

DE - Task #2984

Investigate German volunteering platforms

2019-09-30 15:49 - Mike Saunders

Status:	In Progress	Start date:	
Priority:	Normal	Due date:	
Assignee:	Mike Saunders	% Done:	0%
Category:			
Target version:	Recurring		
Description			
Ilmari has had success using VolunteerMatch to bring new people into the LibreOffice project, so let's try to recreate this on a local level. He has found some German volunteering platforms:			
https://www.youvo.org/ https://www.gute-tat.de/ https://vostel.de/de/ https://letsact.de/			
As they're in German, I will investigate and see what are usable, taking advice from Ilmari on the way.			

History

#1 - 2019-10-08 15:21 - Florian Effenberger

- Target version set to Q4/2019

Something to tackle in Q4, to start in early 2020, ahead of FOSDEM

#2 - 2019-10-14 15:19 - Mike Saunders

So I started investigating the sites last week, and here's a summary:

- https://www.youvo.org -- Lists very specific projects and the help required (eg designing flyers, or redesigning a website), mainly focusing on social causes. 512 projects listed.
- https://www.gute-tat.de -- Focuses on local (not online) activities, such as helping children and seniors.
- <https://vostel.de/de/> -- More local activities (helping refugees, people with limited vision, etc.), narrowed down by city. Over 10,000 volunteers have found projects there.
- https://letsact.de -- Focuses on an app, which puts people in touch with organisations and volunteers. Lots of local events (cooking, painting schools etc.). Claims to have 25,000+ users.

I would suggest trying the first site, youvo.org, as it already has various online opportunities for volunteering. We could post a few projects on there, and I can mentor volunteers (and/or get them on the German mailing lists if they need a lot of help).

Ilmari, any thoughts on ideal projects for newcomers? We'd like to redesign the website at some point, but that's a major job. Otherwise we could talk about:

- Organising local events / giving presentations at schools/universities etc. about LibreOffice
- Updating documentation (making German translations of missing stuff)

#3 - 2019-10-14 15:30 - Beluga Beluga

Mike Saunders wrote:

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Ok, so apparently Youvo is like Um sem um tam in Czechia.

Presentations might make most sense, if existing users are found through the site. But if someone has no previous experience and wants to learn by preparing a presentation, why not :)

Translations are certainly straightforward for this sort of thing and that's why raal started with those on Um sem um tam. I guess the wiki might be a place to find relevant content to translate (the UI and help seem to be in a pretty good shape for German). Guide books might be too huge? Or separate them as chapter per challenge.

I also have a script, which allows me to pick groups of bugs that need re-testing. These could be offered as specific efforts. This is being piloted at Um sem um tam currently.

#4 - 2020-01-14 15:20 - Florian Effenberger

- Target version changed from Q4/2019 to Q1/2020

Any update/next steps on this?

#5 - 2020-02-21 13:10 - Mike Saunders

I'll bring up this topic at the DE community meeting in March. Some of the websites require larger, specific projects (rather than just "jump in and give us a hand"), but maybe we can do something with them.

There's also <https://jugendhackt.org> -- Thorsten may know something about this, so I've pinged him.

#6 - 2020-02-24 10:25 - Mike Saunders

Re: Jugendhackt, Thorsten says:

Yeah we tried once IIRC with Bjoern to land a LibreOffice section there - we could revive that I guess, but it needs mentoring bandwidth and really cool ideas (it's a market of ideas - kids essentially pick their project). I guess the only really viable option is something with Python-Extensions.

#7 - 2020-06-15 15:58 - Mike Saunders

- Target version changed from Q1/2020 to Q2/2020

Last week I caught up a bit with this task and investigated some of the platforms again. I just sent my ideas to the German community mailing list: <http://document-foundation-mail-archive.969070.n3.nabble.com/Engagement-Plattform-Vorschlaege-und-Ideen-td4281506.html> -- Quick translation below. Once I get some feedback, I'll try setting up an account on one of the sites, and see if we can reach out to some volunteers.

Hello,

With VolunteerMatch we have won a few new participants for our projects. I would also like to do that here in the German speaking community -- that is, using online services that bring volunteers in contact with foundations / projects.

There are several of these websites, for example

- https://vostel.de/de/fuer_non_profits
- <https://www.youvo.org>
- <https://www.gute-tat.de>
- <https://letsact.de>

Does anyone here have any experience with these, or other ideas? I think the the first page (Vostel) is quite good for us. www.youvo.org also looks promising, but we need to find a specific project and help volunteers to achieve a goal.

Is there such a big project here in the DE project, which we want to implement?

Otherwise we could show via Vostel smaller tasks, like <https://de.libreoffice.org/community/get-involved/>

#8 - 2020-09-07 16:01 - Mike Saunders

- Target version changed from Q2/2020 to Q4/2020

Last week, I prepared a few tasks for volunteers, and have now applied to register at vostel.de. They're checking our application, and once that's done, we can start adding tasks. For many tasks, we'll need a contact point, but I'm happy to be that, and point people in the right direction (eg German mailing lists or Telegram) where necessary.

Goal is to have this up-and-running as soon as our application is accepted, and possibly another one or two volunteering platforms by the end of the year (so Q4 as deadline). After that it'll be a recurring task, of course.

#9 - 2020-09-18 10:23 - Mike Saunders

- Status changed from New to In Progress

First tasks online for Vostel:

https://vostel.de/de/volunteering/projects/2619_The-Document-Foundation_Uebersetzung-und-Marketing-von-freien-Software-fuer-alle-LibreOffice

At the moment, interested volunteers will contact me directly, so I'll get to know them personally, and then lead them in the appropriate direction (eg to the de-discuss@ mailing list).

I'll post this on the German list too, to get feedback and further ideas.

#10 - 2020-09-25 16:20 - Mike Saunders

I got some feedback via the German community, so I've updated our page on Vostel and blogged about it:

<https://de.blog.documentfoundation.org/2020/09/25/libreoffice-auf-vostel-de/> – Also posted on social media.

#11 - 2020-11-13 11:22 - Mike Saunders

No volunteers from Vostel yet, but Ilmari and I have a call with the team at <https://purposed.org> - a new volunteering platform in Germany - next week. So let's see what they offer.

#12 - 2020-11-18 16:16 - Mike Saunders

A couple of updates:

- Ilmari and I just had a call with Simon Kohrs from Purposed, a "digital engagements" platform focused on corporate volunteering, that's due to launch in January. They are seven people who decided to start a platform because of Corona, and already have some businesses on board. We discussed how this could be a good way to get volunteers in LibreOffice who want to build up specific skills. We explained some of the different tasks we have, and we'll have a follow-up call in December.
- Meanwhile, I've had contact via Vostel -- someone wants to help with translations. I'll start to onboard her and introduce her to the community.

#13 - 2021-02-04 15:03 - Mike Saunders

- Target version changed from Q4/2020 to Q1/2021

Update: the lady we got via Vostel was very helpful with translating blog posts. She also tried to get involved in the LO UI translating project but found it difficult to get support from other EN-DE translators, so that's something we need to improve.

I will look at updating our tasks on Vostel and spreading the word again, and also look at some of the other platforms.

#14 - 2021-03-16 12:17 - Mike Saunders

- Target version changed from Q1/2021 to Recurring

We've had a new contact via Vostel, so I'm talking to the person and will arrange a call/video chat to help onboard him.

This is a long-term task, so setting as recurring for now.