Building an OpenStreetMap Community Playbook

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About the HOT Community WG

... is a group dedicated to the support and engagement of community groups and contributors aiming to leverage OpenStreetMap data and tools for positive social / humanitarian / development impact.

Hi everyone,

There are several active OpenStreetMap communities out there, but there are also some countries where there are no existing communities at all. How do you advise an interested person in such countries on where to start? Are there any existing resources out there on how to start and grow a healthy and vibrant OpenStreetMap community either at the national or sub-national level? What are your personal experiences with OSM community building, do you have any tips you would like to share?

If there is none out there, can we think of creating one as the community working group?
Building a community, where do you start?

- Is there a community in your country/city?
- If it does not exist, can you start one?
- What does it take, how do you sustain it?
- How do you mobilize for resources?
- Do you need to set up governance for the community?
- How do you keep the community engaged?
What impact would we like to achieve?

- **Sustainability** - OpenStreetMap communities are coming up, others that started and are doing so well,... but we have a lot of osm communities still struggling. How can communities learn from each other?

- **Diversity** - OpenStreetMap communities are not diverse enough especially geographically and gender representation
🤔 **Brainstormed** the need for documenting knowledge

فاعلية **Webinars** to capture more local knowledge

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**Local OSM community building: Tips, tricks and challenges**

03 September 2021

06:00 UTC: STARTING Local OSM Communities
16:00 UTC: SUSTAINING Local OSM Communities

First approach, what we did...

Most repeated themes were prioritized
Collaborated in drafting initial chapter based on the prioritized themes

Main themes

- 15+ contributors who were already committed to the discussion and webinars helped prioritize the main themes that appeared during the conversations and exercises.

1. **Identifying local community issues**/How mapping can help others work (7 points)
2. **Attracting and engaging students** (5 points)
3. **Connecting contributors motivation to mapping** (4 points)
4. **Training** (4 points)
5. Visualize and promote the map outcome/results (3 points)
6. Localization (3 points)
7. Promote data usage (3 points)

However...
Challenge

Only 3 out of the 15 volunteers had some free time to help with drafting the playbook.
What did we do right?

Engaging the community on the themes they would want to go on the playbook.

What could we improve?
Second approach...

Community Managers from the Open Mapping Hubs started to write the chapter **BUT**

We identified a conflict:

*What exactly is a playbook?*
*From who and to whom is it for?*
A new approach...

From discussions, it is clear that the Community Playbook...

... is **from the community to the community** and

... should be a **living tool**.

The need is for people to get **inspiration, how tos and recipes** to develop new communities, engage new people, get people involved in open mapping.
Let's keep the conversation going, contribute your thoughts and ideas

- Best approach to take
- Most important topics to include
- What structure and format
- Good examples of community playbooks
- Where and how to host it

**LINK to OSM Community Forum for your ideas**

http://tiny.cc/OSMPlayBook
Thank you!

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bit.ly/communitywgforum