

3.3.1 Study One: Understanding the Current State of Name Collisions (revised)

Name collision is not a new issue and much work has been done on it before. Past work is likely to have utility going forward for this project and so needs to be thoroughly examined and the pertinent issues brought forward. In addition, given the work that has already taken place, some people know much about this issue while others know little and so the output needs to include a means to bring the latter group up to speed quickly.

Study Goals

1. The first goal is to examine all prior work on the issue of name collisions and produce a summary report that brings forward important knowledge from prior work into this study, and which can act as a primer for those new to the subject.
2. The second goal is to create a list of data sets used in past studies, identify gaps, if any, and list additional data that would be required to successfully complete Studies 2 and 3.
3. The third goal is to decide if the project should proceed based on the results of the survey of prior work and the availability of data.

Study Tasks

1. Properly define name collision.
2. Undertake an informal public consultation of the definition of name collision developed in task 1.
3. Review and analyze past studies and work on name collision.
4. Produce a written report that provides an explanation of the issue, lists all the previous work on the subject, any actions taken so far, and any important points that should be brought forward for this project.
5. Present the report as widely as possible to ensure strong community engagement.
6. Identify datasets used in past studies.
7. Identify gaps in the datasets used by previous studies, resulting in a list of additional datasets or data providers that would be necessary to successfully complete Studies 2 and 3.
8. Assess the potential availability of these additional datasets.
9. Produce a report on the results of Study 1.
10. Undertake an informal public consultation on the results of Study 1.
11. Evaluate and recommend to the Board how to proceed with name collision research as a result of Study 1.

Study Deliverables

- Definition of name collision in the DNS
- Report on the informal public consultation on the definition of name collision
- Report on past work on name collision in the DNS
- Final report on Study 1, including:
 - A list of gaps in data and additional data sets required to continue with Studies 2 and 3
 - A determination, based on the results of Study 1, if completion of Studies 2 and 3 would be possible and would accomplish the Board's request, and, if so, a recommendation on how to proceed with name collision research
- Report on the informal public consultation on the final report on Study 1

Roles and Responsibilities

- SSAC provides high-level technical oversight and has final responsibility for the study.
- OCTO has responsibility to ensure that project deliverables are completed and provides day-to-day technical and management oversight. OCTO anticipates that most study deliverables will be outsourced, with RFP processes to select and engage appropriate vendors.
- Other ICANN staff will provide project management and secretariat support.

Duration

The estimated duration for the study is approximately six months.