APAC Newsletter
YOUR SOURCE FOR ICANN APAC NEWS

SPECIAL EDITION

Regional Events Calendar | ICANN website www.icann.org | Feedback

ICANN APAC Hub Turns Three!

📢 Foreword

Dear friends,

I would like to begin by thanking you, our readers and community members, for your support over the past three years.

On 1 August 2013, ICANN established the ICANN Asia Pacific (APAC) hub office. Today, 28 staff deliver 10 of ICANN's core functions. Our size is not large by any standard, but looking back, our achievements are many. A key highlight is our collaboration with you and your local community. These relationships have allowed us to inform, engage and facilitate your participation and contributions to ICANN and the future of the Internet's unique identifier system.

This third anniversary special newsletter will highlight some key milestones, mapped to ICANN's strategic goals. Join our APAC hub colleagues and community members in celebrating this special occasion. As we continue to work with you, I hope we can increase the APAC community's involvement with ICANN. Through this engagement, together we can shape the evolution of the Internet - keeping it stable, secure, global and interoperable.

Jia-Rong Low, ICANN
Vice President of Stakeholder Engagement in Asia, and Managing Director of the ICANN Asia Pacific Hub

Dear friends,

Greetings to you all!

The ICANN APAC hub has served the Asia Pacific region well. On our third anniversary, we see that our commitment is bearing fruit as we spread our engagement and collaboration to communities across the region.

Engaging diverse stakeholders in the Asia Pacific region is a mammoth task. Carrying out ICANN's mission has been made easy through support staff and strategic partnerships.

In the Oceania subregion, and especially in the Pacific Islands, through partnerships, stakeholders have supported and contributed to our strategic work on the ground. These stakeholders come from access providers, names registries, governments and civil society (including academia).

You have helped us understand your regional needs and how to work best in your local environment. You're paying attention to the importance of staying engaged and working with ICANN. My hope is that we will continue to expand this partnership.

Savenaca Vocea, ICANN
Vice President of Stakeholder Engagement in Australasia and the Pacific Islands

EVOLVE AND FURTHER GLOBALIZE ICANN

The establishment of the hub offices spearheaded ICANN's globalization. The APAC hub now has 10 global teams that deliver ICANN's key functions and services. To learn more, see Objective 3: Advance organizational, technical and operational excellence below.

Globalization also means increased and strengthened engagement with local and regional communities. At the APAC hub, we strive to bring ICANN to you, often by partnering with your local community, and where possible, in your local language.

We conduct regular ICANN readout sessions after each ICANN meeting to debrief and update stakeholders, particularly those who are unable to attend the meetings. Readout sessions also give the community an opportunity to discuss their views on ongoing ICANN policy work. ICANN readouts are now regular events in China and Japan, and we hope to bring ICANN readouts to other countries.

We have also established the bimonthly APAC Space web conference. This is a platform for the regional community to discuss how to contribute to ongoing policy development processes at ICANN.

We also partner with the At-Large community, particularly the Asian, Australasian and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO). Together, we conduct regular capacity-building webinars to help you understand ICANN issues better. These webinars are currently transcribed live, which helps our community members - many of whom are non-native English speakers - to be more engaged during the sessions.

There is much left to do before we can say that the APAC community is well represented in ICANN. We hope to be able to work with you to achieve this goal.

Mary Wong, ICANN
Senior Policy Director

" The global nature of the domain name system means that policy development work at ICANN must necessarily also be global - both in the applicability of the actual policies and in ensuring that there is adequate participation from multiple stakeholders, located all over the world, in the policymaking process. We're seeing a growing interest across the APAC region, moving beyond 'What is ICANN policy?' to 'How can I take part in making policy?'

This means increasing regional representation and participation in the multistakeholder, consensus-based, policy development process. Because the ICANN Policy team is located across 5 time zones in 10 countries, we've worked with our APAC hub colleagues to find the right tools and the best ways to connect with and involve our APAC community members in day-to-day policy work. We're focused on lowering barriers to participation - from creating a dedicated APAC Space for discussion at ICANN Public Meetings to conducting regular webinars and readouts that update the APAC community and consider their feedback.

It's important to emphasize that being part of the ICANN community; helping to create robust, global policies; isn't about traveling to ICANN's Public Meetings. It's about joining working groups that meet online in between the Public Meetings, sending in feedback and public comments on policy proposals, and

connecting with ICANN staff and community members, regardless of where they are located. "

Wanawit Ahkuputra, ICANN Community Member
Deputy Executive Director, Electronic
Transactions Development Agency, Thailand

Watch Wanawit Ahkuputra explain about the importance of language localization in this video via **Youtube** or **Youku**.

SUPPORT A HEALTHY, STABLE AND RESILIENT UNIQUE IDENTIFIER SYSTEM

L-Root is one of the 13 root servers, performing an important technical role for the global Internet community. It satisfies Domain Name System (DNS) root zone queries from DNS resolvers that are inside Internet service providers, mobile data operators and corporate organizations.

Before the establishment of the APAC hub, there were 31 L-Root instances in the APAC region. Since then, 17 more instances have been added, representing a 55 percent growth for L-Root in the region. This increase is significant, as the APAC region encompasses a number of developing countries and countries with high growth rates of Internet adoption. The deployment of these L-Root instances brings DNS root servers much closer to, and sometimes *inside*, the organizations that rely on them.

Every time a root server instance is deployed, as occurred recently in Micronesia and Myanmar, the stability and resiliency of the DNS improves in those countries. The expansion of root server instances also contributes to the global stability of the Internet. So it's a win-win situation, both for the region and for the global Internet.
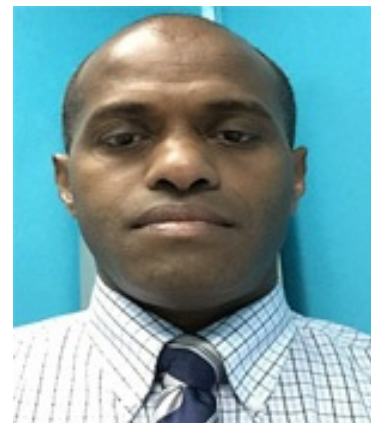

Champika Wijayatunga, ICANN
Stability, Security and Resiliency Engagement Manager - Asia Pacific

❝ We have been serving the region for three years, adapting and catering to the evolving capacity-building demands of our growing stakeholder base. We focused on offering training content related to the DNS; Internet identifier systems; security, stability and resiliency of Internet identifiers; handling abuses and misuse of Internet identifiers. These capacity-building activities are well received by the various stakeholder groups, such as the technical community, network operators, law enforcement, the DNS industry, country code top-level domains community and Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs). We have also been collaborating with a number of bodies to reach out to a wider community in the APAC region. As a result, we have observed significant enhancements to the Internet ecosystem such as an increase in operational best practices, threat awareness and response, deployments and validations of DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC), L-Root server instances and more. **❞**

Serupepeli Neiko, ICANN Community Member
Fiji Police Cybercrime Investigations

❝ Over the years, the Internet has evolved into a frequently accessed space for private and public usage. This access is the result of Internet users having a common understanding of maintaining a free and clean space. The continuing development of this virtual environment and requirement to keep it secure demands consistent community awareness. We have adopted the ICANN security, stability and resiliency work as a result of various regional capacity-building initiatives. **❞**

Linda Chin, ICANN
Director of Operations, Asia Pacific

Find out how the ICANN Asia Pacific hub has grown in organizational, technical and operational excellence in this video via **Youtube** or **Youku**.
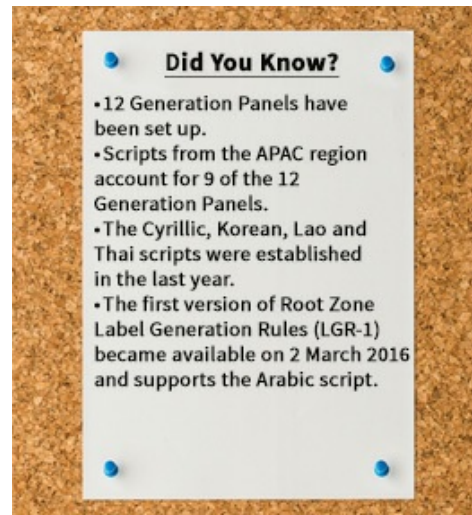
PROMOTE ICANN'S ROLE AND MULTISTAKEHOLDER APPROACH

Our partnership and engagement with the APAC community has helped widen the reach and deepen the understanding of ICANN. This includes ICANN's work, the multistakeholder approach, and our role in the global Internet governance ecosystem as coordinator of the Internet's unique identifier systems.

One significant achievement has been partnering up with our community leaders to spread the word regarding key ICANN issues such as the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) Stewardship Transition and the Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) program. On IDNs, this is an important area of work that the APAC hub strongly supports in collaboration with local communities in the region. IDNs are important as they allow the global community to access domain names in their native language or script. Generation Panels for the different scripts are being formed from community volunteers to help define rules for forming IDN top-level domains (TLDs). Of the 12 Generation Panels set up, nine of them impact scripts from the APAC region (Arabic, Chinese, Cyrillic, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Lao, Neo-Brahmi, and Thai).

Did You Know?
- 12 Generation Panels have been set up.
- Scripts from the APAC region account for 9 of the 12 Generation Panels.
- The Cyrillic, Korean, Lao and Thai scripts were established in the last year.
- The first version of Root Zone Label Generation Rules (LGR-1) became available on 2 March 2016 and supports the Arabic script.

More work is required in the existing Generation Panels and to set up new script-based Generation Panels. We invite you to **volunteer for your language** by emailing: **idntlds@icann.org**.

Samiran Gupta, ICANN
Head of India

❝ Our engagement in India has been focused on building stakeholder confidence in ICANN's work. In June 2015, the quality of India's participation with ICANN changed when the government adopted support of the multistakeholder model. From that point on, ICANN has worked more meaningfully and consistently with the government and other stakeholders. As proof, we can point to the following: consistent participation of Indian delegates at ICANN meetings, strong participation of Indian stakeholders in the Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability (Work Stream 1), and a record 35 applications from Indian stakeholders for fellowships for ICANN55 in Marrakech in March 2016.

A remarkable example of a community-led effort is the Neo-Brahmi Generation Panel. This panel of 35 experts, mainly software specialists and linguists, is working to bring the DNS to multiple Indian languages. Through consensus building, this panel is solving challenging and complex problems. ❞

Liana Teo, ICANN
Head of Communications, Asia Pacific

❝ In January of this year, when Theresa Swinehart visited Singapore, we held a briefing with regional media on the IANA Stewardship Transition. Swinehart is the Senior Vice President of Multistakeholder Strategy and Strategic Initiatives. To complete the storytelling from the community's perspective, we invited two remote presenters: Li Xiaodong - CEO of the China Internet Network Information Center (CNNIC) and member of the IANA Stewardship Transition Coordination Group - and Izumi Okutani - Policy Manager of the Japan Network Information Center (JPNIC), Chair of the Consolidated Regional Internet Registries IANA Stewardship Proposal Team (CRISP), and member of the Cross Community Working Group for Enhancing Accountability.

We explained the IANA Transition as simply as possible, and Li and Okutani highlighted the importance of community participation. This plan worked very well. In fact, Okutani was so impressed with the event that she decided to hold a similar briefing in Japan. We worked closely with JPNIC's Public Relations team to organize a media briefing in Tokyo in conjunction with an ICANN readout session.

The excellent results from both events encourage us to continue working closely with our communities,

particularly to educate stakeholders about the multistakeholder model. ❞

Liu Yue, ICANN Community Member
Director of Internet Research Industry Planning Institute, China Academy of Information and Communications Technology (CAICT)

Watch Liu Yue share his thoughts and experience on the collaboration with ICANN on the ICANN China Day via **Youtube** or **Youku**.

In June 2016, the Singapore office welcomed our first intern under the new ICANN internship program. Internships contribute to ICANN's objective of increasing global public interest. The program also fits in with our work on youth engagement to raise awareness and understanding of ICANN's work and Internet governance topics. It is the culmination of the APAC hub's close collaboration with the Development and Public Responsibility Department (DPRD), which administers the program for ICANN offices globally.

Hann Kenn Yee, a fourth-year student in public policy and global affairs at Nanyang Technological

University in Singapore, had to hit the ground running. Acting as a liaison with various internal teams and external partners, Kenn's main responsibility was to prepare and implement ICANN's inaugural **Asia Pacific Internet Governance Academy**. He also worked extensively with the DPRD team on online course creation and speaker support.

Hann Kenn Yee, ICANN APAC Hub Intern (2016)

> It has been a wonderful experience. I've been participating in and helping to plan and coordinate meetings, conferences and other events. I've worked with people from all around the globe, having to account for different time zones and languages. ICANN has helped me extend beyond physical horizons to be involved remotely in matters far away from home, meeting and working with people whom I might never meet in person.
>
> The chance to work at ICANN has provided everything an intern could ever ask for and more - learning, responsibility, international exposure, and an amazing environment with even more amazing colleagues.
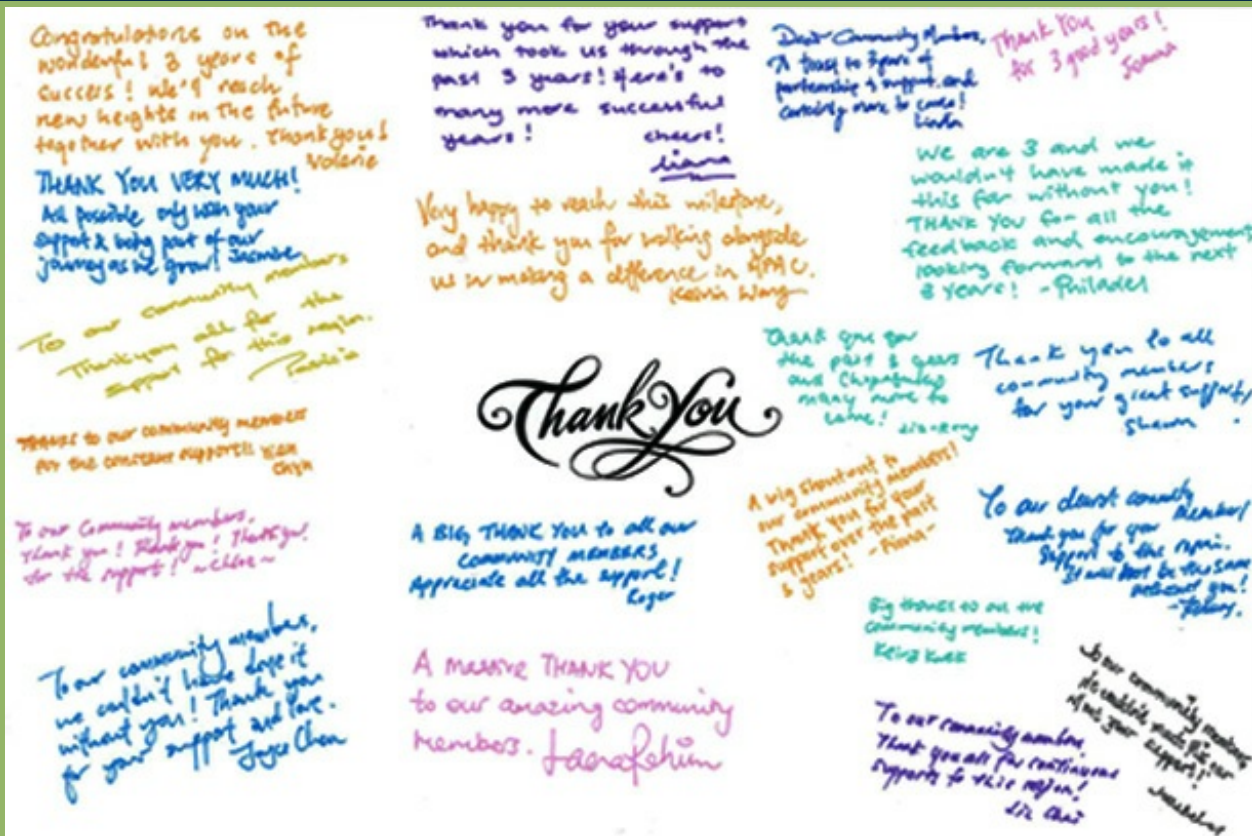

David Ng, ICANN Community Member
Director of Community Development at DotAsia

Watch David Ng's video via **Youtube** or **Youku** to find out why youth engagement is important.

☺ Thank You from the ICANN APAC Hub

From left to right: (back row) Song Kang Soo, Hwang In-Pyo, Samiran Gupta, Linda Chin, Patricia Chan, Savenaca Vocea, Shawn Seah, Low Jia-Rong, Song Zheng, Howard Li, Roger Lim; (middle row) Champika Wijayatunga, Yumi Ohashi, Jade Aw, Jasmine Lim, Valerie Heng, Laena Rahim, Mary Wong, Chloe Chang, Liana Teo, Kelvin Wong; (front row) Yee Hann Kenn, Tan Yien Chyn, Fiona Aw, Philadel Yeo, Rachel Reyes, Liz Chai, Keira Kwek, Tammy Yeow, Joyce Chen and Joanna Choo

ICANN APAC HUB

38 Beach Road
#04-11 South Beach Tower
Singapore 189767

ICANN AROUND THE WORLD

● **Hub Offices**
   Los Angeles
   Istanbul
   Singapore

◎ **Engagement Offices**
   Brussels
   Beijing   Geneva
   Montevideo   Seoul
   Nairobi   Washington

For address and contact information, visit: icann.org/contact

Twitter English	@liana_teo	@jia_rong_low	Facebook	Flickr	LinkedIn
Slideshare	Soundcloud	WeChat - ICANN-CN ICANN北京合作中心/	Weibo	Youku	Youtube