

FY 2023 APAC Regional Report

July 2022 – June 2023

Asia Pacific Regional Office



<u>Events</u>	<u>Projects</u>
Strategic Objective 1: Strengthen the security of the DNS and the DNS Root Server System	
<i>Goal 1.1: Improve the shared responsibility for upholding the security and stability of the DNS by strengthening DNS coordination in partnership with relevant stakeholders</i>	
<i>Engagement Area/Activity 1: Partner the APAC community to participate in and raise awareness of technical projects</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Co-hosted the APAC DNS Forum 2023 with the Hong Kong Internet Registration Corporation Limited (HKIRC). ● ICANN Chief Technology Officer (CTO) John Crain and ICANN org staff spoke in multiple sessions to highlight the cybersecurity threats and continuing relevance of the DNS. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Organized a series of community-led pre-event webinars on DNS and Domain Name related issues. ● Co-hosted the 4th ICANN-TWNIC Engagement Forum with the Taiwan Network Information Centre (TWNIC). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ICANN org staff spoke on best practices for DNS Security and maintaining an interoperable Internet. ● Raised awareness on technical projects, KINDNS and Domain Abuse Activity Reporting (DAAR) at 10 local/regional and Network Operator Groups (NOGs) events. We had a total reach of 2391 participants. ● Conducted three technical training sessions on Advanced DNS, Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) and DNS Security in India and Indonesia for capacity building. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Asia Pacific Network Information Centre (APNIC) joined the Knowledge-Sharing and Instantiating Norms for DNS and Naming Security (KINDNS) program.
<i>Engagement Area/Activity 2: Explore other technical partnerships with the APAC community</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shared IMRS traffic data for a study on DNS leaks in cellular networks as part of our partnership with TsingHua University - Qi Anxin Joint Research Center.
<i>Goal 1.2: Strengthen DNS root server operations governance in coordination with the DNS root server operators</i>	
<i>Engagement Area/ Activity 1: Communicate through established channels and participate in key platforms such as regional/local fora to raise awareness on the evolving root server system and how the DNS works</i>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Raised awareness on topics related to the DNS root server system at two events and one technical training session. Of note was: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At the Beijing Cyber Security Conference 2022, President of Public Technical Identifiers (PTI) Kim Davies and ICANN org staff spoke on root zone management and Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) functions. 	
<p><i>Goal 1.3: Identify and mitigate security threats to the DNS through greater engagement with relevant hardware, software, and service vendors</i></p>	
<p><i>Engagement Area/ Activity 1: Communicate through established channels and participate in key platforms to enhance knowledge about DNS operations and security, raising awareness of security threats and to promote higher adoption of global open Internet standards</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ICANN org staff spoke on DNS operations and security related topics at NetMission Academy 2023 and the Asia Pacific Regional Internet Conference on Operational Technologies (APRICOT) 2023. ● Enhanced knowledge on best practices about DNS security and global open Internet standards at five local/regional events and three technical training sessions. Highlights include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At the Lao National Internet Centre (LANIC) Technical Training, ICANN org staff presented on the Credential Management Lifecycle to promote security of the domain name system. ○ At the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)'s invitation, ICANN org staff spoke on DNS security related topics at the ITU-Bhutan Joint Cyberdrill 2022 and ITU-ASEAN Cyberdrill 2022. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contributed to the development of the SAC074- SSAC Advisory on Registrant Protection: Best Practices for Preserving Security and Stability in the Credential Management Lifecycle.
<p><i>Engagement Area/Activity 2: Through capacity development, encourage and promote the deployment of DNSSEC</i></p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Successful engagement of Bangladesh to manually sign their zone file and deploy DNSSEC.
<p>Strategic Objective 2: Improve the effectiveness of ICANN's multistakeholder model of governance</p>	
<p><i>Goal 2.2: Support and grow active, informed, and effective stakeholder participation</i></p>	

<p><i>Engagement Area/ Activity 1: Grow stakeholder participation at the APAC DNS Forum, and support the APAC community at events such as ICANN readouts, APAC Space, and China Space</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Held three APAC Space sessions with a renewed focus on in-person networking to strengthen APAC community linkages. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Topics discussed include Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs), Universal Acceptance (UA), Registration Data Request Service (RDRS), and regional/global ICANN updates. ○ 442 attendees in total participated virtually and in-person for the APAC Space sessions. ○ ICANN Readouts were conducted for ICANN74, ICANN75 and ICANN76 by communities in Japan, China, Malaysia and at PacNOG31. ● Also organized a China Space event to discuss the next gTLD round. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Chinese community agreed to discontinue China Space as of February 2023. ● APAC DNS Forum 2023 in Hong Kong had 381 participants attending in-person, and 170 registered as virtual attendees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coordinated the setup of the inaugural APAC Government Advisory Committee (GAC) network with meetings held virtually and in-person at ICANN meetings. Three GAC sessions were held this FY. ● Launched the APAC DNS Forum website as a platform to engage stakeholders across the APAC region.
<p><i>Engagement Area/Activity 3: Support regional and local Internet Governance (IG) fora</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Raised awareness on ICANN’s role in the ecosystem and related IG issues at 18 regional and local IG events. A highlight was: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ India IGF 2022, ICANN Board Chair Tripti Sinha spoke on Internet Governance and the importance of an interoperable Internet to over 3000 participants. 	
<p><i>Engagement Area/Activity 4: Develop youth leaders through the Asia Pacific Internet Governance Academy (APIGA)</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Organized APIGA in hybrid mode with 26 youth participants on-site. The program trained youth leaders on IG topics and processes. 	
<p><i>Goal 2.3: Sustain and improve openness, inclusivity, accountability, and transparency</i></p>	

<i>Engagement Area/ Activity 1: Report on APAC community’s participation focusing on leadership positions and participation in PDPs (including Public Comments)</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Grew the APAC community leadership network with 10 new appointments in the ICANN Board, Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG), Address Supporting Organization Address Council (ASO AC), Generic Names Supporting Organization Council (GNSO Council), APRALO and GAC. ● APAC community members submitted public comments on the following proceedings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Seven comments submitted for “Additional Script-Based Reference Label Generation Rules and Related Updates” ○ One comment submitted for “Registration Date Consensus Policy for gTLDs” ○ One comment submitted for “Initial Report on the Transfer Policy Review - Phase 1(a)”
Strategic Objective 3: Evolve the Unique Identifier Systems in Coordination and Collaboration with Relevant Parties to Continue to Serve the Needs of the Global Internet User Base	
<i>Goal 3.1: ...Encourage readiness for Universal Acceptance (UA), IDN implementation and IPv6</i>	
<i>Engagement Area/Activity 1: Support UA activities in the region, particularly the UASG and UA Local Initiatives (UA LI)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ICANN org staff spoke at/supported 17 local and regional UA LI workshops and events in India, China, Thailand, and Sri Lanka to raise awareness on UA and promote UA readiness. ● To encourage the implementation of UA and Email Address Internationalization (EAI), ICANN org staff spoke at four IG and NOG events. ● Provided two technical training sessions for 44 participants from the Lao National Internet Centre on relevant topics including IDNs, EAI and UA. ● Collaborated with the ITU to showcase EAI and ICANN org staff spoke on the multilingual Internet at the Regional Innovation Forum. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Successfully set up a new UA LI in Sri Lanka, led by Theekshana. ● Gathered survey responses from ccTLDs on their challenges to becoming UA ready. 35 out of 75 responses received were from APAC.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Global UA Day in India: ICANN had a strong showing represented by ICANN Board Chair Tripti Sinha, ICANN interim CEO Sally Costerton and ICANN Board Member Edmon Chung. They encouraged the adoption of UA towards the creation of a multilingual Internet. ● On the occasion of Global UA Day, ICANN org staff presented at nine other regional and local events to provide technical training and promote UA awareness. ● 509 articles on UA were published in the APAC region on Global UA Day. A highlight is an article in The Economic Times, the leading business newspaper in India. 	
<p><i>Engagement Area/Activity 2: Partner APAC community to support IDN policy work in these focus areas:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrate APAC scripts into the Root Zone Label Generation Rules (LGR) - Review of the second level reference LGRs by IDN LGR Generation Panels - Participation in the PDPs being initiated by ccNSO and GNSO on IDNs and their variant TLDs 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● GNSO IDNs Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP): APAC Community participation includes EPDP Chair and Vice-Chair, 4 out of 16 members, and 8 out of 15 participants. ● Developed second-level Reference Label Generation Rules for Japanese, Korean and Myanmar scripts based on the availability of Root Zone Label Generation Rules. This has been published for public comment proceeding.
<p><i>Goal 3.2: Improve assessment of, and responsiveness to, new technologies which impact... the Internet's unique identifier systems...</i></p>	
<p><i>Engagement Area/ Activity 1: Partner the APAC community to participate in regional dialogue/fora to develop an awareness of new technologies and their potential impact on the DNS. Examples: - 5G Technology - DNS over HTTPS / DNS over TLS (DoH/ DoT)</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spoke at two regional events on new technologies and their impact on the DNS. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At the Taiwan Internet Governance Forum (IGF) 2022, ICANN CTO John Crain spoke on DNS challenges and alternative naming systems. ○ At the 4th ICANN APAC-TWNIC Engagement Forum, ICANN org staff spoke on the importance of maintaining an interoperable Internet when implementing new technologies. 	

<i>Goal 3.4: Support the continued evolution of the Internet’s unique identifier systems with a new round of gTLDs</i>	
<i>Engagement Area/Activity 1: Promote IDNs and Universal Acceptance in preparation for a new round of gTLDs</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ICANN org staff provided updates and promoted the next gTLD round by speaking at six local and regional events. 	
Strategic Objective 4: Address Geopolitical Issues Impacting ICANN’s Mission to Ensure a Single and Globally Interoperable Internet	
<i>Goal 4.1: ...further developing early warning systems such as ICANN Organization’s Legislative and Regulatory Development Reports</i>	
<i>Engagement Area/Activity 1: Partner the APAC Community to detect and monitor legislative initiatives that could impact ICANN’s mission or operations</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Assessed seven new or revised legislations/regulations from Cambodia, Vietnam, China, India, and Indonesia which could impact ICANN’s mission and/or operations.
<i>Goal 4.2: Continue to build alliances with the region’s Internet ecosystem and beyond to raise awareness of and engage with global stakeholders about ICANN’s mission and policy making</i>	
<i>Engagement Area/ Activity 1: Foster relationships with industry, regulators/policy makers, and end-users to inform about the Internet’s unique identifier systems, and ICANN’s role in the Internet ecosystem</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Raised awareness among stakeholders on the unique identifier systems and ICANN’s role in the Internet ecosystem at 16 local/regional events. Highlights include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At the ITU’s Girls in ICT Day in Thailand, ICANN org staff spoke on how gender diversity benefits ICANN’s multistakeholder model approach towards Internet governance. ○ Additional major conferences where ICANN org staff spoke at were the World Congress on Innovation and Technology (WCIT 2022) and the Asian Domain Name Dispute Resolution Centre Annual Conference. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Published a commentary on Internet geopolitics in TODAY newspaper, a major Singapore news outlet. ● Also contributed two articles for India’s Voice and Data magazine on the topics, multilingual Internet and the risk of Internet fragmentation.



One World, One Internet

Visit us at icann.org



[@icann](https://twitter.com/icann)



facebook.com/icannorg



youtube.com/icannnews



flickr.com/icann



linkedin/company/icann



slideshare/icannpresentations



soundcloud/icann



instagram.com/icannorg