



# The ccTLD Governance Project

ITU ccTLD Workshop

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# ccTLD Governance Project

## Background

- Not a CIRA project
- Growing importance of ccTLDs
  - Localization of the Internet
  - Americanization of dot-com (ACPA)
- Challenge of characterizing ccTLDs
- Work-in-progress



# ccTLD Governance Project Background

- Phase One - Governmental involvement in ccTLDs
- Phase Two - Clustering TLDs
- Implications



# ccTLD Governance Project

## Phase One - Governments & ccTLDs

- Review of 50+ ccTLDs
- Relevance -
  - No single source for information
  - ICANN - ccTLD developments -- one size fits all?; less “self-regulated” than commonly perceived
- Methodology
  - TLD sites
  - Direct contact with TLD operators



# ccTLD Governance Project

## Phase One - Governments & ccTLDs

- Key data point - Government involvement via:
  - Legislation
  - Running the TLD
  - Agency oversight
  - No involvement
- Other data points -
  - historical development
  - commercial orientation of TLD
  - ICANN relationship



# ccTLD Governance Project

## Phase One - Governments & ccTLDs

- **ccTLDs grouped into four categories:**
  - Government run or agency (11)
  - Private, for-profit (9) (two have formal contractual relationship with government)
  - Non-profit (20) (25% formal relationship with government; 25% no relationship; 50% informal relationship)
  - Academic institutions (5)
- **Government involvement greater than expected**
  - Majority have some relationship with government
  - Rarely a pure commercial enterprise



Table 1: Countries Where the ccTLD is Part of the Government

Country	Code	Name	Government Relationship	Government Activity	ICANN Agreement
Argentina	AR	MRECIC	Formal	none	none
China	CN	CNNIC	Formal	none	none
El salvador	SV	SVNET	Informal	Logistical center	none
Finland	FI	FICORA	Formal	Legislation	none
India	IN	NCST	Formal	none	none
Malawi	MW	Malawi SDNP	Formal	none	MOU
Malaysia	MY	MYNIC	Formal	none	none
Morocco	MA	ANRT	Formal	Legislation	none
Norway	NO	NORID	Informal	Workgroup	none
Spain	ES	RED.ES	Formal	Legislation	none
Tunisia	TN	ATI	Formal	Legislation	none

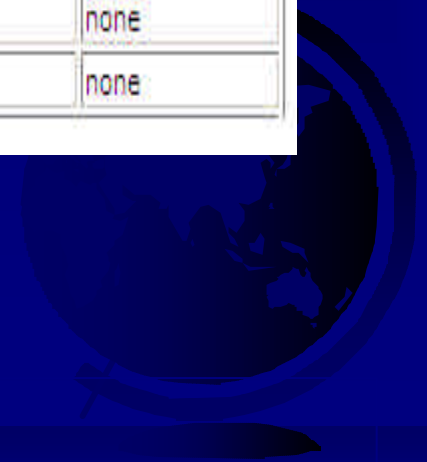
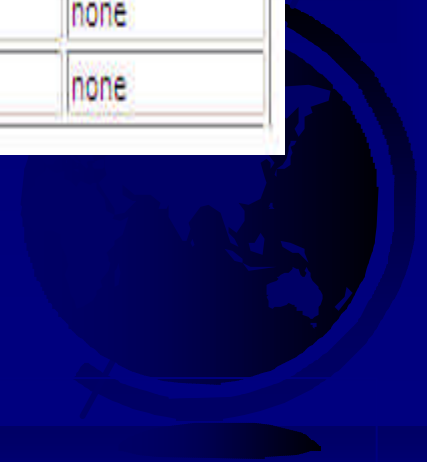


Table 2: Countries Where the ccTLD is Private Sector

Country	Code	Name	Government Relationship	Government Activity	ICANN Agreement
Gambia	GM	nic.gm	none	none	none
Ghana	GH	NCS	none	none	none
Indonesia	ID	IDNIC	Informal	none	none
Japan	JP	JPRS	Formal	endorsement	Yes
Libya	LY	Nic.ly	none	none	none
Tuvalu	TV	.tv corporation	none	none	none
Ukraine	UA	Hostmaster	Informal	Ad hoc	none
United Arab Emirates	AE	UAEnic	Informal	Legislation	none
United States	US	Neustar	Formal	contract	none





**Table 3: Countries Where the ccTLD is a Non-Profit Corporation**

Country	Code	Name	Government Relationship	Government Activity	ICANN Agreement
Armenia	am	ISOC AM	Informal	Government sits on board	none
Australia	AU	AUDA	Formal	Legislation	Yes
Austria	AT	Internet Foundation Austria	Informal	Legislation	none
Bbelgium	BE	DNS.be	Informal	none	none
Burundi	BI	CNI SDNP	Formal	Legislation	Redelegation
Canada	CA	CIRA	Formal	Agreement	none
Christmas Island	CX	Dot CX	Formal	Endorsement	under discussion
Czech Republic	cz	CZ.NIC	Formal	involved in management	none
Denmark	DK	. DIFO	Informal	none	none
France	FR	AFNIC	Informal	Government reps serve on council	none
Germany	DE	DENIC	Informal	Observer on Legal Advisory Committee	none
Hong Kong	HK	HKIRC	Formal	MOU	redelegation
Ireland	IE	IEDR	none	Legislation	none
Israel	IL	Israeli Internet Association	none	Analysis by Government	none
Italy	ID	IDNIC	Informal	none	none
Korea	KR	KRNIC	Formal	approval	none
Netherlands	NL	SIDN	none	Cabinet Review	none
New Zealand	NZ	InternetNZ	Informal	endorsement	none
Peru	PE	Nic.pe	none	Legislation	none
Poland	PL	NASK	None	endorsement	none
Russia	RU	RIPN	Informal	verbal understanding	none
South Africa	ZA	Namespace	Informal	Legislation	none
Sweden	SE	II-Stiftelsen	Informal	Government Committee	none
Taiwan	TW	TWNIC	Informal	endorsement	none
United Kingdom	UK	Nominet	Informal	Government sits on board	none

Table 4: Countries Where the ccTLD is Academic

Country	Code	Name	Government Relationship	Government Activity	ICANN Agreement
Columbia	CO	University of Columbia	Informal	Legislation	None
Guatemala	GT	Universidad del Valle de Guatemala	None	attempted takeover	none
Mauritania	MR	Nic-Mauritanie	None	none	none
Mexico	MX	NIC-Mexico	Informal	proposed legislation	none
Switzerland	CH	SWITCH	Formal	Legislation	none



# ccTLD Governance Project

## Phase Two - Clustering TLDs

- Phase one interesting -- government involvement far heavier than generally perceived
- Groupings not particularly informative -- illustrate government interest but don't give a sense of policy, governance issues
- Add information -- ascertain which domains are “more government/public focused” and which are “commercial”



# ccTLD Governance Project

## Phase Two - Clustering TLDs

- Commercial issues
  - Registry model --
    - Competitive registrar model/sole commercial provider (2)
    - Single non-profit with functional commercial operation (1)
    - Non-profit/government (0)
  - Local registration restrictions --
    - None (2)
    - Some local restrictions (1)
    - Restricted to local population (0)
  - Speed of registration
    - Immediate (1)
    - Delay/paperwork or review required (0)



# ccTLD Governance Project

## Phase Two - Clustering TLDs

- Government/Public Interest Issues
  - Government involvement
    - Government agency (3)
    - Government legislation/contract/ultimate authority (2)
    - Informal government involvement (1)
    - No government involvement (0)
  - Public Interest stated goal
    - Yes (2)
    - Efficient functioning of DNS (1)
    - No stated goals (0)



# ccTLD Governance Project

The screenshot shows a Netscape browser window with the title "Netscape: .la" and the address bar containing "http://www.la/". The main content area features a red banner with the ".la" logo on the left and a Hollywood-themed image on the right. Below the banner is a large orange star and a navigation menu.

**DOT LA**  
the .la corporation

**HOLLYWOOD**

VIA RODEO  
SUNSET BLVD

.la - the world's most exclusive int

home ★ register names ★ renew names ★ other services ★ w

Los Angeles, the world's most exciting and vibrant city, can celeb

# ccTLD Governance Project

The screenshot shows a Netscape browser window with the title "Netscape: Universidad de los Andes - Dominio CO". The address bar displays "https://www.nic.co/". The website features a navigation menu with the following items: "MI DOMINIO", "POLITICAS", "DATOS BASICOS", "QUIENES SOMOS", "CONTACTENOS", and "AYUDA ?".


The main content area includes a blue globe icon on the left. A text box in the upper center reads: "uk.co sub-domain notice 17 February 2003". To the right of the globe are logos for "VeriSign Secure Site" (with a "Click to verify" button), "TCANN", and "iana". The central text "dominio.com.CO" is displayed in a large, light blue font, with "Colombia" written below it. Faint background text includes "gov", "nom", and "com".

At the bottom, there is a search section titled "CONSULTAR" with a circled "1" icon. Below the title, it says "escriba el nombre de dominio que desea y consulte si se encuentra disponible." There is a text input field containing "www.", a dropdown menu set to "COM.CO", and a yellow "consultar" button.

# ccTLD Governance Project

Netscape: CIRA.ca > Home page

Location: <http://www.cira.ca/en/home.html>

**cira**  TM

HOME | FAQ | FRANCOIS | CONTACT US | SITE MAP

WHOIS ? - IS YOUR NAME REGISTERED ?

.ca

NEW | REGISTER A NEW DOT-CA DOMAIN NAME | REGISTERED DOT-CA DOMAIN NAMES | BECOME A CERTIFIED REGISTRAR | OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS | ABOUT CIRA

**WHAT'S NEW @ CIRA ?**

8/02/20  
**A Board of Directors**  
**ting:** The Agenda for the  
January 28, 2003  
ting is now available.

8/02/18  
**ations Updates:**  
ective March 20, 2003

8/02/07  
**e in .CANada: An Open**  
**um on Canada's**  
**ernet Space**  
Hosts Vancouver Forum



**Made in .CANada**  
Vancouver forum.

**DOT-CA GROWTH STRONG**

**326,684**  
**Domain Names**  
Registered as of  
2003-02-28

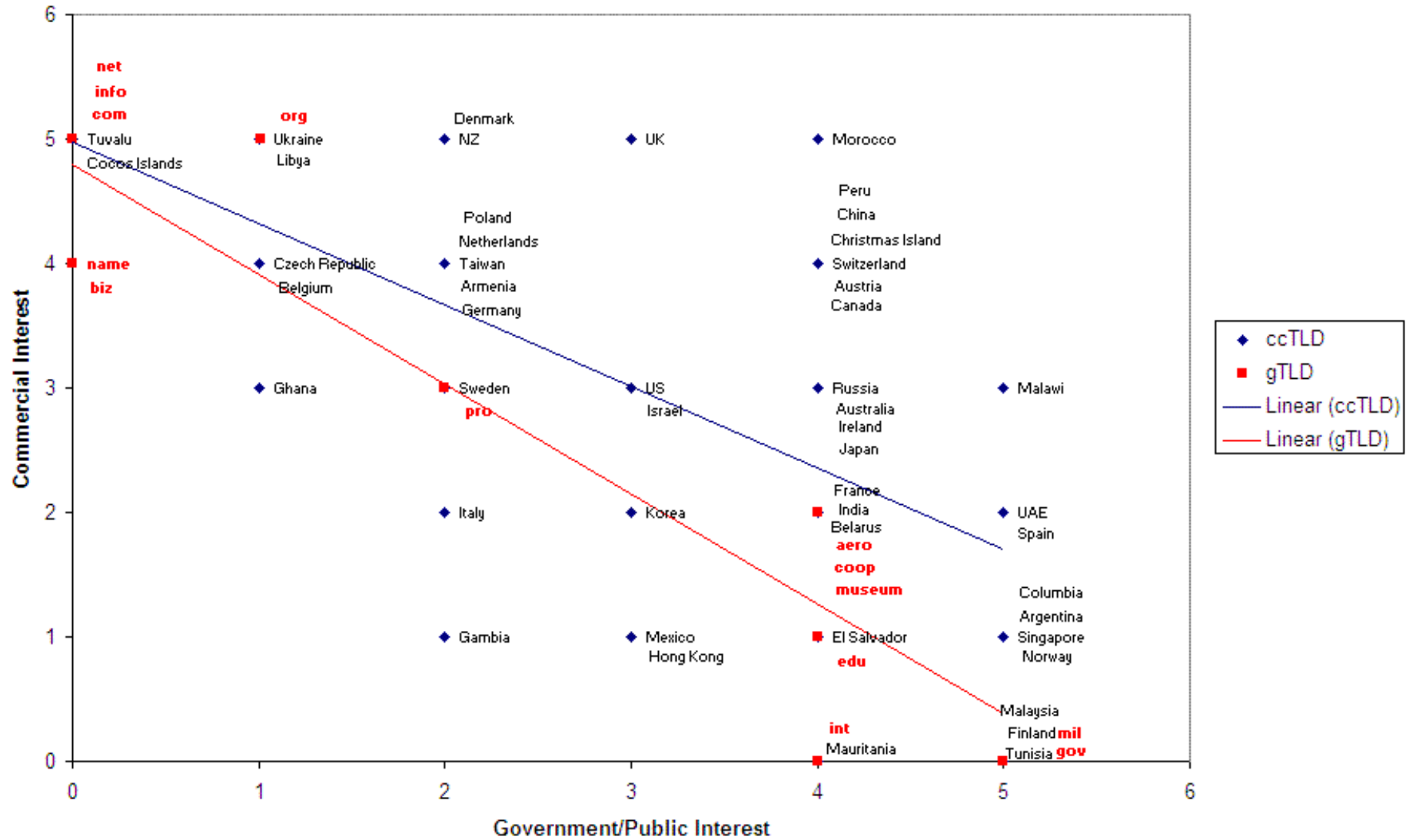
**DID YOU KNOW THAT...**

CIRA has announced the names of the firms responsible for providing dot-ca domain name dispute resolution services in accordance with the CIRA Dispute Resolution Policy.

 **cira** 

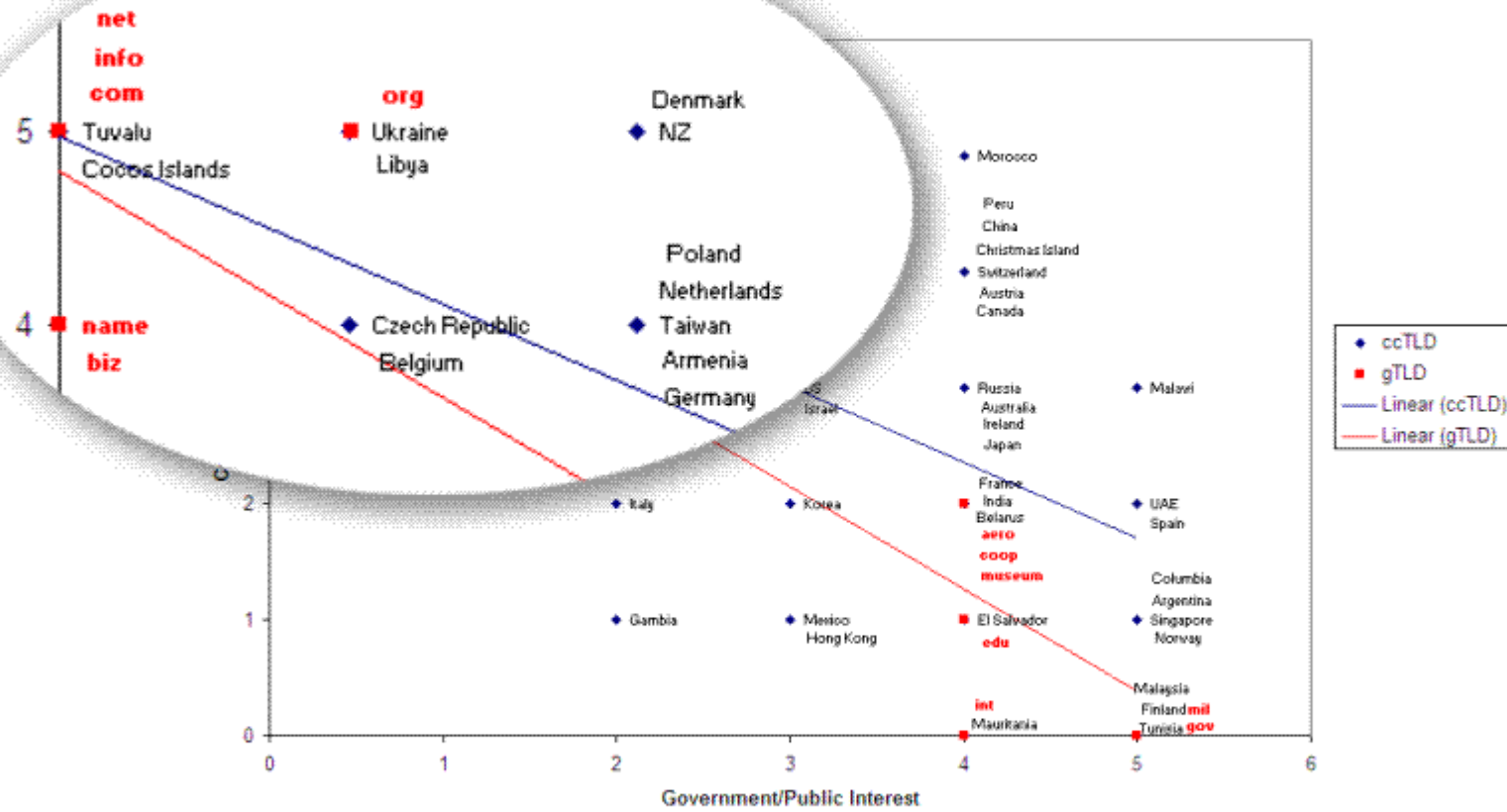


### ccTLD Matrix



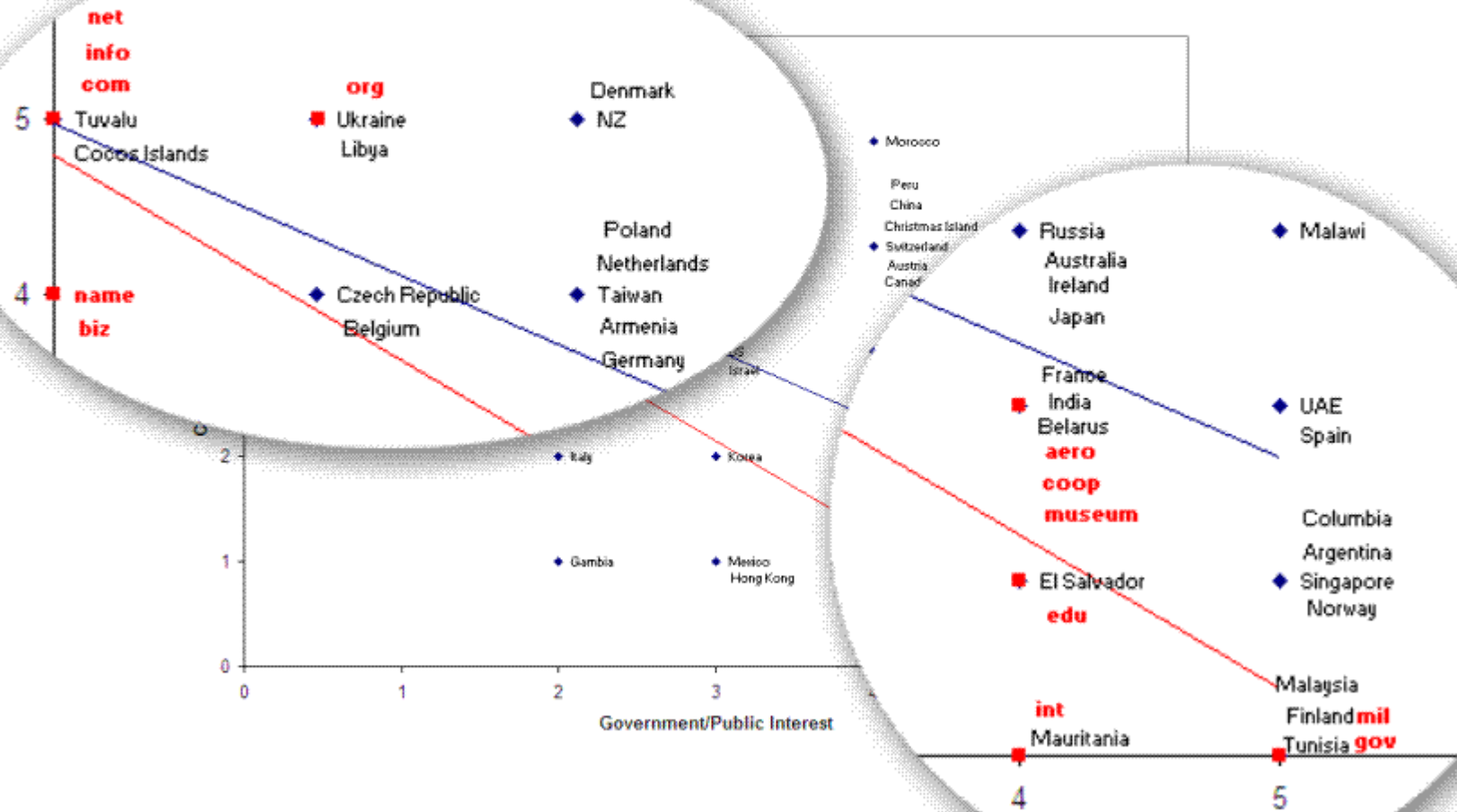
# Commercial Cluster

ccTLD Matrix



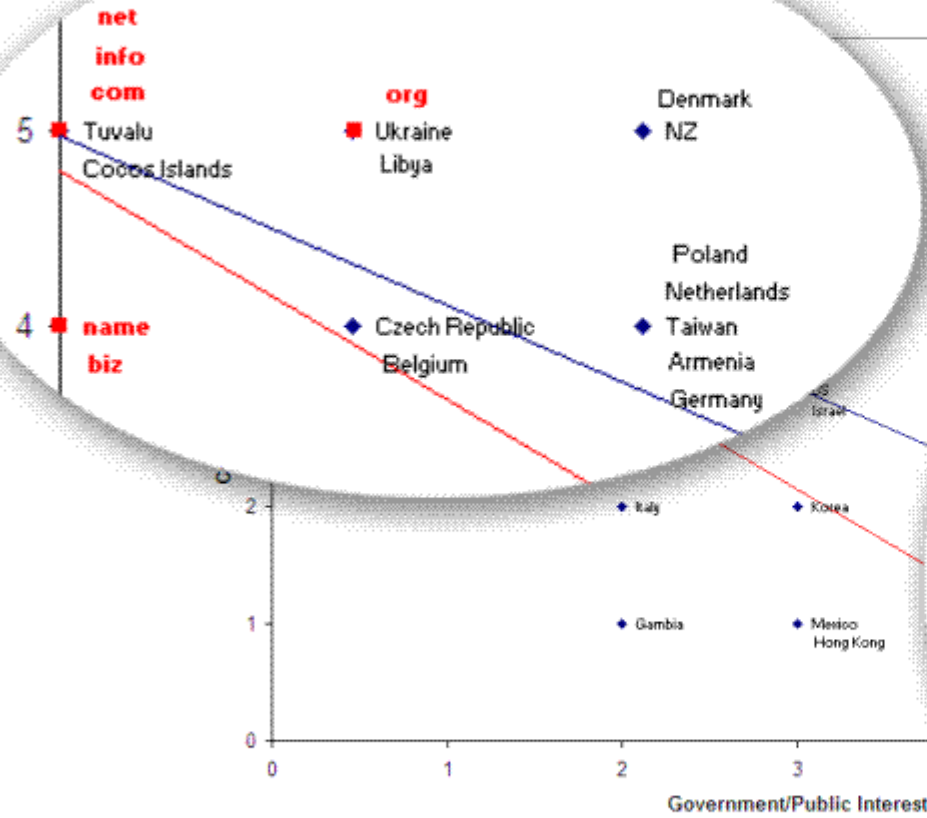
**Commercial Cluster**

**ccTLD Matrix**



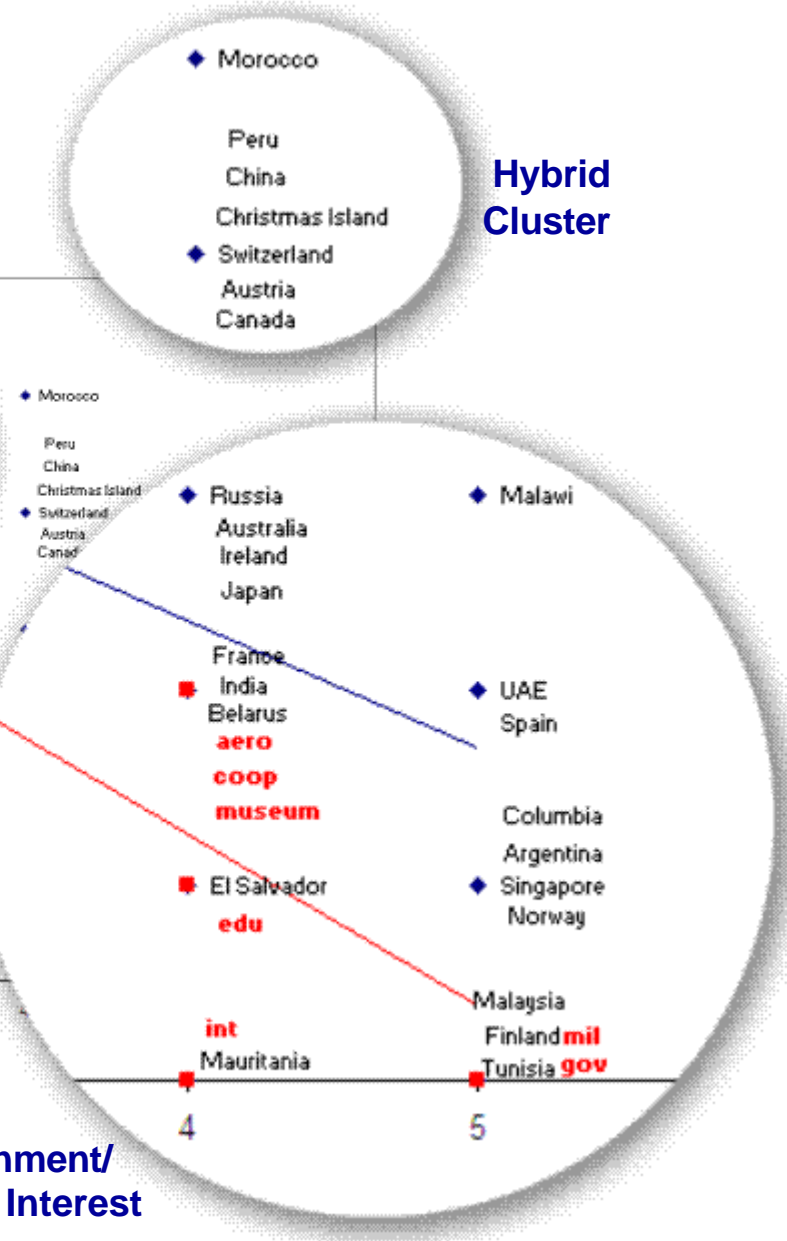
**Government/  
Public Interest  
Sector**

### Commercial Cluster



ccTLD Matrix

### Hybrid Cluster



### Government/ Public Interest Sector

# ccTLD Governance Project

## Implications

- Commercial vs. Government/Public Interest
- Hybrids are a distinct minority --
  - most are recent creations and question marks remain
  - Success stories tend to pre-date commercial success of the Internet
- Close matching of gTLDs and ccTLDs



# ccTLD Governance Project

## Implications

- Commercial vs. Government/Public Interest -

### WHY?

- TLD policy choices often at odds
  - Growth of the registry v. presence requirements
  - Public elections v. fair representation
  - IP interests v. speech and local interests



# ccTLD Governance Project

## Implications

- National level - how governments treat their ccTLD
  - Clear public interest goals may be mismatched with commercial, market led focus
  - Need for difficult choices
  - Government must be willing to step in to protect public interest



# ccTLD Governance Project Implications

- Global level
  - Governments increasingly engaged in ccTLDs -- more difficult for ICANN agreement?
  - ICANN agreement - one size clearly doesn't fit all -- is it a model best suited to commercial TLDs?





# ccTLD Governance Project

## Implications

- Future trends
  - Hybrids likely to experience governance problems
  - ccTLDs push to either end (.la, .co)
  - gTLD developments (ACPA) push toward ccTLD



# ccTLD Governance Project

## Future Work

- Refine and expand matrix
- Data collection centre for ccTLDs
- Analysis of current policy choices





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