LAC Newsletter
YOUR LATEST LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN NEWS FROM ICANN

AUGUST 2020

EDITORIAL

ICANN's Internal Capacity Building to Better Serve Our Community During the COVID-19 Crisis

by Rodrigo de la Parra, Vice President, Stakeholder Engagement, and Managing Director, Latin America and the Caribbean

ICANN's regional office for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) located at *La Casa de Internet* in Montevideo, Uruguay is one of ICANN's five regional offices around the world. All ICANN employees are attached to one of the five regional offices. In the case of our region, we have ICANN staff attached to the Montevideo office from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Mexico, Perú, Saint Lucia, and of course in Uruguay. Our colleagues in the LAC region belong to ICANN functions such as Global Stakeholder Engagement, Communications, Language Services, Policy Development Support, and the Office of the Chief Technology Officer.

To better serve our community, our team hosts the annual Capacity Development Week (CDW) in order to keep us all well trained and informed about key aspects of the DNS, ICANN, and its processes.

This year, our CDW took place online in the week of 20 July. It was a very well balanced and enjoyable agenda. Even though the activities were online, it almost felt as if we were together. We hope you are enjoying our virtual engagement program and please stay tuned for more ICANN LAC Talks.

TOP STORY

ICANN LAC Talks: Connecting with Our LAC Community

For the past several months, we have witnessed how the world is changing due to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, ICANN prioritized online engagement and training through initiatives like ICANN LAC Talks, a series of

virtual sessions tailored to the LAC community, to provide relevant information on ICANN related issues during the crisis. We invite you to join these sessions, which provide community members with important information on how ICANN is responding to security threats affecting millions of Internet users and offer opportunities for community participation.

Watch these recent LAC Talks:

- 24 March 2020 – **DNS Security and Threats during COVID-19 health crisis** with John Crain and Matt Larson – 111 attendees

- 15 May 2020 – **5G Technology and the DNS** with Alain Durand – 95 attendees.

- 9 July 2020 – **Universal Acceptance** with Hussain and Mark Datysgeld – 38 attendees.

- 30 July 2020 – **Stakeholder Journey and Newcomers During COVID-19** – 36 attendees.

Join us on 26 August for our next session of the ICANN LAC Talks on the Evolution of the Internet Identifiers System with David Conrad, Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer (CTO) at ICANN. **Register today!**

ICANN NEWS

Read the ICANN68 By the Numbers Report

The *ICANN68 By the Numbers Report* is now available, which contains information about participation in ICANN68 by session, location, and more. It also includes results of the ICANN68 Survey, which asked participants what worked best about ICANN's second virtual meeting and what areas could be improved. Click **here** to explore the report.

BY THE NUMBERS & SURVEY REPORT

August 2020

ICANN President & CEO Announces Goals for the 2021 Fiscal Year

ICANN President & CEO Göran Marby has shared his FY21 goals. Each year, Marby works with the ICANN Board to develop goals for the next fiscal year, and then works with the ICANN organization Executive team to build a plan to achieve them. These annual goals help the ICANN organization work to prioritize, address new challenges, and execute on existing projects with a strategic focus.

ICANN | BLOG

Read Now

Göran Marby
ICANN President & CEO

Read **Göran's recent blog to examine the goals**.

Note: The 2021 fiscal year runs from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

ICANN's Independent Review Process Seeks Panelists

ICANN is seeking Expressions of Interest for panelists to serve on the omnibus Standing Panel for ICANN's Independent Review Process (IRP). The deadline to submit Expressions of Interest is extended to 31 August 2020 at 23:59 UTC. The IRP is an essential accountability mechanism to hold the ICANN Board and organization accountable.

Candidates for the IRP omnibus Standing Panel should review the **Expressions of Interest document before submission**.

Expressions of Interest should be submitted to: **IRP-Standingpanel-EOI2020@icann.org**.

SPOTLIGHT

Nominations Now Open for the Dr. Tarek Kamel Award for Capacity Building

Do you know an ICANN community member who has significantly contributed to developing capacity in areas related to ICANN's mission? Nominate them for the Dr. Tarek Kamel Award for Capacity Building.

The ideal recipient will have at least five years of experience contributing and developing:

- National, regional, or global capacity-building programs related to ICANN's Mission.
- Capacity-building programs that positively influenced the multistakeholder model and diversified participation at ICANN.

ICANN community participants and stakeholders may submit nominations using the nomination form. Entries must be received by 21 August 2020 23:59 UTC.

The ICANN Board will review a shortlist of candidates. This year's recipient will be announced at ICANN69 in October 2020.

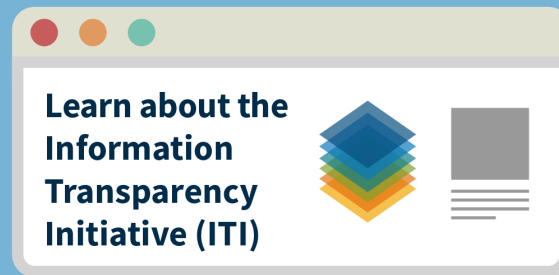Learn more about the award and access the nomination form **here**.

ICANN NEWS

Missed the ITI Webinars? Watch the Recordings.

The Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) has published links to two webinar recordings. The webinars provided a demo of some of the new content types and features that will be implemented on

the improved ICANN.org. The webinars were held on 20 and 22 July.

The improved website will be powered by a new content management system and document management system. It will also feature an improved multilingual user experience in the six U.N. languages and aim to adhere to W3C AA accessibility standards.

Links to the webinar recordings are posted to the ITI feedback site (**https://feedback.icann.org/**) under the Latest News section. If you have feedback, please email the ITI team at: **informationtransparency@icann.org**.

New Government Engagement Publications Available

Two new publications are available from the Government Engagement team:

United Nations Update: Cyber-Related Discussions

This **publication** summarizes the proceedings of the United Nations General Assembly working groups where discussions of Internet and cybersecurity-related issues take place. Click **here** to learn more.

Digital Services Act Update Paper

This paper provides an update on the Digital Service Act initiative. In this paper, readers will find background and analysis of the initiative with the potential relevance to the ICANN community and to ICANN's technical role in the Internet ecosystem.
The paper is available **here** background on the paper is available on the Government Engagement **publications page**.

A public consultation on the DSA initiative has been currently launched by the European Commission and will remain open until 8 September 2020. ICANN org will submit a contribution to the open consultation and encourages the community to take this opportunity to contribute as well. The org will continue to monitor the DSA initiative and provide updates as relevant developments unfold.

New ICANN Learn Course: Constructive Dialogue

ICANN is built on a foundation of conversation and respect. Fundamental to those qualities is the ability to engage in constructive dialogue. It is not merely about speaking or listening; it's about engaging in dialogue that enlightens, expands, and advances a goal.

The new Constructive Dialogue course explores interpersonal communication techniques so that learners develop constructive dialogue skills.

In this course, learners explore foundational concepts, work through examples, and have access to quick reference guides to put tools into action. Participants gain insight into ensuring all persons in the ICANN community feel heard, narrowing relevant issues, and facilitating

productive conversations.

Regardless of whether you've been involved with ICANN for a few months or a decade, we think this course will help everyone. You can access the course at **https://learn.icann.org**.

LAC ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS

Technical Engagement Grows in the LAC region

In July 2020, the ICANN LAC team completed 18 virtual sessions with major Internet associations in the region. Four different programs were deployed with the Mexican National Association of Universities and Higher Education Institutions (**ANUIES**), Brazilian Association of Internet and Telecommunications Providers (**ABRINT**), Paraguayan Internet Service Providers Association (**ASISPY**), and the Bolivian Traffic Exchange Point (**PIT Bolivia**). During these sessions, ICANN covered topics such as Domain Name System (DNS) fundamentals, DNS abuse, Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC), and participation in ICANN processes. These sessions are expected to run on a biweekly basis until the end of 2020. In August, the .br Information and Coordination center (**NIC.br**) will be added to the group of co-organizers with two sessions on DNS infrastructure. We would like to thank all of our partner organizations for inviting their members to participate in the sessions. If you are interested in joining us, please contact your ICANN Global Stakeholder Engagement representative.

The Internet and COVID-19: A Caribbean Focus

Caribbean Internet organizations have been active in developing capacity during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Here is a recap of the latest work done by Caribbean organizations to spark conversations on how the pandemic is impacting the Internet:

- The American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN) worked in partnership with The Caribbean Network Operators Group (CaribNOG) on a weekly webinar series, "**COVID-19 and the Caribbean Internet**," which explored the evolving impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on a broad range of topics in the Caribbean focused on infrastructure, security, access policy, and best practices.

- The Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) and ARIN's webinar series titled "**Accelerating 21ˢᵗ Century Government in the Caribbea**n" examined how information and communications technologies like the Internet can be used to accelerate the deployment of e-government projects in order to improve the efficiency of services for Caribbean citizens.

For more information on upcoming events in the Caribbean and the LAC region, visit **ICANN's engagement calendar**.

Universal Acceptance, A Work in Progress
by Vanda Scartezini and Mark Datysgeld

Universal Acceptance aims to improve the Internet user's experience by allowing navigation in local languages and by enabling the creation of new affordable domains in the Domain Name System (DNS) market.

In this spirit, the Brazilian Association of Software Companies (**ABES**), a pioneer in Latin America in addressing Universal Acceptance (UA), is working in partnership with Mark Datysgeld, a local member of the Business Constituency.

ABES' first venture into the topic was the 2018 study "Universal Acceptance in Brazil: Proof of

Concept" which demonstrated that Brazil had very similar levels to the rest of the world for accepting e-mails with non-ASCII characters on their largest websites.

Given the success of the first publication and the community's wide acceptance of our methodology, we were invited by ICANN to do a test at a global scale in 2019. This improved methodology ended up enabling another series of local studies, making a meaningful contribution to the understanding of Universal Acceptance today.

In 2020, we look forward to working on a project analyzing open source software and the evolution of HTML5 standards.

Stay tuned for our next projects and updates!

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY

María del Carmen Denis Polanco (Mexico)
IXP Project Director Yucatan, Mexico
Co-founder and Coordinator of the Center for Women in Technology, Mexico

Carmen has a degree in computer science and 26 years of experience in network interconnection technologies, IT infrastructure, and the Internet. She is currently the project director of the IXP Yucatan, and coordinator of the Center for Women in Technology in Mexico. In 2020, Carmen has actively collaborated with ICANN's regional team by supporting and coordinating events, including two workshops at Internet Development Week in Yucatan in March and the planning of seven monthly ICANN webinars with the Universities and Higher Education Institutions (ANUIES). ICANN67 was her first ICANN meeting.
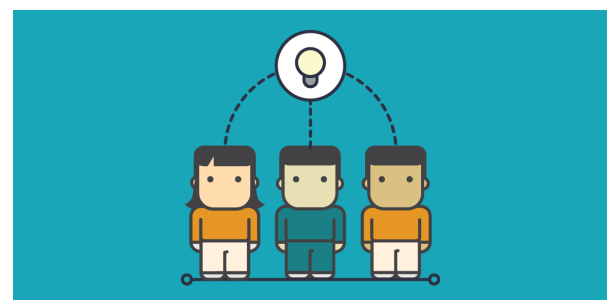
Her work with the Internet started in 1994 as a Fellow at the Autonomous University of Yucatan (UADY), where she worked until April 2019. Currently, she works on Internet development topics such as IPv6, Internet Exchange Points (IXPs), Resource Public Key Infrastructure (RPKI), and DNSSEC with associations from Mexico, the Latin American, and Caribbean communities, such as the Internet Society, the Latin American and Caribbean Internet Address Registry (LACNIC), NIC Mexico (NICMX), Group of Network Operators in Mexico (MEXNOG), and the University Corporation for Internet Development (CUDI).

POLICY UPDATE

The EPDP Phase 2 Final Report is Now Available

The Expedited Policy Development Process on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Team (EPDP Team) finalized and submitted its **Phase 2 Final Report** to the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council on Friday 31 July 2020. The **Phase 2 Final Report** focuses on the deliberation of the creation of a system for Standardized

Access/Disclosure (SSAD) to nonpublic registration data; issues noted in the Annex to the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data ("Important Issues for Further Community Action"); and, issues deferred from Phase 1 (also referred to as Priority 2 items), such as redaction of city field, etc. Following delivery of the Final Report to the GNSO Council, the GNSO Council is expected to consider it for adoption at its September meeting.

ICANN | ccNSO

ccPDP4 Begins

The Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) working group to develop policy recommendations for the de-selection of Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) ccTLD strings (ccPDP4) will kick off its work at the start of September. The results of ccPDP4 will replace the IDN country code top-level domain (ccTLD) Fast Track Process, which has guided the selection process of IDN ccTLD strings since 2009. To stay informed about the work of this group, consult its **workspace** and the **ccNSO website**.

At-Large Organizational Updates

The At-Large Capacity Building Working Group (CBWG) will hold webinars in August and September on the topics of new gTLD subsequent procedures; and DNS-over-HTTPS (DoH) and DNS-over-TLS (DoT).

The At-Large Unaffiliated Individual Mobilization Working Party has launched with the goal of reviewing At-Large unaffiliated individual membership criteria and participation. This group will guide At-Large leadership in how best to engage these members.

ICANN | GNSO

GNSO Council Holds an Extraordinary Meeting about Work Prioritization

On 16 July 2020, the GNSO Council held an extraordinary meeting to discuss its new method of work prioritization based on specific programs and timeframes. The **Program Management** tool and **Action Decision Radar** (ADR) aim to assist the GNSO Council in managing a multitude of projects, as well as prioritizing actions based on their importance and urgency. Materials from this meeting can be found **here**.

LACRALO Statement on Latin America (LAC) Regional Strategic Plan for FY2021-2025

On 17 July 2020, the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) endorsed the Latin American and Caribbean Islands Regional At-Large Organization (LACRALO) **statement** on the Latin America (LAC) Regional Strategic Plan for FY2021-2025. LACRALO agreed that the LAC regional strategy is consistent with end user challenges in the region. The statement included specific comments on the following four subtopics: security of the Domain Name System, the ICANN multistakeholder model, unique identifier systems, and regional geopolitics.

🔔 GDD UPDATE

UASG Welcomes Six New UA Ambassadors

The Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) has

welcomed six new individuals into the UASG Ambassador Program for FY21 (July 2020-June 2021). These new ambassadors have a wide range of expertise and experience in the domain name industry, IT, engineering, software development, and technical research, and will help support UA efforts in Benin, India, Nigeria, South Africa, and Turkey. The UA Ambassador Program now has a total of 13 ambassadors from nine different countries representing the Asia Pacific (APAC), Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA), Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), and North America (NA) regions.

To learn more about the new ambassadors and the work they do, **click here**. Stay up to date on the latest UA developments by following @UASGTech on **Twitter**, **Facebook**, and **LinkedIn**.

Have you Experimented with ICANN's Lookup Tool That Leverages RDAP?

Since last year, the Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP), developed by the technical community in the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) as a replacement for the WHOIS protocol, has been delivering domain name and Internet identifier registration data in a secure and structured manner.

ICANN offers a registration data lookup tool based on RDAP and you can access it **here**.

MONTEVIDEO

La Casa de Internet de Latinoamérica y el Caribe
Rambla República de México 6125
11400 Montevideo, Uruguay

ICANN AROUND THE WORLD

Regional Offices:
Los Angeles, U.S.A. (Headquarters)
Brussels, Belgium
Istanbul, Turkey
Montevideo, Uruguay
Singapore

Engagement Centers:
Beijing, China
Geneva, Switzerland
Nairobi, Kenya
Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

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

Twitter English

Twitter French

Twitter Portuguese

Twitter Spanish

Scoop.It Portuguese

Scoop.It Spanish

Facebook

Flickr

LinkedIn

Slideshare

Soundcloud

Youtube