



.africa

The Digital Heartbeat of a Continent: The Story of .africa

Born from a vision to unite 1.2 billion people across 54 countries, .africa emerged as the official top-level domain (TLD) for the African and Pan-African communities. Launched in 2017, its journey began with strategic partnerships, securing early adoption from global corporations, like Absa, and crucial endorsement from the African Union Commission.

Objectives: Fostering a Unified Digital Africa

The goal was clear: to foster a singular online identity, enabling e-commerce, technology, and infrastructure to flourish continent-wide. To achieve this, Registry.Africa, a ZA Central Registry (ZACR) subsidiary, collaborates closely with ICANN to ensure its global governance framework is tailored to be effective while still meeting Africa's unique needs.

Tangible Impact: Building a Shared Digital Future

"The launch of .africa has transformed from just a domain name into a unified digital identity for Africans and Pan-Africans globally, catalyzing economic development and offering a dedicated digital space to foster a connected Africa where businesses, entrepreneurs, and individuals can thrive in our digital world," states Registry.Africa CEO Lucky Masilela.

With over 55,000 active domain names as of June 2025, its success is a testament to strong community buy-in, official endorsement, and a commitment to a stable, secure and accessible Internet for all of Africa.

To learn more about operating and applying to run a gTLD, visit:

<https://newgtldprogram.icann.org/en>.