



**Title:** Opportunities for New Developers in the Wikipedia Community

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**With: Vasanth, Gopa**

# Agenda

- Wikimedia ecosystem
- Technical areas and projects for new developers
- Efforts to onboard new developers



# Wikimedia Ecosystem



**This *might* be a bit confusing..**



**WIKIPEDIA**  
The Free Encyclopedia



**MediaWiki**



**WIKIMEDIA**  
FOUNDATION

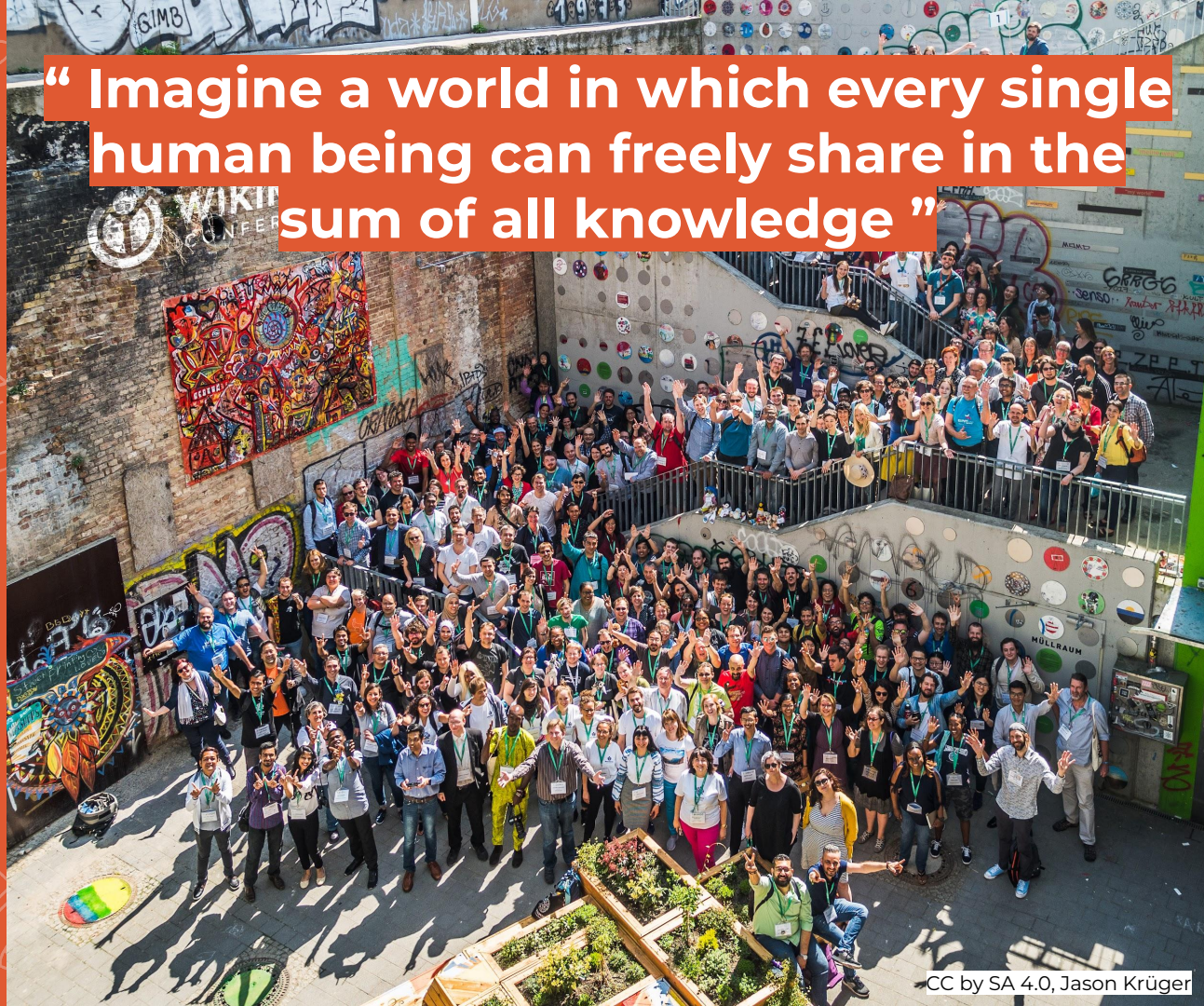


**WIKI**



**WIKIMEDIA**  
MOVEMENT

**“Imagine a world in which every single human being can freely share in the sum of all knowledge”**



# Who makes technical contributions to Wikipedia community?

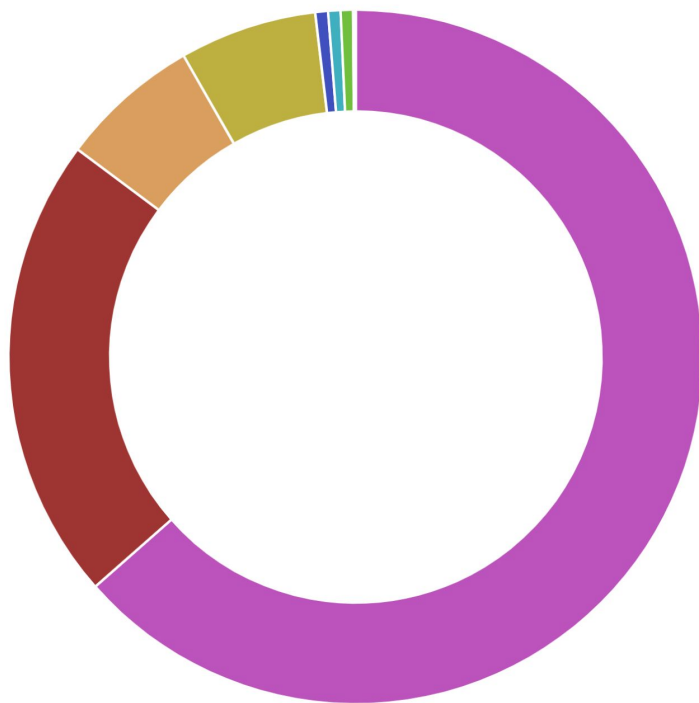
One of the largest  
open-source software  
projects.



# 36.5% code contributions from outside of the Wikimedia Foundation

Received by independent volunteers and other organizations (July 21–June 22)

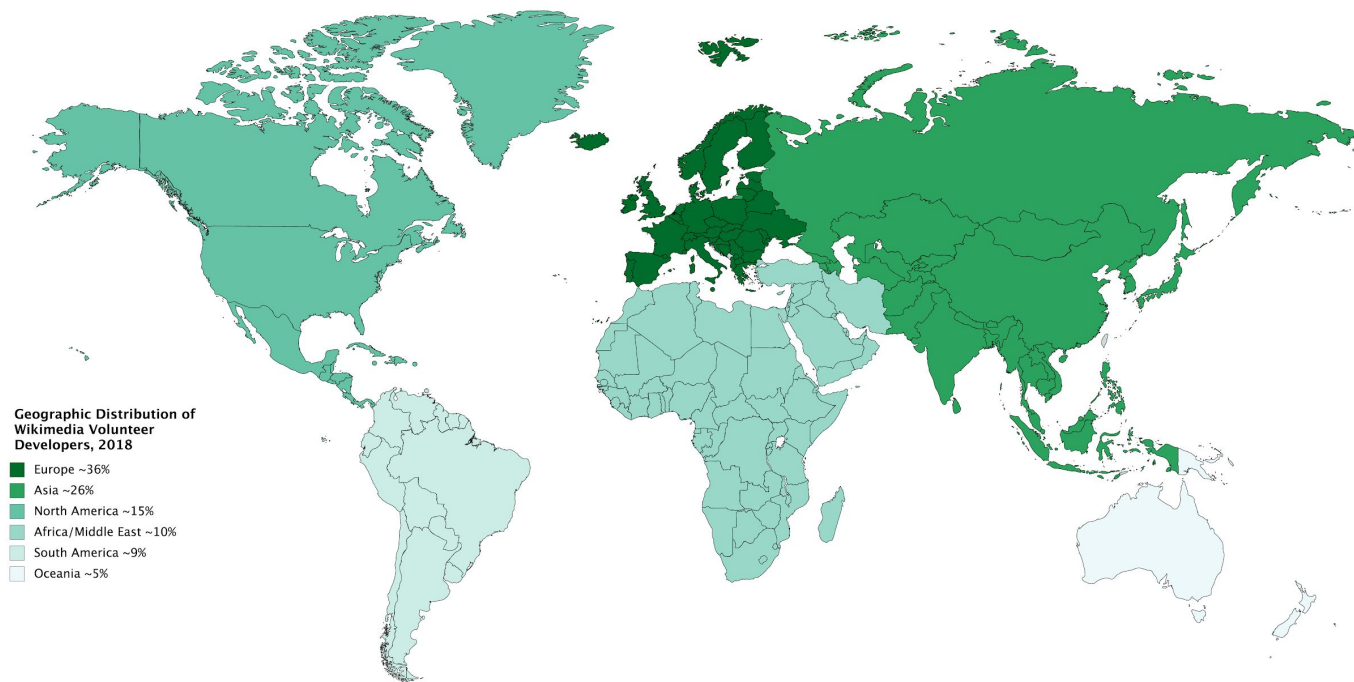
- **588** contributors
- **1,281** repositories
- **51,284** software changes



value	
Wikimedia Foundation	38,272 (51.48%)



# Geographic Distribution of Wikimedia Volunteer Developers (2017-18)



# Wikipedia technical community



# How to Contribute?

# Four-step process

- Pick a task related to a Wikimedia project or technical area
- Set up the development environment
- Choose and solve a task
- Submit your code changes





## Step 1

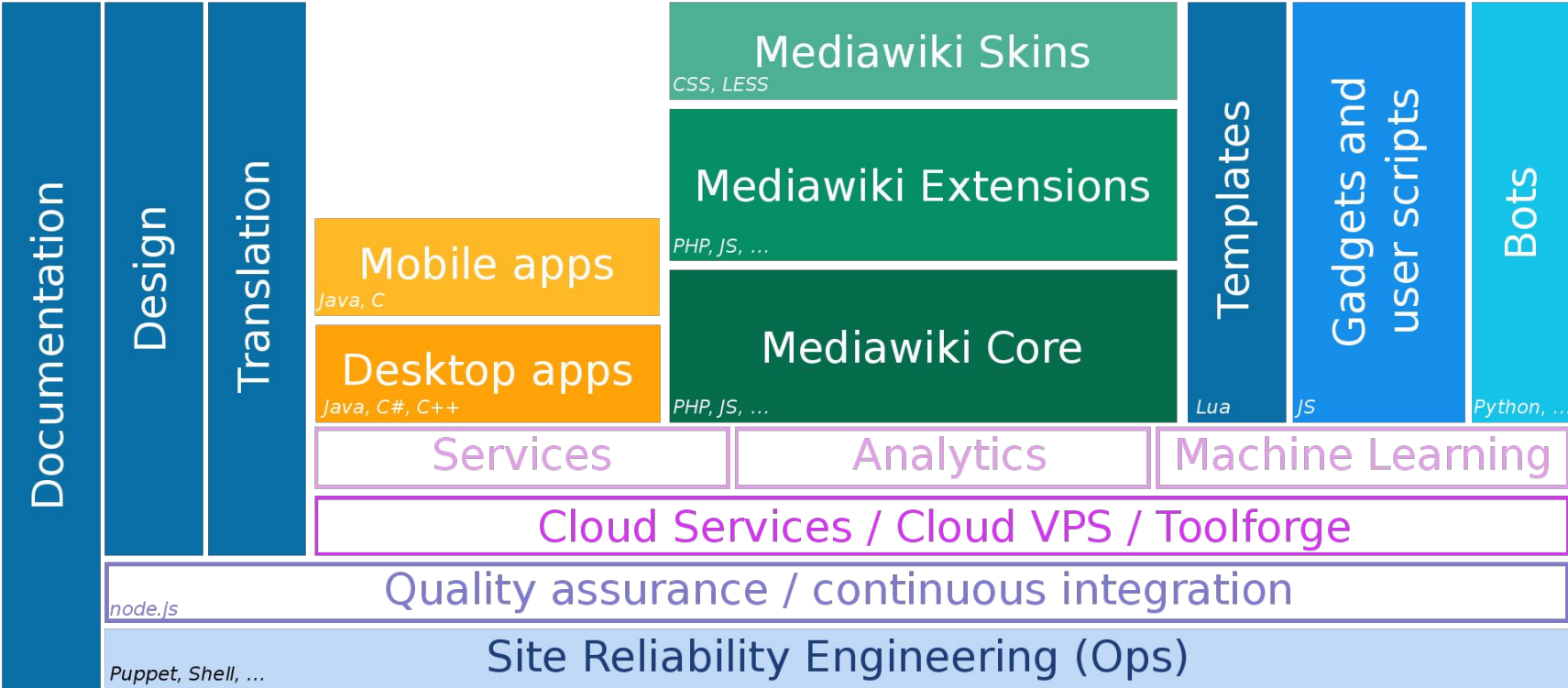
Pick a task related  
to a Wikimedia  
project or technical  
area



# Wikimedia Projects



# Technical areas



# MediaWiki Extensions

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a MediaWiki page titled "Main Page: Difference between". The URL is <https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?diff=870287511&oldid=7838...>. The page features a "Browse history interactively" section with a bar chart showing revision activity over time. A yellow dot on the left indicates the current view, and a blue dot on the right indicates the selected revision. A tooltip for the selected revision provides the following details:

- Date:** 22 October 2018 8:10 AM
- Username:** MSGJ
- Edit summary:** *Undid revision 865176268 by MSGJ (talk) - revert for now, formatting on TFL is wrong*
- Page size:** 6,712 bytes
- Change size:** +3,027 bytes

Screenshot of an Extension: Revision Slider



# Desktop Apps

The screenshot shows the Huggle desktop application window titled "Huggle 3 QT-LX on enwiki". The interface includes a menu bar (System, Tools, Page, Queue, HAN, User, Help), a toolbar with navigation icons, and a main content area displaying a diff of a page titled "Draft:Kenn Davis".

The diff view shows two versions of a paragraph. The left version (Line 69) contains a paragraph about Carver Bascombe, a black Vietnam veteran and private investigator, who is the creator of the mystery novel "The Dark Side" with John Stanley. The right version (Line 69) is identical but includes a bolded phrase: "(with John Stanley) and again in 1985 for "Words Can".

Summary: No summary was provided Size change: +104

Line 69: [Left] Kenn Davis together with John Stanley is the creator of Carver Bascombe, a black Vietnam veteran with military police background who is a private investigator in San Francisco. [Right] Kenn Davis together with John Stanley is the creator of Carver Bascombe, a black Vietnam veteran with military police background who is a private investigator in San Francisco. (with John Stanley) and again in 1985 for "Words Can"

System logs:

- Tue Jun 3 19:13:41 2014 Connected to IRC recent changes feed
- Tue Jun 3 19:13:31 2014 Loaded in 259ms
- Tue Jun 3 19:13:31 2014 Extensions: 0
- Tue Jun 3 19:13:31 2014 Loading plugins in /home/petanj/local/share/data/Wikimedia/Huggle/extensions/
- Tue Jun 3 19:13:31 2014 Home: /home/petanj/local/share/data/Wikimedia/Huggle/Configuration/

System logs | Processes

Processing 0 edits and 0 queries. Whitelisted users: 15358 Queue size: 13 Statistics: 108 edits per minute 5.65 reverts per minute, level 1.05

Network (5)

You are now connected to huggle antivandalism network. Connecting to huggle anti vandalism network.

Stroppo  
ChanServ  
ClueBot  
Petr  
MuskAnimal

User info: Flags: +T Score: 0 level: 0 Edit count: 41

Page: Draft:Kenn Davis

User: Bcschipper/sandbox

User: Bcschipper/sandbox

User: Bcschipper/sandbox

User: Bcschipper/sandbox

User: Bcschipper/sandbox

User: Bcschipper/sandbox

History

User	Size
Bcschipper	13693
Bcschipper	13589
Bcschipper	13588
Bcschipper	13119
Bcschipper	13040
Bcschipper	12994
Bcschipper	12559

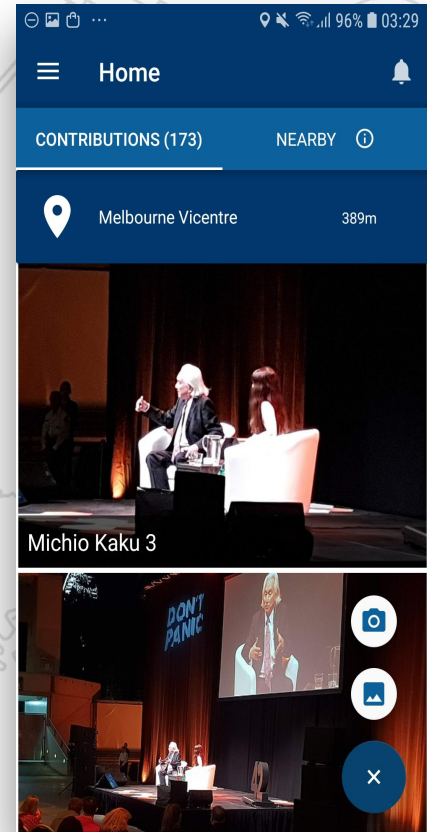
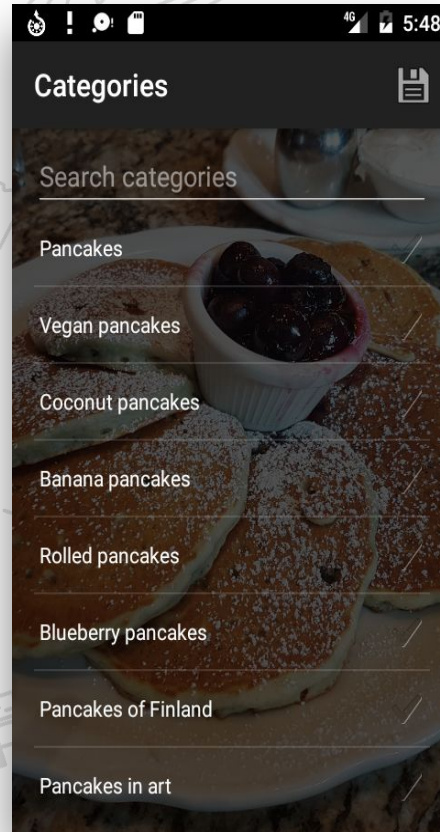
Screenshot of a Desktop app: Huggle

# Desktop Apps



**Screenshot of Kiwix running Wikipedia on an  
OLPC laptop**

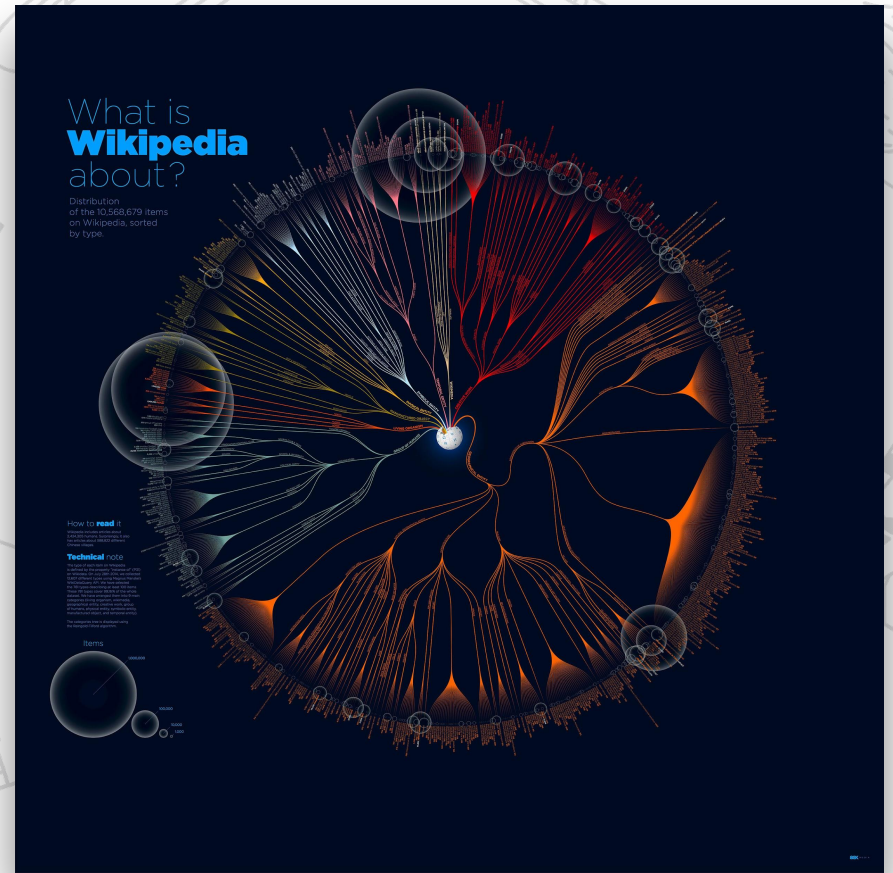
# Mobile Apps



**Wikimedia Commons app**

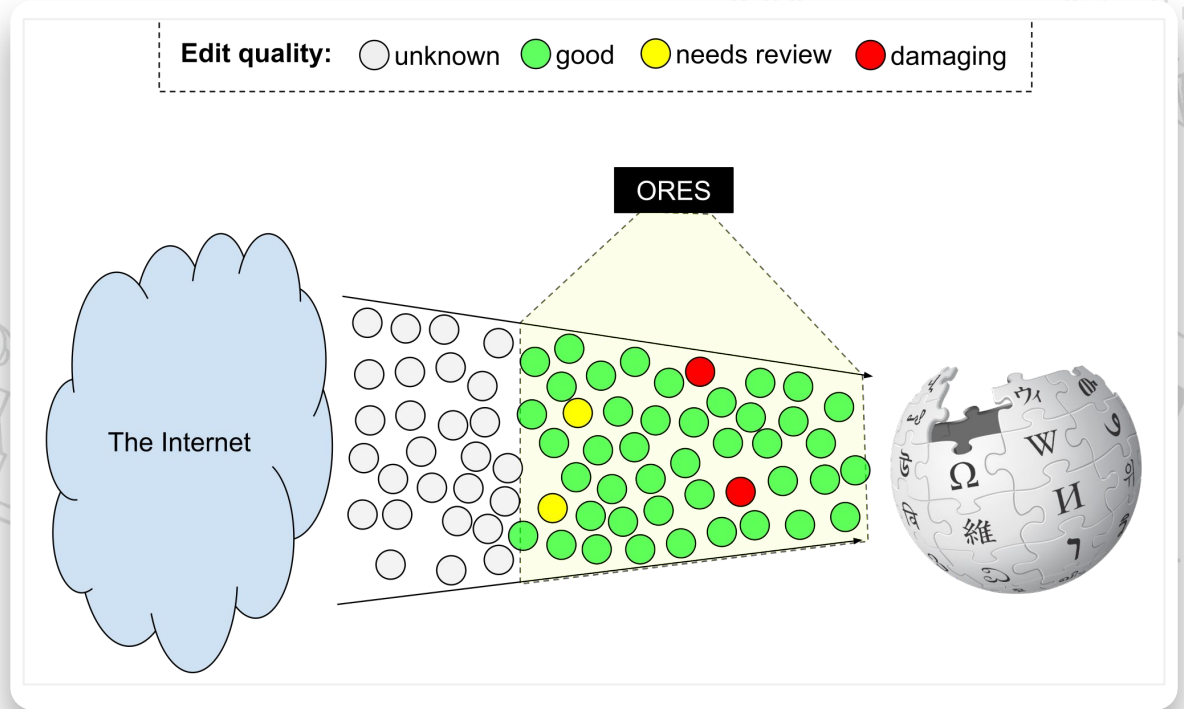


# Analytics



<http://seealso.org/>

# Machine Learning



**ORES edit quality flow**



# Other Major Areas



Design



Docs



Translation



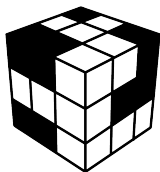
Quality  
Assurance



WIKIMEDIA  
FOUNDATION

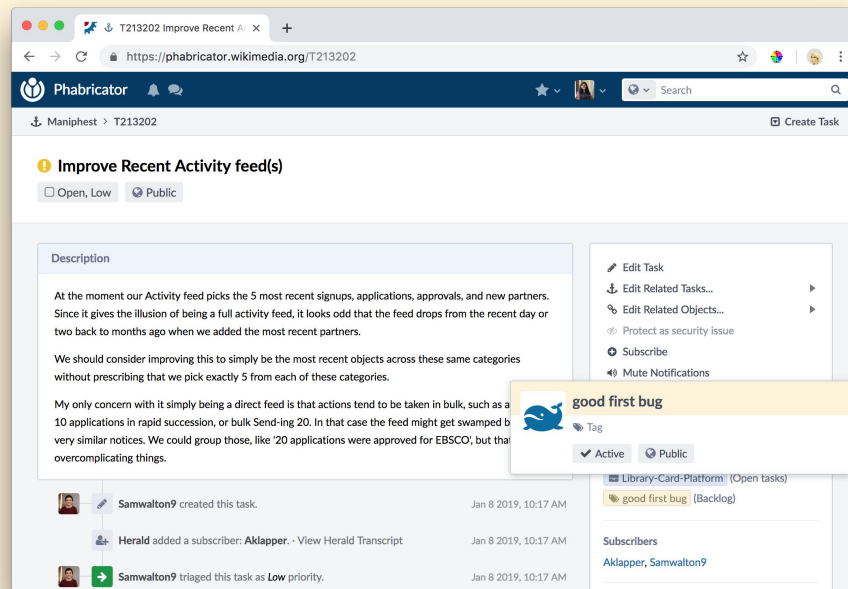






## Step 3

Choose and solve a task



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Phabricator task page for T213202. The page title is "Improve Recent Activity feed(s)". The task is currently "Open, Low" priority and is "Public". The description explains that the current activity feed picks the 5 most recent signups, applications, approvals, and new partners, which can be misleading. The goal is to improve this by selecting the most recent objects across various categories without overcomplicating things. A "good first bug" tag is applied to the task. The activity log shows that Samwalton9 created the task on Jan 8 2019, Herald added a subscriber (Aklapper) on Jan 8 2019, and Samwalton9 triaged the task as Low priority on Jan 8 2019.

<https://phabricator.wikimedia.org/>



# Step 4

## Submit your code changes



status:open | gerrit.wikimedia.org

Search for status:open

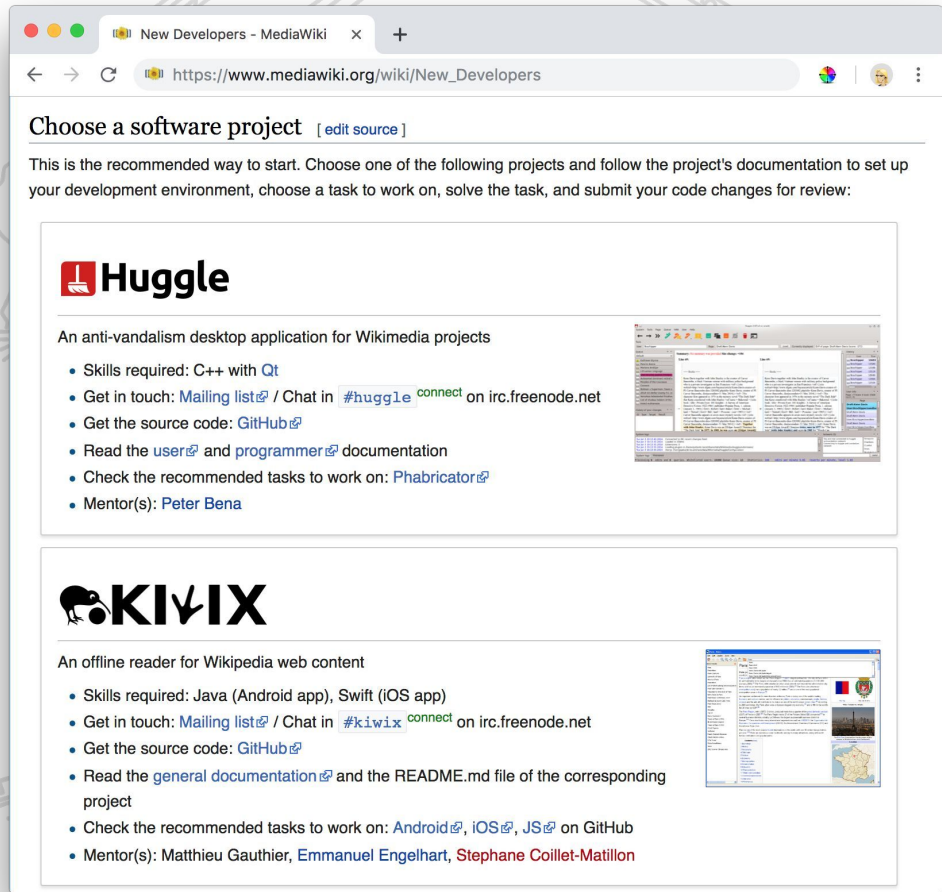
Subject	Status	Owner	Project	Branch	Updated	Size	CF	V
Avoid page table query spam in HistoryPager due to lastLink()		Aaron Schulz	mediawiki/core	master	7:34 PM			✓ ✗
rdbmis: make Database::query() more readable and consistent		Aaron Schulz	mediawiki/core	master	7:33 PM			
rdbmis: improve database connection loss handling		Aaron Schulz	mediawiki/core	master	7:33 PM			
Editor and VisualEditor use onBeforeExit		Jdrobson	mediawiki/extensions/MobileFrontend	master	7:32 PM			
SelectWidget: Allow multiselect mode, add to MenuTagMultiselectWidget		Mooneyoo	oojs/ui	master (selectwidget-multiselect)	7:24 PM			✓
WIP: c_1 ids from the sequence generator		XenoRyiet	mediawiki/extensions/DonationInterface	master (sequenceCT-ID)	7:18 PM			✗
Enable ExternalGuidance to all Wikipedias		KartikMistry	operations/mediawiki-config	master (eg-to-all)	7:15 PM			+1 ✓
Reimplement GetMainSearchRequest UDF from refinery-hive		EBernhardson	search/glent	master (495984)	7:05 PM			✗
Method0 WIP		Julia glen	search/glent	master (495984)	7:03 PM			✓
Set blacklist regex		Gergő Tisza	mediawiki/services/chromium-render/deploy	master	6:56 PM			
Avoids to call on( 'load' if the window is already loaded		Tpt	mediawiki/extensions/ProofreadPage	master (zoom-load)	6:56 PM			+1 ✓
Update OOUJ to v0.31.0		Jforrester	mediawiki/core	master (upstream-ooouj)	6:16 PM			✓
Update OOUJ to v0.31.0		Jforrester	mediawiki/vendor	master (upstream-ooouj)	6:13 PM			✓
Update OOUJ to v0.31.0		Jforrester	VisualEditor/VisualEditor	master (upstream-ooouj)	6:07 PM			✓
Edit summary autocomplete		Esanders	mediawiki/extensions/VisualEditor	master (autocomplete)	6:04 PM			✓
Re-apply "textSelection: Use execocommand to replace text"		Esanders	mediawiki/core	master (execocommand)	6:00 PM			✗ ✓

<https://gerrit.wikimedia.org/>

# Resources for volunteer developers



# New Developers Guide

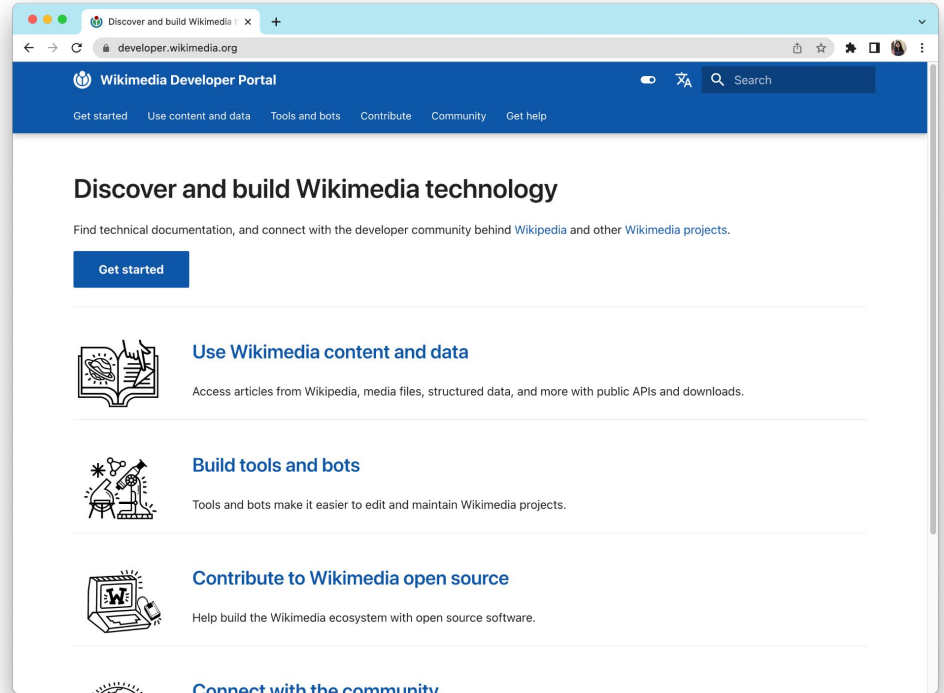


The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/New\\_Developers](https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/New_Developers). The page title is "Choose a software project" with a link to "[ edit source ]". Below the title, a paragraph states: "This is the recommended way to start. Choose one of the following projects and follow the project's documentation to set up your development environment, choose a task to work on, solve the task, and submit your code changes for review:". Two project cards are visible. The first card is for "Huggle", described as "An anti-vandalism desktop application for Wikimedia projects". It lists skills required (C++ with Qt), contact information (Mailing list, Chat in #huggle on irc.freenode.net), source code (GitHub), documentation (user and programmer), recommended tasks (Phabricator), and a mentor (Peter Bena). A small screenshot of the Huggle application interface is shown to the right. The second card is for "KIWIX", described as "An offline reader for Wikipedia web content". It lists skills required (Java for Android, Swift for iOS), contact information (Mailing list, Chat in #kiwix on irc.freenode.net), source code (GitHub), documentation (general documentation and README.md), recommended tasks (Android, iOS, JS on GitHub), and mentors (Matthieu Gauthier, Emmanuel Engelhart, Stephane Coillet-Matillon). A small screenshot of the KIWIX application interface is shown to the right.

[https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/New\\_Developers](https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/New_Developers)

# Developer Resources

<https://developer.wikimedia.org>



# Local community initiatives



**INDIC**  
**MEDIAWIKI DEVELOPERS**  
USER GROUP



# Small Wiki Toolkits





# What makes Wikimedia volunteers contribute?



# Open source outreach & mentoring programs



Google Summer of Code

# About GSoC & Outreachy

- 3-month long paid internship
- Support groups underrepresented in tech
- Remote
- Coding & non-coding projects
- Twice in a year: May-August & December-February

# Application process

- Check the eligibility criteria
- Pick 1 or 2 projects
- Make small, consistent contributions to a project
- Record / keep track of your contributions
- Complete your final application



# Tips for a successful application

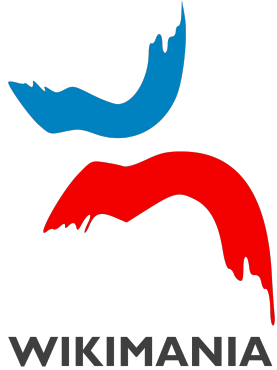
- Start early
- Choose a project that fits your interests and skills
- Focus more on quality contributions
- Get early feedback on your proposal
- Ask questions early and often
- Follow the norms of the community and all project updates



# Hackathons & events



# Programs & Events



# Community recognition



PAWS

**2021 COOLEST TOOL  
AWARD WINNER**

in the category  
**Editor**



# Support Channels



<https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Discourse>



<https://t.me/wmhack>



<https://wikimedia.zulipchat.com/>



# Thank you



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Twitter: [@gopavasanth1999](https://twitter.com/gopavasanth1999)

# References

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<https://wikimedia.biterg.io/goto/b6b44987ee5deec0becd728a8a655870>
  
- Technical areas and projects for new developers
  - ◆ Complete list of Wikimedia projects <https://www.wikimedia.org/>
  - ◆ How to contribute [https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/How\\_to\\_contribute](https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/How_to_contribute)
  - ◆ New developers guide [https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/New\\_Developers](https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/New_Developers)
  - ◆ Extension:RevisionSlider  
<https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Extension:RevisionSlider>
  - ◆ Programs and events dashboard <https://outreachdashboard.wmflabs.org/>
  - ◆ Gadgets [https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Gadget\\_kitchen](https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Gadget_kitchen)

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    - [https://wikimediafoundation.org/2018/10/12/wikimedia-foundation-collaboration-os\\_sn-posse/](https://wikimediafoundation.org/2018/10/12/wikimedia-foundation-collaboration-os_sn-posse/)
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  - ◆ Support channels
    - <https://discourse-mediawiki.wmflabs.org>
    - <https://wikimedia.zulipchat.com/>

# Credits

→ Wikimedia Developer Advocacy team: Srishti Sethi.



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