OpenStreetMap á Íslandi

OpenStreetMap Foundation Board - Local Chapter Iceland presentation

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Who am I

- Jóhannes Birgir Jensson, programmer, chairman of OSM Iceland
- Open Source and Open Knowledge enthusiast:
  - Wikimedian since 2005, admin on Icelandic projects
  - Project Gutenberg contributor, currently inactive
  - Distributed Proofreaders contributor, currently inactive
- First edited OSM in 2009 - my street was wrong, username Stalfur
  - [http://hdyc.neis-one.org/?Stalfur](http://hdyc.neis-one.org/?Stalfur)
- Returned in 2012 after being contacted due to license changes
- Became active in 2013, completing streets, buildings and addresses in hometown Kópavogur (population 35 thousand, largest town)
- Made very minor contributions on GitHub and Transifex in various OSM projects
- Work for a government organization, the Environmental Protection Agency of Iceland / Umhverfisstofnun since June 2015
OSM Activity in Iceland

- 65 users changed the map for the last 2 months
  - At least half local users judging by usernames
- Low number as tourists have been very active contributors before
  - Country is opening up after containing COVID-19
  - Received over 2 million tourists per year, in a population of 350 thousand
- Map is solid - roads and addresses near-complete, buildings growing ever numerous
  - Some 3d buildings work, examples
    - Hallgrímskirkja [https://demo.f4map.com/#lat=64.1417945&lon=-21.9268071&zoom=18&camera.theta=70.546&camera.phi=178.086](https://demo.f4map.com/#lat=64.1417945&lon=-21.9268071&zoom=18&camera.theta=70.546&camera.phi=178.086)
- Bicycling enthusiasts very active
  - Bicycles allowed on sidewalks, so they are usually mapped as separate paths because many routing engines assume sidewalks are out of bounds
OSM Iceland

- Founded in 2013 as Hliðskjálf, advocating for free and open geographical data
- Became first local chapter of OSM in January 2015, as OpenStreetMap á Íslandi (subsidiary name)
- Got local entity Já.is (phone directory service) to make their 360° street view images available for OSM editing
- Assisted Apple Maps in finishing up import of street addresses from official open sources
- Presented various facets of OpenStreetMap at local GIS conferences
- Advocated for government sources to clarify license of data and make compatible with OpenStreetMap
- Created basic tools to assist with data quality
  - Farms/estates in Iceland, example: http://osm.hlidskjalf.is/logbyli.php?s=a
  - Settlements worldwide, example: http://osm.hlidskjalf.is/settlements.php?idc=105&region=Kgalagadi%20District
Google Maps is quite good
Local service Já.is better than Google Maps, proprietary data
Local service provider Samsýn very good, proprietary data
Apple Maps is very good (very OSM derived)
Crowded field in maps - the acute need our colleagues in some countries have isn’t present
Road data is split between the Road Authority (Vegagerðin) and the municipalities - no one entity but OSM has all the road data freely available in a combined way
GIS community is quite small - fewer hands to do the more complex work (protected areas cover over 20% of total land area and an increase is planned)
OSM Iceland opportunities

- GIS community is quite small - personal contact in smoothing out licenses and data distribution is both a plus and a minus
  - Já.is first contact for 360° imagery unsuccessful
  - 2nd degree contact (know someone who knows someone) made it a success
  - In my official work capacity I’m a part of the governmental GIS consultation group
- Iceland is implementing INSPIRE voluntarily - making official data sets as open as possible and later standardizing alongside our INSPIRE counterparts
- Government organizations as well as others make use of OSM - road network is vital cog in many places
  - Realize better the benefits of contributing their own data
- Very high technical proficiency of the public
  - Internet connections are high speed, both at work, home and mobile, 98,24% are on the Internet (#4 in World)
  - Gadget friendly, apps and devices doing GPX traces are very numerous (Strava, Garmin etc)