Sharing Opportunities for New Developers in the Wikipedia Community

Srishti Sethi

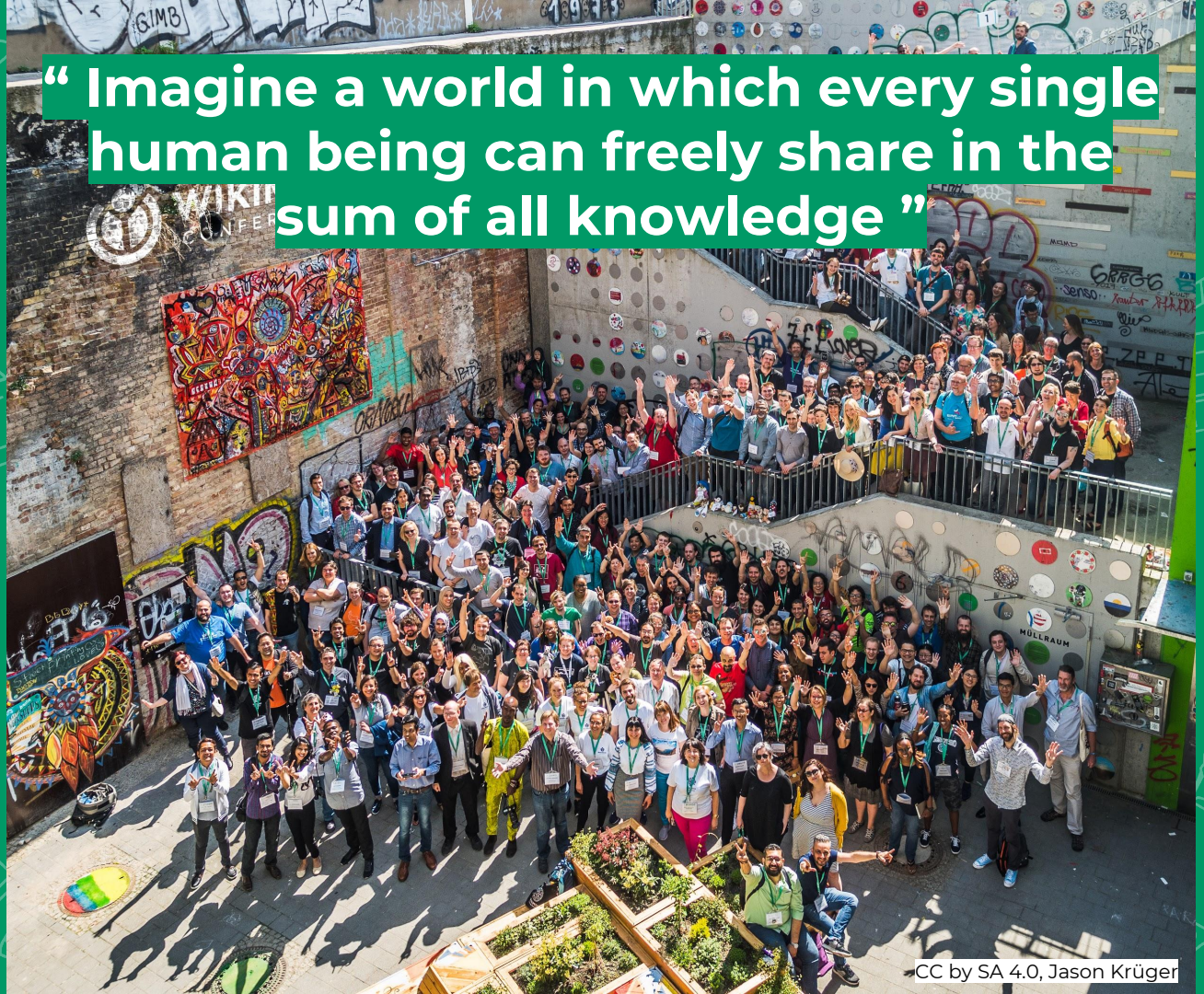
Agenda

- Wikimedia ecosystem
- Technical areas and projects for new developers
- Efforts to onboard new developers

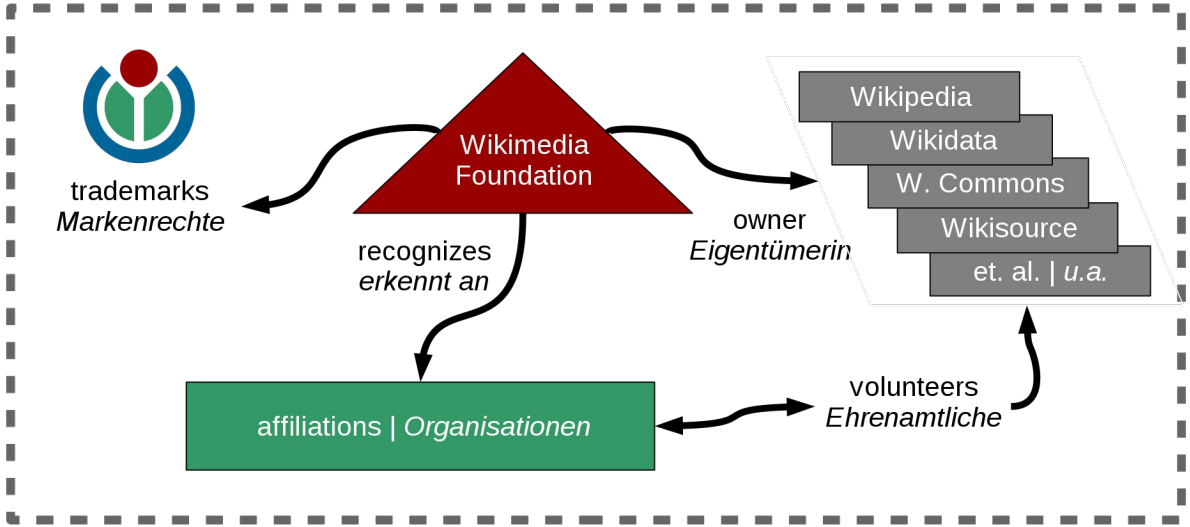
WIKIMEDIA
FOUNDATION

Wikimedia Ecosystem

This *might* be a bit confusing..

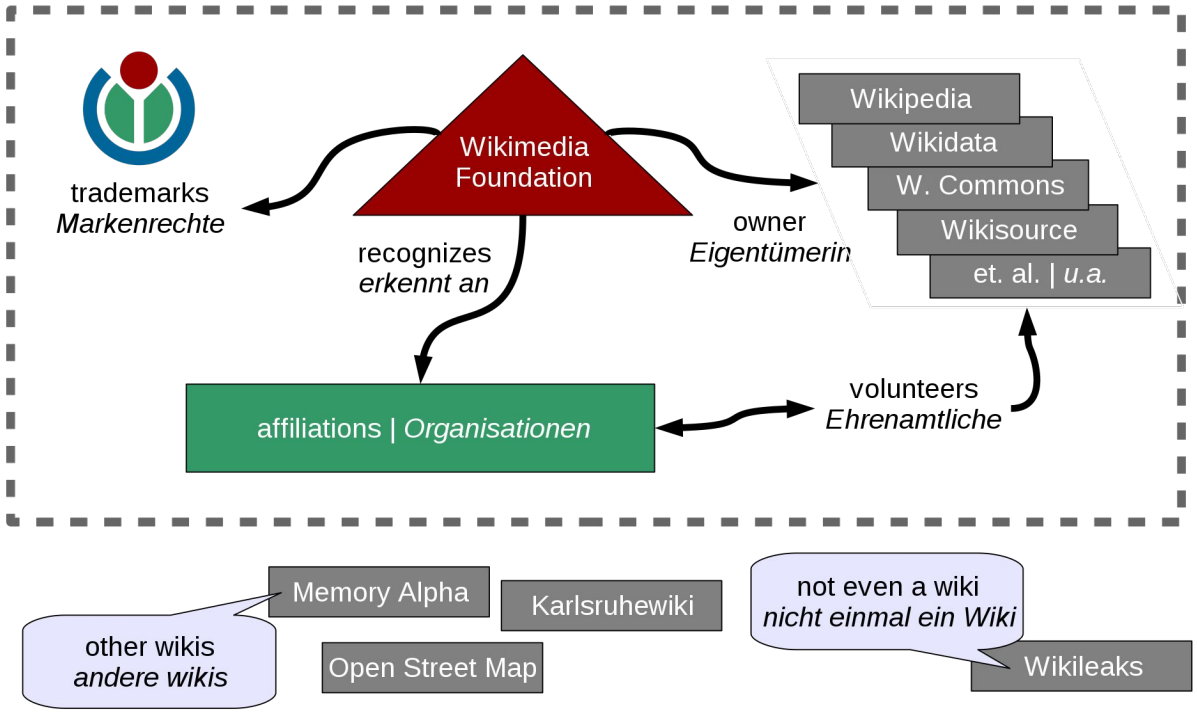

“ Imagine a world in which every single human being can freely share in the sum of all knowledge ”
CC by SA 4.0, Jason Krüger

Wikimedia Movement



CC by SA 4.0, Ziko van Dijk

Wikimedia Movement

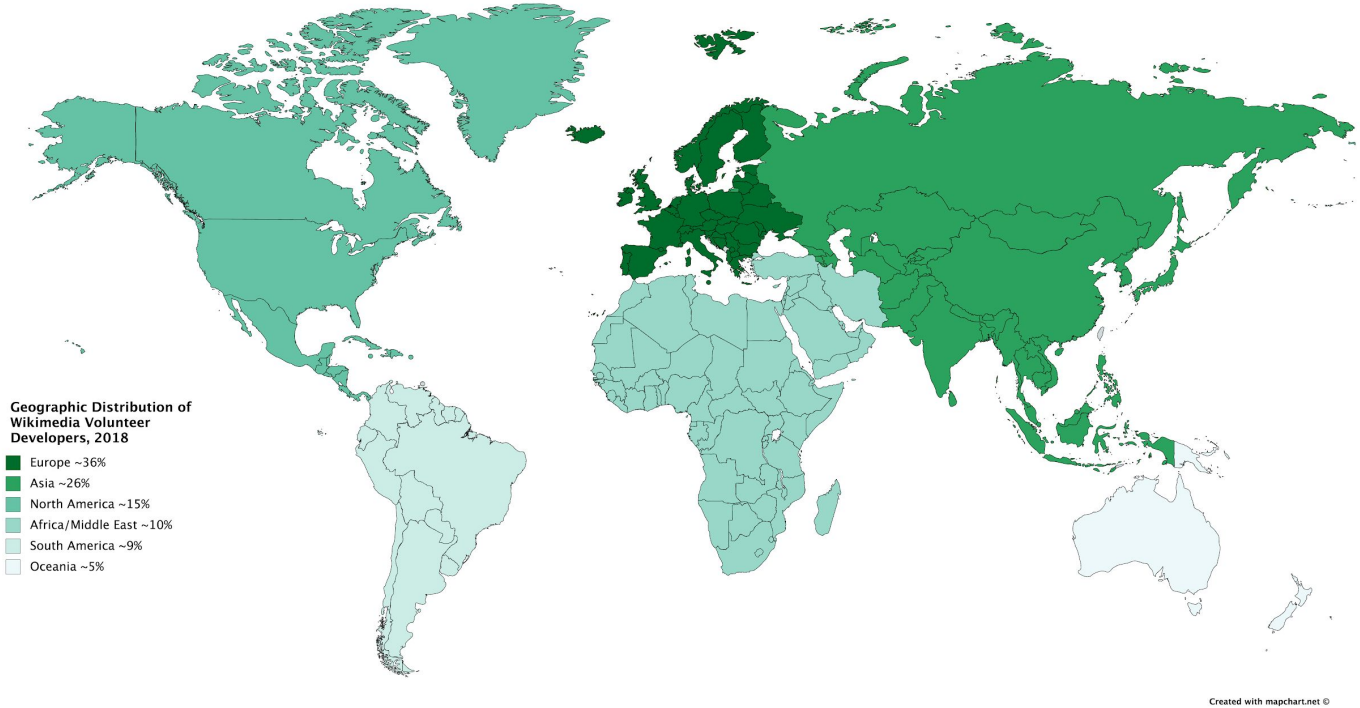


CC by SA 4.0, Ziko van Dijk

Who makes technical contributions to Wikipedia community?

WIKIMEDIA
FOUNDATION

Geographic Distribution of Wikimedia Volunteer Developers (2017-18)

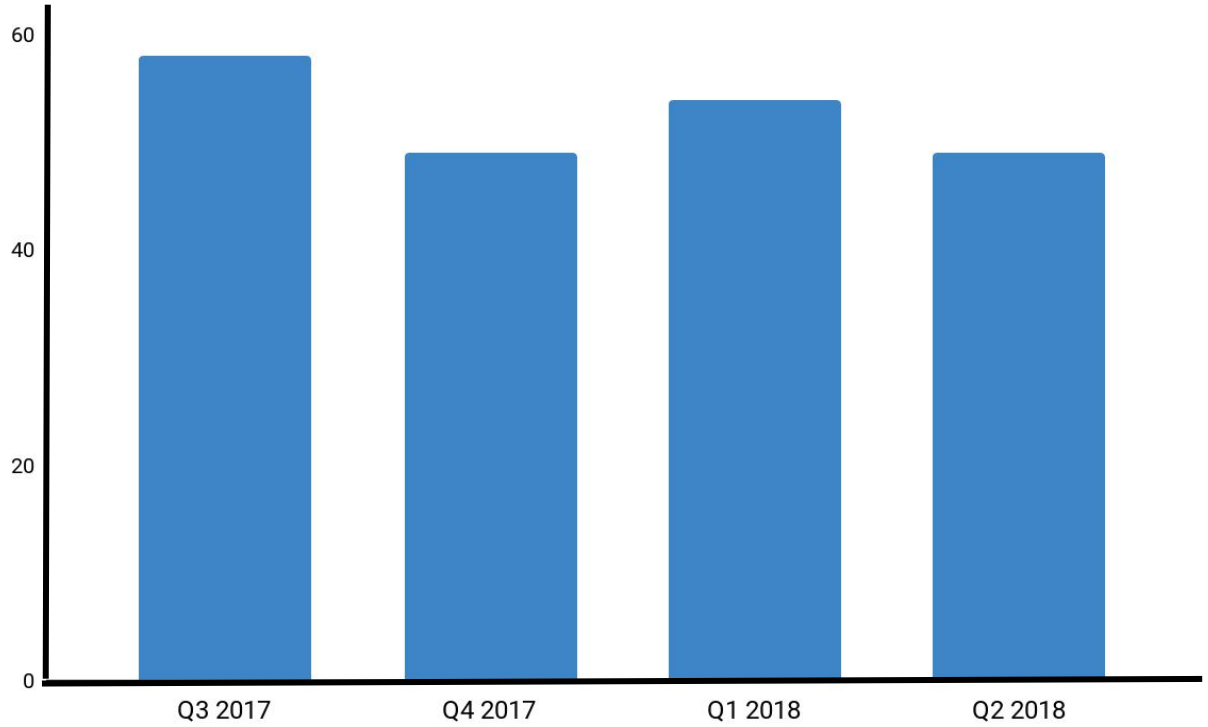


Technical Contributions Overview
(2017-18)

- **413** contributors
- **48,652** commits
- **1,363** repositories
- **60%** volunteers
- **18%** of commits

WIKIMEDIA
FOUNDATION

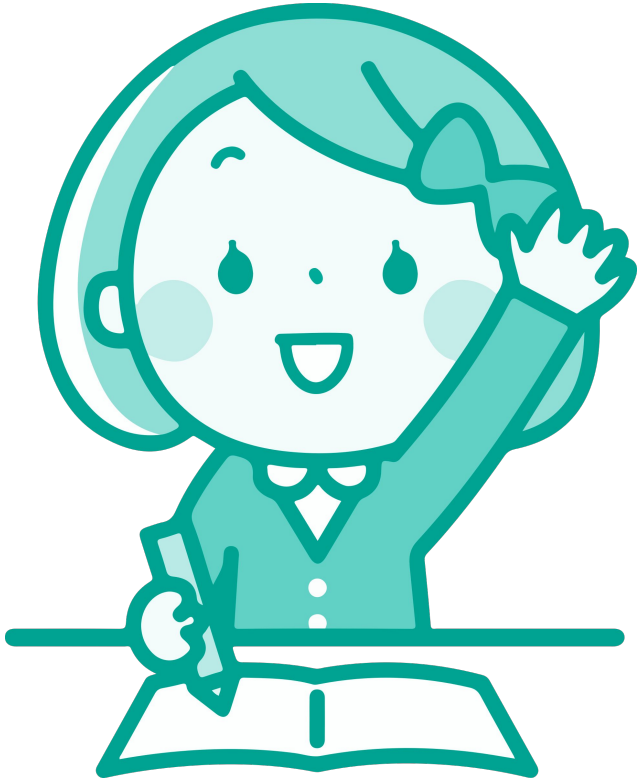
New Developers Added in 2017-18



What makes Wikimedia volunteers contribute?

WIKIMEDIA
FOUNDATION

CC by SA 3.0, Lane Hartwell



WIKIPEDIA NEEDS YOU!

How to Contribute?

WIKIMEDIA
FOUNDATION

Four-step process

- Pick a task related to a Wikimedia project or technical area
- Set up the development environment
- Choose and solve a task
- Submit your code changes

WIKIMEDIA FOUNDATION

Step 1

Pick a task related to a Wikimedia project or technical area

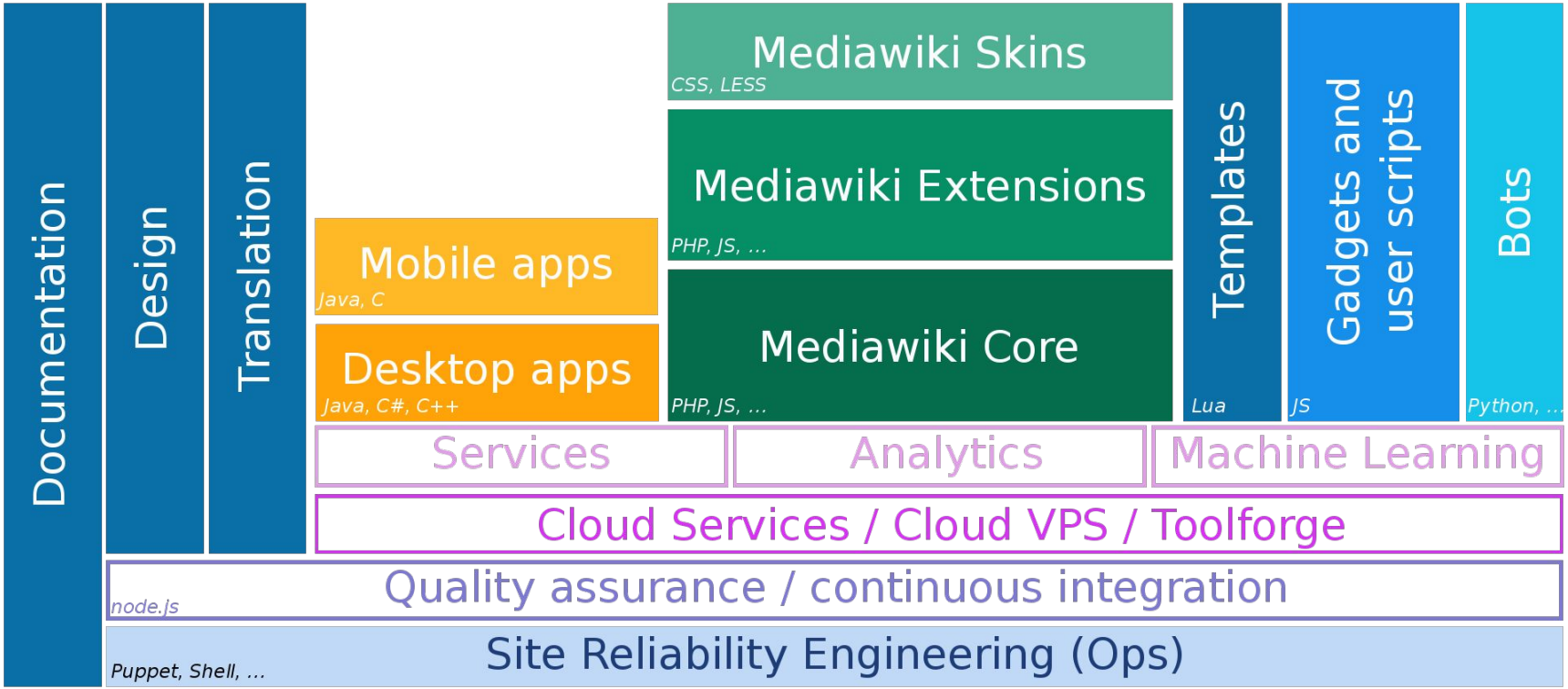
WIKIMEDIA FOUNDATION

CC by SA 2.5, Erik Strandberg

Wikimedia Projects

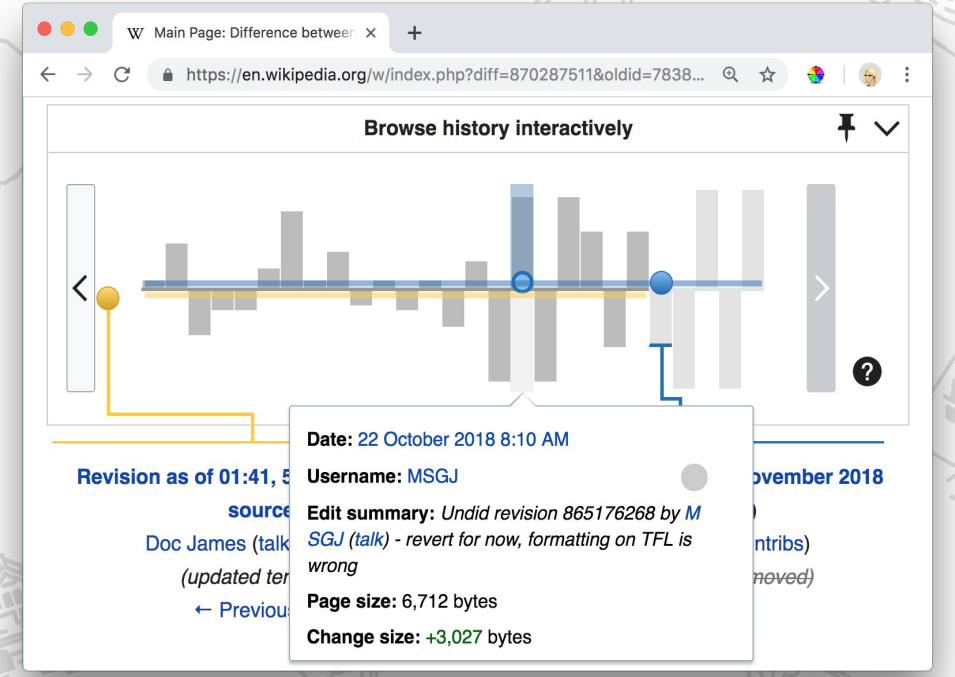
CC by SA 3.0, Wikimedia Foundation

Technical areas



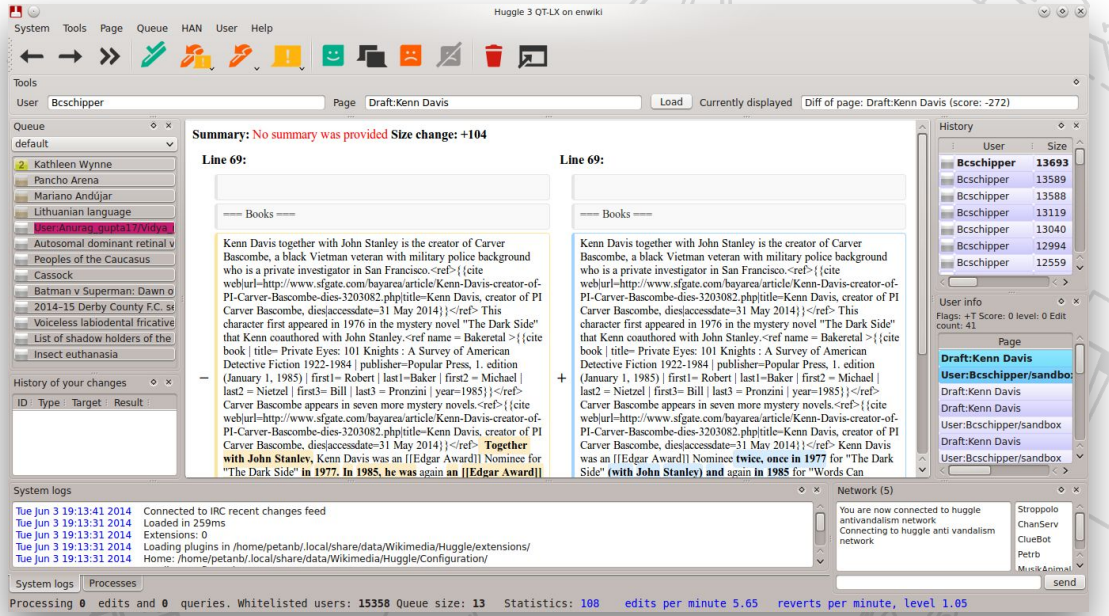
CC by SA 3.0, AGreen (WMF)

MediaWiki Extensions



Screenshot of an Extension: Revision Slider

Desktop Apps



Screenshot of a Desktop app: Huggle

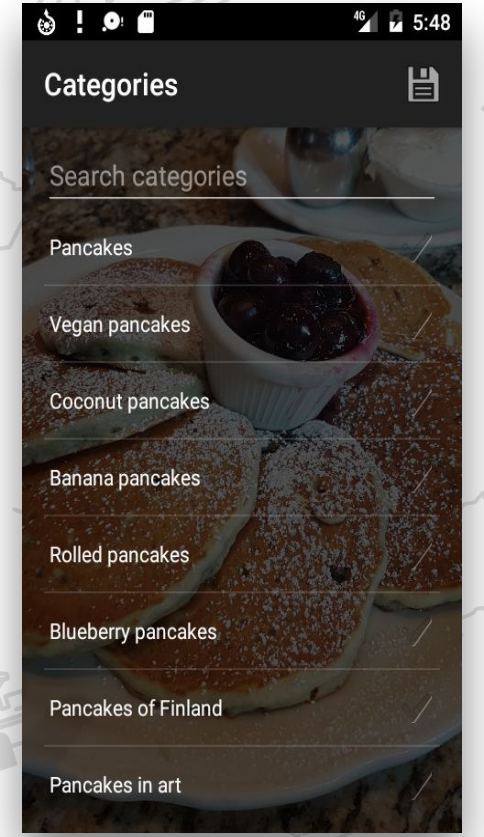
CC by SA 3.0, Petrb

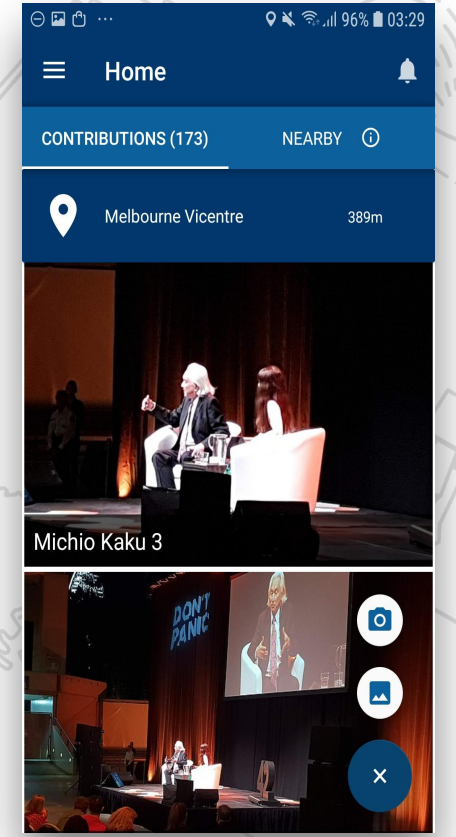
Desktop Apps

Screenshot of Kiwix running Wikipedia on an OLPC laptop

CC by SA 3.0, Victorgrrigas

Mobile Apps

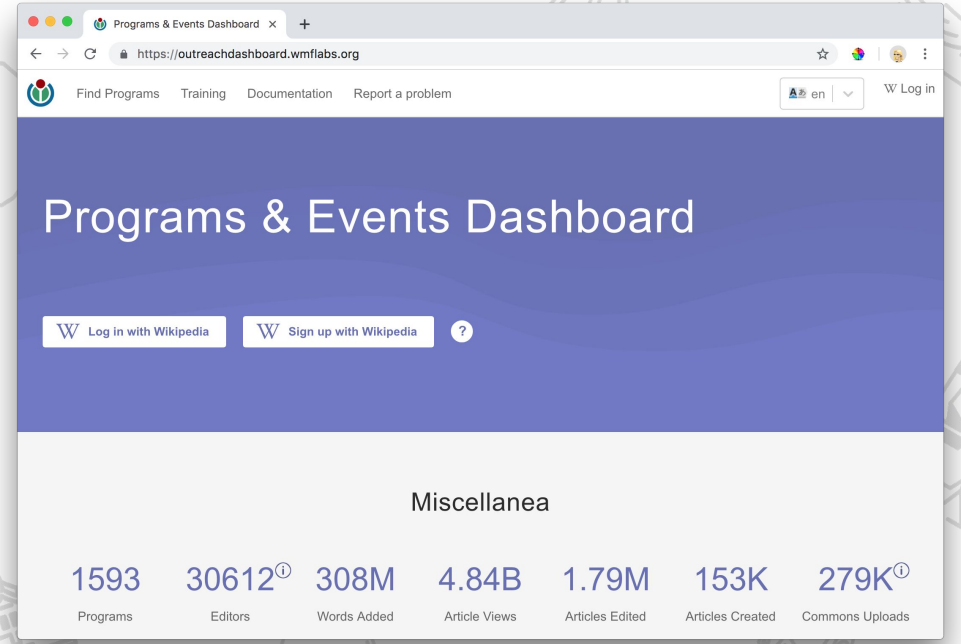




Wikimedia Commons app

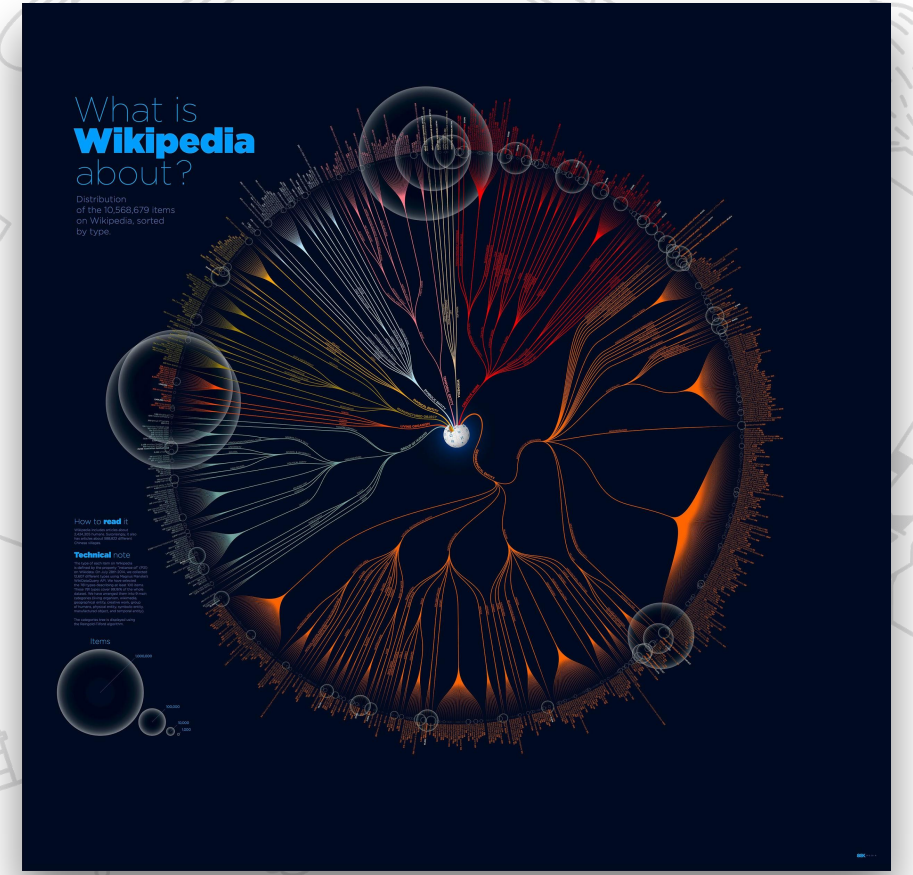
CC by SA 4.0, Misachan2

Tools & Bots



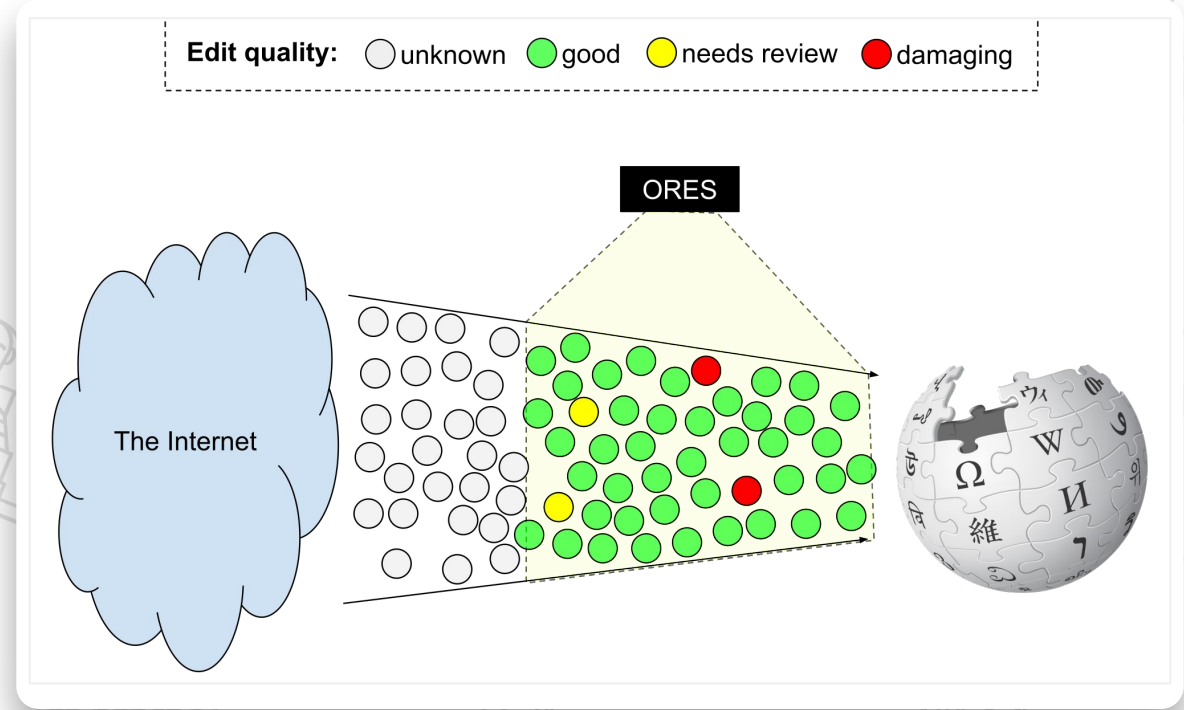
Example of a Tool: Programs & Events Dashboard

Analytics



http://seealso.org/

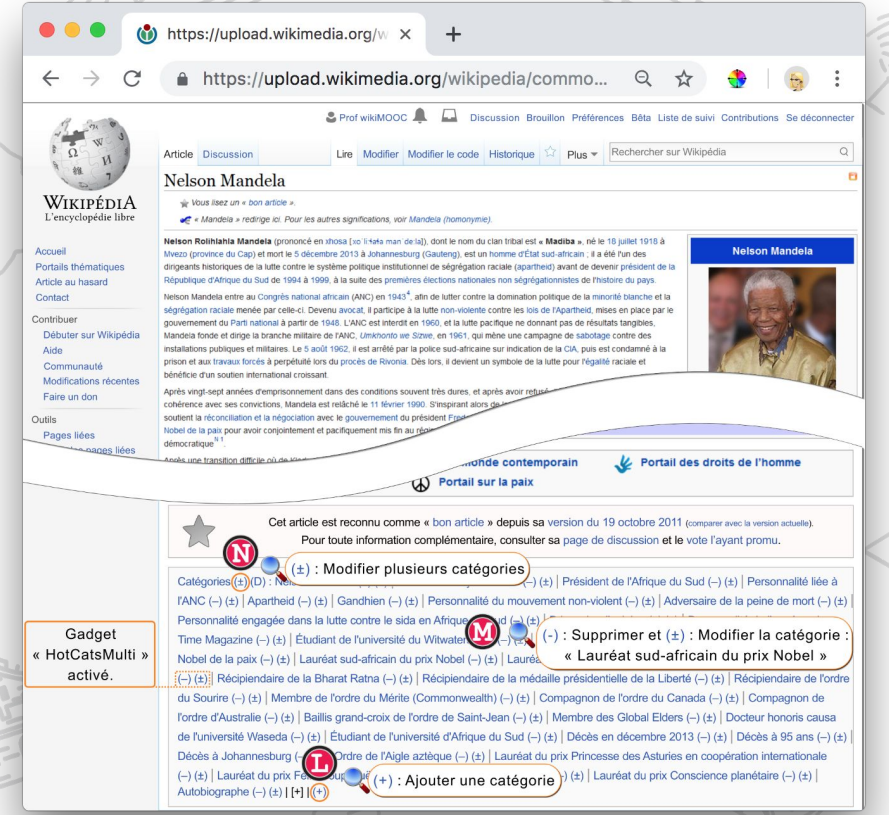
Machine Learning



ORES edit quality flow

CC by SA 4.0, EpochFail

Gadgets



Screenshot of a Gadget: HotCat

Other Major Areas

WIKIMEDIA
FOUNDATION

</>

Step 2

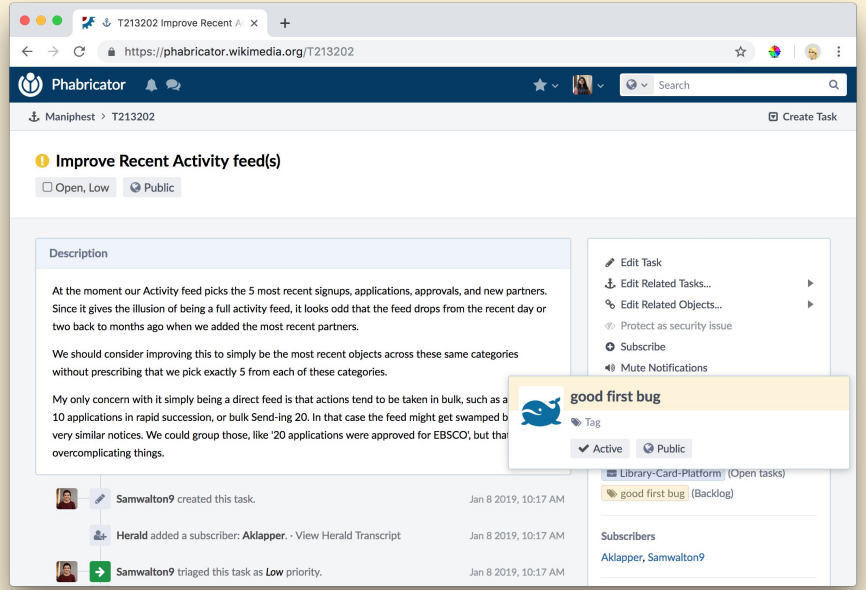
Set up the development environment

WIKIMEDIA FOUNDATION

CC by SA 4.0, Zachary McCune

Step 3

Choose and solve a task

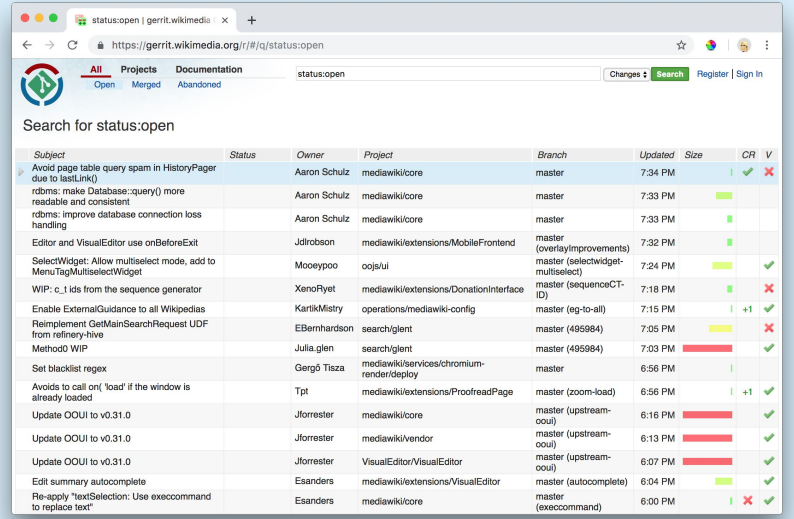


https://phabricator.wikimedia.org/

WIKIMEDIA FOUNDATION

Step 4

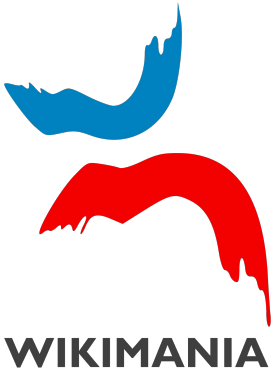
Submit your code changes



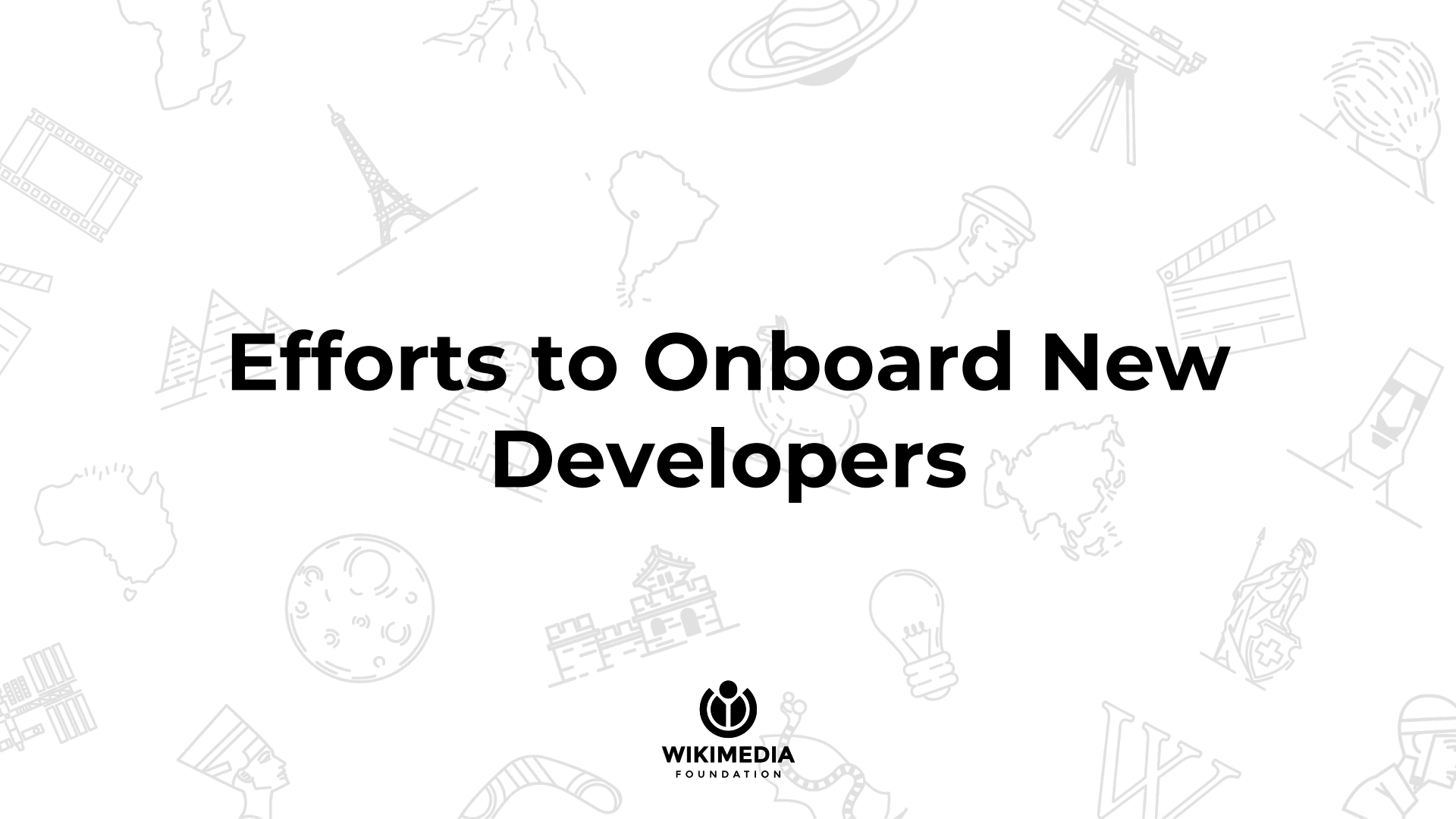
https://gerrit.wikimedia.org/

WIKIMEDIA
FOUNDATION

Outreach Programs & Events

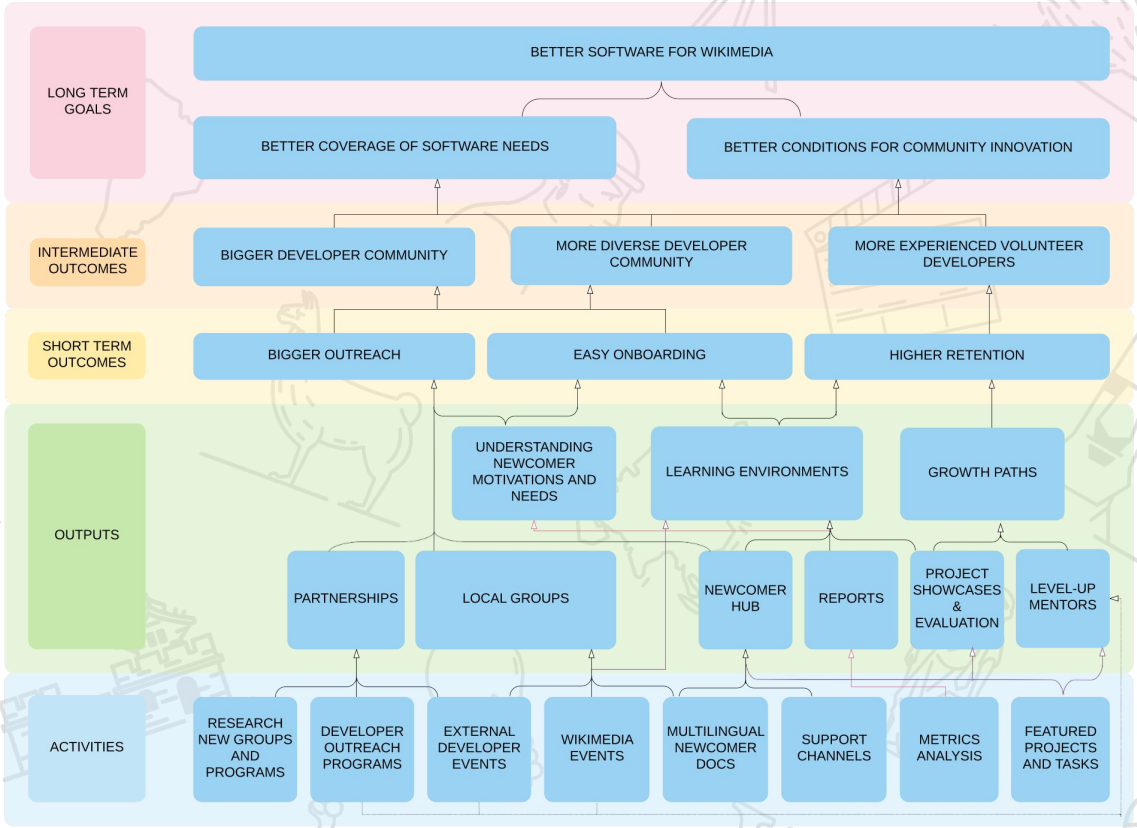


Efforts to Onboard New Developers



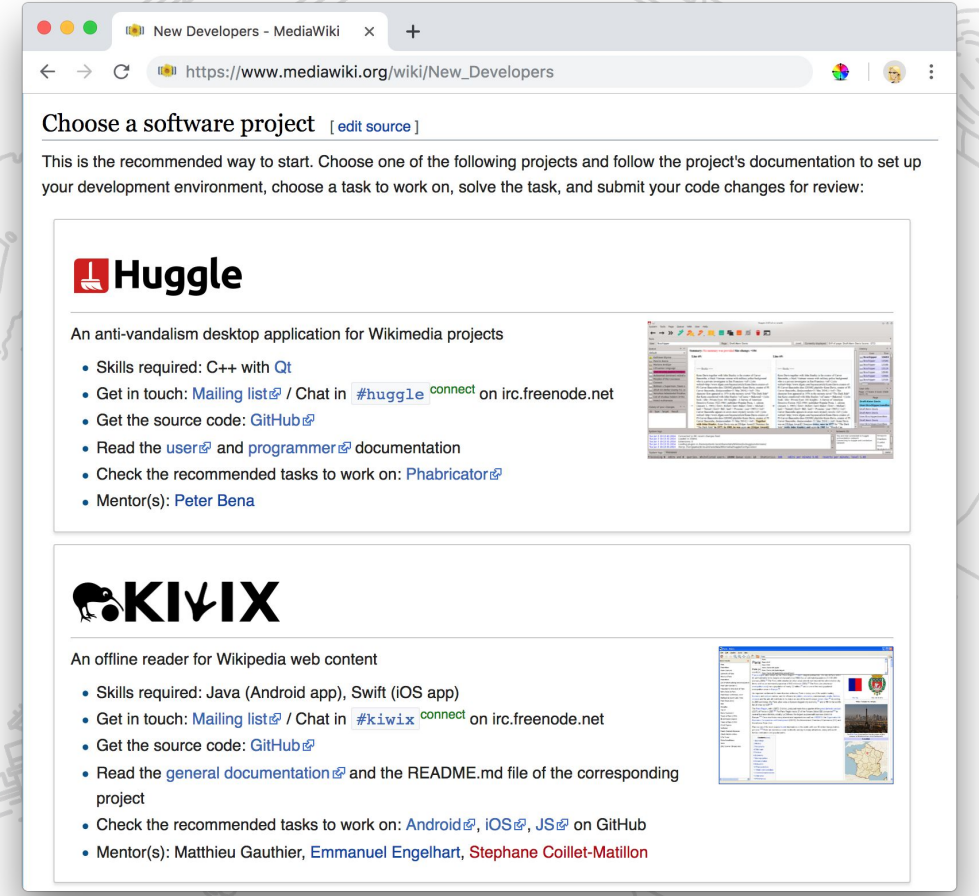
Onboarding New Developers Program

FY 2017-18



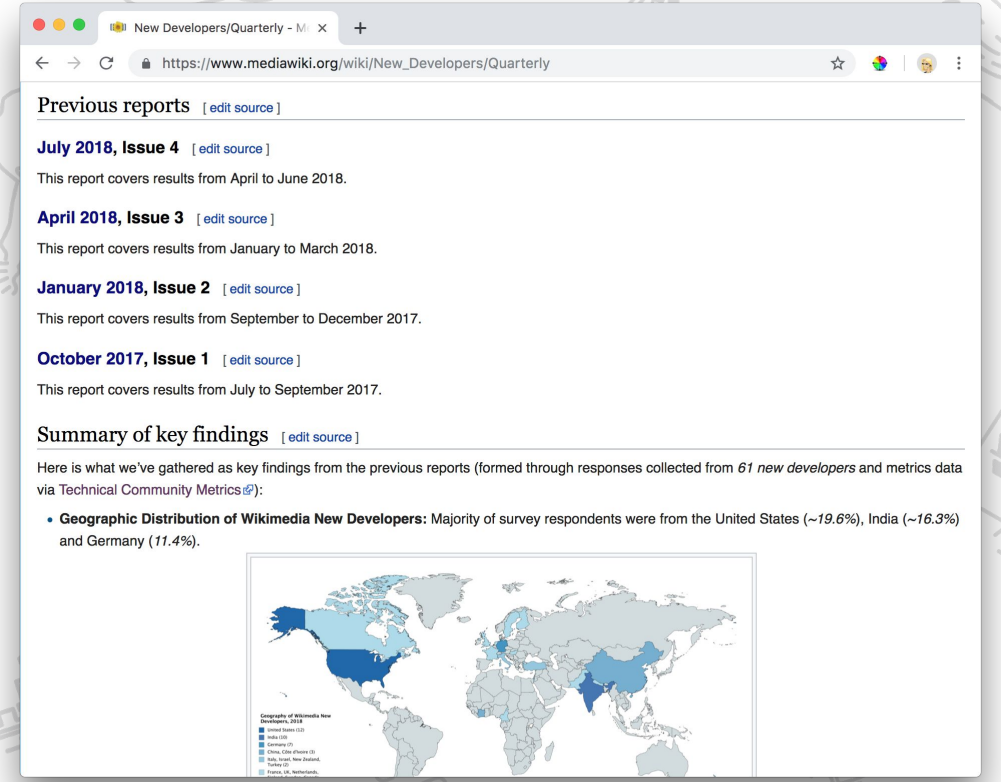
CC by SA 4.0, SSethi (WMF)

New Developers Guide



https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/New_Developers

Quarterly Surveys and Reports



https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/New_Developers/Quarterly

Hackathon Mentoring Program

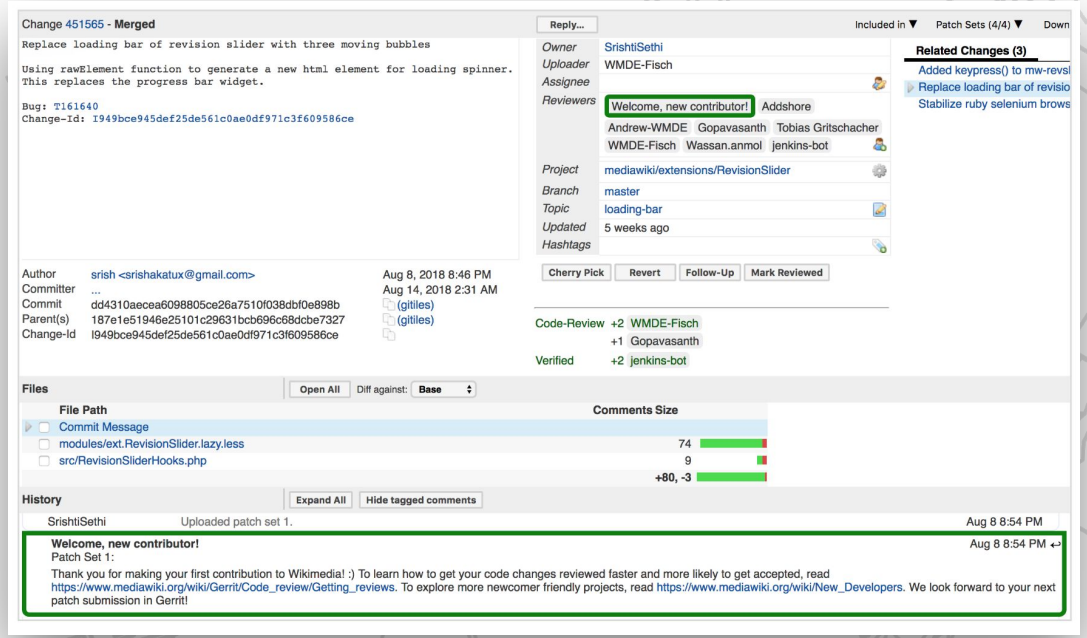
https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Hackathons/Handbook/Mentoring_program

Collaboration with OSSN & POSSE

Africa Wikimedia Developers Project

https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Africa_Wikimedia_Developers_Project

Gerrit Newcomer Bot



Screenshot of welcome message added by newcomer bot

Support Channels

Outcomes & Lessons Learned

WIKIMEDIA FOUNDATION

CC0 1.0, Jean-Frédéric

THANK YOU

Srishti Sethi
ssethi@wikimedia.org
@srish_aka_tux

WIKIMEDIA
FOUNDATION

Icons: CC by SA 4.0, Font Awesome

References

- Wikimedia Ecosystem
  - Technical contributions overview source https://wikimedia.biterg.io/goto/b6b44987ee5deec0becd728a8a655870
- Technical areas and projects for new developers
  - Complete list of Wikimedia projects https://www.wikimedia.org/
  - How to contribute https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/How_to_contribute
  - New developers guide https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/New_Developers
  - Extension:RevisionSlider https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Extension:RevisionSlider
  - Programs and events dashboard https://outreachdashboard.wmflabs.org/
  - Gadgets https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Gadget_kitchen

References

- Onboarding new developers
  - How technical collaboration is bringing new developers into Wikimedia https://blog.wikimedia.org/2017/10/05/technical-collaboration-new-developers/
  - Wikimedia Foundation collaborates with two initiatives https://wikimediafoundation.org/2018/10/12/wikimedia-foundation-collaboration-ossn-posse/
  - Gerrit newcomer bot https://medium.com/@Srish_Aka_Tux/gerrit-newcomer-bot-one-small-step-to-welcoming-new-developers-and-tracking-their-patches-50cc6eebf34d
  - Support channels
    - https://discourse-mediawiki.wmflabs.org
    - https://wikimedia.zulipchat.com/

Credits

- Wikimedia Developer Advocacy team
- Wikimedia Austria chapter for their work on the Hackathon Mentoring Program
- Africa Wikimedia Developers Project for coordinating outreach efforts in Africa
- Friends and colleagues: Suchakra Sharma, Sarah Rodlund, Andre Klapper, Bryan Davis, Rachel Farrand, Quim Gil

Copyright © 2019, Srishti Sethi and the Wikimedia Foundation.
This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.