

Outreach for Addressing Universal Acceptance (UA)

ICANN69 Virtual Annual General Meeting 19 October 2020



Agenda

- Introduction to Universal Acceptance (UA)
- UA Local Initiatives Update
 - CIS-Eastern Europe
 - China
 - India
 - Thailand
- UA Ambassadors Update
- How to Establish a UA Local Initiative
- Questions and Answers (Q&A)

Universal Acceptance, UASG and UA 2020 Activities

Dr. Ajay Data UASG Chair



What is Universal Acceptance (UA)?

- The Domain Name System (DNS) has changed dramatically over the last decade. There are now more than 1,200 active generic top-level domains (gTLDs) and some of these include domains that use non-Latin scripts and that are longer than three characters (e.g. . "Inv., LONDON, .SPORT).
- Universal Acceptance is cornerstone to a digitally inclusive Internet by ensuring all domain names and email addresses – in any language, script, or character length (e.g., .pφ, .PHOTOGRAPHY) – are accepted equally by all Internet-enabled applications, devices, and systems.
- Achieving UA ensures every person has the ability to navigate and communicate on the Internet using their chosen domain name and email address that best aligns with their interests, business, culture, language, and script.

What Can UA Mean to You?

- A strong understanding of UA is the new competitive differentiator every developer should have in their skill set.
- System developers can support the next billion Internet users (many of which are non-English speaking) by ensuring that their systems are UA-ready.
- Help support a multilingual and diverse Internet by ensuring your mail systems, corporate systems, and customer collaboration tools support Email Address Internationalization (EAI).
- Governments can better reach and serve their diverse constituents by being UA-ready.
- Businesses that are UA-ready will be best positioned to reach growing global audiences and maximize revenue potential from the current Internet population, as well as the next billion.
- The Universal Acceptance of Internet domain names is a <u>\$9.8+ billion</u> opportunity (a conservative estimate).

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Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG)

The UASG was founded in February 2015 and is tasked with undertaking activities that will effectively promote the Universal Acceptance of all valid domain names and email addresses.

The UASG's main objectives are to:

- Raise awareness of UA issues among relevant stakeholders.
- Help developers make their systems UA-ready by providing documentation and getting common standards, technology, and tools UA-ready.
- Encourage businesses and governments to ask their developers and suppliers to provide UA-ready solutions for the benefit of end users.
- Measure progress on UA readiness.

UASG Working Groups

UASG Working Groups	Role
Technology Working Group	Oversees remediation work on standards, programming languages, tools, and development platforms.
Email Address Internationalization (EAI) Working Group	Oversees engagement with email software and service providers to make them EAI ready.
Measurements Working Group	Identifies UA readiness gaps in tools and technologies.
Communications Working Group	Develops communication strategy and oversees its execution in collaboration with other working groups.
Local Initiatives Working Group	Conducts national or regional UA awareness, training, and stakeholder engagements.
UA Ambassadors	Organize training and outreach at national and regional levels.

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Main Categories Affected by UA Readiness

Domain Names

New short top-level ASCII domain names: example.sky

New long top-level ASCII domain names: example.engineering

Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs): คน.ไทย

Email Addresses

ASCII@ASCII (new and long TLD):

ASCII@IDN:

- Unicode@ASCII:
- Unicode@IDN:
- Unicode@IDN; right-to-left scripts:

ekrem@misal.istanbul marc@société.org 测试@example.com όνομα@παράδειγμα.ευ

اي-ميل@مثال موقع











Process Sto

Display



UA Readiness in 2020

- At a Glance -



9.7%

of email servers are potentially configured to support email addresses in local languages and scripts.



11%

of the top 1000 websites globally support email addresses in Arabic and Chinese.





98.3%

of the top 1000 websites globally support email addressses with short top-level domains.



测试@普遍接受-测试.世界

مشرف@اختبار-سجل.مصر

όνομα@παράδειγμα.ευ

UA Around the World





UA Ambassadors

Benin

Brazil

China

Egypt

India

Nigeria

South Africa

Turkey

USA

UA Local Initiatives

Commonwealth of Independent States and Eastern Europe (CIS-EE) (Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Latvia, Russia, Serbia, Ukraine) India

- China (Recently established)
- Thailand (Recently established)

UA Outreach and Engagements

- Local Stakeholders Engagement
- UA Awareness and Capacity Building Events



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UA Ambassador Program

The UASG Ambassador Program was created in 2018 to recruit industry leaders and UA experts who are committed to raising awareness around UA and EAI.

2020 New UA Ambassadors

Cengiz Acarturk – Turkey Malick Alassane – Benin Mark Elkins – South Africa Aman Masjide – India Abdulkarim Ayopo Oloyede – Nigeria Sushanta Sinha – India

Current UA Ambassadors

Harish Chowdhary – India Mark W. Datysgeld – Brazil Abdalmonem Galila – Egypt John Levine – USA Zhijiang Liu – China Xiucheng Wu (Marvin Woo) – China Yangyi Wu (Walter Wu) – China



UA Local Initiatives Updates



CIS-EE UA Local Initiative Led by the Coordination Center for .RU / .PΦ

Maria Kolesnikova
Chief Analyst, Project Lead and External Relation



CIS-EE UA Local Initiative – Introduction

CIS-EE UA Local Initiative was approved in December 2019.

Independent experts and official representatives of IT organizations from 7 countries: Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Latvia, Russia, Serbia, and Ukraine (including 12 IDN TLDs).

The initiative charter is based on principles formulated in the UA Local Initiative Chapter and focused on the following activities:

- Technical collaboration with local developers, system administrators, hosting, and mail service providers.
- General outreach in each country.
- Public sector engagement on a local level.
- UA readiness of members' systems.

Russian UA Working Group

Launched in 2020 and includes IDN TLD registries, registrars, security experts, lawyers, etc. Currently inviting local stakeholders and developing an action plan.

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CIS-EE UA Local Initiative – Current Activities

Technical collaboration

- UA trainings: EAI training (Russia, May 2020).
- UA hackathons: 2 hackathons (Russia, June 2020 and August 2020).
 - 4 UA-related lectures and hackathon (Ukraine, Oct.-Nov. 2020).
- UA awareness: publication at Habr.com (14000+ views, 71 comments) (Russia, Oct. 2020).
- Поддерживаю.рф (Russia, ongoing since April 2020).
 - Adapted UA documents (Introduction to UA, UA Readiness Framework; Guidelines on how to support Cyrillic IDN .PΦ); list of UA-ready software; PR activities to involve developers.

General outreach

- Educational campaign for non-technical audience, including events, online quizzes, and articles (Russia, May-Sep. 2020).
- Webinar on equal functionality and marketing opportunities of IDNs (Russia, July 2020).
- Evaluation of websites for acceptance of Email Addresses 2020 (Russia, June 2020).
- Survey on usage and market demand on Cyrillic IDN/EAI (Russia, July 2020): under 18 years (60%), 45-59 years и 60+ (40,6% и 48,4%) show the most demand for EAI.

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CIS-EE UA Local Initiative – Current Activities

Public sector engagement

- Research on UA readiness of e-government and online services (Russia, in progress).
- Consultations on a local level (ongoing process).

<u>UA readiness of software with high demand in the region</u>

- Dovecote (!)
- CMS WordPress, CMS Bitrix (in progress).
- OpenSSL (EAI support since version 3.0).
- Survey on the most popular software on a local level (questionnaire template).
- IDN Survey 2020 for ccTLD registries with focus on UA issues.



CIS-EE UA Local Initiative – Future Activities

Technical collaboration

- UA Trainings: Java training (Russia), UA overview, and EAI trainings (Armenia, Ukraine).
- UA hackathons: hackathons for students (Ukraine, Georgia).
- UA awareness: series of UA articles for technical audience (Russia).
- Поддерживаю.рф project further development (Russia).
- EAI testbed (Armenia, Russia).

General outreach

- UA-related publications (Armenia, Ukraine, Latvia).
- UA talks at local events (in the region).
- UA session at Global IGF (November 2020).

Public sector engagement

Consultations on UA/IDN/EAI topics with local governments.

UA readiness of software with high demand in the region.

China UA Local Initiative Managed by Internet Society of China

Rui Zhong

Executive Deputy Director of Chinese Domain Names Initiative



China UA Local Initiative – Introduction

Objective

Develop a Chinese UA community through various activities and actively engage with relevant stakeholders to promote the UA of Chinese domain names supported by mainstream Internet applications, including but not limited to browsers, email, social media, Chinese input methods, search engines, etc.

Local Stakeholders Involved

- Email service providers: QQ mail, Netease mail, Sina mail, Coremail, etc.
- Web browsers: QQ browser, Sogou browser, 360 browser, CM browser, etc.
- Search engines: Baidu, Sogou, etc.
- Chinese input tools: Baidu, Sogou, iFLYTEK, etc.
- Social media: Tencent (Wechat, QQ); Sina (Weibo), etc.
- Media: CCTV, Xinhua News, People Daily, etc.
- Technical community: CNNIC, CONAC, CAICT, CAS, etc.
- Civil society: ISC, CFIS (China Federation of Internet Societies), ect.
- Registries and registrars: Net.cn, Affilias, Xinnet, Bizcn, TLD Registry, etc.
- Website administrators: mainstream websites operated in China (based on the UASG-tested results).

China UA Local Initiative – Current Activities

Accelerate the development and application of EAI.

NetEase's yeah.net already supported Chinese EAI, next step is to their two other brands, 163.com and 126.com.

Tencent is working on the R&D to support Chinese EAI for its new version of QQ mail (NetEase and Tencent have the top two market share of personal email in China)





Outreach to NetEase and Tencent

China UA Local Initiative – Current Activities

Web browser:

- Sogou's Mobile browser already supported Chinese IDNs.
- Qihoo 360 browser passed the Chinese IDN testing.

Search engine:

- Baidu: improved support of Chinese IDNs; over 4 million Chinese domain names listed in their system.
- Qihoo 360: over 317,640 Chinese domain names are listed.









China UA Local Initiative – Future Activities

2021 planned activities:

- Outreach to Internet/IT companies.
 - Training courses for UA education.
 - Discussion with high-level leadership.
 - UA public workshops.
- Outreach to websites administrators and developers.
- Outreach to universities/colleges and startups.





Sarika Gulyani
Director and Head-ICT, Digital Economy



India UA Local Initiative – Introduction



About FICCI

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) is an association of business organisations in India. Established in 1927, it is the largest, oldest and the apex business organisation in India. Understanding the importance of Universal Acceptance in Indic Internet and Language Technology, FICCI has joined hands with ICANN to establish the FICCI-ILIA UA Local India Initiative.

Objective

The prime objective of this initiative is to promote Universal Acceptance in India so that more people can come online and leverage Internet in their local languages. This includes community outreach, promotion, and technical awareness.

For more details please visit: http://www.ficci-ilia.in/universal-acceptance.html

FICCI-ILIA UA India Local Chapter Stakeholders

FICCI-ILIA (Indian Languages Internet Alliance) is a community-based alliance that works for the sustainable development of the Indic Internet and Language Technology Landscape of India. Our local stakeholders of FICCI-ILIA UA Local India Initiative are:

- Academia
- Language service providers
- Publishers
- Technology service providers

FICCI-INDIAN LANGUAGE INTERNET ALLIANCE

India UA Local Initiative – Current Activities

UA Local India Chapter activities are divided into three categories:

- Technical Collaboration
- General Outreach
- Community Development

Activities	Date
 Announcement of UA India Chapter and Introduction Meeting Introduction and members suggestions. Physical meeting participated by all members. 	18-Dec-19
 Introduction webinar session: Importance of Language Computing Technologies during Global Health Crisis The session was attended by ~ 80 participants and was appreciated by the community. 	
 Working Group meeting of FICCI-ILIA India Local Initiative of UA. Virtual meeting attended by all stakeholders. Member discussions around the current scenario of COVID-19. 	11-May- 20
 Webinar: Universal Acceptance Awareness Session was attended by ~100 participants and was appreciated by the community and members. The role of UA in a post COVID-19 world. 	11-May-20

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India UA Local Initiative – Current Activities

Activities	Date
 Technical workshop: Universal Acceptance Overview The session was attended by ~50 participants with a technical background. Overview of UA and how it can help business reach new goals. 	22-June- 20
Working Group Meeting of FICCI-ILIA India Local Initiative of UA. • Member discussions around the role of UA and crucial tool for Indic Internet.	
Website integration - UA page linked to FICCI-ILIA Official Website and integrating UASG website.	
 Webinar: Role of Universal Acceptance in Indic Internet and Language Technology Sector of India Session attended by ~ 90 participants. Role of Universal Acceptance in Indic Internet and Language Technology Sector of India. 	
 UA Readiness Report: Promotion among UA Local India Chapter community members. 	Sept. 2020



India UA Local Initiative – Future Activities

<u> Upcoming Activities (October-December 2020)</u>

- Knowledge management and publications on Universal Awareness and benefits:
 - Community member articles
 - Social media promotions
- Universal Acceptance technical workshops:
 - Configuring for EAI
 - Java training session
- Universal Acceptance awareness webinars:
 - Challenges and way forward
- Universal Acceptance awareness sessions:
 - Bhashantara 2020 (FICCI-ILIA Flagship Event)
- UA Community Working Group meetings.

For more information, please feel free to reach out to FICCI-ILIA secretariat at ficci.ict@ficci.com



India UA Local Initiative – Future Activities

Planned 2021 Activities

- Expansion of Universal Acceptance awareness at regional levels (Southern and Western).
- Thought leadership sessions on UASG and implementation benefits.
- Extended technical outreach with Python and NLP training session.
- Involvement of government departments:
 - Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India
 - Regional and States Government Departments
- UA case study and global best practices showcase sessions.

For more information, please feel free to reach out to FICCI-ILIA secretariat at ficci.ict@ficci.com





Photchanan Ratanajaipan, Phd. Executive Director



Thailand UA Local Initiative – Introduction

- Thailand's UA local initiative launched in September 2020.
- Multi-stakeholder initiative led by a steering committee that includes representatives of the .TH registry, registrars, and the Thai Programmers Association.
- Focusing on EAI readiness and acceptance.
- The initiative's objectives:
 - Develop EAI training materials in Thai.
 - Organize webinars, seminars, and hackathons.
 - Maintain and enhance local UA and EAI Thai online resources.
 - Communicate to stakeholders and conduct outreach, focusing on fixing popular websites that are not EAI ready.



Thailand UA Local Initiative – Activities









Operating a Thai IDN Email Service

- Support dual email addresses (Thai/English).
- Safe and secure, anti-virus, anti-spam.
- Free service by THNIC and Crossflow.
- Used for Identity verification by วีคลาส.ไทย (vclass.net), a video conference application.
- Current users: 2,000.
- An EAI account, ทดสอบยูเอ@คน.ไทย, with auto-reply setting to allow round trip testing (xn--@-0wf0clnd0d4c1ac5kpd.xn--o3cw4h).











Thailand UA Local Initiative – Future Plans

Technical Collaboration

- Moderate apac-eaiig mailing list.
- EAI local training materials (videos).
- Online trainings.
- Hackathons for developers and programmers.

General Outreach

- Webinars by influencers.
- Enhance EAI online local resources.
- Persuade popular Thai websites to be EAI ready.

Public Sector Engagement

 Propose procurement policy based on UASG Quick Guide to Tender and Contractual.

UA Ambassadors Updates



UA healthcare medical (graduation project) and EAI and UA trainings (Nov. 2019 - July 2020)







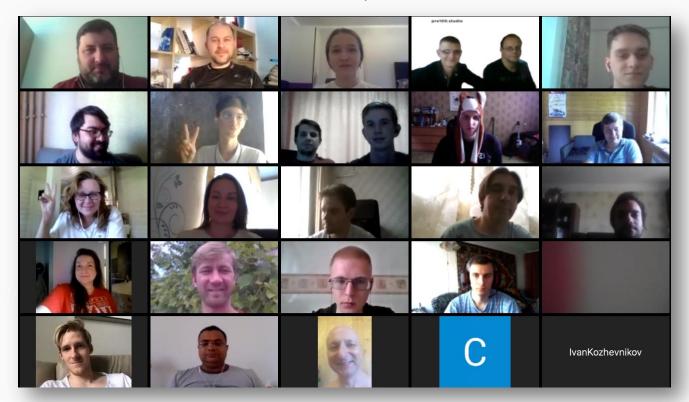
IDN, EAI, and UA Workshop (Feb. 2020, University of Dodoma, Tanzania)







Online UA hackathon, Russia (technical expert)



- Russian CTF Summer School Hackathon 2020, Russia (technical expert).
- EURODIG-20 UA Session, Culture or Technical (one of the organizing teams).
- Regular updates to AFRALO during monthly meetings.
- UA-related statements
 - Middle East (UA and EAI statement)
 - Africa (UA statement)



UA awareness for Hindi audience

- A Facebook live event and presentation about Universal Acceptance and its advantages for start-ups and the Internet community. It was organized by MP-POST (first Hindi newspaper of Madhya Pradesh [India] on the Internet) for the HINDI speaking audience on 9 June 2020.
- Interview session in the form of FAQ's in Hindi.

Rural ISOCSIG webinar

- Organized Universal Acceptance Awareness Webinar on 12 June 2020, along with the Internet Society Rural Development Special Interest Group (Rural ISOCSIG) and India UA Local Initiative.
- Global webinar with participants from all over the world.



Workshop and coding challenge on Universal Acceptance (National Institute of Technology, Bhopal) – 19 September 2020

- Workshop and tutorial on Universal Acceptance coding tools, followed by a coding challenge.
- 45-minute tutorial session before the challenge where insights, usability of tools, and use cases for the benefit of participants was shared.
- Participants were required to work and code on their existing or new products using such tools.
- 48 teams registered for the workshop and coding contests and 60plus attended.



Webinar on the Role of Universal Acceptance in Indic Internet and the Languages Technology Sector of India – 29 September 2020

- Actively engaged local Indian stakeholders and organizations with the India UA Local Initiative.
- Sarathi, which is a major website for the Ministry of Roads & Transportation, Government of India, providing services for licenses and all Regional Transport Office (RTO) activities, is now using a Devanagari domain i.e. https://xn--i2bvxym.xn--h2brj9c/ (saarthi.bharat).





Technical workshop and coding contest held

OUR STAFF REPORTER

Under the 13-day festival 'Toorvanad'20, a technical workshop, coding competition, exhibition, and guest lecture was organized on Saturday

The event is being organised by Rajbhasha Karyan-



vayan Samiti of Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology (MANIT). Bhopal. A technical workshop and coding competi-tion was organised on "Universal acceptance of domain name and email address' with the aim of connecting Hindi language with technology. Universal Acceptance Ambassador for India Harish Chaudhary was present as a guide and judge.

The workshop taught how to use domain names available on the Internet in Devanagari script easily. Stu-

dents from various schools and colleges took part in this workshop. After the workshop, a coding competition was organised in view of the present sce-

The participants create a website or tion within the tin which would be ab

cept. store and name email Hindi ners award prize 15,000

coding tition Anjan Pande

Commissioner of Tax Department, S writer of Hindi li like Allahabad joined as guest spea spoke on 'Regional Literature and Cu Personality Develo he said that literat part of culture personality is a his culture and his ture, he says.

Besides, an online tion 'Srijan' was al virtual demonstrated the confluence of me and technology.

युवाओं का कर्तव्य है कि वे क्षेत्रीय साहित्य को सहेजें

मैनिट में कार्यशाला और अतिथि व्याख्यान आयोजित

तुर्यनाद महोत्सव

सिटी रिपोर्टर . भोपाल

मौलाना आजाद राष्ट्रीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (मैनिट) में आयोजित हो रहे तर्यनाद में



शनिवार को तकनीकी कार्यशाला और कोडिंग प्रतियोगिता हुई। हिंदी भाषा को तकनीक से जोडने के उद्देश्य से

सार्वभौमिक स्वीकृति विषय पर तकनीकी कार्यशाला और कोडिंग प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन हुआ। कार्यशाला में यनिवर्सल एक्सेप्टेंस एंबेसडर फॉर इंडिया हरीश चौधरी निर्णायक रहे। कार्यशाला में इंटरनेट पर उपलब्ध डोमेन नामों को देवनागरी लिपि में आसानी से उपयोग करना सिखाया गया।



शाम के सत्र में सुरत के जॉइंट कमिश्नर और 'इलाहाबाद ब्लुज' जैसे हिंदी साहित्य के लेखक अंजनी पांडेय ने व्यक्तित्व शनिवार को डोमेन नाम और ईमेल पते की विकास में क्षेत्रीय साहित्य एवं संस्कृति की भिमका विषय पर कहा- संस्कारों की कति ही संस्कृति होती है, साहित्य संस्कृति का ही एक भाग है। व्यक्ति का व्यक्तित्व उसकी संस्कृति और उसके साहित्य का परिणाम होता है। युवाओं का कर्तव्य बनता है कि वे क्षेत्रीय साहित्य को सहेजें और अच्छे साहित्य के प्रचार-प्रसार में अपना योगदान दें।



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Walter Wu, China

<u>Visited Sogou and Baidu</u> - December 2019

- Discussed IDN resolution in their mobile browsers.
- Suggested to take a full IDN as a key word in search engines.
- Talked about how to optimize IDN support in their input apps.



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Walter Wu, China

Android

TLD	Domain Name	Browser							
		360		QQ		Sogou		Baidu	
		2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
.中国	互联网中心.中国	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
.网址	秀.网址	Υ		Υ		Υ	N	N	
.在线	域通联达.在线	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	N	N	N	Υ
.公司	互联网中心.公司	Υ		Υ		Υ	Y	N	
.手机	华瑞网研.手机	Υ		Υ		Υ	N	N	
.网络	互联网中心.网络	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	N	Υ
.商标	管理机构.商标	Υ		Υ		N	N	N	
.商城	nic.商城	Υ		Υ		N	N	N	
.餐厅	川西坝子.餐厅	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	N	N	N	Υ
.招聘	管理机构.招聘	N	Y	Υ	N	N	N	N	N

TLD	Domain Name	Browser								
		360		QQ		Sogou		Baidu		
		2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	
	中国	互联网中心.中国	Υ	Υ	Υ		Υ		Υ	Υ
	网址	秀.网址	Υ	Υ	Υ		Υ		N	N
	在线	域通联达.在线	Υ	Υ	Υ		Υ		N	N
	公司	互联网中心.公司	Υ	Υ	Υ		Υ		N	N
•	手机	华瑞网研.手机	Υ	Υ	Υ		Υ		N	N
•	网络	互联网中心.网络	Υ	Υ	Υ		Υ		N	N
	商标	管理机构.商标	Υ	Υ	Υ		N		N	N
	商城	nic.商城	Υ	Υ	Υ		N		N	N
	餐厅	川西坝子.餐厅	Υ	Υ	Υ		Υ		N	N
	招聘	管理机构.招聘	Υ	N	Υ		Υ		N	N

iOS

How to Establish a UA Local Initiative

The aim of UA Local Initiatives interact with local stakeholders to promote UA readiness through:

- Messaging and outreach
- Technical training

The initiatives are managed by a multistakeholder national or regional UA steering committee.

Use the <u>Local Initiative Charter</u> and proposal template available in its appendix on the <u>UASG.tech</u> website.

Please contact us at info@uasg.tech if you are interested in starting a local initiative in your country or region.



Questions and Answers (Q&A)

Get involved!

- Follow, share, like and engage with the UASG on social media, and use the UASG hashtag in relevant posts: #Internet4All
 - Twitter: <u>@UASGTech</u>
 - LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/uasgtech/
 - Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/uasgtech/
- Join the UA Discuss group: <u>ua-discuss@icann.org</u>
- Report a problem if you find an application or webpage that is not UA-ready: https://uasg.tech/global-support-center/

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спасибо gracias 期期 THANK YOU

ありがとうございました MERCI DANKE धन्यवाद

OBRIGADO شُكراً

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