

APPLICATIONS FOR WIKIMEDIA UNLOCK ACCELERATOR 2022 ARE NOW OPEN!

Belgrade, April 11, 2022 - For the first time in the countries of the Western Balkans, the Wikimedia UNLOCK Accelerator program is being implemented, which in the third edition is focused on collaboration and cross-regional exchange. Wikimedia Germany has teamed up with Wikimedia Serbia and Impact Hub Belgrade to jointly design and implement the UNLOCK program 2022, which will support projects in the form of coaching, exchange of experience and funding.

We are calling on change makers, activists, technologists and creative minds from the Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia) to apply and gain the opportunity to implement it in a team.

If you are working on developing technologies and tools that make the access and contribution to knowledge easier, more inclusive and equitable, if you have an idea for a project that organizes information more equitably and offers a sustainable business model for the production, maintenance and access to knowledge, this is an opportunity to introduce us with your concept and get the possibility to realize idea with constant support in the form of training, joint work on prototype development and exchange of knowledge between teams from the Western Balkans and German-speaking countries (Austria, Switzerland, Germany).

The digital transformation already positively influences the way we access, contribute to and share data, information and resources in the digital space. However, existing structures of power and privilege still exclude people from much of the world's knowledge, such as biases, under-representations and inequities. The result is a widening knowledge gap. This is our call for technical and non-technical solutions that break down social and technical barriers preventing people from both accessing and contributing to free knowledge.

All details of the call are available on <u>UNLOCK website</u>, as well as <u>Wikimedia Serbia's</u> website. Application form should be completed no later than 29.05.2022.

In order to reach as many people as possible and give equal opportunities to different communities, please support the event in the media.