

About Outreachy: <https://www.outreachy.org/mentor> and <https://www.outreachy.org/mentor/mentor-faq/>

Landing Page

Post title: Outreachy 2017

Welcome prospective Outreachy interns! Open Data Kit is participating in [Outreachy Round 15]([outreachy.org](https://www.outreachy.org)) with internships taking place December 2017 - March 2018. Please read through this post carefully to learn how to get started!

****From the [Outreachy website]([outreachy.org](https://www.outreachy.org)):****

> Outreachy provides three-month internships for people from groups traditionally underrepresented in tech. Interns are paid a stipend of \$5,500 and have a \$500 travel stipend available to them. Interns work remotely with mentors from Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) communities. [...] Outreachy internships are open internationally to women (cis and trans), trans men, and genderqueer people. Internships are also open to residents and nationals of the United States of any gender who are Black/African American, Hispanic/Latin@, American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander.

****About Open Data Kit****

Open Data Kit (ODK) is a free and open-source set of tools which help organizations author, field, and manage mobile data collection solutions. Data collection is a key component of social good efforts ranging from polio elimination to rainforest conservation and ODK helps thousands of organizations collect data quickly, accurately, offline, and at scale. Read more [on the website](<https://opendatakit.org>)!

****Communication****

If you have any questions about Outreachy or the projects described below, please ask in the comments for this post! Administrators may split some of the longer threads into their own topics if needed but please start all Outreachy forum conversations in this thread.

If you have a quick question about your initial contribution(s), you can find us on [the developer Slack](<http://slack.opendatakit.org/>) in the #docs-code channel. And if you have some fun cat videos to share, please share them in #random!

We aim to have all project conversations in public to increase transparency and knowledge sharing. In this spirit, please refrain from messaging community members directly!

****Project****

We are looking for an intern to improve documentation and general communication about the ODK project. This project could involve different components depending on the interests, skills and goals of the intern and the needs of the community at the time. The overall goal is to help

make sure that users can start their important data collection work as smoothly as possible and that new contributors can easily get started!

Possible project components:

- Contribute to user-facing documentation - <https://github.com/odkcentral/docs>
- Update [Frequently Asked Questions](<https://odkcentral.org/help/faq/>) from questions asked on [the forum](<https://forum.odkcentral.org>)
- Write up additional [form design tips](<https://nafundi.com/blog/posts/odk-form-design-tips-that-improve-data-quality/>)
- Contribute to developer-facing documentation - e.g. unified getting started guides, API documentation
- Create “how-to” videos and/or screencasts as discussed [here](<https://forum.odkcentral.org/t/odk-learning-videos/9155>)
- Interview users to add content to [the Showcase]([/c/showcase](https://odkcentral.org/showcase/))
- Help automate and improve the documentation authoring, building, testing, and deployment so that docs ship faster
- Automate screenshot creation for documentation (could be scripted in a variety of languages, if this interests you, please describe an approach in your application) - <https://github.com/odkcentral/docs/issues/63>)
- Create guides for data collection in specific domains. For example, for ecologists as described [here](<https://forum.odkcentral.org/t/create-a-case-study-template/9655/4?u=ln>)
- Identify and remove outdated content from [the website](<https://odkcentral.org>)
- Usability / User Experience Testing of ODK tools, recommendations for improvements
- ... Other ideas you have!

****Mentors****

[Ronald Munjoma](<https://forum.odkcentral.org/t/introduce-yourself-here/6671/46>)
ODK Slack: ronaldm
Twitter: [munron43](<https://twitter.com/ronaldm>)

[William Mitembo](<https://forum.odkcentral.org/t/introduce-yourself-here/6671/175>)
ODK Slack: williammitembo
Twitter: [widemania](<https://twitter.com/widemania>)

[Adam Wood](<https://forum.odkcentral.org/t/introduce-yourself-here/6671/45>)
ODK Slack: adammichaelwood
Twitter: [adammichaelwood](<https://twitter.com/adammichaelwood>)

[Kate Chapman](<https://forum.odkcentral.org/t/introduce-yourself-here/6671/17>)
ODK Slack: wonderchook
Twitter: [wonderchook](<https://twitter.com/wonderchook>)

****Getting Started****

- Read over this post very carefully and ask below if you have any questions.
- Look over the [ODK documentation](docs.opendatakit.org) to familiarize yourself with the project and identify documentation improvements you could make.
- Learn how to contribute to ODK documentation and [set up your local environment](http://docs.opendatakit.org/contributing/)
- Contribute a documentation [line edit](https://github.com/opendatakit/docs/issues/96)
- Pick other [documentation issues](https://github.com/opendatakit/docs/issues) to work on, comment to say you are working on them and issue pull requests!

****Applying to be an Open Data Kit Outreachy intern****

Learn more about the Outreachy application process [here](<https://www.outreachy.org/apply/>). Applications will be accepted through October 23rd, 2017.

In your application you should describe:

- why you would like to be part of the Open Data Kit team
- which of the possible project components described above interest you the most and why
- what skills will help you be successful in your internship
- what impact will you influence in your community from the experience of this internship.

Email sent to Outreach 9/6

TODO: find out from Outreachy what the timeline is. Do we decide?

TODO: find out from Outreachy how interns will apply. Will Outreachy have a web form?

Organization Application

Name and website of the project

Open Data Kit (ODK - <https://opendatakit.org>) is a free and open-source set of tools which help organizations author, field, and manage mobile data collection solutions.

Name of coordinator for community's participation

Hélène Martin

How big is your community? What is the community make-up with respect to volunteer and paid contributors? What different organizations and companies participate in the project?

ODK tools have millions of downloads and our community forum (<https://forum.opendatakit.org>) has grown to over 5500 members in the last 7 years. Many of these members are implementers who use ODK tools and contribute in non-technical ways such as answering support questions or doing user testing. For some, this is part of their jobs but for many it is on a volunteer basis.

On the development side, most of the core maintainers are currently on staff at the University of Washington or at Nafundi (<http://nafundi.com/>). Many contributors discover us through Up-For-Grabs (<http://up-for-grabs.net/>). Others are affiliated with organizations in the broader ecosystem (Enketo - <https://enketo.org>, Kobo - <http://www.kobotoolbox.org/>, Medic Mobile - <https://medicmobile.org/>, Ona - <https://ona.io>, etc).

What is the community governance?

We use a variant of the Meritocratic Governance Model by the University of Oxford. The full text is available at <https://github.com/opendatakit/governance/blob/master/GOVERNANCE.md>

Does your community have a Code of Conduct?

We use a variant of the Contributor Covenant. The full text is available at <https://github.com/opendatakit/governance/blob/master/CODE-OF-CONDUCT.md>

What open source license is the project under? If contributing requires a CLA, please add a link to that.

ODK consists of several compatible components. Software is licensed under the Apache License Version 2.0. Documentation and other content is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License.

Do you rely or build upon proprietary software? Please elaborate.

The core tools and specifications are all free and open source. Google Play Services and Google Maps integrations are available for the Android app.

Documentation URL for how new contributors get started

Each component has its own getting started guide. For example, for the ODK Collect Android app: <https://github.com/opedatakit/collect/blob/master/README.md> or for documentation: <http://docs.opendatakit.org/contributing/> If we are accepted to Outreachy, we will create a single page with context and getting started instructions specific to the projects we will be mentoring.

Bug tracker URL (optionally, including the URL to "easy" or "newcomer friendly" bugs/features)

As with getting started guides, issue trackers are separate for each ODK component. If we are accepted to Outreachy, our single welcome page will provide direct links to the relevant issue tracker and issues for getting started.

Collect: <https://github.com/opedatakit/collect/labels/contributor%20friendly>

Docs: <https://github.com/opedatakit/docs/labels/contributor%20friendly>

What organization(s) do you expect to be able to provide funding for your community interns and for how many interns?

The DIAL Open Source Center (<https://digitalimpactalliance.org/>) has generously offered to support as many as 3 interns during the upcoming round, depending on applicant response. We have at least 3 mentors lined up and 3 projects options outlined.

Project descriptions

A 1-2 paragraph description, again gearing your audience towards novice to intermediate programmers who have never heard of your project before.

Required skills. What skills are absolutely required for the project and what skills are good to have or optional?

Newcomer documentation. Where can they find project documentation? Where is the documentation for new contributors to set up their project environment? What tools will they need? What parts of the code will they need to build? Is there a test suite they need to run? Coding style? (If these are common to all projects, you can describe them once.)

Who is mentoring? Include their contact information, including email, IRC/Jabber/Discourse nick, github username, etc. Please do include private contact information. Many applicants feel scared or concerned about participating, and may not feel comfortable asking questions on a public mailing list at first. Including email addresses means they'll contact you (rather than moving onto a more friendly looking project) and you can reassure them and redirect them to ask questions on the public project channels.

First tasks. What specific first tasks should someone do to see whether they'll like working on this project for their internship?

ODK user-facing website

Project Description:

We would like to to update and redesign our website. Currently WordPress theme from ages ago. Not mobile compatible / optimized.

Current website: <https://opendatakit.org/>

Forum discussions around the redesign:

<https://forum.opendatakit.org/t/future-of-new-odk-web-site/9423>

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_ypEgqKe3m8Avxp6XbkPF-dTw3d3xQkpGhNqeDL2mJA/edit

Tasks:

The project will be broken down into a number of stages including:

- Identify goals of the website (information about ODK, increase awareness of ODK, fundraising venue, showcase, training materials) via user survey, analyzing current usage (visitor statistics ...)
 - Post to forum and get feedback
- Identify target audience - determine who the website is targeting:
 - Various users - M&E practitioners, Enumerators, Form designers, Principal Investigators ...
 - Partners - Code & Integration; Funders and Donors ..
 - Post to forum and get feedback
- Review content and improve organization on the website.
- Mark outdated content
- Identify gaps (missing content and sections)
- Generate missing content
 - Create Google Doc/Github issue for review and feedback
- Review and propose hierarchy - What should the hierarchy be? Is it more of a product website? Project website?
- Identify links or labels to be improved
- Propose design for front page
- Seek community guidance and feedback on the proposed design

Comparables – Which websites do we like that target the same audience, and why do we like those? Which websites do we not like, and why?

<http://www.kobotoolbox.org/>
<https://enketo.org/>
<http://home.magpi.com/>
<http://www.giscloud.com/>
<https://surveyjs.io/>
<https://www.openfn.org/>
<https://www.surveycdo.com/index.html>
<https://ona.io/home/>

Branding:

- Messaging
- Style / Theme
 - Colors
 - Fonts
 - Navigation Style (menu style)
 - Style of website (modern, academic, etc) – this could be a decision around which template to use, etc
- Logo and Treatment

Content:

- Leads (who creates or gathers which content for which area)
- Integration pieces (docs, forum)

Design:

- Wireframes
- Prototypes/Mockups – design styles selection
- Usability / User Experience Testing
- Draft updates – milestone decision making
- Final design

Recruit community members to contribute to the design and maintenance of the website

Skills Required: Attention to detail, good communication skills, ability to engage with open source community, empirical analysis, knowledge of website design

Optional Skills:

Who is Mentoring?

Mentor: Ronald Munjoma

Backup Mentor:

Slack: ronaldm - <http://slack.opendatakit.org/>

Skype: munro43

Email: [simbiso\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:simbiso[at]gmail[dot]com)

Cell Phone: +263 784 527 841 (voice + WhatsApp), +263 719 625 283 (WhatsApp)

Telegram: +263 625 283

Twitter: munron43

Show off the showcase

Project Description:

We have a showcase but have not been able to fill it consistently with all the awesome ODK deployments out there. For this project, the Outreach intern will find ODK users, interview them, share showcases, market them on social media, and build a culture in the community around sharing cool projects.

This will be done by creating informational material, making presentations, demonstrating use case examples, introducing the project on public fora, mailing lists and social media. The selected intern should be familiar with open source technology, electronic data collection.+

Skills Required: excellent writing, demonstrated ability to engage through social media, interest in mobile data collection, able to articulate well in presentations.

Notes for Interested Students:

Before applying for this project go through the [deployments](#) section of the website and [forum showcase](#) pick a deployment and:

- Interview the users - How did they know ODK? why did they choose ODK? What high level problem did it solve? What challenges did they face? What lessons did they learn? What features did they use? What features were missing? What advice do they have for other implementers? ...

Send your work along with a short motivation statement of why you are interested in Open Data Kit to: contact@opendatakit.org

With permission from the PMC:

- Share the showcases from the website on the Forum showcase section
- Share the show cases on social media - tagging at @opendatakit

You can also find more deployments in the [user introductions](#)

Examples:

[Ethiopia Health Insurance Program](#)

Showcase tools integration

[R and Stata](#) - who is using it? Why? What are the benefits? Use case scenarios? Gotchas? Sample scripts and tricks

[ODK Meta](#) - who is using it? Why? What are the benefits? Use case scenarios? Gotchas? Sample scripts and tricks

QGIS - who is using it? Why? What are the benefits? What are the challenges? Use case scenarios? Gotchas? Sample scripts and tricks

[OpenFN](#)-who is using it? What are the benefits? What are the challenges?Use case scenarios? Gotchas? Sample scripts and tricks,

Possible sources of inspiration:

<https://www.openfn.org/success-stories> - couple ODK implementations as well
<https://opensource.google.com/projects/explore/featured>
<http://visjs.org/showcase/>

Who is Mentoring?

Mentor:William Mitembo

Backup Mentor:

Slack: william1- <http://slack.opendatakit.org/>

Email: williammitembo@yahoo.com

Facebook: william mitembo

Cell Phone: +265 996 635 765

Whatsapp: +265 996 635 765

Twitter: widemania

Improve Documentation

Documentation provides opportunities for coders and non-coders.

Writers, regardless of coding ability, can help with a user guides, [frequently asked questions](#), [form design tips](#). This could also include ["how-to" videos and/or screencasts](#).

An intern with coding skills (Android/Java or Python) can help automate and improve the documentation authoring, building, testing, and deployment so that docs ship faster.

If quality documentation is your passion the ODK team could use your help to fully document all the ODK tools/components. Some of the latest features are not fully documented. You could work with the [Adam Michael Wood](#) and the ODK community to create content for the different ODK tools/components

Skills Required:

Non-coders:

- Required: Clear writing in English
- Helpful: at least one standard markup language (HTML, markdown, restructured text); *nix command line

Coders: Python or Java:

- Java: Android development, especially monkeyrunner or other testing/automation tools
- Python: Sphinx, text processing, natural language processing, system automation (or willingness to learn)
 - Beginning coders with some experience in JavaScript or Ruby (or similar languages) and who are willing to learn Python would also be a good fit for the project.

First task:

Follow the [Contributor's Guide](#) to set up a local documentation environment.

From there, the first task will depend on your skill set.

Writers: Try doing some simple [line edits](#) to get the hang of the workflow.

Java coders: Install the ODK Collect app and look into [automating screenshots](#)

Python coders: Learn about [custom Sphinx extensions](#) and try [implementing a new video directive as a Sphinx plugin](#)

Notes for Interested Students:

Documentation plan:

<https://forum.opendatakit.org/t/documentation-plans/6824>

Docs Structure:

<https://forum.opendatakit.org/t/docs-structure-discussion-one-or-many-repos/7080>

Docs Forum:

<https://forum.opendatakit.org/c/development/documentation>

Github:

<https://github.com/opendatakit/docs>

New docs site:

<http://docs.opendatakit.org/>

Old docs:

<https://opendatakit.org/use/>

<https://opendatakit.org/help/>

Mentor: Adam Wood

Slack: adammichaelwood - <http://slack.opendatakit.org/>

Skype: a.michael.wood

Email: adam.michael.wood@gmail.com

Github: <https://github.com/adammichaelwood>

Cell Phone: 617-653-6570

Twitter: adammichaelwood