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EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND PLATFORMS ON OPENSTREETMAP: MAKING OPEN DATA MORE ACCESSIBLE

Michael Montani, *United Nations Global Service Center (UNGSC)*
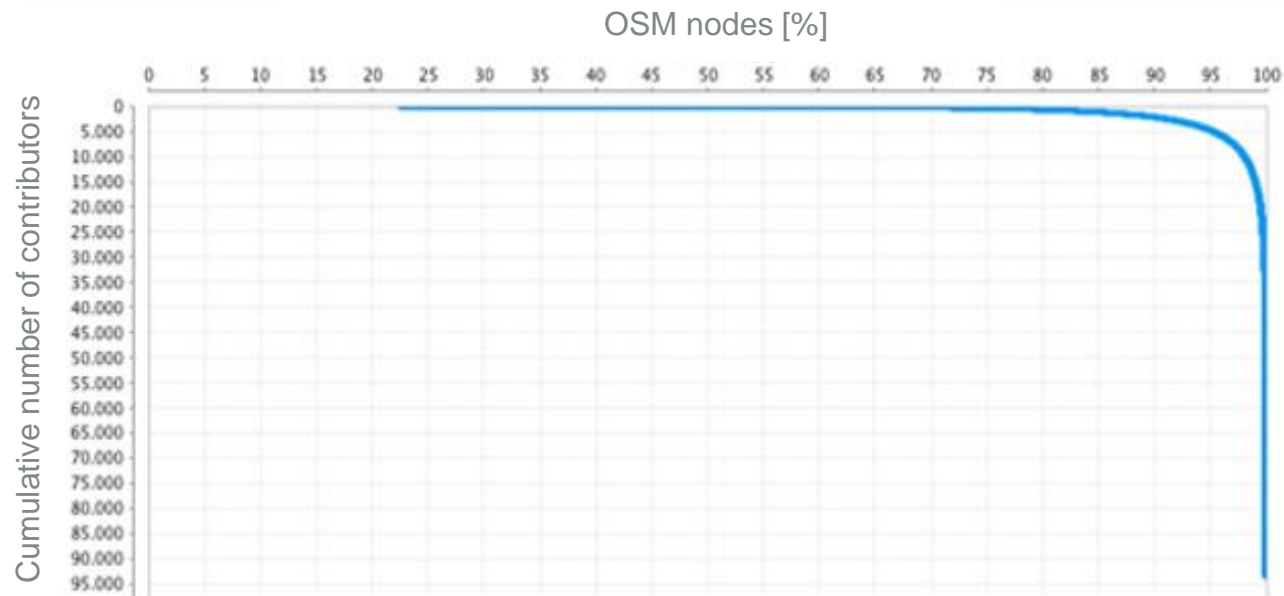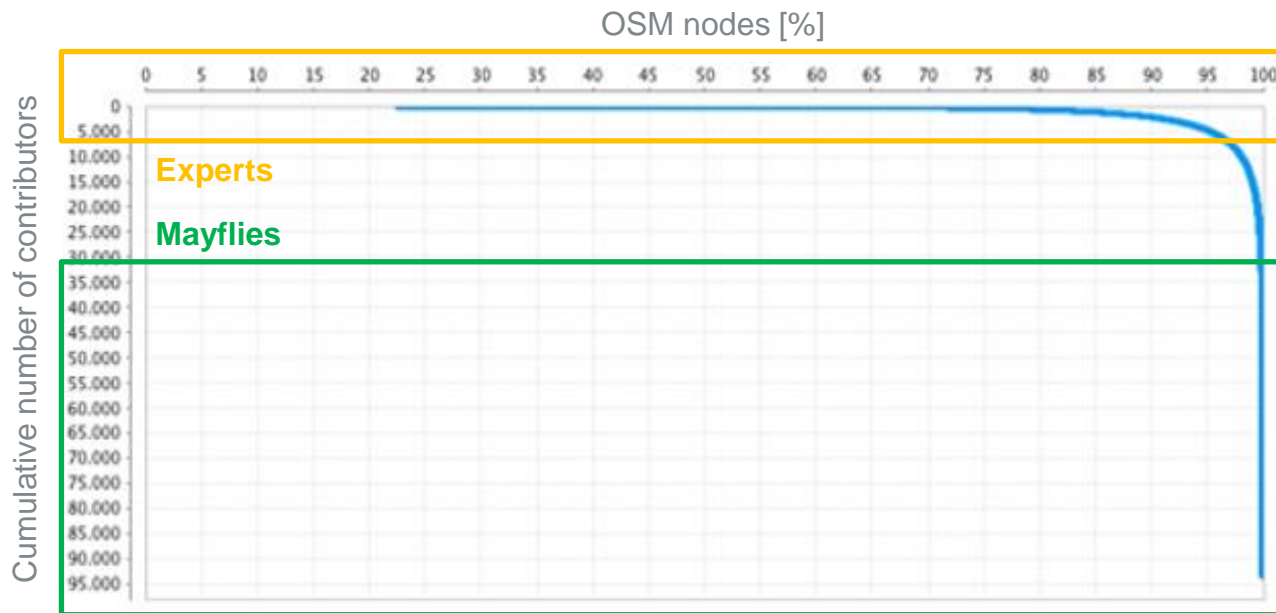
State of the Map 2022,
August 20th

An intrinsic problem in collaborative projects

The power law distribution

OSM nodes [%]

An intrinsic problem in collaborative projects
The power law distribution

OSM nodes [%]

Cumulative number of contributors

Experts

Mayflies

- Data is maintained by a **small, expert** pool of contributors;

  - **Train** the contributors
    (create new experts)
  - **Grow** the community base
    (catch the experts)
  - **Diversify** the community
    (find the experts)

- **Small world effect…**

High quality data comes only from well educated mappers

Behaviours in citizen science

Efficiency in accomplishing the task

Satisfaction of the individual

Complexity of the task

Education and community
Not only a matter of data, it is a matter of people

- The end goal is always to **train the trainers**

- We don't want to have mappers that know only how to edit simple features, but nothing about the OSM ecosystem (best practices, procedures, data model…)

- The same holds for corporate editors (e.g. organised editing guidelines, attribution).
It may be the professional was never exposed to all this!

- We want to overcome accessibility barriers: language and infrastructure

- This leads to an **healthier environment** and **stronger communities**.

Some examples of incentives

Certificates, recognition and platforms

UN Maps Learning Hub

https://mappers.un.org/learning

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Panelists for this session

Stefan Keller (remote)
OST Eastern Switzerland University
of Applied Sciences

Severin Menard
UN Mappers, Les Libres
Geographes

Jess Beutler
OSM US, TeachOSM

Benjamin Herfort
HeiGIT

Nuala Cowan
The World Bank, YouthMappers,
TeachOSM

Panelists (special mention)

Madalina Ionescu
EuYoutH OSM, weeklyOSM

Nathalie Sidibé
OSM Mali

Discussion points

- Current offer of OSM training materials and platforms (on-site and remote trainings, material and platforms)

- Increase knowledge base of volunteers

- Facilitate OSM trainings in underdeveloped areas (including translation of educational material, provision of platforms)

- Standardization of OSM educational material for adoption e.g. in universities

- Why do you train a mapper? What is your goal? Do you want only to train people or you want to educate them? *(Madalina)*

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THANKS!