

Chapters Committee: past, present and future

Bence Damokos

Introduction

Bence Damokos

- Member (2010–), chair (2012–) of Chapters Committee / Affiliations Committee
- Board member (2008– 2010), executive VP (2010–) of Wikimedia Hungary
- Studied International Relations and English Studies

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<http://chaptersplanet.org> – aggregator of chapter and WMF blogs and reports



Outline

- What the Chapters/Affiliations Committee is
- The past: short history
- The present: a typical year in the Committee
- The future: new models
- Q&A

The Chapters Committee

- Committee of volunteers responsible for facilitating the creation and approval of new chapters, thematic organizations and user groups.
- (**Chapters:** national organizations; **thematic organizations:** specialize on a subject or theme, **user groups:** groups of Wikimedians doing offline work)

Brief history lesson

- 2004: first chapters are set up
- 2005: first Wikimania
- 2006: Chapters Committee and a number of other ones set up
- 2006: Wikimedia CH, first chapter approved
- 2007: requirements and process defined and standardized

- Providing basic info to group
- Help and advice on how to organize

First contact

- Learning about the new group
- Judging whether they have a critical mass

Questions

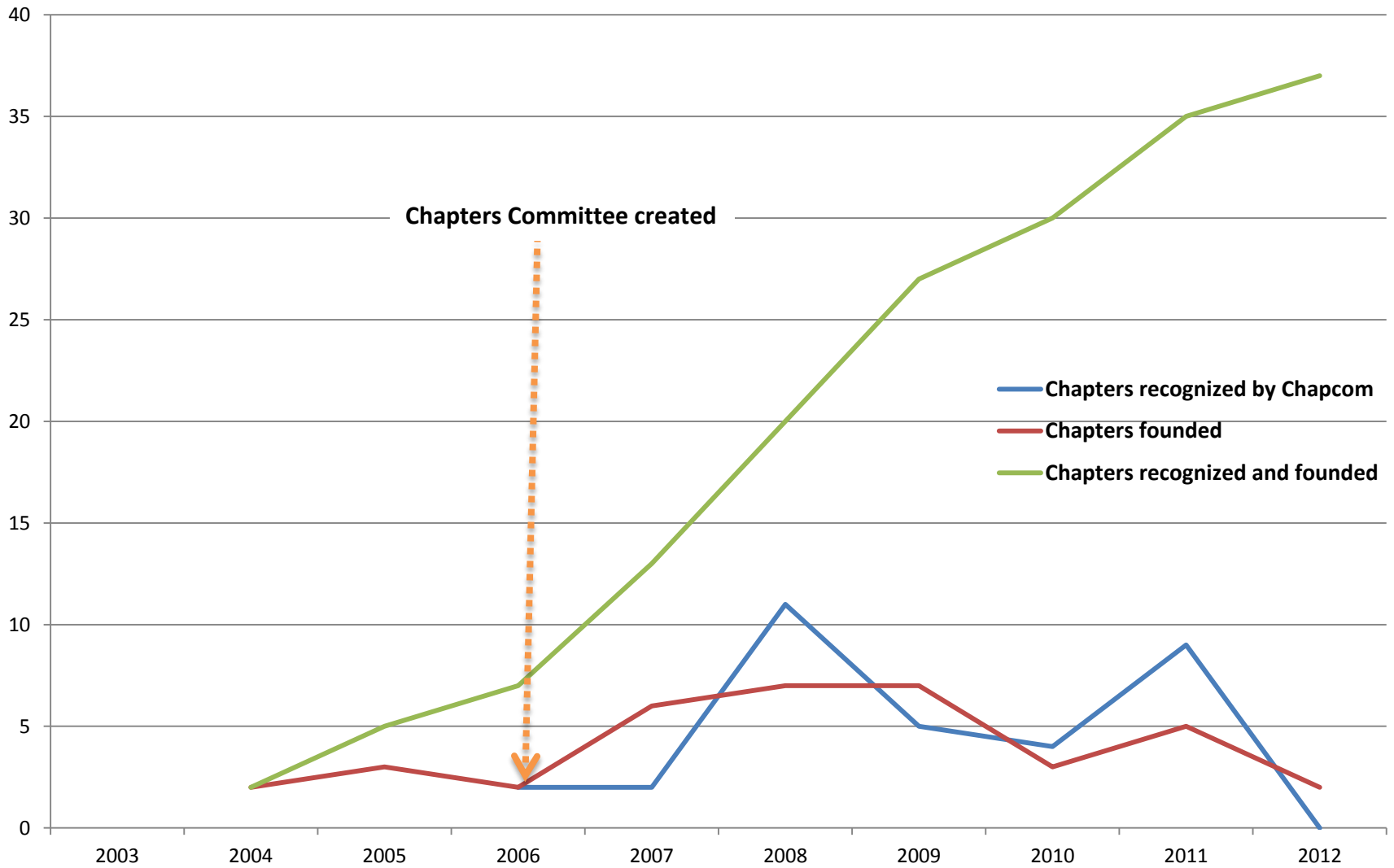
- Checking whether criteria are met
- Provide advice based on best-practices

**Bylaw
review**

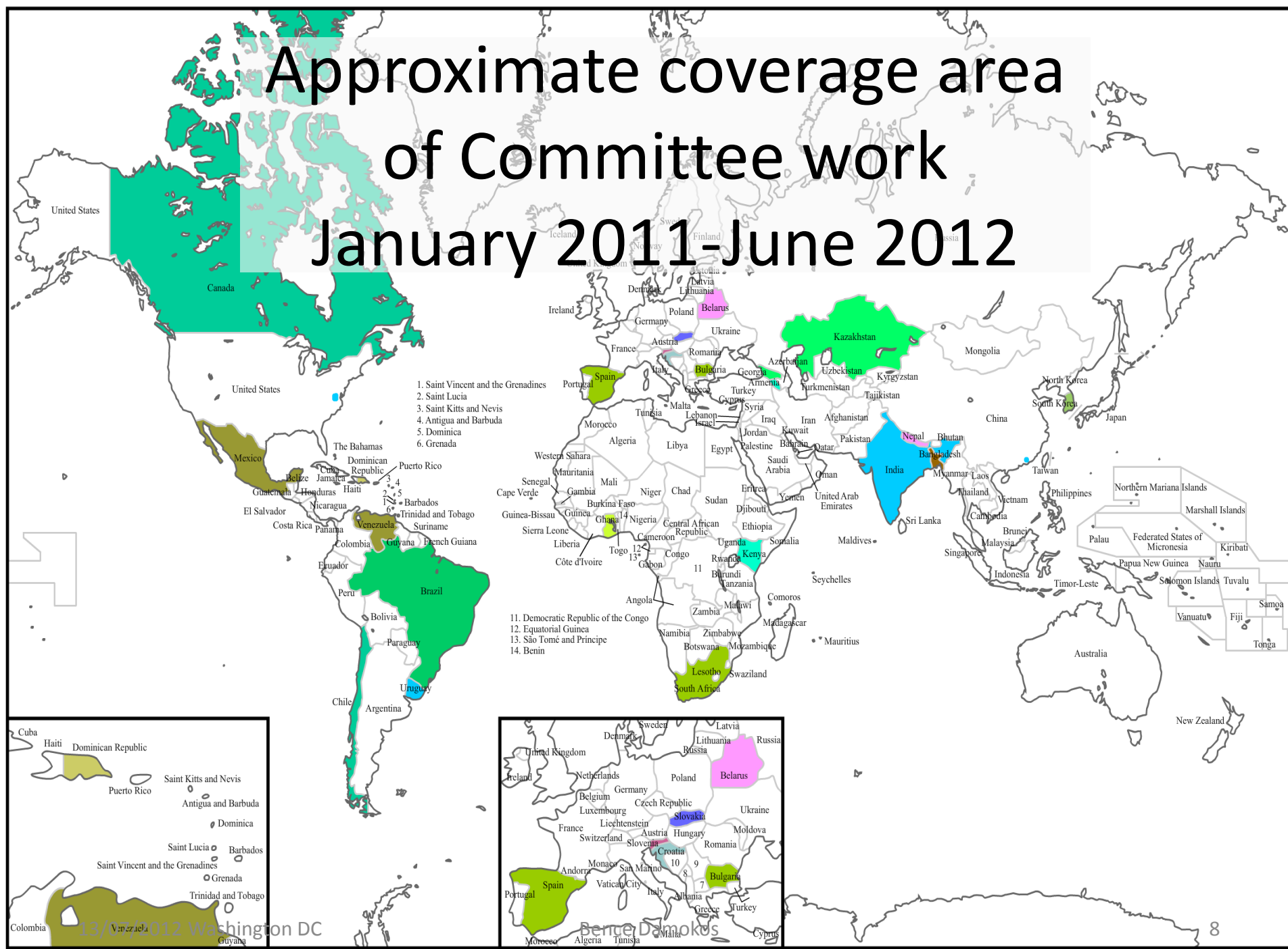
- Recommendation on approval is forwarded to the Board

Resolution

Chapters approved, founded and in existence

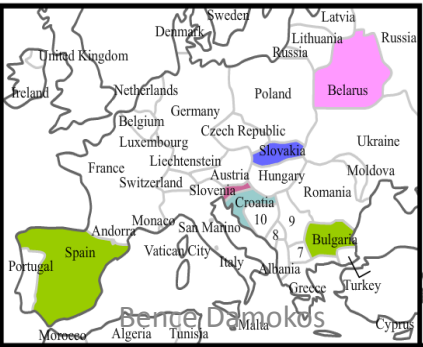
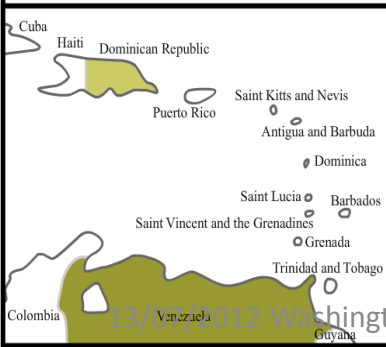


Approximate coverage area of Committee work January 2011-June 2012



1. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
2. Saint Lucia
3. Saint Kitts and Nevis
4. Antigua and Barbuda
5. Dominica
6. Grenada

11. Democratic Republic of the Congo
12. Equatorial Guinea
13. São Tomé and Príncipe
14. Benin



New models of affiliation

- **National or Sub-national Chapters:** Incorporated independent non-profits representing the Wikimedia movement and supporting movement work globally, focused within a geography.
- **Thematic Organizations:** Incorporated independent non-profits representing the Wikimedia movement and supporting work focused on a specific theme, topic, subject or issue within or across countries and regions.
- **User Groups:** Open membership groups with an established contact person and history of projects, designed to be easy to form.
- **Movement Partners:** Like-minded organizations that actively support the Wikimedia movement's work. (Not approved through Chapcom)

Present and future

- Regular membership renewal, Committee Charter
- Site visits in Croatia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Iberoconf, Uruguay
- Defined processes for thematic organizations and user groups
- Budget to be able to support and mentor new groups

Questions?

- **chaptercommittee-llists.wikimedia.org**
- Find us here at Wikimania!
- Sign up to be a member or learn more at [\[\[meta:Affiliations Committee\]\]](#)!

Thank you for your attention

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