Affiliate Partnerships session

Learning Days, Wikimania 2017, Montreal

Objectives

- Share experiences about Affiliates collaborations
- Identify practices that enhance collaboration among Affiliates

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Intro: Experiences from WMF

Affiliate collaboration furthering Programmatic Campaigns

Alex Stinson, GLAM
WMF

Wiki Loves Monuments

- Independent international organizing team
- Open call for organizers, many affiliate related or supported
- Campaigns run semi-autonomously with limited restrictions by international organization, except deadlines and tools

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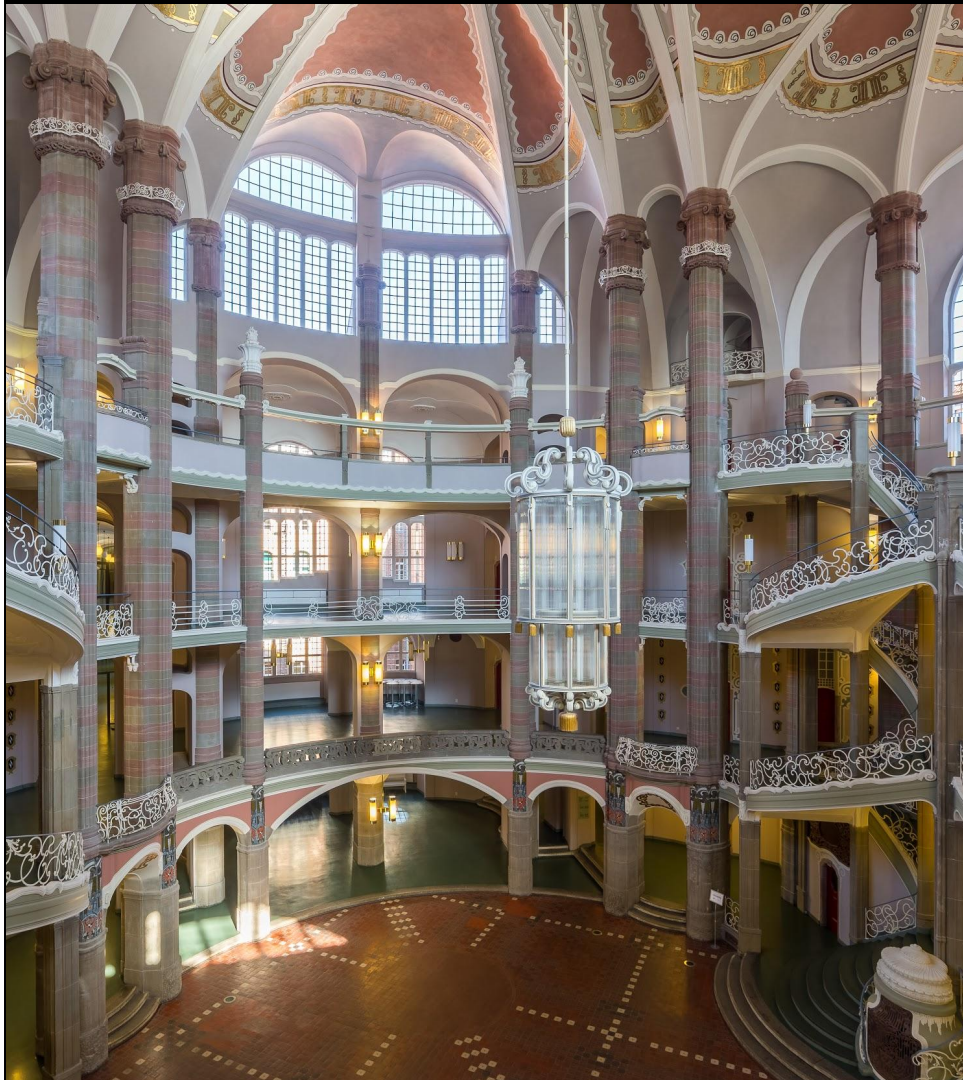

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Art + Feminism, BBC 100 Women and #Herstory

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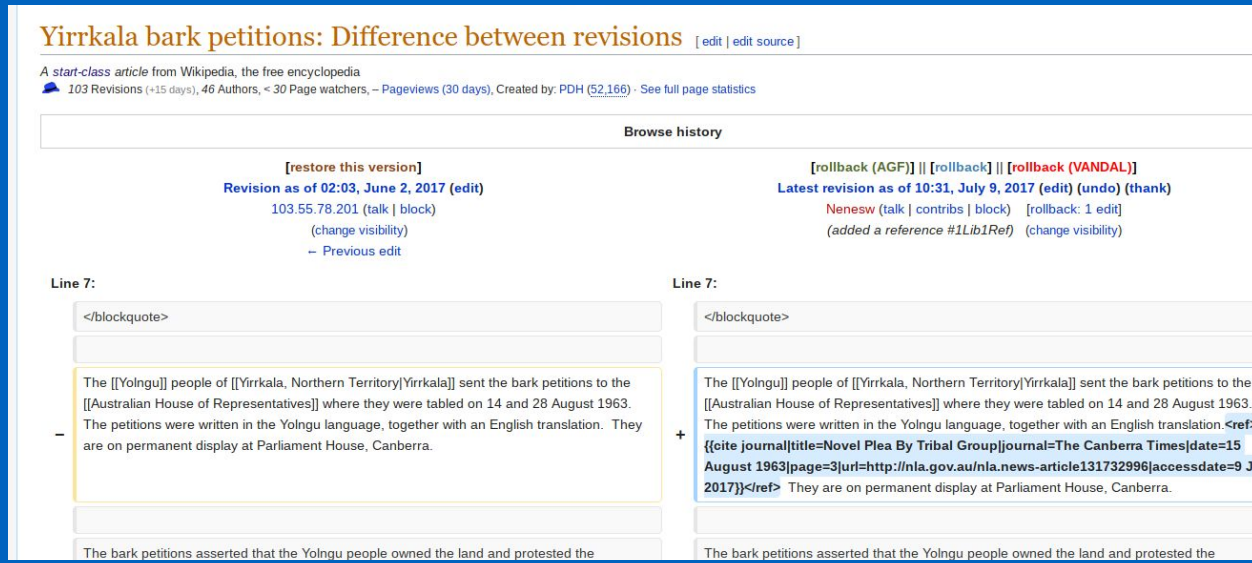

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Among many others....

Wiki Loves Africa, Wiki Loves Earth, CEE Spring, Europeana Art History Challenge, etc.

Trends I am seeing....

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Affiliates don’t need to “be the leaders”.

There are motivated internal and external communities of practice who want to run programs. If organizers leave very open and flexible definitions of what is included, local communities and affiliates can partner to scale.

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Affiliates can be the impact scalers

Campaign programs are working best when affiliates:

- talk to each other and campaign organizers
- recruit support from other affiliates for local event organizers that express interest
- Facilitate other resource needs (translation, trained event runners, food money, etc)
- Customize the programs to meet local contexts

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Affiliates don’t have to engage every campaign, even if activities arise in your context.

Evolving relationships in Education programmatic work

Vahid Masrour
Wikipedia Education Program, WMF

History of the Collab

Ideated in 2014 at WMF

"*The goal was to bring together the experience of varied efforts related to having students and educators collaborate with Wikipedia and brainstorm how best to expand efforts.*"

https://outreach.wikimedia.org/wiki/Education/Newsletter/March_2014/Education_Cooperative_Kickoff_Meeting_in_Prague

https://outreach.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Education_Coop_kick-off_meeting_in_Prague_93.jpg

… by 2017

- Close ties among members
- Members from 5 continents (Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe)
- Good pulse of what is going on in the field of specialization
- Capability for action
- Experience in collaborations across continents
- Wide experience
  - Teacher training
  - Higher education
  - Medical contents
  - Translations projects
  - ...
- Agreements on shared goals

How did the partnership grow?

- **Values**
  - Shared field of interest
  - Willingness to collaborate
  - Trust and acceptance
- **Activities**
  - Regular online meetings
  - Face-to-face meetings
  - Agreed upon shared goals

The next stage: Wikipedia & Education UG

Join and support:
https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia_%26_Education_User_Group

Examples of partnerships from the Community

African Community Collaborations

Isla Haddow-Flood

COLLABORATIONS AROUND THE BENGALI WIKIPEDIA

Tanweer Morshed
Wikimedia Bangladesh

Origin of the collaboration

- The collaboration started out from the need to turn the Bengali Wikipedia into a quality encyclopedia, meeting the demands of Bengali speaking population.
- The shared history and culture between Bengali people across Bangladesh and India.
- Existing amicable relation between the two communities.

Initiative towards collaboration

Collaboration discussion during the Bengali Wikipedia's 10th anniversary conference at **Jadavpur University in Kolkata, India.**

Initiative towards collaboration

Collaboration discussion during the Bengali Wikipedia's 10th anniversary conference at **Daffodil International University in Dhaka, Bangladesh**.

Issues identified

- Emphasize on topics of shared values
- Creation of contents that are valuable and essential for Bengali speaking people.
- Attempt for partnership with Govt. and non-Govt. entities for resources
- Collaborate in organizing initiatives to further the quality, diversity and magnitude.

Consequences

Article creation/translation contests

4 contests, resulted in over 940 articles: topics of article are varied.

Editathons

7 online editathons, resulted in 392 articles: focus on topics relevant to the countries.

Content

Photographs, resources.

Challenges

- Barrier in visiting each other’s country
- Lack of cooperation from Government entities
- Lack of volunteers in organizing offline initiatives

IBEROCOOP: moving forward to a learning-focused Network

Anna Torres
WMAR

Why Iberocoop?

- Same language
- Same context
- Same challenges

Sharing a common language and context help coordinate projects together but does not necessarily imply generating long-term impact

But sharing the same challenges has meant defining strategic lines of work that, YES, can generate long-term impact

- Diversity
- Mentoring

From projects to a learning-focused network

- From 3 affiliates in 2011 to 11 in 2017
- From women contest or edit-a-thons to positioning the gender gap issue on the regional agenda
- From contest to promote our local culture to regional surveys to get to know new potential communities
- From well-built communities to mentoring new ones (Editatonas)
- From local impact to regional impact - Wikilesa, Wikipuentes, Editatonas etc.

Sharing a common language and context help coordinate projects together but does not necessarily imply generating long-term impact

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Breakout

Share with the people at your table

(25 minutes)

Examples from the table/group:

goo.gl/GDWx4B

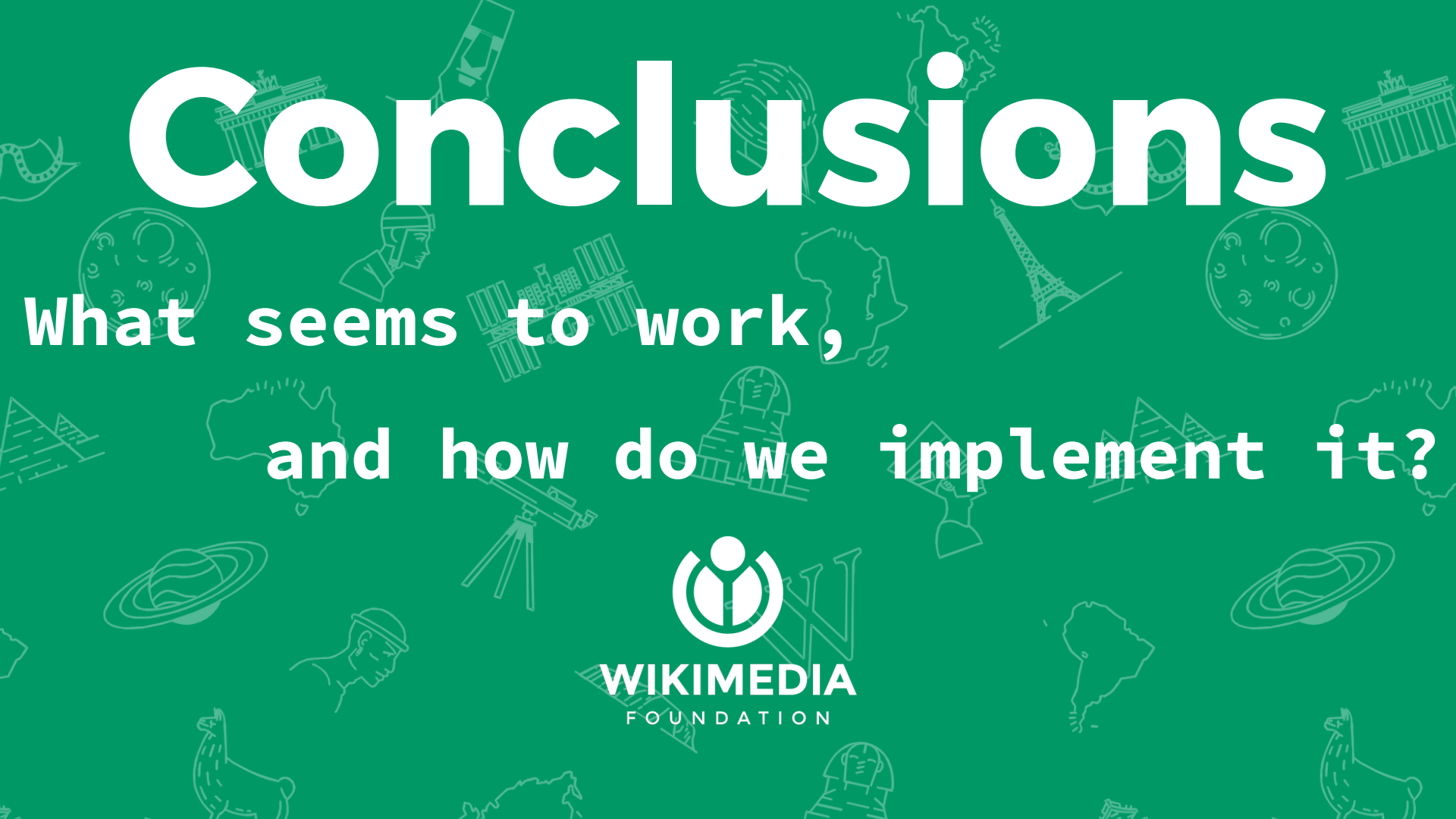
A. Share an example of a collaboration that worked successfully, and explain why.
B. What challenges did you face when working on that collaboration?
C. What strategies could the collaborators use to resolve challenges in a collaboration?
D. (last 5 minutes) Identify at least one principle that answers the question: *What does it take for collaboration between affiliates to succeed?*

goo.gl/GDWx4B

Conclusions

What seems to work,

and how do we implement it?



Evaluation