

# IDN Variant TLDs Program Update

*28 June 2012*



# Agenda

- Program Overview
  - Presentation of projects to be completed in 2012/13
  - Summary of follow on projects
  - Announce the team (staff and consultants) for each project
  - Call for volunteers for P2.1
  - Discussion and Questions
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- Update on P6
  - Discussion and Questions

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# Program Overview

*Dennis Jennings*



# Project Background



- IDN Variant Issues Project to facilitate the development of workable approaches to the deployment of IDN TLDs containing variant characters.
  - Initiated by a decision of the ICANN Board of Directors in 2010
  - Script case study teams developed issues reports
  - Integrated issues report completed Feb 2012



# Program Goals



- Define the processes that must be in place to enable the management of IDN variant TLDs

Note: Work is focused on exchangeable code point variants only



# Original Timeline (March 2012)

ICANN FY	FY12						FY13						FY14																
Calendar Year	CY12						CY12						CY13						CY14										
Month	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6
ICANN Mtg	43		44		45		46		47		48		49		50														

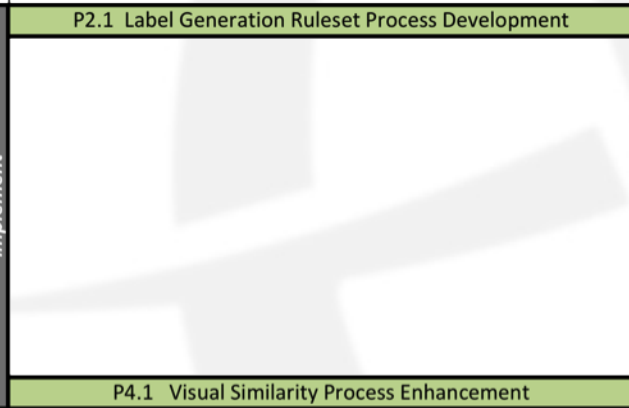
P1 Label Generation Ruleset Tool

P3 Whole-String Variants Feasibility Study

P5 Mirroring Variants Feasibility Study

P6 Variants with and without Mirroring, User Experience Study

Decision on Types of IDN Variant TLDs to implement



P4.1 Visual Similarity Process Enhancement

Decision to implement the IDN Variant TLDs processes

P2.2 Implement Label Generation Process for the Root

P4.2 Improved Visual Similarity Process Implementation

P7 Updates to ICANN's gTLD and ccTLD Programs

P8 Updates to ICANN and IANA Operations



# Feedback Received (1/2)



- Expanding the number of scripts
- Support for variant TLDs to minimize user confusion and fraudulent uses
- Prioritization of code point variants over whole-string variants
- Individual community needs
- Advantaging and disadvantaging script communities



# Feedback Received (2/2)



- Accommodate individual processes for different script communities
- Batching order and delegation of IDN variant TLDs
- Collaboration with technical and language communities
- Terminology





# Revised Project Plan



## Focus on issues in the critical path

- IDN table format tool (P1)
- IDN table creation and maintenance Process for the Root (P2.1)
- User experience with Active Variants (P6)

## Reprioritize other projects



# Revised Timeline (June 2012)

ICANN FY	FY12												FY13						FY14											
Calendar Year	CY12						CY12						CY13						CY13						CY14					
Month	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	
ICANN Mtg	43			44			45			46			47			48			49			50								

P1 IDN Tables Format

P2.1 Process for IDN Table Creation and Maintenance for the Root

P6 User Experience for active Variants

Approval of agreed IDN Table Creation and Maintenance process for the Root



P2.2 Implementation of Root IDN Tables Process



P7 Updates to ICANN's gTLD and ccTLD Programs



P8 Updates to ICANN Operations

Px Planning for next phases



# Projects to be completed in FY2013

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# Project 1: IDN Table Format Specification

Already ongoing;  
Not dependent on  
having variants in  
the root



## Description:

Develop the specification for a standard tool for listing the allowed code points and the label generation rules, and for the generation of the corresponding variant labels, if any.

(Specifies an standard format for an IDN table)



# Project 2.1: Process for creating and maintaining IDN tables for the Root Root Zone

This project must be completed before any IDN variant TLDs may be implemented

## Project 2.1:

Determining the approach to developing the code point repertoire and the label generation process for the root zone.

Approaches and criteria that may permit some communities (e.g. those that use subsets of the code point repertoire and label generation ruleset for the root) to proceed more rapidly than other communities are likely to be investigated.



# Project 2.1 Proposed Milestones



Jul 2012: Publish strawman proposal

Aug 2012: 1<sup>st</sup> round of consultations with volunteers

Sep 2012 : Post draft process for public comment

Sep - Oct 2012: 2<sup>nd</sup> round of consultations with volunteers

Nov : Post revised draft process for public comment

March 2013: Publish Process



# Project 6: Examining the User Experience Implications of Active Variant TLDs

This project must be completed before any IDN variant TLDs may be implemented

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## Description:

Study the user experience implications when two or more IDN variant TLDs are activated (i.e., have resource records in the DNS)

## Expected Outcome:

Recommended rules or guidelines a TLD should operate under to provide an acceptable user experience with regard to variant TLDs, including appropriate policy or contractual provisions to make these rules effective

Creation of a useful reference for educating application developers and others affected by these changes

# Project 6 Proposed Milestones

Jun 2012: Publish study proposal & conduct first public consultation (Prague)

Jul - Aug 2012: Execute the study

Sep 2012 : Post draft report for public comment

Oct 2012: Conduct second public consultation (Toronto)

Nov - Dec 2012: Revise the report

Jan 2013: Publish Final Report

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# Follow on projects



- P2.2 Population of the IDN tables for the Root Zone
- P7 Updates to ICANN's gTLD and ccTLD Programs
- P8 Updates to ICANN Operations



# Identified Issues to be Addressed ... so far

- Atomicity of IDN variant TLD sets
- Conditions for delegating
- Evaluation requirements & fee
- Ongoing fees for registries and registrars
- Requirements for registries and registrars
- Whois output
- Rights Protection Mechanisms

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# Call for volunteers for developing the Root IDN Table Process (Project 2.1)

Seeking volunteers with expertise in:

- DNS
- IDNA
- Linguistics / Unicode

and with an understanding of ICANN's role and responsibilities, including in policy development

Responses should be sent by **13 July 2012**

<http://www.icann.org/en/news/announcements/announcement-18jun12-en.htm>



# Questions

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# Thank You

