تقرير سنوي
2021
Annual Report
About Us

Wikimedia Morocco is a Wikimedia affiliate user group founded on October 6th, 2015. Since its inception, it has constantly supported Wikimedia projects in Morocco, as well as content related to the country and its culture.

As of 31 December 2021, the user group counts 23 active members, living both inside and outside Morocco, and participating in several projects and initiatives related to the country.

We seek to actively contribute to the dissemination, improvement and advancement of free knowledge and culture in Morocco through the development of an encyclopedic content about the country, both online and offline, especially in the languages spoken in Morocco.
In February 2021, the group worked on setting up a new board with 5 roles: President, Vice-president, Secretary General, Treasurer, and Head of Communications. The decision for this change was endorsed by all members, as it guarantees a fair sharing of responsibilities, and takes the group into the next level of democratic and participatory governance.
Wikimedia Morocco was one of the first groups that joined the Wiki for Human Rights campaign organized by the Wikimedia Foundation and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to raise awareness about the importance of documenting and advocating human rights, and particularly the right to a healthy environment.

Individuals, affiliates and groups were encouraged to participate, and in this regard our User group organized a multilingual editing contest from 18 March to 31 May 2021. The languages included Arabic and French, but also for the first time the Moroccan Arabic (Darija) and Tachelhit, knowing that the latter was still at the Incubator which lets us think that this may be the first ever editing contest on this platform.

20 participants took part in this competition producing a total of 247 articles, which break down as follows: 145 in Arabic, 49 in French, 35 in Tachelhit and 18 in Moroccan Darija.

During the contest, an online workshop was organized to introduce the campaign to the public and explain the modalities of participation, and later an explanatory video was recorded and shared on social networks.
Wiki Loves Earth is a photo contest of the natural monuments where participants picture protected areas and upload their photos to Wikimedia Commons.

Wiki Loves Earth in Morocco aims at creating a complete information base about nature protected heritage in the country. Its goal is to gather illustrations for every nature protected object in Morocco. The goal of Wiki Loves Earth is two-fold. Firstly, we aim to photograph as many nature protected areas as possible and release the imagery under a free license. Secondly, we contribute to environmental protection by raising public awareness.

In 2021, which is the fifth edition of Wiki Loves Earth in Morocco, 132 participants took part in the contest, submitting a total of 443 images. The results were announced on social media to encourage photographers to become visible and enter future competitions. The winners of the first three places received gift cards.
Participation in International Events

Wikimedia Morocco members attended the following conferences:

Stockholm Internet Forum
Online — 10th-12th May

Wikimedia Morocco vice president Anass Sedrati attended for the second time the Stockholm Internet Forum. The digital edition of the conference was an occasion to present and advocate Wikimedia projects among several digital activists and notable figures.

ContribuLing
Online — 3rd-4th June

Wikimedia Morocco participated actively in organizing the first edition of the ContribuLing conference. This event, a collaboration betweenINALCO, Wikimedia (France & Morocco), BULAC and UCAM, aimed to offer members of linguistic resource platforms an opportunity to give presentations on their tools and workshops on their use that will enable would-be users to contribute. Anass Sedrati participated with the organization committee in different tasks, while Reda Benkhadra held a presentation about the Wikimedia Incubator.

Arctic Knot Conference
Online — 24th-25th June

For the third participation of the user group, and the second in the digital edition of the minority languages conference, Anass Sedrati and Reda Benkhadra, both user group members, shared a presentation entitled “How can editing contests support smaller Wikipedias?”. The presentation, inspired from work conducted in Morocco, aimed to introduce the audience to the importance of organizing contests in supporting smaller Wikipedias, even those still hosted in the incubator, to encourage more editors to participate in these versions.
WikiConvention FR
Online — 20th-21th November
Anass Sedrati, Soukaina Abelhad and Brahim Faraji, made two presentations at the French-speaking Wiki-conference. Anass presented the results of the survey study that he made about regional hubs implementation, while Soukaina and Brahim shared their experience in relation with the pilot education project that was conducted in the country during 2020.

WikiIndaba
Online — 5th-7th November
For the African conference, two group members have made presentations related to the movement’s strategy. Anass Sedrati presented in a joint panel his research work about regional hubs implementation, while Reda Benkhadra introduced the state of Free Knowlegde in Africa.

WikiArabia
Online — 15th-17th October
The fifth edition of WikiArabia, organized by Wikimedia Algeria UG, saw notable participation from Wikimedia Morocco members, in several interesting panels and presentations. The interventions included “Reading Wikipedia in the classroom” by Soukaina Abelhad and Brahim Faraji, “Volunteering in the Wikimedia movement” by Anass Sedrati and Reda Benkhadra, and “How to motivate editors to contribute continuously” by Zahira Gormat as well as the group participation at the affiliates round table, represented by the president Reda Benkhadra.
Activities & Events

WikiGap

As in previous years, Wikimedia Morocco hosted a new edition of the #WikiGap campaign with the support of the Swedish Embassy in Rabat. Throughout March 2021 several contributors and new volunteers took care of the editing and improvement articles on Wikipedia in order to reduce the content gender gap and increase the presence of Moroccan women on Wikimedia projects. A total of 15 new articles have been created in four languages (Arabic, Darija, French and English) and a dozen others were improved.

Collaboration with Tafra

During 2021, Wikimedia Morocco partnered with the research center Tafra, working on providing information on Moroccan political parties. The center contacted our user group in order to help share information they were gathering on Wikimedia platforms.

Thanks to the technical infoboxes provided by Tafra, most political parties and alliances in Morocco are now covered in different Wikipedias. As a result of this collaboration, 19 articles were created in Arabic, 13 in French, and 13 in Moroccan Arabic.

Local workshops

In order to introduce the new members to editing different platforms and projects, the user group started hosting online workshops. Several participants benefited from these sessions, with various levels and goals. Some aimed to share basic editing techniques in Wikipedia and Wikidata, while others were targeted towards specific audiences (professors, writers). Through these local events, many members improved their skills and capacities, and feel more confident in their editing journey.
Activities & Events

Support of Wikipedia Darija

Wikimedia Morocco has continued to support the Wikipedia in Darija to help the project grow by providing resources in different aspects, ranging from editing to project management and governance, including also editing efforts and capacity building for newcomers. The group also proceeded to record several articles as audio materials, and subsequently launched the 'Podcast Wikipedia b Darija' series on YouTube with the aim of promoting the project through new media and opening up to further audiences.

Support of Wikipedia Tachelhit

In the continuation of its efforts to promote linguistic diversity in Morocco, the user group succeeded in helping the creation of a full Tachelhit Wikipedia from the incubator. The group supported through its network, communication, and skill development the volunteers who were working on the incubator project, until having it fully approved as a wikipedia. The Tachelhit Wikipedia has now over 1100 articles, and an own community and contributors that keep improving it over time.

Application for a Program Grant

The User group applied for a program grant regarding the second edition of "Reading Wikipedia in the Classroom". This was an occasion to discover and be in contact with the new grant system, having applied to the regional African and Middle East committee. The grant, requested from the Wikimedia community fund, aims to implement a six-months education project in Morocco next year, extending the results of the previous pilot edition held in 2020.
International Collaborations and Partnerships

Participation in the Wikimedia Board Governance discussions

The user group members participated actively in the different discussions organized by the movement strategy and governance team, regarding the Community board seats. A number of members interacted in Meta and Telegram discussions, while others took part in live meetings hosted by facilitators in Arabic and French languages.

In these discussions, the members often expressed the need of having a more balanced regional representation in the Wikimedia Board of trustees, something that is currently not achieved.

Participation in Lexicographical data user interface improvement interviews

During March and April 2021, several user group members participated in the Lexicographical data user interface improvement interviews organized by Wikimedia Germany. These interviews regarded data related to Tamazight language, by understanding how editors work around Lexemes and model Lexicographical data on Wikidata using the current UI.

Tamazight language was chosen among the first batch of communities in Africa Wikimedia Germany were focusing on for 2021 in order to increase the diversity of Wikidata’s data by encouraging more language communities, especially from the Global South to participate and add lexemes in their languages.

Movement Charter Draft Committee selectors

As part of the Movement Charter Draft Committee (MCDC) set up process, Wikimedia Morocco participated in the elections to choose the regional selectors for the MENA region. This election resulted in appointing Mohamed Bachounda as regional selector. Once the 9 selectors were known, they worked together to complete the MCDC team that is now working to prepare a charter for the movement.
International Collaborations and Partnerships

Interview with Wikimedia Sweden on Content Partnership Hubs

In October 2021, interested members of Wikimedia MA User Group took part in an interview with Wikimedia Sweden, who intends to become a thematic hub in the area of content partnership. The interview regarded the different perceptions and challenges the group members have about content partnerships in their local context, and was also an opportunity to have an open discussion about the hub scope, as well as on the future of the service intended to be provided by Wikimedia Sweden. The full report of this discussion can be found at this link.

Collaboration with WikiFranca

As an active member of the WikiFranca alliance, Wikimedia Morocco, through its co-liaison, Soukaina Abelhad and Brahim Faraji, participated in writing the Governance charter of the initiative. WikiFranca is in the process of creating an association based in Switzerland, and aspires to be the hub of the French-speaking affiliates in the Wikimedia movement.

Collaboration with Arabic Wikimedians UG

Several Wikimedia Morocco User Group members participate actively in supporting the Arabic Wikimedians User Group activities, especially with the prospects the group intends to have as a regional hub for the Arabic-speaking countries.
Financial Report

Given its status as a user group, Wikimedia Morocco has financed its projects thanks to the structures set up within the movement.

Thus, the group has received a total of 1500 USD from the Rapid Grants of the Wikimedia Foundation for the organization of Wiki for Human Rights and the Wiki Loves Earth photo contest.

Media Coverage

English:

French:
«La darija fait son entrée dans Wikipédia », medias24.com, June 10, 2021
«Wikipédia est désormais disponible en darija», lodj.ma, June 10, 2021
«Désormais, vous pouvez consulter Wikipédia en Darija», welovebuzz.com, June 11, 2021
«L’encyclopédie électronique Wikipédia lance une version Darija», article19.ma, June 12, 2021
«Wikipédia en Darija: ce qu’il faut savoir», lesiteinfo.com, June 12, 2021
«Wikipedia en version Darija est désormais disponible», leseco.ma, June 12, 2021
«Wikipédia se décline en darja, le dialecte marocain», lecourrierdelatlas.com, June 13, 2021
«Maroc : Déjà près de 4 000 articles pour Wikipedia en Darija», yabiladi.com, June 14, 2021

Arabic:
«"حبا في المعرفة".. منتوعين يجتهدون لإثراء ويكيبيديا العربية»، Reuters, May 18, 2021
«بعد نسخة تافيليات.. ويكيبيديا تطلق نسخة أمازيغية أخرى (فرع الجنوب، تاشلحيت)»، radioazawan.ma, 2021

Darija:
«ويكيبيديا ولات بالدارجة.. كاين 3933 مقال بلغنا بمساهمة 60 ناشر»، goud.ma, June 13, 2021
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