

OpenStreetMap á Íslandi

OpenStreetMap Foundation Board - Local Chapter Iceland presentation

May 21st 2020

Who am I

- ▶ Jóhannes Birgir Jensson, programmer, chairman of OSM Iceland
- ▶ Open Source and Open Knowledge enthusiast:
 - ▶ Wikimedian since 2005, admin on Icelandic projects
 - ▶ Project Gutenberg contributor, currently inactive
 - ▶ Distributed Proofreaders contributor, currently inactive
- ▶ First edited OSM in 2009 - my street was wrong, username Stalfur
 - ▶ <http://hdyc.neis-one.org/?Stalfur>
- ▶ Returned in 2012 after being contacted due to license changes
- ▶ Became active in 2013, completing streets, buildings and addresses in hometown Kópavogur (population 35 thousand, largest town)
- ▶ Made very minor contributions on GitHub and Transifex in various OSM projects
- ▶ Work for a government organization, the Environmental Protection Agency of Iceland / Umhverfisstofnun since June 2015

OSM Activity in Iceland

- ▶ 65 users changed the map for the last 2 months
 - ▶ At least half local users judging by usernames
- ▶ Low number as tourists have been very active contributors before
 - ▶ Country is opening up after containing COVID-19
 - ▶ Received over 2 million tourists per year, in a population of 350 thousand
- ▶ Map is solid - roads and addresses near-complete, buildings growing ever numerous
 - ▶ Some 3d buildings work, examples
 - ▶ Hallgrímskirkja <https://demo.f4map.com/#lat=64.1417945&lon=-21.9268071&zoom=18&camera.theta=70.546&camera.phi=178.086>
 - ▶ Smárar <https://demo.f4map.com/#lat=64.1024577&lon=-21.8911350&zoom=16&camera.theta=58.465&camera.phi=28.075>
- ▶ Bicycling enthusiasts very active
 - ▶ Bicycles allowed on sidewalks, so they are usually mapped as separate paths because many routing engines assume sidewalks are out of bounds

OSM Iceland

- ▶ Founded in 2013 as Hliðskjálfr, advocating for free and open geographical data
- ▶ Became first local chapter of OSM in January 2015, as OpenStreetMap á Íslandi (subsidiary name)
- ▶ Got local entity Já.is (phone directory service) to make their 360° street view images available for OSM editing
- ▶ Assisted Apple Maps in finishing up import of street addresses from official open sources
- ▶ Presented various facets of OpenStreetMap at local GIS conferences
- ▶ Advocated for government sources to clarify license of data and make compatible with OpenStreetMap
- ▶ Outreach in Botswana, liaising with locals, <http://openstreetmap.org.bw/>
- ▶ Created basic tools to assist with data quality
 - ▶ Farms/estates in Iceland, example: <http://osm.hlidskjalf.is/logbyli.php?s=a>
 - ▶ Settlements worldwide, example: <http://osm.hlidskjalf.is/settlements.php?idc=105®ion=Kgalagadi%20District>

State of the Maps - Iceland

- ▶ Google Maps is quite good
- ▶ Local service Já.is better than Google Maps, proprietary data
- ▶ Local service provider Samsýn very good, proprietary data
- ▶ Apple Maps is very good (very OSM derived)
- ▶ Crowded field in maps - the acute need our colleagues in some countries have isn't present
- ▶ Road data is split between the Road Authority (Vegagerðin) and the municipalities - no one entity but OSM has all the road data freely available in a combined way
- ▶ GIS community is quite small - fewer hands to do the more complex work (protected areas cover over 20% of total land area and an increase is planned)

OSM Iceland opportunities

- ▶ GIS community is quite small - personal contact in smoothing out licenses and data distribution is both a plus and a minus
 - ▶ Já.is first contact for 360° imagery unsuccessful
 - ▶ 2nd degree contact (know someone who knows someone) made it a success
 - ▶ In my official work capacity I'm a part of the governmental GIS consultation group
- ▶ Iceland is implementing INSPIRE voluntarily - making official data sets as open as possible and later standardizing alongside our INSPIRE counterparts
- ▶ Government organizations as well as others make use of OSM - road network is vital cog in many places
 - ▶ Realize better the benefits of contributing their own data
- ▶ Very high technical proficiency of the public
 - ▶ Internet connections are high speed, both at work, home and mobile, 98,24% are on the Internet (#4 in World)
 - ▶ Gadget friendly, apps and devices doing GPX traces are very numerous (Strava, Garmin etc)