

# Let's Put Policies in Peoples' Hands

**WIKIMANIA  
SINGAPORE**

Peter Pelberg  
**Editing Team**



# Edit Check

Offer people actionable feedback about policies *while* they are editing

WIKIMANIA  
SINGAPORE

< Before publishing >

was author of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, which originated in 1978 as a BBC radio comedy, before developing into a "trilogy" of five books that sold more than 15 million copies in his lifetime and generated a television series, several stage plays, comics, a video game, and in 2005 a feature film. Adams's contribution to UK radio is commemorated in The Radio Academy's Hall of Fame.<sup>[1]</sup>

I'm hungry and I'm not sure what I'd like to eat for lunch. Oh, I know: I'll make a sandwich.

Adams also wrote *Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency* (1987) and *The Long Dark Tea-Time of the Soul* (1988), and co-wrote *The Meaning of Liff* (1983), *The Deeper Meaning of Liff* (1990), and *Last Chance to See* (1990). He wrote two stories for the television series *Doctor Who*, co-wrote *City of Death*, and served as script editor for its

“ Add a reference

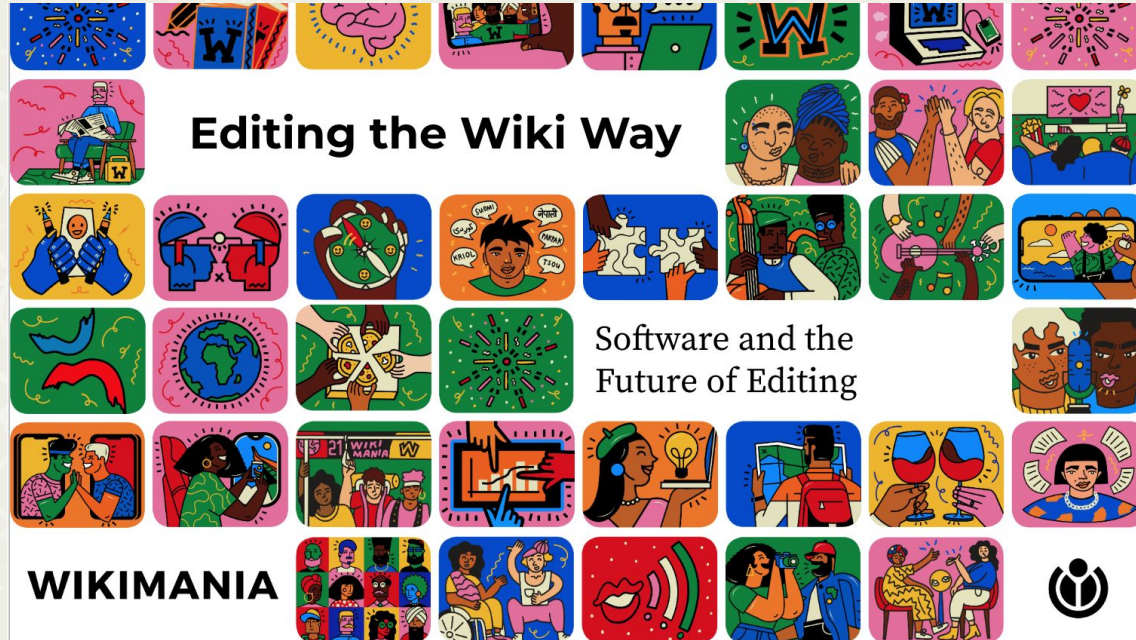
Help readers understand where this information is coming from by adding a citation.

Yes  No

# Edit Check

Prompt people to  
add sources *when*  
they forget to do so

# Two years ago...



**WIKIMANIA  
SINGAPORE**

# Two years ago...



The image shows a screenshot of a Zoom meeting. On the left side, there is a vertical column of five video thumbnails. The top four thumbnails show individual participants: a man with short hair, a woman with dark hair, a man with glasses, and another man. The fifth thumbnail shows a sad face icon. The main part of the screenshot is a blue slide with the following text:

## Overview

How might we evolve our software to help newcomers make edits that fit our policies and grow into thriving contributors?

WIKIMANIA 2021



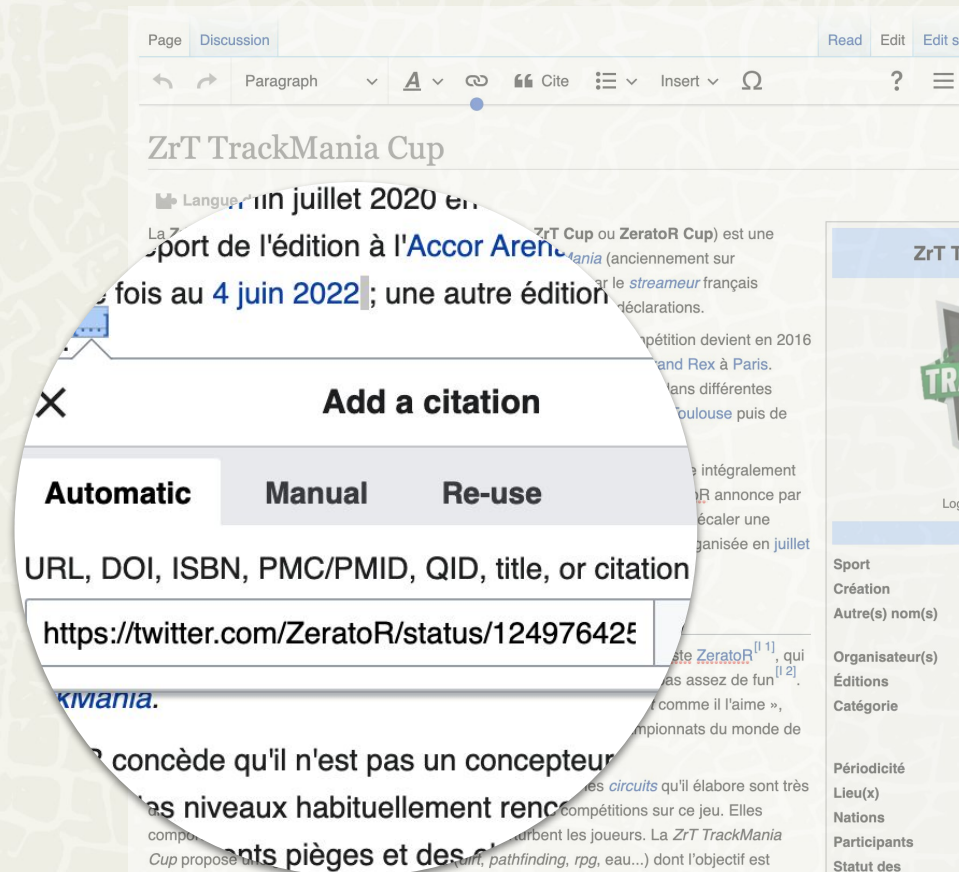
On the right side of the slide, there is a stylized illustration of a person with dark hair and a beard, wearing an orange shirt and a red backpack. They are holding a tablet that displays a map with a green area and a white 'X' mark. The person is looking at the tablet with a focused expression.

**WIKIMANIA  
SINGAPORE**

# Situation

Interfaces **do not make**  
**people aware** of the  
policies they are  
expected to follow

**WIKIMANIA**  
**SINGAPORE**



The image shows a screenshot of a Wikipedia article titled "ZrT TrackMania Cup". The article text is partially visible, mentioning the "ZrT Cup ou ZeratoR Cup" and its location at the "Accor Arena". A circular dialog box titled "Add a citation" is overlaid on the article. The dialog has three tabs: "Automatic", "Manual", and "Re-use". The "Automatic" tab is selected. Below the tabs, there is a text input field containing the URL "https://twitter.com/ZeratoR/status/124976425". To the right of the input field, there are two small icons: a globe and a document. The background article text is partially obscured by the dialog box.

# Situation

## Guidance comes at inopportune times

...too soon, too late, or not at all

**WIKIMANIA  
SINGAPORE**

Visual More ▾

1 revisions of "ZrT TrackMania Cup"

[Revision as of 21:41, 2 May 2020 \(edit\) \(undo\) \(thank\)](#)  
[Water \(talk | contribs\)](#)

**m.** ( → *ZrT TrackMania Cup : Twitter is not a source, it takes a secondary source to show it's relevant. WP: SPSS and WP: SQ*)  
[Newer edit →](#)

65:

The **ZrT TrackMania Cup** is an organized event for the game TrackMania 2: Stadium. The competition is played on the game TrackMania 2: Stadium. The first three editions take place entirely online, while the final phases of the following editions take place in public with Grand Rex | Grand Rex]] in

# Impact

Newcomers **feel unwelcome** and question whether Wikipedia is a place where they belong

- ~~05:33, 17 June 2021~~ (diff | hist) . . (+335) . .  Isoko people (Tag: Visual edit)
  - ~~05:11, 17 June 2021~~ (diff | hist) . . (+38) . .  Isoko people (Tag: Visual edit)
  - ~~05:00, 17 June 2021~~ (diff | hist) . . **(+2,868)** . .  Isoko people (I created new content)
  - ~~07:39, 14 June 2021~~ (diff | hist) . . (+402) . .  Aisha Buhari (Tag: Visual edit)
  - ~~16:38, 11 June 2021~~ (diff | hist) . . **(+1,264)** . .  National Library of Nigeria
  - ~~16:05, 11 June 2021~~ (diff | hist) . . **(-281)** . .  Nigerian Library Association
  - ~~15:49, 11 June 2021~~ (diff | hist) . . **(+1,570)** . .  Nigerian Library Association
  - ~~05:24, 10 June 2021~~ (diff | hist) . . **(-5)** . .  Premium Times (Tag: Visual edit)
  - ~~05:20, 10 June 2021~~ (diff | hist) . . (+440) . .  Premium Times (Tag: Visual edit)
  - ~~05:05, 10 June 2021~~ (diff | hist) . . (+484) . .  Premium Times (Tag: Visual edit)
- (newest | oldest) View (newer 500 | older 500) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500)



Odomero2711: Subpages · User rights · Edit count · Edits



# Impact

Experienced volunteers  
**repeat themselves** and  
**grow tired**

**WIKIMANIA  
SINGAPORE**

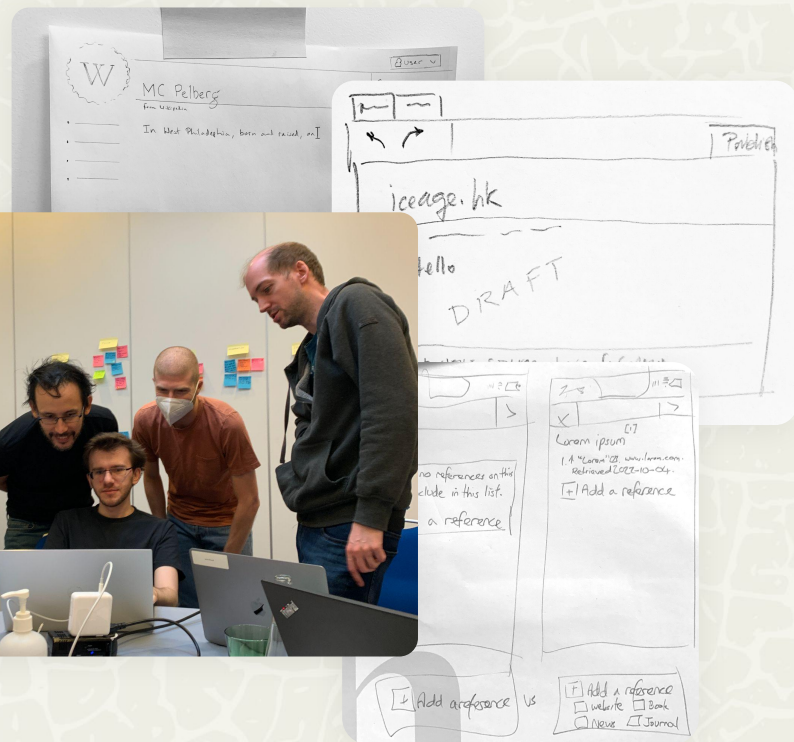
## Gbenga Adefaye moved to draftspace

[ [edit source](#) | [watch](#) ]

Latest comment: [1 year ago](#) | [3 comments](#) | [2 people in discussion](#)

An article you recently created, [Gbenga Adefaye](#), is not suitable as written and published. **It needs more citations from reliable, independent sources.** (?) **Content that can't be referenced should be removed** (**verifiability** is of **central importance**). **I've moved your draft to draftspace** (with a prefix of "`Draft:`" before the title) where you can incubate the article with minimal disruption. When you feel ready, it meets **Wikipedia's general notability guideline** and thus is ready for mainspace. Please click on the "Submit your draft for review!" button at the top of the page. **F**  
11:06 am, 10 June 2021, Thursday (1 year, 3 months, 19 days ago) (UTC−4)

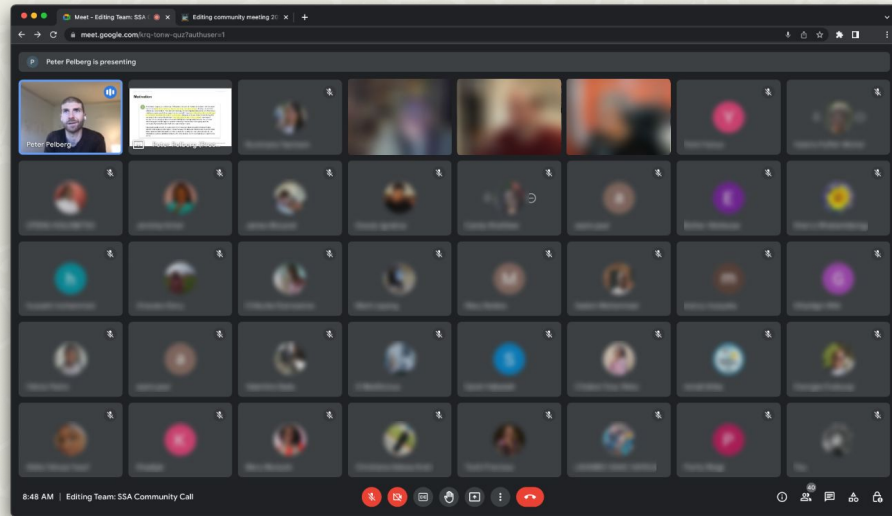
# What has happened since 2021?



**WIKIMANIA  
SINGAPORE**

# Community Conversations

Hosted community calls each month, for the past 11 months



**WIKIMANIA  
SINGAPORE**

# Findings



No firm  
rules



Encourage  
interaction



Learn by  
doing



References are  
necessary and  
not sufficient



"If not us,  
then who?"



Explicitness is  
Important

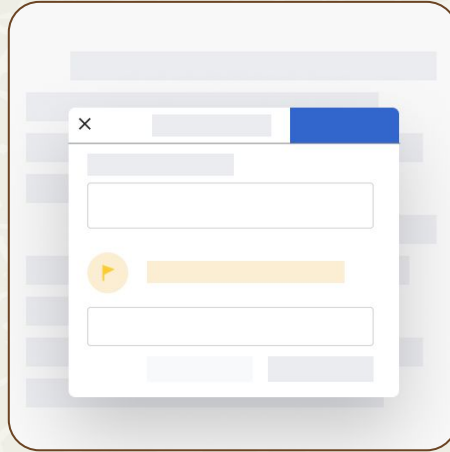


Help is hard to  
find

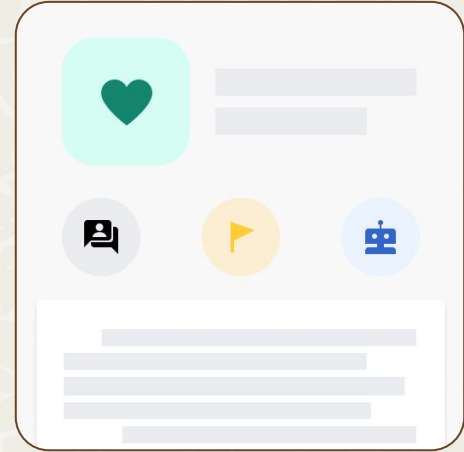
# Findings



Moment 1  
**PROOFREADING**



Moment 2  
**PUBLISHING**



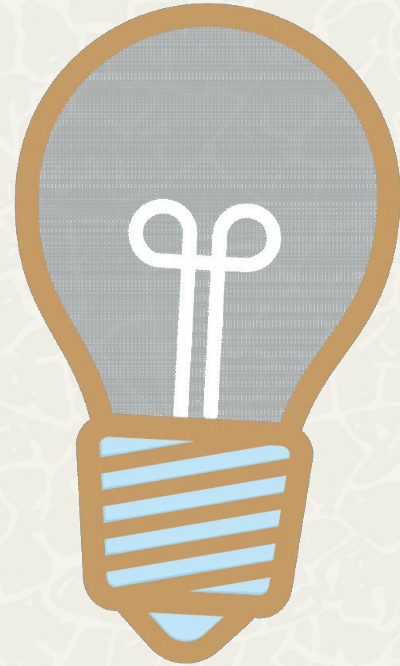
Moment 3  
**SUMMARIZING**

# Hypothesis

If we surface relevant feedback in the moments when people are editing Wikipedia, and equip them with the know-how and tools necessary to act on this guidance...

...they will make changes they are proud of and the people reviewing edits consider valuable

**WIKIMANIA  
SINGAPORE**



# Evaluating Success



Proportion of new content edits that are **reverted**



Proportion of new content edits that include **references**

# Where are now?



**WIKIMANIA  
SINGAPORE**



# Sequence



Research

Design

Development

Refinement

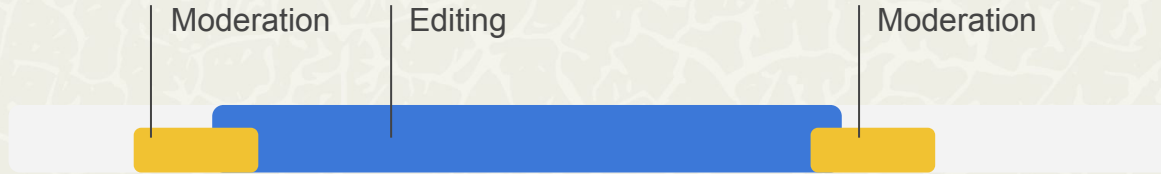
Release



**WIKIMANIA  
SINGAPORE**

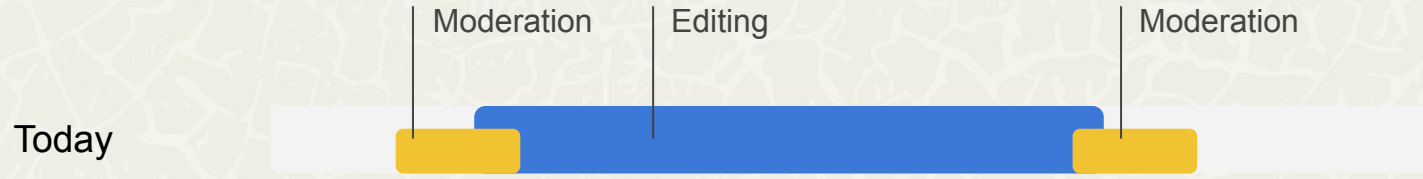
# Plan

Today



**WIKIMANIA**  
**SINGAPORE**

# Plan



**WIKIMANIA  
SINGAPORE**

# Try it out for yourself

1. **Visit:**
2. **Tap** any edit pencil to start an edit, using the Visual Editor
3. **Add** a 2-3 sentences of new text
4. **Publish** the edit



# Getting involved

**[[mw:Edit check]]**

receive updates



**[[mw:Editing team/Community Conversations]]**

join community calls

**WIKIMANIA  
SINGAPORE**

