



PUBLIC COMMENTS DATA ANALYSIS

Years 2010-2012

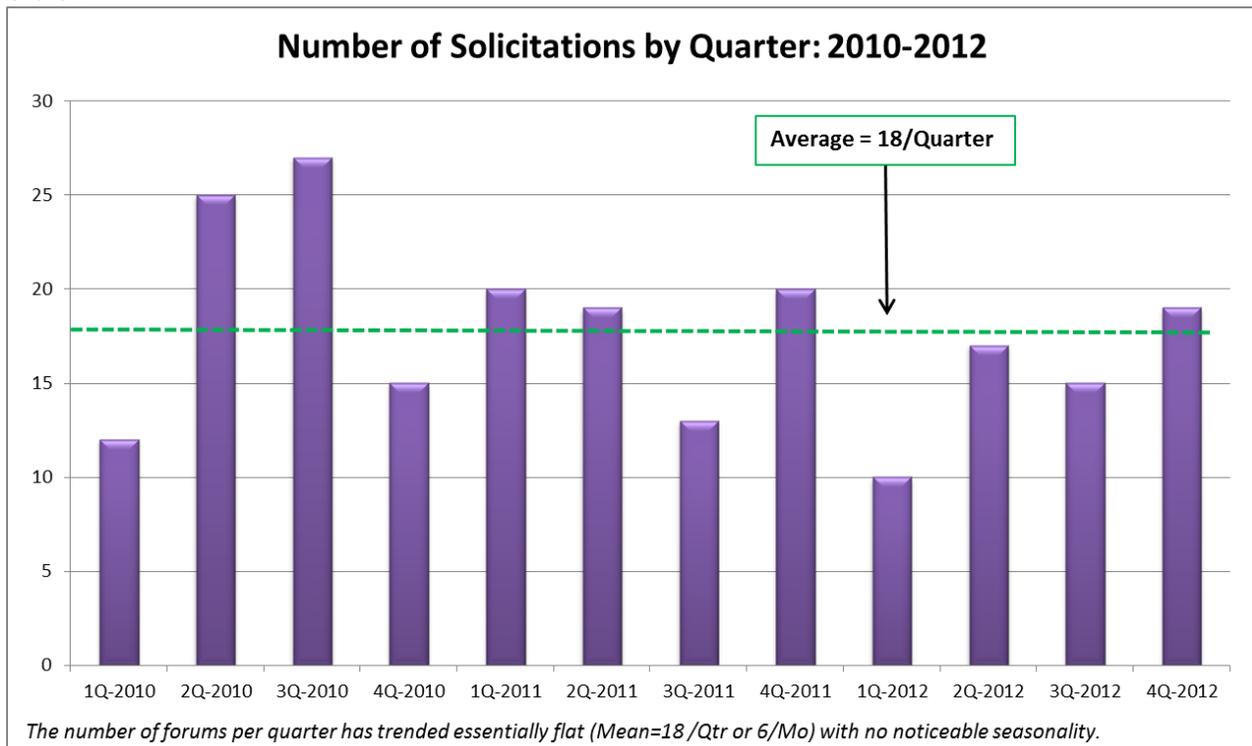
3) Findings Related to Public Comments Solicitations/Forums

There were 212 Public Comments Forums (Jan 2010-Dec 2012) included as part of this data analysis. This Section summarizes those findings that relate to the solicitations and forums³; whereas, Section 4 will focus on the comments and replies to Forum topics.

A. Solicitations Published

Chart 1 below shows the number of solicitations by quarter during the three year horizon. A trend line was fit to the data (not shown) and, based upon the statistics calculated, an inference can be drawn that the number of forums launched in each quarter has not shown any marked increase or decrease from 2010-2012. In other words, the number of topics that ICANN introduces to the community for public comment has been relatively consistent over the time horizon and, barring any change in those dynamics, would be predicted to continue in the range of 18 per quarter (or 6 per month) on average.

Chart 1.



³ The terms solicitation and forum will be used interchangeably throughout this report, depending upon context.



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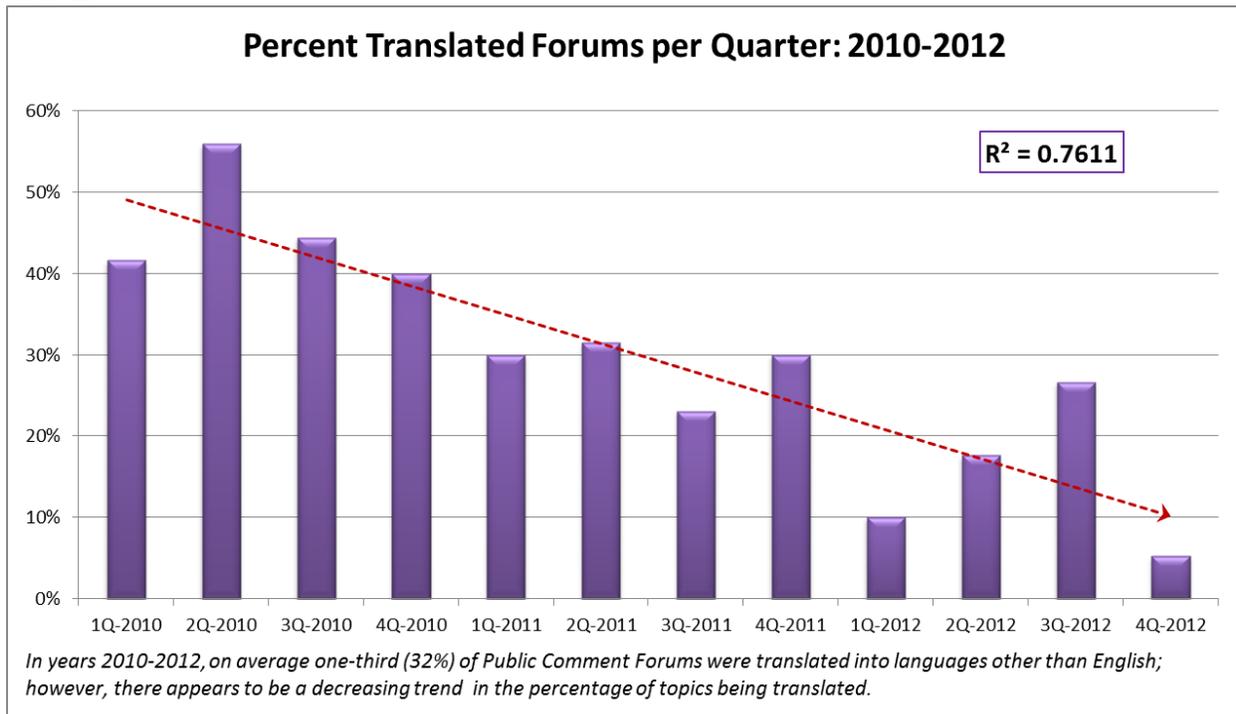
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B. Solicitations Translated

One of the data elements captured for each solicitation was whether or not translation services were utilized. For this purpose, a solicitation was scored “Yes” for translations if there was evidence that any portion of the materials presented was made available in a language other than English. There was no minimum requirement for number of languages selected or extent/type of material translated. Even if just one reference document was available in another language (e.g., French, Spanish), it was counted as having utilized translation services.

Chart 2 below shows that there has been a relatively steady and statistically significant decline in the use of translations for Public Comments from 2010-2012.

Chart 2.



C. Public Comments Forum Length

Based upon the published Open and Close Dates (extended dates were always used where applicable), it was possible to determine the average (mean) length of time that Public Comments Forums remain open for community participation.

The following Chart 3 illustrates that, prior to the effective implementation of Comment-Reply Cycles starting in 2Q 2012 (ATRT Rec #16), the average length of time for Public Comments periods was 40 calendar days. Once Reply Cycles were formally introduced, the overall length of solicitations experienced a two week step increase. The reason appears to be that, although the

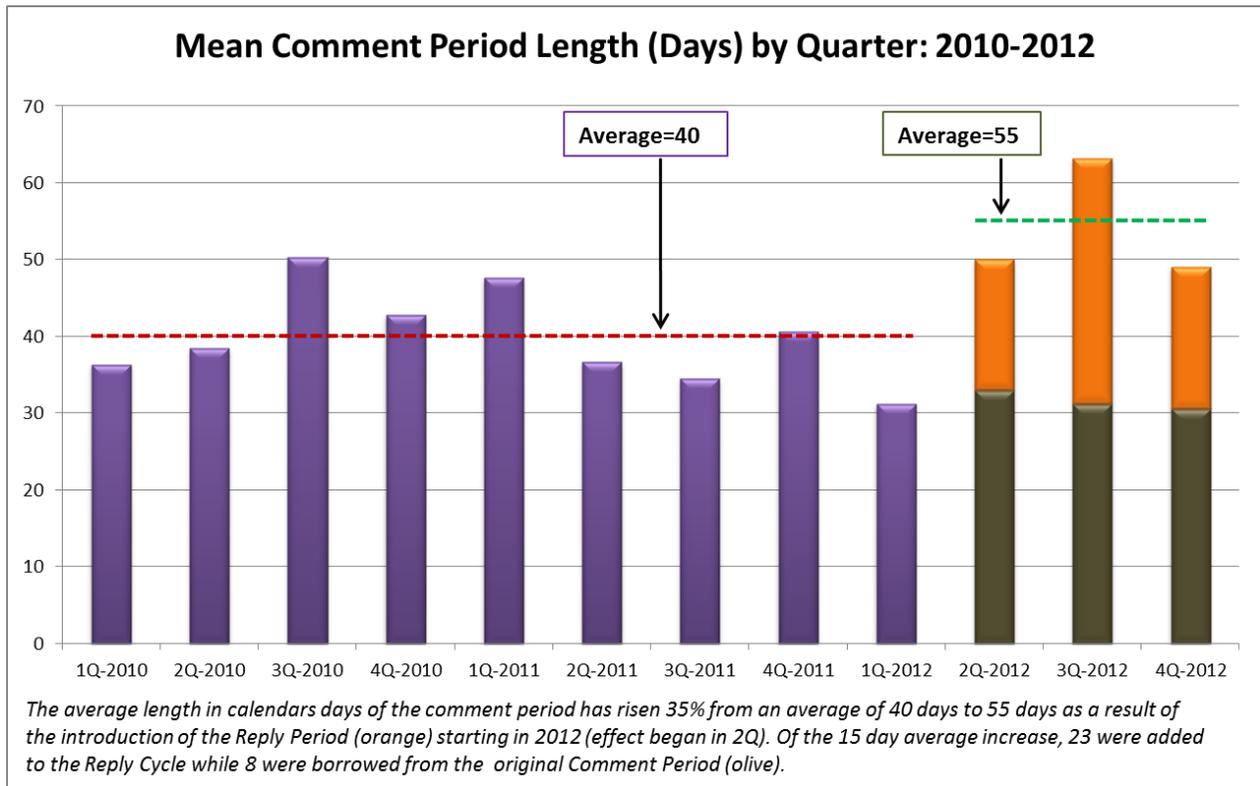


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original Comment Period was shortened by 8 days (olive bars), the Reply Cycle (orange stacks) averaged 23 days⁴ thus lengthening the entire period by 15 days.

Chart 3.



⁴ The minimum was established at 21 days; however, the average Reply Cycle extended slightly to 23 days.