Job Specifications for the Wikipedian in Residence

The Project

The stated objectives of the grant which the WiR will work towards, using a training course to achieve are as follows:

- Train at least 10 librarians each in 30 countries in Africa to understand Wikipedia as a veritable resource for dissemination of information and a teaching tool that promotes quality education thereby increasing access to the resource and serving their user communities better.

- Train African librarians to be able to evaluate the quality and reliability of individual articles, edit and create content of local and personal interest on Wikipedia with laid down benchmarks for quality and relevance.

- Train librarians to teach their user communities to use and contribute to Wikipedia by taking them through the editorial processes and quality standards of the resource. As part of the online training, librarians will be encouraged and supported to physically run Wikipedia programmes in their libraries as community projects or assignments integrating what was taught (eg. Friendly Space policies) in the course with feedback pathways on the teaching platform to assist the facilitators to know the outcomes of the programmes.

- Nurture relationships between Wikipedia communities in Africa with libraries. This is expected to lead to collaborations with librarians during and after the life-cycle of the project.

Skills we would like you to have

- Effective writing, and communication skills in English
- Experience communicating with librarians, or working with library audiences
- Experience designing and providing effective training on Wikipedia, digital research or similar digital skills, especially for adult learners
- Experience with community organizing or facilitating professional-public collaboration

It would be even better if you had

- Experience doing training, communication or other activities with libraries in the African context
- Experience with facilitating digital training and using digital platforms and tools like Moodle, Blackboard, etc
- Experience with evaluating learning needs

- Deep hands on experience with Wikipedia editing and Wikimedia communities, especially in in the African context
- Multilingual, with language skills in French or Portuguese
- Experience working with the Wikimedia communities in Africa

What we would like you to do in the project:

Therefore, the job specifications of the WiR will be to:

1. Work with a curriculum development expert to adapt existing OCLC curriculum (*Wikipedia + Libraries: Better Together*), modules/instructional design and training materials and make them suitable for African librarians.
   a. An example could be infusing activities of WikiAfrica projects and programs into the curriculum as examples and assignments.
   b. Also, considering that live online classes could be problematic due to Internet challenges in the continent, the WiR would need to adapt such lessons in the OCLC content and record them so that the participants could access within stipulated time frame.
   c. The WiR will also integrate the pre-training evaluation results into adapting the OCLC materials to ensure that the instructional design fits in with the digital capacities of African librarians (i.e. adding components focused on skills like. finding reliable sources in the African context.).
   d. Coordinating a needs-based assessment to include previous learning from the African Wikimedia community into the curriculum

2.   Develop Reflection/Feedback sections to be integrated into every module to enable the project team to feel the pulse of the participants for each module (including assignments done) that may lead to necessary adjustments in other modules yet to be accessed.

3.   Develop reflections/quick exercises to ensure practicality from the Wikimedia standpoint.

4.   Coordinate with the AfLIA team to deploy a training plan from the adapted materials with clear timelines and appropriate exercises based on the content of each module. The plan will be used to upload the training materials to AfLIA's Moodle platform.

5.   Develop publicity materials about the value and importance of Wikipedia in information dissemination and research as well as those that will make librarians curious and ready to be part of the upcoming training programming.

6.   Submit the training materials with timelines, grading plan and publicity materials to the Executive Director, AfLIA by 30th October 2020 to enable the French and Portuguese translations to be made and all the versions to be uploaded on the Moodle platform by 30th December, 2020.

7.   Creating connections or partnerships with existing Wikimedia affiliates to provide an immersive experience (mentorship and support opportunities) after completion of curriculum.

8.   Coordinate a subcommittee for outreach design

9.   Run/facilitate a training course with the adapted materials deployed on AfLIA's Moodle platform for **2 Cohorts with each running for a period of 12weeks for a minimum of 300** African librarians.

10.   For each Cohort, create ten focus groups among the course participants in ten different African countries who will be monitored closely and used as case studies of what worked and what did not work within the training and impact of Wikipedia in their user communities.

11.   Connect course participants to Wikipedia communities in their different countries.

12.   Assist to play a central role in helping library participants understand how to cultivate relationships with local Wikipedians in their own communities

13.   Organise at least two Wikimedia outreaches /edithatons - one for the participants of the course and another during the May 2021 AfLIA conference in Accra.

14.   Submit a report of the training course midway and at the end of the program.

15.   Work with the evaluators where necessary in reaching the course participants.