

DEVELOPING PROJECTS IN HOSTILE ENVIRONMENTS: THE WIKIMEDIA VENEZUELA CASE

Venezuela is going through a critical situation in many ways. However, in the last two years, Wikimedia Venezuela has maintained constant growth and has launched projects and activities. But how?. Well, several factors have influenced on this:

WE'RE CREATING MOTIVATION

We know that there are people in Venezuela who want and wish to grow for a better country. The strategic vision of Wikimedia Venezuela is placing our projects as a real alternative for everyone to achieve that growth.

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AN EFFECTIVE VOLUNTEER WORK

The Chapter does not have many affiliates, but we work hard to fulfill the vision of the Wikimedia Foundation: that everyone can have access to the sum of all knowledge.

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SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS

Wikimedia Venezuela has established alliances with entities with a similar working philosophy (even if they don't "share spaces" with us), achieving win-win relationships. This has resulted in events and projects remaining in time.

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AN ASSERTIVE COMMUNICATION POLICY

Our projects and activities have been disseminated in both traditional and digital media (Radio, TV, press, Twitter, Instagram, Facebook). In addition to this, communication has been maintained with the participants before, during and after the events, helping to attract volunteers

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FLEXIBLE AND REALISTICS EXPECTATIONS AND GOALS

Each Event and project is planned with goals according to the moment and the sociopolitical situation of the country, adapting in case of force majeure

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A DIFFERENT "GRANT PHILOSOPHY"

With few exceptions, our projects haven't WMF Grants (due to restrictions in Venezuela). For this reason, specific financing strategies have been developed for each specific project.

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All this is a consequence of a paradigm shift: instead of trying to teach people what we do (create, cure and share knowledge) we begin to show WHY we do it. This means: we share, apply and disseminate the Wiki philosophy present in each aspect of our projects not only to the Allies and Volunteers, but also to the general public.

Do you want to know more about our projects? It will be great to share our ideas and experience!

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