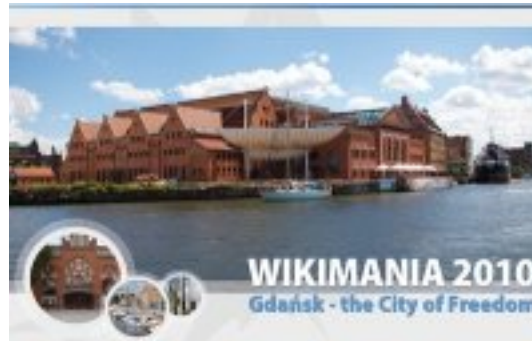


Project Management Best Practices for WikiProjects



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Agenda

- Overview of WikiProjects
- Project Management best practices
 - PMI's PMBOK
 - Agile concepts
- Practices assessment

WikiProjects - Overview

Goal: To produce excellent articles systematically rather than incidentally.

A WikiProject is

- a collection of pages devoted to the management of a specific topic or family of topics within Wikipedia;
- a resource to help coordinate and organize the writing and editing of those articles.
- useful for a group of editors who use those pages to collaborate on encyclopedic work.
- a convenient forum for those interested through the discussion pages attached to a project page

A WikiProject is

- not a place to write encyclopedia articles directly,

Wikiproject Music portal

Portal:Music



Wikipedia portals: [Culture](#) · [Geography](#) · [Health](#) · [History](#) · [Mathematics](#) · [Natural sciences](#) · [People](#) · [Philosophy](#) · [Religion](#) · [Society](#) · [Technology](#)



Shortcut:
P:MUS



Welcome to Wikipedia's portal
emotion in the listener. Music is
and **silence**. It is considered by
dance and a means to communi
performing art, a fine art, and an

[More about music...](#)

Album articles by quality and importance							
Quality	Importance				NA	???	Total
	Top	High	Mid	Low			
★ FA	8	17	34	14			73
★ FL		1		2			3
⊕ GA	14	56	70	81		52	273
B	22	99	148	98		207	574
C	52	146	184	229		782	1,393
Start	25	260	776	2,019		8,797	11,877
Stub	3	33	306	7,513		38,982	46,837
List	1	1	3	13	2	293	313
Future		2	3	5		45	55
Book					31		31
Category					16,457		16,457
Disambig					43		43
File					2		2
Project					27		27
Redirect					782		782
Template					96		96
Assessed	125	615	1,524	9,974	17,440	49,158	78,836
Unassessed				53		33,238	33,291
Total	125	615	1,524	10,027	17,440	82,396	112,127

Explore.

[Music categories](#)

[Music genres and forms](#)

[Analysis](#) - [Awards](#) -

[Blues](#)

[musicians](#)

[Drum](#)

Telugu WikiProjects Status



Telugu <u>Wikipedia</u> Statistics as on July 6, 2010	
Page statistics	
Articles	45037
Total pages including talk/project etc	95921
Exported files	5373
Edit statistics	
Edits from beginning (Dec 9, 2003)	523197
Edits/Page	5.45
Users	
Reg. Users	15005
Editors (<u>at least one change in 30 days</u>)	124
Bots	29
<u>Admins</u>	16
<u>Sysop</u>	3
Check users	0

Telugu Wikiproject	Articles	Members	Start Date	Recent change date	Time (yrs)
Telugu Villages		5	9/18/2006	6/1/2009	2.7
Telugu blocks		4	11/21/2005	9/5/2006	0.8
Telugu Laws		1	8/25/2005	9/5/2007	2
Linux		1	12/26/2005	9/5/2007	1.7
Computer Science		6	9/25/2006	6/9/2009	2.7
Irrigation	8	1	12/24/2005	12/8/2007	2
Books	67	5	10/4/2007	1/25/2010	2.3
Temples	84	3	6/3/2007	6/5/2009	2
Hindu Religion	120	2	10/4/2007	11/5/2009	2.1
Cinema	135	11	7/30/2006	4/1/2010	3.7
Andhra pradesh	143	1	12/5/2006	12/8/2007	1
Biology	279	2	8/10/2007	12/8/2007	0.3
Average	119.43	3.50			1.94
Stddev	84.34	2.97			0.92

Average team size: 4, Duration : 2 years
Most project articles quality not assessed

Role of WikiProjects in Wikipedia's success -research findings

Production relation with Coordination¹

GroupCoordination:

- Project coordination correlates strongly with Production, When Project leader and article contributor is same, production peaks

Directed Coordination:

- Project leader and article contributors are different and production happens

Quality through Coordination²

- When many editors contribute, Implicit coordination is more helpful to improve quality.
- When less number of editors contribute, explicit coordination is useful.

¹PM in wikipedia community. Hang Ung et al, wikisym 2010, ²Harnessing the wisdom of crowds in wikipedia, quality through coordination-Aniket Kittur etal, wikisym 2008

Issues with current WikiProjects?

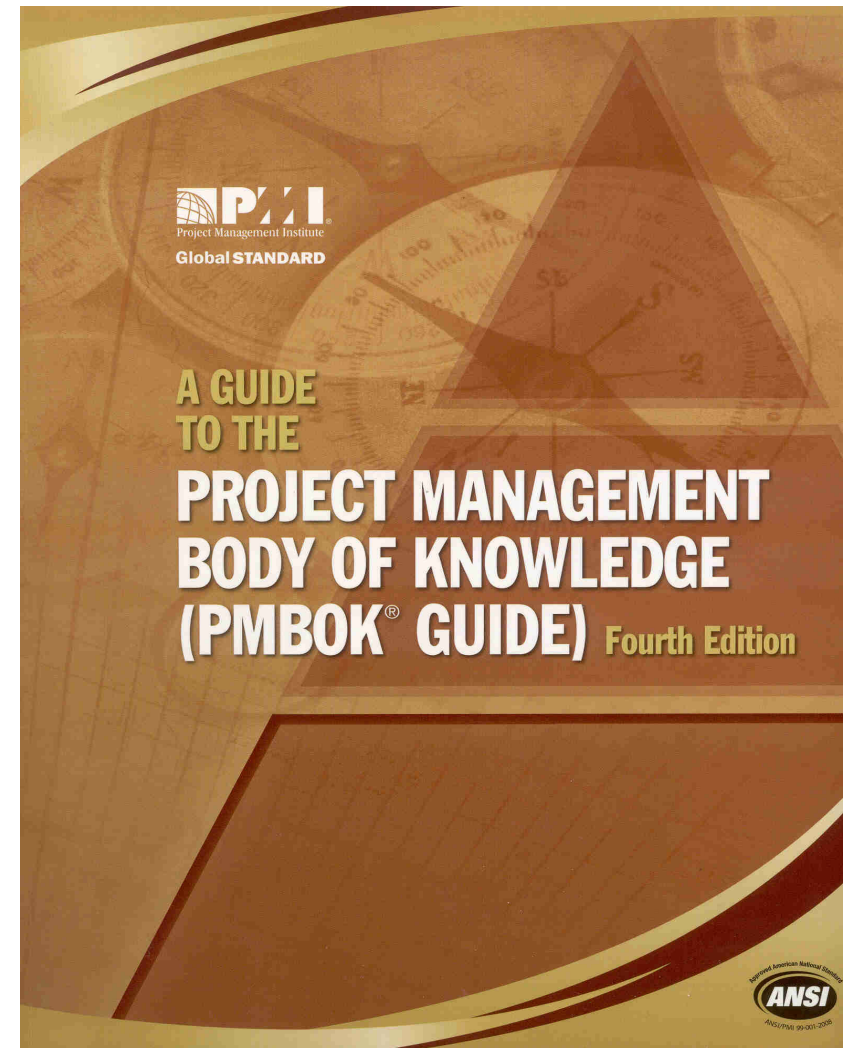
- Inadequate team size
- Limited project management knowledge of the leader
- Need for templates, bots to manage the project
- Work on project not of interest compared to creation of article
- No critical need is felt
-

Need to turn Hobbyist Wikipedians to Passionate team members

Project Definition as per PMBOK

A project consists of a temporary endeavor undertaken to create a unique product, service or end result.

- Temporary: Time
- Unique: Different in one or more parameters of the result or development process and team



Is WikiProject a project as per PMBOK?

Agile Manifesto



We value..

Individuals and interactions over
processes and tools

Working software over comprehensive
documentation

Customer collaboration over contract
negotiation

Responding to change over following a
plan

WikiProjects General Assessment (My perspective)

- Well Done

- Making the project visible through other media
Portal/Newsletter
- Communicating the progress

- Adequately done

- Defining Vision

- Poorly done

- Definite duration
- Definite scope
- Regular meetings
- Closure

Summary

- WikiProjects are a great way to coordinate by Editors to improve wikipedia article quality, but they are not effective most of the time.
- PMI's PMBOK, Agile are popular methodologies in the commercial world
- PM best practices can be useful to improve the effectiveness of WikiProjects
 - Defining iteration duration
 - Defining scope
 - Building Team, Using wiki ads for publicity
 - Ensuring team motivation through updates on status, quality and communication wiki signpost and virtual/physical meetings

My Sample Wiki Project: <http://tinyurl.com/2u4ymje> (in Telugu)

Can we start practicing the improvements?



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