Asia and the Next Billion Internet Users

- 3 billion Internet users in the world

- Asia Internet penetration still low

- Asia - majority of next billion people coming online

Source: [www.internetworldstats.com](http://www.internetworldstats.com); Euromonitor
Context for IDN: A multilingual world with diverse writing systems/scripts

- More than 7000 living languages in the world
  - about 50% spoken in the Asia Pacific region
- Numerous writing systems/scripts (fewer than languages)
  - Examples: Han and Arabic
- IDNs meant to serve the online needs of a world that is diverse in languages and script
- IDNA Protocol developed by IETF in 2003
- IDN TLDs introduced into the Root Zone
  - IDN ccTLD in 2010
  - IDN gTLD in 2013
Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)

- IDN – Domain Names that can be represented in scripts, in addition to Latin, e.g. Chinese, Thai, Devanagari and Arabic

- IDNs enable opportunities for local communities to come online
ASCII and IDNs

www.cafe.com

Third Level Domain  Second Level Domain  Top Level Domain (TLD)

Syntax of ASCII TLD
Use only Letters [a-z]

Syntax of IDN TLD
U-Label, constrained by the “letter” principle

What is a “letter” in a script?
Are all “letters” unique in a script?

ตัวอย่าง-ไทย

IDN Second Level Domain  IDN Level Domain (TLD)

What is a “letter” in a script?
Are all “letters” unique in a script?
Overview of IDN Program at ICANN

- IDNs at Top Level
  - IDN TLD Program
    - Label Generation Rules (LGR)
    - LGR Toolset
    - IDN Variant TLD Implementation
  - IDN ccTLD Fast Track Process Implementation
- IDNs at Second Level for gTLDs
  - IDN Implementation Guidelines
  - Reference Second Level LGRs
- Community Outreach and Involvement
IDN Country Code Top-Level Domains

ccTLDs: 53 for 39*

* Successfully evaluated IDN ccTLDs for total countries and territories
IDN TLD Program: Label Generation Rules (LGR) for the Root Zone

- Need for community to determine valid and unique IDN Top Level Domains (TLDs)
- For each script or writing system, community to define:
  - Which code points are valid for use?
  - Are any of these code points variants of each other?
  - Are there any additional constraints on the labels?
Label Generation Rules (LGR)

- Valid code points
- Variants code points

- Label constraints
  - Cannot mix ٌک and ٌک in a label
Root Zone LGR Development Status

Label Generation Rules (LGR)

- 28+ Scripts
- 19+ Generation Panels

- Other:
  - Hebrew
  - Myanmar
  - Sinhala
  - Thaana

Maximal Starting Repertoire (MSR)
Root Zone LGR Procedure

- One Generation Panel per script or writing system

Generation Panel 1

Generation Panel 2

Generation Panel 3

Integration Panel

Rules
- Panel 1
- Panel 2
- Etcetera

http://....TLD

Etcetera
Coordination Challenges

- Some writing systems share the same script, so need to coordinate for variant sets
  - Chinese, Japanese, and Korean all use Han script

- Some writing systems have cross-script variant letters, so need to coordinate to identify them
  - Some letters among Khmer, Lao, and Thai look similar
  - Some letters among Armenian, Cyrillic, Greek, and Latin look the same as letters in other scripts in this set
How to get involved?

Volunteer for your script Generation Panel (GP)
To contribute expertise, contribute to the GP for your script. You can get involved by simply emailing your CV and a brief statement of interest to idntlds@icann.org

Review work through public comments
Sign up for the IDN mailing list vip@icann.org (to sign up, visit https://mm.icann.org/listinfo/vip) and participated in the review of IDN work being done at ICANN through the public comments

Keep yourself updated
Attend regular IDN Program Update sessions at ICANN meetings and sign up on the IDN mailing list vip@icann.org to get updates on the IDN Program at ICANN
Engage with ICANN

Thank You and Questions
Reach us at: IDNProgram@icann.org
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