



SaudiNIC's Experience and Success Story in Working with Open Source Solutions

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About SaudiNIC

- **SaudiNIC** “ Saudi Network Information Center ” is a non-profit entity that is operated by CITC as a part of the IT sector .
- **Mandate**
SaudiNIC is the local domain name registry of the Saudi domain name space (ccTLD) under (.sa and السعودية)

About SaudiNIC

- **Mission**

"to provide an equitable, just and competent technical and administrative management of domain name registrations for Internet community in Saudi Arabia".

About SaudiNIC

- **Current Tasks**
 - Provide the local registry services
 - Operate the DNS root servers for Saudi domain domains under (.sa and السعودية)
 - Regulating domain name services
 - Maintain the Domain names records
 - Provide Whois services
 - Lead the effort toward fully Arabic domain names
 - Coordinating with other GCC, Arab, and International ccTLDs.
 - Participating in international events supervised by ICANN, RIPE, ISOC, and WIPO related to domain.

About SaudiNIC

- **Structure and staffing**
 - Manager
 - Senior specialists : 2
 - Research and development team : 3
 - Registration agents : 5



History of SaudiNIC

- **KACST “ King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology ” :**
 - **1994:** KACST contacted IANA and ask to manage the domain name space for the country code (ccTLD) of Saudi Arabia (.sa)
 - **1995:** KACST was delegated the responsibility of managing and administrating the Saudi ccTLD (.sa)
 - **1997:** Registration of first domain name : kacst.edu.sa
 - **1998:** ISU was established and SaudiNIC became one of its departments



History of SaudiNIC

- CITC “ Communication and Information Commission ” :
 - **2006** : The movement to CITC
 - **2009** : First major update for the regulation.
 - **2010** : Major update to all the internal systems
 - **2010** : Starting the Arabic domain names registration under (.السعودية)
 - **2011** : Starting the 2DL domain names registration
 - **2011** : Update the regulation in preparation for introducing fees and registry-registrar module

SaudiNIC's Services

- **As a Local domain names registry**
 - **National service** : running the root servers for the Saudi domain name space .
 - **Critical service** : SaudiNIC infrastructure must be working correctly all the time.
 - If not, access to all websites using Saudi domain names will be effected .
 - Work procedures must insure the safety and security of the domain names records .

SaudiNIC's Services

- **Some of our clients :**
 - All the Saudi ministries
 - All the major government online services and E-government programs
 - Major companies
 - All the Saudi universities and education entities
- **All will be impacted by the condition of SaudiNIC services .**

SaudiNIC's Services

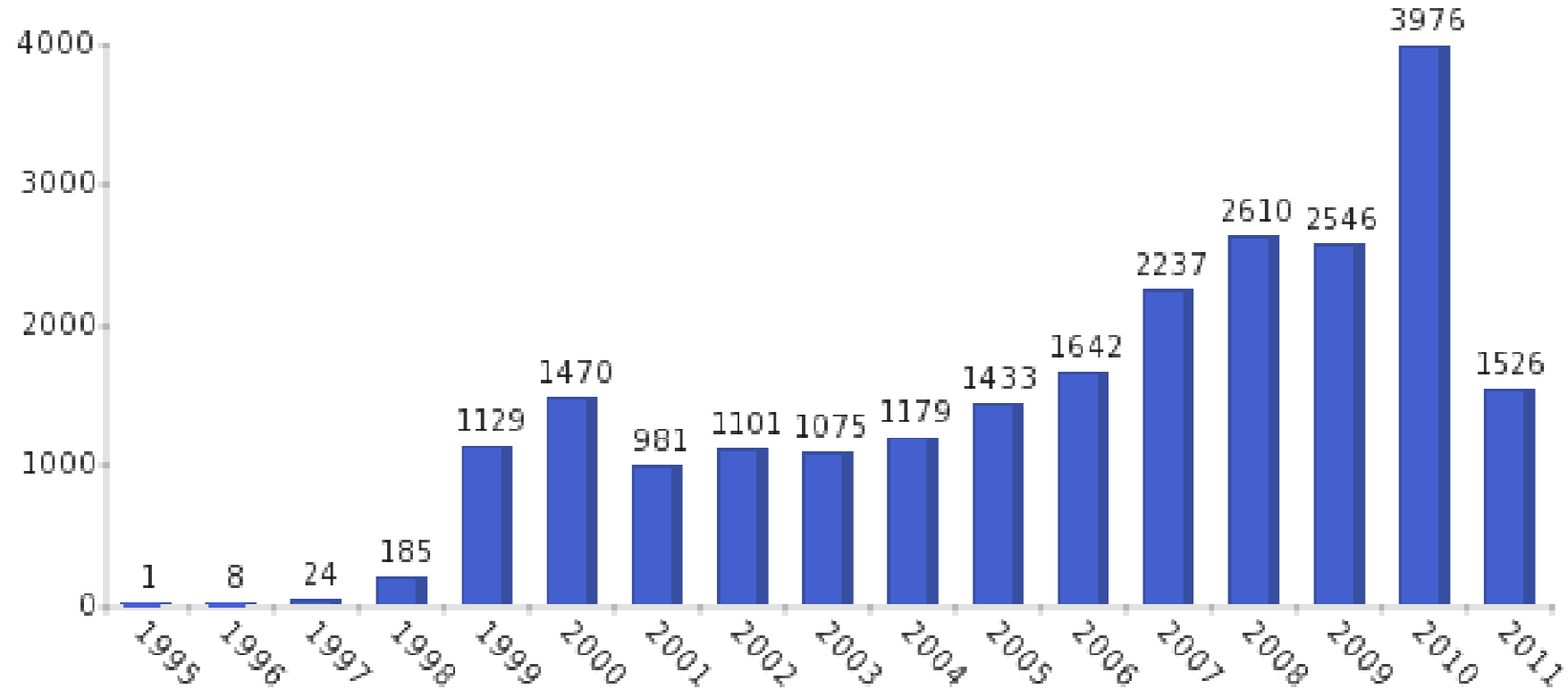
- **Services for domain name registrants**
 - Day to day services like registration, modification, clients inquiries, .. etc.
- **Services for Local authorities and regulatory entities**
 - Maintain the domain names records
 - Ensure that all the regulation and policies are applied .

- **General Statistics**
 - **Registered domains : 23,343 domains**
 - Relation and documents are still required
 - Domain hosting is still required
 - **Registered Arabic domains : 988 domains**
 - Registration was opened by the end of 2010
 - **Registered second level domains : 669 domains**
 - Open phase will start next week .



Statistics

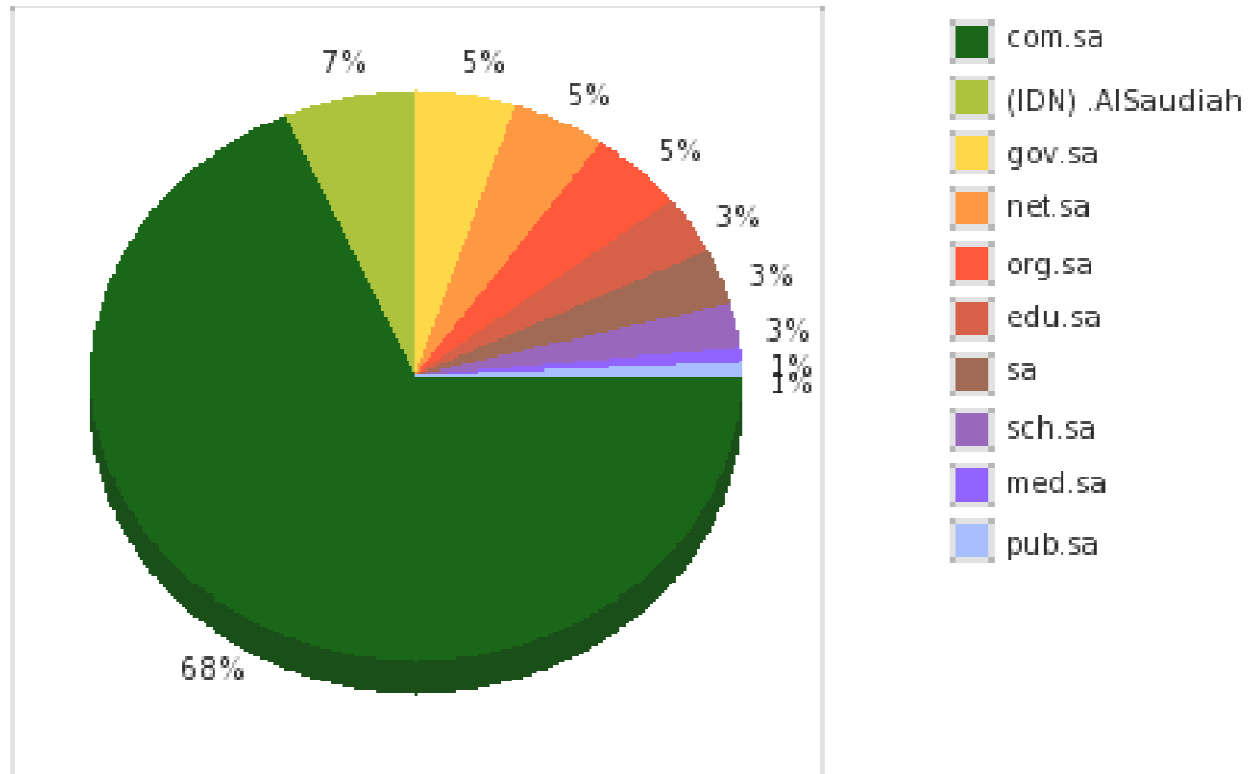
Number of registred domains up to 26-Apr-2011





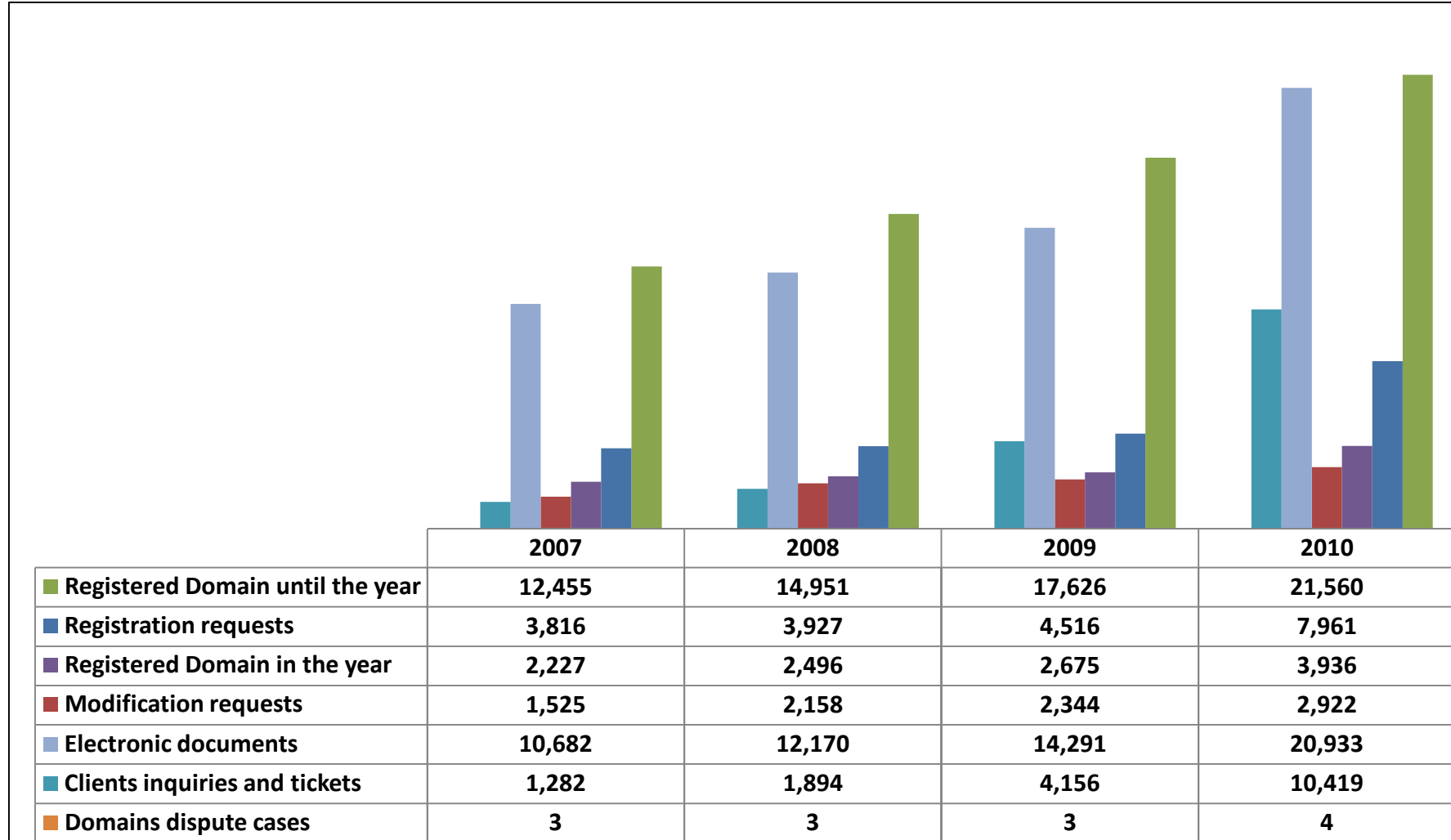
Statistics

Registered domains by SLD up to 26-Apr-2011





Statistics





International efforts

- Active participation with the following international bodies :





Arabic domain names

- **SaudiNIC is leading the Arabic domain names work**
- **SaudiNIC chaired both the technical and management committees of the Arabic pilot project group.**
- **First Actual Arabic domain registration**
 - Regulation and policies
 - Internal systems
 - Awareness and media
 - Actual registration



Accomplishments

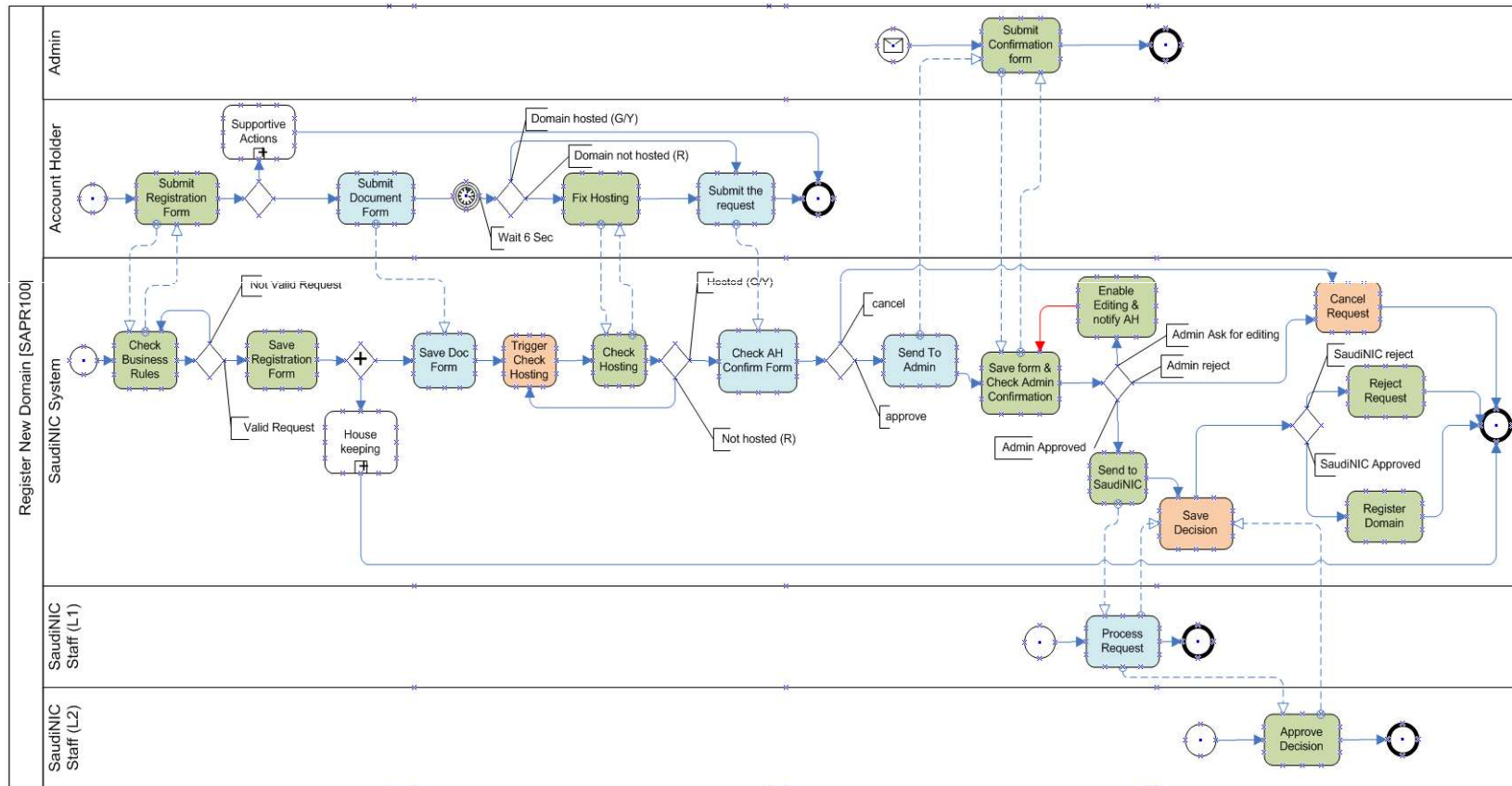
- **Registration services**

- Defined and documented procedures covering all the registry work .
 - Definitions ,flowcharts, forms, templates, owners, .. etc
- Registration systems strictly Implements those procedures
- Entirely online services in front end and backend
- Multilevel processing



Accomplishments

- e.g : Domain registration procedure :



Ver 1.7 Date 27-4-2010



Accomplishments

- **Regulation and policies**
 - Domain name regulations - Version 1.0, Version 2.0, Version 3.0
 - Saudi Domain Names Objection Rules - Version 1, Version 1.1
 - Procedures for submitting an objection - Version 1
 - Policy Development Process
 - Arabic Domain Name Registration Regulation
 - Regulation for Opening Arabic Domain Name Registration
 - Terms and Conditions of Using the SaudiNIC Portal
 - Regulation for Opening 2LD Domain Name Registration
 - Procedures Governing Reserved Names
- **Guidelines documents**
 - Domain and Registrant Relationship Criteria - Version 1, Version 1.1
 - Guidelines for choosing domain names for government agencies
 - Guideline rules for writing Arabic domain names - Version 1.2



Accomplishments

- **Leading International efforts for AND**
 - Worked with per entities in the world for almost 10 years to approve IDN .
 - First actual Arabic domain names registry
 - Active work in research and development



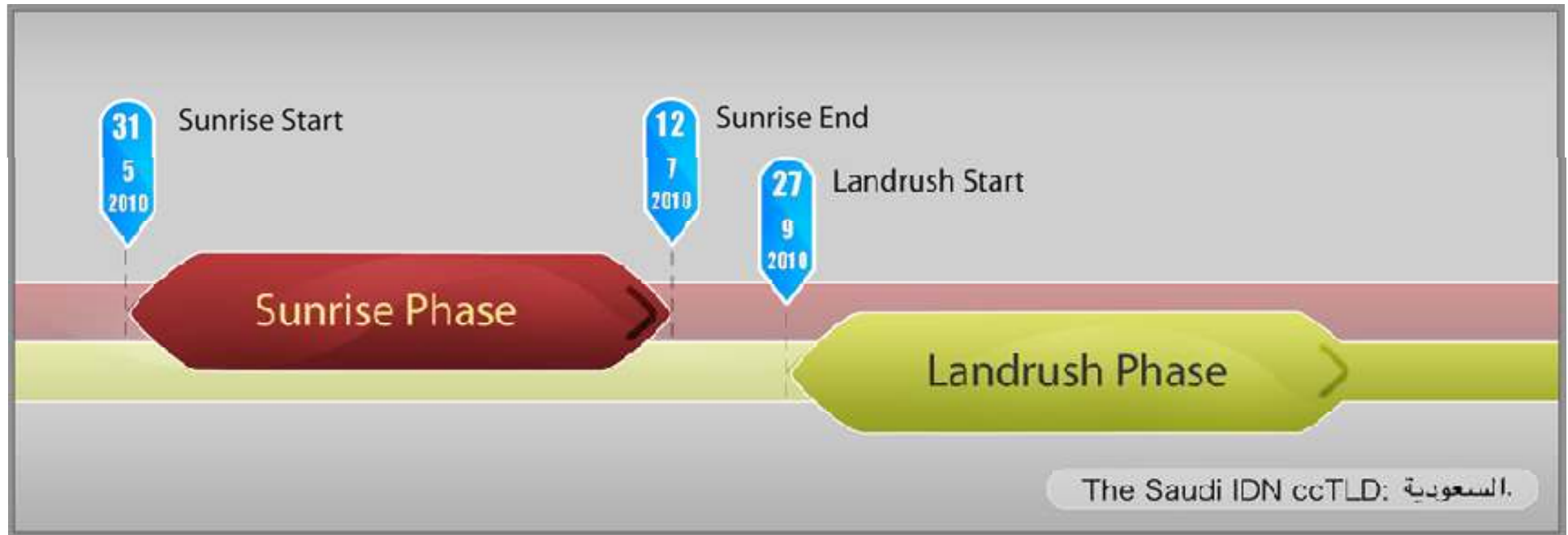
Accomplishments

- **Electronic document system**
 - Migrate the old archive
 - All the documents are received electronically
- **Invest in Saudi talents**
 - All the systems developed by Saudi specialists
 - Including the analyses and documentation of the work procedures
- **Recently introduced services**
 - Arabic domain names registration
 - 2LD registration
 - Introduced in a phased approach



Accomplishments

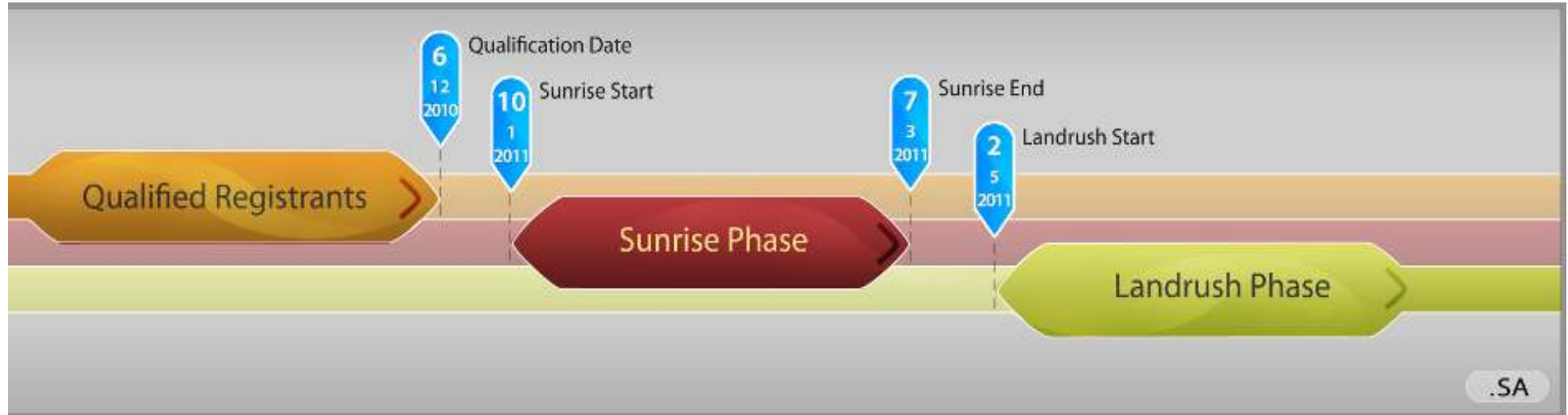
- Introduced ADN in a phased approach





Accomplishments

- Introduced 2LD in a phased approach



Future plans

- **Developing the Saudi domain names business**
 - Introducing fees
- **Increase the adoption of Saudi domain names**
 - Adopting registry registrar module



SaudiNIC and Free/open source software technologies

Vision

- In house developed systems
- Use Free/Open source whenever it is possible
- Invest in talents

History



Registry requirements

- **Operating Systems**
- **DNS applications**
- **Data Base systems**
- **Web servers**
- **Programming languages frame works**
- **Supporting libraries and packages**
- **Utilities**
 - IDE s
 - Images manipulation software
 - FTP, SSH, SVN, Clients

SaudiNIC's Internal Systems

1. Registration system (**MADA 1.0, MADA 1.2, MADA 2.0**)
2. Internal processes system (**NAWA**)
3. Electronic documents management system (**FARIZ**)
4. Anomaly detection system (**DHAKI**)
5. Registration phases support system (**DAAM**)



SaudiNIC's Public Systems

1. Public website (**NSHRA**)
2. New Public website (**SADA**)
3. User accounts system (**SAFAA**)
4. SaudiNIC blog
5. Arabic domain names website



Accomplishments

- 0.5 Million lines of code developed internally
- Based on the COCOMO1 software cost estimation methodology, estimated cost of such systems is : **5 to 15 Million SAR**



Thank You