



The Amig@s Project

When the Pandemic and the need to keep collaborating
joined the Americas (N)RENs for good



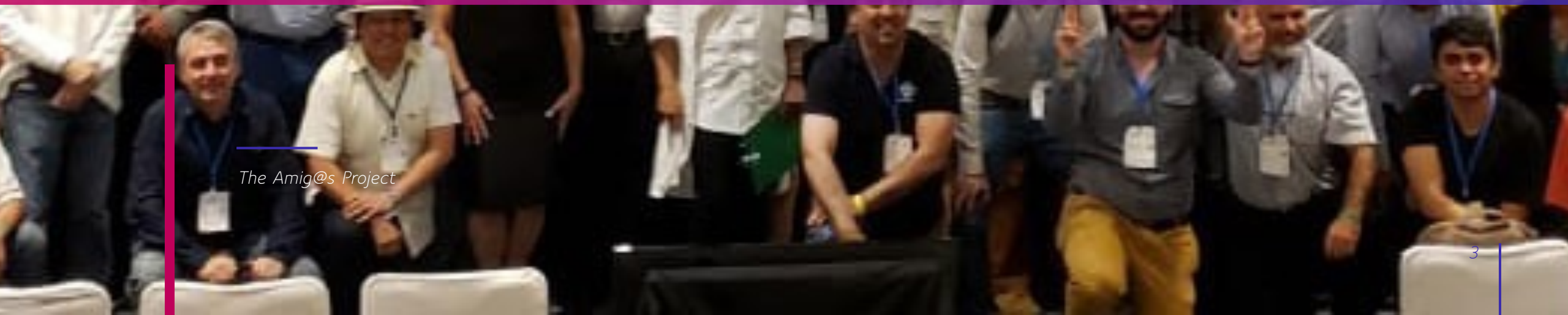
The beginnings...

Back in January 2019 executive leaders from Research and Education Networks from across the region met in Mexico for the First Summit of Academic Networks of the Americas. Aiming to:

- define a common agenda for the continents, at the highest level, to address:
 - *urgent challenges;*
 - *foster synergies;*
 - *increase cooperation; and*
 - *create positive changes for NRENs in the region.*

The group met again in the context of the TICAL conference in 2019 in Cancun (Sept. 5) to check out the advances of each NREN and REN and define courses of action one of which was to carry out a series of seminars.

CANARIE, Internet2, and RedCLARA were committed to start working together in order to address the needs defined in January 2019.



The Amig@s Project

WE ARE THE AMIG@S

aka Building a pan-Americas team

#AMREN



- Working Group formed, and met weekly throughout the pandemic
- Built not only a Working Group, but a friendship that created successful outputs and outcomes during a challenging time for everyone

“It’s more important than ever for NRENs to connect... a team of staff from all three organizations committed to regular meetings to explore what we do, who we support, and how we can better share our NRENs’ efforts.”

Ann Doyle

Initial Projects: The Webinars

#AMREN



BRINGING THE UNIVERSE TO YOU June 10, 2021 - RedCLARA

Astronomy collaborations & innovations
enabled by NRENs

- 3 speakers (from México, Chile and Brazil)
- 131 participants from 17 countries
- CEO Fireside Chat

<https://youtu.be/sHEGOGAuPFE>

Date and time: Thursday, June 10, 5 PM GMT

canarie



INTERNET



FROM THE ATMOSPHERE TO THE AMAZON

December 11, 2021 - Internet2

#AMREN

NREN-connected and unconnected researchers focussed on the Amazon

- 2 speakers (from USA and Colombia)
- 62 participants from 12 countries
- CEO Fireside Chat



CONNECTING THE POLES

Find out what **academic networks** are doing to reach the **most extreme regions** of the world



Date and time: April 21, 1 PM ET



CONNECTING THE POLES

April 21, 2022 - Canarie

Advancing NREN connectivity to remote regions of the world

- 3 speakers (from Chile and USA)
- 84 participants from 13 countries
- CEO Fireside Chat

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ntU-RWLSi0&t=2s>

The Americas Research and Education Networks (AMREN)

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INTERNET²

Red
CLARA

Research and Education Networks in the Americas support their communities through powerful strategic, technical and community-driven collaborations that support groundbreaking research and education that benefits students, faculty, researchers and communities across North and South America.



CANARIE, Internet2, and RedCLARA have partnered to highlight the role of Research and Education Networks in the Americas (the AMREN), which collectively connect over 3,100 institutions in the Americas.

These purpose-built networks support large data streams that are the foundation for leading-edge research and discovery, and support the needs of a wide range of educational institutions. As the AMREN is driven by the needs of their communities and immersed in the high-technology sector, they are ever-evolving infrastructures that support the universal human need to discover, learn, and improve.

Fast Facts about the AMREN:

Collectively,
over 88,500 km
of fibre optic
cable connecting
3,175
institutions



#AMREN

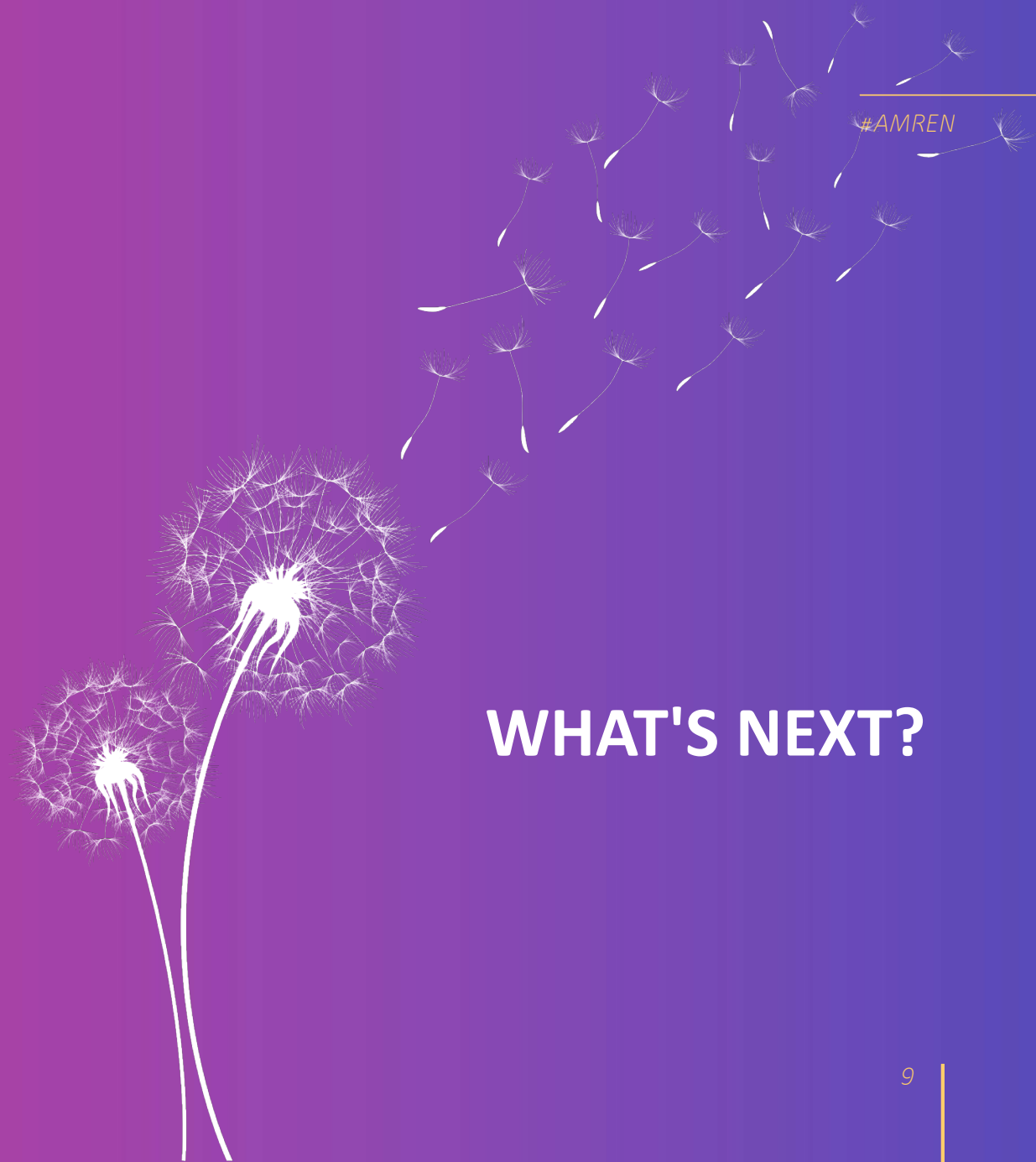
Initial Projects (continued)

Infographic to explain the AMRENs collaboration

https://www.redclara.net/images/comunidades/Americas_NRENs_Infographic_EN.pdf

What we learned

- Extraordinary research collaborations across the continents enabled by NRENs
- The value of connecting to a local NREN and thus to the global NREN, or GREN, is not well-understood
- Given our geographies and funding structures, still many unconnected institutions
- Working relationship among the project team was extraordinary, so...



WHAT'S NEXT?

Next project... the GREN value proposition

#AMREN

- **Goal:** to promote connecting the unconnected to the GREN
- **Projects:**
 - A collection of compelling marketing materials that describes the GREN and the value and relevance of connecting to it -- here's a sneak peek: [What is the Global Research and Education Network \(GREN\) - YouTube](#)
 - A website that hosts GREN marketing collateral, a plan to promote it and metrics that track usage
 - A webinar series that highlights tactics and opportunities to connect the unconnected
 - A plan to leverage these materials with decision-makers involved in advancing GREN connectivity in North and South America



THANK YOU!

The Amig@s Project

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