Annual Report

Prepared for the General Assembly
2012

WIKIMEDIA CH
Association for the Advancement of Free Knowledge

Facts and Figures

As of June 1st, 2012, Wikimedia CH has 101 members, which is an increase of about 12% compared to one year before. Thereof, 19 are supportive members and 9 members represent legal entities. From the remaining 73 members, 68 are primarily German-speakers, 25 French-speakers, 5 Italian-speakers, 2 Romansh-speakers and 1 English-speaker. The gender distribution is as follows: 91 male, 10 female.

Between June 30th, 2011 and June 29th, 2012, the Board of Wikimedia CH consists of:

Mourad Ben Abdallah, President
Bagawathram Maheswaran, Treasurer
Patrick Kenel, Secretary, Press speaker for German language
Frédéric Schütz, Press speaker for French language
Ilario Valdelli, Press speaker for Italian language
Charles Andrès

The new Board, elected by the General Assembly 2012 will formally take up its work on August 23rd, 2012, 60 days after the General Assembly.

In the same time period, auditors of Wikimedia CH have been:

Zutter Treuhand AG
Höheweg 2
Postfach 687
CH-3053 Münchenbuchsee (BE)

Chief Information Officer of Wikimedia CH is Manuel Schneider.

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Activities

GLAM
Wiki loves Universities
Last fall, a project called Wiki loves Universities has been launched. Its purpose is to build bridges between the Wikimedia and the academic worlds.

This project is an umbrella for several projects of diverse nature. The main aims are:
- To distribute free knowledge
- To support the recruitment and acculturation of new contributors, especially specialists
- To improve the quality and diversity of Wikimedia project content
- To improve academic outreach

Wikipedia at universities
Since the 2011 fall, the use of Wikimedia projects is taught to students in their third year of bachelor at the University of Neuchâtel. This 4-hours introduction allows students to understand how they can use Wikimedia projects in their work, either by using data available or by adding the result of their work in Wikimedia projects. The same students are engaged in a project-based learning (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project-based_learning) module during the spring semester, and are encouraged to improve Wikipedia articles in line with their project and to incorporate it in their reports.

Also, starting in June 2012, a student will do her master thesis on the opportunities of education program through collaboration between Wikimedia CH and a university professor in the Swiss German region.

Content release from universities
Another aspect of Wiki loves Universities is the creation of partnership between Wikimedia CH and universities for the release of free content. These contents could already exist or could be created during the partnership.

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The first example is a project of digitalization of a part of the Herbarium of a Swiss university. This project is aimed to produce 30 to 40 000 pictures under a CC-BY-SA license. The partnership is not limited to the production of pictures as it also implies the training of university members to produce new pictures and add them on Wikimedia Commons. After a first phase, during which pictures will be realized by Wikimedia CH, a second phase will consist of the loan of a digitalization facility for a year. In exchange, all pictures produced by this mean will be uploaded on Wikimedia Commons. The partnership between Wikimedia CH and the university was signed on June 11th, 2012 and the project will officially start on June 25th.

A second partnership is the signature of a framework agreement with a Natural History Museum. This agreement fixes the general rules for agreements between Wikimedia CH and the different departments of the museum. This agreement leads to the signature, on June 20th, 2012, of a partnership with one of the departments for the digitalization of a collection of amoebozoa. The cost of the digitalization will be covered by Wikimedia CH and will enable to train the researcher in this field to the use of Wikimedia Commons and Wikipedia. Articles related to the produced pictures will be either improved or created by the researcher. The final step of this project will be the creation of a Wikibooks created by a field expert.

Sponsoring of SOL2012

Wikimedia CH is an official partner of the Congress SOL2012, the Solanaceae Conference (http://www.sol2012.ch). This is the annual conference bringing together leading scientists in the field of Solanaceae, a large family of plants (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solanaceae). At first sight, this may be a surprising partnership for a Wikimedia-related entity, but Wikimedia CH goal was to collaborate with a major scientific congress. Solanaceae include among others potatoes, tobacco, tomatoes, eggplants and peppers, and it is therefore a major family in terms of nutrition and food industry; the researchers present at the congress come from all over the world and are generally influential people in the academic world.

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The participation of Wikimedia CH will take the form of the development of a USB key distributed to all attendees, containing the conference abstract book, as well as the ZIM offline reader Kiwix, and ZIM files of a selection of articles related to the subject of the conference, in English, French and German. Wikimedia CH is willing to support any initiative on Wikipedia for the improvement of key articles in English, French and German (if possible, the quality is already high). For example, Wikimedia CH could provide prizes for winners of an editing contest, access to research articles not available in open access or also help for the acquisition of reference books in the scope of the articles. Charles Andrès can be contacted to share other ideas and to request help to implement them.

In return for Wikimedia CH support, the abstracts will be published online or in an open access journal, so that Wikipedians can use them as references in Wikipedia articles. An information booth will also be held during the congress to reach participants and take part in an official workshop about dissemination of scientific information from labs to public.

Valdensia project
The Valdensia project (http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Projet:Valdensia) has been the result of collaboration between the Cantonal and University Library (BCU) of Lausanne and Wikimedia CH (http://members.wikimedia.ch/images/1/1f/CP_Wikimedia_CH_Valdensia -20110510.pdf). The library had created a database of biographies of personalities from the canton of Vaud, especially writers born in the 20th century, and approached Wikimedia CH to transfer this content to the French version of Wikipedia. The objective of the collaboration was to integrate 800 of them and, in case of existing biographies, to supplement them with information provided by the BCU.

Started in March 2011 and completed in November of the same year, the project was divided in three phases: A first set of 10 biographies have been selected to evaluate the feasibility of building a bot to import directly the text in Wikipedia. At the same time, the complete list of 800 names has been reviewed and analyzed to identify existing articles and potential issues. A second set of 40 biographies have been selected and imported

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to control the output. At the end of this phase, a review was conducted and a formal approval given on both sides before starting the last part of the project. In the last step of the project, all remaining biographies were automatically imported in Wikipedia, with a frequency of 5-6 articles per day until completion.

Through this collaboration, Wikipedia benefited from new and interesting content while the BCU gained visibility and benefited from the work of contributors and comments received from readers, uncovering some errors in their biographies. This successful collaboration with a GLAM institution also opens the gates for future work with the BCU and with similar institutions.

Wiki Loves Monuments contest
From July 1st to September 30th, 2011, Wikimedia CH organized, in cooperation with the Gesellschaft für schweizerische Kunstgeschichte (http://www.gsk.ch/sites/default/files/4_Medienmitteilung_Wikimedia_Fotowettbewerb_franz.pdf) and Seniorweb, a national photography contest of historical monuments. Wiki Loves Monuments is the Swiss side of the Wiki Loves Monuments European contest, covering more than 15 countries across Europe. The aim of this contest was to create a database of free pictures of all cultural goods of national importance, available from the media library Wikimedia Commons.

During the contest, volunteer photographers took pictures of items listed in the Swiss Inventory of Cultural Property of National significance (more than 4200 items across the country), uploaded these pictures on the Wikimedia Commons repository and announced them on the contest website. In three months, more than 7500 pictures have been uploaded by 300 people and 75 % of the cultural goods of national importance have now at least one free picture available.

At the end of the contest, a jury of 6 people - Mourad Ben Abdallah from Wikimedia CH, Nicole Bauermeister from the Gesellschaft für Schweizerische Kunstgeschichte, Rino Büchel from the Federal Office for Civil Protection's section for Protection of Cultural Property, Adelheid Jann from the Federal Archives, Marco Zanoli from the Ritterhausgesellschaft Bubikon and the architect Tobias Tilemann -

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selected the 10 best pictures plus 5 additional pictures in specific categories. Authors of these pictures were awarded during a ceremony taking place on November 13th, 2011 in Bern. Winners have been awarded various prizes including Swiss Museum Passes and an iPad. The Board would like to thank the participants, jury members and all people who were involved in this success, especially Nicolas Ray, who led the entire project with dedication and professionalism.

For the 2012 edition, Wikimedia CH started cooperation with Wikimedia Österreich on Wiki Loves Monuments. Alexander Wagner, an Austrian community member and Ruben Demus, a paid project manager for Wiki Loves Monuments in Austria, will help setting up a unified website for tracking progress of the project, implementing maps of monuments in Switzerland and publishing information to the public.

Wagner has already started working on adopting the monuments lists in the German, French and Italian versions of Wikipedia so they can automatically be integrated into the map tools already existing. Demus will implement the websites structure. Further work - creating contents and translations - will be done by the Swiss communities.

GLAM conference in Prangins
Wikimedia CH organized a GLAM conference on August 20th, 2011 on the theme of relationships with cultural institutions. The event was held in Prangins Castle, the site of Swiss National Museums in Romandie. Representatives from Wikimedia France were invited to share their experience on the subject: Adrienne Alix, program director of the association, presented the work conducted in recent years in France with various cultural institutions; Benedict Evellin presented his personal experience as a Wikimedian in residence at the Versailles Castle. After an outline of the current situation in Switzerland, a panel discussion and audience discussion took place.

TAO Project
Seniorweb-Wikimedia CH joint activities
In June 2011, Wikimedia CH had a booth at the *Question d'âge* exhibition in Bulle. Wikimedia CH and Seniorweb booth were neighbours and shared some space. During these three days of exhibition, a lot of

demonstrations of a Wikipedia article's modification were done. Each time (around 25 demonstrations), Wikimedians faced the same problem: after clicking the *edit* button, potential contributors don't find the text they think they will modify, but most of the time they are confronted to the parameters of an infobox. This totally killed the *Wikipedia is easy to edit* leitmotif; it has been really difficult to explain that infoboxes, even if they are displayed on the side of the article, are coded on the top. On the Wikipedia in French, a discussion started to find a way to put the infobox code out of the article body. For the moment, only local solutions are discussed, but it could be interesting if, in the scope of the TAO project, Mediawiki developers work on this question. A secondary edit box for the head of articles could be a good solution.

In parallel, Wikimedia CH and Seniorweb have strengthened their partnership for the promotion of the Wiki Loves Monuments contest. A forum and a dedicated group have been created on Seniorweb website.

Third Age Universities collaboration
In October 2011, Ludovic Péron conducted three workshops preceded by a conference in collaboration with Connaissance 3, the Lausanne third age university, and Pro Senectute.

Initially, a conference about Wikipedia and the Wikimedia sphere (history, names and markers) was proposed. The idea was an overview of the topic and an opening of the discussion about the collaborative aspect and therefore to generate incentives. About 35 people were present at this presentation. A month later, the first workshop focused on *How to use Wikipedia*. The success was important and the workshop was held two times in a day. A total of eleven people attended. The subject was the description of the structure of Wikipedia to better understand the process of writing articles. The second workshop was to provide the first tools to prospective contributors so they can become independent. Three people attended the workshop, which was below the expectations. Of these three, two have come to learn how to use a computer; the third really came with the desire to become a contributor, and became one.

The other two workshops were designed to inform and contribute about Wikimedia Commons and Wikisource. The workshops were cancelled due to too little entry.

The results are mixed. Good things were made (conferences and first workshop); however others have not been successful. Regarding the relative failures, it is believed we did not necessarily work well to communicate and find the rightly targeted seniors. The audience of Pro Senectute and Connaissance 3 are not necessarily the same audiences. Connaissance 3 public uses to be a passive audience listening to the conference; it is mostly a consuming public that comes to learn new things. This audience does not have as a first idea to learn how to do something new. As the Pro Senectute audience needs training for basic computers, it's not a public at ease to become active in an online community. The desire is to continue on this path, but by devoting more time and skills to advertise workshops to the right audience.

In 2013, actions should focus on conferences on encyclopaedias and their evolution throughout history. The idea is to attract as many people and then offer them more specific workshops.

TAO conclusion
In May 2012, the Board asked Chantal Ebongué, future Chief Administrative Officer of the association, to conduct an analysis of the TAO project, and its adequateness with the association's scope. The synthesis of her analysis and of board members experiences was that the TAO project came up with a very good idea, compatible with Wikimedia movement goals but, time by time, is becoming far off the objectives of Wikimedia CH. The TAO project is now focusing its interests too much on behaviours' study rather than to practice this analysis. However, these results are very good and may be in the interest to Wikimedia CH, but they don't follow the same strategic objectives defined by the Wikimedia Foundation and agreed by Wikimedia CH. At this point, the Board considers the financial effort required by the task devoted to Wikimedia CH is too high in regard to the expected inputs. At the end of May 2012, Wikimedia CH proposed the following modification of TAO activities, according to the association forces and weaknesses:

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- To organize 6-7 workshops in the French region of Switzerland (and to let Seniorweb do it in the German part) until the end the project: Chantal could take contacts and organize the workshops with various senior associations. This part of her job – and salary – will be part of the financial participation of Wikimedia CH to TAO.
- To train and to pay someone that will animate these workshops. To build these workshops based on the needs of the senior public: it means "how to use Wikipedia" and less on "how to contribute" (Ludovic Péron and Chantal Ebongué can prepare it together).
- To organize such workshops in partnership with various senior associations (third age universities, Pro Senecute, Universités populaires (*Volkshochschule*) so the public who attend is ready to participate and interested by the proposed workshop.
- To make a handbook with the content of the workshop, meaning an ameliorated PowerPoint.

In addition, projects like Wiki Loves Monuments will be managed separately from the TAO project, even if TAO partners are invited to participate, and the coordination, reports and content of the TAO website (including translations) and financial costs linked to these activities will be remitted in the hands of the Berner Fachhochschule.

This proposal was dismissed by the TAO steering committee and leads the Board to decide leaving the consortium. The Board considers that, at this point, the TAO umbrella imposes too much constraints and too few warranty of success. It's now evident for Wikimedia CH board that there is no evidence that senior people want to be involved in online communities such as Wikipedia. A lot of studies and inquiries were made these last years about this subject, particularly on the reasons why they are prejudices and reservations in this generation. It seems that no one in the TAO consortium has made any serious inquiry to know what was done in this field before building this project. From now, Wikimedia CH will continue its outreach activities towards seniors, in collaboration with the Swiss third age universities. Different workshops and conferences are already planned, with audiences having already demonstrated willing to become active in the Wikimedia projects.

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Wikipedia Offline / openZIM
Wikimedia CH financed the development of Kiwix, the most popular offline reader for Wikipedia. Kiwix was started by Emmanuel Engelhart and became a supporter of openZIM, another offline project focusing on storage technology which Wikimedia CH has sponsored from 2009 to 2011. Meanwhile ZIM has become the standard technology supported by the Wikimedia Foundation and Kiwix, running on all major operating systems, and the standard offline reader used in many educational projects all around the world.

Kiwix Black & White Project
Kiwix is a software project whose main activity is to provide software binaries and packages directly executable on end users computers. To get from the developed source code to a new release, a compiled and packaged Kiwix is needed for many of supported systems and architectures. This job was done manually but with the multiplication of operating systems, architectures, test staging, and the global acceleration of the whole development process, this was really time-consuming. Consequently, Wikimedia CH supported a project driven by Emmanuel Engelhart to automatize this part as much as possible. This is the way to follow so to provide high quality and regular releases.

Kiwix team setup a solution which automatically make the dozens of builds and packages as often as necessary. Such a solution already exists for many middle sized free software projects. This is the *black* side of the project because it does not directly benefit to the users.

At the same time, Kiwix team wants their end users to benefit from such a new tool immediately. This is why, in the same project, has been added the support for the x86_64 bits platforms and for Sugar (the system used by the XO computers of the project OLPC). This is the *bright* side of the project as this will really help Kiwix team to give the adequate answer to a growing number of user requests and give a good opportunity in term of public relations.

Project results can be found through the following links:

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Port Kiwix to Sugar:
- Sugarlabs activity: http://activities.sugarlabs.org/en-US/sugar/addon/4483/
- Few pictures: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Kiwix
- WMF blog post: https://blog.wikimedia.org/2012/03/13/offline-reader-available-for-sugar/
- @Linuxtag2012: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:LinuxTag_2012-05-23_11-36-07.jpg

Documentation: http://www.kiwix.org/index.php/Sugar
Build a compilation farm:
- Web interface: http://buildbot.kiwix.org
- Blog post: http://blog.kiwix.org/post/2012/06/14/Kiwix-Build-Farm%2C-behind-the-scene
- Documentation: http://www.kiwix.org/index.php/Black%26White_Project/Compilation_Farm

Prepare different binary packages:
- Nightly builds: http://download.kiwix.org/bin/nightly/latest/
- Debian package: http://anonscm.debian.org/gitweb/?p=collab-maint/kiwix.git;a=summary

ZIM Autobuild
As continuity in the support of Kiwix activity, Wikimedia CH supports the ZIM Autobuild project. Kiwix is well established by now, there are more and more users/downloads and we know that users are satisfied. It's accepted as the reference software to read ZIM files and does more or less everything what people expect from such software.

In comparison, the offered content is still too small. Emmanuel Engelhart manually prepares full Wikipedia ZIM files with pictures in about 25 languages. In addition, people can create ZIM files (until 500 articles) themselves using the book creator. This is not sufficient. Furthermore, this does not fully match users' needs. The Wikimedia Foundation plans to set the book creator limit over 500 articles, but this will never allow dealing with millions of articles.

The ZIM Autobuild project should provide the following solution:

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- fully automatic
- Web configurable/manageable
- able to build full or partial (only a selection of articles) ZIM files of Wikimedia projects
- able to tweak the content by removing/modifying categories, templates, articles
- able to compute full ZIM files with pictures for at least the 50 largest Wikipedias (except English)
- able to compute full ZIM files without pictures for most of the Wikimedia projects
- able to provide Sugar .xo packages including content and Kiwix (developed in the B&W scope)

Support to Volunteers
Photography

Photographers supported by Wikimedia CH have produced and uploaded pictures in Wikimedia Commons. This Wikimedia CH activity has been highlighted in the 2010-2011 Annual Report of the Wikimedia Foundation with photography of Fanny Schertzer taken at an international football match between Portugal and Argentina.

Here is a non exhaustive list:
- May 1st, 2011 at the Salon du livre de Genève (http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Salon_du_livre_2011_-_Gen%C3%A8ve): 389 pictures by Rama and Ludovic Péron
- July 7th 2011 at a Swiss female skiing team training (http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Swiss_Ski_2011_summertraining): 12 pictures by Fanny Schertzer and Ludovic Péron
- September 28th, 2011 at a Mathieu Boggaerts concert in the Datcha Lausanne (http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Mathieu_Boogaerts): 8 pictures] by Fanny Schertzer
- October 22nd, 2011 at a FC Lausanne-FC Thun match (http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Thun_-_Lausanne,_23_October_2011): 318 pictures by Fanny Schertzer and Rama
- October 27th, 2011 at the Swiss Army headquarters (http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Cryptography_collecti

on_of_the_Swiss_Army_headquarters): 103 pictures by Rama with the support of Frédéric Schütz
- October 29th, 2011 at the Six jours de Grenoble (http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Six_jours_de_Grenoble_2011): 35 pictures by Fanny Schertzer, Ludovic Péron and Mathieu Riegler
- November 25th, 2011 at a Fribourg-Gottéron - HC Bienne match: 50-60 pictures by Fanny Schertzer and Ludovic Péron
- December 3rd, 2011 at LHC All Star Game in Lausanne (http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:LHC_All_Star_Game) : 21 pictures by Fanny Schertzer and Ludovic Péron

Photographers supported by Wikimedia CH also obtained official accreditations for important events such as:
- July 2011: Training of the Swiss female skiing team
- October 2011: Six jours de Grenoble, an international cycling competition
- February 2012: Official accreditation by the Swiss Football League for the Switzerland-Argentina match
- March 2012: Accreditation for the 6th World Water Forum taking place in Marseilles, France
- Accreditation for matches of the Lausanne Sport FC
- Accreditation by the Swiss National League for several hockey matches, including the LHC All Star Game

Wikimania Chapter Scholarships
In cooperation with the organiser of the Wikimania conference held in 2011 in Haifa, Wikimedia Österreich and Wikimedia CH developed a new concept for scholarships. In the past, the Wikimedia Foundation gave a big amount of money to the scholarship committee, a team of volunteers, to distribute this money among Wikimedia volunteers which should participate in Wikimania but couldn't afford the travel costs. Naturally these scholarships focused on participants in poorer countries.

Only a few participants come from smaller countries with smaller chapters, both from Switzerland and Austria, only Board members. This is disappointing as Wikimania is a very inspiring and important

experience to better integrate individual volunteers in the Wikimedia movement and to foster intercultural exchange.

The chapters' scholarships are additional funds allocated to Wikimania scholarship applicants but earmarked to be used for applicants from the country the money is coming from. So Wikimedia CH offered four scholarships for Swiss participants. For the applicants, the process was transparent: they just applied as everyone else on the central scholarship application form provided by the Wikimania organisers. After reviewing the applications and filter out obvious spam, they forwarded these applications to the scholarship teams of the corresponding chapters which then decided about approval. This concept of chapter scholarships has been copied by several countries and already became a new standard for the Wikimania 2012 in Washington D.C.

LinuxTag
For the first time, Wikimedia Deutschland, Wikimedia CH and Wikimedia Österreich had a joined outreach activity. All three chapters presented their projects at LinuxTag 2012 in Berlin (http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:LinuxTag_2012), Europe's biggest open source event.

Last years, openZIM / Wikipedia Offline / Kiwix had a small both at LinuxTag, several other educational projects such as SugarLabs, SkoleLinux, Linux4Africa etc. could be found there. As the audience is very international, the idea came to test if Wikimedia could be presented there and attract visitors from all three German-speaking countries.

The focus of the Wikimedia booth was to present Wikimedia as organisation and trademark and make people aware of all the projects. Special focus on our booth was Wikipedia Offline as Emmanuel Engelhart, Kiwix developer, and Tommi Mäkitalo, openZIM developer has been there. Additionally, WikiCon 2012 was advertised, new members searched and new Wikimedia projects RENDER and Wikidata presented.

The experience was globally positive. Wikimedia CH has not yet enough marketing material to do such outreach activities. We hope to do further

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outreach cooperation with Wikimedia Österreich and Wikimedia Deutschland and be better prepared by having posters, banners and flyers available. The files for various brochures are now available to us from Wikimedia Deutschland so we can create our own material soon.

For Kiwix and openZIM, it was positive like always but we do not think we should in the future continue to have our own booth. Software projects are there mainly to get more users and developers. Concerning the developers, it's a lot of resources invested and in fact until now we failed. Concerning the users, we think the best way is to include Kiwix in the global Wikimedia communication effort. In fact, Emmanuel Engelhart remarked our offline solution is still not well known by many members of our community. We decided to start first to advert our work internally, and thus people will be afterwards our best spokesmen.

The increase of the advertising effort will be continued, not only on events like the LinuxTag. We will also take care that offline is well represented. Emmanuel Engelhart will propose a project during the autumn 2012 to create and print more advertising material. Wikimedia Deutschland, France and Italia already have done a good job, so their documents could be reused.

OpenStreetMap
Wikimedia CH supports the OpenStreetMap booth at the GEOSummit 2012 (http://www.geosummit.ch/fr/Liste_dexposants.html?cn_id=50325&q=&l=&i=&o=&t=).

International Projects
German-speaking conference WikiCon
In 2010, the German-speaking community started to organise an annual community conference. It was named Skillshare and took place in Lüneburg. As it was a huge success - one weekend with more than 100 participants and dozens of talks, workshops and panels - a team of volunteers took over the idea and organised WikiCon 2011 in Nürnberg.

Wikimedia CH offered to cover travel costs for Swiss participants and actually three members attended. While international cooperation of

chapters for Wiki Loves Monuments has been discussed, further results were the initiation of the WikiTV project and the idea to have the next WikiCon somewhere near Switzerland to better integrate the Swiss community.

The WikiCon 2012 (http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiCon_2012) will be organised by an international team consisting of German, Swiss and Austrian volunteers and is sponsored by all German-speaking chapters, including Wikimedia CH, and the Wikimedia Foundation. It will take place from August 31st to September 2nd, 2012 in Dornbirn, Austria, just a stone-cast away from the border of Switzerland, Liechtenstein and Germany.

Several Wikimedia CH members are involved in organising this event. All three chapters also provide travel costs for participants from their respective country.

Wikimedia Bamako
The most important result of our Wikimedia Bamako project in 2011 was an extension of the Bambara-French dictionary to now more than 2300 words.

Proceeding with the project became quite difficult, mainly due to two facts:
- There was a coup d'état which made it challenging for all people there to continue tasks like Wikimedia.
- The university professors were on strike so that, during an important part of the year, not much was going on at the universities.

Consequently, only around 20% of the money could be spent. Part of the money is still on the Wikimedia Mali bank account; the other part has never been requested.

Grants for WP JV revitalization project
Wikimedia CH decided to financially support the Indonesian Wikimedia chapter in their project to revitalise Javanese Wikipedia (http://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Javanese_Language_Wikipedia_Revitaliz

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ation_Project_2012-2013) with some 3900 CHF. The mid-term and long-term objective is to help connecting French-speaking academics studying the Javanese language and culture with the Javanese Wikipedia.

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Organizational Development

Fundraising

The annual fund-drive of the Wikimedia Foundation has been a very emotional topic in 2011. In the last years, the conditions for chapters to participate in the global year-end fundraiser have changed every year. In 2011, the new Fundraising Agreement suggested all chapters present an annual plan, a budget, to the Wikimedia Foundation which outlines the prospected expenses and income for the coming year. The prospected money missing to finance this budget would be the amount of money the chapter may keep from the raised money through its bank account. The Wikimedia Foundation keeps a veto-right should the annual budget be higher than 150% of last year's budget.

The ideas of this agreement were:

- To distribute the funds more fairly - chapters should only keep as much as they need and not generally 50% of what they are able to rise. There are many countries where chapters are technically not able to participate in the fundraiser as this implies a lot of technical infrastructure and administrative work. On the other hand, there had been chapters holding a lot of money in their bank account without knowing what to do with it.
- To keep chapters responsible to have a thorough finance planning rather than raising money and then looking for ideas how to spend it.

At Wikimania 2011 in Haifa, a few weeks after most chapters had signed this new agreement, the Board of Trustees of the Wikimedia Foundation had a meeting and decided it was too risky for the Wikimedia Foundation to let chapters raise money through the Wikimedia projects. They decided only the Wikimedia Foundation should run the annual fundraiser and then distribute the money to the chapters by giving them a grant, based on their approved annual plan.

This caused a lot of discussions and emotions among all Wikimedia chapter representatives. At the Chapters Meeting held in Berlin from March 30th to April 1st, 2012, the Board of Trustees published a resolution

including four exceptions as long as they offer special benefits to both donors and the fundraising process: tax-deductibility and/or special local payment options. This is applicable to the following chapters:

- Wikimedia Deutschland
- Wikimedia France
- Wikimedia CH
- Wikimedia UK

So Wikimedia CH is still allowed to process funds through its website. Some important terms need to be clarified:

- This only affects the donation banners in the Wikimedia projects, as seen by the end of each year in Wikipedia, showing Jimmy asking for money.
- Every chapter is still allowed to do its own fundraising like putting banners on their own websites or asking other organisations for grants, etc.
- The process to approve annual plans of the chapters will be delegated to a Funds Distribution Committee which consists of volunteers, community members and Wikimedia Foundation staff.
- Either way, if processing the money coming from Wikipedia banners or not and thus receiving a grant, the process is the same: the annual plan needs to be approved beforehand by the Wikimedia Foundation, and then the agreed amount of money is given to the chapter by the Wikimedia Foundation.
- All money raised through the Wikimedia projects is the "movement money" and belongs to the Wikimedia Foundation as the hoster of Wikimedia projects and Wikimedia trademarks.

Chapter Association

A new umbrella organisation for Wikimedia Chapters has been discussed. Its purpose is to represent chapters and enable collaboration among them. It should also set the standards of how chapters should work in regard to handling donors' money (transparency and accountability). Each member chapter will have a representative. To execute the decisions, the association will have a secretariat consisting of paid staff. The chapters' council itself will elect a chair of the council to lead the association. Beside these two bodies there can be working groups consisting of council members working on special matters.

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After its charta has been drafted and discussed during the 2012 Chapters Meeting, Wikimedia CH - along with 24 other chapters - signed the Berlin Agreement with the intention to join it once created. A team of four - Tomer Ashur (Wikimedia Israel), Damian Finol (Wikimedia Venezuela), Craig Franklin (Wikimedia Australia) and Frieda Brioschi (Wikimedia Italia) - will draft a budget, a job description for the secretary-general and evaluate where the seat of the new organisation should be.

Wikimedia CH has made lobbying for the seat to be in Geneva and published a study about this prior the Chapters Meeting. The decision has also been taken to dedicate 5% of annual incoming to this association, plus a dedicated fund of 50 000 CHF if Switzerland is chosen as the seat of the association so to help setting up the association's office.

Staff
Wikimedia CH Board decided to appoint Chantal Ebongué as Wikimedia CH's Chief Administrative Officer and the first employee under a regular contract. She will start her position on July 1st, 2012 and will manage the association's daily operations. This employment is a major step towards professionalism by reducing the load of work of the voluntary board but also a step to increase support for Wikimedians and the communication with the Wikimedia Foundation.

She is 47 years of age and has acquired a Master of Humanities from the University of Lausanne, plus diplomas in cultural and social management, accounting and financial management. In recent years, Chantal Ebongué worked with Lausanne Third Age University. She was hired 10 years ago, when this association was a small local association and needed to take the direction of professionalization. Now, Lausanne Third Age University is one of the biggest in Switzerland with 100 volunteers, 13 teachers and 2 staff, dealing with 200 lectures, 30 courses, 20 cultural journeys and about 3000 participants per year. Mrs. Ebongué won't be only an administrative staff as she agreed to be in charge of the search for new GLAM partners. She also has a strong experience of working with volunteers, NPO's management, and fundraising.

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While in charge of the daily operations of the chapter, she will also have a strong mission regarding members. She will take care of the quarterly reporting in 4 languages for members, fellow chapters and the Wikimedia Foundation. She will act as a facilitator for and between communities, help Wikimedia CH and free knowledge in Switzerland to grow.

Internal Communication
In 2012, a quarterly newsletter has been launched. The first edition (http://www.members.wikimedia.ch/Newsletter_2012_First_quarter) was in English only, but the next ones should be in the various languages of the association. In the future, we hope to distribute this newsletter on a monthly basis.

IT Development
Wikimedia CH is working with its Chief Information Officer (CIO) to improve the chapter's technology platform. This includes:
- upgrading the association's website from Drupal 6 to Drupal 7
- integrating CiviCRM and the Wikimedia Drupal modules on Drupal 7
- enhancing CiviCRM to handle Swiss donations (adding support for PostFinance)
- implementing the accounting system of Wikimedia CH into CiviCRM (setting up accounts, budgets, importing balances, etc.)

These measurements also include that Wikimedia CH will have its own server where the entire infrastructure is hosted. Legal matters on privacy policies and data retention are being fixed as the server will most likely be hosted in Germany as Wikimedia CH wants to stay with the current ISP (run by our CIO who sponsored the whole infrastructure since 2006) and due to much lower costs compared to Switzerland.

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Communications

Swiss media

- 7-May-2011: *Wikipedia : depuis dix ans en français* (http://www.rsr.ch/#/couleur3/programmes/point-barre/?date=07-05-2011)
- 9-May-2011: *L'Université de Lausanne collabore avec Wikipedia* (http://tsr.blogs.com/telecom/2011/05/la-bcu-lausanne-collabore-avec-wikipedia.html)
- 10-May-2011: *Biographies de Vaudois célèbres - sur Wikipédia* (http://archives.24heures.ch/VQ/LAUSANNE/-/article-2011-05-1283/jacques-chessex-etienne-barilier-ou-charles)
- 10-May-2011: *La BCU Lausanne collabore avec Wikimédia CH* (http://www.unil.ch/actu?showActu=1305023618694.xml)
- 28-Jun-2011: *Un Suisse remplace le fondateur de Wikipédia lors d'une cérémonie* (http://www.tdg.ch/suisse-remplace-fondateur-wikipedia-ceremonie-2011-06-28 ; http://www.24heures.ch/actu/suisse/suisse-remplace-fondateur-wikipedia-ceremonie-2011-06-28 ; http://www.lematin.ch/actu/suisse/un-suisse-remplace-le-fondateur-de-wikipedia-lors-dune-ceremonie)
- 21-Sep-2011: *Enrichir le web grâce aux seniors* (http://www.20min.ch/ro/news/vaud/story/10429702)
- 03-Jan-2012: *Les Suisses sont les plus généreux avec Wikipédia* (http://www.tdg.ch/high-tech/web/Les-Suisses-sont-les-plus-genereux-avec-Wikipedia/story/20036962)
- 05-Jan-2012: *Frédéric Schütz : « Si Wikipédia incorporait de la publicité, la moitié des contributeurs partirait »* (http://www.tdg.ch/economie/entreprises/Frederic-Schuetz-Si-Wikipedia-incorporait-de-la-publicite-la-moitie-des-contributeurs-partirait/story/26125692)

Press Releases

- May 13th, 2011: *swissGLAMour, Valdensia, notable Vaudoise persons*
- September 30th-October 1st, 2011: *Make.opendata: Open Data Camp in Switzerland*

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Statement by the President

As I am retiring at this General Assembly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who worked with me in the last three years: especially my colleagues from the Board and our Chief Information Officer. I would also like to extend my appreciation to our contacts and colleagues at other Wikimedia chapters for their kind collaboration. Last but not least, I wish to thank all members of Wikimedia CH, who have supported us, both financially and by volunteering their time in divers activities.

To the incoming board, I give my best encouragements for your endeavours, I am confident that you will keep Wikimedia CH on the good path and will do everything to further its goals!

Zurich, June 23rd, 2012

Mourad Ben Abdallah
President