

ICANN Strategic plan 2021-2025 and the Africa Strategy

Nov 06, 2019 17:00 – 18:15
Room 517C

ICANN
ANNUAL GENERAL

66

MONTREAL

2-7 November 2019

Pierre Dandjinou (Global Stakeholder Engagement)

Theresa Swinehart & Nathalie Vergnolle (Multistakeholder Strategy & Strategic Initiatives)



Agenda

Nov 06, 2019 - 17:00 -18:15

⊙ **Introduction** – *Pierre Dandjinou, RVP, Global Stakeholder Engagement, AFRICA* (5')

⊙ **Welcome remarks** - *Sally Costerton, Sr Advisor to President & SVP,* (5')

Global Stakeholder Engagement

⊙ **Presentation of the new ICANN strategic plan** (25')

Theresa Swinehart, SVP, Multistakeholder Strategy & Strategic Initiatives

Nathalie Vergnolle, Director, Multistakeholder Strategy & Strategic Initiative

⊙ **Community discussion: Regional trends on focus area, Regional perspectives** (35')

on trends

Yaovi Atohoun, Stakeholder Engagement & Operations Manager, Africa

⊙ **Next steps for the Africa strategy and conclusion** (5')

Pierre Dandjinou, RVP, Global Stakeholder Engagement, Africa

Presentation of the ICANN Strategic Plan for fiscal years 2021 to 2025

Presenters: Theresa Swinehart, SVP & Nathalie Vergnolle, Director, ICANN
- Multistakeholder Strategy and Strategic Initiatives (MSSI)

(25')

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



Difference between various planning documents

- ⦿ The **ICANN Strategic Plan** indicates a desired future (also known as “the vision”), and translates this vision into broadly defined objectives and goals (the “what”).
 - Strategic objectives and goals are articulating the path from where we are to where we want to be.
- ⦿ The **ICANN 5-yr Operating and Financial Plan (5YOFP)** provides a sequence of actions and/or activities needed to fulfill the goals (the “how” and the “who”), and associated costs.
 - The 5YOFP includes high level regional activities.
- ⦿ The **Regional Engagement Strategy** drills down on region-specific objectives and goals (the “what” for the region).
 - It set priorities for the region, and allows to rally, align and coordinate regional efforts.
- ⦿ The region develops an annual **Implementation Plan**.
 - Plans for the engagement actions for the year.



ICANN Strategic Planning approach

Nov 2017 – Jun 2018

Phase 1: Trends identification

Jun 2018 – Aug 2018

Phase 2: Prioritization and Analysis

Sep 2018 – Dec 2018

Phase 3: Drafting of Strategic Plan

Dec 2018 – Jun 2019

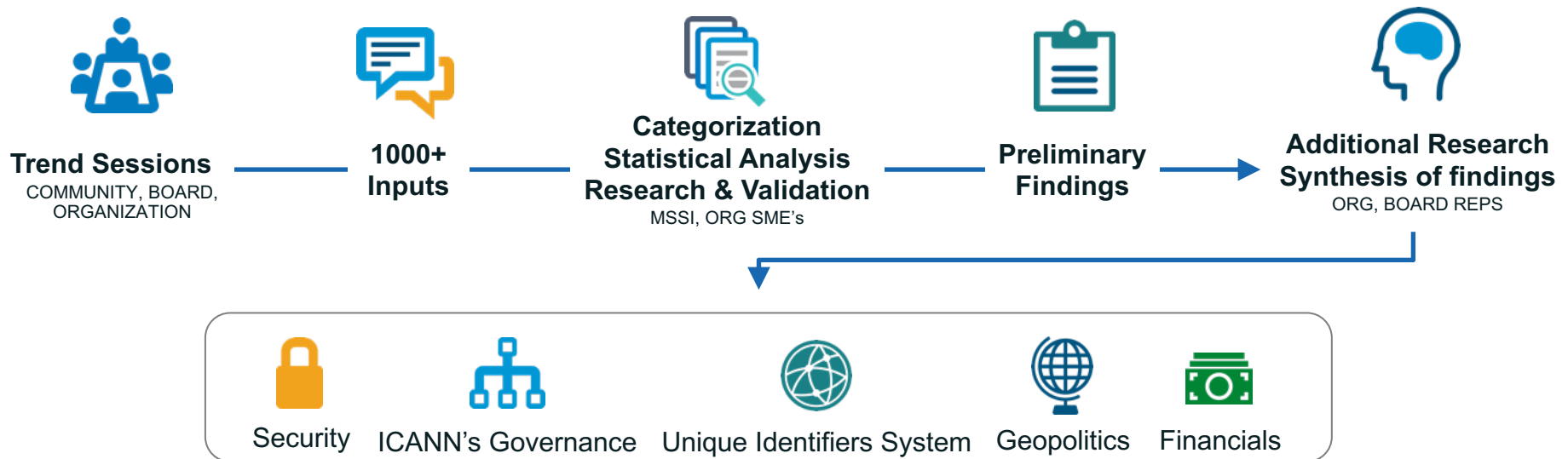
Phase 4: Finalization of Strategic Plan

The [Strategic Plan for fiscal years 2021 to 2025](#) was [adopted](#) by the ICANN Board in June 2019. (Translated versions available [here](#)).

It is set to come into effect on **1 July 2020**

How are the trends identified?

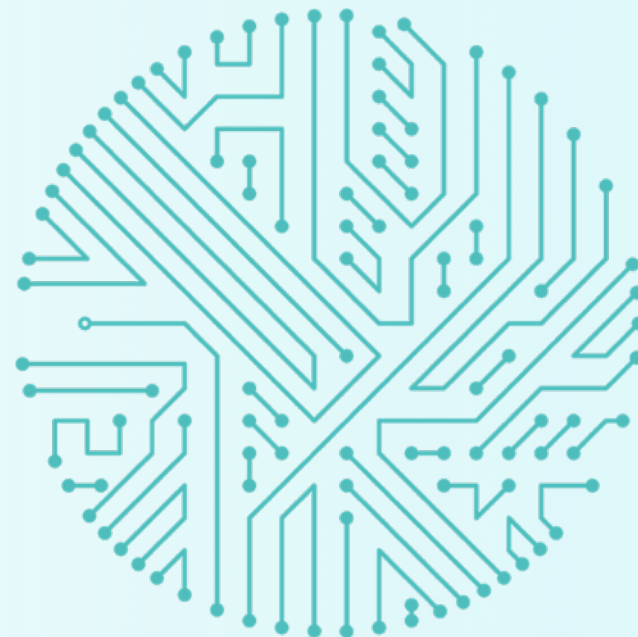
- Each year, ICANN runs a [Strategic Outlook process](#) to identify trends to meet challenges & opportunities ahead.



- There were significant similarities across all the trend sessions, that naturally converge into five primary focus areas: security; ICANN's governance; unique identifier systems; geopolitics; and financials.

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.



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



ICANN's Strategic Objectives



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**

Opportunities for the Africa region

- ⦿ Using the trends that have been identified globally as a basis to identifying regional trends and specificities.
- ⦿ Examining the new ICANN strategic objectives and goals in the context of the region.
- ⦿ Developing regional engagement goals that would fold under the overall strategy and take in consideration regional specificities priorities and needs.

ICANN



REGION



Community discussion - Regional Perspective on Trends

Facilitated by Yaovi Atohoun, Stakeholder Engagement & Operations Manager - Africa (35')

Strategic focus area #1: Security

“The exponential growth in security issues is challenging the stability of the domain name system and the root server system, as well as ICANN’s ability to finance increasing investments required to ensure continued stability.”

Key Trend Themes

- Increasing **cybersecurity risks** (massive DDoS attacks, IoT vulnerabilities, DNS security).
- Increasing threats to **root server** system, and challenges to root service reliability, resilience and interoperability.
- Continuing concerns about **DNS abuse**.

Regional Trends

- *What are some regional perspectives on these trends?*
- *Are there other regional trends to take in consideration?*

Strategic focus area #2: ICANN's Governance

“ICANN’s multistakeholder model of governance, which grew to fit ICANN’s needs, has the potential of becoming less effective and more expensive as it matures and scales up to respond to increasing needs of our community.”

Key Trend Themes

- **Efficiency** and **effectiveness** of ICANN’s multistakeholder model continue to be questioned.
- Continued necessity of fulfilling **transparency** and **accountability**, **inclusiveness** and **openness** obligations.
- Increasing pressure to work effectively and to make **timely** and **efficient** use of ICANN resources.

Regional Trends

- *What are some regional perspectives on these trends?*
- *Are there other regional trends to take in consideration?*

Strategic focus area #3: Unique Identifiers System

“The rapid evolution of new technologies requires ICANN to be responsive to these changes and ensure that the unique identifiers system evolves and continues to serve the global Internet user base.”

Key Trend Themes

- **Alternate roots, alternative infrastructures** increasingly threatening the global interoperability of the Internet.
- **External technology advancement** (such as blockchain, IoT, rise of artificial intelligence etc.) creating both threats and opportunities.

Regional Trends

- *What are some regional perspectives on these trends?*
- *Are there other regional trends to take in consideration?*

Strategic focus area #4: Geopolitics

“The increasing importance of the Internet across all sectors increases the possibility of governments intervening to gain control over the DNS through legislation and regulation. At the same time there is an increasing risk of Internet fragmentation as a result of geopolitical, technical, and organizational pressures.”

Key Trend Themes

- More **legislation and regulation** which **risk impacting the Internet’s unique identifier systems** and ICANN’s mission.
- **Increasing global reliance on the Internet.**
- **Increasing geopolitical risks of Internet fragmentation.**

Regional Trends

- *What are some regional perspectives on these trends?*
- *Are there other regional trends to take in consideration?*

Strategic focus area #5: Financials

“Consolidation in the marketplace, continued uncertainty surrounding the expansion of the gTLD name space, and other factors are putting pressures on ICANN’s ability to support the growing needs and demands of its global community.”

Key Trend Themes

- **Funding is stabilizing** for the foreseeable future.
- **Continued growing demands and costs** (demands for support from stakeholders, demands for investments to address security and technology requirements, costs of global engagement, costs of transparency and accountability, etc.).
- **Financial responsiveness to changing industry economics**

Regional Trends

- *What are some regional perspectives on these trends?*
- *Are there other regional trends to take in consideration?*

Next steps for the Africa strategy and Conclusion

Presenter: Pierre Dandjinou, VP, Global Stakeholder Engagement - Africa (5')

Next Steps for Africa strategy

- ◉ A webinar in December 2019 to have more discussion with the community and feedbacks
- ◉ A group of volunteers set to draft the new Africa Strategic by end of January 2020
- ◉ A draft document posted online for public comments (End of Public comments period by mid-March 2020)
- ◉ New Africa Strategy document presented and adopted during the ICANN 67 meeting
- ◉ An operating plan for FY21 developed during the period of April to June 2020.



Thank You and Questions

Visit us at icann.org

Email: strategic-planning@icann.org



[@icann](https://twitter.com/icann)



facebook.com/icannorg



youtube.com/icannnews



flickr.com/icann



linkedin/company/icann



slideshare/icannpresentations



soundcloud/icann