

開放七月，維基南非— Wikimania 2018於開普敦會議紀行

開放の7月、ウィキペディア・南アフリカーウィキマニア2018ケープタウン會議紀行
Travel to South Africa for Open Knowledge Movement: Wikimania 2018 in Cape Town

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2018年3月19至7月23日，是維基媒體國際社群最大的年度盛事「維基媒體國際會議」（以下簡稱Wikimania）的舉行時間。今次會議對於台灣有兩大特別之處，一是出席人數十分踴躍，共8位台灣的參與者，是Wikimania共14年舉行以來，台灣參與人數第三高的紀錄，僅次於2007年在台灣舉行、以及2013年香港舉行的會議；二是本次會議的主題聚焦在如何提升維基媒體運動於知識上的多樣化相關討論，包含如何降低相關的技術或社群門檻、南島語系各個語言間的合作發展、以及國際上其他方言或小語言的個案分享，也與台灣族語維基發展緊密連結。

本次榮幸受原教界邀稿，筆者將以多年來加入維基媒體運動、參加過5場Wikimania的個人經驗，簡介本年會發展對於維基媒體運動的歷史脈絡、分享會議特色、以及開普敦會議對於台灣族語維基發展而言，值得持續關注或合作的人事物。

Wikimania, the largest annual event in Wikimedia community, was hosted on 19 to 23 July 2018. This time, the conference is special for Taiwan for two reasons. First, the participants' number is high, totally eight participants, which makes this Wikimania the third highest number of participants from Taiwan in the past 14 years. The number is only after the 2007 Wikimania in Taiwan, and 2013 Wikimania in Hong Kong. Second, the main themes of this Wikimania focus on how to increase the diversity of Knowledge across the Wikimedia movement, including how to close the technical or cultural gap, the development of Austronesian languages, as well as the case studies of dialects or small languages around the globe. All of them are closely related to the local Taiwanese Aboriginal Wikipedias.

I am honored to be invited by the "Aboriginal Education World" to contribute this article. This article will focus on my experience in the Wikimedia movement, the personal participation to 5 different Wikimanias, some historical context and features of this Wikimania, and also the people or trends that worthwhile to follow for the development of Taiwanese Aboriginal Wikimedia movement.

Wikimania: 14 years of evolution

The origin of Wikimania should be traced back to the emerging popularity of Wikipedia. It was 15, January 2001, the English Wikipedia first deployed online. Then contributors from Europe have started to participate proactively; especially the German Wikipedia

Wikimania十四年的發展過程

Wikimania的起源，得追溯到維基百科的盛行。自2001年1月15日維基百科英文版上線後，歐洲的維基志士也積極地響應，尤其德文版的維基百科社群十分活躍，但多年的志願貢獻，他們發覺儘管維基百科的線上影響力日漸增加，但在實際的德國社會上卻缺乏代表性的團體組織，使得沒有編寫的一般大眾無法了解維基百科背後知識生產的樣貌。為了更順利的推廣百科的開放編寫，德國維基社群於2004年成立了全球第一個跟美國維基媒體基金會合作關係的維基媒體德國分會(Wikimedia Deutschland)，隨即也在2005年舉行了維基的第一個國際年會。

此次會議是全球第一場的國際維基人會議，當時共有380個來自世界各地的維基人聚集於德國法蘭克福，共3天、最多同時有五軌議程同時進行。之後每年全球的維基人都十分期待在Wikimania與各國的維基人相聚、探討相關議題。

Wikimania發展至今已14屆，到了現在大概的規模和形式可以說已經有個類似的型態：會議每年在世界各地的城市輪流舉辦、在每年7月到8月之間舉行、每次的參與人數大約在4百人到近2千人、而正式會議共有3天，多是在週五到週日，但在這3天前後也會有不少維基人自願組織各式各樣與維基相關的「會前會（pre-conference）」或「會後會（post-conference）」活動，像是討論技術為



在開普敦年會閉幕式，東亞與東南亞地區維基人與維基百科創辦人合照。左起依序為上官良治、林士涵、Jimmy Wales、鄭承欣、Kang-Cheol Lee、Josh Lim。(圖片來源：林士涵)

At the closing ceremony for the Wikimania 2018/Cape Town, the Wikimedians from East and Southeast Asia took photos with the founder of Wikipedia. Left to right: ShangKuan Liang-chih, Shih-han Lin, Jimmy Wales, Cheng-hsin Cheng, Kang-Cheol Lee, and Josh Lim. (Photo credit: Shih-han Lin)

community is outstandingly involved. However, after years of voluntary contribution, they found out that the online impact of Wikipedia keeps increasing every day, but there is no organization as a representation in the German society. The general public who may not have contributed personally has no clue to understand the way of knowledge production in Wikipedia. To better promote the crowd-sourcing encyclopedia, German Wikimedia community founded Wikimedia Deutschland, the first-ever legal entity within Wikimedia movement to partner with Wikimedia Foundation in the US, and also hosted the first Wikimania in 2005.

The conference is the first international Wikimedians gathering in the world. There were totally over 380 participants coming to Frankfurt, Germany. There were 3 days and top to 5 tracks of sessions in the event. After this, Wikipedians around the world all looked forward to meeting and discussing issues with other Wikimedians in Wikimania every year.

There are totally 14 Wikimanias to this day, and generally, the scale and format are pretty consistent. The place of hosting takes turns in the cities all around the world, and the date is set mostly in July or August, while the participants are from four hundred to two thousand people. The core conference lasts for three days, from Friday to Sunday. Plus, there are many self-organized and Wikimedia related

主的「黑客松 (hackathon)」、數位化珍貴文件的「掃描松 (scanathon)」，或如「學習日 (learning day)」這類維基技術或組織增能的培訓活動。

本次Wikimania重要議題

由上述說明可以了解，Wikimania就類似Google的IO大會、Facebook的F8會議、或是Apple的WWDC會議……它是維基媒體的年度盛事，在這裡每年的討論，也代表著國際的社群所關心重大主題。若要很簡單的概括而論，年會重點主題不外乎是關於社群面（全球社群組織發展的方向）或技術面（維基介面或軟體的革新應用）的成果分享與未來展望。

2013年我第一次參與國際年會時，印象最深刻的技術面革新是基金會工程團隊剛開發出「視覺化編輯器 (Visual Editor)」，讓不擅維基語法的參與者也能自在編輯。至於社群面，則因為在香港華人方便參與，中文維基的編輯者也終於在2007年台灣年會後社群成長放緩多年後，有了再次見面交流的機會。

接下來這幾年，我都較為關注社群面的發展，例如隔年在倫敦的年會，則是東亞東南亞區域的維基人第一次試圖建立自己的工作聯盟；2016年在義大利，基金會開放更多例如「用戶組」這類的小型維基組織；2017年在加拿大則探討了許多假新聞與政治議題扭曲的防治；今年2018，



維基媒體基金會相關組織在年會前所召開的會前會 (pre-conference) 「網路去殖民化論壇」。 (圖片提供：李台元)

The organizations related to the Wikimedia Foundation held the "Decolonizing the Internet" pre-conference workshop of the annual Wikimania. (Photo credit: Thoi-yen Li)

"pre-conference" or "post-conference", such as the "hackathon" for technology focus matters, the "scanathon" for digitizing valuable historical documents, or the "learning day" for capacities training and best practice sharing.

Important themes in this Wikimania

From the above, we may see that Wikimania is just like Google IO / Facebook F8 / Apple WWDC and so on. It is the annual celebration of the community. The discussion here each year also represents the major issues that are concerned by the international communities. In brief, the themes each year can be categorized to either the community matters (the directions for global community organizational development) or the technical matters (the innovation of wiki-related interface or software).

When I went to my first Wikimania in 2013, the most impressive technical innovation was the engineering team of the Wikimedia Foundation. They developed a tool called Visual Editor. It makes people who are not familiar with wiki markups may also contribute more easily. As for the community, since it is in Hong Kong, Chinese editors are easier to go there. Finally, the Chinese Wikipedia community may meet each other in person and reheat the stagnation of community growth since the Wikimania 2007 in Taiwan.

Then I focus more on the community matters in the following years: For example, in 2014, I engaged with the first attempt of

開普敦的會議則著重在加強多元交流及被邊緣化社群的發展。

這次開普敦的會議，來自台灣的參與者的組成似乎也呼應著多元交流、被邊緣化社群的參與討論。總共8位來自台灣的參與者，其中5位關注重點是在偏遠地區或族語的維基發展。例如在年會所發表台灣族語發展的海報攤位以及閃電講，讓族語維基的成果得以被更多國際維基人認識；同時原住民族研究中心也發起了南島語群維基發展的討論聚會，現場有菲律賓維基人Josh Lim、印尼的維基人Amy和Cahyo Ramadhani、還有維基語言委員會的夥伴Amir Aharonis，共同探討在未來如何讓全球各地南島語系的知識得以在維基發展茁壯。

今年5月在印尼峇里島，舉辦了第一屆「東亞、東南亞暨太平洋地區區域維基會議（以下簡稱ESEAP conference）」，當時來自超過15國、近70位的區域維基人相聚一堂，便對於地方維基社群的發展有了許多經驗分享與未來的發想。在這次開普敦年會則也舉辦了ESEAP小聚延續了五月區域會議當時的動能，並且確立了之後籌備後續地區會議的細節，期待能夠讓明年在澳洲伯斯的第二屆ESEAP Conference得以延續。

本次會議訪談之國際維基人

Wikimania一直都是台灣維基社群跟國際上維基社群的友人深度交流的好機會，今年在開普敦，筆者遇到跟族語維基發展相關幾位國際的維基

establishing the alliance in East and South East Asia Wikimedians in the Wikimania London. In 2016, I learned that how "user group" was a new form of organization to partner with Wikimedia Foundation. In 2017, the issue focused on fake news and the political bias and government suppression. In 2018, Wikimania Cape Town explored the diverse dialogues and the development of the marginalized community.

And this year, participants from Taiwan were also echoing the above-mentioned discussion. 5 of 8 Taiwanese participants in Wikimania are interested in the Wikimedia movement to grow in remote areas or minority languages. For example, the poster and lightning talk published in this Wikimania promoted the outcome of the Taiwanese Aboriginal Wikipedia; in the meanwhile, the Austronesian Wikimedia meetups initiated by the Aboriginal Study Center were joined by Wikipedians such as Josh Lim from the Philippines, Amy, and Cahyo from Wikimedia Indonesia, as well as Amir Aharoni from Language committee. We all came together and discussed how we can grow the Austronesian knowledge in the world.

This May, the first "East, South East Asia, and Pacific Wikimedia Conference" (ESEAPCon) was held in Bali, Indonesia. There were over 15 countries and nearly 70 Wikimedians in the region that joined together and shared about the local Wikimedia development and future collaboration within the region. In Cape Town, there was also the following meet up for ESEAP. We have discussed how we can maintain the momentum from May. We also discussed further details to continue the organizing matter for the regional conference. We all expect the coming of the second ESEAPCon next year in Berth, Australia.

Some Wikipedians I met in this Wikimania

In Wikimania, it is always a good chance for the Taiwanese Wikimedia community to interact with the global perspectives. This time in Cape Town, I met several Wikimedians related to Aboriginal Wikimedia development, and the following is my brief notes after exchange ideas with them:

人，想趁此機會也跟各位分享我們的討論精華，以求他山之石可以攻錯—

Amir Aharonis：在南島語系維基發展的聚會中，他也有出席討論如何增進族語維基的發展。Amir是以色列人，本來念語言學，後來開始學習寫程式，在2011年被維基媒體基金會延攬成為處理全球目前有近3百個不同語言的維基介面的升級與維護。因為長期參與維基的語言委員會和介面工程，他對如何提升小語言的發展有許多獨特見解，尤其對於維基孵育期的改革尤有深刻認識。在如何透過志工翻譯維基介面、並且維持介面翻譯進度持續保持不退步，他也寫過專文說明。

Astrid Carlson：挪威維基分會的館聯執行專員，在會議中也跟筆者聊到挪威分會想要協助挪威北部的少數民族薩米人推動北薩米語維基百科的過程，薩米人是歐洲僅存的遊牧民族，聯絡困難，加上擅長薩米語書寫的人多是長輩，但維基的介面卻又都是年輕人比較容易入手，所以綜合許多困難，推動寫作並不容易。目前北薩米語有5位活躍編輯，之前常年停滯於7,000條，但從去年夏季開始主動的寫作推廣，到今年7月間，北薩米語百科不到一年時間增加了500個條目，實屬不易，但她仍謙虛的說還有很多想要跟台灣學習的。

Daria Cybulska：維基媒體英國分會對於多元文化的保存，是在維基媒體運動的社群內部頗為知名的，而Daria則是讓這些各種非主流的族群或

Amir Aharoni: In the Austronesian Wikipedia meetup, he actively engaged and brought the insight about his experiences to move forward the development of Aboriginal Wikipedia. Amir is from Israel. He studied linguistics and then learned how to write programs by himself. Since 2011, the Wikimedia Foundation hired him to take care of the user interface of the Wikimedia project in near 300 languages. Because of his long-term participation in the user interface and language committee, he brought a lot of insights in the development of small languages Wikimedia projects, especially the incubator. He is also the main contributor to maintain the interface translation of Hebrew for thousands of Wikimedia projects. He wrote an intriguing article on how to translate interface efficiently.

Astrid Carlson: The executive director manager of Wikimedia Norway. She focuses mainly on the GLAM related project. In Wikimania, she shared with me how the Norwegian chapter is involving in the incubation process of helping Sami, the minority community in northern Norway. Since Sami is the rare nomadic people in Europe, it is difficult to track them down. Plus the most of the fluent Sami writers are the elders. However, the user interface on Wikimedia is easier to be adopted by the youth. All these issues make it difficult to grow the project or find contributors. It has been for about 7,000 articles for several years. But since the last summer, the intervention from the chapter started to kick in. To this July, the Northern Sami Wikipedia has added around 500 articles. It is a great achievement, and she modestly told me she would like to learn more from Taiwan.

Daria Cybulska: It is a well-known fact within the Wikimedia movement that the Wikimedia United Kingdom is trying to preserve the diverse culture of its country. Daria is one of the key players that empowers the ethnic groups or knowledge that are out of the mainstream to prosper. We have chatted in Wikimania and she told me Welsh—a language that is similar to our Taiwanese Hokkien—has also been doubted: What is the meaning of contributing to the Wikipedia in Welsh language that we can rarely see in academic discourses written by it? However, the Welsh Wikipedia community is prospering. It has achieved a hundred thousand articles today. The

知識能夠蓬勃發展的靈魂人物。我們在會議中偶然聊到，她跟筆者分享類似英國的「台語」地位的「威爾斯語」也曾經遭遇質疑書寫這類平常學術交流根本用不到的非官方語言有任何意義嗎？但威爾斯語維基百科的社群的蓬勃發展，至今已經有10萬個條目，保存文化的價值強而有力地反擊了對這類小語言發展的質疑。威爾斯的國立圖書館也在近年與英國分會合作，對小語言維基的經驗的舉辦研討會「Celtic Knots」，保存與發展母語的經驗值得借鏡。

André Costa：瑞典分會的營運長。對於維基數據以及介面翻譯的方面十分熟稔。在年會現場協助族語維基翻譯介面的助教，提供許多好用的翻譯秘訣和語法說明。瑞典分會是歐洲數一數二有強大動能的分會，例如他也正在參與開發開源的閱讀維基百科的套件「Wikispeech」，期待未來能夠讓世界上各種母語的視障者不再需要人事先錄製內容，就能聽到條目自然朗讀的成果。瑞典分會也有規劃國際會議的豐富經驗，明年Wikimania已公布將在瑞典舉行，筆者十分期待到時能夠再前往斯德哥爾摩觀摩、學習。◆



開普敦年會上的東亞、東南亞暨太平洋地區維基媒體聚會。(圖片提供：上官良治)

The meetup of the Wikimedias in East and Southeast Asia and the Pacific regions at the Wikimania (Photo credit: ShangKuan Liang-chih)

community's action and outcome of preserving the culture by using its own language have powerfully diminished the above concern. In the recent years, the National Library of Wales has been partnering with Wikimedia UK to host "Celtic Knots". It is also a good thematic conference that focuses on sharing the experience of conservation and innovation of using mother tongue.

André Costa: The Chief Operating Officer of the Swedish chapter. He is quite familiar with Wikidata and interfaces translation. He assisted us in the translation of the user interface of Taiwanese Aboriginal Wikipedia, and provided useful tips for translation and also kindly explained how the markups work. Wikimedia Sweden is one of the powerful chapters in Europe. For example, he also participated in the development of "Wikispeech", an open-sourced extension to speak Wikipedia. The extension may provide ad hoc reading service for the visually-impaired user from all languages so they can hear a machine-reading voice by machine. Then we won't need to pre-record any Wikipedia audio files. The Swedish chapter has many experiences of arranging international conferences. As the Wikimania 2019 has been announced to be held in Sweden, I am looking forward to attending the conference in Stockholm, interacting with international Wikimedians and learning from them.◆