

Formstack Submission For: 2024 Fellowship Application

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Name:

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Pronouns:

she/her

Names of additional team members (if applicable):

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Where are you based? (city, country):

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Resume or CV:

[View File](#)

Please provide an overview of your personal and professional background. How do your experiences align with your proposed Processing Foundation Fellowship project? :

I am a Community Builder: by day: that's my job; & by night: connecting people is my passion. By education: engineer.

I have multiple roles within RIPE NCC & RIPE Community: organising hackathons, outreach, Diversity Advisor, Local Hubs facilitator, "Code of Conduct Team".

Privately, I have been part of hackers' & net.art communities since 1994, first in Belgrade, then in Amsterdam / globally.

Both professionally & personally I am involved in Internet Governance (IG) & Open Standards since 1999: I contributed to two IETF RFCs, I attend conferences & teach IG to techies (network operators, hackers, software developers) & adjacent communities (artists, activists, students...) .

By accidents of my gender, neuro-type & geopolitics, I am part of marginalised groups all my life. I'm fighting for equality, peace & justice since my youth; recently, through feminism (countering patriarchy of tech) & Climate Action.

I am co-founder of the "diversity task force" in RIPE, co-organiser of "Hacking Feminism" in hacklab Amsterdam, part of "genderchangers", initial member of "trusted contacts" at many events.

I am educated in Non-Violent Communication in 3 languages (Serbo-Croatian, English, Dutch); I am a trained mediator using NVC methods.

In 2013, I was a co-founder of UnCivilization community: mailing-list, publications, meetings.

Since 2018, I have been increasingly active in Climate Justice movement, taking an "advocate" role within technical communities.

This fits with your goals to support "activists, educators, engineers... working at the intersection of creative technology, art, and open-source software."

Describe the project you intend to develop during the fellowship. How does it address one or more of the 2024 focus areas (Archival Practices: Code & New Media, Open-Source Governance, Disability Justice in Creative Tech, Access & AI)?:

My project is "Enhancing Environmental Sustainability & DEI in Internet Governance Communities".

Internet Governance & Open Standards bodies (ICANN, ISOC, IETF, RIPE, NOGs, W3C, IGF...) decide on (communication) technology built today & used in the future, but they are lacking both in DEI aspects & in Climate Justice awareness & practices.

My ultimate goal is to reduce decremental environmental impact of the digital technologies.

For this project, I want to:

- 1) Enrich Open Standards governance, and nudge them towards Environmental Sustainability
- 2) Empower members of alternative communities to contribute to Internet Governance;
- 3) Increase DEI in technical communities, by bringing in new voices, that are from mostly "marginalised" groups;
- 4) and all of that will be contributing to Climate Justice & Social Justice.

My project addresses "Open-Source Governance" target area in multiple ways:

- Open Standards are culturally closely related to FLOSS, since both rely on similar principles of consensus-based decision making process, free access to documentation, voluntary participation, non-commercial relationships, technical "merit".

- Both FLOSS & Technical standards governance are part of the wider “Internet Governance”, IMHO
- They all suffer from similar challenge: lack of DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion). I believe that increased DEI contributes to more creative, more robust, more useful FLOSS & Open Standards
- Additionally, all areas of Internet Governance are suffering from lack of awareness of Climate Justice

Possible concrete results could be:

- * contribution to 3 IETF draft
- ** <https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-irtf-nmrg-green-ps/>
- ** <https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-almprs-sustainability-insights/>
- ** <https://github.com/mallory/draft-beyond-carbon>
- * submitted paper for certain conferences, such as “Computing Within Limits”
- * production of stickers, comics, stories, videos, zines
- * articles on RIPE Labs
- * additions to the wiki [1] documentation
- * addition content for [UnCiv]

I am happy that this fellowship exists, because I am already quixotically working on similar subjects for a very long time, and I would love to receive some additional support & recognition, by being selected, & by working together with the others in the cohort!

Outline the technical methods, tools, or frameworks you plan to use in your project. How will these choices support the goals of your project? :

Since my project is a mix of research, Community Building & Knowledge Sharing, I will describe this over multiple questions, & sometimes repeat parts of it, since it is all interconnected.

Research :

- review of ongoing work on IETF drafts
 - reading relevant books, publications, papers
 - attending webinars & trainings
- e.g. I am scheduled to attend Climate Research Methods training in Berlin in June: <https://whatworkscclimate.solutions/training/> & IKEM Academy in July: <https://academy.ikem.de>

Contributions:

- keeping collections of relevant documentation [1.1]
- publishing articles & conference reports [2]
- publishing zines, as alternative way of presenting complex information

(narrow) Community Building, e.g. [UnCiv]

- * <https://unciv.nl>
- * wiki.unciv.nl
- * mailing list: <https://lists.puscii.nl/www/info/uncivilization>
- * events: <https://wiki.techinc.nl/LikaCamp2016>
- * publications: https://wiki.techinc.nl/Hackers_tribes

As for technical tools, since my project is not about software development, I do not use any coding tools. Here are other tools I use:

For documentation I use mostly wiki, GitHub, PDFs, plain HTML, & mailing lists (hosted by non-commercial, community-based groups).

For collaboration I prefer EtherPad - in any variation: RiseUp pad, CryptPad, etc

For communication I use Signal, Viber, Mastodon, Jitsi, BBB, email, and any other channel where the existing communities are (preferably Discourse forums, Matrix, DeltaChat; but if I have to - also Mattermost, Slack, & Discord).

I refuse to use WhatsUp & Telegram thou; and I do not use mainstream social media such as Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok etc.

[1] Information repository about Sustainability in Tech that I maintain:

- * [1.1] documentation : <https://wiki.techinc.nl/Sustainability#Documentation>
- * [1.2] mailing lists: https://wiki.techinc.nl/Sustainability#Mailing_Lists
- * [1.3] events <https://wiki.techinc.nl/Sustainability#Events>

[2] e.g.

June 2023: PS Magazine: AI is Ecocide <https://www.project-syndicate.org/magazine/ai-climate-change-what-role-paris-targets-2023-09>

May 2023: "Environmental Impact of Internet: Urgency, De-Growth, Rebellion" <https://labs.ripe.net/author/becha/environmental-impact-of-internet-urgency-de-growth-rebellion/>
2012: <http://becha.home.xs4all.nl/hackers-philosophers-utopian-network-dec-2012-becha.pdf>

In August 2023 I attended a DeGrowth conference in Zagreb: here's a report: https://wiki.techinc.nl/File:9th_DeGrowth_Conference_Zagreb_August_2023_February_2024.pdf

The fellowship emphasizes community engagement and collaboration. How do you plan to engage with the Processing Foundation community, fellow cohort members, and the broader audience during and after the fellowship?:

I want to cross-connect Processing Foundation community with technical IG communities, plus Digital Rights & Climate Justice communities, artists, activists & academics.

Community Building :

- attending events [1.3] & creating new contacts
- cross-connecting communities [3]
- empowering marginalised groups to join Internet Governance activities, by:

** demystify the processes of participation in "technical governance communities" (by giving lectures, and in personal contact)
** point to the existing grants & fellowship opportunities for youth & "adjacent groups"(by keeping documentation, & broadcasting these lists)
** and, when that does not work: be a representative for those from marginalised groups that can not be there, and speaking on their behalf

[3]

here are the communication channels I am already part of and active on:

Technical governance communities:

- mailing lists: e-impact, RIPE-list, NLNOG list
- conferences: IETF meetings, NOG meeting
- publications: RIPE Labs, IETF drafts

Adjacent groups:

- mailing lists: hsnl (Dutch Hackerspaces), academics , FaDa (Feminists & DeGrowth) & [1.2]
- forums: Matrix (for DeGrowth community), Discourse (ActivityPub)
- conferences: CCC meeting; EuroDIG / ISOC ;

Marginalised groups

- personal contact / Signal Groups: women, youth, rural citizens, activists
- alternative events: OFFDEM (hosted by asylum seekers), 2D.H5 (organised activists & anarchists), camping festivals (e.g. LikaCamp), protests
- federated social media (Mastodon)

How do you plan to sustain or further develop your project beyond the fellowship period? Discuss any potential for long-term impact, growth, or integration into broader initiatives. :

I will continue this project beyond October:

- within the established communities, now enriched with alternative contributions
- with help from additional, empowered participants
- with help from other grants

I am already working "part-time", so I have time to dedicate to my passion projects; the fellowship will help me to take unpaid leave, to further focus on this topic.

My future plans include attending:

- * CCC (Hamburg, December 2024)
- & in 2025:
- * 2D.H5 festival in Holland (February)
- * OFFDEM (Brussels, February)
- * NLNOG, April
- WirelessBattlemesh, June
- IETF, Madrid, July
- TBD, small hackers festival in Amsterdam, July
- DeGrowth conference

Whether or not I get this fellowship, I will continue working on all of those subjects.

Describe how your project will promote diversity and inclusion within the realm of creative technology. How does it align with the foundation's commitment to accessibility and inclusivity in digital spaces? :

One of the main goals of my project is to promote diversity.

I am working on the improving DEI within hackers community, RIPE & IETF since 1996.

I am member of Diversity initiatives: “fellowship coordination”, “CoC Team”, systems (women* support @ IETF), etc

Some of my relevant publications; see “diversity” section of my CV:

- * wiki page: https://wiki.techinc.nl/Ladies_Night#Increasing_the_gender_diversity
- * video from NLNOG 2021 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ycrl7NI8sOY>
- article 2022: <https://labs.ripe.net/author/becha/building-bridges-between-diverse-communities-at-ripe-85/>
- Data Feminism: <https://labs.ripe.net/author/becha/data-feminism-from-data-ethics-to-data-justice/>
- * Embrace Neurodiversity <https://labs.ripe.net/author/becha/ripe-community-resilience-embracing-neurodiversity/>
- * video: Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion + Community Projects Fund (JEDI + CPF) <https://youtu.be/NRiww-FC0Uc?t=14200>

What Processing Foundation stewarded software projects do you engage with in your proposed project, if any? If not, are you interested in growing your knowledge of our software projects?:

I am definitely interested to learn more about your software, and your community!

What previous projects supported by the Processing Foundation inform the legacy of your work, if any?:

I am only now getting familiar with the Processing Foundation, and I am looking forward to learn more!

The Processing Foundation values the documentation and sharing of projects to inspire the community. How do you plan to document your project progress and outcomes? What platforms or formats will you use to share your work with a wider audience?:

I am a heavy user of wikis!

I maintain dozens of wiki pages, on several wiki platforms [1.1], [6], [UnCiv]

In addition to this, I will use blogging platforms (like RIPE Labs), Mastodon, GitHub.

Knowledge Sharing:

- submitting comments to the IETF draft authors, via the e-impact mailing list & meetings
- collaboration with many existing communities on their mailing lists [1.2] / [4]
- giving talks at events [5] ; these are mostly recorded, and I always publish my slides.

[5] I am scheduled to contribute to the following events:

[AMRO24] in Linz, 8-11. May 2024 <https://www.radical-openness.org/en/programm/2024/internet-squirrels>

[ETC] Berlin, June 2024 <https://www.electictechcarnival.org>

[ICT4S] Stockholm / online, June 2024

[MTH] online, September 2024 <https://morethanhumanfreedom.wordpress.com>

[6] keeping documentation

- <https://wiki.techinc.nl/MeshNet#Funding>
- <https://wiki.techinc.nl/User:Becha/events2023>
- <https://wiki.techinc.nl/User:Becha/DigitalDisobedience>