutional Repositroy (OIR) Working Group:** Regular video calls to coordinate activities across the NRENs and the Eastern and Southern Africa Research and Education Community.

13. **Communication and early warning:** Sub-Awardee agrees to:
    a. Notify UA within 30 days of any significant developments that may impact project delivery, including but not limited to: changes in key personnel, governance conflicts, major partnership changes, technical barriers, budget concerns, or timeline delays

b. Respond to UA communications regarding project status within 15 business days.

14. **UA commits to:**
    a. Schedule all required meetings collaboratively with Sub-Awardee's availability.
    b. Provide responsive strategic support.
    c. Maintain confidentiality of sensitive organizational information shared by Sub-Awardee, except where disclosure is required by funders or law.
    d. Act as an advocate and thought partner to support Sub-Awardee's success.

Changes, notifications, and prior approvals

15. **Immediate notification required:** Sub-Awardee must notify UA immediately (within 5 business days) upon becoming aware of:
    a. Any suspicion or occurrence of fraud, financial impropriety, corruption, bribery, or breach of financial sanctions laws
    b. Any legal claims, investigations, regulatory proceedings, or notices of intent to take legal action that could impact the project or Sub-Awardee's organizational viability
    c. Any significant reputational issues that could affect Sub-Awardee, the project, or funders

16. **Prompt notification required:** Sub-Awardee must notify UA within 30 days of:
    a. Material changes to Sub-Awardee's financial condition or organizational status
    b. Significant delays or obstacles to project completion.

Prohibited uses of funds and additional restrictions

17. Sub-Awardee shall not use sub-award funds for:
    a. Expenses incurred before the award start date or after the award end date.
    b. Activities intended to influence any election of candidates to public office or specific legislation (lobbying activities)
    c. Purposes outside the approved project scope as described in the project proposal.
    d. Any activities prohibited by the funders' requirements or applicable law

18. Sub-Awardee shall return to UA:
    a. Any portion of the sub-award funds that remains unspent upon project completion or termination,
    b. Any funds used in breach of this agreement.
    c. Such repayment shall be made within thirty (30) days of project completion, termination, or upon request by UA.

19. Sub-Awardee acknowledges that this is a restricted grant and funds must be used solely for the purposes specified in this agreement.

Disbursement terms

20. The direct sub-award totaling US$10,000 will be disbursed from February 2026, after this contract is signed. The funds must be spent and accounted for with 12 months of receipt.

21. The indirect sub-award totaling US$56,165 shall be paid directly by UA to suppliers and vendors to support two in-country trainings as per the project proposal.

Record keeping and audit rights

22. Sub-Awardee shall maintain detailed financial records, including all invoices, receipts, and other documentation of grant expenditures, in accordance with the Sub-Awardee's standard accounting practices and for a minimum of six (6) years following the end of the award period.

23. Sub-Awardee shall maintain appropriate internal policies, procedures, and controls for financial management, including measures to detect and prevent fraud, bribery, tax evasion, and other financial impropriety.

Reporting requirements

24. **Narrative reports:** Sub-Awardee shall submit narrative progress reports annually. Sub-Awardee grants UA permission to use quotes and figures from the narrative reports in public communication. Please include in each narrative report:
    a. Award number (as stated in this Agreement)
    b. Reporting period
    c. Progress toward stated deliverables and impact goals
    d. Key achievements and learnings from the reporting period
    e. Challenges encountered and approaches being taken to address them
    f. Adjustments to project approach or timeline, with rationale
    g. Plans for the upcoming period

Open access and research outputs

25. Sub-Awardee must comply with all open access requirements of the IOI Fund for Network Adoption's contributing funders, including:
    a. All peer-reviewed research publications supported in whole or in part by this sub-award must be made freely available online immediately upon publication under a Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license or equivalent open license. Sub-Awardee shall not transfer copyright to publishers that would prevent open access compliance.
    b. All publications should acknowledge the IOI Fund for Network Adoption (see Section 3).
    c. Research data and digital materials produced under this sub-award must be made freely available online in accordance with FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) and CARE (Collective benefit, Authority to control, Responsibility, Ethics)

principles, while respecting privacy rights of indigenous peoples and marginalized cultural groups, and protecting confidential or sensitive data appropriately.

d. Scholarly books and book chapters must be made openly available at time of publication or within maximum of one year from publication date.
e. Digital materials must be of sufficient quality to ensure usability for research purposes and must be preserved for long-term access.
f. Sub-Awardee shall maintain records of all research outputs and their open access status for reporting to IOI and its funders.

Intellectual property and commercialization

26. **Identification and ownership:** Sub-Awardee shall use reasonable procedures to identify, protect, manage and potentially commercialize any intellectual property created under this sub-award ('Sub-award IP'). Sub-Awardee shall own all Sub-award IP unless otherwise agreed in writing.

27. **Reporting:** Sub-Awardee shall report to UA on any Sub-award IP and commercialization activities as requested, to enable UA to fulfill both reporting obligations to funders and nonprofit compliance obligations.

28. **Third-party materials:** If Sub-Awardee uses proprietary background IP or materials from third parties that are essential to the project, Sub-Awardee must ensure that arrangements with such parties: (i) grant rights proportionate to their contribution, (ii) do not unreasonably restrict or delay publication, and (iii) allow for commercialization consistent with this agreement.

Award #: IOI-2025-02: 12

UbuntuNet Alliance for Research and Education Networking has authorized a sub-award to fund Sudan Research and Education Network (SudREN) participation in the project “Unlocking potential: Elevating open institutional repositories in Africa for Global Impact”, subject to the terms and conditions of this document.



Prof Madara Ogot
CEO
UbuntuNet Alliance for Research and Education Networking

Accepted and agreed by Sudan Research and Education Network (SudREN)

Sub-Awardee	Title
Signature	Date