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Supporting Resilient Off-Campus Access in a Disrupted Environment

Wednesday 18 November 2020 12:40 (20 minutes)

Teaching Research has largely been based on on-campus models where researchers, faculty and students have traditionally conducted their core business primarily from within their home institutions with remote or off-campus access only initiated whenever there is collaboration with other institutions.

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted to closure of all educational institutions in Kenya from March 2020 when most educational institutions were still continuing with the semesters. This prompted rapid search for and implementation of solutions to support teaching, learning and research from remote locations. These solutions ranged from learning management systems, conferencing systems, end user devices, off-campus connectivity, and access just to mention but a few.

To support its member institutions, KENET engaged in different initiatives aimed at facilitating the transition to support online remote teaching, learning and research. Some of the solutions implemented to support the KENET community included off-campus 4G/LTE access through Private Mobile Network APN, Affordable Mobile Bundles for students, secure access through eduVPN and providing conferencing facilities for meetings and teaching in the period. This presentation will focus on some of the solutions and innovations implemented by KENET to support its community with learning and research continuity during the disruption.

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