

Dear [name](#),

We are a team of researchers studying the sustainability of open source software (OSS) communities. Nowadays, increasing companies are participating in the development of OSS project by assigning employees to pursue their business interests. Knowing the characteristics of different sources of contributors (e.g., volunteers and paid developers) in OSS communities can benefit the governance of OSS projects. Our research aims to understand these issues, which we hope will help communities to reflect and improve for their long-term sustainability.

We contact you to invite you to participate in a very short survey with 8 questions focused on the Rust community. Participation in this survey takes about 5 minutes of your time. We value your time and in appreciation of your feedback, we will donate US \$5 to Rust. We will share the findings once we finish our report. ***Your information will keep anonymous and only be used for research.***

1. Data validation: please indicate whether the following randomly selected commits were made by you, and whether the company you belong to is right or not (this is for validating the correctness of the analyzed data):

[https://github.com/rust-lang/rust/commit/hash\\_id](https://github.com/rust-lang/rust/commit/hash_id)

Yes | No | Not Sure

During this period, you are hired by [Company](#) to work on Rust.

Yes | No | Not Sure

2. Perspectives: please think about the characteristics of both volunteers and paid developers and answer the following related questions (all the hypotheses are compared with volunteers):

(H1) Paid developers may have closer time intervals between the serials of contributed commits. Does it match your perception of what happened in Rust?

A. very likely B. likely C. hard to tell D. highly unlikely E. unlikely

Could you explain your choice?

(H2) Paid developers may contribute bigger chunks of code in commits. Does it match your perception of what happened in Rust?

A. very likely B. likely C. hard to tell D. highly unlikely E. unlikely

Could you explain your choice?

(H3) Paid developers may prefer to implement features instead of fixing bugs and improving non-functional attributes when contributing to the development of Rust. Does it match your perception of what happened in Rust?

A. very likely B. likely C. hard to tell D. highly unlikely E. unlikely

Could you explain your choice?

(H4) Paid developers and volunteers are less likely to collaborate on the same code modules or files than other paid developers. Does it match your perception of what happened in Rust?

A. very likely B. likely C. hard to tell D. highly unlikely E. unlikely

Could you explain your choice?

(H5) Paid developers may have a smaller probability of becoming long-term contributors (namely, staying for a relatively long time and making significant contributions) in Rust. Does it match your perception of what happened in Rust?

A. very likely B. likely C. hard to tell D. highly unlikely E. unlikely

Could you explain your choice?

3. Suggestions: Do you have any suggestions for these paid developers (and companies) for participating in OSS?

We are happy to share the results when we finish our report. Please leave your preferred email address: (will only be used for sending a report)

We are grateful for your time!

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