

# *Overview of IAM/FedOps in South Africa*

UbuntuNet Connect 2021 IAM BoF  
5 November 2021

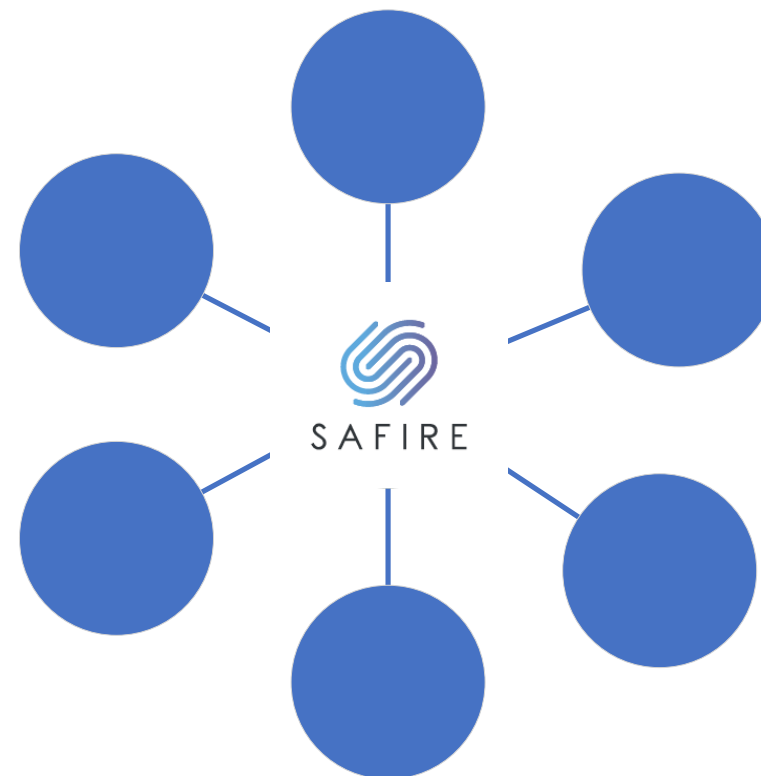
Guy Halse – <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9388-8592>

# *Trust & Identity services*



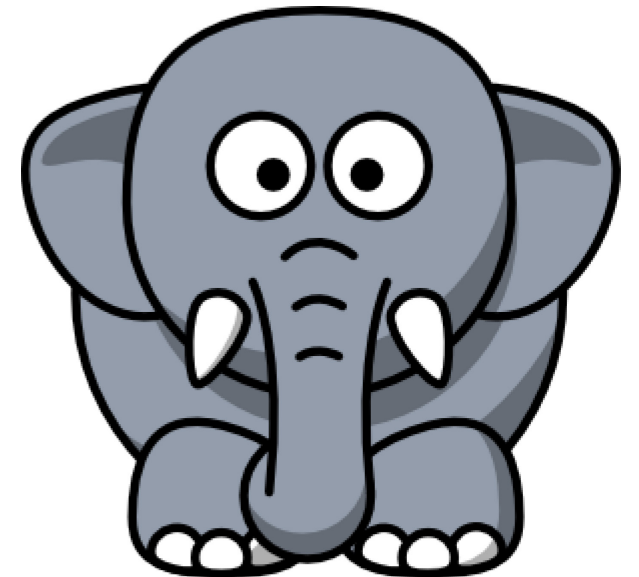
# *SAFIRE Overview*

- Established circa 2015
- Community-driven
- Hub-and-spoke
  
- 21 institutions (73%)
- half a million AuthN / year
- 160k unique users



# *Why hub-and-spoke?*

- Reduces the barriers to entry, particularly for identity providers
  - Simplifies configuration
  - Forgiving of protocol anomalies
- Can do protocol translation
- Reduces the attribute release problem
- Centralised consent (read POPIA)
  
- tl;dr – seems a better fit for South Africa

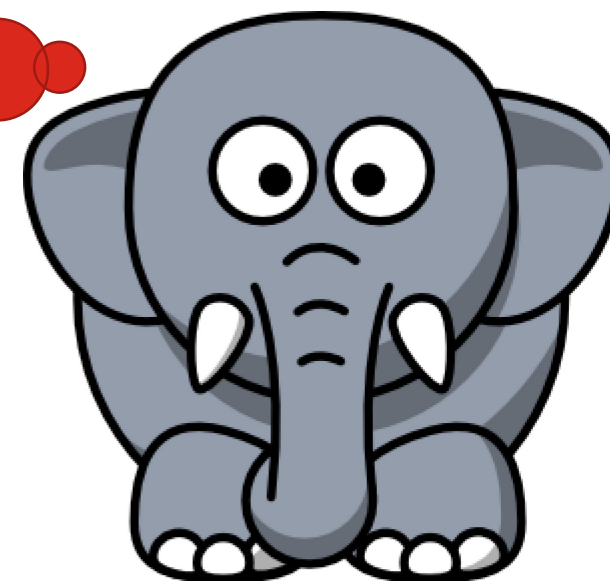


# Why hub-and-spoke?

- Reduces the... particularly for identity providers

Federation / SAML skills are scarce in South Africa; this model centralises those skills in the NREN

- tl;dr... South Africa

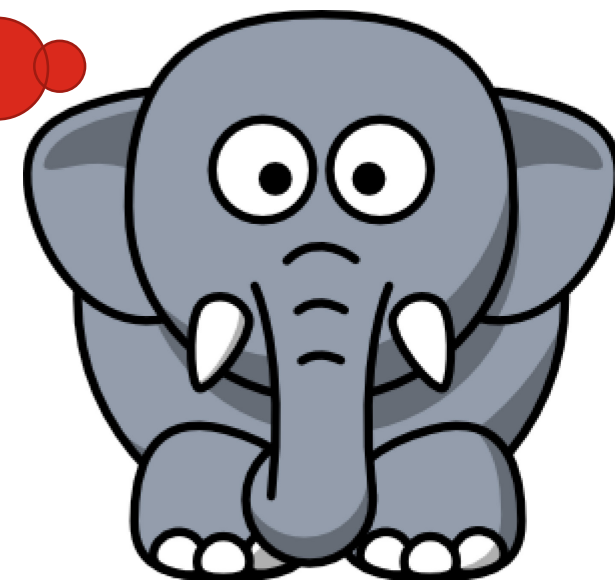


# Why ~~hub-and-spoke~~ eduID.africa?

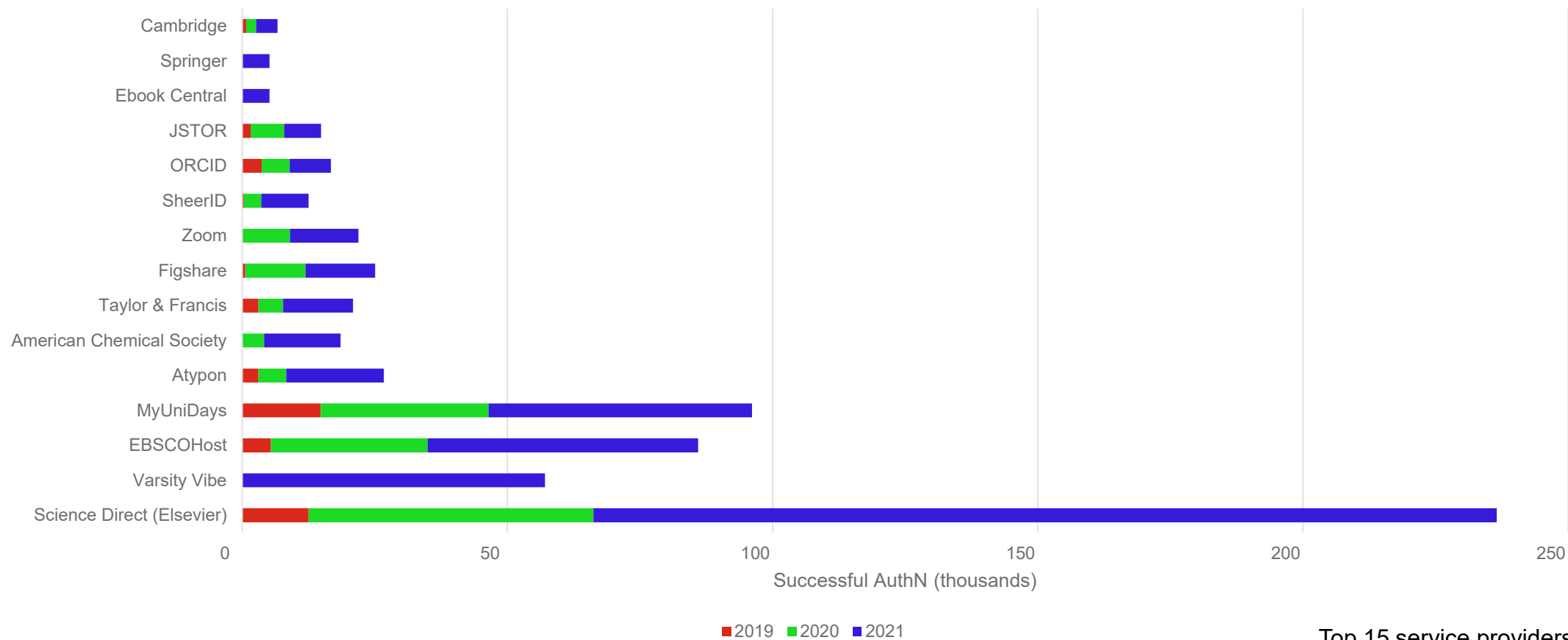
- Reduces the complexity for identity providers

Federation / SAML skills are scarce in South Africa; this model centralises those skills in the NRREN

- tl;dr: ... South Africa

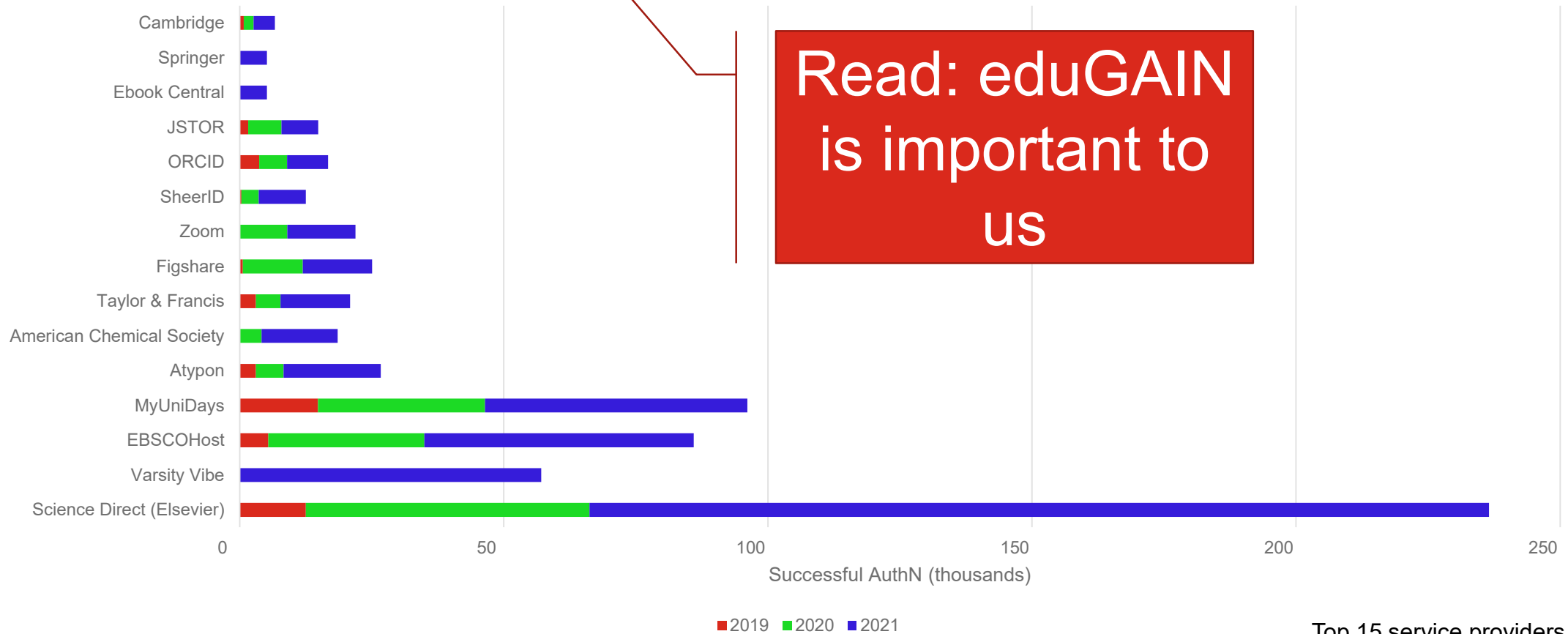


# *Libraries are important to us*



Top 15 service providers as at Aug 2021

# Libraries are important to us

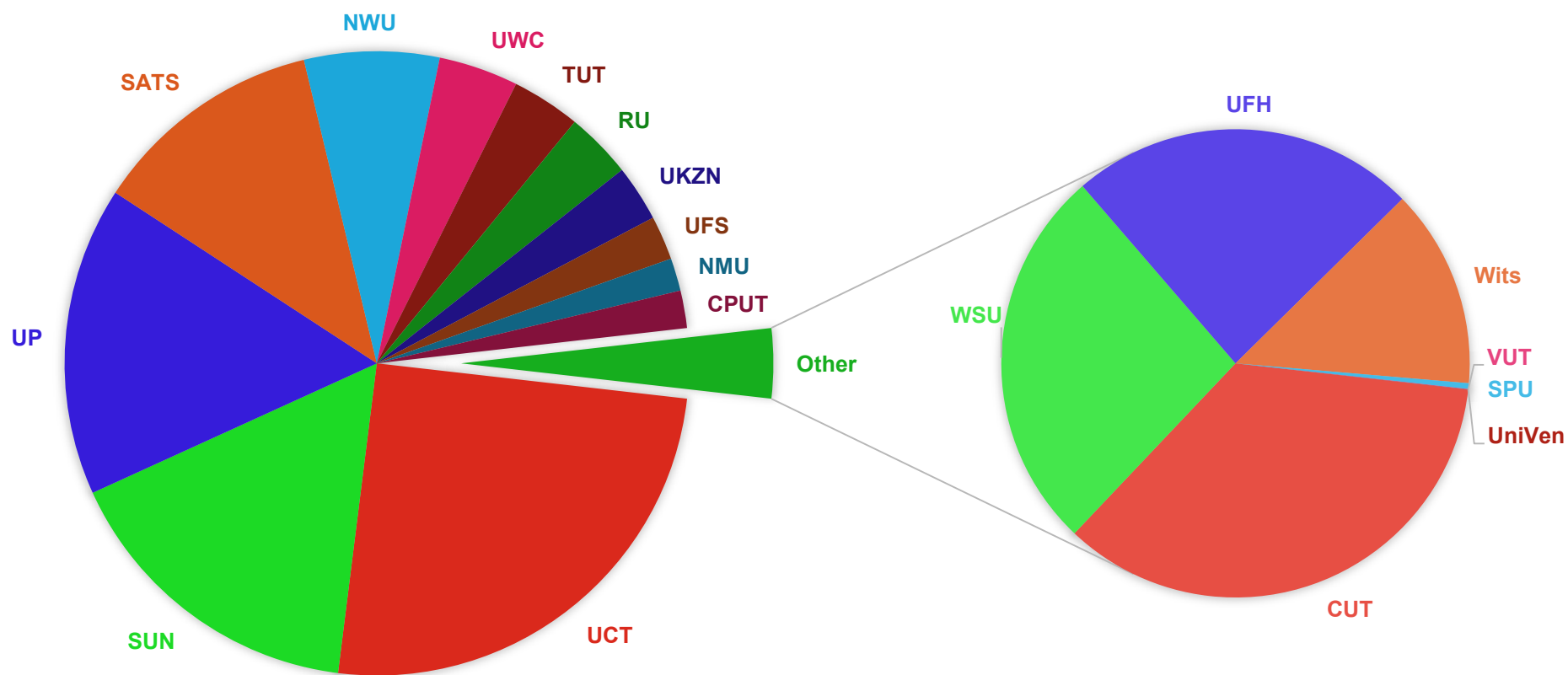


Read: eduGAIN  
is important to  
us

Top 15 service providers as at Aug 2021



*But don't be fooled by stats...*



Relative utilisation of SAFIRE by identity providers, Aug 2020-Aug 2021

# Participation is key

- If we're not at the table, we don't get a say in shaping the future



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**REFEDS**



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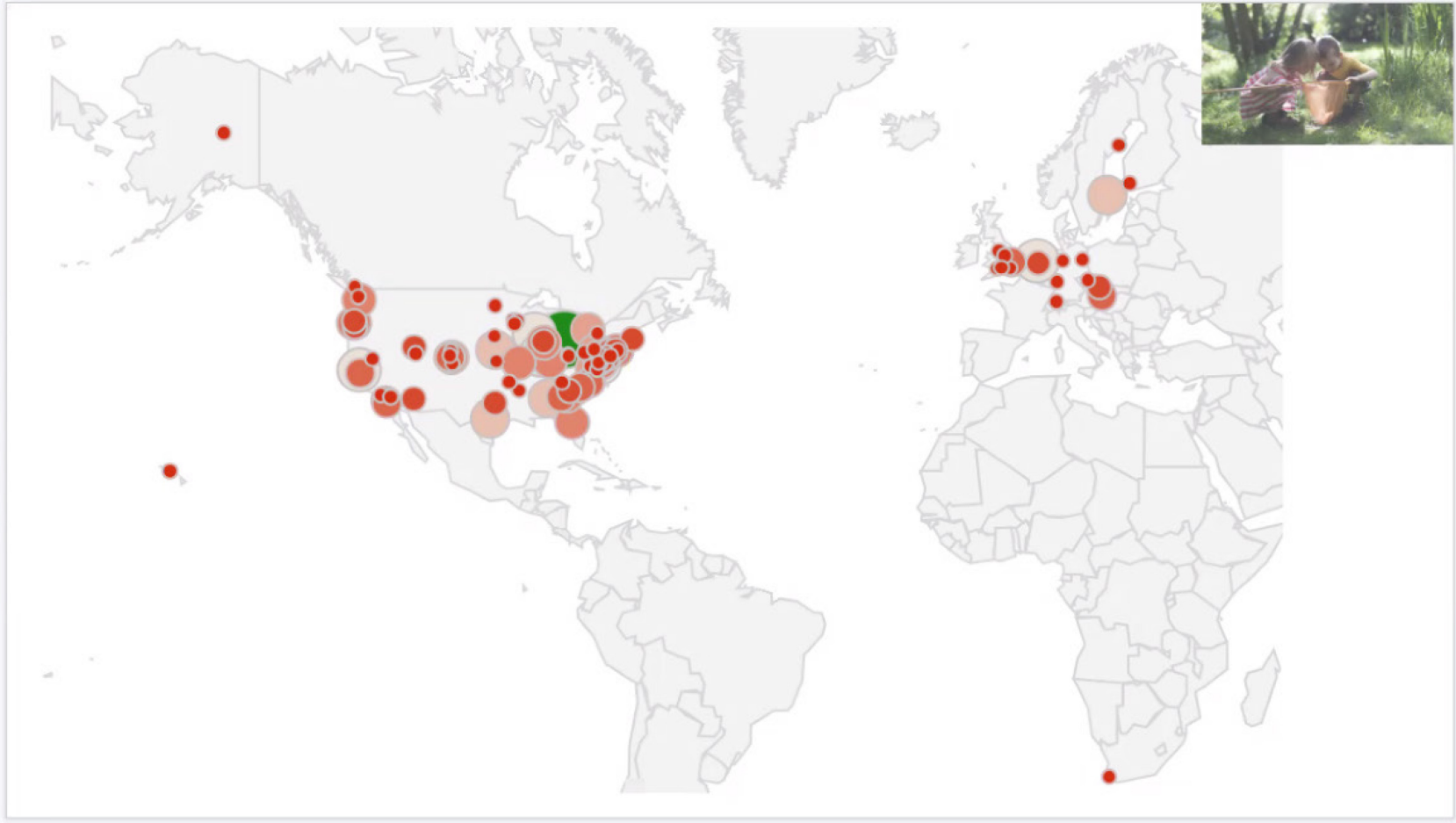
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- 16
- 17



# *Challenges*

- Africa is not Europe/North America/Asia
- Institutional maturity (identity management)
- Long tail of software
- Skills / staff
- Keeping up...