

## GNOME Documentation: helping you learn and give back

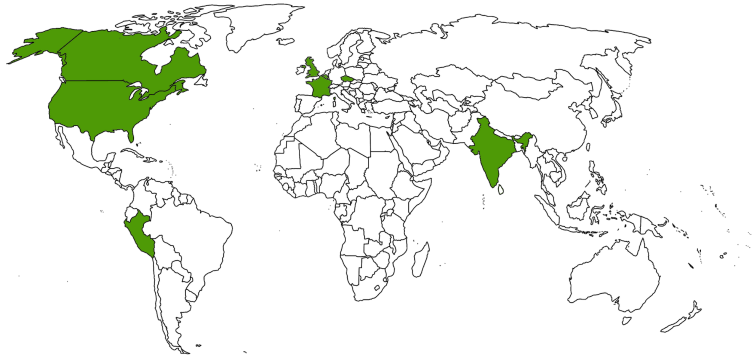
Ekaterina Gerasimova, [kittykat3756@gmail.com](mailto:kittykat3756@gmail.com)

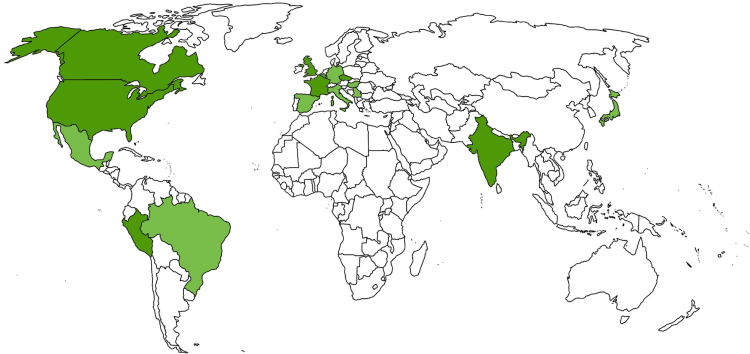
GNOME.Asia Summit 2014

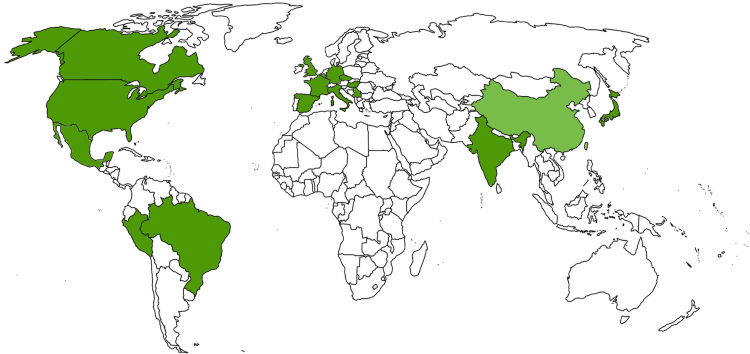


## Who are the documentation team?

- Established around 1999
- Sun Microsystems were heavily involved in GNOME documentation in the early days
- Now made up mostly of volunteer contributors
- Valuable contributions from other community members, especially translators







# What does the documentation team do?

- User help: <http://help.gnome.org/user/>
- System administrator guide: <http://help.gnome.org/admin/>
- Developer documentation: <http://developer.gnome.org>

GNOME Help

Page View Go Bookmarks

GNOME Help

## GNOME Help

**GNOME 指导**  
A visual introduction to your desktop, the top bar, and the Activities overview.

**Log out, power off or switch users**  
了解如何退出您的帐号，像注销、切换用户等等。

**启动应用程序**  
Launch apps from the Activities overview.

<b>桌面、应用和窗口</b> 指导说明、键盘快捷键、日程安排、消息通知...	<b>社交网络、互联网、电子邮件和聊天工具</b> 无线连接、wired、连接故障、网页浏览器、邮箱帐号...	<b>声音、视频 &amp; 图片</b> 数码相机、iPods、处理照片、播放视频...
<b>文件、文件夹 &amp; 搜索</b> 搜索、删除、备份、可移动磁盘...	<b>用户 &amp; 系统设置</b> 键盘、鼠标、显示器、语言、用户帐号...	<b>硬件 &amp; 驱动</b> 硬件问题、打印机、电源设置、颜色管理、蓝牙、磁盘...



# What tools does the team use?

- Mallard
  - XML, similar to HTML
  - designed for application and desktop documentation
- yelp-tools
  - set of helpful command-line tools
  - great for validating Mallard
- text editor (any is suitable)



# A page in Mallard

```
<page xmlns="http://projectmallard.org/1.0/"
      type="topic" style="task"
      id="browse-web">

  <info >
    <link type="guide" xref="index#start" group="#first"/>
    <credit type="author copyright">
      <name>Ekaterina Gerasimova</name>
    </credit >
    <desc>View web pages on the internet.</desc>
  </info >

  <title >Browse the web</title >

  <p>Web browsers can be used to view pages on the Internet
  when you have an Internet connection. To start browsing
  the web:</p>
```

## What about the help itself?

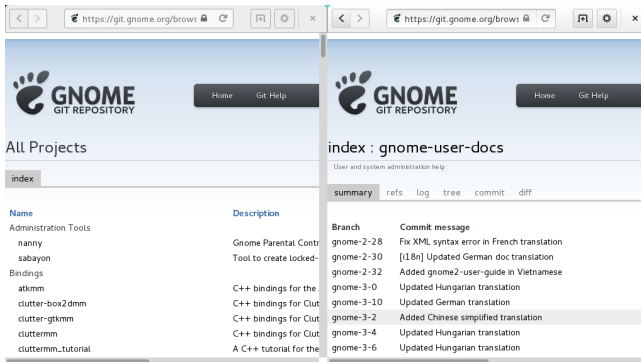
- Task oriented: short pages explaining how to achieve one goal
- Extensible: easy to add pages one at a time
- Limited markup: around 50 elements, much fewer than alternatives
- Easy to preview on the go: run 'yelp help/C/' for most applications
- Licensed under CC-by-SA 3.0

# How does the team work?

- Efforts coordinated on wiki, IRC and mailing list
- At least two in-person meetups per year
- Organised online sprints around release time
- Team members "maintain" docs for individual projects

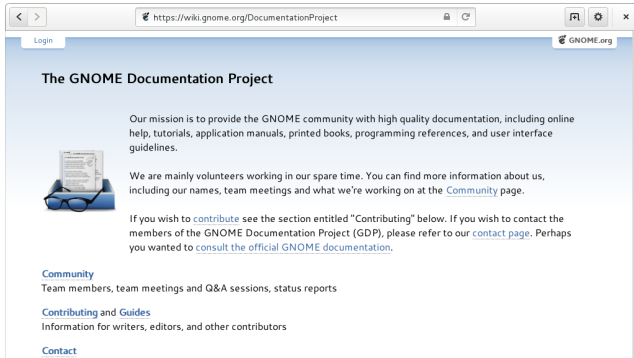
# Where is the code?

<https://git.gnome.org>



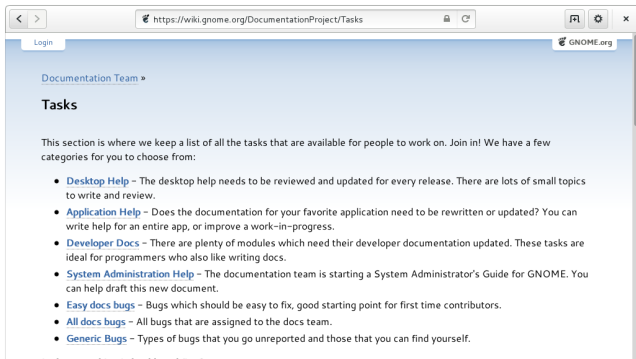
# Where is the documentation team workspace?

http://wiki.gnome.org/DocumentationProject

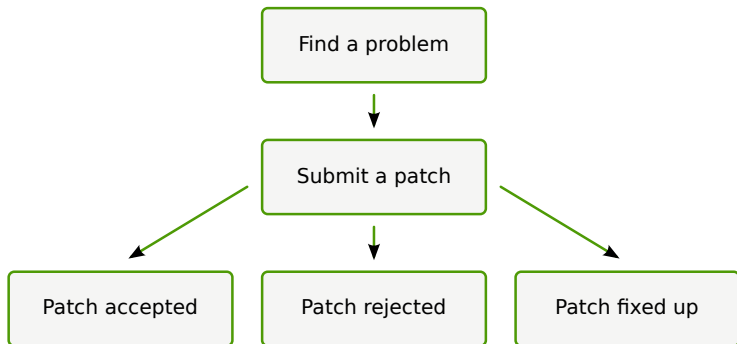


# Where are the tasks?

<http://wiki.gnome.org/DocumentationProject/Tasks>



# Why are you here?



# It's all about the people

- Talk to people...
  - IRC
  - Mailing lists
  - Here and now
- Use available resources
- Ask for help



# Code of conduct

- Assume people mean well
- Try to be concise
- Be patient and generous
- Be respectful and considerate

# Workflow

- Find out about the project workflow and follow it
  - Bugzilla
  - Mailing lists
  - IRC
  - Email
- Build and test



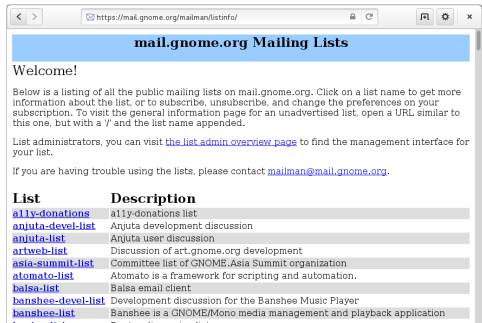
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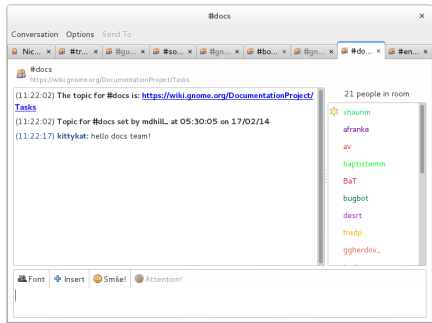
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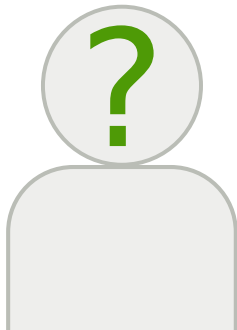
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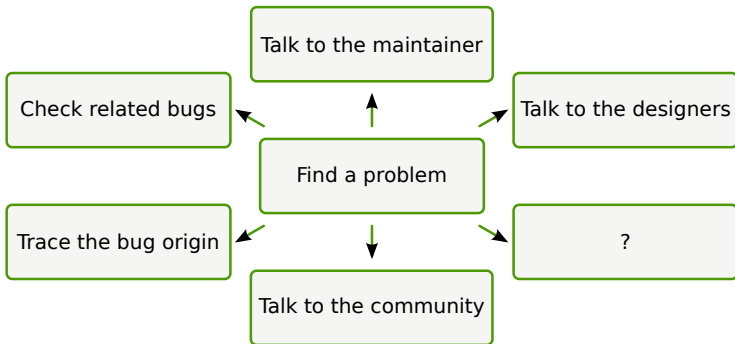


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# How things happen



# Followup

- Be patient
- Follow up with the reviewer
- Follow up on the review



# Make good contributions

- Use the reviewer's time well
- Keep to the style of the project
- Follow the review process
- Respond in a timely manner
- Write good commit messages

## Experience and growth

- The more you contribute, the more you communicate with people
- The more you communicate, the more you become part of the community
- Once you are part of the community, you can become a Foundation member
  
- Help others?

# Summary

- The **passion** for a FLOSS project comes from your personal interest in the project
- **Collaborate** with others and **learn together** to get ahead
- **Explore** other projects

With special thanks to

- André Č. Klapper, `ak-47@gmx.net`
- Sindhu S, `sindhus@gnome.org`

# Resources



**Documentation team workspace:**

<https://wiki.gnome.org/DocumentationProject/>



**Source code:**

<https://git.gnome.org/>



**Bugzilla:**

<https://bugzilla.gnome.org/>



**Mallard references:**

<http://projectmallard.org/>

<http://flossmanuals.net/introduction-to-mallard/>

