Kubectx and Kubens – Command line Utilities

You have had to work on several different namespaces in the prod environments. You also had to switch between several contexts (clusters).

In a real "live" kubernetes cluster implemented for production, there could be a possibility of often switching between a large number of namespaces and clusters.

This can quickly become and confusing and overwhelming task if you had to rely on kubectl alone.

This is where command line tools such as kubectx and kubens come in to picture.

Reference: https://github.com/ahmetb/kubectx

Kubectx

With this tool, you don't have to make use of lengthy "kubectl config" commands to switch between contexts.

This tool is particularly useful to switch context between clusters in a multi-cluster environment.

Installation:

```
sudo git clone https://github.com/ahmetb/kubectx /opt/kubectx
sudo ln -s /opt/kubectx/kubectx /usr/local/bin/kubectx
```

Syntax:

- To list all contexts:

```
kubectx
```

- To switch to a new context:

```
kubectx <context_name>
```

- To switch back to previous context:

```
kubectx -
```

- To see current context:

```
kubectx -c
```

Kubens

This tool allows users to switch between namespaces quickly with a simple command.

Installation:

```
sudo git clone https://github.com/ahmetb/kubectx /opt/kubectx
sudo ln -s /opt/kubectx/kubens /usr/local/bin/kubens
```

Syntax:

- To switch to a new namespace:

```
kubens <new_namespace>
```

- To switch back to previous namespace:

```
kubens -
```