Finding new pathways of collaborating for a sustainable Wikidata software development

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THE STARTING POINT

The Wikimedia Movement Strategy includes recommendations to increase **Equity in Decision-Making, Investment in Skills and Leadership Development** and the **Sustainability of our Movement.**

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The Wikimedia Movement Strategy includes recommendations to Increase **Equity in Decision-Making**, ensure **Skill and Leadership Development** and ensure the **Financial Sustainability of our Movement**

Financial and Human Sustainability

Skill Development in local communities

Enable the empowerment of local communities

But what does this mean for us?

THE CHALLENGE

Wikidata is growing and growing, both in content and in contributors.
But: We are often **missing the perspective of people from many parts of the world** & software development in general is often missing gender and geographical diversity.

To make our movement more sustainable, keep Wikidata valuable and a high-quality knowledge base and **empower local communities around the world**, we want to **start sharing software development with a movement partner**.

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THE PROJECT

The Arcadia Fund has provided a grant to Wikimedia Deutschland to **create an infrastructure for a collaboration** with the purpose of enabling another movement group to contribute to the software development of Wikidata in a scalable and sustainable way.

THE PROCESS

2021/22

2022/23

2023/24

Finding Movement Partner and establish Partnership

Discovery for Wikidata Software Functionality

Connect to Wikidata and Wikibase

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THE FIRST STEPS

We see the **lexicographical data part of Wikidata** as a good point to start with an **infrastructure for shared software development** (language and its use is highly localized and the development for this should be placed with local partners).

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WHAT IS HAPPENING RIGHT NOW

In order for us to understand the potential for this partnership better, we are conducting consultation sessions with people to give input on: **Partnerships, Wikidata development, Languages and Shared Software Development.**
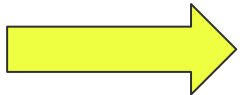
And now it is your turn!

THE QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

1 What are your hopes what Wikidata and the Lexicographical Data part looks like in the future?

2 What should the future partner in this shared software development collaboration for Wikidata look like? (e.g. in size, past activities, location, experience etc.)

3 What (language) communities can benefit from this the most and how can we make sure they will benefit?

https://etherpad.wikimedia.org/p/WDCon_2021_Shared_Software_Environment

continue Consultation and Discussions

continue talking to Interested Groups and Affiliates

compile Requirements for Partnership and decision helpers

REACH OUT AND SPREAD THE WORD

Check out the **project page on Meta** with regular updates: Software Collaboration for Wikidata

Reach out to me and let me know if you want to give more input on this or if you have suggestions to what kind of groups we should approach: **maria.heuschkel@wikimedia.de**