In person (Florence, Italy) and Online

19 – 21 August 2022

https://2022.stateofthemap.org
ENABLING INCLUSION AND PARTICIPATION THROUGH LANGUAGE LOCALIZATION

A COLLABORATION PROJECT

- Contributors from Vietnam, Madagascar & Mozambique
- Open Mapping Hubs (Asia-Pacific, and East and Southern Africa)
- HOT Community Team / WG

20 August 2022
Do you know how frustrating it is to have to translate everything in my head before I say it?
Acknowledgement

Local contributors in 3 countries

HOT Working Groups
- Community
- Training
- Activation

Open Mapping Hubs

HOT Community Team

Hot_tech Team

weeklyOSM

- Quang Huy Nguyen
- Pham Minh Tuan Vu
- Map Operations Team of Grab Vietnam
- Fanevanjanahary Andriamidadantsoa
- Dolly Manda Andriatsiferana
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- Pechiçoane Pechiço
- Dinércia Macaringue
- Edmilson Fuel
- Daniel Mapsanganhe
- Emerson Lopes
- Rosário Mulhui
- Vânia Muianga
The default to English puts non-English speakers at a systemic disadvantage throughout OSM / HOT and humanitarian open mapping activities.

- Gayton, 2021
I find that the French-speaking community is very discriminated against and has little to represent in the chains of decisions of OSM, the job offers all in English...

Anonymous commenter from DRC

Maybe there are exceptional opinions from several participants, but they can’t share it because of the ‘language barrier’ itself.

Adhitya Dido from OSM Indonesia on participating in meetings

A potential speaker passed on our invitation “…as she doesn’t speak English.”

An experience from one of Tech WG’s talk invitations (invited speaker is from Brazil)
Addressing language barrier through localization will...

yield better relationships

A global feeling of being included in the global community and invited to take part.

reduce the stigma and lack of confidence

it will allow more discussion on the proposals and recommendations in relation to the realities of the local communities.

encourage participation, and enable access and usage of resources.
Goals and Processes

3 focused languages:
- Tiếng Việt
- French
- Portuguese

self-sustainable localization strategy

Translate top 2 priority resources of communities (per language)

Collaborate with translation groups
The findings of this project is not sufficient to create a self-sustainable localization strategy. We recommend incorporating the actions and opportunities for future localization projects.
Findings

3 focused languages:  
- Tiếng Việt  
- French  
- Portuguese

Translate top 2 priority resources of communities (per language)

Strengthened collaborations from contributors and partners
Translation Workflow

Step 1: Using accurate Machine Translation tool for the specific language

Step 2: Reviewer/s from collaborators

For Tiếng Việt, we collaborated with the Grab Team in Vietnam to do the initial translation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Opportunities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No known accurate machine for certain languages. e.g. Tiếng Việt</td>
<td><strong>Collaborate</strong> with existing network - e.g. Grab Vietnam - Map Operations Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We were not able to provide a list of available resources</td>
<td><strong>Maintain a list of available resources</strong> to translate to help contributors target resources that will be valuable to translate for their communities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>We translated a resource that cannot be used in the future. E.g. Open Mapping Grants</td>
<td><strong>Focus on evergreen or evolving resources</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Technical barrier</td>
<td>Provide <strong>onboarding</strong> on the use of the translation tools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Challenges</td>
<td>Opportunities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time commitment</td>
<td>Provide <strong>value and recognition</strong> to contributors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaboration with translator groups was not achieved</td>
<td>Identify spaces for collaboration with translation organizations <strong>early</strong> in the project phase (especially when aiming for global reach).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No concrete plan on how to measure impact of localized translation to the communities.</td>
<td>The project should have a more <strong>robust approach to evaluating impact plans</strong> (i.e. how to monitor, measure and evaluate impact) and should be aligned with your organization’s MERL approach.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Translation and accessibility take time, planning and patience.

- Lily Cheng, 2021
Resources and docs

- Localization as an inclusion and participatory enabler Workshop [June 2021]
- Poll: What top 2 resources do we need to prioritize for translation / localization, and why?
- Learning from Mozilla https://commonvoice.mozilla.org
- WeeklyOSM https://weeklyosm.eu/
Thank you!

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