



81

ANNUAL
GENERAL
MEETING



Universal Acceptance Community Update

ICANN81 Prep Week | 30 October 2024

UASG, UAC by ccNSO, ICANN org



Universal Acceptance

Session Overview

Updates from Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG)

- * UASG Governance Updates
- * Annual Reports
- * UA Day
- * Updates from Working Groups (WGs), Local Initiatives and Ambassadors

Updates from Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC by ccNSO)

Updates from ICANN org

- * UA Remediation and Training Updates and Plans
- * UA-Readiness of ICANN org Systems

Community Feedback - Question and Answer (Q&A)

Universal Acceptance and Categories Impacted

Universal Acceptance (UA): All valid domain names and email addresses work in all software applications.

Domain Names (including Internationalized Domain Names):

- * New short top-level ASCII domain names: `example.sky`
- * New long top-level ASCII domain names: `example.engineering`
- * Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs): `คน.ไทย`

Email Addresses (including internationalized email):

- * ASCII@ASCII (new and long TLD): `ekrem@misal.istanbul`
- * ASCII@IDN: `marc@société.org`
- * Unicode@ASCII: `测试@example.com`
- * Unicode@IDN: `όνομα@παράδειγμα.eu`
- * Unicode@IDN; right-to-left scripts: `ای-میل@مثال. موقع`



Accept



Validate



Process



Store



Display

UASG Governance Topics

- * UASG decision-making process for UA Coordination WG
 - * Finalizing the proposed process with UASG Coordination Team in consultation with ICANN org
- * Addressing standards of expected behavior
 - * Identifying measures to implement standards of expected behavior to encourage broad participation. Concluding to implement existing community practices.
- * Statement of Interest (SOI) is being implemented to enhance the transparency in governance and membership
- * Identifying additional processes for UASG Coordination team to discuss and document

Overview of Annual Reports

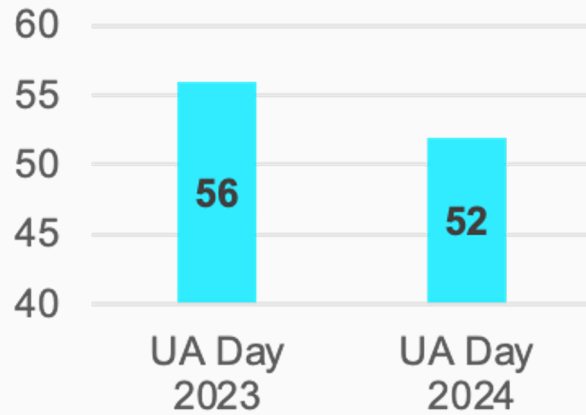
- * Published the [FY24 UA Readiness Report](#)
 - * Documentation of current gaps in technology based on UA-readiness testing of programming languages, email tools, identity platforms, web hosting tools, websites and more
 - * Updates on the remediation activities undertaken in FY24
 - * Overview of the UASG and ICANN's UA priorities moving forward
 - * UA progress through Local Initiatives
- * UASG FY25 Action Plan is in the pipeline

UA Day

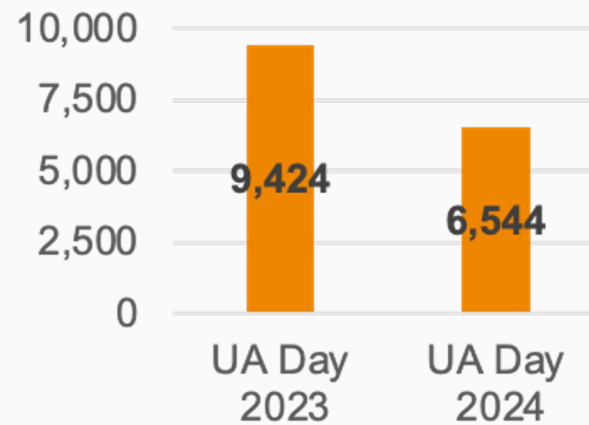


Overview of UA Day 2023 and 2024

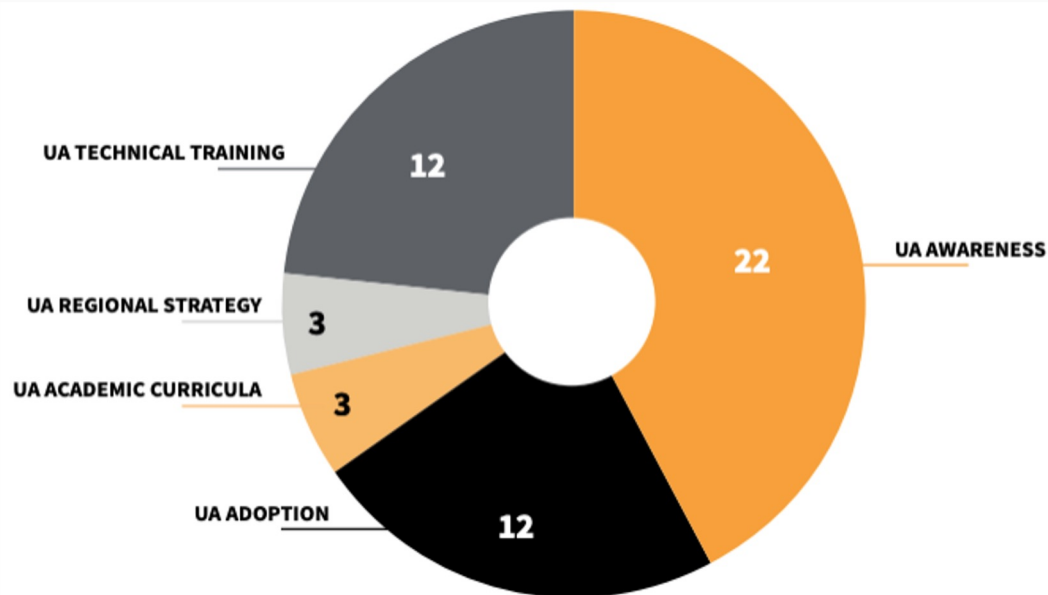
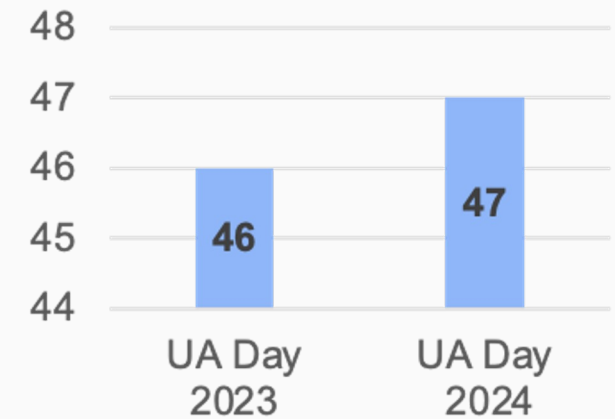
Events



Participants



Countries



- * UA Day 2023 was focused on broad audiences, while 2024 sessions were more focused on technical communities
- * [Universal Acceptance \(UA\) Day 2024 Report](#) (in 6 UN languages)

UA Day 2025

- * UA Day aims to rally local, national, regional and global organizations to create a “buzz” around adopting UA
- * [ICANN and UNESCO Join Forces to Champion Universal Acceptance for UA Day 2025](#)
- * 100+ proposals were received from 60+ countries and territories
- * Events proposals are being evaluated by a selection committee.
- * UA Day 2025 events will take place between 1 March 2025 and 30 May 2025
- * More information at <https://UniversalAcceptance.day>
- * For more details please join [UA Strategy: Capacity Building Initiatives session at ICANN81](#) on 11 November 2024, 07:45 UTC

UA Measurement WG Updates

Nabil Benamar

Measurement WG Chair



Updates from Measurement WG

Published:

- * UA Readiness Report (<https://uasg.tech/download/uasg-050-ua-readiness-report-fy24/>)
- * Call for proposals for two work items:
 - * [Rating email software using EAI Self-Certification Guide](#)
 - * [Measuring Universal Acceptance \(UA\) Readiness of Popular Ecommerce Platforms](#)

Ongoing Work:

- * Measuring the top global websites' UA-readiness levels
- * Developing UA progress indicators for public sector

UA Technology WG Updates

Satish Babu

Technology WG Chair



Updates from Technology WG

Published:

- * Call for proposals for a work item:
 - * Universal Acceptance support using Javascript libraries React, Angular and Node including Email processing and HTML generation

Ongoing Work:

- * Developing a framework for what it means to be UA-ready for websites
- * Paper on email validation best practices
- * Analysis of UA Strategy Survey results

Email Address Internationalization (EAI) WG Updates

Mark Svancarek
EAI WG Chair



Updates from EAI WG

Published:

- * [EAI Self Certification Guide](#) along with the scorecard: Email service or tool providers who take the test and self-certify their email service or tool using the EAI Self-Certification Guide and score generator may publish their score and display the corresponding certification badge on their respective websites



Ongoing Work:

- * [Make it easier to experiment with self-hosted working EAI systems](#)
- * Promote and encourage certification among producers and customers
- * Develop self-certification training videos

UA Local Initiatives Updates

Updates from UA Local Initiatives

All Local Initiatives focused on UA adoption and helped make over 100 websites UA-ready.

- * **China** Local Initiative reported 25% support for Chinese domain names by leading Internet applications that include QQ, Baidu, WeChat, 360, Xiaomi and OPPO
- * **Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and Eastern Europe (EE)** Local Initiative reported local software companies Ispmanager, Mail.Ru and TEGU (mail server) are now UA-ready. EAI testbeds in Armenia and Russia are providing EAI mail addresses in local scripts.
- * **India** Local Initiative reported the Indian Government made a [UA plan](#), setting a model for others
- * **Sri Lanka** Local Initiative reported a Buddhist organization adopted [Sinhala](#) and [English](#) websites, and supports Sinhala email
- * **Thailand** Local Initiative reported over 50 websites (half IDNs) are now UA-ready; Tuk Tuk Mail supports Thai email

UA Ambassadors Updates



Updates from UA Ambassadors

In 2024, [18 UA Ambassadors](#) from 10 countries volunteered their time to conduct appx. 40 local UA activities and supported 25 UA Day events. Key stakeholders from academia, government, big tech organizations and civil society were engaged in discussions and training about UA and EAI at major forums. Some of the key activities were:

- * **Senegal:** The School of West Africa Internet Governance Forum (WAIGF) 2024 Dakar
- * **Bolivia:** Internet Day. **Chile:** UA implementation strategy at Universidad Católica del Norte.
- * **China-Africa** Digital Capacity Building Cooperation Forum. **China** Education and Research Computer Network CERNET. Coremail. China Internet Network Information Center (CNNIC).
- * **India:** Bhashantara 2023. NASSCOM. Startup Community Forum.
- * **Nigeria:** Nigerian Communications Commission, AFRALO and Green ICTi
- * **Türkiye:** HCI-E (Eurasian Conference on Human Computer Interaction) accepted the abstract
- * **Zambia:** Internet Society Zambia Chapter

Get Involved!

Follow, share, like and engage with the UASG on social media.

Use the UASG hashtag in relevant posts: [#Internet4All](#)

X: [@UASGTech](#)

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/uasgtech/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/uasgtech/>

Join the UA Discuss email alias: <https://uasg.tech/subscribe>

Report a problem if you find an application or webpage that is not UA-ready:
<https://uasg.tech/global-support-center/>

For more information, visit <https://uasg.tech> or email info@uasg.tech

ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC) Update

Abdalmonem Galila, UAC Chair | مصر.

ICANN81 | November 2024

Purpose ccNSO UA Committee (UAC)



Focus on topics related to UA and
IDNs



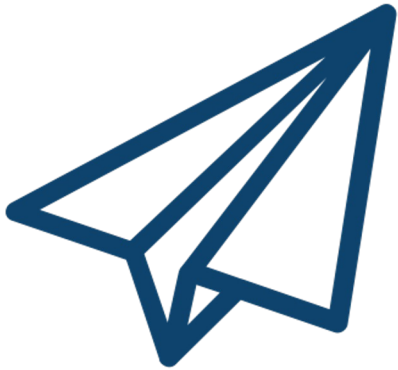
Share information by and for
ccTLDs



Liaise with other groups under the
ICANN umbrella

ccNSO UAC: Ongoing and Future plans

Universal Acceptance Day 2025
e.g. Sept '24 webinar on past and future
UA Day events, by and for ccTLDs



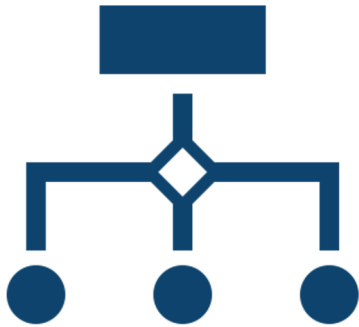
Outreach to ccTLD managers globally, to increase awareness about UAC and its activities.



Implementing the UAC work plan



Assisting in organizing sessions on UA readiness and practices during ICANN public meetings. (e.g. Tech Day, ccNSO Members Meetings)



Liaising with other relevant ICANN groups (e.g. UASG, GAC IDN WG, Board IDN/UA WG)



Managing an e-mail list for all ccTLDs interested in UA, IDNs and EAI, as a platform for information exchange

Go-to resources for ccTLDs

Mailing list

- **WHAT IS THIS?** | stay informed about UA events and updates and share your experiences with other subscribers.
Open to all persons associated with a ccTLD - whether ASCII or IDN - with an interest in universal acceptance and IDNs.
- **SEE & SUBSCRIBE** | <https://community.icann.org/x/gYFREw>



Library

- **WHAT IS THIS?** | a vetted list of resources for ccTLDs on UA, Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs) and Email Address Internationalisation (EAI) for ccTLDs. Includes: link to tools, articles, reports and more. It is accessible to all.
- **HAVE A LOOK & SUBMIT CONTENT** | <https://community.icann.org/x/UIAvEQ>



Interested in UA and/or UAC?

1

Become a UAC member

Join the ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee and be an active part of this effort. The committee is open to ccTLD representatives globally.

ccnsoscretariat@icann.org

2

Use the UAC library

Consult the library and/or suggest content to be included.

<https://community.icann.org/x/UoAvEQ>

3

Stay informed

Subscribe to the dedicated ccNSO UA email list.

<https://community.icann.org/x/gYFREw>

Thank you



Abdalmonem Galila

ccNSO UAC Chair | مصر.



Regina Fuchsová

ccNSO UAC Vice Chair | .eu, .eu and .eu

ICANN | ccNSO

Country Code Names Supporting Organization

Overview

- ⦿ UA remediation, training updates and plans by ICANN org – Arnt Gulbrandsen
- ⦿ UA-readiness of systems at ICANN org – Neelam Kumar

UA Remediation and Training

Status and Plans

Arnt Gulbrandsen
UA Technology Senior Manager

ICANN81 Prep Week
30 October 2024



Overview

- ◉ Strategy:
 - Outreach to influential software companies
 - Contributions to key components
 - Training
- ◉ Current focus – Content Management Systems (CMSs):
 - Evaluation and testing of five mostly major CMSs.
 - Code contribution relating to three of them (or four?)
 - After this, we may move on to webcommerce CMS addons.

UA Problems in Content Management Systems

- ⦿ Urgent: Problems that affect current sites.
- ⦿ Ability to use IDNs at all and serve the right language.
- ⦿ Allowing customer/user signups from all email addresses.
- ⦿ Less urgent: Problems that affect potential new sites.
- ⦿ Generating links that suit the audience:
 - shop.example.com/**forgot-password**
 - shop.example.com/products/**fidgetizer**

Why Did We Choose These CMSs?

- ◉ Five factors:
 - Wide usage: Will fixing this have a large effect?
 - Influence: Will fixing this make others want to fix their competitors?
 - Effort required: Does it seem easy to establish contact?
 - Help from others: Has someone outside ICANN offered to help?
 - Special cases: Software can matter for other reasons.
- ◉ All these factors are fuzzy, can be estimated or guessed.
- ◉ No single factor is decisive, no single factor is most important.

Code Contributions (Partial List)

- ◉ Egulias Email Validator (accepted):
 - Used during signup to check email addresses.
- ◉ Symfony (accepted, being released):
 - Used by two tested CMSes to send mail.
- ◉ PHPMailer (still being processed):
 - Used by one tested CMS to send mail.
- ◉ net-smtp (accepted, released):
 - Used by one tested CMS to send mail.
- ◉ Wordpress (still in testing).

- ⦿ Five CMSs picked for investigation and work:
 - One will become UA-ready for existing sites.
 - Another is still in testing.
 - Two more are mixed (some problems solved, not all).
- ⦿ All have remaining problems for potential new sites.
 - Links may mix scripts: मेरी.दूकान.भारत/खरीदिये/fidgetizer
 - Bad for SEO and for cut-and-paste.
- ⦿ This work affects >1000 of the world's top 10,000 sites.

Universal Acceptance-Readiness

UPDATES & NEXT STEPS

Neelam Kumar
Project Manager ||
ICANN – Engineering & IT, Los Angeles

ICANN81 Prep Week
30 Oct 2024



Background

Per ICANN's FY24-28 Operating & Fiscal Planning document, a 3-phased approach was devised to achieve UA-readiness:

- Phase 1 - Support of short and long ASCII domains **(Completed)**
- Phase 2 - Support of IDNs in both Unicode and ASCII forms **(Completed)**
- Phase 3 - Support of Email Address Internationalization (EAI) **(In process)**
 - 3a. Gap Analysis of all ICANN products that need to be UA-ready **(Completed)**
 - 3b. Implementation of UA-readiness for products identified in the Gap Analysis **(In process)**

Current Status

Work is ongoing to ensure all pertinent ICANN internal systems are fully UA-ready.

- To date, 235 of 257 are UA-ready.
- **ICANN Account IDN support** User Identity Access: single sign-on capability **(In process)**
 - i. **Alert Proxy** – Development is completed and testing is in progress **(In process)**
 - ii. **Mailman** – Outgoing distribution list email processing: Related to Proofpoint - pending vendor approval **(In process)**
- **Proofpoint** – ICANN staff can now send emails to and receive emails from internationalized email addresses **(Completed)**
- **Postfix** – Outgoing mail process: Related to Proofpoint **(Completed)**
- Working closely with UA Program Team to align E&IT ICANN org UA-ready **(In process)**
- **Communication with Vendors** – Working closely with third party vendors to update their services to make them UA-ready **(In Process)**

Engage with ICANN



Thank You and Questions

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