Comparing Cultural Landscapes: Approaches to GLAM Projects in Argentina and Germany
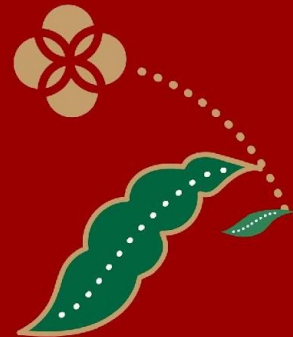
A Dialogue by two Wikimedians

Rainer Halama (User:Wuselig) from Germany

Juan Kulichevsky (User:BugWarp) from Argentina

Here at Wikimania on a Tandem Scholarship from Wikimedia Germany

WIKIMANIA
SINGAPORE

GLAM in Germany

- Individual Editors do their usual work

  but also in Commons and Wikidata etc.

- They keep on track on the GLAM-portal

- GLAM on Tour Events (whole weekends)

  nearly 50 since 2013

  supported by WMDE (travel and accommodation)

- Wikipedianische KulTour (one day/afternoon)

  since 2015, a little sister of the GLAM on Tour

  less organizational effort

- GLAMdigital (streamed events)

  started during the lock-down

  continued, because it is a low-level way to engage with institutions

WIKIMANIA
SINGAPORE

Elvira Kühn
(https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Gruppenfoto_Wikipedianische_KulTour_Potsdam_2019-1.jpg).
https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/legalcode

GLAM in Germany (cont.)

The support level

- The Chapter Wikimedia Deutschland
  - Has its own Projekt
    " GLAM – Kultur- und Gedächtnisinstitutionen"
  - and various other departments covering
    - Political lobbying
    - Open education and open data
    - Eventmanagement
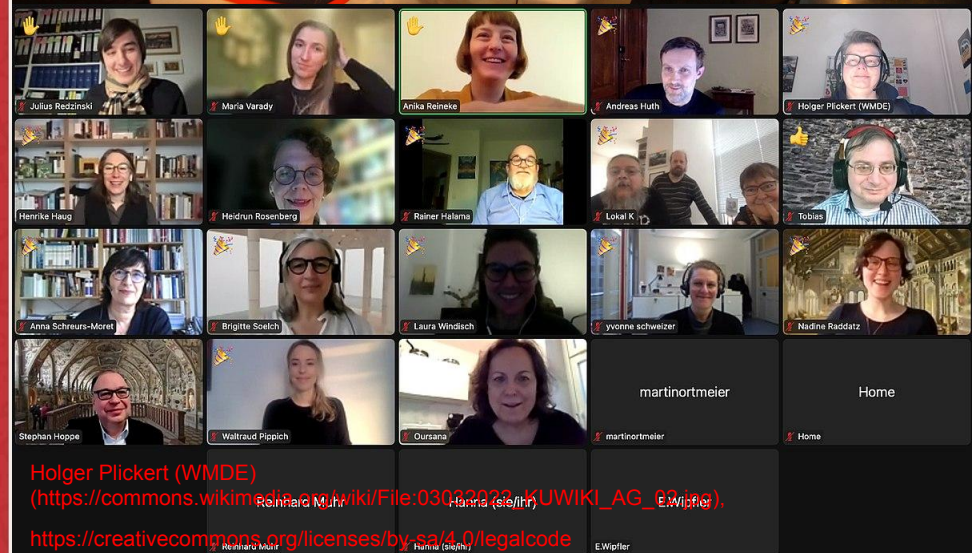   - Communities & Engagement

WIKIMANIA SINGAPORE

A.Savin; Free Art License

GLAM in Germany (cont.)

Special Initiatives

- The annual meeting of all German Speaking GLAM-volunteers usually in Fall, rotating between Germany, Austria and Switzerland

- The Community initiated, but Chapter supported "Kulturbotschafter"

  (listen to my lightning talk after the lunch break)

- kuwiki. Arbeitsgemeinschaft Kulturwissenschaften + Wikipedia an initative bringing together arthistorians (from students to professors) with wikimedians

  (see their poster at the Poster Session)

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GLAM in Argentina

- Most of the work is carried out by the chapter.

  With either training sessions or by our Wikimedian in Residence.

- The digitization project, our main focus.

  An 8 years old project, with more than 2400 books, 5000 photographs, and 2000 historical documents digitized and uploaded to Commons. (Go check Mauricio's poster session!)
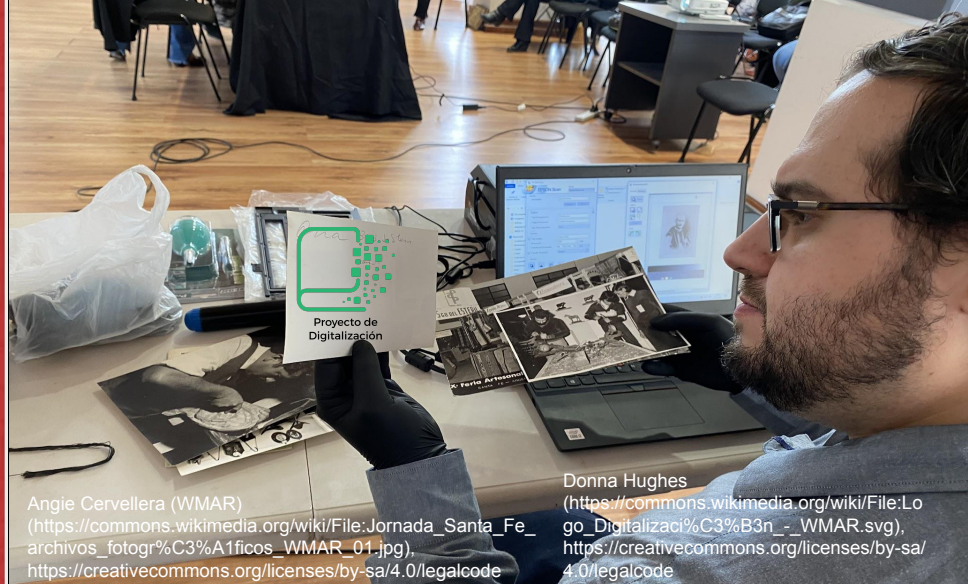
- Training sessions.

  We approach institutions and we teach them about how to carry out digitization, intellectual property, and how to interact with the various Wikimedia projects.

- Courses!

  Teaching the general public and professionals about free culture.

WIKIMANIA SINGAPORE

GLAM in Argentina

(cont.)

But what about the community?

- Some community initiatives are presented to WMAR and then carried on as a chapter project.

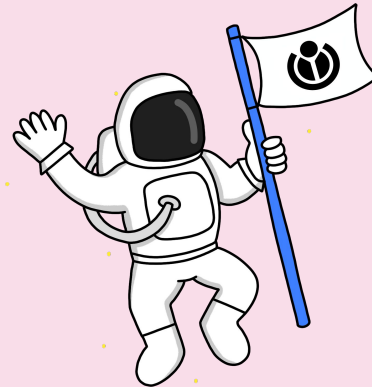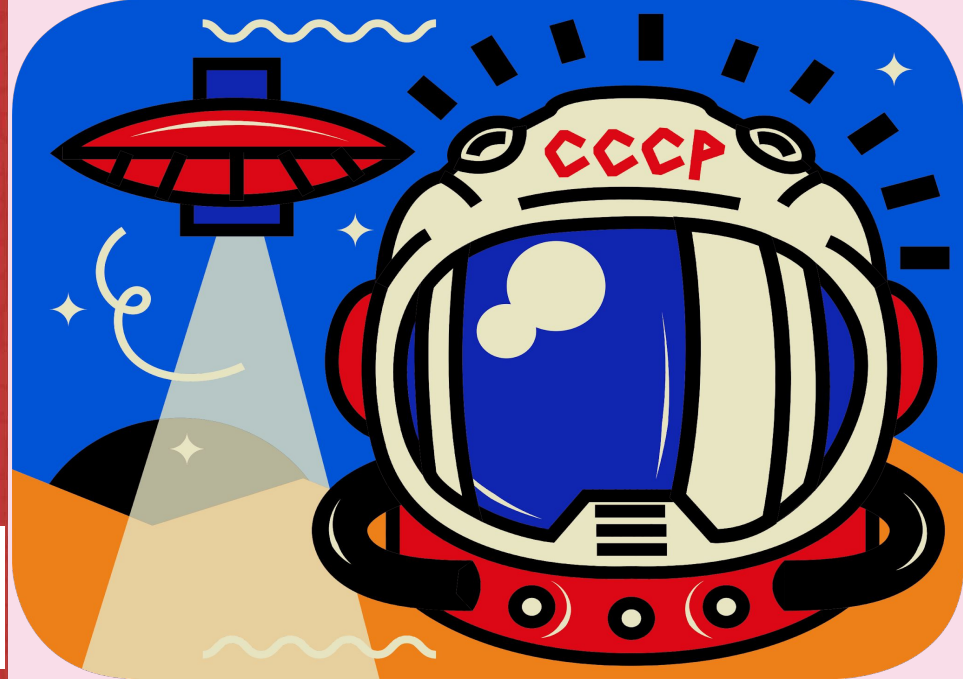 Hopefully next year I will tell you about my project!

- There are some community led projects that are appearing with support from WMAR and WMF.

  Most notably, Archivo Inundación who is preserving the memory of the 2003 Santa Fe flood.

Archivo Inundación

20 AÑOS

Comparing Cultural Landscapes: Approaches to GLAM Projects in Argentina and Germany

Similarities observed

- There is great support from the Chapters
- Same difficulties to approach institutions from the volunteer level
- Highly engaged individual Editors
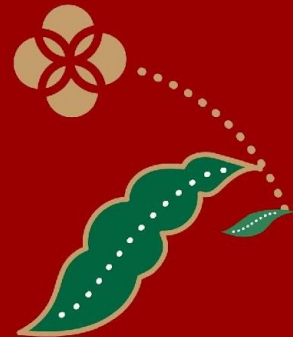
Comparing Cultural Landscapes: Approaches to GLAM Projects in Argentina and Germany

Differences

Germany

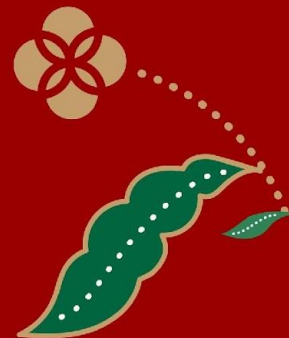Most of the work is done by the community on a volunteer basis

Argentina

Most of the work is carried out by the local chapter, either training institutions or a staff members carries out the work

Resources

Large Community/More staff and money (own money)

Smaller Community/Less staff and money (greater dependance from WMF?)

Comparing Cultural Landscapes: Approaches to GLAM Projects in Argentina and Germany (cont.)
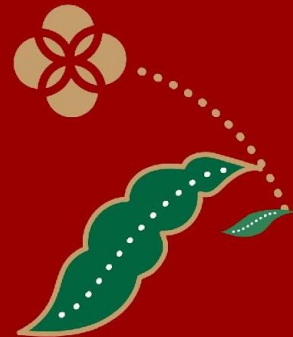
Differences

Germany

Self content Community that doesn't share much of its activity with the global GLAM-community
(the language barrier is one reason)

Argentina

We share our activities at Wikimedia Outreach to keep in touch with the rest of community
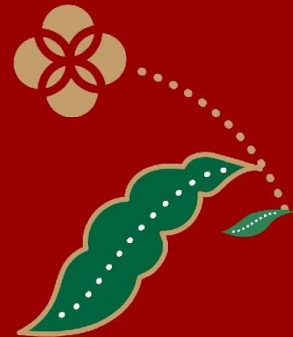
Lessons learned

Germany

Communicate more with the Global GLAM
Community

Argentina

Do somethings similar to Kulturbotschafter

Empower the community to do more GLAM
work

Do annual meetings

Thank you for listening!

Feel free to reach us.

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Juan: @BugWarp (everywhere)