

VideoCutTool: Streamlining Video Campaigns on Wikimedia Commons

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COLLABORATION BEYOND THE HORIZON

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The importance of enhancing Video Content

Many Wikimedians concur on the importance of enhancing video content across our wiki projects, which currently remain predominantly text and image-oriented.

The importance of enhancing Video Content

There's an escalating preference among the younger generation for video content over traditional text-based formats. This inclination is often attributed to factors such as **shorter attention spans, the rise of visual communication platforms, and the ease of accessing video content on mobile devices.**

Videos are more engaging and capture the viewer's attention more effectively than text or static images.

Movement Strategy

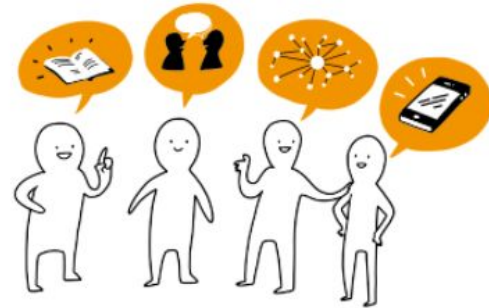
Recommendation 9: Innovate in Free Knowledge

Innovate in Free Knowledge

What

We will continuously explore and expand the range of free knowledge projects to stay relevant and to serve our **Movement's** vision to give access to the sum of human knowledge. We will encourage people to experiment with and create new projects or policies to address gaps in knowledge equity.

We will innovate in different content formats, develop new software functionalities for Wikimedia projects, better integrate various tools in the editing **experience**, establish partnerships with other free knowledge projects, and improve our policies to include more diverse domains of knowledge and to deliver knowledge as a service for all.



Issues when uploading Videos

Not all video formats are compatible with Commons !

Wikimedia uses three formats that are open and royalty-free:

- WebM format (AV1, VP9 and VP8 codecs are supported)
- Ogg Theora
- MPEG-1 and MPEG-2

⇒ Need to convert videos to accepted formats if we will upload via Commons

Issues when uploading Videos

Can't upload videos to a predefined category when not uploaded via Commons Campaign !

If the upload is done through tools like Video2Commons it's not possible to record the video in a predefined category.

⇒ Need to make sure that videos are uploaded via a Campaign!

Solution: VideoCutTool

Setup Campaigns on Commons that use VideoCutTool to upload videos by predefining categories and without going through the hassle of converting the videos into compatible formats.

Solution: VideoCutTool

The VideoCutTool is a video editing tool that aims to provide various different types of editing processes on videos that are currently in Wikimedia Commons. It is deployed on Wikimedia Toolforge and also Wikimedia VPS. Cropping, Trimming, Audio Disabling, and Rotating are the features that VideoCutTool provides to the user in order to edit their video. From there, the video can be either downloaded or uploaded to Wikimedia Commons.



How ?



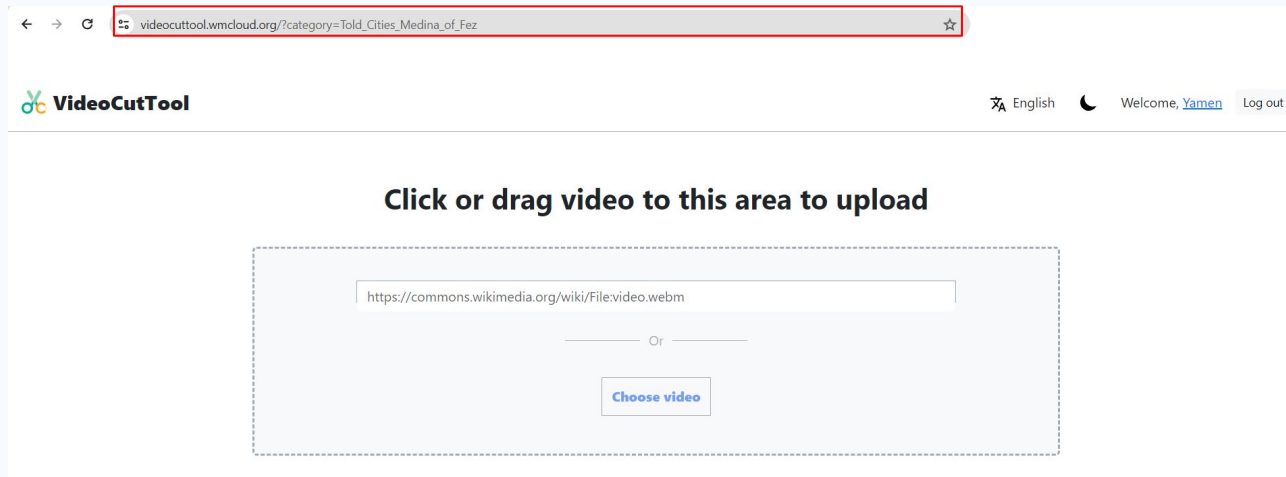
Setup upload button on Commons with a link to VideoCutTool

A screenshot of a Wikimedia Commons user page for 'User:Yamen/Test/'. The page has a light blue header with navigation links: 'User page', 'Discussion', 'View', 'Edit', and 'History'. A search bar is on the right. The main content area shows the user's name 'User:Yamen/Test/' and a blue button labeled 'Medina of Fez Uplaod Video' with a small icon. The left sidebar contains the Wikimedia Commons logo and a list of links: 'Main page', 'Welcome', 'Community portal', 'Village pump', and 'Help center'. The top right corner shows 'Not logged in' and links for 'Talk', 'Contributions', 'Create account', and 'Log in'.

```
B I ↻ 🖼️ 📄 🗑️ ✎ > Advanced > Special characters > Help > Edittools Preview
{|width="100%" align="center"|
|width="1%" valign="top"|
|width="8%" valign="top" align="center" style="background:#87CEEB"|
<div style="color:white">'<big>Medina of Fez</big>'</div>
<div style="color:white" '<big> https://videocuttool.wmcloud.org/?category=Told\_Cities\_Medina\_of\_Fez Uplaod Video</big>'</div>
```

How ?

Invite users to upload videos by clicking on the button \Rightarrow they will be directed to the VideoCutTool and they can start uploading their video into the predefined category.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar containing the URL `videocuttool.wmdoud.org/?category=Told_Cities_Medina_of_Fez`. The page header includes the "VideoCutTool" logo, a language selector set to "English", a user greeting "Welcome, Yamen", and a "Log out" link. The main content area features the instruction "Click or drag video to this area to upload" above a large dashed rectangular box. Inside this box, there is a text input field containing the URL `https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:video.webm`, the word "Or" centered below it, and a blue "Choose video" button.

Benefits for the uploader

- **Uploading their own videos without worrying about whether the format is acceptable or not.**
- **Uploading their own videos without needing to determine which category the video should be assigned to.**
- **Utilizing the standard tool capabilities to crop, trim, mix, and manage the sound while uploading the video.**

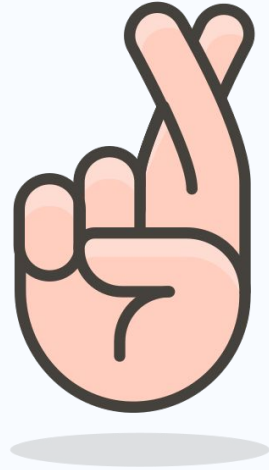
Benefits for the campaign's organizer



- **Automatically saving the uploaded videos to a predefined category, streamlining post-upload management.**
- **Communicating only a link to the uploader to invite them to participate, without requiring them to convert their video beforehand.**

Conclusion

Let's hope that this feature will streamline the upload process and increase the video content available on Wiki projects.



A stylized landscape illustration. The background is a gradient from dark blue at the top to light purple at the bottom. In the center, there are dark blue mountains. To the left, a white cloud is partially obscured by a mountain peak. To the right, another white cloud is partially obscured by a mountain peak. In the foreground, there are several layers of clouds in shades of blue and purple. On the right side, there is a large, fluffy pink tree. The text "Thank You !" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font across the middle of the image.

Thank You !