

GLAM@Bulgaria

An overview of two
successful GLAM
projects in Bulgaria
(2011-2014)

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Bulgarian Wikipedia

- Established December 2003
- As of Dec 2014: 185K articles
- Cooperation with external institutions
 - Wiki projects with lecturers and students from 5+ universities
 - Two GLAM projects, of which
 - One funded by Wikimedia Foundation:
Grants: Sofia Zoo and Bulgarian Wikipedians/
Sofia Zoo Powered by Wikimedia
- All this done prior to the establishment of the 'Wikimedians of Bulgaria' User Group (Dec 2014)!

Project with Sofia Zoo

- Timeline



Project with Sofia Zoo

- Project goals and results
 - New information plates for the exhibited species, featuring
 - QRpedia codes to Wikipedia articles
(code generated from ENWP and species' Latin name)

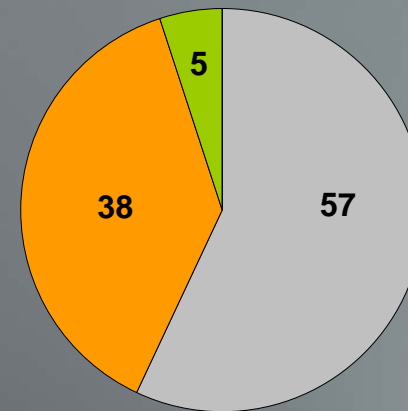
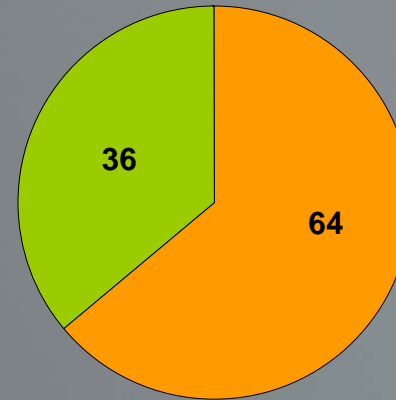


Project with Sofia Zoo

- Project goals and results
 - New information plates for the exhibited species, featuring
 - QRpedia codes to Wikipedia articles
(code generated from ENWP and species' Latin name)
 - Free photos from Commons, with attribution
 - Creation/improvement of articles in BG Wikipedia
- Impact
 - Zoo's staff became devoted 'ambassadors' of Wikipedia
 - Free content/licenses are advertised in BG society
 - BG Wikipedia is positively reflected in media coverage

Project with Sofia Zoo

- Budget sources
 - Wikimedia Foundation grant
 - Voluntary co-funding
- Budget allocation
 - Metal constructions for holding the plates
 - Printing the PVC plates
 - Brochures and promotion



Project with Sofia Zoo



Project with State Archives Agency

- Timeline



Project with State Archives Agency

- Archival issues:
 - Late archives digitization in BG
 - Poor document descriptions and metadata
 - Almost all catalogues are on paper and unsearchable
 - Few documents available at a time
- Legal issues:
 - Free licenses are generally unknown in BG (even among jurists!)
 - BASA does **NOT** hold copyrights on hosted archives
 - Public domain materials dated to 70+ years ago

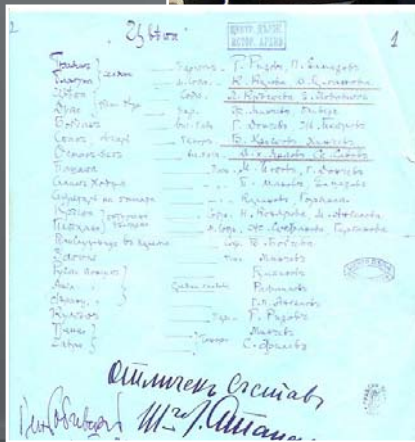
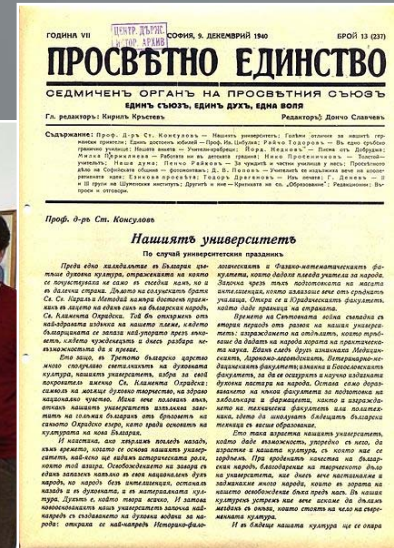
Project with State Archives Agency

- Technical issues:
 - Digitizing equipment: own laptops, cameras and scanners
 - Good free wifi connection provided by BASA
 - New accounts: **BASA <account>**’ for easier tracking of project-related contributions
- What we digitize?
 - Illustrative content: photos of people, places, events, newspaper clips
 - Documents: acts, statutes, etc. ~ mainly for illustration, potentially to be OCR-ed and used as primary sources

Project with State Archives Agency

- When we digitize?
 - When copyrights allow us
 - PD-old
 - EU-anonymous
 - When there are relevant ~ real or potential ~ articles in Bulgarian Wikipedia, which can be illustrated
 - When foreign Wikipedia's can directly benefit
 - Sometimes, the image gives rise to the new article 😊
- Where we upload?
 - Wikimedia Commons, see 'COM:BASA'

Project with State Archives Agency



GLAM Lessons Learnt

- Know your Wiki*edian community.
 - Their attitude towards the GLAM cooperation.
 - Their willingness/availability to contribute.
 - Their preferences to communication/organisation
- Know your GLAM partners.
 - Their workload / seasonality / availability, etc.
 - Their internal bureaucracy and regulations
 - The legal limitations and concerns they may have

GLAM Lessons Learnt

- Planning and coordination of efforts is important.
 - Always provide more time than initially planned.
 - Maintain a public ‘progress report’ wiki page.
 - Discuss the policy of the GLAM mailing list (public/private, open/closed, archived or not).
 - Be inclusive and ‘advertise’ the GLAM project for other Wiki*edians to involve.
- The generated GLAM content is **PERFECT** to use in promoting Wikimedia movement in social media!

GLAM Lessons Learnt

- Plan expenses very carefully!
 - Secure 30+ % co-funding when the beneficiary is an organisation that is not a Wikimedia chapter.
 - Non-commercial co-funding raises less problems (We didn't have any 😊)
 - Careful planning today saves problems tomorrow (We didn't have any 😊)
 - Do not forget: incidental expenses
- Timely prepare publicity materials.
 - Have them ready and only update.

What's so glamorous about GLAM

- Meeting new people from GLAM institutions!
- So **MUCH** to be done!
 - And so few people there to do it...
 - Wherever you start from, you're on the right track!
- Few Wikipedians doing GLAM means:
 - better coordination among those involved
 - working at your own pace
 - less editorial/administrative stress
 - more rewarding experience 😊
- **GLAM projects contributed A LOT to our User Group!**

Thank you for your attention!



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