



# Sign language content as a new form of knowledge

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# Background

Capacity development for underrepresented communities

## Capacity development for underrepresented communities

- Implemented during 2022 & 2023
- The aim: reaching out to underrepresented communities in order to get them involved in the Wikimedia movement
- Two types of underrepresented communities:
  - 1) speakers of endangered minority languages
  - 2) users of sign languages



# Challenges - Macedonian Sign Language

Capacity development for underrepresented communities

- 1) Difficulties in communication
- 2) Discrimination in the society
- 3) Comprehension of scientific terminology



# Implementation - Macedonian Sign Language

Capacity development for underrepresented communities

- Sessions for recording videos
- Seminar



# Lessons learnt - Macedonian Sign Language


Capacity development for underrepresented communities

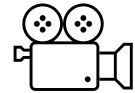
- 1) Collaboration with a sign language interpreter is a must
- 2) Sign language users are generally not fluent in the native language spoken within their family
- 3) Working with a sign language community requires innovating in free knowledge



# Macedonian Sign Language

Capacity development for underrepresented communities =>  
Sign language content as a new form of knowledge

- An idea was born 
- Producing videos documenting scientific terminology interpreted in the Macedonian Sign Language.
- 100 Economic and 100 Legal terms





## **Project Goal**

Sign language content as a new form of knowledge

Identifying high-impact topics for users of the Macedonian Sign Language as well as producing videos that document the identified topics as a new form of knowledge in collaboration with professional sign language interpreters

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# Project Activities - phases

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- Research 

- Implementation 

- Evaluation 





# Research phase

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Research phase is consisted of:

1. Conducting research
2. Compilation of lists



# Research phase

## Sign language content as a new form of knowledge

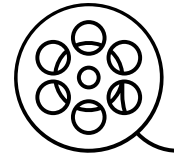
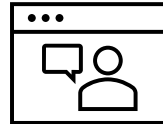
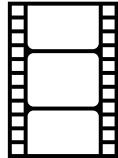
- Identification of relevant high-impact economic and legal terms
- Engagement with economic and legal experts
- Help of sign language interpreters
- Creating small council with users of the Macedonian Sign Language
- Compiling a lists of one hundred economic and legal terms

# Implementation phase

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In the implementation phase we plan to conduct the following activities:

1. Preparing interpretations
2. Recording videos
3. Post-production
4. Uploading videos
5. Promoting videos





# Implementation phase

## Sign language content as a new form of knowledge

The implementation phase will consist of the process of producing the videos documenting explanations of the economic and legal terms on the article lists in the Macedonian Sign Language. In this phase, the sign language interpretations will have to prepare an interpretation for each term with assistance provided by the experts, a professional video production company will be hired to produce high-quality videos, and the recorded videos will be uploaded to Wikimedia Commons and shared with the members of the Macedonian Sign Language community



## **Evaluation phase**

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This phase will include the following activities:

1. Project evaluation
2. Reporting
3. Storytelling



# Evaluation phase

## Sign language content as a new form of knowledge

- Measuring the project outcomes
- Identifying the strengths and weaknesses from its implementation
- Communicating the results and telling the story with like-minded communities in the movement
- Indicator of how much value was added for the Macedonian Sign Language community
- The positive practices which can be replicated in implementing similar projects



**Questions?**