



# **Africa Strategy 3 years on, Our Journey So far & Looking Ahead**

AFRNIC 23 , Pointe Noire - Congo | Dec 3, 2015

# Agenda

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About ICANN in Brief

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The Africa Strategy, 3 Years on

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Preparing the Foundation: Projects launched to date

4

Looking head to the new Africa Strategy 2016 – 2020, Cementing the gains

# What is ICANN?



**The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)** is a global multistakeholder, private sector-led organization that manages Internet resources for the public benefit

- ◎ ICANN coordinates the top-level of the Internet's system of unique identifiers via global, multistakeholder, bottom-up consensus policy processes, with the outcome of those processes implemented via the IANA Functions.

# What is the multistakeholder community?

“Stakeholder” refers broadly to anyone who has an interest in the Internet

Within ICANN, stakeholders include:



Large and  
small  
businesses



Technical  
community



Civil society



Governments



Researchers  
and academics

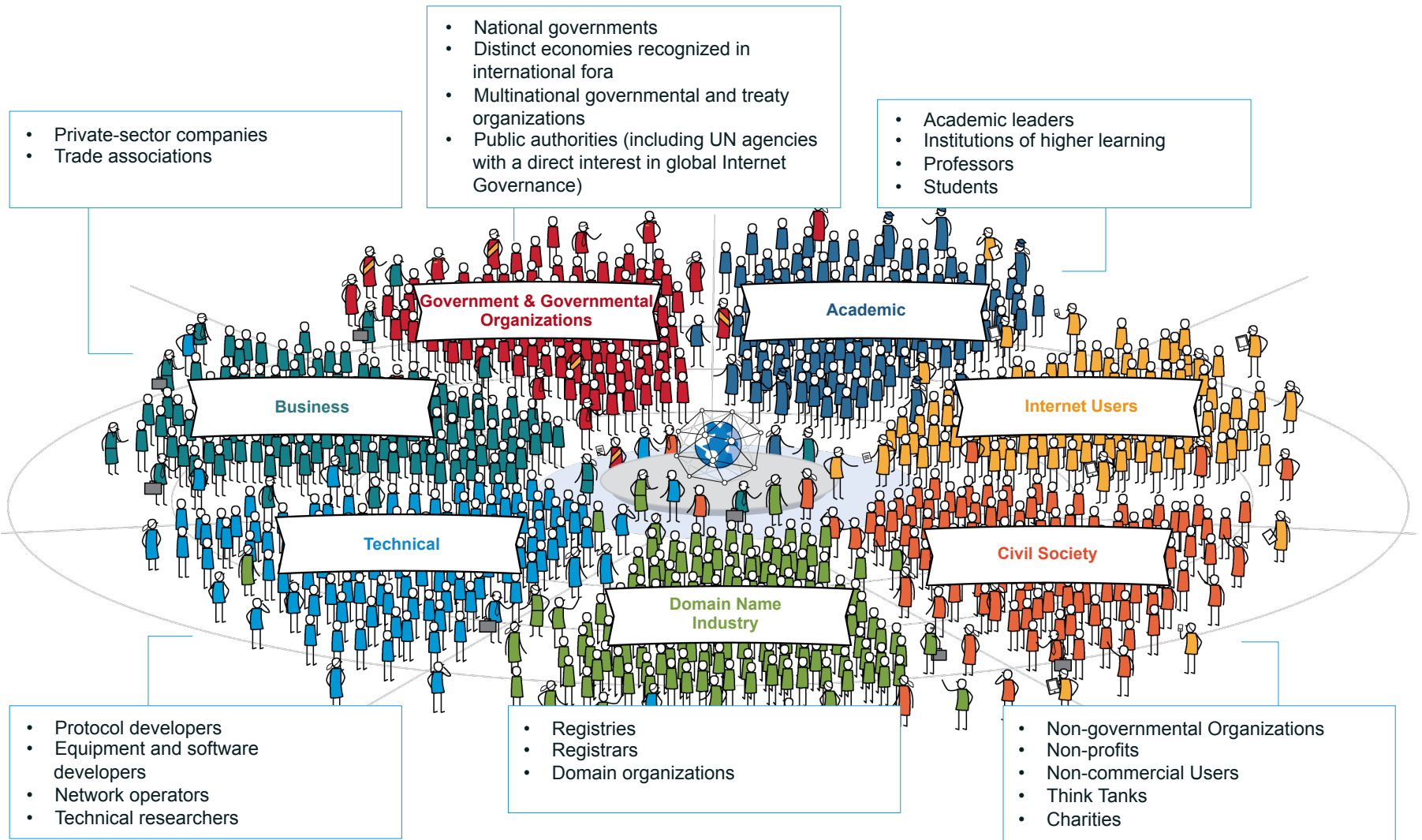


End users

The multistakeholder community functions on bottom-up consensus building which, by design, is resistant to capture due to the openness, diversity and equal division of authority among participants

ICANN’s private sector-led multi-stakeholder community supports the success of the Internet’s DNS

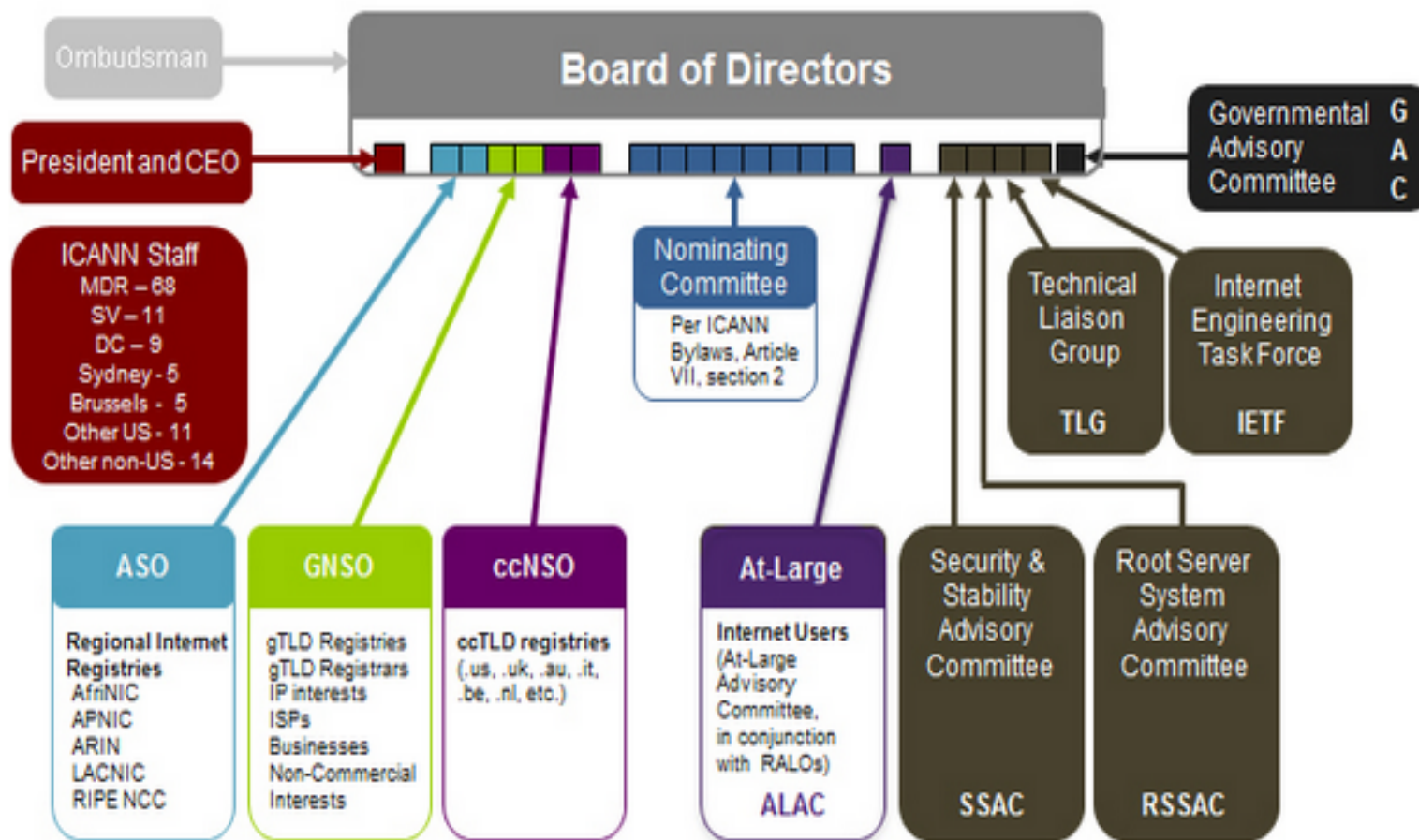
# ICANN's Global Multistakeholder





# ICANN Multi-stakeholder Model

## ICANN Multi-Stakeholder Model



# Our Africa Strategy turns 3...



1

Started with a 9 Member WG (ASWG) in 2012

2

Later Conceived the Africa Strategy 2012 - 2015



3

Today; after 3 Years & over 10 ICANN meetings, we reflect on our journey as we get ready for the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase 2016 – 2020. We are in Africa to stay

# Our Overarching Objective

**In Summary, the Africa Strategy seeks to achieve 2 major objectives :**

**Transform the DNS & Internet Industry in Africa by**  
Facilitating capacity development and Cultivate an environment for the emergence of an Africa grown domain name industry and

**Promote Awareness and Meaningful Participation in ICANN and the wider IG Ecosystem by Africa in**  
partnership with other I\* and Af\* Organizations.

Looking back over the last 3 years and as we begin a new season of the Africa Strategy, we are confident that we, working with our community, have laid a strong foundation for ICANN in Africa.



# Africa has been a pioneer of ideas

- 1 The 1<sup>st</sup> Regional Strategic Plan in ICANN
- 2 Concept of the DNS forum (1<sup>st</sup> held in Durban, ICANN 47)
- 3 Launch of the Africa DNS Awards
- 4 We have held Premier Topical Workshops
- 5 Africa DNS Market Study
- 6 DNSSEC Roadshows
- 7 Special IANA Awareness Campaign in April – June 2015
- 8 Digital Entrepreneurship Programme...
- 9 DNS Business Exchange Program (April 2015)...

# Key Highlights and projects for FY16

Digital Entrepreneurship Project	We have finally launched this project in Kigali Rwanda with 3 more countries planned before end of 2015. We target at least 10 countries across Africa by end of June 2016
Road to Marrakech	We are putting together a number of events ahead of ICANN 55 including Africa DNS Forum 2016, DNS Award and plan to sign 2 MoU's (with Government of Rwanda and ECOWAS) in addition to HLM by GAC
DNSSEC Roadshows	Our flagship project on DNSSEC continues with plans for Ghana, Benin, Egypt, Mauritius, Togo and Morocco. ( Morocco is targeted before ICANN 55)
IDN Workshop	Last week, here in Pointe Noire, we hosted an inaugural IDN Workshop and African Languages. Our next step is to form an African IDN working group to champion the African Language Scripts.
Webinars	We plan to host 2 Webinars one for Registrars in Africa on "How to become ICANN Accredited" and the other for GAC Reps by Dec 2015
Exchange Programme	We shall have 4 more interns visiting AFILIAS and AFNIC and another set planned for ZACR, in an intra-Africa Programme. We hope this will help expose our registrars to different experiences and learn from each other
Africa DNS Market - Study	We shall be launching a comprehensive study on the Africa DNS Market by Dec 2015

# Significant Gains in the last 3 Yrs

The Africa DNS Forum is now heading to the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition in Marrakech. Our partnership with AFTLD and ISOC plus the overwhelming support from sponsors has been very encouraging.

Following its success on Cotonou (2014), We shall host a 2ND topical workshop on Emerging Issues in the DNS Industry – Tentatively planned for May 2015 (We are inviting potential hosts)

We have seen more L-Root copies deployed in the last 2 years with Tanzania, Mauritius and Seychelles as the latest additions with more in the pipeline...

We recognize our registries who have succeeded in implementing DNSSEC (.TZ, .KE and .ZM) after benefiting from our DNSSEC Roadshow Programme

# Some perspectives looking ahead...

- + Deepen our Engagement with Private Sector (Business Community)
- + Deepen Engagement with governments and possibly more GAC reps
- + Seek Innovative funding mechanisms for the Africa Strategy (Better Partnerships)
- + Increase our communication channels with the community (More blogs, social media, Better website)
- + Work more closely with ccTLDs for DNSSEC implementation
- + Engage with the community for active participation in IDN working Groups
- + Promote DNS Entrepreneurship (Our Digital Entrepreneurship program ). We strongly believe that Africa has the potential to also partake in the ***Internet Economy*** on an equal footing, not just as a consumer.

# Our Challenges / Opportunities

- + Limited financial resources to cover all projects outlined in the Africa Strategy
- + Low participation from the community to global discussions
- + Language barriers for some community members
- + Lack of awareness in the local communities
- + Lack of broadband connectivity as well as high cost of connectivity to enable in increasing internet services especially domain names environment.
- + Low information sharing practices within the community



# Please Engage & Partner with us



## Thank You and Questions

Reach us at:

Email: [pierre.dandjinou@icann.org](mailto:pierre.dandjinou@icann.org)

Website: [www.icann.org](http://www.icann.org)



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