

The New Event Tool

How to facilitate Wikimedia project sessions

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What is it?

- Simple (to use) event registration tool
 - Polyglot: built-in translation tool on Meta...
 - Developed since September 2021
- Integrated solution:
 - New “Event” namespace on Meta
 - Button on the event page
 - MediaWiki integration
 - Using the Wikimedia user account (SUL)
 - Linked to [project dashboard](#)
 - Automated reporting
- Event can be any activity, linked to a Wikimedia platform

Working prototype (till now)

- Pilot since 2023
- (only?) Available on Meta
- You have to request the [Event organizers](#) right to create events
 - [Described on Meta](#)
- Ongoing bug fixes ([Phabricator](#))
- Will it be later enabled on Wikipedia?

Roles

- Organisator (event setup) can configure the event
- Participant (participate with event) can see event details, can change registration, can revoke the registration
- Volunteer (logged in) can register to the event
- Public (not logged in) can register to the event, after logging in

Functionality

- Event namespace
- Project and session description
 - Polyglot: built-in translation tool on Meta...
 - You can mention the WMF Grant ID (possible later reporting?)
- For the organiser:
 - Timezones (international online participation)
 - [Outreach dashboard](#) is used for follow-up and coaching
 - Access to full participants list
 - Send e-mail to (a selection of) participants
 - Can remove participant
 - Close the registration (e.g. when capacity is reached)
- User registration:
 - Private or public: participant decides
- Built-in links to other platforms
 - For participants:
 - Link to project page:
 - e.g. on Wikipedia, Wikimedia Commons, or external
 - Wikimedia Commons Campaign upload
 - Link to (interactive) “chat” platform, to request help
 - For organisers:
 - Link to Outreach dashboard
 - Project and user statistics

Integrated with Outreach Dashboard

- Not standard visible for the participants
 - Could add the link on the project page
 - Could add the link to the event page
- When subscribing to Events on Meta:
 - Event & Campaigns Tool is registering the participant (in the background)
 - Wikipedia or other Wikimedia platform updates are registered
 - Monitor participant progress
 - Give advice & coaching opportunities
 - Download project (campaign, session) and participant statistics
- Public access possible (results) via external link
- Problem: <https://outreachdashboard.wmflabs.org> is not always available (retry later...)

Advantages for organisers

- Easy to use
- All info on one site
- International visibility
 - Support and enable global communities
 - Can be translated by others
 - Facilitates international online sessions
 - Due to timezones

Advantages for users

- Transparant
- Easy to use: one single “Participate” button
 - No OAuth required; using SUL (Single User Login)
 - Less confusing, less operational problems
- Integrated solution
 - No separate platform required
 - Dashboard registration is automatic
 - No OAuth required
- Polyglot
 - All info on one site
 - Multiple Wikipedias can participate (countries with multiple languages: Belgium, Switzerland, Canada)

Disadvantages

- Only available on Meta
 - User account creation on Meta; SUL reporting on Home page is “wrong”
- Can't create account on Wikipedia, unless manually
 - No Home Wiki?
- Participants need to click through to the project page
 - The Wikipedia project is not readily available from the standard event page
 - Possible link on event page
 - Could create a button on the event page
- Dashboard is only visible for the organiser
 - Participants could also benefit (put link on event page)

How to start?

- <https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Special:MyEvents>
- Create an Event:xxx page
 - Describe your event
 - Possibly translate it to other languages
 - Enable the registration button

Known problems

- Translation can be difficult:
 - Need to add <languages/> and <translate> ... </translate>
 - Needs an administrator to enable translation
 - Need special tag syntax (unit markers)
 - Need volunteers to translate
- Not related to the tool:
 - Translation can be desynchronised
- Tickets in Phabricator:
 - [Registration button disappears](#)
 - [Wrong start and end time](#)
 - [Unable to remove registration button](#)
 - [Unable to reactivate registration button](#)

Examples

- https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Event:Wiki_Loves_Heritage_Belgium
- https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Event:Wiki_Loves_Monuments_Belgium
- https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Event:Wikimedia_Belgium
 - Campaigns, programs, sessions can be organised in a tree
 - Based on partner/campaign, program, session

WMFdashboard

- Sometimes overloaded (Wikithons)
- There is no (real) hotline?
 - Same for Events tool
- [Talk page](#)

Missing functionality

- Under certain conditions the user registration button disappears
 - Should have the option to enable Event registration again via a side menu option

Future enhancements

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Resources

- [Meta](#)
- [MediaWiki](#)
- Phabricator:
 - <https://phabricator.wikimedia.org/tag/campaignevents/>
 - <https://phabricator.wikimedia.org/tag/campaign-tools/>
- [Video](#)

Author

Geert Van Pamel (Geertivp), Wikimedia Belgium

Presentation

- WikiconNL, 18 May 2024, Hilversum