



**Q4
2022
Quarterly
Report**

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their elders past and present, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

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From the CEO

Rosemary Sinclair AM
auDA Chief Executive Officer



In this report, we reflect on another successful quarter for auDA. Over the period, there was continued focus on .au direct – our most popular namespace for new registrations during the quarter.

With more than 716,000 .au direct registrations from its launch in March to December, .au direct has changed the face of domain names in Australia.

It has delivered an innovative, new option for registrants, in particular for not-for-profits and individuals. This strong community take-up demonstrates ongoing trust and confidence in the .au – an area of strategic focus for auDA.

To further drive trust and confidence in the .au during Q4, we carried out a range of security focused initiatives. These included a crisis simulation exercise to test our cross-functional responses, and briefings to registrars on data protection regulatory reforms to support best practice data management across the .au ecosystem. We also lent our expertise to the 2022 CSO Security Summit, where auDA Chief Technology Officer (CTO) Adam King spoke on a panel about domain name security and mitigating cyber threats. Meanwhile, our Compliance Team was focused on further reducing DNS abuse in the .au through their rolling audit activity, a priority area in our **2022-23 Compliance Plan**.

The importance of cyber security was highlighted in our **Digital Lives of Australians 2022** research report, also delivered in Q4. The research noted the ongoing need for government, industry, business and education sectors to equip Australians with cyber security information and resources. Digital skills emerged as another area that would benefit from additional effort and cross-industry support. The report was launched via a webinar panel discussion with industry leaders on the impact of the findings and how Australian industry and government can work to improve online outcomes for Australians. We will continue to share the findings and encourage industry to invest in solutions to further Australia's digital capability.



auDA CEO Rosemary Sinclair and ICANN Board Director Chris Chapman at an auDA registrar event



auDA's Digital Lives of Australians 2022 research report



auDA attends the 2022 ICANN Contracted Parties Summit

We were honoured to sponsor NetThing, Australia's Internet Governance Forum, again this year and have auDA representatives speak on topics including multi-stakeholder internet governance, internet fragmentation and DNS abuse.

In addition to NetThing, we engaged broadly with the international internet community over the period. Key highlights included participation on a technology operations panel at the ICANN Contracted Parties Summit, connecting with peers at the 82nd Asia Pacific Top Level Domain Association (APTLD82) Members Meeting and virtual attendance at the 17th Annual Internet Governance Forum (IGF), which focused on a resilient internet for a shared sustainable future. We were also delighted to have Chris Chapman, recently appointed ICANN Board Director, join auDA and .au registrars for an end of year event. We share Chris' passion for upholding a unified, global internet through the work of ICANN and the broader internet naming and numbering sector and thank him for joining us.

Engagement with our .au membership community continued throughout Q4 with networking events in Sydney, Adelaide and Geelong, and two online cyber security workshops for members, which we co-hosted with Cynch Security. In the quarter, we also published key insights from our **2022 .au member survey**.

Following feedback from the survey, we are excited to bring an expanded events program to members in 2023, including events in regional cities and more workshop opportunities.

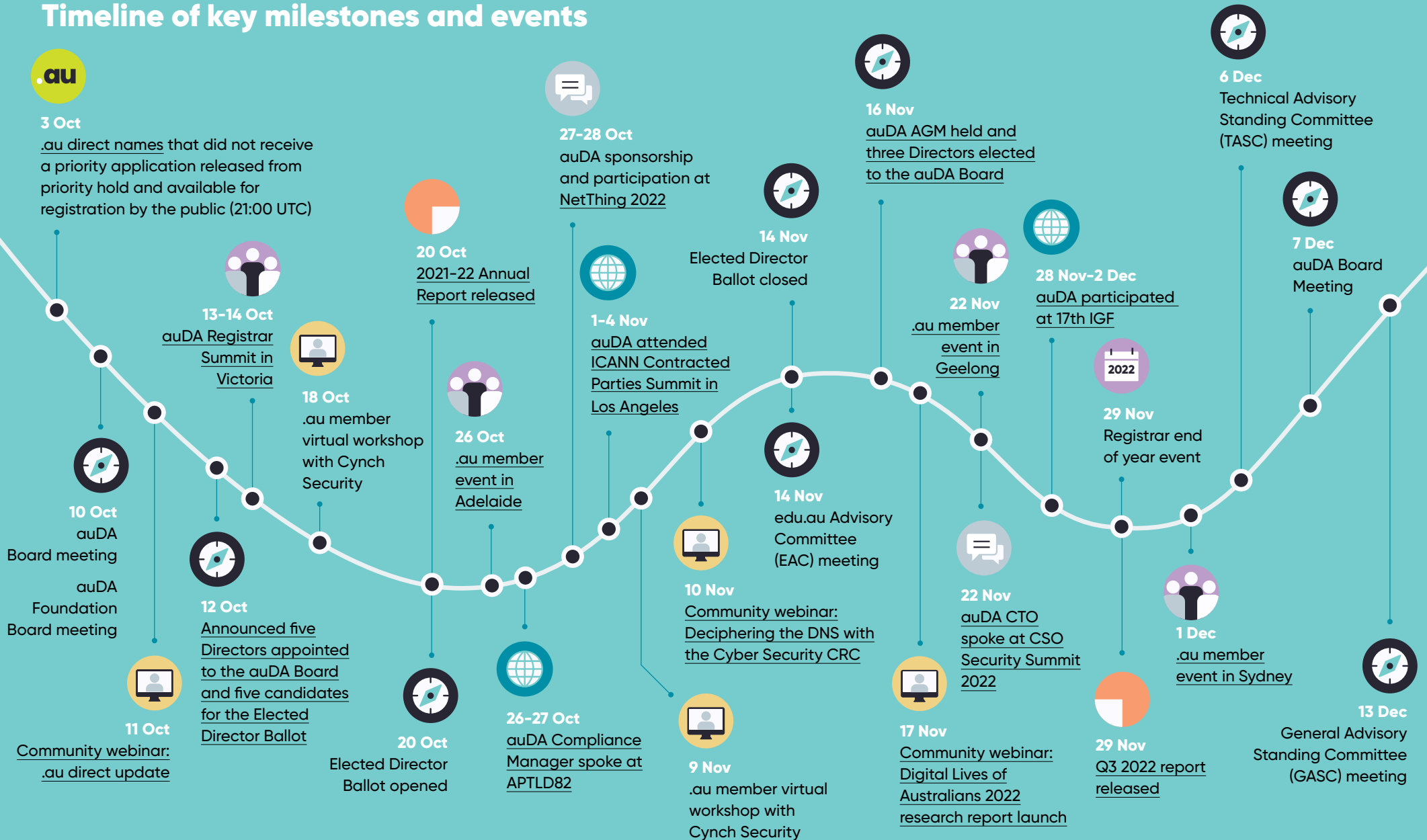
In October, we announced changes to our Board composition with James Atkins, Kate Cornick and Tania Fryer retiring and the appointment of five Appointed Directors; Sandra Davey, Peter Elford, Matthew Healy, Sandra Hook and Alice McCleary. In November, at auDA's AGM, we also announced the election of three Elected Directors Wendy Thorpe, Mike Trovato and Angelo Giuffrida. I thank our departing Directors for their contributions to auDA and welcome the appointment and election of our new and continuing Directors.

The quarter and the year was rounded out with a final Board meeting in December and meetings of the General and Technical Advisory Committees.

Alongside our Board, the auDA Team looks forward to building on the many successes of 2022 and delivering further value for all Australians in 2023.

Quarter at-a-glance

Timeline of key milestones and events



.au by numbers

Overview of key Q4 operational metrics

Variations are year-on-year

REGISTRATIONS

Domains under management, Dec 2022

4,160,209 +22%

New domain names created in Q4

280,071 +123%

MEMBERS

.au members, Dec 2022

3,774* -10%

New members in Q4

568

SECURITY

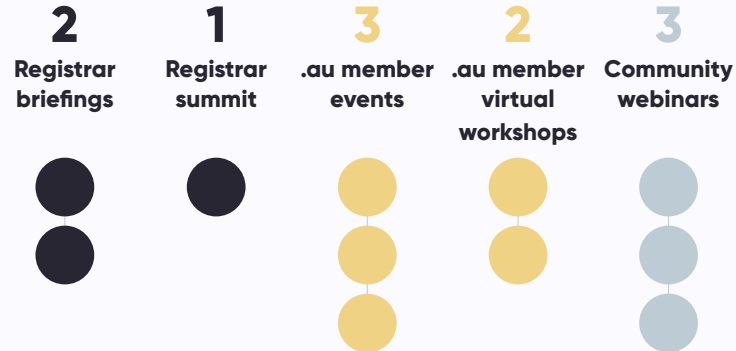
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Registrars with ISO 27001 certification or equivalent

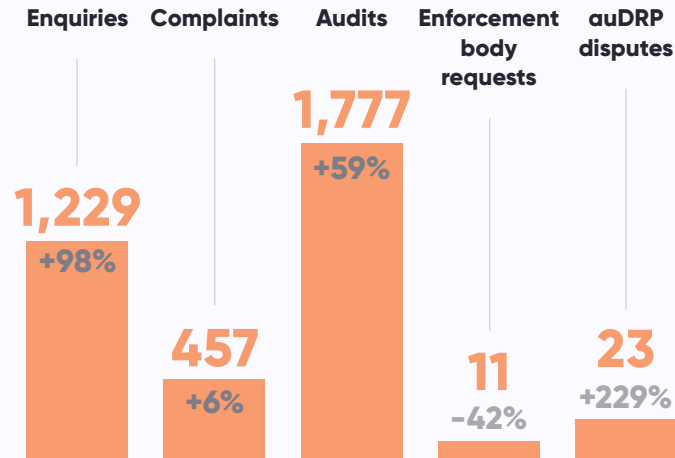
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Registrars with ISO 27001 progress plan in place

ENGAGEMENTS



COMPLIANCE



DNS AND REGISTRY SERVICES

.au DNS queries per second in Q4

36,600 +29%

DNS availability

100%

WHOIS availability

100%

Registry database availability

100%

* .au membership transitioned to a new model on 27 September 2022, as set out in auDA's Constitution. 3,170 Associate Members opted-in to the terms and conditions of the new model and became auDA Members under the Constitution.

.au scorecard




Overview of strategic objectives and key results

Objective	Key Result	Status
Trust		
Drive down DNS abuse	.au domain names affected by DNS abuse down to 0.025 per cent	G
Drive up the integrity of the .au domain	90 per cent of .au domain names have validated Australian presence	G
Lead world's best practice ccTLD security	ISO 27001 adopted by registrars managing 90 per cent of .au domain names*	G
Innovation		
Improve the utility of the .au by providing greater choice of .au domain names	.au direct reaches five per cent of total .au domain names	G
Produce leading insights from our data and community research	\$1,300,000 funding for registrar impact projects	G
Invest to enable innovation and research by others	\$600,000 funding for community impact projects	G
Multi-stakeholder engagement		
Grow and diversify auDA's membership	Grow auDA membership 20 per cent from the number of members at transition (3,170)	G
Increase auDA's influence in multi-stakeholder internet governance	Actively engage in ICANN work streams	G

Objective	Key Result	Status
People		
Build an organisation regarded as an Employer of Choice	Improve culture survey result by 10 points	G
Governance		
Strive for excellence in our reporting	Fully adopt two of the eight content elements of the Integrated Report Framework for the 2022-23 Annual Report	G

Target: achieve Key Results by 30 June 2023

*.au direct reached 17 per cent of total .au domain names at 30 December 2022

On track 
 Being managed within tolerance 
 Outside tolerance 

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