



# Report on IDN Study

New Delhi, India

Feb 13, 2008

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# SSAC IDN Study

To determine the impact of the introduction of IDNs at the top level (IDN TLDs) on the Security & Stability of the Domain Name System

The initial IDN Study was setup to answer questions about:

The impact on the DNS of the introduction of top-level IDNs:

- **Technical Security/Stability**
- **Policy Security/Stability**
- **Operational Security/Stability**
- Study growth, scaling and system-wide issues that are going to cause hiccups due to the introduction of IDNs
- Not our position to make policy, but to provide useful insight into what decisions might mean

# Focus Areas

1. Survey of current alternate IDN TLD systems
  - Review systems in:
    - Iran (IDN in Farsi)
    - Arab League (IDN in Arabic)
    - China (IDN in Chinese)
    - Israel (IDN in Hebrew)
  - Goal: Is there an impact on the DNS due to tweaks/changes to systems made as a result of alternate systems

# Focus Areas

2. Work with ICANN IDN Testbed to potentially conduct empirical tests
  - Removed areas of speculation (since actual testbed has laid to rest several security & stability question areas)
  - Determining answers to questions by trying them out live in the IDN “example” top levels
  - Conduct email (EAI) tests to determine potential issues with compatibility and stability

# Focus Areas

3. Study possible criteria for the evaluation of IDN top level domain applications
  - Create objective measures for the evaluation of IDN TLD applications
  - Specific focus on security & stability aspects

# Timelines

- Originally planned to complete in 2007
- Delayed due to protocol revision work and some internal reorganization
- Re-engaging in 2008 to achieve focus area goals



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