Bitcoin.org Activity Report

2014-03-01 – 2014-06-01

Summary :

- The last 3 months have been especially focused on assisting new contributors to help the project. This provided nice results, with significant improvements in translations, regular events updates and new extensive developer documentation.

- Bitcoin.org also became the new home for Bitcoin Core binaries which leaded to many security improvements, and the website continued to receive numerous other improvements and fixes as usual.

Major Projects :

- Built a completely new developer documentation section for the Bitcoin protocol.

- There are now literally billions of people on Earth that can arrive on bitcoin.org and view it automatically by default in their own native language. A large effort has been underway with more than 500 contributors and paid professionals:

  - Arabic
  - Dutch
  - French
  - German
  - Hungarian
  - Indonesian
  - Korean
  - Portuguese (Brazil)
  - Romanian
  - Slovenian
  - Spanish
  - Chinese (China)
  - Hindi
  - Russian
  - Bulgarian
  - Italian
  - Japanese
  - Swedish
  - Turkish
  - Polish

Changes in the team :

- Garland William Binns joins the project! He is now managing translations and keeping events up to date. He received coordinator access to the Transifex account.

- David Harding joins the project! He is now writing technical documentation and he received push access to the GitHub repository.

- We have more responsive language coordinators than before.

Improvements :

- Write scripts to speed up translation updates, previews, testing and reviews.

- Display a map of events using Meetup API and events submitted on bitcoin.org .

- Improve efficiency of the event plugin by automatically removing old events.

- Update events' list on a regular basis.

- Update non-profits' list on a regular basis.

- Update / Re-order core developers list.

- Update wallets icons.

- Help improving the new WeUseCoins script, update the video on the main page and assist WeUseCoins in coordinating subtitles translations.

- Improve description of « full Bitcoin clients » to better promote the benefits and encourage users to run full nodes. (written with the help of Trace Mayer)

- Assist developers with publishing new Bitcoin Core releases, check signatures and fix any issues with the download page (broken links, new 64bit builds..).

- Assist developers with publishing the heartbleed alert page.

- Update Bitcoin Core name (from Bitcoin-QT) in all texts and translations.

- Publish full Bitcoin Core version notes, and import previously missing version notes.

- Add more open-source projects to the development page.

- Add links to relevant local resources for some languages.

- Write a more accurate disclaimer about the risks of using online services.

- Host and update block chain torrent files for full nodes (with the help of Jeff Garzik).

- Review and add BitGo / GreenAddress to the wallets list.

- Provide visibility to BitLegal.io for up-to-date legal information for each jurisdiction.

- Update outdated translations layout and styles and drop old unused layouts.

- Update the menu to automatically scale with increasing number of languages.

- Normalize urls between all translations with fallback redirections.

- Add a print CSS stylesheet for optimized printing.

- Improve project build instructions and dependencies.

- Update RTL (Right to left) styles for upcoming Arabic translation update.

- Provide improved guidelines for contributors (how to contribute, how to use GitHub / Transifex, how to submit events, etc.).

- ...And many others (Style improvements, GitHub API changes, script bugs, improve build performance, server caching performances, CSS minification, sitemap, etc).

Security enhancements :

- Host bitcoin.org on a dedicated server with HTTPS and HSTS.

- Move binaries from sourceforge to bitcoin.org (HTTPS, no ads)

- Isolate binaries on a separate virtual directory (so they cannot be modified by compromising access to the GitHub repository)

- Fix Heartbleed bug and renew certificate.

- Fix issues preventing server automatic security updates from being installed.

- Build script to monitor sensitive data on the website with email alerts.

- Move security mailing list link from translations to the layout, to prevent attackers from attempting to hijack the url in translations.

- Isolate jekyll build process with a low-privilege user and fix server files permissions, to greatly limit damages and prevent IP leaks if the GitHub repository is compromised.

Where did the money go?

Foundation's sponsorship (total)	12108,99642 mBTC
Server hosting expenses	-1480,99461 mBTC
Translation bounties and salaries	-6770,36726 mBTC
Developer documentation	-444,54400 mBTC
What's left (so far)	3413,09055 mBTC

A good number of bounties or translation salaries will continue to be paid. Most active contributors are discussing how the remaining bitcoins should be split.

Some stats

For security reasons, bitcoin.org does not currently have decent stats beside internal server logs. However according to these logs, between 1 to 2 million unique visitors are using the site every months. Providing public stats from this data is part of our future goals.

Future goals

- **Public stats**

It has been requested we provide public download stats like sourceforge. Stats can also help us better target where our effort are worth, as well as to encourage contributors to continue helping the project. Providing static files stats, anonymizing / not leaking IP addresses and not weakening bitcoin.org's security are the main challenges.

- **New improved wallet page**

It has been requested we provide a more transparent layout better demonstrating the good and bad sides of all types of wallets. Hardware wallets might also soon be worth promoting and displaying. Displaying « defaut » wallets choice is a disputed matter. Providing screenshots also have been suggested. Upgrades to the wallet page therefore need to be submitted and discussed until there's a rough consensus.

- **Developer examples**

Current developer documentation is only a beginning and many improvements can be expected. One of the most important ones is the developer cookbook, which should provide useful code samples and examples.

- **Adding new translations**

Adding new languages continues to be a very important step forward decentralization, promoting Bitcoin and giving a fair access to information to everyone. We are still far from reaching the full potential of translations. We are now beginning to have an efficient, good quality and not-so-costly working process with freelance paid professionals, as well as active translators in the community.

Thank you for your sponsorship and your support of our work!