Working on the Wikimedia CH IT Strategy

Preamble

In September 2022, Wikimedia CH finalized a discussion about the concrete need to have an IT Strategy plan that reflects Wikimedia CH's five-year Strategy.

At this stage, the WMCH CEO Jenny Ebermann and Ilario Valdelli, Innovation programme lead, involved Valerio Bozzolan in this processing, as IT infrastructure consultant for Wikimedia Switzerland since 2019, and as lead developer of a program that the community calls WMCH Tech Boost.

https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wikimedia_CH/Tech_boost

Expected results

The expected results will be the production of the IT Strategy document for Wikimedia CH, covering the five-year strategic plan. Including:

- coverage of Innovation Hub/Experimental Space

- coverage of Education

- coverage of GLAM

- coverage of Community Areas

- comprehensive of internal WMCH IT infrastructure

- IT risk assessment

- feedback and consensus from employees and involved people about the coverage of their area of knowledge of WMCH

- an overview document, easy to be updated

- release under a Free license compatible with Wikimedia (proposed: CC Zero)

Working Phases

Phase 0: Exploration
Definition of the scope and of the goals of the strategy.

Gather documentation materials, knowledge, also in terms of people to be involved, needed for the next phases. Meeting with IT suppliers.

This phase will also include an exploration of potential IT risks.

Input: WMCH Tech/Assistance/Consulting contracts, staff info, etc.

Output: first visualization of the current state, needs, challenges.

Working time: 2 days

Phase min. duration: 2 weeks

Phase 1: Survey to stakeholders and experts
Design and submit a survey to people in WMCH and people whose feedback may have benefits for WMCH IT Strategy. The survey helps in identifying needs, expectations and potential problems in the IT infrastructure.

Note: The questionnaire itself has no specific hosting cost: we already deployed a LimeSurvey instance, GDPR-friendly.

Input from WMCH: Share the survey to internal relevant users

Output: current status and collection of critical areas.

Working time: 4 days (setup survey, collect, process data).

Survey min. duration: 1 week

Phase 2: Interviewing relevant stakeholders and experts
Plan, do and rationalize interviews with relevant people involved in WMCH and people whose feedback may have benefits for WMCH IT Strategy.

The interviews are shaped following individual needs. Public testimonies are not generalized but appropriately cited in the output document, still protecting any requests for anonymization.

Input from WMCH: Contacts of already-known stakeholders and experts

Working time: 4 days

Phase min. duration: 2 weeks

Output: collection of interview cards and IT stakes.

Phase 3: Write-up and early RFC
Write the first structure of the document (majority of the invested time); land the document on a shared and collaborative platform (proposed: Meta-wiki) with a progress checklist of the current state to be observed on Wikimedia Phabricator;

proactively invite early changes, contributions and review by people or experts not necessarily involved in step 1, as Request for Comments/Collaboration.

Working time: 4 days

Min. duration: 2 weeks

Output: IT Strategy structure (min 10 pages ~ 3200 words)

Phase 4: Peer review
The draft is submitted to 2/3 experts and to one person of Wikimedia CH for peer review and to identify weaknesses and inconsistencies.

Input from WMCH: 1 person for peer review

Output: Reviewed IT Strategy structure (min 10 pages ~ 3200 words)

Working time: 2 days

Phase min. duration: 1 week

Phase 5: Finalization
Finalize the document and bring it to the attention of WMCH for the final review.

Working time: 2 days

Input for WMCH: final review

Output: Final IT Strategy

Phase min. duration: 1 week

Time

In order to conclude the job in 3 months (12 weeks); after the confirmation of the start of work, is proposed to allocate 8 hours each Tuesday + 4 hours each Thursday, each week. This can be discussed by evaluating other timing or change in phases.

The expected end date without interruptions is December 2023, starting in October 2022. To consider local holidays and time breaks between interviews, we can agree on the postponement of the delivery date to January 2023.

Cost

For time phase variations please contact Valerio Bozzolan directly.

For inquiries related to hourly cost, please contact Emilio Ravotti from ER Informatica (the direct phone number is shared with Ilario Valdelli).

The cost column is made considering the current rate of ER Informatica, confirmed by Emilio Ravotti and Ilario Valdelli in March 2022, of <omissis>/EUR/H and considering a working day consisting in 8 hours.

Phase	Working days	Cost (EUR)
Step 0: Exploration	2	<omissis>
Step 1: Survey	4	<omissis>
Step 2: Interview	4	<omissis>
Step 2: Write-up + RFC	4	<omissis>
Step 3: Peer review	2	<omissis>
Step 4: Finalization	2	<omissis>
Total	18	<omissis>

Total: <omissis> EUR

Note: if you need economical details, please contact Ilario Valdelli or Wikimedia CH, since Valerio Bozzolan is not authorized to share this information in the public domain.

Valerio B. - Relevant professional experiences

2019-now: IT external consultant for Wikimedia CH
https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wikimedia_CH/Tech_boost

2019-now: full-stack web developer, sysadmin for ER Informatica Torino
Contact: https://www.erinformatica.it/ (+39) 0141880004

2020-2021: IT external consultant for Wikimedia IT
Contact: https://www.wikimedia.it/ (+39) 0297677170

2015-2021: full-stack web developer, sysadmin for Landscapefor cultural association
https://www.landscapefor.eu/

2016-2019: IT freelance consultant

2015-2016: lead developer for Ministry of Education (MIUR) through IIS Avogadro, Torino
Tommaso De Luca · tdeluca@itisavogadro.it

Valerio B. - Relevant volunteer experiences

2021-2023: member of the board and director of the Italian Linux Society
https://www.ils.org/

2021: translation project manager with studenti@linuxPoliTO
https://linux.studenti.polito.it/

2020: lead of Italian Wikimedia conference online 2020 – itWikiCon
https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/ItWikiCon/2020/Team

2020: bot developer during Mendrisio (CH) edit-a-thon
https://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Raduni/Biblioteca_dell%27Accademia_di_Mendrisio_4_ottobre_2020

2019-2021: Phabricator service provider for Free Software projects
https://gitpull.it/

2019-2021: author of KISS Libre Hosting Panel project for Debian GNU/Linux
https://gitpull.it/w/kiss_libre_hosting_panel/

2019-2021: volunteer service provider for InformAzioni.wiki
https://www.informazioni.wiki/

2018: interface admin of it.wikipedia.org

2018: developer and maintainer of bots on Wikimedia Toolforge for itwiki community
https://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Utente:ItwikiBot

2018: bot developer for Wiki Loves Monuments Switzerland
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Wiki_Loves_Monuments_2018_in_Switzerland

2017: lead developer in SPID WordPress, Italian government central login
https://github.com/italia/spid-wordpress/

2014-2022: OpenStreetMap contributor
https://www.openstreetmap.org/user/Valerio_Bozzolan

2015-2022: service provider for Border Radio (Turin)
https://border-radio.it/

2015: service provider for WEEE Open (Polytechnic University of Turin)
http://weeeopen.polito.it/

2015: hackaton participation and winner (insurance Facile.it)
https://fuel.reyboz.it/

2012-2014: sysadmin in IIS Avogadro (Turin)
Ivan Bertotto · ivan.bertotto@itisavogadro.it

Valerio B. - Relevant training

2022: Creative Commons Certification for Open Culture/ GLAM
https://certificates.creativecommons.org/

2020: specific training course on workplace safety Ateco 6201 (Turin)
info@erinformatica.it · (+39) 0141880004

2014: 100/100 industrial expert chief engineer - IIS Avogadro (Turin)
Tommaso De Luca · tdeluca@itisavogadro.it

2012: CISCO CCNA networking certification
maxwell@jcmaxwell.it

Valerio B. - Conflicts of interests

There are no known professional conflicts of interest involving the IT operator Valerio Bozzolan.

Valerio B. is employed on a permanent basis in an external IT company in Torino, Italy, and the economic amounts by which Wikimedia CH books the operator Valerio Bozzolan is not decided by Valerio B. and have no impact in his current salary in this external company. The contents in this specific document were not influenced in any way by Valerio Bozzolan's superiors and it is simply the fruit of Valerio's estimation for an optimal use of his working time and an optimal use of WMCH resources.

Ilario Valdelli is aware of the family situation of Valerio B. and can confirm that there are no professional conflicts of interest on that level at the moment.

Valerio B. is volunteer board director in this non-profit association:

- Italian Linux Society

Valerio B. is volunteer member of these non-profit associations:

- Border Radio

- Greenpeace

- Wikimedia IT

- InformAzioni.wiki

- Free Software Foundation

- Free Software Foundation Europe

Data protection

This document has no personal data and it is safe for Wikimedia CH to publish it.

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https://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/

Contact

Thank you for reading. In case of *bona fide* errors or info request, please contact Valerio Bozzolan on these public e-mail contacts:

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Milano,

September 29, 2022