

# Problems/Questions/Uncertainties

We reinvent the wheel too much when it comes to **researching** venues, hotels, and swag vendors.

There is too much uncertainty around the **budget** expectations for FLOCK bids.

People who have not done sponsorship before, or who are sponsoring at a new event can find it difficult to **estimate swag requirements** based on numbers of attendees. Information from others who have experience with this would be useful.

It is difficult to learn about local **meetups**, whether or not they are Fedora-specific, and identify if they are active. This can make Fedora outreach (hackfest/workshop, table/booth, speaking/presenting) difficult to do.

There is a great deal of **research** and **information** involved in planning in-person meetups, and no single place to store/access it.

There are a lot of different places that have information about Fedora-related **events**. This can make it difficult to know if you can't find any nearby because they don't exist, or because you haven't looked in the right place. This makes it difficult to prioritize event attendance. There are also many different places to find non-Fedora-related but relevant events, which makes it difficult to prioritize Fedora **sponsorship**.

It is difficult to **find Fedora members** who are in a specific location, especially if they are not ambassadors.

It is difficult to determine which ambassadors are **active**.

It is not easy to identify **events** by proximity to one's self in time or space. This makes attendance, and prioritization, difficult.

Some Fedora members (and potential Fedora members) live in locations with **poor** or **unreliable internet connection**. We need to be sure that these members have reasonable access to the Fedora community that we plan for Hubs to support.

In some parts of the world, it is **dangerous to discuss** politics. There needs to be a way to protect our community members in those locations from thoughtless or malice wherein those discussions get them into trouble (arrested, for example).

It would be useful for us to tie Hubs into **social media** so that people can access the types of social media that is popular in their countries if they want to do so (not everyone uses IRC natively). Eg Twitter, facebook, telegram, Eventbrite, instagram

Many ambassadors are local **resources** for their local Fedora community. It may be useful to make as many of those resources easily available without having to go through an overworked ambassador.

**Event planning** currently done in wikis, which can be wildly different in structure. This can make comparisons of events (perhaps to decide which to devote time and energy towards) difficult.

Some countries make non-profit organizations (**NPOs**) as a matter of course, for all clubs and events. This can cause problems for Red Hat if it appears to be related, due to suspicion of money laundering. This should not be allowed for Fedora groups.

**Ambassador** tools and processes are not consistent in different regions, thus making a transition from region to region more difficult than it has to be.

It might be useful to have a mechanism for people to suggest and vote on new ideas for types of **swag**. Sometimes people at conferences request specific things, or Fedora members see that something is popular, and it can be difficult to figure out how to suggest them, or identify what ideas are popular.

**Localization** needs to include not only language but locality of resources. Local Fedora groups rather than the main Fedora page, for example. This would help make Fedora more approachable to potential contributors who are not native English speakers (or indeed potentially neither speak nor read English at all).

Writing up **event reports** can be annoying; some ambassadors would prefer to just post things to social media and be done with it. Unfortunately, event reports are required for any event for which Fedora money was used.

Some **contributors** are very active in their areas, but for whatever reason are not **ambassadors**. We may need a better way to identify who would benefit from being an ambassador and having access to the budget that offers.

[Not sure if there is a useful question for Sumanthro's "figuring out timing of **events** is somewhat complex"]

**Time** in Asia (possibly just SouthEast Asia?) is more limited than in NA and Europe, perhaps due to the increased time required to get places (more traffic? Poorer streets? Poor public transit?) including to and from work and grocery shopping, and perhaps due to the weather making everything more tiring.

Many people use **paper** to take notes and do their work. Perhaps we should make it easier to share those on hubs? (or suggest useful mechanisms to easily upload them/annotate them)

Tools to **create events** need to have enough flexibility to support multiple types of events. (not sure if this is a problem exactly?)

Spreadsheets can be difficult to search and are sometimes unwieldy. They are unfortunately required in some instances. Can we provide a nicer interface to them?

Having a list of available local **venues** that others have found would work well for **events** would be helpful.

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From Whiteboard:

What name do we want to give to this project in the wild? "regional" makes many Fedora folk think of the 4 main regions (NA, LATAM, EMEA, APAC), and "local" is only accurate if there are enough people nearby for you to have a local group.

How do we want to handle the active state? Right now, it's approximately impossible to tell what it means when people are listed in the FAS system. It could mean that they are taking a break due to life/family things but will be back, they are actively involved in organizing things or writing code or something, they are interested in knowing what's going on but otherwise not involved, or they are interested in helping with something but don't yet know what. Or something else entirely.

Some people in the FAS don't have their location filled out. Some of them may not want others to know where they are, people move around, and location has possible privacy concerns (esp depending on how specific the location field is)

It would be useful to encourage more mentorship to help with retention of new contributors. Some groups already do this.

Onboarding is a difficult process right now, and seems to vary wildly across teams.

It would be helpful to get a sense of how effective various things that are being funded are, in terms of additional contributors.

Privacy questions: what is shown to people who are in your group/you have 'friended' (need word for this) vs random people on Hubs vs people not on Hubs. People not on hubs: calling card for regional groups?

There is no clear overall picture of what funding requests are being made for events and other purposes, which makes it difficult to plan out what should or should not be funded based on available money.