Universal Acceptance

Statement of Work: UA Readiness Evaluation of Standards and Best Practices

Ver.: 2020-10-13

Purpose

The Universal Acceptance (UA) Steering Group (UASG) through its Technology working group (WG) is inviting qualified contractors to research the different technology standards organizations in order to identify the standards, regulations or best practices that directly or indirectly impact the UA readiness of domain names and email address in all systems and applications.

Description and Scope of Work

Part 1:
Identify, list and categorize the technical standards organizations, working groups or initiatives and their relevant standards, regulations, codes or best practices that have an impact on UA. The following list of technical standards organizations or bodies are not exclusive and are for example purposes only:

1. The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) and its Working Groups (WG)
   a. HTML 5
   b. Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI)
   c. Internationalization WG
2. The Web Hypertext Application Technology Working Group (WHATWG)
3. Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)
   a. Relevant IETF area groups and protocols relevant for UA
4. The Unicode Consortium
5. Oauth, OpenID or Similar standards used for access delegation and authentication
6. Messaging Malware Mobile Anti-Abuse Working Group (M3AAWG)
   a. Best Practices for Unicode Abuse Prevention
   b. Unicode Abuse Overview and Tutorial
7. Technical security standards organizations, including certificates: security related to web programming impact the adoption of IDNs and EAI
8. Accessibility standards and practices for people with disabilities, e.g Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG)

The contractor is encouraged to propose new similar technical standards or best practices organizations to be included in the project.

Provide the following details as part of the deliverables of the project, based on the relevant organizations as specified in the proposal:

1. Description of the relevance and impact each organization or technical group has on UA,
2. Explanation of the UA-relevant technical issues in standards and best practices identified,

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3. The contact details to help reach out for these issues, and
4. Proposed approach(es) for remediation of the identified technical issues (optional).

Part 2:
Identify the most influential indexes of access to and connectivity to the Internet which could motivate and accelerate UA adoption globally if they were to measure UA support as part of their index, ITU's ICT for development index is an example of such an index.

Provide the following details as part of the deliverables of the project based on the relevant organizations as specified in the proposal:
1. List of the relevant indicators
2. Contact details of the organizations or groups managing the indexes and rankings where UA readiness could be added,
3. The UA indicators which could be computed and presented to these organizations to include

Deliverables

To successfully carry out this work, experience of working with standards organizations is required. The output of this project will be the following:

1. A draft preliminary report covering a single organization review completely, as per the details in Part 1, for review and feedback from UASG. The feedback will be incorporated in the analysis for organizations for the final report.
2. A draft final report covering the scope of work for review by UASG.
3. A comprehensive report providing the details identified in the previous section and incorporating the feedback from UASG.
4. A powerpoint presentation on the final report.

Proposal Submission
The proposal should be submitted to: UAProgram@icann.org before the submission due date.

The submitted proposal should include the contractor's qualification, experience, previous similar completed projects, a proposed work plan, and the methodology that will be used in conducting the research.

The proposed workplan should clearly list all the standards (and corresponding organizations) in scope of this project for both Part 1 and Part 2 of the project. A proposal may choose to focus on only Part 1 or Part 2, in case both are not possible.

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It should also contain a financial section that indicates the project's cost and details of any used software or tools (e.g license and fee).

Timeline

- The due date for receiving the submitted proposals: 5 November 2020
- Tentative start date: 20 November 2020
- Preliminary draft report: 20 December 2020
- Final draft report: 30 January 2020
- Final report and Presentation, incorporating feedback from UASG: 30 Feburary 2020

Conflict of Interest

To help avoid any perceived or actual conflict of interest (COI), UASG leaders, UASG Ambassadors, members holding working group's leadership positions in the UASG, and any organization(s) affiliated with individuals in these UASG roles, are prohibited from participating in this SOW. In addition, ICANN org COI applies.

References

- UASG004 - Use cases for UA-readiness evaluation
- UASG026 - Universal Acceptance Readiness Framework
- https://www.w3.org/International/articles/idn-and-iri/

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