

# UbuntuNet CONNECT | 2019

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## **How RENU Identity Federation (RIF) has been an enabler for research at the NIH ICER Uganda**

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Federated Identity is a service offered by RENU that allows RENU Identity Federation member institutions to use the same identification data to obtain access to secured resources of all organizations in the group. In research, the use of sensitive information such as personally identifiable information (PII) and protected health information (PHI), is increasing in tandem with researchers' big data skills. In response, Identity Federation offers economic advantages, as well as convenience, to organizations and their users. NIH ICER Uganda's Protected Network is an environment with technical controls in place that provide research groups with essential security measures needed for studies using sensitive information. Over the years, the environment has supported research projects and groups and has served as a foundation for specialized and protected IT infrastructures in the social sciences, population studies, and medical research. This presentation will describe key features of the Protected Network and outline the IT infrastructure design and organizational features that the NIH ICER used to establish this resource for researchers. Key features include: Service and Identity Provider infrastructure, Authentication, Identity Management and several demonstrations where we currently use this infrastructure.

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