

Two of the fundamental building blocks of the internet are the Domain Name System (the DNS) and the system of routing that allows Internet traffic to flow between our devices and sites. Both routing and the DNS are older technologies from a more innocent age, and neither was designed with any built-in security mechanisms. To help secure the DNS and the routing system from both malicious attacks and unwitting misconfigurations, the engineering community developed two protocols: Domain Name Security Extensions (or, DNSSEC) and the Resource Public Key Infrastructure (or, RPKI).

Wide deployment of these two standards is uneven across countries and regions, and globally remains a challenge. RPKI enjoys relatively good deployment levels. DNSSEC however, has not been widely deployed. Overall, although progress continues to be made, it is to the benefit of the security and resilience of the Internet to continue to strive towards greater general uptake. Internet resource organizations like ICANN and RIPE NCC deem this topic of importance.

This working group focuses on outreach and engagement efforts to increase trust in, and contribute to the wider deployment of, DNSSEC and RPKI. This working group provides a work plan, containing among others a new and different narrative and recommendations for the next phase, including an outreach plan at the global level.

Background

Research conducted in an IGF project in 2019 contains causes of, and recommendations to change, the slow uptake of standards deployment. One of the causes presented in the report, based on input from the internet community at large, pointed to the fact that lack of deployment is perceived as being a technical issue, needing a technical solution. However, it was pointed out that what holds deployment back can often be based on financial, economic, or social decisions. This implies that the narrative is insufficiently tailored towards individuals in decision-taking positions in organizations. This conclusion led to two consecutive recommendations: a) to include and engage individuals in decision-taking positions and b) to change the narrative in such a way, that they will decide favorably on deployment. The working group will provide this.

Workplan

A multistakeholder group will:

- Define the issue;
- Evaluate current content;
- Define current gaps in argumentation.
- Work on (redefining) best practices and recommendations for a new target audience.
- Write the narrative in line with this target audience.
- Present a plan for outreach.
- Present (interim) outcomes at the IGF in Kyoto, 8-12 October 2023.
- Present the outcome report, November 2023.

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