

Strategic Plan Progress Highlights 2025

Date: 2026.02.04

1. Contributing to the affirmation of the Global Multistakeholder Internet Governance Model in the WSIS+20 Review Process – *Recognizing the Technical Community and Youth as Key Stakeholder Groups*
 2. Evolving DotAsia Member Engagement and Governance – *Expanded Scope for Sponsor Community Project (SCP) Funds and Strengthened Risk Mitigation Processes*
 3. Advancing Adoption of .Asia and APAC Internet Community in Exploring New gTLD Opportunities – *Developing New Markets in Asia, Launched GoCreate! Domain Innovations Series and Supported APAC NGOs through the ICANN Applicant Support Program (ASP)*
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1. **Contributing to the affirmation of the Global Multistakeholder Internet Governance Model in the WSIS+20 Review Process – Recognizing the Technical Community and Youth as Key Stakeholder Groups**

Two of the most significant DotAsia contributions in 2025 include: 1. Jennifer Chung, DotAsia’s VP of Policy’s, leadership as the co-convenor (along with Vint Cerf) in the unprecedented establishment of the Informal Multistakeholder Sounding Board ([IMSB](#)) to bring the voices of the global multistakeholder Internet governance ecosystem directly into United Nations discussions [[CV.A3](#)]; and, 2. the NetMission team’s support in bringing together the youth network in Asia Pacific (APAC) and beyond championing for meaningful youth-led participation [[CV.A1](#)]; directly impacting the WSIS+20 process and culminating towards favourable outcomes in the historical United Nations (UN) [resolution](#) which affirmed the global Multistakeholder Internet Governance Model, made permanent the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) mandate, and most remarkably, recognized youth as a stakeholder within the core multistakeholder framework [[IG.1](#)].

Building on DotAsia’s longstanding participation in the community, especially our work as the Asia Pacific Regional IGF ([APrIGF](#)) Secretariat, the IGF Support Association ([IGFSA](#)) Secretariat and as joint Secretariat of the Technical Community Coalition for Multistakeholderism ([TCCM](#)) [[IG.2](#)], in 2025, Jennifer not only returned to the UN IGF Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG), was selected to be a co-convenor of the IMSB, became the first Hongkonger to address the UN General Assembly (UNGA) representing the global Internet governance community, but was also elected as the Vice Chair of the ICANN GNSO Council [[IG.3](#)].

As the longest standing youth Internet governance program in the world, DotAsia’s NetMission program evolved significantly in 2025 to become a truly youth-led initiative, including the expansion of the NetMission+ APAC youth network, the development of the NetMission APRALO Study Group, and, the establishment of an IG InnoLab which is dedicated to youth-led development of capacity building resources for the Model ICANN role play for APAC Youth leadership at the Asia Pacific Internet Governance Academy ([APIGA](#)).

NetMission youth played a pivotal role in rallying support from youth in APAC and around the world to actively participate in the WSIS+20 consultations, including the submission of youth statements as well as interventions in the many forums successfully shaping the final outcomes document, which not only acknowledged youth participation (in the elements paper) but distinctly recognized youth as an important stakeholder group in global Internet governance (in subsequent drafts). This marks a significant milestone for youth worldwide,

and youth are poised to shape the global governance processes guiding digital cooperation in the years ahead.

2. Evolving DotAsia Member Engagement and Governance – Expanded Scope for Sponsor Community Project (SCP) Funds and Strengthened Risk Mitigation Processes

The results of the DotAsia Member Engagement Survey were reported at the DotAsia AGM 2025. Over 40% of DotAsia Members responded to the survey. Among which, over 80% indicated familiarity with the DotAsia Vision, Mission and Strategic Plan, and over 90% believe DotAsia is making meaningful contributions to the Asia Pacific Internet community, and engaging in impactful work. Building on the results and feedback, DotAsia channeled its collaboration with DotAsia Members **[GO.1]** in four areas: Youth engagement on IG (NetMission), bringing APAC NGOs into the ICANN New gTLD program, deepening the EcoInternet Index (EII) engagement, and building a Trusted Notifier Network to tackle DNS Abuse and other Internet safety issues.

With the expanded collaborations, grant funds were successfully extended for NetMission’s Asia Pacific Policy Observatory (APPO) from TWNIC to support youth-led research **[CV.C2]**, and for the EcoInternet Index (EII) from APNIC Foundation **[CV.E1]** to support outreach efforts to APAC governments on policy interventions that can realize an EcoInternet **[CV.A2]**.

Also at the DotAsia AGM 2025, the Common Pool concept for expanding DotAsia’s SCP Funds, which was raised by the Advisory Council (AC), was presented for Member consideration. In 2025, the concept was implemented (**BCC-002** & **BCC-003**), expanding the scope of the SCP Funds to grant recipients applying through Co-Sponsor Members, and making the SCP Funds meaningful to grant recipients from cc-localities where not many .Asia domains are registered. The SCP Program ensures that proceeds from every .Asia domain registration help support DotAsia Community Projects contributing to Internet development and adoption in APAC.

As part of the Strategic Plan implementation **[GO.3]**, a Risk Management Plan was adopted by the Board in 2025 and risk mitigation measures are being put in place to ensure business continuity. In addition: the DotAsia Code of Conduct (**BGC-002**) was updated with strengthened processes for handling the intake of complaints and the implementation of remedies through the Complaints Resolution Committee; and, the DotAsia Board Code & Consensus Process (**BGC-006**) and the Board Elections Procedures (BEP: **BGC-004**) were updated **[GO.2]** to include the appointment and definition of Board Observers as risk mitigation measures that would uphold DotAsia’s commitment to be open for all members of the APAC community while addressing geopolitical dynamics, such as sanctions, that may disrupt DotAsia’s financial operations and contractual commitments.

3. Advancing Adoption of .Asia and APAC Internet Community in Exploring New gTLD Opportunities – Developing New Markets in Asia, Launched GoCreate! Domain Innovations Series and Supported APAC NGOs through the ICANN Applicant Support Program (ASP)

In 2025, DotAsia expanded its market reach in Central Asia, including new partnerships in Kazakhstan (.KZ) and Uzbekistan (.UZ). With strong uptake in China driven by a mixture of special seasonal and price promotions **[RY.2]**, the total number of .Asia Domains Under Management (DUM) surged to over 400,000 at the end of the calendar year 2025 **[RY.1]**. Strategic growth approach that balances between income and volume growth also supported year-on-year growth in operational domain revenue **[CV.E2]**.

The *GoCreate! Domain Innovations* series was launched at the APAC DNS Forum in Hanoi, Vietnam in May 2025 with workshop sessions featuring industry leaders and APAC youth in brainstorming New Ways of Using Domains and marketing efforts for Getting Hooked on Domains. The initiative is aligned with the implementation of the Strategic Plan [RY.3], and is conceived as a dynamic series delivered in collaboration and collocated with other industry events, with an aim to stimulate innovation in the market space by exploring new technologies, new usage of domain names, and to bring in youth perspectives to drive the expansion of the DNS industry in APAC. The inaugural event was followed up in November 2025 with a *GoCreate!* session at the first Domain Summit Asia (<https://domainsummit.asia>), bringing together domain investors, digital assets managers, entrepreneurs and digital leaders, along with domain registries, registrars and resellers for a 2-day program in Hong Kong (plus a pre-event at the DotAsia office).

Building on DotAsia's experience and knowledge as the first gTLD in APAC, and the successful bid and development of the .KiDS community gTLD for the children's rights and welfare community (and the first and only ICANN ASP supported gTLD in the 2012 round of new gTLDs), in 2025, DotAsia continued its commitment as a pro-bono provider and mentor in the ICANN ASP as part of its response to the next round of new gTLDs. In fulfilment of the Strategic Plan [CM.1, CM.2 & CV.A3] and leveraging the networks among DotAsia Members, including ISOC APAC chapters and APNIC Foundation beneficiaries, DotAsia reached out to and engaged with around 30 not-for-profit organizations in APAC [CV.C1] to explain and support them through the ICANN ASP processes.

DotAsia is committed to supporting Asian TLD initiatives as well as global TLD initiatives with a vision that encompasses the Asian Internet community and marketplace. In 2025, DotAsia became a mentor in the ICANN Applicant Support Program (ASP), which is intended to make the New Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLD) Program: Next Round application and evaluation processes and fees more accessible to nonprofits and other entities that would like to operate a registry but would otherwise be unable to apply, because of financial and resource constraints. Throughout the year, DotAsia engaged 26 non-profit organizations (NGOs) across the APAC region, contributing to important outreach efforts both at the regional level in APAC and at the global level with Internet Society (ISOC) and ICANN. DotAsia recruited 14 partner NGOs in APAC to the ICANN ASP, establishing important strategic partnerships that set the stage for greater regional and global collaboration in 2026 and beyond [CV.C1].

In 2026, DotAsia will look to partner more closely with some of these initiatives to support their journey through the new gTLD program with the aspiration to bring more new gTLDs to APAC, and setting the stage for greater regional and global collaboration into the future.