We have knowledge, there are tools - let’s make Wikipedia more ethno!
Why Wikipedia?

- the largest collection of knowledge in the history of mankind
- over 45 million articles
- 300 language versions
- monthly visit: half a billion unique users

Photo: Mariusz Raniszewski
Why are we doing this? What are our goals?

Is Ethnology ‘worse’ than sport or politics?
- a niche or an element of every possible context?
- check out ethno-representation on Wikipedia

Folk dance -PL - https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taniec_ludowy

SK - https://sk.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C4%BDudov%C3%BD_tanec

HU - https://hu.wikipedia.org/wiki/N%C3%A9pt%C3%A1nc
Let them exist! Small steps: e.g. write about local museum with good references ...

...add photos, then get interested in its collection & curator`s stories. Document all of this. Upload!
Ritual Year with Wikipedia

Ministry of Culture and Heritage in Poland, Wikimedia Poland, National Museum of Ethnography in Warsaw

2015, Poland, 7 locations. Interviews, 700+ photos, 7 movies and articles, workshops, publication

Photo: Polimerek
Rituals - so many involved, so little is written about

Photo: Marta Malina Moraczewska

Photo: Bratek51
Rituals - so many involved, so little is written about.
Decision of engaging local people, experts, „owners” of the ritual into editing = it`s a good decision!

Photos: wpedzich

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:%C5%BBywiec_outfit_apron_VP8.webm
Carpathian Ethnography Project

WikiMedia Foundation grant

2016-2017, 5 countries, 50 articles, 2000 images (450 uploaded), videos, interviews, workshops, complex cooperation

Photo: Mariusz Raniszewski
Folk art, folk costumes, museum collections

Photo: Marta Malina Moraczewska

Video by: Mariusz Raniszewski
Decision is made - what next?

- Describe your idea. Write down your project. Talk to someone about it. Invite people to participate.
- Think about your budget and future needs - who can help you?
- Do you need translators, moviemakers? Find them.

- Think unique AND practical at the same time

It`s a nice feeling when our work is for SOMETHING
People

Build a team.

Remember: Today, interdisciplinary activities count!
Carpathian Ethnography - perfect team

- 25-30 people (15 in Poland, around 15 in other countries).

- Each of the 5 trips made from Poland by a team of 5 people + 2 others (local Museum staff and local Wikipedians) on location, and will carry on working together remotely. The team in each country:
  
  ● 1-2 Wikipedians
  ● 2 Museum staff
  ● 1 volunteer (students / PhD students of ethnography and related fields from Poland)

The entire core team, working together throughout the project:

● 8+ Wikipedians (Poland); 5+ Wikipedians (other countries; one main Wikimedian coordinator per country)
● 8+ Museum staff (Poland); 8+ Museum staff (other countries)
● 5-10 volunteer students.
OUR RESOURCES

People!

Everyone is important.

Wikipedians, ethnographers, experts + local people = experts on their own subjects

Photo: Mariusz Raniszewski
OUR RESOURCES

People

Our knowledge and fieldwork experience - one of many unique resources!

Also: ethno-ability to listen to, to observe specific details etc.

ACTING

Photo: Polimerek
Resources are sources: bibliography, collections

Be familiar with your own collections/ collections of local museums, also with library assets.

Be careful with copyrights!


Photo:Polimerek
Resources are sources: bibliography, collections

Ask about private collections, private archives. Rare rituals or folk art among small communities are documented by members of that community!

Photo: Nova
How to be well prepared? Formalities.

- letters announcing project and our arrival
- letters explaining clearly who we are and what we want, why we do it, why and for how long we need them and why we are already grateful.
- Authentication letters / references etc.
- letters of agreement for documenting the personal image (interview, film)
- Can objects be in the public domain? On what license? Authorship!
- collect contacts, appointments etc.
- Write down a detailed trip schedule
What can we achieve? Educate yourself first.

- Attend wiki - workshop
- Try to edit/write
- Try to upload photos
- Learn about Creative Commons
- Don’t be afraid of Wikidata
- Learn from each other

Photo: Marta Malina Moraczewska
Final report = is it a real closure?

Pending. Mistakes. To improve. To re-think. To re-write. To...

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Carpathian_Ethnography_Project_-_pending_description

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Carpathian_Ethnography_Project_%E2%80%93_team_Czech_Republic#/media/File:Czechy_2017_Dokumentacja_pisanek.jpg
The end – not the end

- Wikipedia as an open project leave us without evident closure.
- Yes, we’ve got the final report.
- Yes, we finished our grant, our team got thankful notes and certificates.

But you can still take care of your work, introduce it to the others. Let other editors improve even description below photos and sources!

Photo: Krystyna Wodecka - Państwowe Muzeum Etnograficzne w Warszawie
#EthnoWiki vel #EtnoWiki – be a part of that movement!
Thank you

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- KlaraSielicka - on Twitter
- claire.klara – on Instagram
- Klara Sielicka-Baryłka – on LinkedIn

Photo: Marta Malina Moraczewska