

Quick tips for sustaining a software documentation initiative

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Background

PKP|DOCS

The [Public Knowledge Project](#) is a multi-university initiative to improve the quality and reach of scholarly publishing.

User guides, developer documentation and publishing tips for all of the Public Knowledge Project's software

Jump to: [OJS 3](#) [OJS 2](#) [OMP](#) [OCS](#)

docs.pkp.sfu.ca

Process

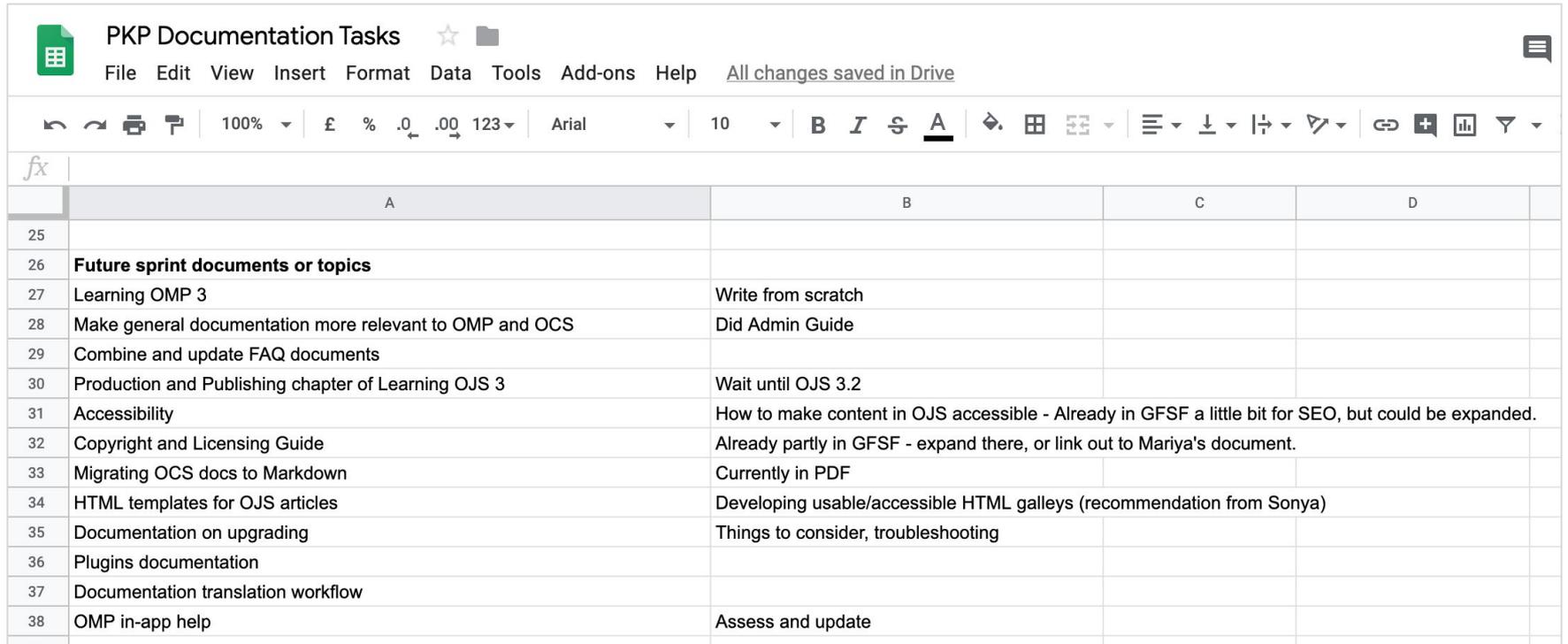
- Bi-weekly 1.5 hour virtual sprints
- Monthly planning meetings
- Editing in GitHub UI
- Pull requests reviewed by other team members
- Site is built and pushed by a PKP team member

1. Build membership.

2. Reduce technical
barriers for
participation.

3. Start simple.

4. Track tasks and issues.



The image shows a Google Sheets spreadsheet titled "PKP Documentation Tasks". The spreadsheet has a header row with columns A, B, C, and D. The rows contain a list of tasks and their corresponding actions or status.

	A	B	C	D
25				
26	Future sprint documents or topics			
27	Learning OMP 3	Write from scratch		
28	Make general documentation more relevant to OMP and OCS	Did Admin Guide		
29	Combine and update FAQ documents			
30	Production and Publishing chapter of Learning OJS 3	Wait until OJS 3.2		
31	Accessibility	How to make content in OJS accessible - Already in GFSF a little bit for SEO, but could be expanded.		
32	Copyright and Licensing Guide	Already partly in GFSF - expand there, or link out to Mariya's document.		
33	Migrating OCS docs to Markdown	Currently in PDF		
34	HTML templates for OJS articles	Developing usable/accessible HTML galleys (recommendation from Sonya)		
35	Documentation on upgrading	Things to consider, troubleshooting		
36	Plugins documentation			
37	Documentation translation workflow			
38	OMP in-app help	Assess and update		

5. Make it clear how to contribute.

PKP|DOCS

Guidelines for Contributing to PKP Documentation

[Improve this page](#)

- [English](#)

Guidelines for Contributing to PKP Documentation explain ways to contribute to PKP documentation, different types of documentation, how to edit and create documentation, style and formatting tips and resources, and copyright policies.

6. Give participants multiple ways to contribute.

7. Include the community in decision making.

8. Work with
developers.

9. Find external
partnerships.

10. Avoid burnout.

Contributors

- Sonya Betz
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- **... and many others!**

Questions?

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Summary

1. Build membership
2. Reduce technical barriers for participation
3. Start simple
4. Track tasks and issues
5. Make it clear how to contribute
6. Give participants multiple ways to contribute
7. Include the community in decision making
8. Work with developers
9. Find external partnerships
10. Avoid burnout