Etnography of Carpathians

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Ritual year with Wikipedia - results

The budget:
50000 PLN from Ministry of Education + 5000 PLN from Wikimedia Polska (15 000 USD).

The workout:
7 trips 3-4 days each – 5 people in each team. 16 people engaged in general (5 museum employees, 1 WMPL employee, 5 museum volunteers, 5 wikimedians)

The results:
Pictures: 1243
Movies: 7
Articles: 23 in 3 languages
Ritual year with Wikipedia - lessons

Rituals are hard to document:
We were bound to time-lines of rituals and it was hard to stop people to document them during rituals. Some rituals appeared a bit artificial. Some are embarrassing for participants so they don’t want to show their faces..

People want to share their local culture:
People wanted to share everything related to their local cultures – cloths, history, music, art, craftsmanship But it needs different equipment, more time and other expertise.

The scientific approach is so slow:
Museum folks are way slower that us, wikimedians in doing everything. Film and photo post-processing, article writing etc. may take ages. Longer time-spans between travels are needed in order to “consume” the stuff collected during expeditions.
What next?

Let's make it international:
Comparative studies of similar rituals and habits
Rituals of cross-border minorities common studies
Some other ideas?

We are looking for partners from abroad:
1. Ethnography museums
2. Wikipedians
3. Ethnoenthusiasts
The purpose:
To collect in-filed materials about any etno-related issues about culture of people inhabited Carpathian mountains. For museum: to write scientific papers about comparisons and differences, for Wikipedia: to collect plenty of unique media files and write articles about local customs in English and local languages Wikipedias.

The Idea:
Similar style expeditions as for Ritual Year but longer (at least a week for each) and better equipped for taking photos of items and sound/movie recording. Engagement of local wikipedians and local ethnographic museums folks.

The money:
Yeah.. it for sure must cost even more..
The core team:
12 people who proved to be effective last year: Klara and 3 others from Museum, 3 volunteers from Museum, Marta + 4 others from WMPL. In fact all of them are now Wikimedians. \textit{It wasn’t planned but 50\% are woman! (6 woman, 6 men).}

Who we need:
At least 1 wikipedian for each country, at least one local ethnography museum’s employee/volunteer
The grant application

The Museum folks:
Experienced in formal grant applications systems (lots of formal documents, lots of bullshit, very little facts). Once sent application cannot be changed, but you don’t need to cope with a legion of volunteer wannabe “experts”.

WMF metrics:
Only Wikimieda project related metrics matters. Scientific papers and books doesn’t matter. Professional reuse of output doesn’t matter. Quality and uniqueness of the output? How to measure? So only numbers of files and number of files used in Wikipedias + readreship of them matters.

Californian style hangout session:
The final trauma for museum folks: they are not used to talk with important decident sitting in her kitchen :-)

The grant application

The result:
Probably the longest single project grant application written, ever:


Actually the application is 10 times longer then the project page:


Lessons learned:

• Don’t start your cooperation with Museum from grant application
• Prepare your partner for wiki/California culture shock
• WMF metrics are ... selfish...
The Budget

Wikimedia: 45,868.80 PLN
Museum: 53,900.00 PLN
Sum = 99,768.80  = 24,653.80 USD

**WMF: 11,334.59 USD**

Travels: 41,726.81 PLN
Equipment: 1200 PLN
Movie and sound postprocessing: 10 000 PLN (studio + technician)

Budget cut – around 5000 USD – coordinator wage and smaller teams
(one wikipedian instead of 2).

The later really painful.
Workflow

**Preparation:**
1. Make preliminary research and contact local residents (Museum)
2. Plan trip and organize team (usually 2 Museum staff, 1 Wikipedian, 1 ethnography student, 1 local Museum staff, 1 local Wikimedian)
3. Local Wikimedian to organize preliminary workshop for local museum staff
4. Travel by car

**On site:**
1. Stay on site for a week in near-by hotel
2. Contact and interview local people
3. Film and photograph everything of interest
4. Organize workshops for locals if possible

**At home:**
1. Upload recordings and photos to Commons (all participants)
2. Publish research results on Museum's website and journals (Museum)
3. Write articles in Wikipedia about rituals and related issues (all participants)
The timeline

Trips:

2016, 14-20 August: Poland, Żywiec Beskids + Podhale
2016, 11-19 September: Romania, Maramureș County
2017, 12-19 April: Czech Republic, Moravian Wallachia
2017, 19-25 June: Slovakia, Martin and others
2017, 13-20 August: Ukraine (mainly Kolomyia region)

Final summary/celebration:
September/October 2017.
The preparation

The Museum was responsible for setting up the team schedule, consisting of three main areas:

- Meetings at local museums and open-air museums
- Meetings with local craftsmen and artisans
- Public (or half-public, eg. a local folk workshop for young people) events and social gatherings, festivals, etc.

Wikimedia Polska:

- Made a list of photo equipment necessary to take good pictures of items and clothing and bough it – a mobile photo studio
- Booked accommodation
- Organized team and kept it informed (via dedicated e-mail list mainly)
**The trip:** The team visited 2 locations - Beskid and Podhale - 2 places of accommodation (3 nights + 2 nights):

The team visited:
The outdoor Mass of the Assumption of Mary with Beskid folklore musicians with folklore group (photos, film)
The workshop of Jadwiga Jurasz, artisan tailor (photos)
The workshop at local cultural centre led by folk music instruments craftsman (film)
Artisan maker of kierpce shoes (photos, film)
Outdoor museum in Milówka (photos)
The City Museum in Żywiec (photos, book scans, workshop)
The Dom Ludowy in Bukowina Tatrzańska (photos)
The Tatra Museum in Zakopane (photos, film, book scans)
Artisan maker of parzenice and jewelry (film, photos)
I: Żywiec and Podhale

The results:
3000 pictures taken
500 scans of catalogue cards
12 interviews recordings
Several hours of other audio and video recordings

Contacts were established in largest local museums, which may well result in more content

For small museums, our visits resulted in mini-digitisation, the museums can reuse the images for their own needs. This might encourage the museums to continue releasing images to Wikimedia Commons.

Visits and direct contact also help in terms of gathering good sources - Museums allow the team to scan parts of books from their library; local bookshops and libraries are the place to find rare subject literature.
I: Żywiec and Podhale
I: Żywiec and Podhale
We need you

We need Wikipedians: Photographers, wikieducators, people willing to travel and contact GLAM organizations

From: Romania, Czechia, Slovakia and Ukraine

See:


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https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikiprojekt:GLAM

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Pictures:

1. Pracownicy WMPL 2014 4-Marta Malina (cropped).jpg – CC BY-SA 3.0 /Polimerek
2. Ethnographers and Wikipedians workshop at National Ethnographic Museum, Feb 2015 01.jpg
   Decorative detail on Beskid style men's trousers.jpg,
3. Ethnographers and Wikipedians interviewing residents of Miasteczko Śląskie.JPG
4. Ethnographer filming Józef Rucki, craftsman making kierpce shoes.jpg
5. Ethnographer filming celebrations accompanying the Assumption of the Holy Mary, Juszczyna, Poland.jpg
6. "Grojcownianie" performer dressed in traditional Żywiec Beskids costume.jpg
7. Artisan seamstress Jadwiga Jurasz in Żywiec Beskids folk costume.jpg
8. Kierpce shoe with tools.jpg
9. Vest bustier in Żywiec Beskids style.jpg
10. Members of "Grojcowańie" folklore group in Żywiec Beskids clothing 01.jpg – CC BY-SA 3.0 /Marta Moraczewska
11. Lednica Góra Siuda Baba 2015-04-06 028.jpg CC BY SA 3.0 PL/ Nova
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   Władysław Gdowik (Polish version) original png by Kasuga~jawiki
13. Grojcownianie 15-08-2016.jpg – CC BY-SA 3.0 /Wpedzich