



# Sub-national level Partnerships. Lessons from Wikimedians of the Russian Federation

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# Definitions

- Partnership is a relationship that is tangibly beneficial to all participants.
- Partnership glue is understanding and trust.
- Wikimedians have lots of partnerships:
  - + Wikimedia project participants
  - + Wikimedia Affiliates
  - + Wikimedia Foundation
  - + **External partners**

We congregate to build trust



# Wikimedians seen by external partners

- channels to properly bring partner-specific information to the international audience
- Wikimedia experts to help set up proper work processes to deal with tasks of importance to the partner
- Individuals capable and ready to engage in competency transfer

# Russian Federation from outside



# But I'm here to talk about

- Bashkortostan
- Buryatia
- Chechnya
- Dagestan
- Ingushetia
- Karelia
- Komi
- Leningradskaya oblast
- Mari El
- Mordovia
- Moskovskaya oblast
- Rostov oblast
- Sakha-Yakutia
- St. Petersburg
- Sverdlovskaya oblast
- Tatarstan
- Udmurtia
- others not mentioned

# Russian Federation from inside



# Who do we partner with?

- No subnational free-knowledge institutions
- Local economic and cultural realities are a universe usually too far away from global agenda
- Foreign meddling mistrusted (Swedes, French, Poles, Brits, Germans, Cold War....)
- Local is praised.
- Anything new should come from Moscow!



# Moscow does bring us together



# But Moscow should do more!

Historical role of the capital in Russia's society reflects on Wikimedia behavior as well

We expect that any organizational work will come from the "center, headquarters, ...".

We are not responsible, we are volunteers, we are not from the capital – we are simply engaging in creative endeavors for own pleasure.

# We are naturally different. It's Ok.

- available income
- accessible infrastructure
- accessible education
- structure of the economy
- cultural specifics in the social fabric
- presence of local languages and cultures
- amount of free time for volunteering



# Regional partners

“Many nation-wide media outlets speak about Wikipedia as politically one-sided American website.

We would prefer to stay away from international and federal level political disputes we don't understand.”

# Can't we do things ourselves?



- Wiki Loves Monuments Russia started in 2011 in St.Peterburg
- St.Petersburg hosted WikiConference Russia many times
- Active City and Regional participants in many other events
- City & Regional Cultural Heritage User Groups filed just now



# Regional topics!

- Promoting cultural heritage
  - heritage objects
  - intangible cultural heritage (culture, language, history)
- Enriching existing educational programs
- Edutainment for youth
- How can I get my information included into existing articles?
- How can I get more visibility for my institution or a region on Wikipedia articles?

# Youth, Cultural Awareness & Education



# Youth, Cultural Awareness & Education





# Hearing



# Getting heard



# Edutainment



# Higher Education



# Skills & Economy



# Individuals or informal groups

- Starting projects on wiki & promoting them offline
- Wiki-conferences & Wiki-seminar with local Wikimedian and partner participation
- Local Wikimedians help promoting free licenses & content uploads during Open Library program visits
- Wikimedians collaborations around blogs and contacting authorities for education programs at municipal level

# Sakha Wikiquote wordmark author



# User Groups

- Don Wikimedians
- Erzya Wikimedians
- Wikimedians of Bashkortostan
- Tatar Wikimedians
- St.Petersburg Wikimedians (filed)
- North-West Russia Wiki-Historians (filed)
- Sakha Wikimedians (thinking)
- Russian Wikinews-ans (thinking)
- Chuvash, Mari & North Caucasus Wikimedians (courted)



# Partnering starts with recognition & identity formation



# Potential partners observe you



# Slowly getting closer



Once established – doors open up



# How do we keep them happy?



# Working in tandem

- Active Individuals
- Collaborators on Wikimedia Projects
- Local User Groups
- National Chapter – WMRU
- Regional conference – Wikimedia CEE partners
- Partners from other regional conferences
- Wikimedia Foundation

# Attending and showcasing partner events



# Wikimedia stands





# Conspiring together



# Organizing contests together



Бөтендәнге татар ышьларе форумы  
Всемирный форум татарской молодёжи  
World Forum of Tatar Youth



«Викимедиа РУ» табышсыз партнёрлыгы  
Некоммерческое партнёрство «Викимедиа РУ»  
Wikimedia RU Non-profit Partnership



Викимедиа жәмгыятеңең татар телле катнашчулары төркеме  
Группа татароязычных участников проектов Викимедиа  
Wikimedia Community of Tatar language User Group

**ДИПЛОМ**  
**ДИПЛОМ**  
**DIPLOMA**

ZUFAR

Татар Википедиясендә мәкаләләр  
язу буенча «ТАТАР 4.0» бәйгесендә  
жинде

Победил в конкурсе по написанию  
статей в Татарской Википедии  
«ТАТАР 4.0»

Is winner of TATAR 4.0 contest  
of creating articles in Tatar Wikipedia



Бөтендәнге татар ышьларе форумы раисе  
Председатель Всемирного форума татарской молодёжи  
Chairman of World Forum of Tatar Youth

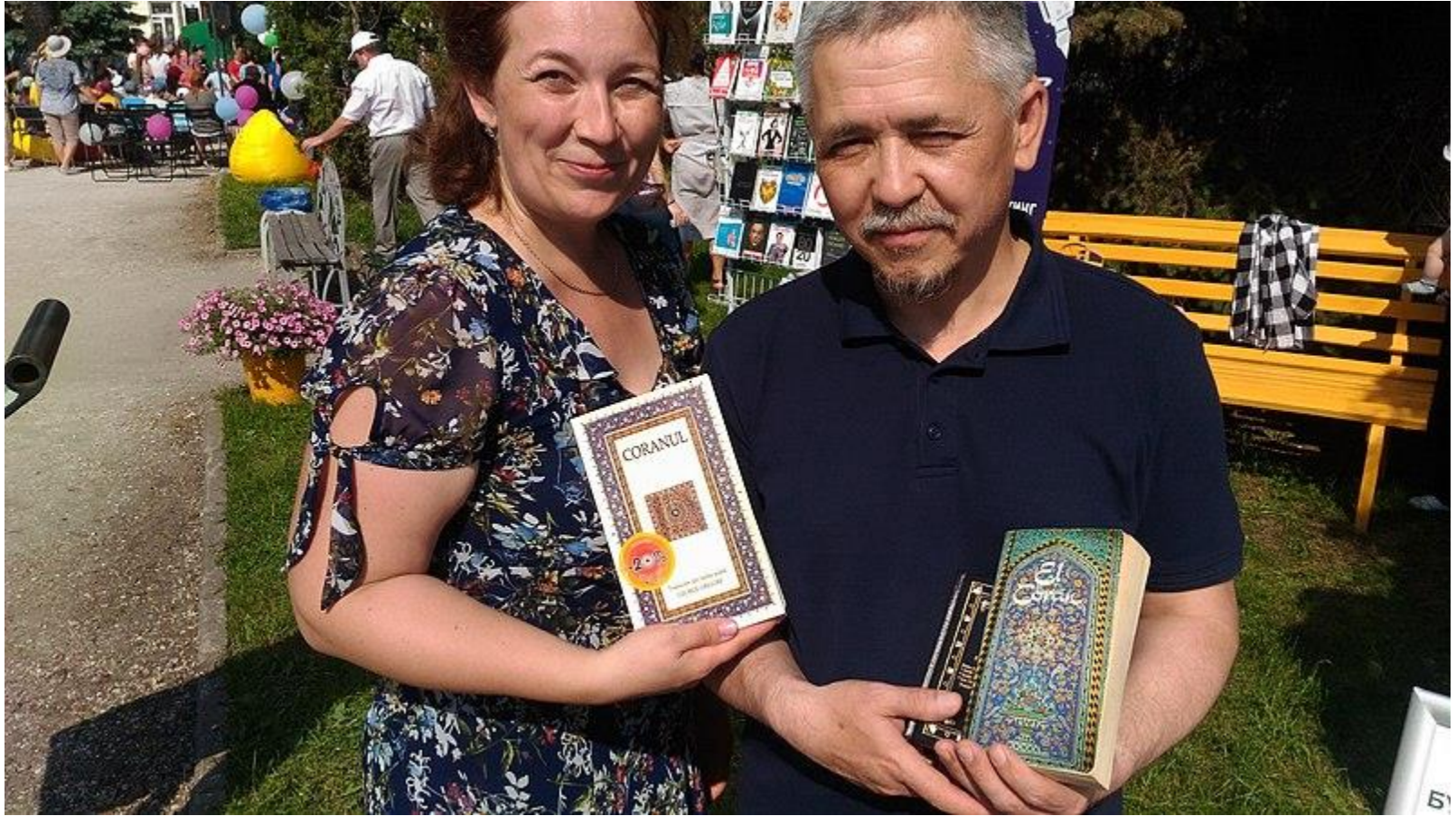
Т.М. Яруллин — T. Yarullin

# Global network for local actions





# Acknowledgement of partners in crime



# WMF, WMRU, WMAM, WMDZ, UG TAT



# Partners keep moving ahead! Ongoing support a must



# How about User Group per town or municipal district?



“Wiki-Smart Region” starts at home.  
Wouldn't we all everywhere be ready to show what we are proud of?  
*Imagine a world in which all humans are Wikimedians! That's my commitment.*

**Thank you!**

Farhad Fatkullin  
Wikimedia Russia  
Wikimedian of the Year'18  
Wiki-Smart Tatarstan  
User:frhdkazan

