



82 | COMMUNITY
FORUM

SSAC Information Session

Project Updates and Priority Insights for the ICANN Community

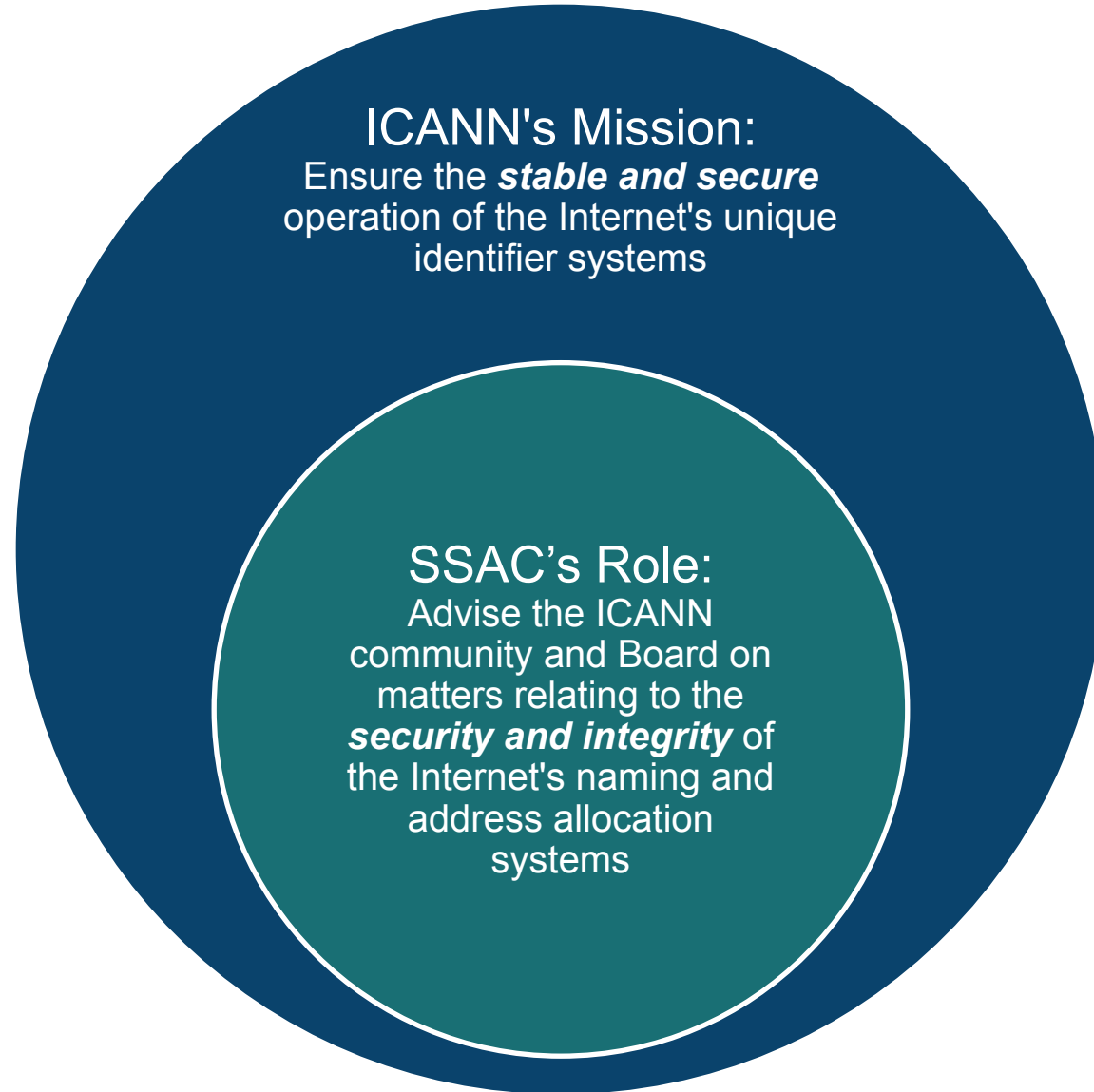


Agenda

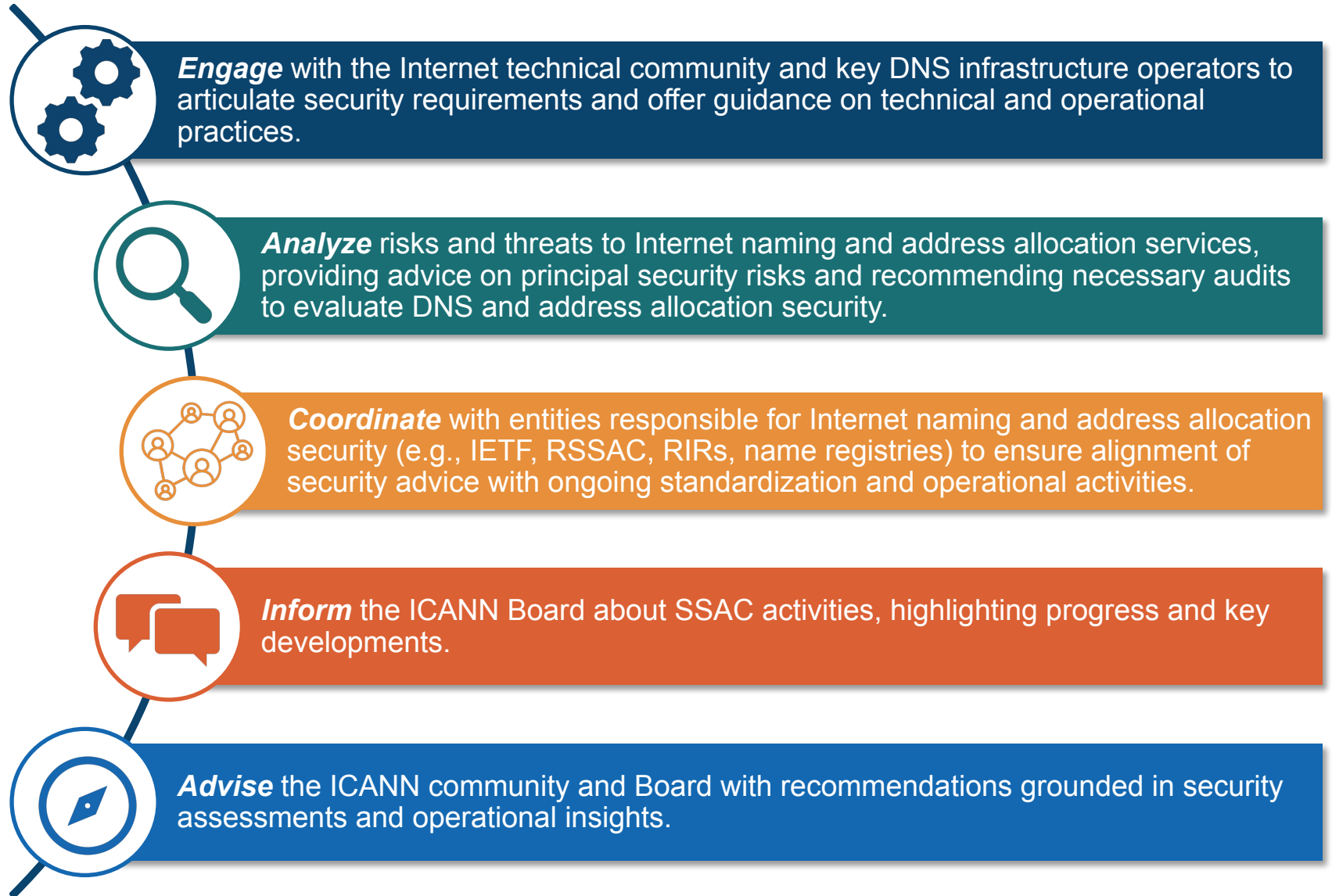
- SSAC Overview
- SSAC Plans for 2025
- Work Party Update: DNS Blocking Revisited
- Work Party Update: Free and Open-Source Software
- New Work Party Introduction: Responsible Integration into the DNS Ecosystem
- Summary

SSAC Overview

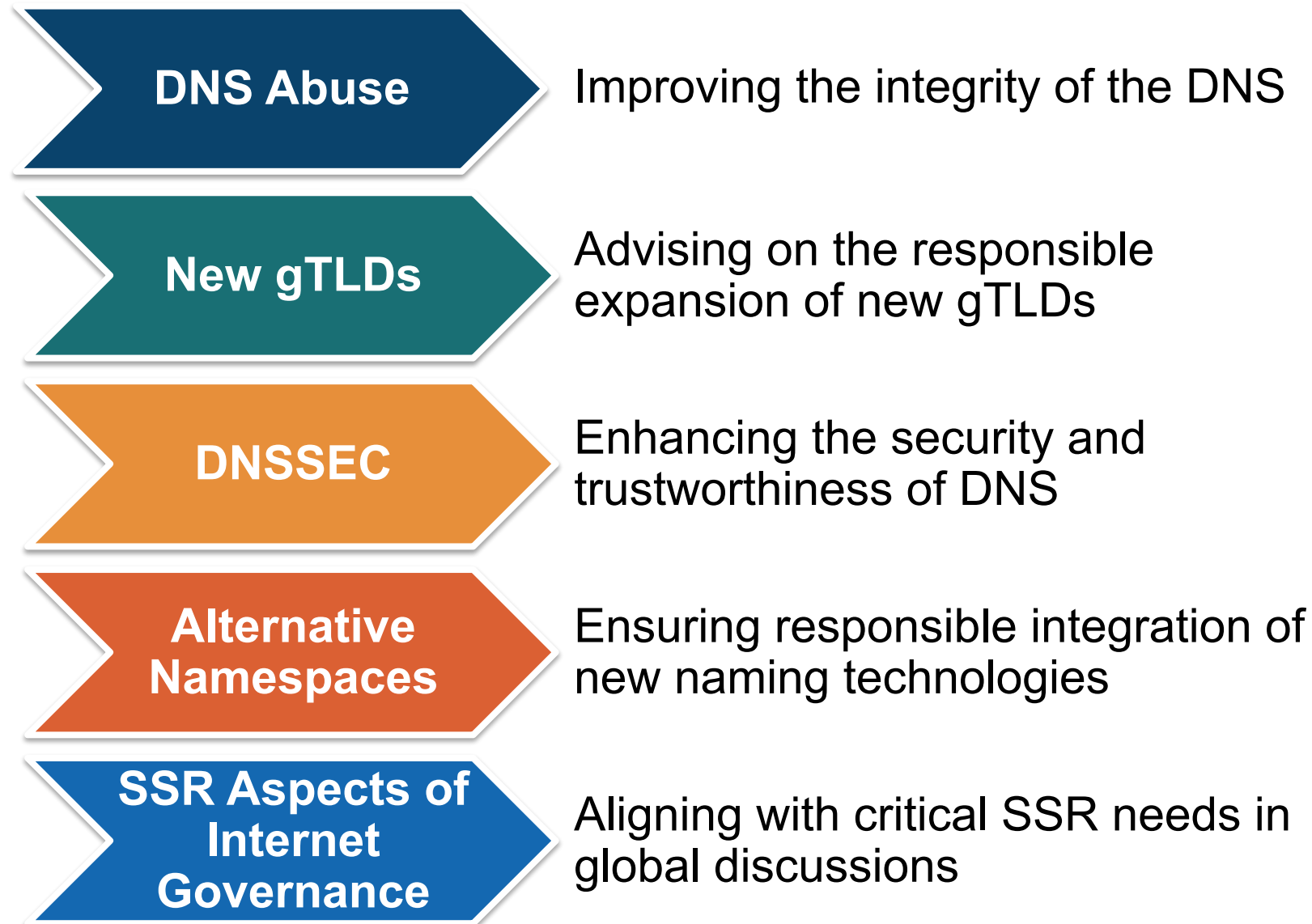
Ram Mohan



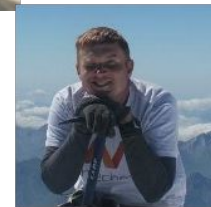
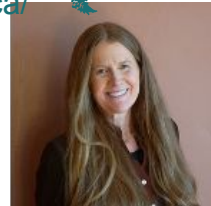
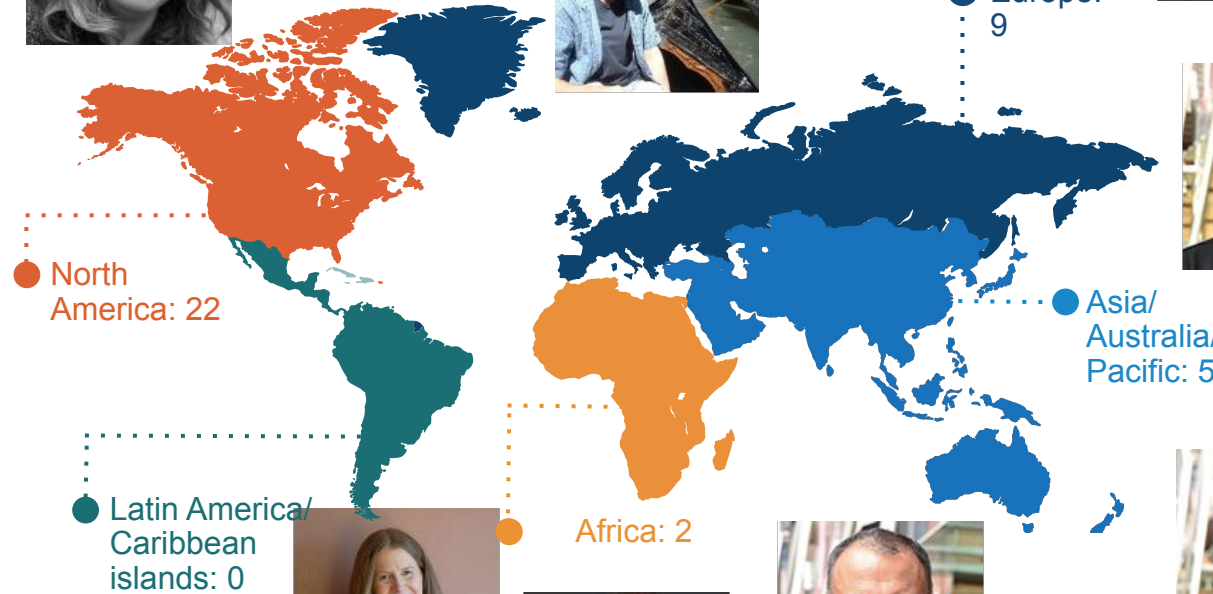
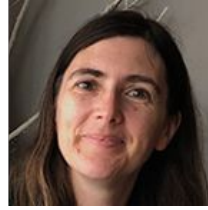
SSAC's Responsibilities



Our Focus on “Keystone” Security, Stability, and Resilience (SSR) Issues



Who We Are



The SSAC Leadership Team (2024-2026)



Chair

Ram Mohan



Vice Chair

Tara Whalen



ICANN Board Liaison

James Galvin



Leadership Team

Jeffrey Bedser



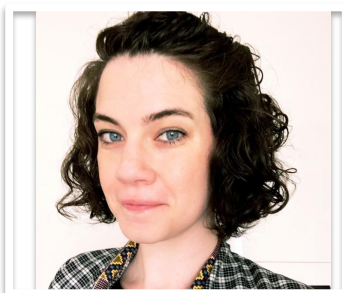
Leadership Team

Barry Leiba



Policy Support Staff

Carlos Reyes



Policy Support Staff

Danielle Rutherford



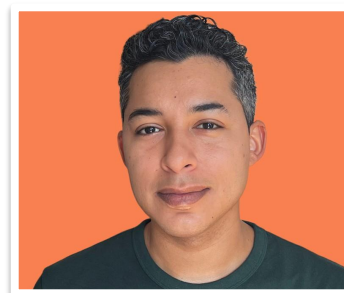
Policy Support Staff

Kathy Schnitt



Policy Support Staff

John Emery



Policy Support Staff

Michael Puckett

Collective Skillset: Registry, DNS Operations, Privacy, Human Computer Interaction, Technical Standards, Risk Management, DNSSEC, Cryptography, DNS Abuse, Threat Intelligence, Internet messaging, Cybersecurity, Executive Leadership, Strategy, Public Policy, Data Analysis

SSAC Plans for 2025

Ram Mohan

Our Strategic Goals: 2024-2026



**Enhance the
quality and
relevance of
SSAC advice**



**Strengthen
SSAC's voice
on Crucial
Topics**



**Boost
Engagement of
Existing
Members**



**Support
Member's
Expertise
Expansion**



**Streamline Work
Processes and
Timely Report
Generation**



**Enhance
Diversity in
SSAC
membership**

Strategy ➔ Action: Community-facing plans for 2025

Enhance Quality and Relevance of SSAC Advice

Publish reports on DNS Blocking, Free & Open-Source Software in the DNS

Launch new work parties : Responsible integration of new technologies in the DNS, DNSSEC Assessment

Direct outreach to SO/ACs for feedback

Strengthen SSAC's Voice on Crucial Topics

Implementing new outreach & communication strategies

Improving accessibility and discoverability of past SSAC reports

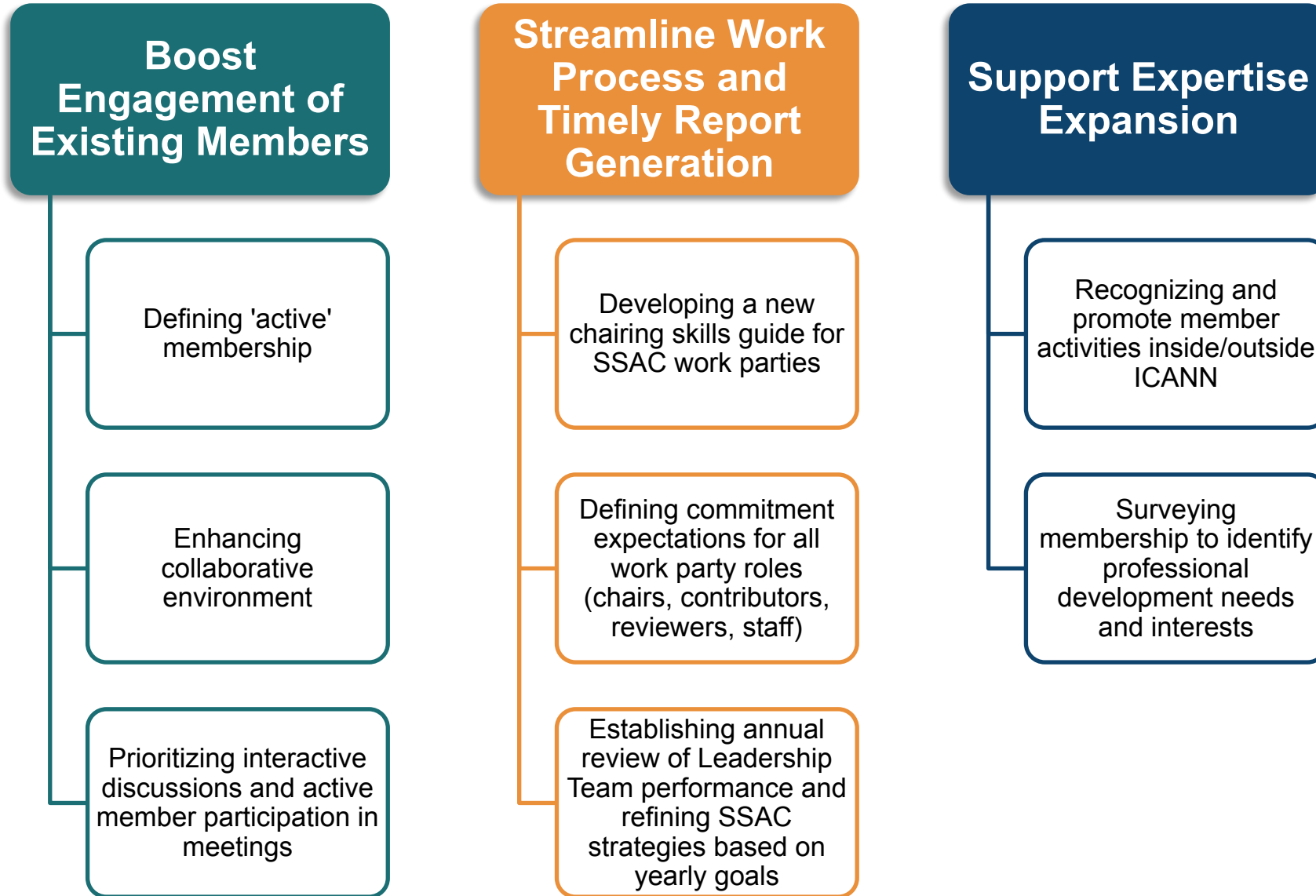
Expanding SSAC's presence at industry events & conferences

Enhance Diversity

Building on 2024 successes (new members, open meetings/workshop)

Recruitment focus: Latin America/Caribbean/South America.

Strategy ➔ Action: Internal improvement plans for 2025

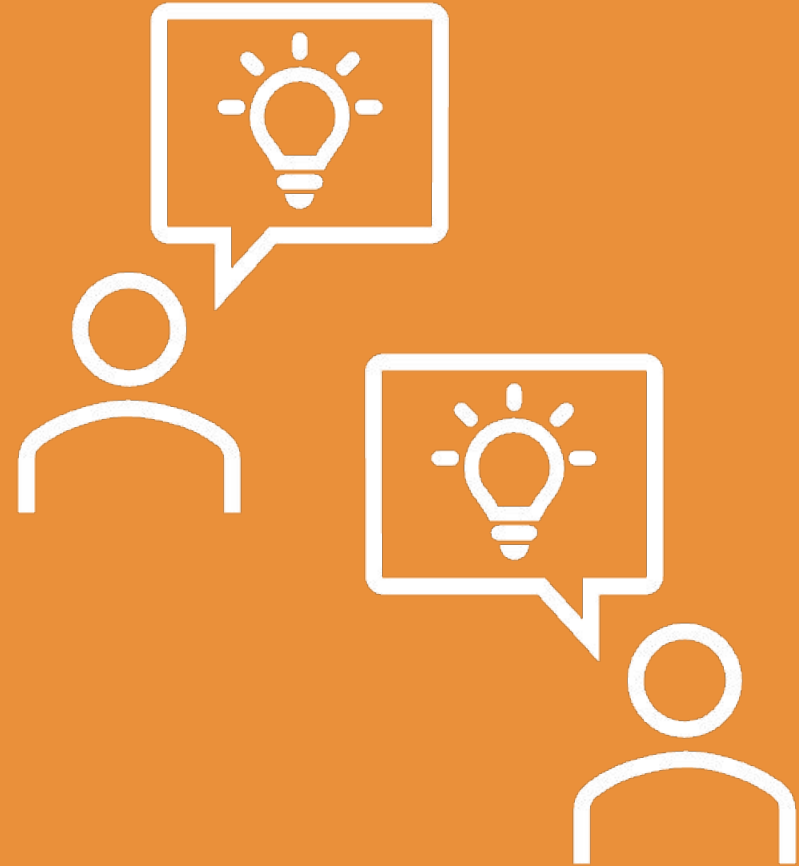


Have Questions About DNS Security & Stability?

Come to the SSAC Open Mic session!

Ask about:

- Current SSAC Work Parties
 - SSAC Reports and Recommendations
 - SSAC Membership
 - ...and any other SSAC-related topic!
- ***Wednesday, Block 2***
Room: Elwha A



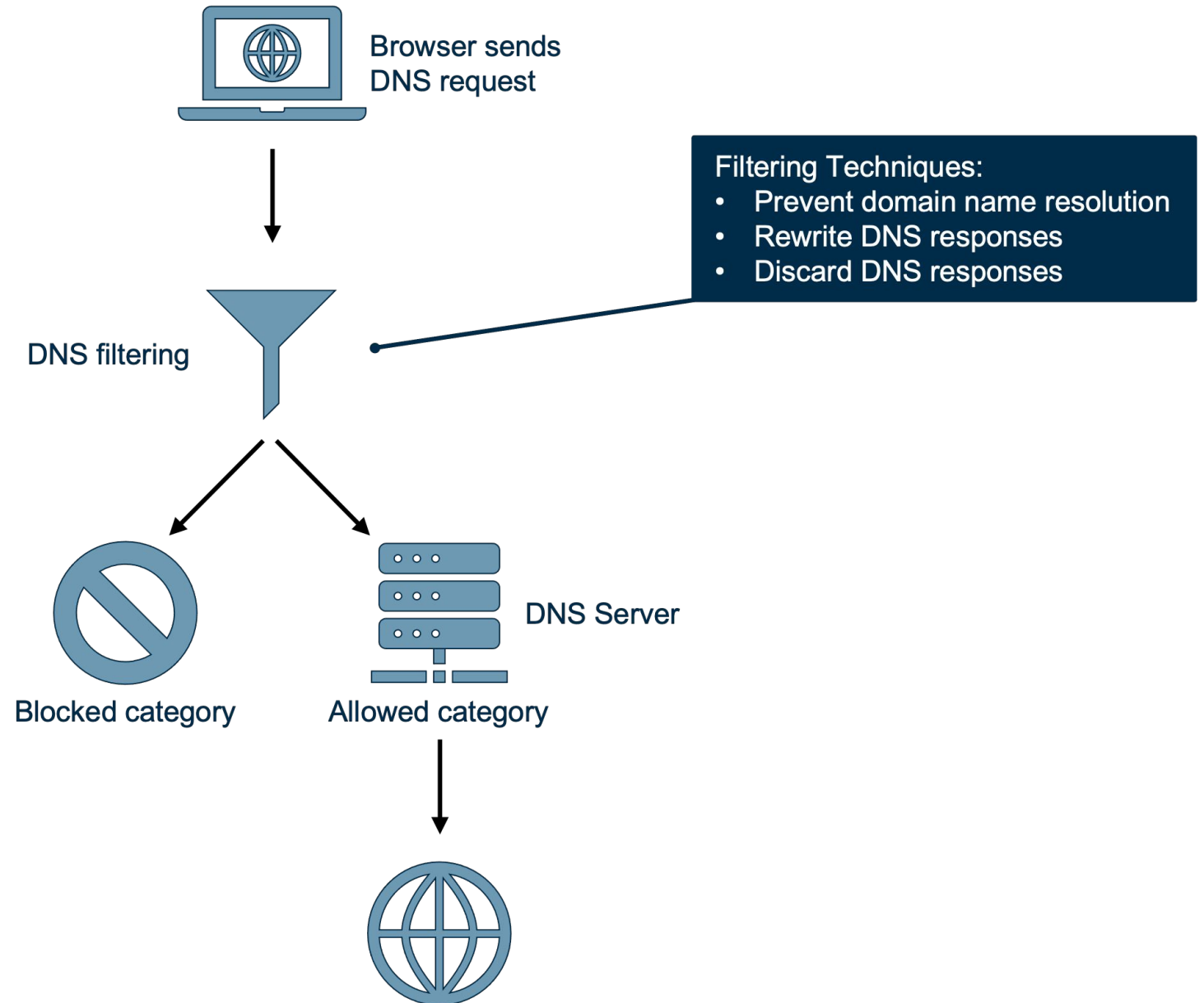
Work Party: DNS Blocking Revisited

Greg Aaron

What is DNS Blocking?

DNS blocking restricts access to domain names and the content or services associated with them, either by:

- blocking the queries
- redirecting them to a different destination



Focus of DNS Blocking Work Party

- Technical means by which DNS blocking can be accomplished
- Effects of DNS blocking methods—both intended & unintended
- Limitations of DNS blocking methods

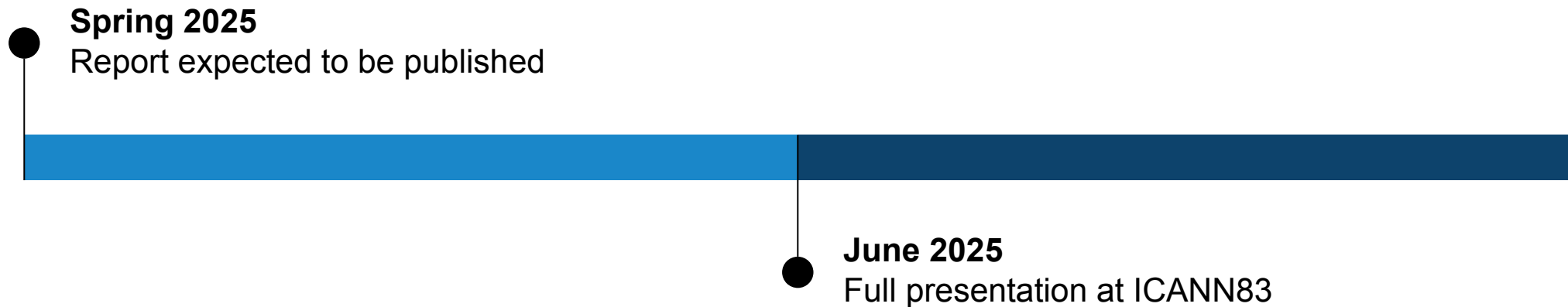
Audiences:

- Policy-makers
- Government officials
- Any entity using, subject to, or mandating DNS blocking

What to Expect

The DNS blocking report will include:

- Why people use DNS blocking (purposes)
- Technical methods, including circumvention
- Case studies
- No formal recommendations to the ICANN Board



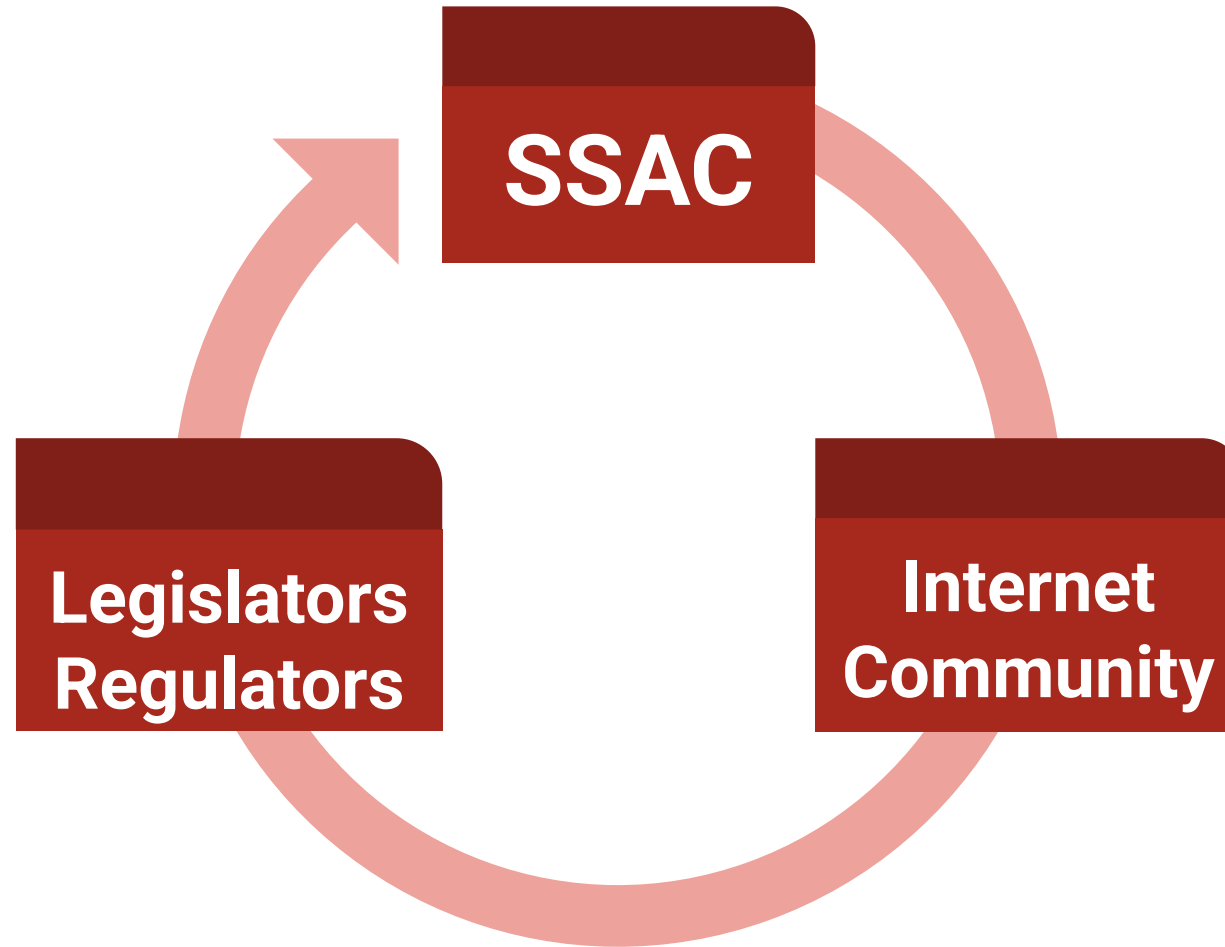
Work Party: Free and Open-Source Software (FOSS)

Maarten Aertsen

Recognizing Unique Characteristics of FOSS for Effective Policy

- DNS relies heavily on software created and maintained through Free and Open-Source development practices
- FOSS has unique development and governance characteristics compared to proprietary software
- **Growing Concern:** new software liability and security regulations are being developed without fully *understanding* and *considering* the FOSS model
 - Misunderstandings about FOSS can lead to policies/regulations that inadvertently weaken the DNS infrastructure
- **Objectives:**
 - (1) Make visible the critical reliance on FOSS in the DNS
 - (2) Equip policymakers with the knowledge necessary to avoid policies/regulations that could unintentionally harm the FOSS ecosystem and, consequently, the DNS

Target Audiences



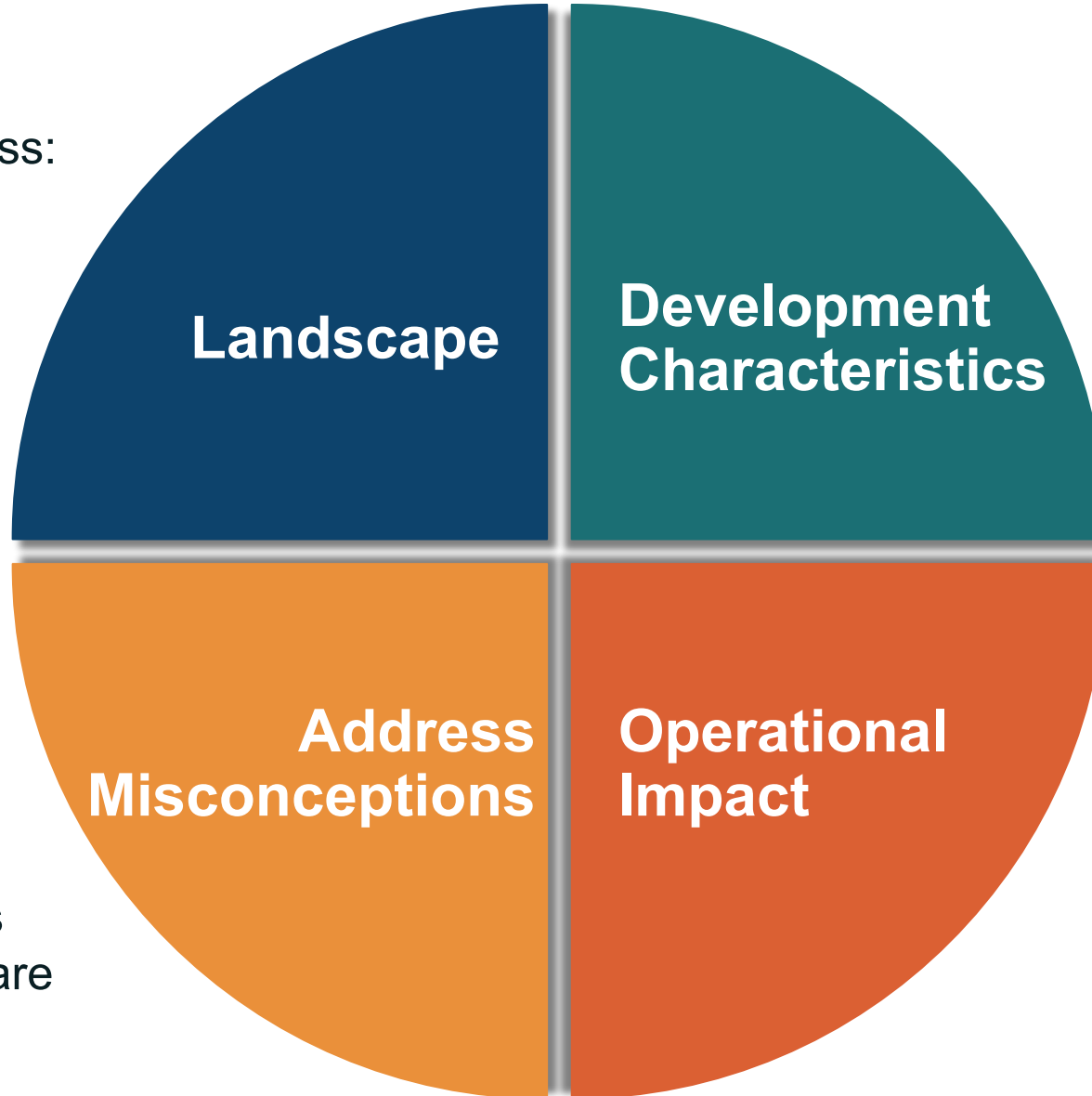
Key Areas of Investigation

Map FOSS usage across:

- Authoritative nameservers
- Recursive resolvers
- Domain registration

Examples:

- FOSS is less secure
- FOSS has clear legal responsibility and contractual structures like proprietary software



Describe the unique attributes of FOSS development that are relevant to DNS infrastructure software

Analyze how unique FOSS characteristics influence the evaluation and selection of software for DNS and related systems

Work Party: Responsible Integration into the DNS Ecosystem (RIDE)

Matt Thomas



Evolving DNS with Emerging Technology

- Emerging technology (blockchain, decentralized platforms, etc.) need to be cognizant of the domain name life cycle when integrating into the public global DNS.
- Past SSAC studies of new technology impact on DNS looked at:
 - Public Suffix Lists (PSL) & HTTP Strict Transport Security (HSTS)
 - SAC123: SSAC Report on the Evolution of Internet Name Resolution
- Integration into DNS must be risk-aware to prevent security & stability issues
 - New use cases for emerging tech will inform guidance for gTLD registrars and registry operators

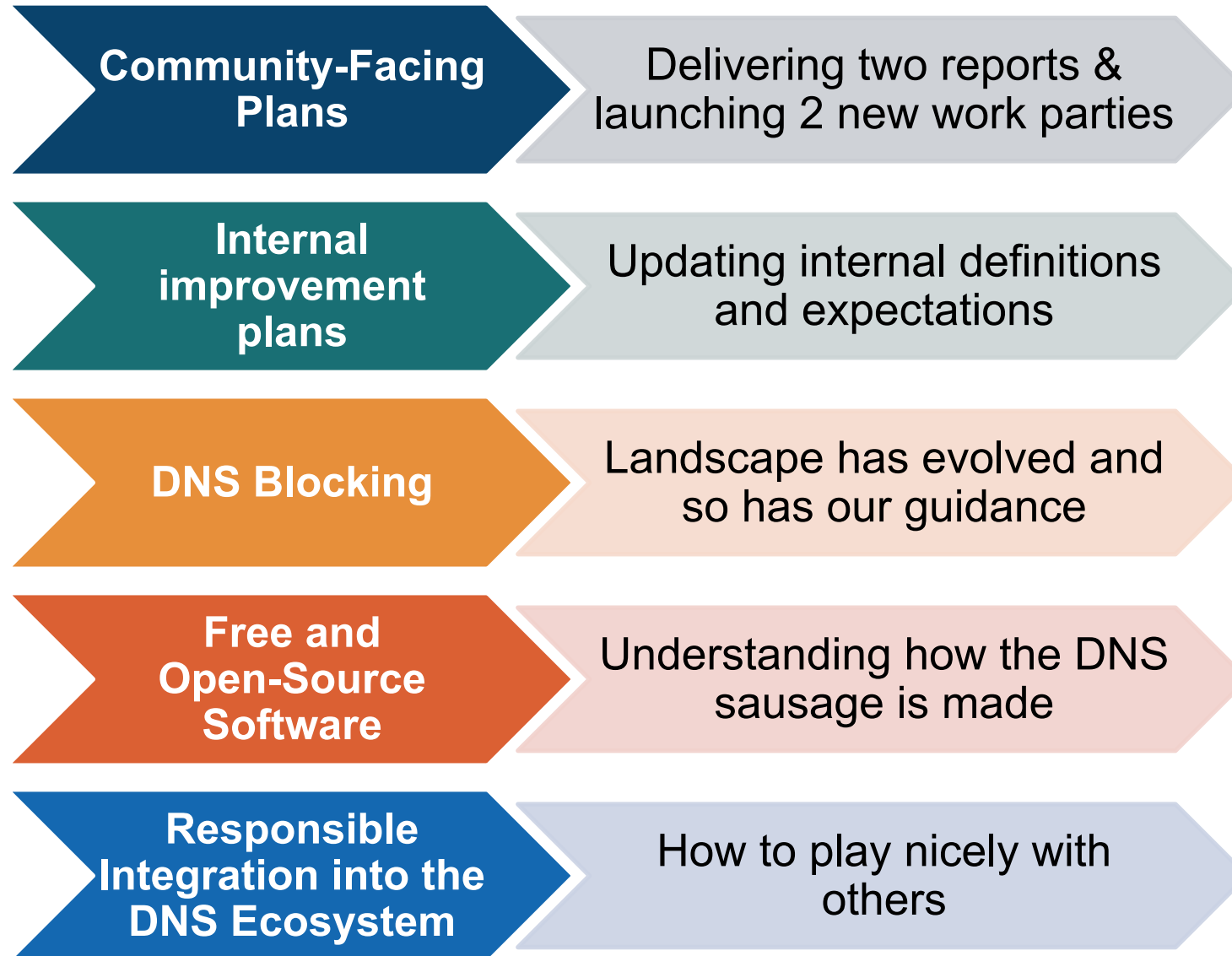
Potential Risks & Challenges

- Work party will pay special attention to issues related to:
 - Domain lifecycle management (e.g., registration, transfer, renewal, etc.)
 - Name collisions & conflicts
 - Security vulnerabilities
 - User confusion/mistrust
- SSAC to also focus on existing policies—
 - Do they address challenges of new integrations?
 - Are new policies or modifications to present policies required?

Summary

Ram Mohan

Summary



Questions?

