

Wikimedia Belgium Projects

How we organise Wiki activities



WIKIMEDIA
BELGIUM

Engaging people in free knowledge



Wikimedia Belgium

- (national) WMBE Wikimedia Chapter since 2014
 - We required 2 attempts to be founded (Belgium is a complex country)
 - First attempt in 2008
 - Another in 2012
 - We are currently seeking for extra Board members
- We are a non-profit organization
 - Disadvantage: more administration required
 - Advantage: we can grant fiscal certificates for (national) gifts (please do!)
 - A User group couldn't do this, because it does not legally exist
 - 4 languages NL/FR/DE/EN (makes communication difficult -> 3 translations)
 - 3 official languages in Belgium (Dutch and French most important)
 - English for expats and allochtones, and to communicate with the international community
- 117 members

Our mission

- Represent the Wikimedia community in Belgium
- Attract volunteers wanting to work with Wikimedia platforms
 - But: 80% of the volunteers are not affiliated (and we do not know them)
- Promote Wikipedia, and related applications
- Communicate and collaborate with GLAM, and educational institutions, and cultural organizations
- Give training “How to write for Wikipedia”
- Organise Wiki Loves Heritage
- Explain free licenses (Creative Commons)
- Distribute books, brochures, and other documentation
- Answer questions from journalists, and the general public
- Collaborate with neighbouring chapters WMDE, WMFR, WMNL, WMCH

Collaboration

We collaborate with many other institutions and organizations:

- Creative Commons
- Open Knowledge Belgium
- OpenStreetMap
- Welcome To My Garden
- Universities: UGent, UAntwerpen, KU Leuven, VUB, ULB, Université de Liège
- Hogescholen: Erasmushogeschool Brussel
- meemoo - CEMPER
- Vlaams Architectuurinstituut
- Industriemuseum Gent
- Erfgoedcel Pajottenland Zennevallei
- RTBF
- Wikimedia Nederland

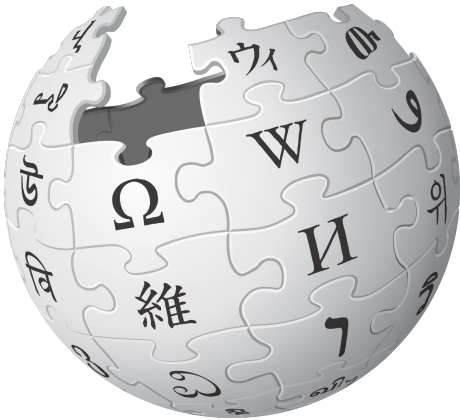
Recent campaigns and events

- Bi-weekly Wiki Club (write articles about women - stopped with Corona)
- Iedereen Schrijft (library of Ternat)
- Iedereen Leest (Jeugdboekenweek)
- Vrouwen in 't rood (write about women artists)
- Schrijven voor Wikipedia (multiple sessions at universities)
- Meer vrouw op straat (more women street names)
- RTBF Wikipedia Marathon (write articles about women)
- Wiki Women Design (write articles about women)
- Wiki Loves Pajottenland Zennevallei (heritage photos)
- Kathedralen van de industrie (textile factory heritage)

Wikimedia Projects

Wikimedia platforms = Wikimedia applications

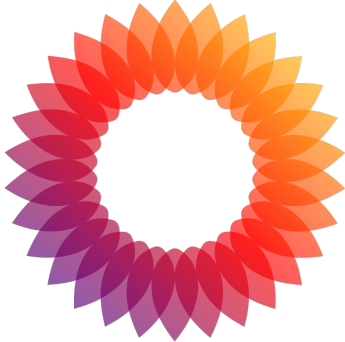
Many others exist... all using **MediaWiki**...



MediaWiki

Server application software running the Wikimedia applications.

MediaWiki is also an important Wikimedia project...



MediaWiki

- Open source
- PHP/MySQL
- Developed, maintained and operated by volunteers and paid staff
- Invisible for normal users
- What you see is “only” the result: a web page that allows you to:
 - Search
 - Read
 - Write
 - Delete (only for admins)
 - Manage
 - Analyse

WikiProject

Any **collaborative project** run by volunteers (Wikipedians, Wikimedians) using the Wikimedia platforms.

Goal: building free accessible knowledge.

Typically set up by a country (Chapter) or a thematic user group.

Often in collaboration with a museum, library, cultural or heritage group (GLAM).

Requires a venue (class room, Wi-Fi, internet access, projector, food and drinks).

Requires a (small/larger) budget.

Inviting Wikipedians to write on Wikipedia and take photographs.

Assisted by using Wikidata and related tools.

Typical activities

- Gather topic list
- Organise edit-a-thon (edit marathon)
- Collection building (in Wikidata)
- Photo campaign
- Geospatial and mapping
- Creating training material (How-to video on YouTube)

First steps

- Search a project partner (museum, library, heritage)
- Choose an interesting subject (you should own the data)
- Write the **project page** (collaborative editing with partner)
- Subject inventory (partner)
- Enrich and upload to Wikidata (OpenRefine)
- ListeriaBot page => build target list of Wikipedia pages (new/existing articles)
- Create the campaign event
- Venue (place, date, infrastructure)
- Participant invite/subscribe button (Wikipedia user account is mandatory)
- Send invitation
- Facebook, Twitter, mailing lists, newsletters

Building a Project page

- Central location on Wikipedia to document the event/project
- Project: namespace
- Multi-lingual (on separate Wikipedia's)
- Also Wikidata can have a place
- Not to forget Wikimedia Commons
- Link your project to other platforms (internal and external to Wikimedia)
- Gather all required information

Examples:

- [https://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Wiki_Women_Design_\(2020-2021\)](https://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Wiki_Women_Design_(2020-2021))
- https://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:GLAM/Industriemuseum_Gent/Kathedralen_van_de_industrie
- https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipédia:Projet/Belgique/Open_Knowledge_Belgium/RTBF_Wikipedia_Marathon
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiProject/Wiki_Women_Design_\(2020-2021\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiProject/Wiki_Women_Design_(2020-2021))

Wikimedia Commons

Create a photo campaign

- Automatic category
- Photo contest
- Can be used by ISA Tool

Examples:

- <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Campaign:wlh-be>
- <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Campaign:wmbe-wwd>
- <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Campaign:wmbe-wlpz>

Campaign and Events tool

- Campaign and Event details
 - A campaign can be composed of multiple events during the year
- Add a subscribe button on the project page
- Advantage: requires a Wikipedia user account
 - Users can create a user account at home
 - New on-site user account creation is often blocked or limited (anti-vandalism measure)
- (automatically) Lists all articles written by the participants
 - Monitor and assist the participants when needed
- After the session
 - Built-in report and statistics on results

Wikimedia tools

Tools to automatically update, link or query Wikimedia applications.

(in time order)

- Project page on Wikipedia
- (Excel)
- OpenRefine
- Wikidata
- Wikidata Query
- ListeriaBot
- Wikimedia Commons (Campaign)
- WDFIST
- Pywikibot
- Events and Campaign tool
- many others...

OpenRefine

Tool to upload Excel sheet to Wikidata

- Prepare an Excel list
- Import
- Validate and correct
- Enrich (reconcile with Wikidata)
- Upload to Wikidata
 - Identify Wikidata properties
 - Create a Wikidata-schema
 - First update existing items
 - Then create new items
 - Link them to the project (also created in Wikidata)

Wikidata and Wikidata Query

Usage:

- Prepare Wikipedia target list

ListeriaBot

Usage:

- Build Wikipedia target list on Wikipedia
 - Based on Wikidata Query

WDFIST

Wikidata Free Image Search Tool

Easily add pictures to Wikidata items (just by clicking)

- Can be run from the ListeriaBot page
- Or from a Wikidata Query

Pywikibot

Tool to update Wikidata using Python scripts.

Usage:

- Mass update Wikidata: any Label, Description, Alias, or statement
- Obtain list of user(name)s who wrote articles/categories
- Send e-mail to Wikipedians (requires *interface moderator* right)

Prerequisites:

- Programming skills
- Linux admin skills (unless using PAWS)
- Huge volumes require *bot* right

Multimedia tools

- Wikimedia Commons
 - ISA Tool
 - SDoC and AC/DC

Wikipedia tools

- AWB = AutoWikiBrowser (automatic update of Wikipedia)

Read more about Wiki projects

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiProject>
- <https://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Wikiproject>
- <https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata:WikiProjects>
- <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:WikiProject>
- <https://wikimediafoundation.org/our-work/wikimedia-projects>
- [https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia & Education User Group](https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia_%26_Education_User_Group)

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Credits

- Geert Van Pamel, Wikimedia Belgium
- The partners with whom I could organize interesting WikiProjects

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