

Joining TEIN3 - South Meets East

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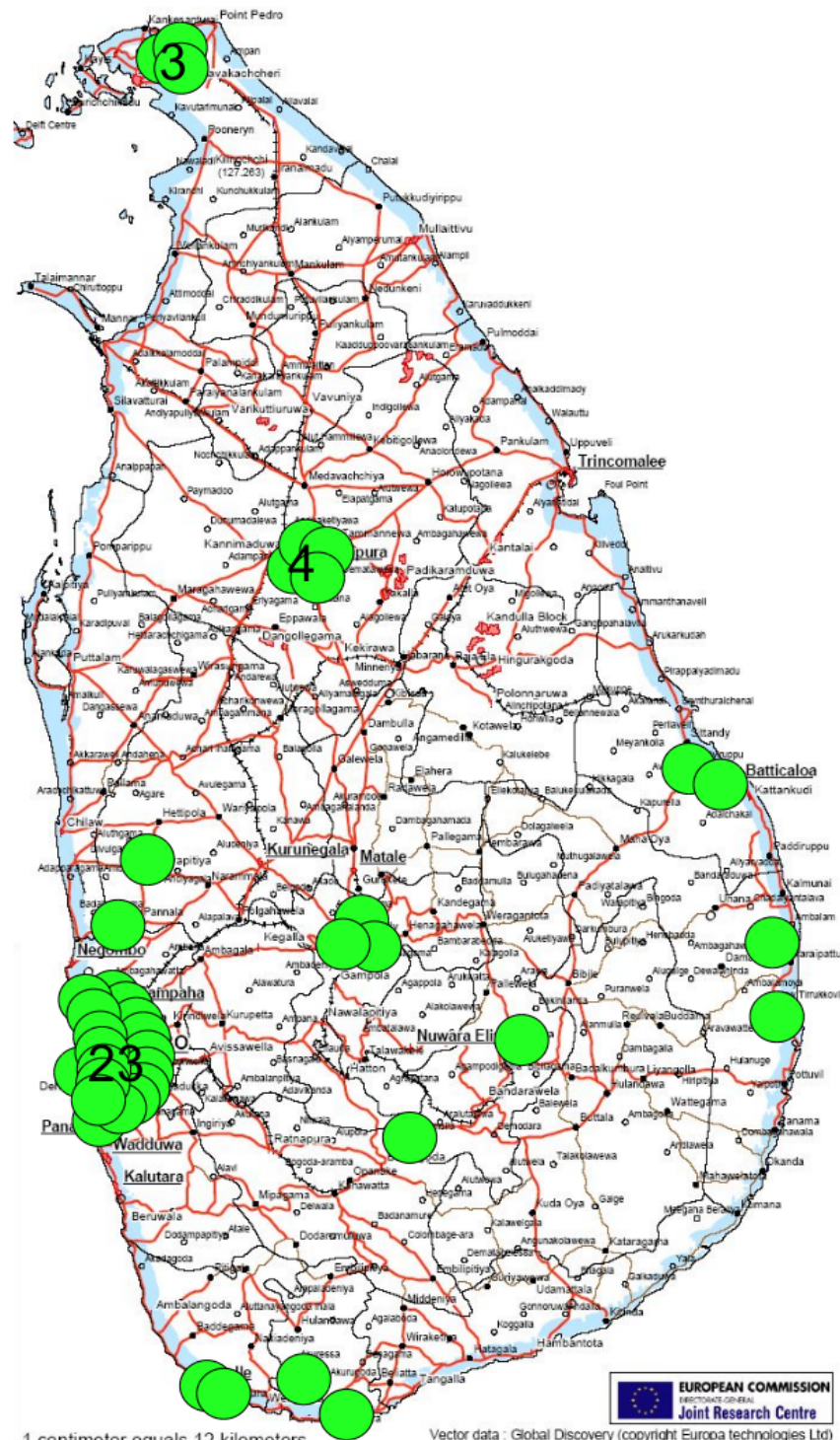
ASEM Workshop on Building an Inclusive Information Society
Kuala Lumpur – December 2009

LEARN

- The National Research and Education Network (NREN) of Sri Lanka
- Interconnect universities and research institutions
 - 15 Universities, 37 campuses/institutes
 - University Grants Commission (UGC)
 - Ministry of Higher Education
 - 6 Research institutions
- Provide International connectivity
 - Purchase bandwidth in bulk at lower prices
- Website <http://www.learn.ac.lk/>

Current status

- 29 Member institutions
 - 16 Full members (15 universities and the UGC)
 - 13 Affiliate members
 - MoHE + 1 academic institution under UGC
 - 4 academic institutes under other ministries
 - 1 private academic institute
 - 8 research institutes
- 44 sites connected
 - 2 sites at 34Mbps on fiber
 - 10 sites at 10Mbps on fiber
 - Other sites at 2Mbps or lower
 - 11 sites with multiple links
- 120Mbps International connectivity shared with SchoolNet
- SchoolNet interconnects 1200 schools



1 centimeter equals 12 kilometers

Vector data : Global Discovery (copyright Europa technologies Ltd)

Services

- Inter-university voice routing
- HD Video Conferencing facilities
 - Includes a HD conference bridge
 - Funding provided by IRQUE project (WB Funds)
- IPv6
- Multicast

Our past

- Phase 1: 1993-1998
 - 1994: 3 universities interconnected at 64kbps
- Phase 2: 1999-2003
 - Link upgrades to 2Mbps with support from Sida/SAREC
 - Video conferencing facilities
- Phase 3: 2004 -
 - Link upgrades to 10Mbps/34Mbps with support from the IRQUE Project (WB Funds)
 - All main campuses connected via optical fiber
 - International connectivity shared with SchoolNet
 - Equipment upgrades
 - IPv6, Multicast, Voice routing

Achievements

- Interconnect ALL public universities
 - Ownership: LEARN project is “our project”
- Benefits to members
 - Lower prices for local/international bandwidth
 - Value addition
 - Sharing of expertise / Technical workshops
 - Technical/Financial transparency
- Champion of networking in Sri Lanka
 - Ahead of telecom operators in technology
 - IPv6, Multicasting
- 100% self sustaining

Joining TEIN3

- Major milestone in our path
 - Lack of “Academic” Internet connectivity was a major challenge
- Initially connected at 45Mbps
- South Asia Feasibility Study
 - Four meetings in 2008/2009
 - High level of co-operation among South Asian partners achieved



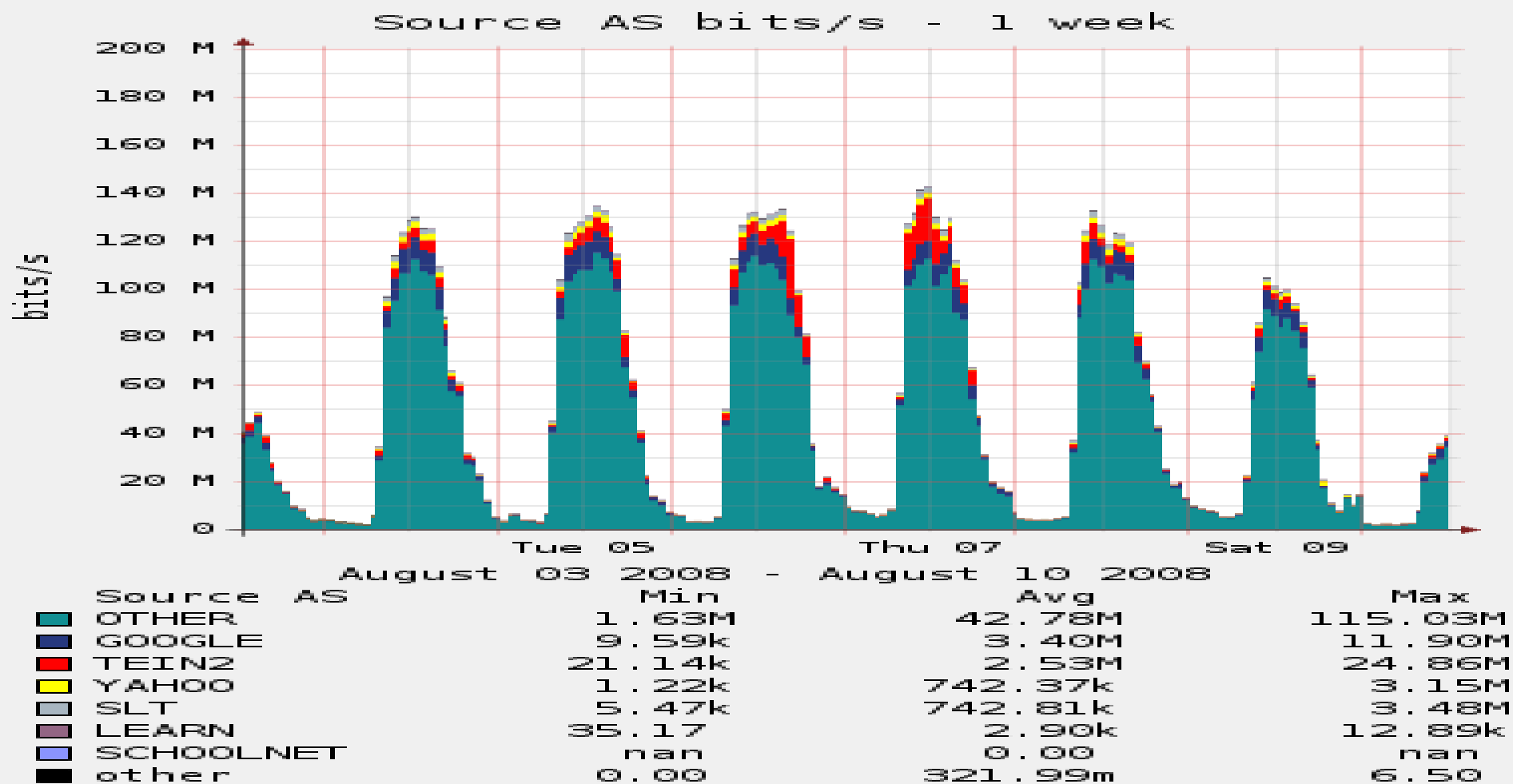




Expectations

- Facilitate research co-operation and remote teaching
- Higher utilization of academic Internet, and associated increases in productivity
- Facilitate remote teaching (UK, Sweden, USA)

Internet usage



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Research collaborations to benefit from TEIN3

- Based on our user survey
- All fields: Agriculture to Zoology
- Fields:
Agriculture, Computer Science, Disaster Management, Engineering (Civil/Communication/ Mechanical), Medicine (Dental/Surgery/Vet.), Microbiology, Nanotechnology, Oceanography, Physics, Renewable Energy, Social Sciences, Zoology
- Countries:
Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, India, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Sweden, Thailand, UK, USA