

WIKIINDABA CONFERENCE



STATE OF THE MOVEMENT -
CHALLENGES & SUCCESSES IN
SOUTHERN AFRICA

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PLANNING WIKIMEDIA BOTSWANA

WHO IS PLANNING WIKIMEDIA BOTSWANA ?



- ❑ **Planning Wikimedia Botswana (PWMB)** is a group of volunteers who are working in an initiative of a Wikipedia chapter in [Botswana](#) of the [Wikimedia Foundation](#).
- ❑ **Wikimedia Botswana** has been suggested as a name to represent this group of volunteers and it will be for all Wikimedians residing in Botswana.
- ❑ **Our mission** is to effectively engage all sectors in Botswana and encourage everyone to help develop online content and to periodically edit on [Wikipedia](#).
- ❑ **Our Vision** is to promote the use of free online resources of the [Wikimedia Foundation](#) to develop the lives of every individual.

SETSWANA WIKIPEDIA STATISTICS

Setswana Wikipedia

Setswana Wikipedia at a glance *April 2014*

	Data	Yearly change	Monthly change
Page Views per Month	91,161	--	--
Article Count	528	+5%	+0%
New Articles per Day	0	--	--
Edits per Month	23	-4%	-57%
Active Editors	2	--	+100%
Very Active Editors	0	--	--
New Editors	0	--	-100%
Speakers	4,400,000	--	--
Editors per Million Speakers	0.5	--	--



STATE OF THE MOVEMENT IN BOTSWANA



- ❑ Planning Wikimedia Botswana - Early development stage.
- ❑ Almost 15 members are available to help form the chapter.
- ❑ Subsequent group meetings about chapter planning held on campus.
- ❑ Facebook Page set to help reach out to the community.
- ❑ Publications of Blog-posts on our activities.

CHALLENGES OF PLANNING WIKIMEDIA BOTSWANA OUTREACH



- ❑ Poor internet accessibility for outreach events e.g. edit-a-thons etc.
- ❑ Limited venue to host community meetups.
- ❑ Lack of funding to undertake projects and perform outreach activities to other regions of Botswana.
- ❑ Bad schedule which limits local Wikimedians to actively participate in community meetups – most Wikimedians are students.
- ❑ Lack of concrete partnerships with local organizations (GLAM).
- ❑ Need Endorsements (No recognition from the community and local organizations – leads to discouragement).

USER CHALLENGES VS ACCESSIBILITY TO WIKIPEDIA

- ❑ Our users are **READERS** not **EDITORS**.
- ❑ **Wikipedia Zero** needs to be deployed on both networks to increase coverage (Mascom Network is the number one leading mobile courier in Botswana).
- ❑ Users are unaware of the latest Visual Editor (Still find old editor toolkit complex).
- ❑ Wikipedia app hasn't gained much recognition in our.

SUCCESS STORIES ON PLANNING WIKIMEDIA BOTSWANA

- ❑ Setswana Wikipedia Challenge-(Increase in article number).
- ❑ Deployment of Wikipedia Zero – Orange Botswana.
- ❑ PWMB presence – (Wikimania 2012 & 2013)

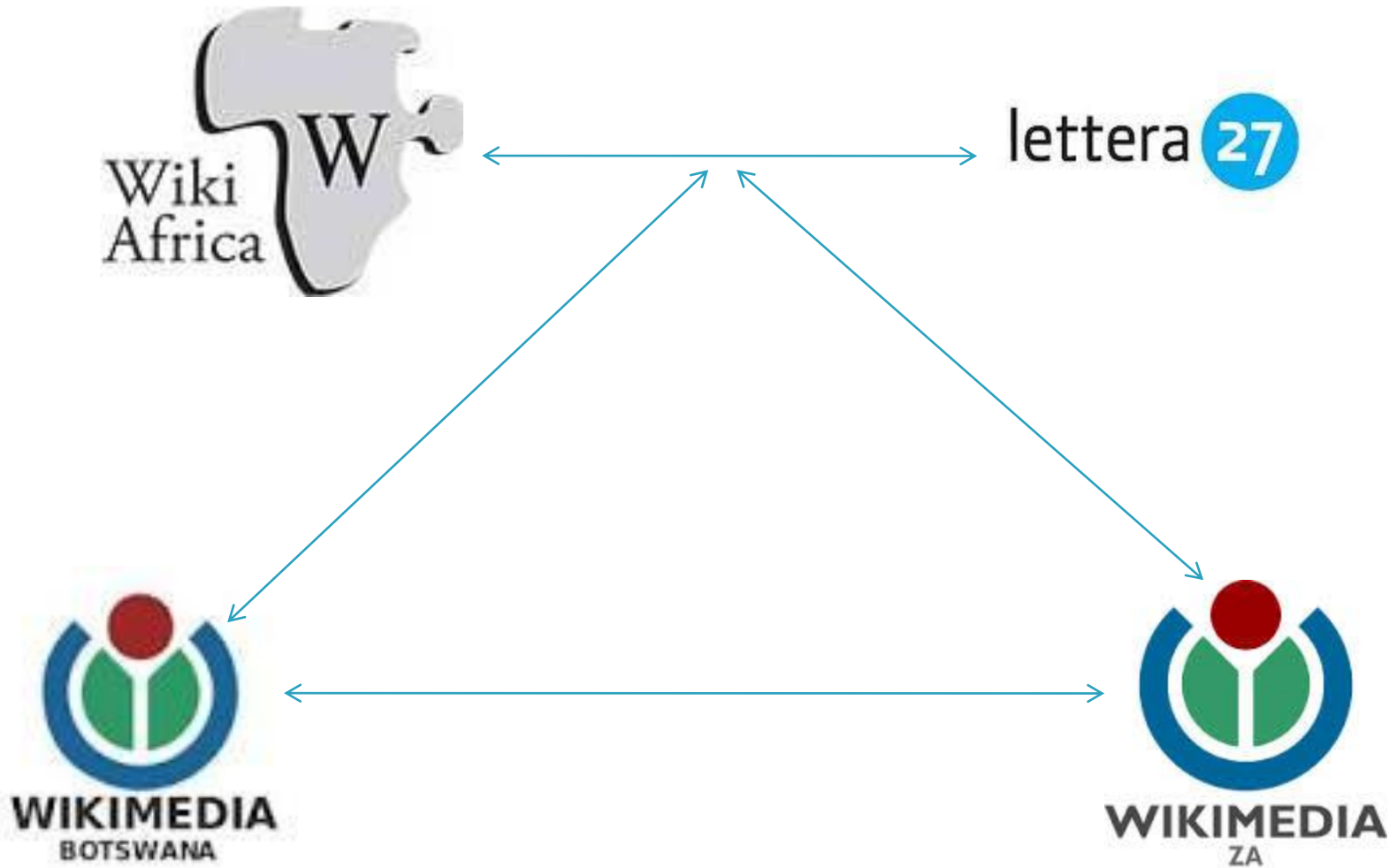


FUTURE PLANS OF THE MOVEMENT



- ❑ Chapter Formation – Solid steering committee to facilitate initiatives of **PWMB**.
- ❑ Expand outreach activities to other regions in the country.
- ❑ Pilot project (Kiwix Distribution) in rural schools – liaise with MOE.
- ❑ Advocate for partnerships with local GLAM'ers to support and participate in our outreach activities.
- ❑ Host Wiki Loves Monuments/ Wiki Loves Earth.
- ❑ Lobby for augmentation of Wikipedia Zero to other local mobile couriers/ ISP's.

AFRICAN WIKIMEDIA COMMUNITIES AND SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS



CHALLENGES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

- ❑ Southern African Wikimedia communities are dispersed – (Less collaborations and diverse support initiatives .
- ❑ Less number of active Wikipedia communities in Southern Africa - Poor out-reach methodologies.
- ❑ The volume of updates and how to prioritize them is one of the most persistent challenges for content editors.

SUCCESS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

- ❑ Wikipedia Zero across Southern African partners (Orange Botswana) & (MTN).
- ❑ Wiki Loves Monuments – WikimediaZA
- ❑ Wikipedia In Residence (WiR) - great improvement that inspires Wikimedians to have a sense of belonging.
- ❑ The first African Wikipedia conference (WikiIndaba) meant to link all Wikimedia's across Africa.



“WE NEED HELP CHANGING THE WORLD..”

Thank you!



Candy Tricia Khothliwe ,Mompoti Dikunwane & Oarabile Mudongo