

# **Microgrants 2020/2021**

**Final Report of the Microgrants Committee**

**Hanna Krüger**

# Microgrants Committee

- was found by the board in spring 2020
- committee members were chosen by board
  - Christopher Beddow (Head of the committee, elected by members)
  - Janet Chapman
  - Clifford Snow
  - Hanna Krüger
  - Geoffrey Kateregga
- Joost Schouppe served as an advisor
- Craig Allan was the observer of the committee

# Microgrants Policy Framework<sup>1</sup>

- defined by board in advance
- maximum grant budget in total 50,000 €, max. 10 project
- criteria for the projects
  - max budget: 5,000 €
  - max duration: 12 month
  - individual or group projects, OSMF members and OSM volunteers only
  - proposals should be discussed with the community

<sup>1</sup>[https://wiki.osmfoundation.org/wiki/Microgrants/Policy\\_Framework](https://wiki.osmfoundation.org/wiki/Microgrants/Policy_Framework)

# Budget Spending Criteria

- paid work for open-source outcome
  - software development, design work, teaching & coaching, documentation & translation
  - no traditional paid mapping or prizes for mapping
- mapping equipment (with small personal benefit)
- merchandise
- (events)
- unlikely to be accepted: travel costs, scholarships, hosting & server hardware, (single large events)

# Work of the Committee

- development of an application form
- call for application (April 19th - May 10th 2020)
- supervision and support of the application process and the community discussion
- pre-evaluation of the applications under the following criteria
  - general criteria: submitted on time, only OSM volunteers
  - meets minimum requirements defined in framework
  - impact and feasibility (score 1-3)
- selection of the funded projects
- supervision and support of the grant projects
  - mainly organizing bank transfer, reminding and helping with reports

# Projects

Name	Status	Comment
Leaflets to Promot OSM	Completed	open source issue
Tactile Maps	Completed	COVID delay
Free Video Tutorial	Delinquent	no response, no reports
OSM Ireland Building	Completed	successful, very good reports
StreetComplete	Completed	in time, very good reports
Teaching OSM in Albania	Delayed	long term COVID cases in project
Mapping in Kosovo	Completed	finished earlier due to COVID
Mapping Nairobi's Informal Settelments	Completed	communication problems could be solved
HIV Facilities Mapping in Philippines	Completed	slow progress, many reminder necessary
Mapping Uganda	Completed	very successful for whole local community
Road Completion Project	Completed	in time, very good reports and documentation
OpenStreetMap Calendar	Completed	in time, very good reports

# Suggestions for the framework revision

- explicit definition of terms like „traditional paid mapping“, „beneficiaries“, „merchandise and give aways“, „small personal benefit“, etc.
- chose only one or two caps: 10 projects, 50.000 € total budget, 5.000 € per project
- define a process for dealing with conflicts of interests
- consider a further definition of „involving the community“
  - aim/reason for involving community, community voting, public and private parts of the process
- two separate types of grants: software and community project
- stricter rules for buying equipment from grant money (e.g. equipment catalog, function after project end)
- consider way to reclaim unused funds

# Advices for the next microgrants committee

- don't use the OSM Wiki for submitting applications, community feedback and reports
- consider having project presentation of promising projects
- announce new founding round 2+ month before the application
- keep a short application window (2 weeks)
- create a template for the community feedback
- consider involving the local chapters for nomination or endorsements of projects