25 years of Internet in SV... and counting

ccNSO ccTLD News
March 9, 2021
Lito Ibarra
lito@ibarra.sv
Happy 25th Anniversary
El Salvador and Internet!

First DNS server for the SV zone
In service from Dec 1995 until circa 2002

December 14, 1995
Where is El Salvador?

Central America
21,000 Sq Km
6.5 Million population
35% Internet penetration
It all started in April 1993...

On Thursday April 22, 1993, Costa Rica made its first connection to Internet.

I was invited to CR from April 20 to 22, 1993, by OAS, to a TCP/IP workshop.
I had the honor of receiving the .SV TLD delegation from Jon Postel, along with one class B IP Addresses Block.

According to IANA web site: Registration date 1994-11-04
Agreement with UUNet, USA, to have SV email received and then exchanged with our local server

From November 1994 until December 1995

Store and Forward UUCP email interchanged thru a long distance telephone call at midnight everyday

El Salvador

From / to .sv email

Midnight phone call

UUNet

Internet
Direct connectivity for Christmas

On December 14, 1995, after much team work with colleagues from the PTT, we were successful connecting directly to Internet.

On February 1996, we were able to connect 2 private universities. The rest is history...

By coincidence (?), 1996 was the year when the national PTT was sold, and telecommunications were privatized.
Free domains for 8 years

Up to 2004, all SV domain registrations were done for free and did not have an expiration date

This was a conscious decision to promote the usage of the domain names under SV

In 1998, I started to write a column with 2 brief parts: One general topic and one review of a web site under SV

We reached 9,411 domain names, which dropped to 6,931 once we started to charge for the registration
Foundation of SVNet as an NGO

SVNet existed only in my mind, since 1994

At the time, I was the IT director of a private university (UCA)

After writing the Bylaws, it was founded legally on October 2004

Members are two private universities and one natural person

It is a Not for Profit organization, and according to its Bylaws, one of the objectives is to promote El Salvador’s technology development
Scholarships

More than 100 students supported thru their semesters and years of study

7 universities regularly supported

Technology related carrers

More than 100 students supported thru their semesters and years of study
STEAM Lab support
Several support programs

**Travel support**

**Research grants**

**Equipment donation**

Laptops, printers, drones, laboratory equipment

**Awards, Hackathons and Rallies**
Support for the young

For teenagers: Robotics, coding and video game design contests

For children: Digital drawing, different topics (Heroes, Environment, etc.)
Sponsored events

1. **FLISol El Salvador 2015**
   - Sponsored by SVNet Premper
   - Event on April 25
   - Features software installations and workshops

2. **VIII Competencia Nacional de Robótica**
   - "Robots Artistas"
   - Event on October 3, 2015
   - Activities include shows, robotics, and entertainment

3. **1A Makerthon**
   - Event on May 21, 2016
   - Focus on innovation and technology

4. **Foro: El ciberdelito NO es un juego de niños y de niñas**
   - Event on July 30, 2019
   - Discussion on cyberbullying and grooming

Organizers and sponsors include SVNet, Tigo, ESET, Noise, Publimovil, and REACCIÓN.
Internet Day

For 12 years in a row

Many institutions, enterprises and people participate

For an entire week
Internet Governance Forum SV

3 editions so far: 2018, 2019 and 2020

Comité organizador
Girls / Women in Science and ICT
Book publishing

Toponymic Dictionary of El Salvador

Toponymy: The meaning and etymology of the names of towns, cities, volcanoes, rivers, etc

“Domain names designate places and virtual spaces in the current Knowledge Society, constituting a kind of contemporary toponomy. This is a happy coincidence that has allowed SVNet to be part of this important contribution”

(From the preface of the book)
Internet and Information Technology Museum

The museum is called “One bit of history”, and is located in SVNet’s offices. Free entrance
Internet Exchange Point IXSal
Reflections

cctLDs are at the core of Internet in our respective countries / territories

By definition, we are related to the start of Internet in our region of the world

We have a duty, a responsibility and a mission with our community

There are many innovative ways to outreach and engage with our local community

I ♥ My ccTLD
25 years of Internet in SV... and counting

Thank you