

**I C A N N**  
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# ICANN Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2021-2025

## Overview

MSSI

ICANN66 (Montreal)

November 2019



# Planning at ICANN

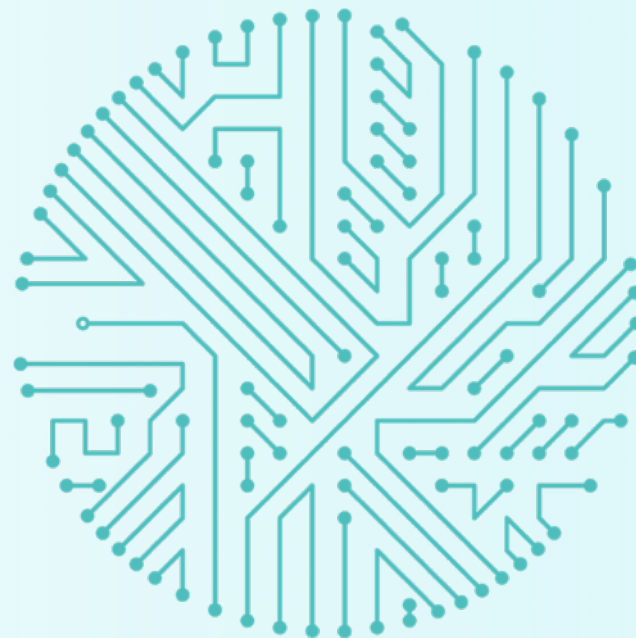
A threefold approach encompassing a Strategic Plan, a Five-Year Operating Plan, and an Annual Operating Plan & Budget. The cycle culminates with Achievement & Progress Reporting. (Cf. [ICANN bylaws section 22.5](#))

## Planning Process



# ICANN's Strategic Plan Structure

- Three main components of the strategic plan:
  - **Vision:** what the organization aims for.
  - **Mission:** why the organization exists, its purpose
  - **Strategic Objectives & Goals:** the path from where we are to where we want to be.
- The strategic plan will be complemented by a **Five-Year Operating and Financial Plan** that will detail how and at what cost ICANN will implement its chosen strategy.



# ICANN's Renewed Vision

To be a champion of the single, open, and globally interoperable Internet, by being the independent, trusted, multistakeholder steward of the Internet's unique identifiers, and by providing an open and collaborative environment where diverse stakeholders come together in the global public interest to:



# ICANN's Renewed Vision (continued)

- Secure operational excellence in the stewardship of the IANA functions.
- Continuously improve the unique identifier systems.
- Strengthen the security of the Domain Name System (DNS) and the DNS Root Server System.
- Evolve ICANN's governance model to be increasingly effective, transparent, and accountable.
- Improve the effectiveness and inclusiveness of ICANN's multistakeholder policy development processes.
- Anticipate and manage the impact of legislation and regulation.
- Ensure that ICANN is technically robust and financially sustainable.



# ICANN's Mission, as stated in the Bylaws

**To ensure the stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique identifier systems**



# ICANN's Strategic Objectives

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On **Security**: Strengthen the security of the Domain Name System and the DNS Root Server System.



On **ICANN's Governance**: Improve the effectiveness of ICANN's multistakeholder model of governance.



On **Unique Identifier Systems**: Evolve the unique identifier systems in coordination and collaboration with relevant parties to continue to serve the needs of the global Internet user base.



On **Geopolitics**: Address geopolitical issues impacting ICANN's mission to ensure a single and globally interoperable Internet.



On **Financials**: Ensure ICANN's long-term financial sustainability.



# Measuring Progress

## 5-year Strategic Plan



*How have we progressed towards our goals?*



*What have we accomplished?*



**5-year  
Operating and  
Financial Plan**

5yr

# Read the adopted Strategic Plan for fiscal years 2021-2025

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⦿ The plan is available in 6 languages:

- [English](#)
- [Español](#)
- [Français](#)
- [Русский](#)
- [简体中文](#)
- [العربية](#)

⦿ More information on Strategic Planning on ICANN.org:

[www.icann.org](http://www.icann.org) > [resources](#) > [governance](#) > [planning](#) > [strategic plan](#)

A dark teal background featuring a faint world map on the left and a large, stylized circuit board graphic on the right. The circuit graphic is composed of various colored lines (orange, yellow, green, blue) and dots, forming a complex, branching pattern that resembles a network or data flow.

# ICANN STRATEGIC PLAN

FOR FISCAL YEARS **2021-2025**

# Strategic Objective & Goals on Security



## Strengthen the security of the **Domain Name System** and the **DNS Root Server System**



Improve the shared responsibility for upholding the security and stability of the DNS by strengthening **DNS coordination** in partnership with relevant stakeholders



Strengthen **DNS root server operations governance** in coordination with the DNS root server operators



Identify and mitigate security threats to the DNS through greater **engagement** with relevant hardware, software, and service vendors



Increase the robustness of the **DNS root zone** key signing and distribution services and processes.

# Strategic Objective & Goals on ICANN's Governance



## Improve the effectiveness of ICANN's multistakeholder model of **governance**



Strengthen ICANN's bottom-up multistakeholder **decision-making process** and ensure that work gets done and policies are developed in an effective and timely manner



Support and grow active, informed, and effective stakeholder **participation**



Sustain and improve **openness, inclusivity, accountability, and transparency**

# Strategic Objective & Goals on **Unique Identifier Systems**



Evolve the **unique identifier systems** in coordination and collaboration with relevant parties to continue to serve the needs of the global Internet user base



Foster competition, consumer choice, and innovation in the Internet space by increasing awareness and encouraging readiness for **Universal Acceptance**, **IDN implementation**, and **IPv6**



Improve assessment of and responsiveness to **new technologies** which impact the security, stability, and resiliency of the Internet's unique identifier systems by greater engagement with relevant parties



Continue to deliver and enhance the **IANA functions** with operational excellence



Support the continued evolution of the Internet's unique identifier systems with a **new round of gTLDs** that is responsibly funded, managed, risk-evaluated, and consistent with ICANN processes

# Strategic Objective & Goals on **Geopolitics**



Address **geopolitical issues** impacting ICANN's mission to ensure a single, globally interoperable Internet



Identify and address global challenges and opportunities within its remit by further developing **early warning systems**, such as ICANN org's Legislative and Regulatory Development Reports



Continue to build **alliances** in the Internet ecosystem and beyond to raise awareness of and engage with global stakeholders about ICANN's mission and policymaking

# Strategic Objective & Goals on **Financials**



## Ensure ICANN's long-term **financial** sustainability



Implement a **five-year Financial Plan** that supports the five-year Operating Plan



Develop reliable and predictable **funding projections**



Manage **operations and their costs** to optimize the effectiveness and efficiency of ICANN's activities



Ensure that the level of ICANN **reserves** is continuously set, reached, and maintained consistent with the complexity and risks of the ICANN environment