

2.3 Working with the HOT Tasking Manager

This section provides:

- An overview of the HOT Tasking Manager, including presentation slides
- Step-by-step instructions for getting started with the HOT Tasking Manager

The following materials are designed to assist project managers and others leading trainings and workshops. If you are an individual interested in learning how to map with OpenStreetMap, please visit LearnOSM.org.

Overview

The HOT Tasking Manager is a mapping tool designed and built for the Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team's collaborative mapping process in OpenStreetMap. The purpose of the tool is to divide up a mapping project into smaller tasks that can be completed rapidly with many people working on the same overall area. It shows which areas need to be mapped and which areas need the mapping validated.

For information on Managing and Creating Projects on the HOT Tasking Manager, fill out a form here, <http://bit.ly/TaskManagers>, to receive training and permissions to become a TM Project Manager.

Resources and Training Materials

This section features a selection of resources targeted at project managers, trainers, or even self-learners on the topic(s) outlined above.

The following presentation(s) can be used to lead a training or workshop.

- Introduction to HOT Tasking Manager

The following section is designed to serve as self-paced material that can be used both during trainings, and by self-guided learners.

Getting Started with Tasking Manager

Skills and Technology Needed

- Computer
- Internet connection
- OSM account

Head to the HOT Tasking Manager website: <https://tasks.hotosm.org/>. To sign in, click on the 'Log in' button in the top right corner of the page. Once you click on the login button a popup will appear with the OpenStreetMap login form. Please enter your OSM username and password.

If this is the first time you are logging into Tasking Manager with your OSM username and password from the device you are using, an authorisation message will appear. Click 'Grant Access' so that your OSM login details will sync to the Tasking Manager. You will notice that your username now displays in the upper right hand corner of the page.

Finding a Project

The 'Explore Projects' button along the top of the Tasking Manager will display a list of current mapping projects as shown below:

Each project listed will describe:

1. The urgency of the project

2. The project number and name - this will often include the location, the type of humanitarian response, and the focus feature being mapped
3. Any important information e.g. type of mapper needed / experience level
4. A description of the project
5. The organization requesting the project
6. The category of the project
7. The level of experience a mapper needs to contribute
8. The percentage of the project mapped so far (dark grey in the progress bar)
9. The percentage of the project validated so far (red in the progress bar)
10. The total number of contributors

If you have a specific project to contribute to, you can search for it in the sidebar to the left of your screen. You can search by:

- Project name or number
- Level of mapping difficulty
- Organization
- Campaign
- Location
- Type of mapping (features being mapped)

You can also view the list of projects on the map. You can switch the map on and off by selecting the toggle in the upper right hand side. Projects are clustered together on the map into circles which display the number of projects in a particular area.

You can zoom into an area to view a breakdown of projects in a particular region.

Selecting a Project

Once you have decided which project you want to map, you can click on a tile to open a project page. This page provides specific details on the project objectives and requirements.

Underneath the project description you will see a series of icons. The bold icons indicate which entities to map (which features e.g. buildings, roads).

Once you select 'Contribute' more detailed instructions are provided, with specific guidelines (mapping notes). The Project Specific Mapping Notes section gives detailed instructions on the imagery to use, how to trace specific features, and how to tag features.

Mapping features which are the focus point of the project are explained in further detail underneath the Project Specific Mapping Needs. These feature specifications will describe common tags used for each main feature and provide tips for mapping that feature.

The overview map on the right-hand side of the project you have selected is split into squares which are colour coded dependent on the completion of the mapping in that square. The colours represent the following:

- White: a tile is ready to be mapped and needs to be completed
- Blue: a tile has been mapped and is ready to be validated
- Yellow: a tile has been invalidated. This could be because an area was not fully mapped or multiple errors need to be corrected
- Green: a tile has been validated. This means that the mapping in this area has been quality checked, edited if necessary, and approved. Validators will leave comments next to a tile to show the changes they have made
- Grey: a tile has been marked as having bad imagery
- Black padlock: a tile is locked by another user
- Red padlock: a tile is locked by you

Click on a white tile to begin mapping an area that is in need of mapping. When you click on a white tile the outline of the square will turn bold and the button in the lower right hand corner will display 'Map selected task'.

Prior to selecting a task you may also click 'Map a task', this will allocate one randomly to you. You can also specify the editor you will be using. Select 'JOSM' or 'iD Editor' from the popup list before you start mapping.

Additional Resources

- [OSM Tasking Manager Wiki](#)
- [Learn How to Use the Tasking Manager](#)
- [Two Minute Tutorials: How to use the OSM Tasking Manager](#)