

ICANN83 Readout and the new gTLD Program - Next Round



Save Vocea

PacNOG35, Suva, FJ
23 June 2025

Agenda

- ⦿ Readout of ICANN83 Meeting
- ⦿ The new gTLD Program – Next Round
- ⦿ Next ICANN84 Meeting

ICANN83 By The Numbers



9–12 June 2025 virtually and in person
in Prague, Czech Republic

ICANN83 BY THE NUMBERS



99
Public
Sessions



555
Registered Virtual
Participants



1,321
On-Site
Participants
from



130
Countries and
Territories

1

Prague Castle



34

Fellows
from



28

Countries and
Territories

2nd

ICANN Public Meeting
in Prague



More than
91,600
Views on Flickr

12

NextGen@ICANN



ICANN83: Highlights and Themes

High-interest topics and sessions

- WSIS+20 review
- Update on the “How We Meet” project

New gTLD Program: Next Round

- Applicant Guidebook
- Applicant Support Program

DNS Abuse sessions

- ALAC, ccNSO, GNSO Contracted Parties House, GNSO Council, and GAC

Training and capacity development

- DNSSEC and Security Workshop
- Tech Day

For NOG info:

⦿ DNS Security Threats

○ DNS Abuse

- A widely debated topic in ICANN (aligns with ICANN Bylaws Sections 1.1–1.2)
- DNS Abuse refers to malware, botnets, phishing, pharming, and spam (when spam serves as a delivery mechanism for the aforementioned forms of DNS Abuse listed)
- 21 January 2024, the ICANN Board approved contractual amendments for registries and registrars, effective 5 April 2024. Now enforced by ICANN Contractual Compliance (Compliance).
- Introduced initiative like ICANN Domain Metrica; a platform designed to provide meta data, essential metrics, and insights on domain names.

⦿ SAC 127: DNS Blocking Revisited

- To inform the Internet community, especially policymakers and government officials, of the high-level implications of using DNS blocking to control access to resources on the Internet.

Supporting Organizations

ASO

ICP-2 Review

- Public consultation on "RIR Governance Document"
- Ongoing ASO Address Council discussions
- Next draft available in September

Upcoming Regional Internet Registry Meetings

- APNIC 60 in Da Nang
- LACNIC 44 in San Salvador
- RIPE 91 in Bucharest
- ARIN 56 in Arlington, TX

ccNSO

Policy Discussions

- Approval of Terms of Reference for two Study Groups (IANA Public Records and Disaster Recovery)

Informational Sessions

- Domain Abuse Fraud and Financial Crime
- Breaking Barriers: How Governments and ccTLDs advance UA readiness
- ccTLD news sessions
- Tech Day
- Joint session with RySG

ICANN-ccNSO foundational work

- Financial Contribution Guideline

GNSO

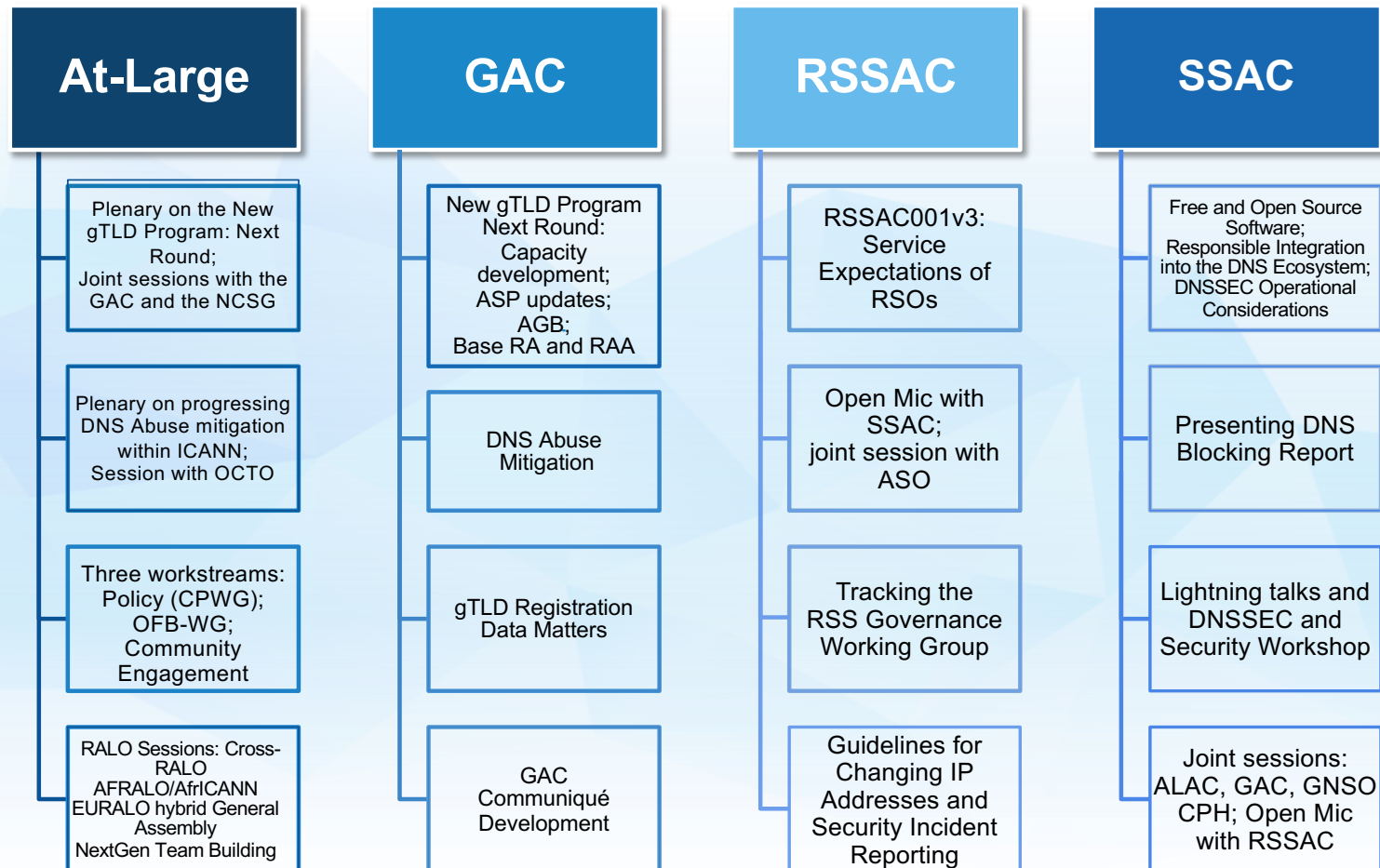
GNSO Council Meeting

- Prioritization discussion about future PDPs
- Updates on important initiatives: gTLD registration data accuracy and DNS Abuse

Other Notable Sessions

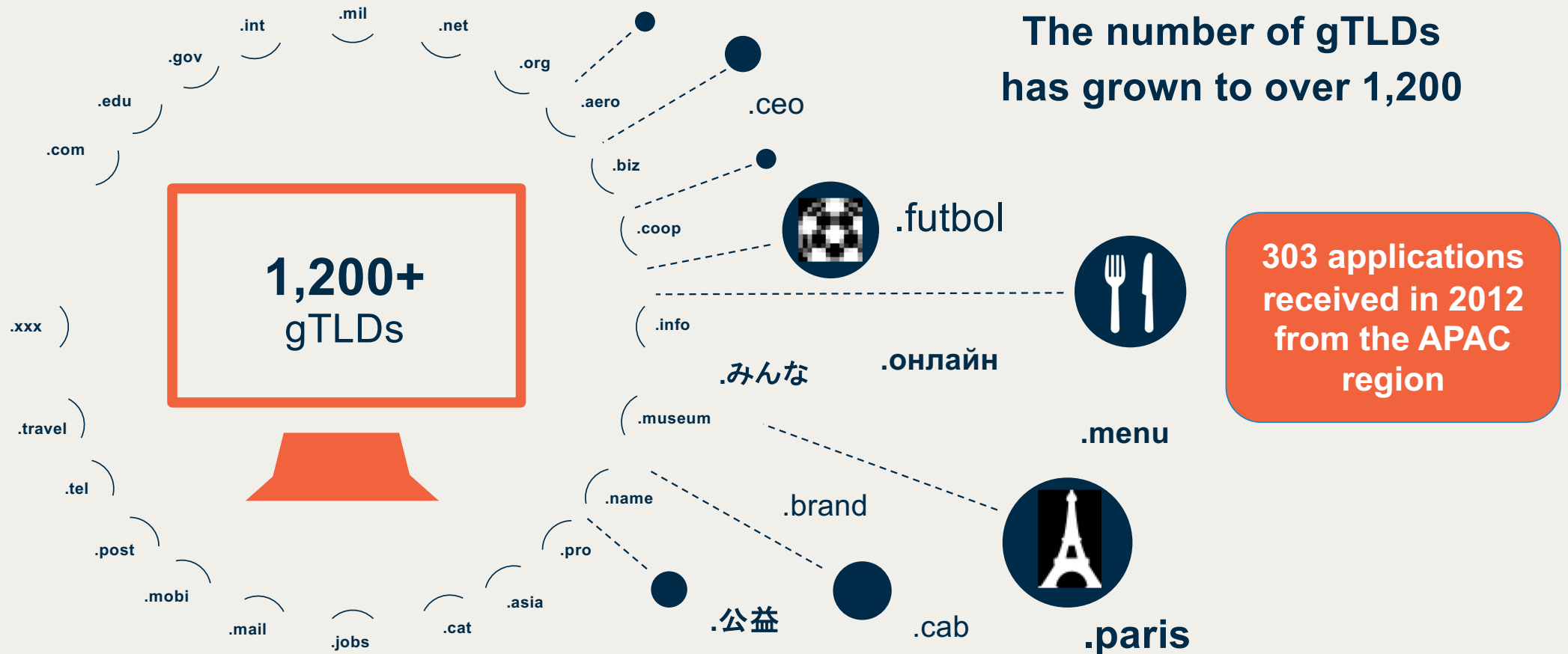
- PDP on Latin Diacritics
- RDRS Standing Committee
- Joint session with GAC
- The SG/Cs will be holding a number of meetings on important topics and internal coordination

Advisory Committees



The New gTLD Program – Next Round

Expansion of the DNS through the 2012 Round



New Domain Names, New Uses

▶ Serve diverse cultural, geographic, language, and professional communities.

▶ Provide communities and organizations opportunity to create their own space online.

▶ Build trust in and awareness of a brand.

▶ Manage and secure your online presence.

EXAMPLES:

Industry-specific:

.photography

.rugby

.bank

Creative tools:

playlist.new

doc.new

Location-based:

.durban

.nyc

Script-based:

.网址

.شبكة

Brands:

.google

.apple

Online identity:

.blog

gTLD Use Cases

Read our educational [use cases](#) that help tell the story of operating a TLD, including motivations, considerations, and business impact.

 Businesses and IDNs	 Communities and cultures	 Targeted customers/IDNs	 Cities and regions
 <p><u>.商标</u> (<u>trademark in English</u>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established to combat domain name disputes against trademark owners Also reduces issues related to cybersquatting and phishing 	 <p><u>.eco</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seen as an opportunity to support the global environmental community Provides an identifiable mark to distinguish groups that are dedicated to helping the planet 	 <p><u>.网址</u> (<u>website in English</u>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A gTLD that is more in-line with the usage habits of Chinese Internet users Helps enterprises showcase their products, services, and brands 	 <p><u>.amsterdam</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seen as an opportunity to contribute to the city's branding Used by organizations and businesses in the Amsterdam area, including the city of Amsterdam itself.

The Next Round

A new round of the New gTLD Program is opening at the request of ICANN's global multistakeholder community, which developed the program over a number of years, and is being implemented by ICANN in line with community developed policy recommendations.

In April 2026, the New gTLD Program: Next Round will open for businesses and entities to apply to operate a new gTLD – the first time this has happened since 2012.



New Features of the Next Round

- A strengthened Applicant Support Program (ASP), which aims to make the program more accessible to entities who might have financial or other resource constraints.
- Standalone Registry Service Provider (RSP) Evaluation Program, which intends to reduce the cost and time required for evaluating new gTLDs by separating the evaluation of the technical aspects of operating a gTLD from the application for the gTLD label.
 - **Pre-evaluation window closed 20 May 2025.**
- Additional scripts available for Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs). There are now a total of 26 scripts that can be used in the DNS representing over 380 languages.
- Entities will be able to apply for IDN variant TLDs. A variant label is an IDN that can be registered in different ways due to variations in the spelling of words in a given script, but mean the same thing.

gTLD Opportunities

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gTLDs can be tailored for audiences based on:



Businesses and brands



Communities and cultures



Geographies
(e.g., cities and regions)



Governments – local and national
- and IGOs



Targeted
customers or
memberships



Users of diverse
scripts

gTLD Opportunities



Considerations

Becoming a Registry Operator



Applying for a gTLD means you are applying to operate a piece of the Internet (a registry).



A registry supports all the domains registered under a particular gTLD.

A Registry Operator:

- ▶ Sets the requirements for the gTLD.
- ▶ Determines which second-level domains (the characters to the left of the dot) can be registered, and by whom.

Responsibilities of Registry Operators



Registry operators:

- Maintain master database of all domain names registered in the TLD.
- Generate the "zone file" that allows computers to route Internet traffic to and from TLDs anywhere in the world.



Responsibilities include:

- Manage requirements detailed in the Registry Agreement and ICANN policies.
- Convert domain names into IP addresses to enable routing of Internet traffic.
- Operate the technical aspects of the TLD.

Financial and Technical Considerations

New gTLD Program: Next Round expected evaluation fee: **US \$227,000**

In addition to:

- + Standard operational fees included in the Registry Agreement signed with ICANN
- + Ongoing financial and technical obligations

*Fees subject to change

**Exceptions may apply for eligible applicants



Applying for a new gTLD requires significant financial and technical resources.



All new gTLD applicants must be able to demonstrate the operational, technical, and financial capacities necessary to operate a registry and comply with contractual requirements.

Next Round: Applicant Support Program (ASP)

Applicant Support Program

Applying for a gTLD is expensive and may be out of reach for many. The Applicant Support Program makes applying for a new gTLD more accessible to entities that are unable to because of financial and other resource constraints.

Candidates must be one of these types of entities:



Nonprofit,
nongovernmental, and
charitable organizations



Intergovernmental
organizations



Indigenous/tribal
peoples' organizations



Micro and small
businesses that are
social enterprises or
that operate in a less-
developed economy

Criteria for Applicant Support

To be eligible for assistance through the Applicant Support Program, applicants must demonstrate:

- ✓ General business due diligence
- ✓ Public responsibility due diligence
- ✓ Financial need
- ✓ Financial viability
- ✓ Eligible entity status

Applicant Support Portfolio

The Applicant Support Program provides a range of financial and nonfinancial assistance to qualified, eligible entities.



Financial Support

- ▶ A 75-85% reduction in applicable gTLD evaluation fees
- ▶ Bid credit
- ▶ Reduced/waived base registry operator fees



Nonfinancial Support

- ▶ Training materials: applying for a gTLD, becoming a Registry Operator
- ▶ Capacity Development/ Mentorship Program
- ▶ Access to an Applicant Counselor
- ▶ List of volunteer professional service providers

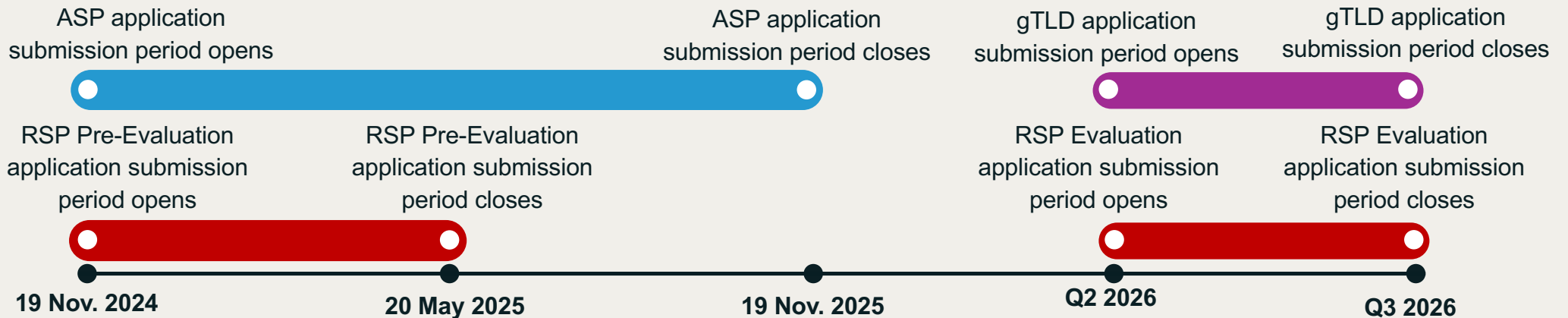
New gTLD Program: Next Round Implementation Timeline

Applicant Support Program (ASP) Application Submission Period:

- Opened 19 Nov. 2024; Closes 19 Nov. 2025

New gTLD Program: Next Round Application Submission Period:

- Expected to open April 2026 for 12-15 weeks



Dates are subject to change.

New gTLD Program: Next Round Resources

Visit the New gTLD Program: Next Round website at <https://newgtldprogram.icann.org/>

Resources Include:

- Frequently Asked Questions
- ASP and RSP Handbooks
- Applicant Guidebook
- gTLD Use Cases
- Champions Toolkit
 - Next Round and ASP flyers
 - Presentations
 - Speaker request form
 - And more!

[ICANN Engagement Calendar](#)

Find an event near you!

Next Meeting

Join Us in Muscat for ICANN84



25 to 30 October 2025

Engage with ICANN



Thank You and Questions

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