Troubles with (and without) volunteers

Milica Žarković
Wikimedia Serbia
What seems to be the problem?

- Voluntary based projects – developed with constant lack of volunteers...
- We've came up with one model which can provide us with fresh enthusiasts – and we found out problems are also on the other side of the fence
Tasks – group 1

• From 1st of October 100 new volunteers will join your chapter/user group for next 6 months. You have 4 active projects (upon your choice).

• What will you do with volunteers?

• Who will work with them? How to organize them?

• Where and how will you include them?
Tasks – group 2

• In following 6 months you have 5 projects which acquire help of 5-10 volunteers (per project). You have 7 active volunteers.

• How will you include present volunteers?

• Where and how will you find a new ones?

• How will you organize all of them?
What to do to get volunteers?

For offline work – you need to find offline volunteer:

- Try to contact your local Voluntary service
- Make a partnership with youth portals to promote your call for volunteers
“You can't have too many volunteers” is a lie! Volunteers demand training, care and WORK. In case any of this is not provided – they leave to find a better offer. Volunteers with one bad experience are not likely to come back.
What can we do?

- Take work with volunteers as a serious job
- Calculate how many volunteers you need for what kind of work
- Make precise and direct call for volunteers for each work type
- Give them options and support their development (think about their motivation)
- Inform them about all events and activities
Photo

• Volunteering icon by Tungilik (Own work) [CC0], via Wikimedia Commons
In case you need to know more...

...contact
Milica Ľarkovič
Education Program Manager
Wikimedia Serbia
milica.zarkovic@vikimedija.org
[[User:Upotrebi Klikere]]