

Wednesday, December 5th, 2018

Attendees

- Matt
- Clint
- Lloyd
- Yaw (note taker)
- Jim
- Aurelio
- Florian
- Odil

Transcript: <https://www.uberconference.com/chatdownload/6163976190754816>

Audio:

<https://www.uberconference.com/getmp3/AMIfv94QV92budOrLLnxUTns6ow0gPvswJdIV8SQ1k2dIlle4WQAnxd04-Yw1AQF400doDaCQ0LV3IIPwTmVhz8e4zlTxdpzRIqutC83KjEI5o1latMoFd9ruiLrdHMe6MIEx8Aw2M7C9x0QkWMVJ3gNVwK7SKAotuw.mp3>

Forum:

<https://forum.opendatakit.org/t/non-technical-introduction-to-odk-central-2018-12-05/16419>

Agenda

- Icebreaker: What are you hoping to get out of the call?
 - Type it in the UberConference Chat or here!
 - Lloyd: Interested in using central as an alternative.
 - Jim: Want to learn how to contribute.
 - Florian: get my head around concepts and architecture, how to map ODK Central and ODK 2 (off topic) to last gaps ODK 1 leaves for our use cases. We use ODK 1 to collect data for Western Australian turtle monitoring (more [here](#)).
 - Aurelio: ODK is the standard system for data collection at Swiss TPH. We are interested to see if and when we can switch to Central. We would like to start a pilot with some students project April-May 2019. But we would need by then to have at least compatibility with Briefcase integrated as well.
- What is ODK Central?
 - An attempt to create to a modern alternative to Aggregate. Learn from past, but with a modern approach.
 - In general, aiming for safer and more user-friendly.
- One of the differences
 - App users vs Web users - <https://docs.opendatakit.org/central-users/>
 - Starting to work on projects - pair of goals
 - Reliability of fieldwork. Reduce errors in the field.
 - Efficient management. Reduce friction (and errors).
- Design of Central
 - 10 years of ambient listening to users/support to guide the design

- We've also reached out to specific folks. If you have a use-case that we haven't touched on, let us know.
 - Contact us on <http://slack.opendatakit.org> in #central-code!
- Repos. Why so many?
 - <https://github.com/opendatakit/central>
 - Main project repo that tracks user problems, release binaries, etc.
 - <https://github.com/opendatakit/central-backend>
 - API in Central is standard and RESTful
 - <https://docs.opendatakit.org/central-api/> (<https://odkcentral.docs.apiary.io>)
 - <https://github.com/opendatakit/central-frontend>
 - Flexibility to swap the frontend out if necessary.
- ~~Matt and Clint provide background information about ODK Central, discussing some of the choices that have been made in its design and development.~~
- Demo of Central
 - Reminder: If you don't have a Central server to play with, ask for sandbox permission <https://docs.opendatakit.org/central-install/#using-the-sandbox>
 - Request for feedback: If you feel QR Code on user won't work for you, let us know!
 - Currently, you can import XML, not XLS.
 - OData enables full-fidelity transfer
 - Multimedia upload that makes your life a little bit easier.
 - <https://docs.opendatakit.org/central-forms/#forms-with-attachments>
- Matt and Clint discuss upcoming new features.
 - Projects: Partitions of forms and app users.
 - Web users will administer the entire server, but web users can be assigned to a particular project.
 - App user roles will be able to bound to certain forms inside project. So there can be enumerators filling out one form and supervisors filling out another form.
 - There will eventually be some workflowing to show what is open and closing as far as forms. Opens us up to something that feels like sync where the right forms are on the right device at the right time.
 - Hoping to also push settings to the device 🤖
 - Roles will eventually be customization.
 - **Action item: Share the block 4 release, some drawings, and long term roadmap.**
- Questions for Matt and Clint
 - Aurelio: What do you plan to have integrated in Central in the near time and in the future (e.g. Enketo)?
 - Matt: Central is in beta and early in its development. List of things that we want to be working on and that's guiding next features (soon to be public).
 - Clint: Right now the focus is trying to be a complete solution. You have an outsized influence.
 - Briefcase/Enketo are definitely on the list!

- Aurelio: When do you plan to switch from beta to the first prod version?
 - Yaw: When it's ready and no sooner :)
 - Clint: When the users decide that it's complete and safe. And we'd take less radical changes off the table.
- Odil: Will be there any other way to connect to the form submissions except from OData?
 - Yes, over the rest API <https://odkcentral.docs.apiary.io>
- Florian: Could multiple users use the same QR code?
 - Yes
- Odil: We are using briefcase for further use submissions with odkmeta, would be great if odkmeta can recognize csv from ODK Central as well. I know this is more related to odkmeta rather than ODK Central.
 - Yaw: Matt is the odk-meta developer so you can be sure there will be compatibility!
 - Matt: Yes, we've been working to make the Briefcase and Central formats consistent, and we definitely intend for odkmeta to work with Central downloads.
- Jim: Segmentation by roles is useful. Is there a way to segment via arbitrary grouping as well
 - Yes. See the discussion above discussion on new features
- Yaw: How do I contribute?
- Last off-topic ODK 2 question: When working with a team of a few data collectors in a remote (no internet) location, could I collect data with ODK Survey where possible, and backfill data collected on paper datasheets using ODK Scan, with both data streams being available to the field leader for QA and sync while still offline?
 - Probably best to ask at <https://forum.opendatakit.org/c/support>
- Questions from Matt and Clint
 - What is preventing you from using ODK Central?

Wednesday, November 7th, 2018

Attendees

- Guillermo
- Matt

Audio:

<https://www.uberconference.com/getmp3/AMlfv97iOZW-PcYc7S-JoUTIPA15IGYPSKuMDcsZ6Yl-F3nx3-elYnleiDwHDPHioRBICQOAYQn9wTREtyxe6ySjhtoYesh4xahiBgCVW6NtDBjEoa5FagsITKHVtvaLN1vm-i5UUw2UgOy6ineNQ9gAZrvnZmXYuw.mp3>

Wednesday, October 3rd, 2018

Attendees:

- Yaw
- Hélène
- Guillermo
- Ephraim
- Matt
- YiZheng
- Akshay
- Joel

Transcript: <https://www.uberconference.com/chatdownload/NTQwMjlyNjc4MDQwNTc2MA==>

Audio:

https://www.uberconference.com/getmp3/AMlfv97FKUZLsWnW0sTYwmKzETF23ELzq7qcvEBZuwJXzeSaYBeYV0aUDZ8hCAKpFmFu2jHp_Q2lp6wSV-EJuyDBiOdwGMFkiHjz7th724IMR7IEpmrgyiqdZsGDEN5k1hzq7_ValL_VrJQxnpWWcCML7nHJdKo0g.mp3

Forum: <https://forum.opendatakit.org/t/odk-1-developer-call-2018-10-03/15428>

Agenda

- (10mins) Welcome
 - Name, how you like to contribute to ODK; Icebreaker: Your favorite piece of software recently
 - LN: Technical project management, code review, wrangling; primarily on Collect. Slack
 - Guillermo: Briefcase/Aggregate/JavaRosa. IntelliJ.
 - Matt: Central and odk-meta. Google Inbox
 - YiZheng: Collect/Briefcase. Android.
 - Joel: Collect. RescueTime.
 - Ephraim: Contribute to ODK Collect - code review & feature development, Evernote.
 - Akshay: Collect, looking to contribute to Central. Keycloak
 - Yaw: Community, fund-raising, Collect, docs, etc. Homebrew is my favorite.
 - [Hacktoberfest](#) - submit PRs that get merged, get a cool t-shirt!
 - 5 PRs that get merged and you get a shirt. They ship everywhere.

- (5mins) Facilitator/topic for November meeting -- Yaw and H         will almost certainly not be there
 - Requirements: Pick a topic, remind people to participate, facilitate the conversation.
- (40 mins) Code review
 - High level goal: Processes that are in place, and if they aren't capture them. Also, make some improvements.
 - Code review process section on the various tools? e.g. [Collect](#), [Briefcase](#)
 - Have you read it?
 - Was it helpful?
 - Bot: Include the review process when someone signs up.
 - Bot: include review process link, comment on `needs testing` tag
 - Perhaps add a link to the PR template.
 - Questions
 - Guillermo: New contributors might not see this. Ideas on how we can make that better.
 - Joel: It's a lot of information at once. Just in time is a good way to prompt.
 - [PR templates](#)
 - Have they been helpful?
 - Ephraim: Yes, it prevents the back and forth. Some people delete the questions. More visibility into the QA process.
 - Issue template is even more helpful in clarifying what should actually be built
 - Ping: Would prefer more structure (e.g. design document) for large PRs. Too much structure/process for small PRs.
 - H        : When parts of the PR template are removed, even when the change is small, there's often something wrong with the PR.
 - Guillermo: Small diff does not mean the change is not impactful. I find it useful for the submitter to explicitly call out the previous and changed behavior.
 - Submitter may not be best positioned to decide if the change is big or small in terms of impact
 - Joel: How do we enforce? Maybe a "needs information" tag or even just close it
 - Yaw: I think we should ask for more information. And maybe close. We might be too nice about keeping PRs open.
 - Any recommendations?
 - Yaw: at a high level, PRs are not gifts, they come with responsibility
 - "I gave you a free puppy" -- someone needs to feed it!
 - Joel: We always want to add, but sometimes removing code is more valuable.
 - What PRs we don't accept
 - We typically don't accept PRs that re-architect something that works UNLESS it supports a user-facing improvement

- If code works and doesn't need to change, it can generally be left alone until it does need to change
 - Great to have cleanup commits along with a change
 - Reflects better understanding of that code and improvements to make the next person's work easier
- Helene: We can do a better of codifying it.
- Guillermo: Refactoring is the goal of reducing the cost of development. If no development needs to be done there, it's always a bad reason to change it.
- Good single location to put this so the projects can link to a common resource
 - Yaw: governance repo.
 - Important to have so we have a process so we can point people to it. I don't expect them to know the process. Our job is to enforce the process.
 - Guillermo: (repeat) as close to the PR as possible
 - YiZheng: How can I ask for a review.
 - Sometimes Slack is a lighter-weight way to go back and forth
 - Office hours? Could be one thing we use this dev call time for.
 - Shobhit
 - Instead of a board, we should have a tag about needing review. There is more insight on Slack.
 - Hélène
 - It's not that we don't see the PRs. It's just we don't have time. Please jump in to help.
- What feedback is most helpful, least helpful? What is a helpful format to receive it in?
 - Inline comments vs. summary?
 - What helps make sure every piece of feedback is addressed?
 - Yaw: quick reject is good because it helps one know to be more rigorous
 - Ephraim: inline comments
 - Github might prevent
 - Unit tests
- Joel: Is a half-review useful?
 - Yaw: Not to me.
 - Hélène: Agreed. We should be verifying the most important bit first. Does it address the functionality. E.g. things like variable names is the less important bit.
- What kind of information would help new reviewers?
- How do we prioritize review?
- As a reviewer, how do you start when the PR is large?
- If someone only has a little bit of time for a review, what should they look for?
- When do we close a PR?

Wednesday, September 5st, 2018

Attendees:

- Yaw
- Grzegorz
- Hélène

Transcript: <https://www.uberconference.com/chatdownload/NTU1NTg5MjEyNjYxMzUwNA==>

Recording:

https://www.uberconference.com/getmp3/AMIfv96xoez6CGlu4vzuRf477ipzmTAd eoFftjGYEHr0GEUmmCO8ZVHr0uTlmgshU7bTTnOiOdHMRDTU0fs9769K9KhE9dSGy1gtSxR_7abfolvBIAq8hRA8tyvxFr9YFiL-qBGPewjl_wJydr8H2y-TwILO1cnyg.mp3

Agenda

- Welcome
 - Icebreaker: The song you've been listening to the most in the last 30 days
 - Hélène: [Cardi B: I like it](#) (because it's playing everywhere)
 - G: [Lord Huron: The Night We Met](#)
 - Y: [Wande Coal - Iskaba](#) and [Bon Iver - Perth](#)
- Some discussion questions
 - What are the goals of these calls?
 - For those who are working on tools to connect informally and having a personal touch
 - Especially new or less regular contributors
 - We've had calls that have had more people join and had interesting topics
 - Learning what is happening in other tools (mostly informational, but some technical)
 - Instructional sessions (e.g. Dave did some)
 - Solving specific problems (e.g., intents, geo)
 - Why are alone
 - People plan the week ahead, so if the item goes up on Monday, there isn't time.
 - No reminders on Slack prompts
 - No specific topic so it's not clear attendees will get out of it.
 - Summer and "back to school" are busy times
 - Is this a valuable thing to keep doing?
 - Ways to make it more valuable
 - Broaden the call to a "community call" and make it more informational
 - Set up your website dev environment
 - All about indexed-repeat
 - 3 exciting things about Central
 - If we can't find someone to lead it, then we probably shouldn't continue
 - What are some specific calls and agenda items we've had that best met those goals?
 - Icebreakers are good
 - Quick overview of current work on different tools; TSC priorities

- Special topic to solve a problem or learn something
 - Opportunity to ask questions - driven by curiosity
- What formats, prompts, and topics have we tried that work best?
- How can we make sure it's not always the same person who has to think of them and come up with topics? (e.g. automate the next 6 months of calls to send out scheduled posts 7 days before so we all get a prompting)
 - Setting the agenda 3 months at a time
 - As needed e.g. <https://forum.opendatakit.org/t/quick-tech-call-rectifying-current-in-choice-filter/13859> but having something on the calendar gives an opportunity to meet and greet
- Should we reconsider the frequency, length, time, etc?
 - Survey? Post? - make sure to cross-post to Slack
- Next steps
 - Automate the posts going out
 - Y: Set up a default agenda
 - H: Front load the subject topics for the next six months
 - Y/H: Try to recruit people for those topics
- What is failure:
 - If no one shows up in the next three calls

Wednesday, August 1st, 2018

Attendees:

- Yaw
- Hélène
- Dickson
- Ephraim

Transcript: <https://www.uberconference.com/chatdownload/NjU3NjgwMjY5NTYxMDM2OA==>

Recording:

https://www.uberconference.com/getmp3/AMIfv95CCgZhQXWliDZUjPSfOSnwlQzlpVMMN2YqjiOdZ1Zl6sSICxCxAY_GvO7dk-6Yv3x2yTUcrfvk50aO3hWVhUzb6uzEF97b8yY9eh-9JNpxUU899U9vCV0aqi96TG09_Q0bX0WwOMdN-WI1C9uLbMK_X1VNsA.mp3

Agenda:

- Welcome
 - Icebreaker: Favorite thing in your favorite city/town
 - LN: Speaking French in Montreal.
 - Yaw: [Maxland](#) Choma in Nairobi.
 - Ephraim: Choma with family in Kiambu (town)

- Dickson: Eating vegan food in New York
- Integrations with ODK Collect
 - <https://forum.opendatakit.org/t/odk-1-developer-call-2018-08-01/14104/3>
 - Ona is building some custom applications around Collect
 - Apps have to do some form management and a multi-tenancy (multiple-servers)
 - Proposal: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1elfhxldDjBe60vP2i421CeyOQvHugmuHxs7BLrvxW50>
 - Why do we need to pass in username/password?
 - Alternatives: Set url, username, password in form
 - Core problem: If credentials change, you don't want the user to go through Collect to make that change.
 - Trying to make the process as seamless as possible.
 - Already existing formID pass in via Intent. Could be extended to pass in username/password.
 - Could be an intent that persists settings. Security issues of apps randomly changing settings.
 - Intent seems like the least risky thing thing.
 - Potential problems
 - If new version, it will hide old version.
 - If they are same form id and same form version, it overwrites
 - We should look at this separately -- it gets at questions of multi-tenancy. Two servers might have the same formId
 - Maybe if existing form ID, we fail when you use the intent or you multiple apps might obliterate existing forms which will prevent data edits.
 - Why not ask Collect for the form list?
 - Not really needed.
 - Some intents don't work on some Chinese phones.
 - <https://medium.com/mindorks/enable-background-services-in-chinese-roms-32e73dfba1a6> ??
 - When the app is removed from memory, it can't respond to broadcast intents.
 - GhostActivity to bring the app back
 - ContentProvider Call might be able to do that too.
 - Submission intents
 - Exists internally, we should expose externally. Add extras for url/user/password.
 - What to do if there a submission_url already in the submission.
 - Least priority is settings, then form, then intent ← we should really really think about this.

Wednesday, July 4th, 2018

Attendees:

- Yaw
- Grzegorz
- Hélène
- Guillermo
- Joel
- Abigail

Transcript: <https://www.uberconference.com/chatdownload/NTMxNzI3MTY4MjQxNjY0MA==>

Recording:

https://www.uberconference.com/getmp3/AMlfv97prgmS86twq4GazkO_GxWB3ehEfTJsFeK_By6uEo8tQUITvWV6rB61sVvO73scASrTb6pGqwiuP0lpvNHMS4j7bXWslSFRghrArlla98MxjlKicc8-M2TPYLyB9IHypbgVS71SE2M8A2MY3g8bzSVdktoQ.mp3

Agenda

- Welcome
 - Since it's 4th of the July. What city you'd like to visit in the US and why?
 - Grzegorz: NY because skyscrapers
 - Hélène: Montana because the beautiful landscape and animals
 - Guillermo: NY because of the food culture
 - Joel: San Francisco
 - Yaw: Florida or Hawaii
- 15 min: Guillermo: Lessons learned on this month's sprint around Briefcase
 - We have to treasure the current behavior, but we need to ship features
 - Learning process for G and new contributors
 - Current release -- briefly broke a feature that users rely on storage directory
 - Improvements
 - We could be more conservative and ask for feedback
 - We could write more tests that verify more behavior
 - We could do some random QA testing
 - Update notifications to the app to get users more involved in the process
 - More docs for edge behavior
 - Good trends
 - More feedback from users
 - Tend to fix issues quicker than before
 - Users have patience and good will
 - Export process
 - Deep change that we could have phased
 - Promised speed improvements that didn't happen immediately
 - Ideal: Hard stuff should be done by more than one person
 - Might want to consider benchmarking or approval testing

- Joel: Android has some performance tools being adding to Android Studio.
 - Guillermo: Could add some rules to Briefcase build for mission critical features
 - Took much more time than we expected
- 15 min: Joel: Interesting or surprising that you've learned implementing SMS
 - Knowing what to prioritize and what to build
 - Code review has an upfront discussion about architecture. You don't always think about the wider architecture implications.
 - Collect's code review is more of a conversation and in depth and Joel is not as familiar.
 - Goals are for more than one person to know the code
 - And the internet went out :(
 - Guillermo: Adding higher-level design document
- 15 min: Yaw: How we ship [JavaRosa](#) and Briefcase releases
 - Goal: have more people involved in the release process, reduce bus factor
 - Release notes are generated by hand. Please share ideas for automating.
 - Special directory for building releases -- no branches just clean master
 - JavaRosa gets built in two ways -- gradle and maven
 - Pre-releases are done through Maven
 - Special directory for building JR releases needs to have a secrets.xml file, uses gpg2
 - Always built with Java 1.8
 - Goal: use remote machine for doing builds; possibly/hopefully on CircleCI
- 0 min: call tomorrow on current() in choice filters -
<https://forum.opendatakit.org/t/quick-tech-call-rectifying-current-in-choice-filter/13859>

Wednesday, June 6th, 2018

Attendees:

- Yaw
- Matt White
- Andrei
- Lakshya
- Joel
- Hélène
- Grzegorz

Chat transcript:

<https://www.uberconference.com/chatdownload/NjA1ODk1NzE3MzgxNzM0NA==>

Chat audio:

https://www.uberconference.com/getmp3/AMIfv96eD3oaoLGhLINYC9DDohPPmHUQXfpBgdnbgWKIEVC_iS0DJ1OqixEoV7s9qzI9nhEgVzqjZbAI7RyVa7ONEzTkxxD6oR8ZOSQYdqNizxDL81TIQZiz8qztPkts5qo8f_8vInA7JBvuPSspaf4NQJTrlft-A.mp3

Agenda

- Welcome everyone
 - Icebreaker: What feature do you wish your phone had?
- Agenda additions
 - Yaw: Update on new ODK 1 server
 - Joel: Integrations are a big need. Web-hooks
 - Hélène: <http://www.odata.org> support is a growing standard.
 - Joel: Sending SMS submissions
 - Getting lots of feedback and community knows what they want
 - SMS is background send which is different that the blocking send that HTTP does. Retry sending (e.g., when the phone dies)
 - Delivery reports are the last step, but challenging.
 - ODK Build and XLSForm support for SMS sending
 - Could have shipped in a few days, but this approach catches a lot of edge cases which is important.
 - **Help needed**
 - Need testing help from the devs! Grab the PR and run it on your device.
 - Have you seen an app that do good integrations with delivery reports? Share it.
 - Lakshya: Update on ODK share
 - Motivation of sharing forms and data
 - Repo <https://github.com/opeddatakit/share>
 - Separate from Collect to make it easier to move quickly and reduce risk
 - Difficulties
 - Hot spot creation
 - Networking issues
 - UI features
 - **Help needed**
 - No access to many devices
 - Helene: Review of roadmap <https://github.com/opeddatakit/roadmap/projects/1>
 - Three columns: Under consideration, in progress, done
 - Is there a spec template?
 - Currently no. Good idea.
 - **Action item:** Hélène follow up on getting a template

Wednesday, May 2nd, 2018

Attendees:

- Yaw
- Guillermo

Chat transcript: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1yEFmwgptYIsCd_ou5-x_z-ZuxSrVCgGB

Chat audio: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1lhBhfXxoqckkC5CMCDnqv2g-dLs7y_Eg

Agenda

- Welcome everyone
 - Icebreaker: Which super power would you rather have, flight or invisibility and why?
- Agenda additions
 - Briefcase performance
 - How to use pyenv
- Revamp of the ODK website:
 - <http://staging.opendatakit.org>.
 - <https://github.com/opendatakit/website>
 - Participate by sending in a line edit.
- Mozilla Sprint
 - May 10-11th, from 9am to 5pm local time. Can you be around?
 - <https://forum.opendatakit.org/t/participating-in-the-mozilla-global-sprint/12567>
 - <https://medium.com/@MozOpenLeaders/collecting-data-in-the-open-for-social-god-da86e457d595>
- Tech talk: Using Vagrant and Ansible to set up xlsform-online
 - Vagrant: Manages lifecycle of VMs
 - Ansible: Automates software provisioning
- Review docs to make sure virtualenv is working

Wednesday, April 4th, 2018

Chat transcript: <https://www.uberconference.com/chatdownload/5623123207913472>

Call audio:

https://www.uberconference.com/getmp3/AMlfv97YcAzsLgwsI72oORm1vEpCI18iVu5VvG5VZ2W7Yq0qUwVB8dBLgoN24ssh3AMf07PDikil4Zk_3u9pQqJsqbauchoodCtM-tz3bB6UnStFNtFNbWqiV28IE87P7LerHyOKcRBWxIFeiY-G7Ecg_ZMGCM6A.mp3?download=1

Attendees:

- Yaw
- Hélène
- Grzegorz
- Shlok Gilda
- YiZheng Huang
- Akshay
- Mayank Vaidya
- Edidiong Asikpo
- Dave McCann

Agenda:

- Welcome everyone
 - Icebreaker: What's one thing that you are great at that others wouldn't expect.
 - Akshay: Quick learner
 - Dave: Piano/trombone
 - Grzegorz: Chocolate
 - Hélène: Very good handwriting
 - Shlok: Fixing up stuff. Improviser.
 - Didi: Gets things done
 - Yaw: I can cook
 - Mayank: Great at cricket (like baseball for the Americans)!
 - YiZheng: Great at Hackintosh
- Agenda additions?
- GSoC/Outreachy process
 - Admins/Mentors: What went well? What didn't?
 - Second year of GSoC/Outreachy
 - We were much better prepared with issues (thanks Grzegorz and Guillermo!)
 - Akshay helped as well.
 - Backlog on code review. Hoping to get contributors who review.
 - More community members part of welcoming committee and doing code review would help!
 - Students: Same questions
 - One quick win per person was good
 - Encourage to discuss ideas openly. It helps to write good proposal. (Some students (like me - Akshay) might need a bit of push to get adapted to it.)
 - Knowledge of codebase was useful in writing in proposal
- TSC Roadmap: <https://github.com/opedatakit/roadmap/projects/1>
 - Participate: Review SMS submissions spec
- Revamp of the ODK website:
 - <http://staging.opendatakit.org>

- Participate: Send in a line edit
- [Mozilla Open Leadership](#); [Mozilla Global Sprint](#), stickers?!
 - Learned about at conference
 - Useful if you are thinking about open sourcing your code
 - Hélène is going to lead the Mozilla Global Sprint
 - Good options for translation and documents
 - Participate: Send in a good screenshot for the readme
 - STICKERS! Use the emoji or the logo
- Git LFS
- Forum tech support needs you!
 - Akshay: Same questions come up (e.g. about using repeats)
 - Developers: Help link to related answers that may not immediately seem like the same question
 - Docs: Add a doc on repeats

Wednesday, March 7th, 2018

Chat Transcript:

<https://www.uberconference.com/chatdownload/NTc2Njk4ODk4ODU0NzA3Mg==>

Call Audio:

https://www.uberconference.com/getmp3/AMIfv96slu_OCsrBML8xMQ5o8NJq4PPnaIGbgZWQV0ddaSd7rEd0HRclyJDMDVbB3J8yMKdkbYMALhXK7wVaoCCZzA_8zy5m4BNXm1c7DzHo3MBxW6V3EsaEvyj57HyWI3i_LRxHetijzSo4W6neLKlaoCaLw47H5g.mp3

Attendees

- Yaw Anokwa
- Grzegorz
- Dave Briccetti
- Vrushabh Jambhulkar
- Guillermo
- Hélène
- Akshay
- Mayank Vaidya
- Enrique Hernandez
- Shobhit
- Hosam Abdelnaser

Agenda

- Welcome everyone (and new people)
- Clean history for awesome and reviewable PR

- Man pages
 - `man gittutorial`
 - `man giteveryday`
- Hélène's typical workflow (CLI)
 - Small commits as she's working on features then re-arranges before push
 - You can and should change history on feature branch (but not on master)
 - Branch off your feature branch
 - `git diff commitHash` to see the changes on that commit
 - `git reset HEAD~1` to unstage the commit
 - `git add --patch` to use different parts of the file in the commit
 - `git rebase upstream/master` to replay your changes on top of master
 - `git rebase -i` to interactively replay changes on some branch
 - Can re-order, squash, fixup
 - `git commit --amend`
 - Good
 - `git push -f` to do a force push to your feature branch
- CLI vs GUI
 - Dave likes IDEA's Git UI.
 - Guillermo would not recommend tools like SmartGit that hide behavior and makes it hard to learn git.
- Questions
 - Dave asks how to set emacs as the editor: `git config --global core.editor emacs`
 - <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/19713861/git-rebase-editor-something-other-than-vim-for-easier-squashing>
 - Difference between force and force-with-lease
 - Sounds like it's useful when working on a branch with others
- The goal is to have additional insight into the history of the change. Makes for a much
- Briefcase update
 - Migrate code to Java 8 (lambdas, Optionals, Streams, etc.)
 - Optionals: <http://www.baeldung.com/java-optional>
 - Lambdas:
 - Changing the concurrency model
 - Starting to working on the export tab as a first pass.
 - The other tabs will come after.
 - We've been adding tests (unit and UI)
 - New command line interface code
 - Use of IDEA UI designer
 - Improvements to local logging, remote logging via Sentry, Google Analytics
 - Architectural philosophy
 - We try to enclose every feature in a package (aka a vertical package) that represents the features.

- Wednesday February 7th, 2018

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1feaAGUCcOTbvoxHRTjK56PQU_82nJQg0

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1arBQRrO8f103D4NBQswX378fMH2wJ9Dk>

- Yaw Anokwa
- David McCann
- Ratikanta Pradhan (SDRC)
- Grzegorz
- Guillermo
- Ronald Munjoma
- Akshay Patel
- Hélène Martin
- Enrique Hernández
- James Pringle
- Samuel Okoroafor

- 5m - Welcome new folks
- 5m - TSC update
 - We have a TSC that meets every two weeks
 - <https://forum.opendatakit.org/t/11226>
 - Initial roadmap is out
 - <https://github.com/opendatakit/roadmap/projects/1>
 - Committer process has been agreed upon
 - TSC home page with processes is coming
 - TSC calls are open and recorded.
- 5m - Contributions needed
 - GSoc students show up on February 12.
 - Welcome committee on Slack and Forum
 - File quick wins and contributor friendly on Briefcase and Collect
 - Help review PRs when they come in
 - Only one quick win per person, then contributor friendly

- User support always needed: <https://forum.opendatakit.org/c/support>
 - A few minutes dev help saves users hours
 - Also saves committer time
- 10m - Open questions
 -
- 30m - CircleCI 2 demo
 - Why we use continuous integration
 - Basic builds ([Javarosa](#)), intermediate builds ([Docs](#)), complex builds ([Collect](#))
 - Setting environment variables
 - Debugging builds via SSH

Wednesday January 3rd, 2018

Call Transcript:

<https://www.uberconference.com/chatdownload/NDgyODU5NDY1NjY0MTAyNA==>

Call Audio:

https://www.uberconference.com/getmp3/AMlfv97nU2s2zNr3zSy34WfrsgeLoc82Xv5NeS86zNYAc2UkuiaAO5JPW9QiCabc1RqJKZFLvBxrAEL_PpZkx8yKHsl3o_T2AkQCQvgSUt2OcPBgAgsMp-CFq0SIMYzq6GoMPsZxBhl_0vRnBgeNwl-coRcq62DVyw.mp3

Attending:

- Yaw Anokwa
- Dan Joseph
- Helene Martin
- Brent Atkinson
- David McCann
- Akshay Patel
- Shobhit Agarwal

Agenda:

- Social update
- Last Collect update; preferred update cadence
 - Dan, Red Cross: only about 5 folks understand technical details of ODK; they may be the only ones who understand updates; working on getting more folks who understand ODK
 - Improved release process with code freezes followed by manual testing checklist, hotfixes where necessary (only 2 last release!)
 - Make sure someone from Ona/Elmo/Kobo verifies the changes that touches.
 - Dave tried stubbing Aggregate and realized there is a lot there to stub. Manual testing is probably sufficient.

- Consolidating the developer docs is ongoing and that should help.
- Can we more formally deprecate support for e.g. Aggregate 0.9x, etc?
- Technical Steering Committee
 - Announced on forum
 - First order of business: scheduling first meeting! (@yanokwa)
 - Will work in the short term to publicize a roadmap and get momentum behind a technical direction (e.g., deprecation of tools)
 - How we set agenda publicly and allow others to set that agenda.
- Google Summer of Code
 - We need to start thinking of project ideas
 - Deadline is January 23rd
 - <https://developers.google.com/open-source/gsoc/timeline>
- New Year's Resolutions / Best Practices
 - Yaw: we have lots of new contributors on dev side; how can we have them participating in the user community? Goal: understand what users are working on/struggling with
 - Forum post on why this is important
 - Forum, GitHub and Slack bots could share info about why to participate in user community
 - David: Discourse integration because devs hang out in Slack -- Shobhit +1
 - Akshay: contributor of the month; badges, recognition -- talk to Narendra?
 - Show existing badges more prominently
 - Brent: Is there a how to help with helping section on the forum
 - Hélène: better, consistent commit messages
 - Step 1: forum post on what we want commit history to do for us, projects with good guidelines, etc; ESPECIALLY history in context of refactors

Wednesday December 6, 2017

Call transcript:

<https://www.uberconference.com/chatdownload/NTQ5NDI0MjlzMTU4MjcyMA==>

Call audio:

https://www.uberconference.com/getmp3/AMIfv97PR53uF8laJNtzbKH5dQRnZjdr2ZOpZqbKuDQXRpYzTMMD1uGyTgf_HpSZPwsMBII7CWUKj7dvFLKS_Tw8KCYGDYOY1mU2BgFakCL2iGh6-4XBFiYWVAvg8ceDof0dOzeF9b7G7eDL6d9jP9N9sA5uMa53pg.mp3

Attending:

- Hélène Martin
- Yaw Anokwa
- Akshay Patel

- Enrique Hernández
- Michael Downey
- David McCann
- Grzegorz Orczykowski

Agenda:

- [@downey](#) and [@yanokwa](#) update about technical steering committee process and timeline
 - <https://forum.opendatakit.org/t/odk-1-tsc-call-for-applications/10744>
- Shifting by an hour to compensate for daylight saving time
 - UTC is nice because it doesn't change. But we aren't robots
 - Punt until TSC is in place
 - M. Downey willing to buy coffee for those early morning folks :-)
- Recap from [testing workshop](#); what other learning sessions do we want to do?
 - Akshay: It was informative. For completely new users, they might not get a lot of benefit. Developers can help.
 - Provide some background ahead of time with concepts to study up on
 - Grzegorz: I agree it was great
 - Git best practices -- know anyone who could facilitate?
- Git best practices
 - Where should we document this since it's project wide?
 - What are some general principles -- each refactor step should have its own commit, rebase on master to avoid merge commits, learn to use interactive staging/rebase, make commit messages short
 - Goal is to get PRs with meaningful commits
 - Start experimenting with principles in Collect
 - Brent and Clint -- strategies for getting clean history; follow up on forum
 - Akshay - Workshop on situational git strategies (use X when you need to Y)
- XForms geo spec
 - Collect getting in line with geotrace / geoshape specification
 - How to get feedback and announce [big changes](#) that are coming up?
 - It was in the global Discourse announcement
 - Make beta period longer
 - In future, use roadmap to project out
 - Make it as a feature flag so we ship on vX as disabled then ship as enabled on vX+1.
 - Google Play release notes -- share warning
 - Google Play release notes -- warn a few versions before
 - Specialized list for product updates
 - First launch experience
 - Social media once we have screenshots. That will drive people to beta and to offer feedback.
 - After that spec alignment, will there be a need for an appearance to enable/disable manual point selection?
 - Best spec approach to adding [automatic point collection](#) as being implemented by [@Raghu Mittal](#)

- What are some things we could do in Aggregate to make working with geo data easier?
- Akshay - update on First launch experience and Collect developer docs. It would be great if there is bit of discussion of “repeat” interface (I would like to make some improvements on nested repeats).
 - <https://github.com/opendatakit/collect/pull/1688>
 - Images (large) vs layouts (tedious)
 - Let's finalize content and images first. Once that looks good, then layouts so we can support multiple devices.
 - Image size can be reduced with png optimizer.
 - Repeats
 - Changes in JR that let you customize the repeats at the form level <https://github.com/opendatakit/collect/issues/1647>
 - File some issues on the changes you'd like to make
 - Developer docs
- Enrique - Aggregate changes planned
 - Complying with current and new (March 2018) European laws about personal data protection on IT systems.
 - Record every access of every user to data:
 - Time/date
 - User
 - Mode: create, read, update, delete
 - Data accessed: IDs of each record
 - Store this data in an easy way to retrieve it (DB, log)
 - Force password changes to users, after some time.
 - Block data presentation after some timeout (if users go away from screen)
 - Maybe more things (pending review of new law)
 - Enrique will file an issue on Aggregate repo for logging and we can go from there.

Wednesday November 1, 2017

Attending:

- Yaw Anokwa
- Hélène Martin
- Michael Downey
- David McCann
- Guillermo Gutiérrez
- Akshay Patel

Agenda (Starting with what Hélène wrote [in the forum](#)):

- Making sure that two weeks before the call (Helene/Yaw have on calendar)
 - Date specific meeting topic? Parallelizes agenda, but might lose engagement.
- Guillermo has started simplifying the Aggregate build and deploy process

- Gradle build is working, but no real sense of if the changes have broken anything
 - Next focus on is trying to build on App Engine's local debug mode
 - Hélène confirms that there aren't many people ready to give feedback now. This has also been the case with the other tools and as momentum has built more people have become involved.
 - Yaw suggests release checklist with manual testing (Marzena can help) and a release candidate with month with a few partners.
 - Yaw needs to put together a messaging piece around the future of Aggregate.
- The latest JavaRosa and Collect releases went well. The testing checklist Marzena has put together has helped. More communication about risk has helped. How can we apply this to other tools? What else can we improve? What automation can we bring to the release processes?
 - New approach on hotfixes. We are merging pull requests on master and we will do a separate branch for hotfixes if needed.
 - We still owe the community an initial checklist on the release to make it less manual. The big priority is moving off ODK.org is a priority so UW doesn't have to ship binaries.
- Akshay would like to develop Collect developer docs. They are helpful for people are getting starting
 - Hélène suggests it stays short and focused on what is different from a standard Android app
 - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dsmmPAa4t583kmhKB5IAGELHJFofnexOP9CGaaZwfnA/edit> has a list of questions and should be a starting pointing
 - Michael suggests opening a thread in the Forum.
 - Akshay will also work on first run experience and in-app docs
- Collect geo widgets improvements - how do we make sure people who need to know about it are alerted?
 - There was a fork with many great changes and Hélène reached out to them.
 - Next steps are to get more feedback on the proposals and to refactor geotrace/geoshape so that the Google maps and Open Street Maps variants both get the changes
- TSC process
 - The TSC selection process should start by November 7th - <https://forum.opendatakit.org/t/proposed-governance-for-odk-1-technical-steering-committee/10027/20>
 - DIAL is offering great support (Michael / David)
- Ludovic is going to talk about ODK with a local developer group in Cameroon, what ideas and tips do we have for him?
 - Michael: In his absence recommend starting a forum topic for folks to chime in with content ideas.
 - Yaw has sent video of talk Hélène / Yaw gave
 - Yaw will make creative common version of slide deck

- Michael: convert deck to GitHub-powered format so it can more easily be iterated on
 - TODO: Michael will look into good tools, do a proof of concept with both internal OSC presentation & attempt to convert ODK pres
- Infrastructure consolidation
 - Consolidation of infrastructure
 - <https://forum.opendatakit.org/t/repo-for-infrastructure/9353/7>
 - Open Source Center will be studying & making some recommendations, first steps, this quarter
 - Downloads for ODK binaries
 - Website working group
 - What structure can be provided so that the working group can be productive?
- Broader community announcement about features

Wednesday October 4, 2017

Attending:

Dave Briccetti
David McCann
Grzegorz Orczykowski
Helene Martin
Yaw Anokwa
James Knight
Ronald Munjoma
Michael Downey
Tom Smyth

Agenda (Starting with what H  l  ne wrote [in the forum](#)):

- Learning sessions - profiling and optimizing by Dave Briccetti [@dcbriccetti](#), Android testing by [@jamesknight](#); goal is to share knowledge within dev community and attract new contributors
 - Who is interested? - several people
 - Live or recorded?
 - Strong preference for doing it live and recording for those who can't make it live
 - James, Dave and H  l  ne will discuss technology of choice
 - Any other topics anyone would like to facilitate or learn more about?
- [@jamesknight](#) (may attend): refactoring and testing the widgets in Collect

- Trying to lower risk of big changes
 - Progress is good, Tom is excited about the field list updates =)
- David McCann @daveycrockett: some brief thoughts about the stubbing that he's working on for Briefcase
 - Trying to lower risk of big changes
 - Idea: stub Aggregate with minimal APIs so some manual testing and eventually some automated testing
 - Vision: a main with a switch statement that answers requests for different endpoints
 - Question: can we remove 0.9x functionality
 - Answer: yes
 - Challenge: need state to verify Briefcase functionality -- push form and then pull it to verify it's the same; what's the right amount of functionality to have so it's not just reimplementing Aggregate
 - David is taking some notes as he explores the Briefcase codebase and looking for opportunities to make improvements -- specific question, replace XML parsing with jaxb
 - <https://github.com/opendatakit/opendatakit/wiki/Briefcase-Aggregate-API> -- opportunity to define a more typical API?
- Tom Smyth @hooverlunch: [repeat instance naming](#)
 - This issue may also help provide context: <https://github.com/opendatakit/collect/issues/183>
 - Challenge: how do we change existing behavior with confidence?
 - How much feedback do we need?
 - Add a feature flag? Could we provide features 6 months in advance turning them off by default
 - Action: Ronald and Grzegorz will take a look; we'll give about another week for feedback and then come up with a development plan
- @Ronald Munjoma: Quick update on [Call for volunteers: mentor an Outreachy project](#)
 - 15 people have contributed to docs (!) and there are already 5 applicants!
- Feedback on [Proposed governance for ODK 1 Technical Steering Committee](#)
 - Ask from Yaw: more feedback
 - Question from Dave: how does someone know if they should want to or offer to serve on the committee?
 - Note from Michael: TSC will not act unilaterally but will solicit broader feedback

Action

- Ronald and Grzegorz will consider Tom's proposal
- Dave Briccetti and James will deliver education

Other tentative items:

- [Digital Ocean Hacktoberfest 2017 - register and get your free tshirt this month!](#)

Wednesday, September 6, 2017

Theme: interacting with data outside the form

Attending:

Yaw Anokwa
Hélène Martin
Grzegorz Orczykowski
Ronald Munjoma
Michael Downey
Akshay Patel
Dan Joseph
Adam Wood
Jason Rogena
Tom Smyth
Martijn van de Rijdt
David McCann
Shobhit Agarwal
Ukan'ga Dickson
Dave Briccetti

Agenda:

Introductions from those who weren't on last call

Akshay Patel - new contributor, interested in Collect ease of use
Ronald Munjoma - Former ODK user, forum moderator
Tom Smyth - ELMO/Carter Center
Martijn van de Rijdt - Enketo, keeper of the beloved XForms specification
Jason Rogena - Ona, works on Android projects
Ukan'ga Dickson - Ona, works on pyxform
Adam Wood - Docs champion
David McCann - DIAL, interested in adding test coverage

Status of action items from last meeting:

Code review - a lot more eyes on pull requests which is A++, Dave has really gotten things moving on Briefcase

Docs website - <http://docs.opendatakit.org/> lots of progress; process for deprecating old docs? Code is at <https://github.com/opendatakit/docs>

- Form design docs are done. Collect is in progress. JavaRosa is next. Then Briefcase.
- Contribution: If you work on X, read the X docs and file issues.
- Contribution: If there is a docs problem file an issue!
- Contribution: If you are shipping a feature, file an issue and help write the docs

- Information architecture overview -- goal is to centralize everything in docs
 - Using, installing, developing ODK (including OpenRosa) will be in docs
 - Outside docs: Contributing guide
 - XForms is not really “owned by ODK” so stays outside.
- Checklist for developers in PR?
 - Translations, docs,

ODK Aggregate - new README and instructions are being written

- Some action

Technical steering committee - UW survey with call for volunteer closed 8/31

- About 28 people want to sign up
- Yaw will be working with the current PMC over the next week to start planning next steps

Strawman roadmap

- No progress :(

Google Summer of Code was big success – Shobhit about his experience

- Learned to work on a large code base, work asynchronously
- Goal was to improve the UI. Some things were implemented, others were not.
- Report is <https://medium.com/@shobhitagarwal1612/gsoc-2017-with-opendatakit-5448f927409> with links to various branches that are ongoing
 - Form based design
 - UI fresh
 - And about a million bug fixes and changes to Collect that have shipped
- Shobhit plans to continue!

Knowledge sharing: external secondary instances (XML)

Instance element with src attribute, pointing to URL where the data can be obtained

E.g. `<instance id="countries" src="jr://file/country-data.xml"/>`

- Use cases
 - Use data in form but data is not known at the time it's built or Data that is used across multiple forms
 - Virtual documents. You can connect to metadata or on-device database. Commcare does something like this for case management. A special URL points to a virtual instance.
 - Serve a different document to different user based on some variables (credentials, location, etc)
- Questions
 - Why it wasn't implemented earlier?
 - Speed/hack was valued over thoughtfulness/completeness
 - Process for getting to this spec
 - Looking at Commcare and original JavaRosa specification: <https://bitbucket.org/javarosa/javarosa/wiki/externalinstances>

- What needs to be done for users to use this
 - select_one/select_multiple from file in XLSForm(!)
- What was the hack?
 - Many ways to interact with external item sets
 - Select one external CSV (only in Collect). Should be deprecated
 - Pulldata CSV. Collect still uses magic, but Enketo/pyxform now supports better way.
 - search() appearance “function” (but actually already deprecated)
 - Dave is working on an implementation
 - Accidentally deprecated a year ago

External data proposals in Features category

- Tom's feature request: <https://forum.opendatakit.org/t/custom-form-metadata/9496>
 - The ability to set arbitrary key-value pairs under the Form Metadata area in General Settings, and then to access those values in forms via jr:preload or meta elements.

Releases post-mortem + next month

Will do on forum

Wednesday, August 2, 2017

Attending:

Dave Briccetti
Matt White
James Knight
Hélène Martin
Yaw Anokwa
Dan Joseph
Michael Downey
Grzegorz Orczykowski

Agenda:

- Introductions
 - Who you are
 - What are you working on
 - What do you want to get out of these calls
- Summary of convening - <https://forum.opendatakit.org/t/odk-convening-summary/9029>
 - Timeline for projects
 - UW support for 1.x is ending around September of this year
 - More volunteers and others starting (and more needed!) working on 1.0 apps to help make up for their absence
 - UW core development support of 2.x is ending around September of this year; more documentation and deployments happening
 - Treatment of 1.0/2.0 as separate
 - 1.0 generation are the tools built around the ODK XForms spec that are broadly deployed; replace paper forms
 - 2.0 is new vision for data collection, new form specification with arbitrary Javascript; release candidate coming out at any moment
 - Formation of a TSC is primary priority; engaging with other partners
 - How do we encourage and incentivize developers and organizations to participate in the roadmapping process?
 - Next priorities: Roadmap, Testing, Documentation
- Tentative priorities for this month
 - Ship releases of Build/Briefcase/Collect
 - Nominees for a technical steering committee
 - Generating a strawman of a roadmap
 - Making ODK Aggregate contributable
 - Adding analytics to Briefcase

Dan: can share strawman roadmap at existing Red Cross meetings to get feedback

- Can we find more similar points of contacts?

Michael: need to make it clear what stakeholders can get out of contribution, what kinds of voices are needed, asking people for referrals from within organizations

Strawman roadmap can help get some feedback, it's hard to work with a blank page

Code review can be a real bottleneck -- James will start doing some on the Collect side

Monthly release cycles have overall been positive

- Devs: rewarding to get changes in
- Users: can be a drain to have to do manual testing & other tasks so frequently
 - Can we divide things up? Org A commits to doing verification Jan, April, etc, Org B does verification Feb, May, etc...
- Challenge is that we sometimes don't know how things are supposed to work so we need to work carefully. Docs will help a lot.
 - As devs, we can/should start documenting architecture, mental models, dev guides so that others can get ramped up without doing the archaeology we've been doing

Aggregate

- Not much community capacity, Mitch/Waylon have done the bulk of the development
- No community capacity for building it for deployment
- Not intuitive for end users, difficult to integrate with through APIs
- TODO: set up readme, get some folks who can make changes

ODK welcome wagon for new developers

- Even just saying hello on the Slack helps!
- Build up a list of who can help with different parts of the system and are on standby to help new contributors get oriented; better grooming and tagging of backlog would also help

Put an "office hour" on the schedule monthly that can be used for whatever needs to be discussed between devs or maybe users with devs

Ad-hoc meetings work well and mean only the people who need to be there are there

Calls for targeted problem solving could be announced a couple of days early

- Maybe most can happen async instead? Sometimes voice can help

Action items

- Build technical roadmap strawman.
- Manually recruit people to join the call (Tom, Jason, Dave, etc)
- Loop Dave into Briefcase work.

- Loop new contributor to do Briefcase analytics.
- Loop James in to Collect code review.
- Everyone should be friendlier to new folks who join the Slack
-

