How you can help shape the future of the Internet

Introduction to ICANN and Policy Development

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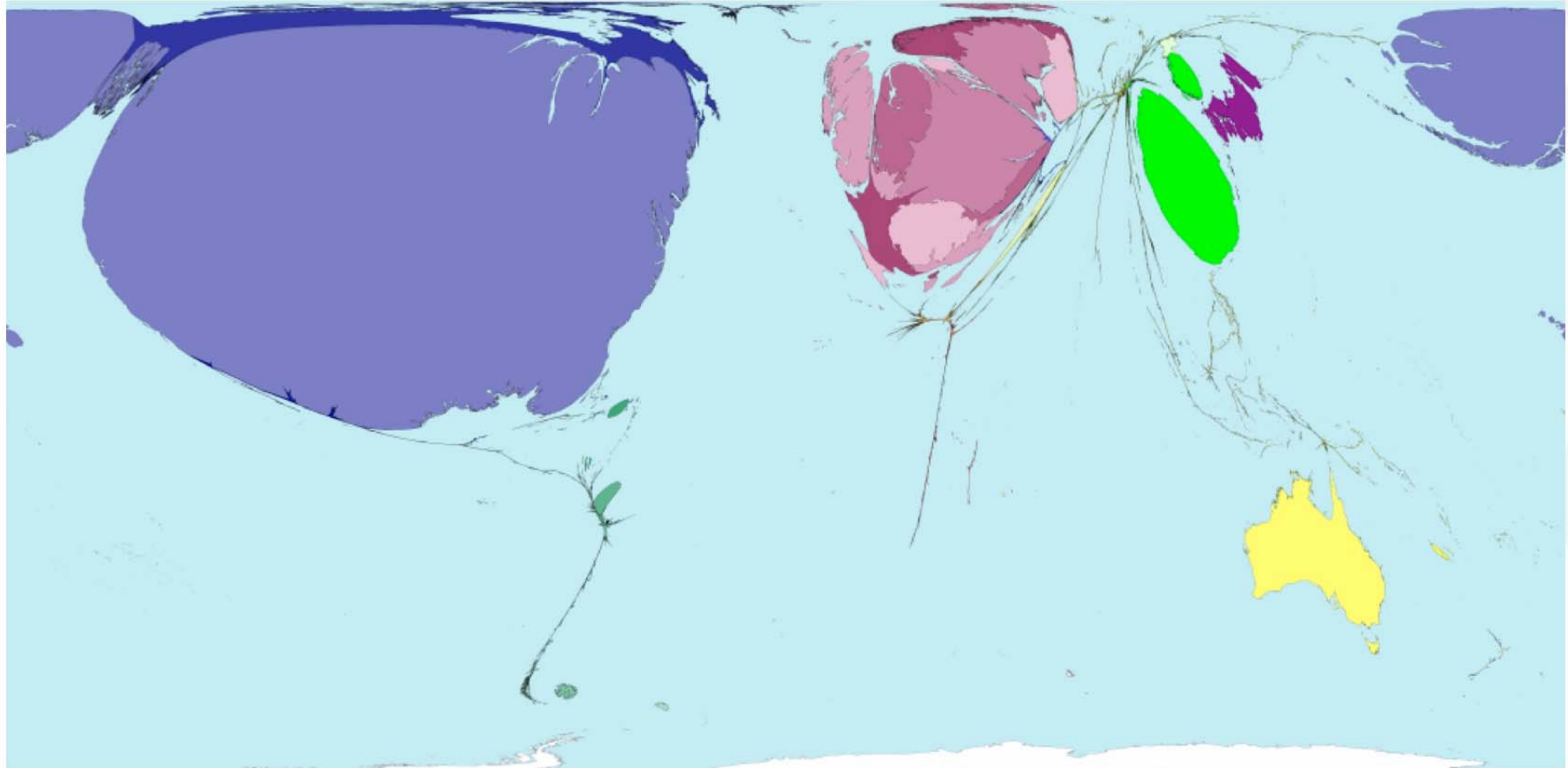
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Today's Objectives

Questions we hope to answer

- What is ICANN?

- How does policy development work, and who does what?

- Should I be involved?

- How can I take part?

- What are the hot topics?

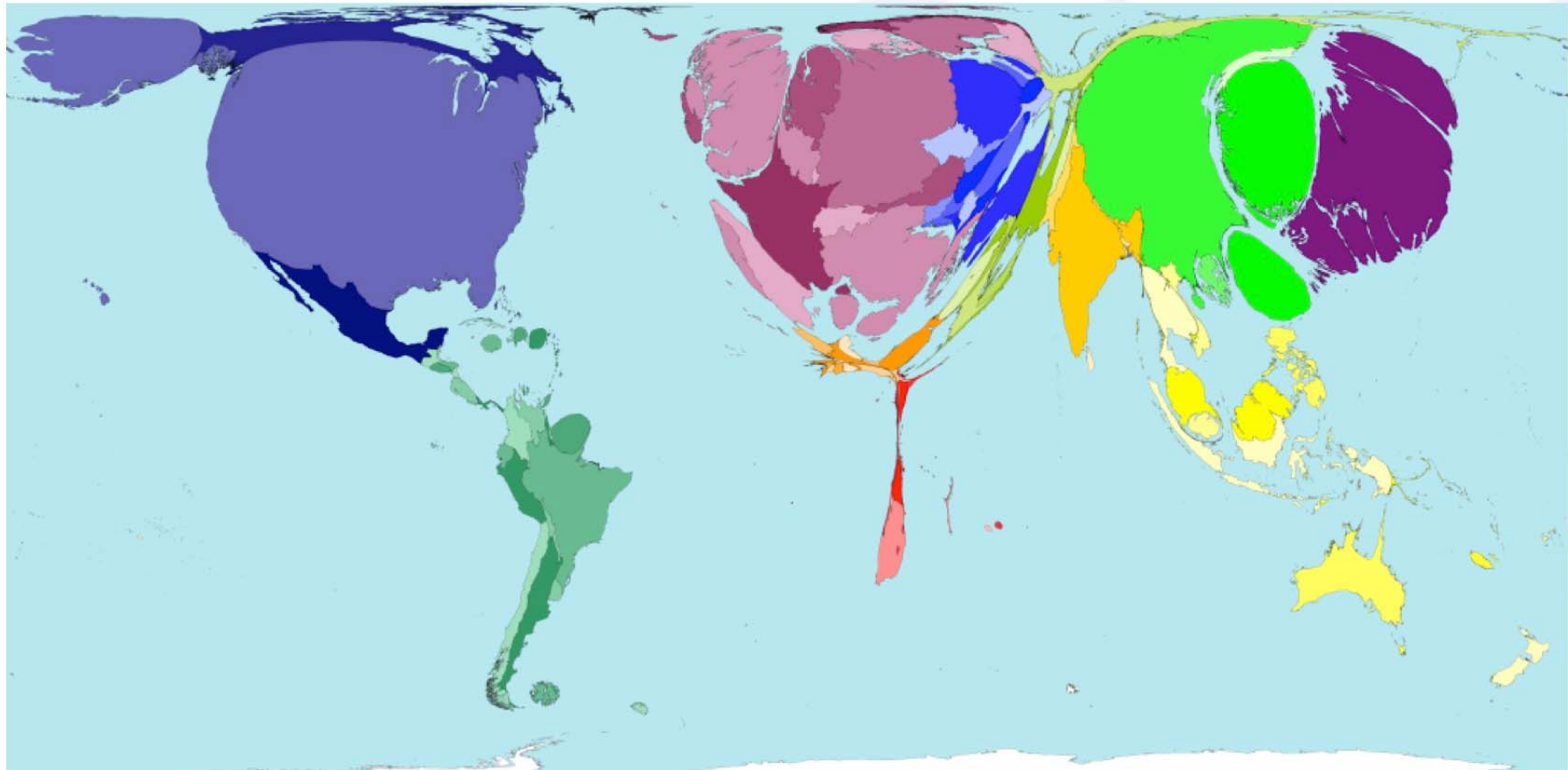One World

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Introduction to ICANN

Internet Users – Global Distribution 1990

Source: SASI at University of Sheffield
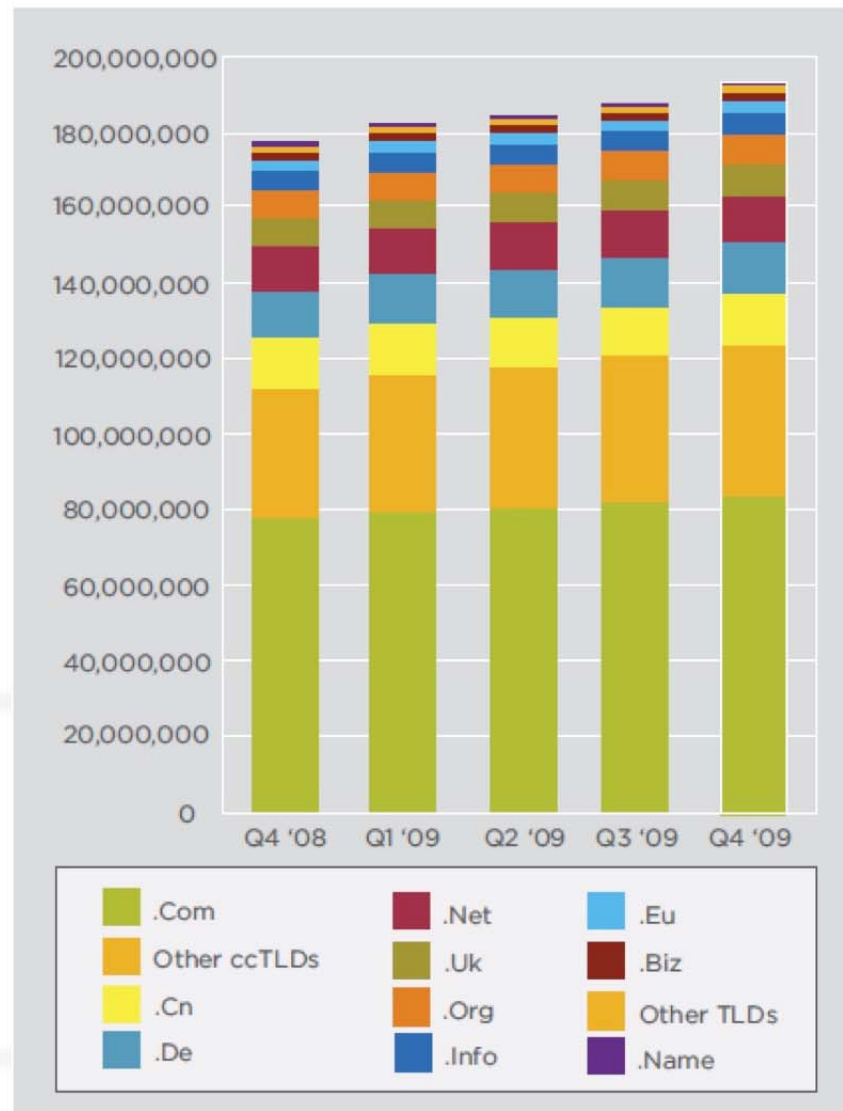
Internet Users – Global Distribution 2007

Source: SASI at University of Sheffield

More than **183 million** domain names registered globally today

Source: VeriSign Domain Name Industry Brief, Feb 2010

Total Domain Name Registrations

What is ICANN?

- Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
- We do:
  - "Names"; delegating Top-Level Domains
  - "Numbers"; allocating IP address blocks
  - "Parameters"; maintaining data bases on behalf of IETF
- …and develop related policies in bottom-up processes involving all stakeholders

What is ICANN?

- A multi-stakeholder,
- private sector led,
- bottom-up policy development model
- for DNS technical coordination
- that acts for the benefit of global Internet users.

AFFIRMATION OF COMMITMENTS BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND THE INTERNET CORPORATION FOR ASSIGNED NAMES AND NUMBERS

30 September 2009

Operating Principles

- Help keep the unique identifiers system and root management stable and secure

- Promote competition among registrars and registries, and thus, promote choice for registrants

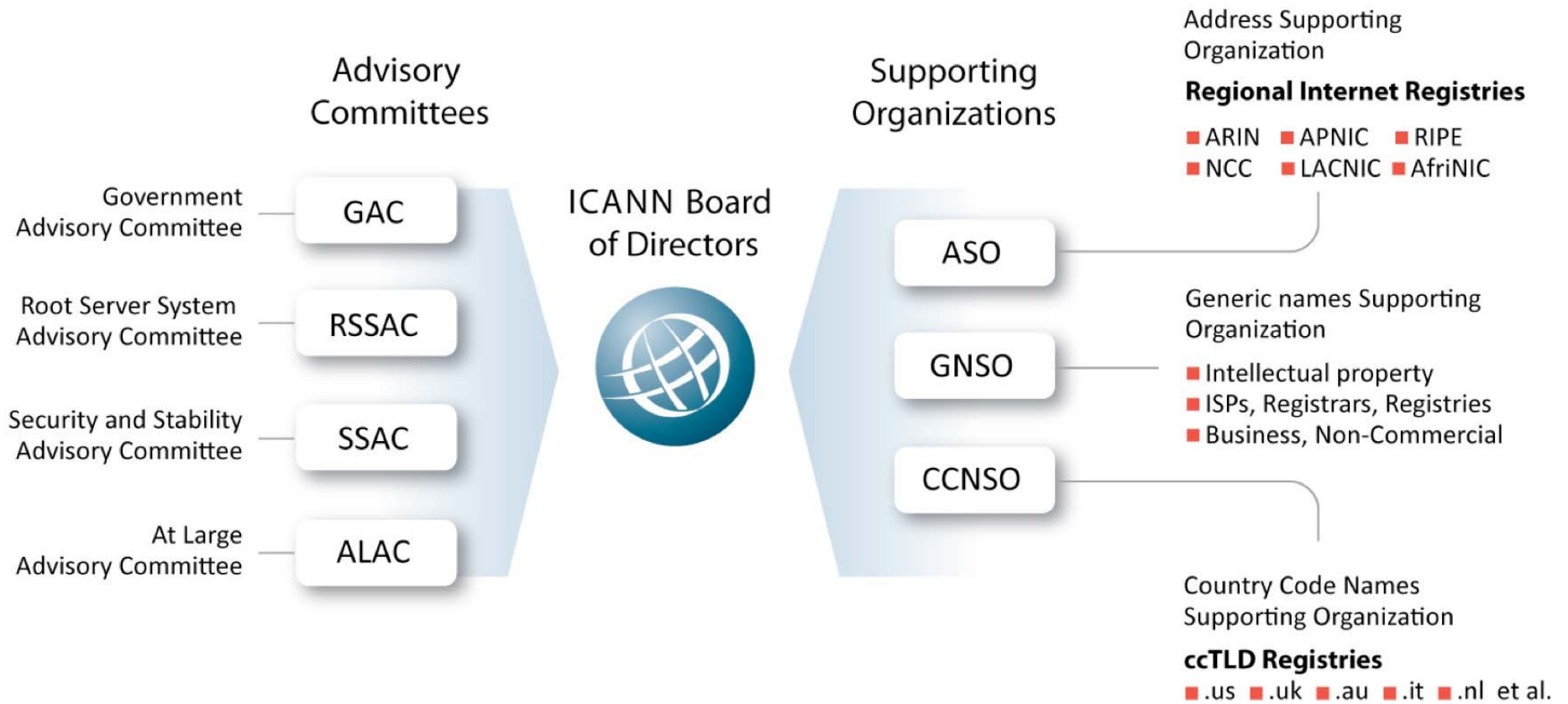- Multi-stakeholder: A forum where many different groups can work out Internet policy together

Operating Principles

- "Bottom-up": All those involved can set the agenda
- Ensure opportunity for global participation
- Consensus based decision-making

ICANN Structure

Advisory Committees

Government Advisory Committee — GAC

Root Server System Advisory Committee — RSSAC

Security and Stability Advisory Committee — SSAC

At Large Advisory Committee — ALAC

ICANN Board of Directors

Supporting Organizations

ASO

GNSO

CCNSO

Address Supporting Organization
Regional Internet Registries
- ARIN
- APNIC
- RIPE
- NCC
- LACNIC
- AfriNIC

Generic names Supporting Organization
- Intellectual property
- ISPs, Registrars, Registries
- Business, Non-Commercial

Country Code Names Supporting Organization
ccTLD Registries
- .us
- .uk
- .au
- .it
- .nl et al.

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ICANN Board of Directors

1 - ICANN's CEO

8 - selected by Nominating Committee

2 - selected by the ccNSO

2 - from the GNSO

2 - from the ASO

1 - GAC liaison

1 - SSAC liaison

1 - IETF liaison

1 - ALAC liaison

1 - TLG liaison

1 - RSSAC liaison

21 members and liaisons
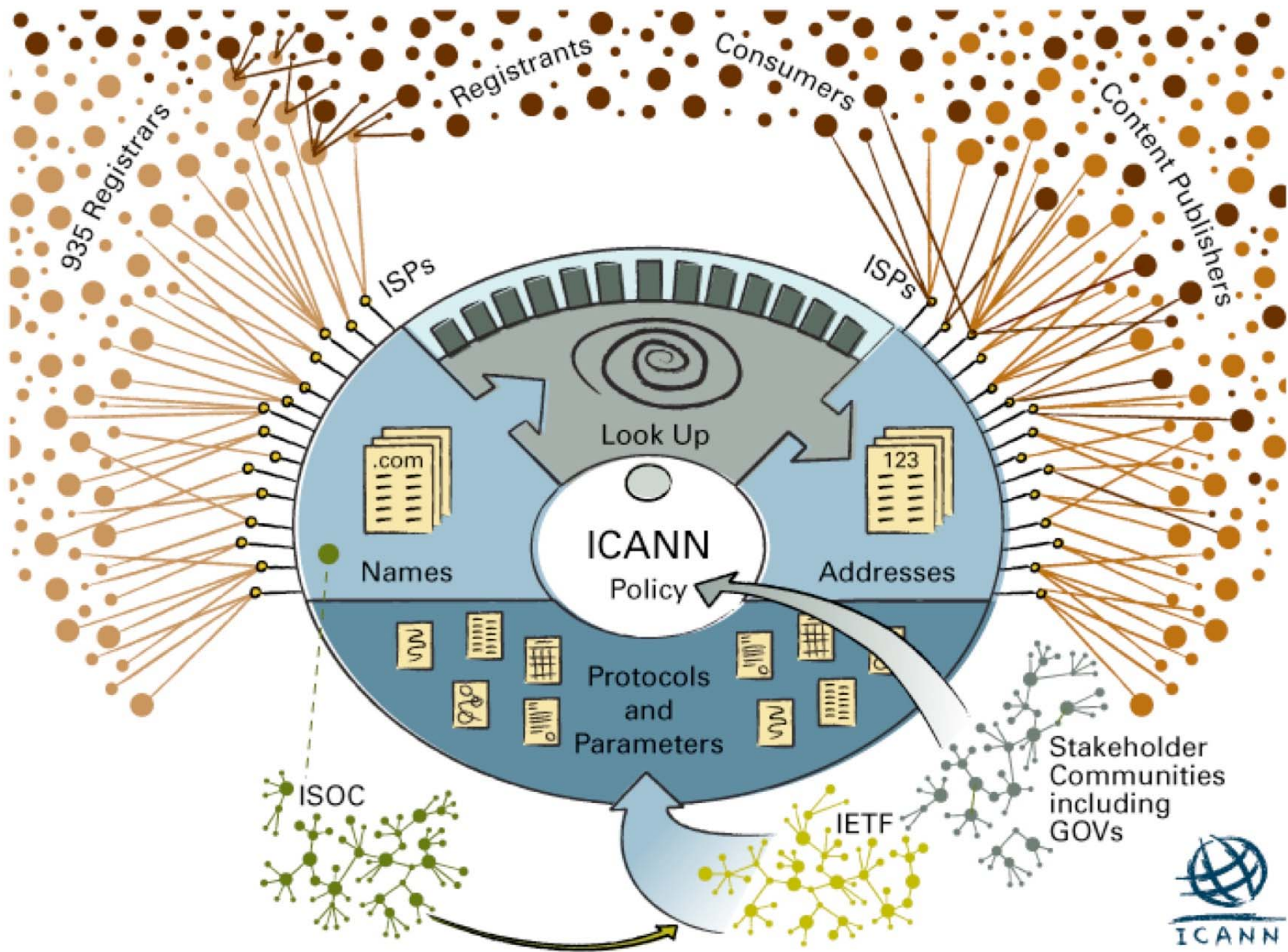
Who Participates?

Many Communities and Many Motivations:

- Advocacy
- Information
- Offering Technical Expertise
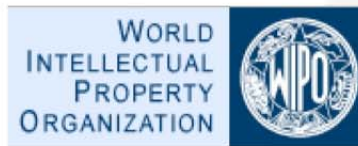- What is *your* motivation?

Key Actors

- **Registries** administer databases of top level domains

- **Registrars** provide services to register names to end users and business

- **Registrants** register and make use of the domain name registration

The Internet Eco System
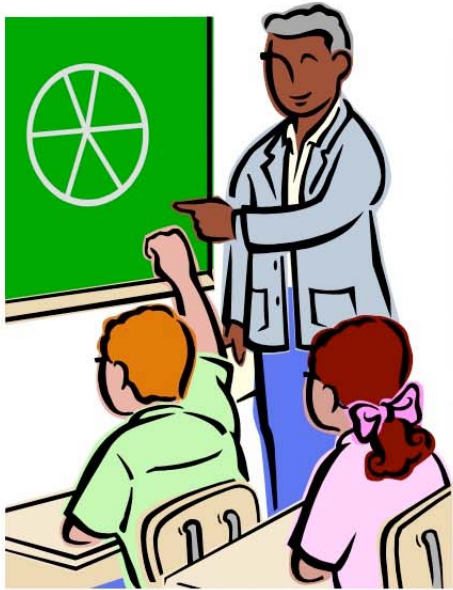
Internet Governance Forum

What ICANN does not do

- Content on the Internet
- Spam / Internet security apart from DNS
- Financial transactions online
- Consumer protection law
- Data protection law
- Intellectual property law
- E-commerce, e-education, e-government, etc

So give me some examples of policy that has been developed by ICANN

- Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP)
- Prohibition on use of WHOIS data for marketing
- Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy
- Restrictions on Domain Tasting
- New gTLDs & IDN ccTLDs
- IPv6 Allocation - Global Policy

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Policy Development at ICANN

Who makes policy at ICANN

- GNSO – Generic Names Supporting Organization
- ccNSO – Country-code Names Supporting Organization
- ASO – Address Supporting Organization
- Ultimate decision-maker: ICANN Board

But remember, policy development is a bottom-up process

- Open participation
- Diverse participants bring expertise and different perspectives
- Consensus-based decision making
- Public debate is often spirited and unrestrained

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How can I make a difference?

- More detailed info on participation in each SO's process in next slides, but:
  - Public comments are always requested before any decision is made
  - Individuals and representatives may participate on ICANN's many councils, working groups and committees

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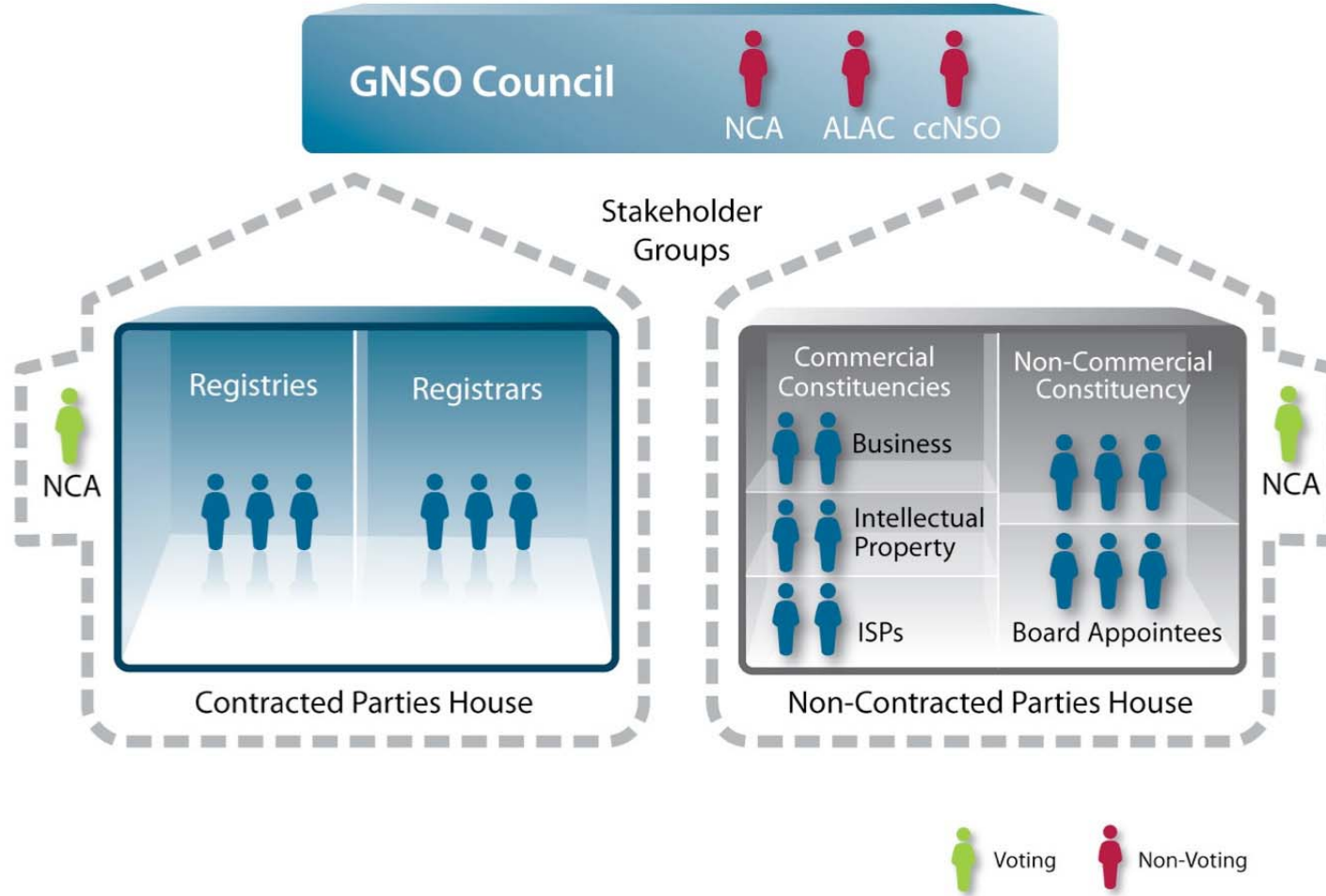
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GNSO Policy Development

What is the GNSO?

- Generic Names Supporting Organisation
- Responsible for policy development related to generic Top Level Domain
  (e.g. .com, .net, .info, .museum, .pro,)
- 21 Councilors from 6 different constituencies / Stakeholder Groups & Nom Com appointees

Structure of GNSO

How is policy developed?

- An issue is raised for consideration

- ICANN Staff prepares an Issues Paper

- GNSO Council decides whether to initiate a Policy Development Process (PDP)

- If 'yes', a volunteer Working Group is convened

How is policy developed?

- GNSO Council considers WG recommendations
- Adopted recommendations are forwarded to the board for its consideration
- Once adopted, ICANN staff implements the proposed policy
- Each phase includes public comment periods

For Example – new gTLDs

2004
- Issue raised, Issues Report prepared
- GNSO decides to initiate PDP

2005 - 2007
- Development of policy recommendations
- Adopted by the GNSO Council in Sep. 2007

2008 and beyond
- Adoption by the ICANN Board of policy recommendations
- Start of implementation process

So what policies are currently being developed in the GNSO?

- Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy
- Vertical Integration
- Post-Expiration Domain Name Recovery

How can you participate?

- All GNSO Working Groups are open for anyone to join

- Participate in public comment periods

- Become a member of a constituency / stakeholder group

- Sign up for the Policy Update

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ccNSO Policy Development

And more

What is ccNSO?

- Only ccTLDs managers are members of ccNSO (voluntary)
- Currently 105 members.
- Meetings and WG's open to members and non-members.
- ccNSO Council administrative body
- 18 councilors, 15 appointed by members

The ccNSO and its activities

- Engage in activities relevant to ccTLDs global perspective

- Policy recommendations to ICANN Board

- Build consensus across the constituencies and ccTLDs

- Coordinate with SO's and AC's

Policy Development in the ccNSO

- Issue raised, by 10 members, regional organisation, ICANN Board or Council
- Council decide prepare issue report and appoint Issue manager
- Issue report (Task-force or WG, and tentative time-line)
- Council decision to launch PDP

Policy Development in the ccNSO

- Interim and Final Report prepared by Issue Manager
- Council vote (quorum and regional representation)
- Members vote
- Recommendations to the Board
- After adoption only applicable to members

So what are ccNSO policies?

- Past: Change of ICANN Bylaws(2004-2005)
- Currently: IDN ccTLD
    - Selection of IDN ccTLD
    - Inclusion of ccTLDs in ccNSO
- Future?: Delegation, re-delegation and retirement of ccTLDs

ccNSO's limited number of Policies

- ccPDP only relevant for limited number predefined global areas.

- Most policies are developed locally (Examples: WHOIS, registration, vertical integration, accreditation)

- Alternative means available: guidelines, advise etc.

- Exemptions and limited applicability

How do I get involved?

- Attend ccNSO meetings (open)
  - Remotely
  - Face- to -face
- Participate in workshops
- Participate in public comment processes
- Through local processes

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ASO Policy Development

...time for ICANNumbers...

The ASO and Global Policies

- ASO is the Address Supporting Organization, set up thru an MoU between ICANN and the Number Resource Organization (NRO).

- One major task of the ASO is to handle proposed "Global Policies", that affect IANA's handling of addressing resources.

The RIRs and the NRO

- RIRs, Regional Internet Registries, receive addresses from IANA and allocate them on the regional level.

- There are five RIRs; AfriNIC, APNIC, ARIN, LACNIC and RIPE

- They cooperate thru the NRO, the Number Resource Organization.

The RIRs and policy development

- All RIRs develop policies thru bottom-up processes.

- Few policies affect IANA - only those are "Global Policies".

- Global policies must be agreed in all RIRs, channeled thru the ASO and ratified by the ICANN Board before implementation.

How do I get involved?

- For all addressing policies - participate in the bottom-up policy development in "your" RIR.

- All RIRs conduct open meetings where policy proposals are discussed and all have open mailing lists for such matters.

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Advisory Committees

And other ways to get involved...

Advisory Committees

- In addition to SOs, there are a ACs that provide the ICANN Board with direct advice:
  - At-Large AC
    http://www.atlarge.icann.org/
  - Governmental AC
    http://gac.icann.org
  - Security and Stability AC
  - Root Server System AC

Other ways to get involved

- Apply for an ICANN fellowship http://www.icann.org/en/fellowships/

- Apply for an ICANN leadership position http://nomcom.icann.org/

- Attend the next ICANN meeting in Brussels http://brussels38.icann.org/

BRUSSELS
ICANN No.38 | 20-25 June 2010

Other ways to stay up to date

- Sign up for the Policy Update http://www.icann.org/en/topics/policy/.

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Questions?

Additional Resources

- http://www.icann.org/
- http://gnso.icann.org
- http://ccnso.icann.org
- http://aso.icann.org
- http://www.atlarge.icann.org/
- http://gac.icann.org
- http://www.icann.org/en/committees/security/
- http://www.icann.org/en/committees/dns-root/

Thank you