EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND PLATFORMS ON OPENSTREETMAP: MAKING OPEN DATA MORE ACCESSIBLE

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State of the Map 2022, August 20th
An intrinsic problem in collaborative projects
The power law distribution
An intrinsic problem in collaborative projects

The power law distribution

Data is maintained by a small, expert pool of contributors;

- **Train** the contributors 
  *(create new experts)*
- **Grow** the community base 
  *(catch the experts)*
- **Diversify** the community 
  *(find the experts)*

- **Small world effect...**
High quality data comes only from well educated mappers

Behaviours in citizen science

Efficiency in accomplishing the task

Satisfaction of the individual

Complexity of the task
Education and community
Not only a matter of data, it is a matter of people

• The end goal is always to train the trainers

• We don’t want to have mappers that know only how to edit simple features, but nothing about the OSM ecosystem (best practices, procedures, data model…)

• The same holds for corporate editors (e.g. organised editing guidelines, attribution). It may be the professional was never exposed to all this!

• We want to overcome accessibility barriers: language and infrastructure

• This leads to an healthier environment and stronger communities.
Some examples of incentives
Certificates, recognition and platforms

https://mappers.un.org/learning
Panelists for this session

**Stefan Keller** (remote)
OST Eastern Switzerland University of Applied Sciences

**Jess Beutler**
OSM US, TeachOSM

**Nuala Cowan**
The World Bank, YouthMappers, TeachOSM

**Severin Menard**
UN Mappers, Les Libres Geographes

**Benjamin Herfort**
HeiGIT
Panelists (special mention)

Madalina Ionescu
EuYoutH OSM, weeklyOSM

Nathalie Sidibé
OSM Mali
Discussion points

• Current offer of OSM training materials and platforms (on-site and remote trainings, material and platforms)

• Increase knowledge base of volunteers

• Facilitate OSM trainings in underdeveloped areas (including translation of educational material, provision of platforms)

• Standardization of OSM educational material for adoption e.g. in universities

• Why do you train a mapper? What is your goal? Do you want only to train people or you want to educate them? (Madalina)
THANKS!