

Shaping the NRENs landscape in Africa -

Harnessing European NRENs Best Practices

One example – DFN

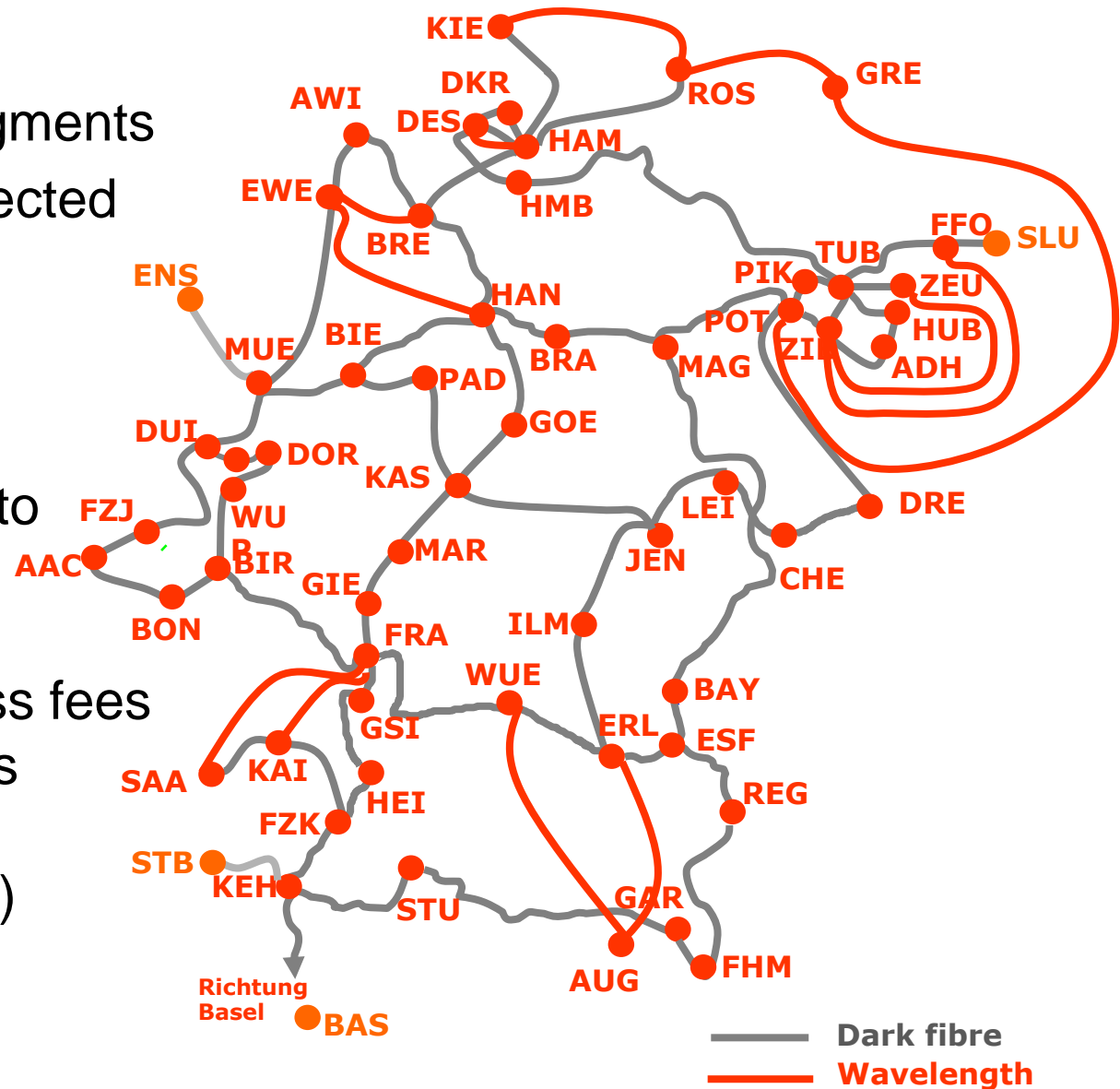
(The German NREN)

Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference/Helsinki

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- 10.250 km fibre; 94 segments
- ~ 310 Institutions connected
 - 100 MB – 20 GB
- Access fees according to access capacity
- Financed only by access fees of connected institutions
- No funding (since 2004)



- Non-for-profit association under German law;
- > 320 member organisations
 - Universities, polytechnics (no schools)
 - governmental and commercial research labs
- Organisational structure
 - General Assembly
 - votes on budget, general strategy, introduction of new service etc
 - elects Council of Administration
 - Council of Administration (13 members)
 - defines strategy/development program
 - elects Board (3 members; overall responsibility)
 - DFN Office (2 directors, ~ 50 staff, 2 locations)

Besides excellent network connectivity the connected institutions get

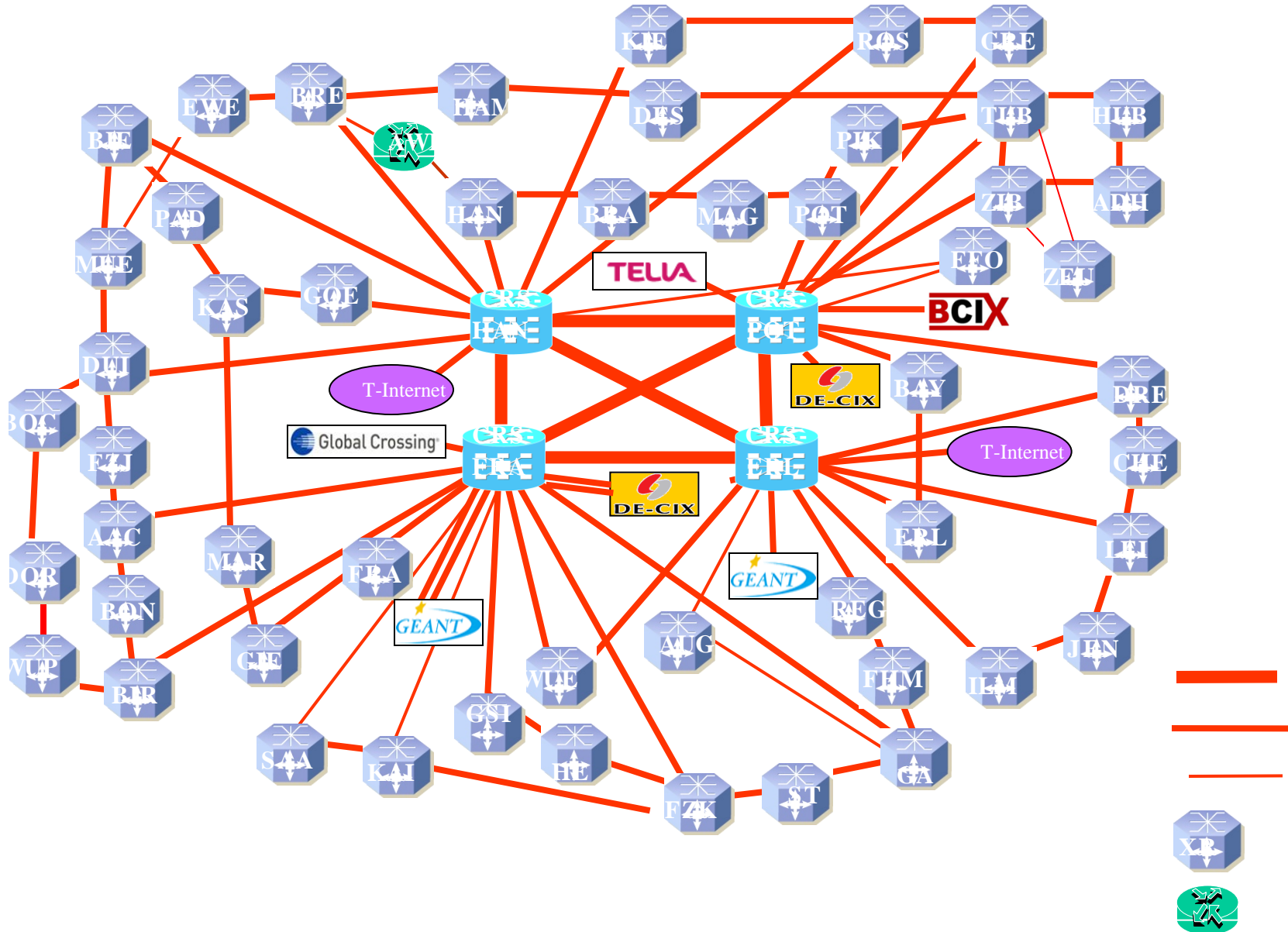
- Services shaped according to their requirements
 - VPN
 - Security Services
 - Videoconference Services
 - Roaming (eduroam)
 - Public Key Infrastructure (PKI)
 - Authentication-Authorisation Infrastructure (AAI)
 - more
 - Generic components operated by DFN
 - Specific components operated locally
- Support in legal matters

- Participation in FEAST study (applications)
- Partner in AfricaConnect project
- NREN Twinning
 - DFN-KENET cooperation since November 2009 (MoU signed by Boards of Directors)
 - The idea: Exchange of experts
 - The areas of interest:
 - Optical Network Design and project management
 - NOC Management and Engineering
 - Pricing structures
 - Deployment and sustainability of NREN services

One example - Wireless campus access

- Goals
 - Assistance in design and specification of wireless campus networks
 - Integration of Wi-Fi networks into an eduroam (<http://www.eduroam.org/>) configuration
- Results
 - Specification of a pilot project based on new Wi-Fi network technology (802.11n)
 - Access to the eduroam infrastructure
 - eduroam country top level server installed and connected to the 2 European top level servers (Netherlands and Denmark)
 - eduroam policy signed (with DANTE)
 - Planned: KENET (Kenya) and TENET (SA) become Federal Top Level Roaming Organisations for Africa

IP-Plattform: Oktober 2010



Global Upstream

