OSM Community Pakistan

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The OpenStreetMap Community in Pakistan

Pakistan has a vibrant and growing OpenStreetMap (OSM) community that is actively contributing to creating and improving the free and editable map of the country. This presentation will explore the current state of the OSM community in Pakistan, highlighting its achievements, challenges, and future prospects.

Why is OSM Important in Pakistan?

- Detailed maps are crucial for disaster management in Pakistan, which is prone to natural disasters like floods and earthquakes.

- OSM provides a free and up-to-date map source that can be used for navigation, development planning, and humanitarian response.

- Complete and accurate maps empower citizens and improve access to essential services.

The Growth of the OSM Community in Pakistan

- Last Year when I tried to connect to the local community in Pakistan I found that there was no formed community but there was only one facebook page

- The facebook page was not specific for the osm editors

- I tried to reach out to editors on the page but very few responded

- I also tried to check if there were any other channels existed but found non

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- started reaching out to editors

- Used the information from OSM STATS to find new editors and is started contacting them

- Offered them to join the facebook page but suggestion came into to create group on whatsapp, because whatsapp is very common and is being used be ecery smart phone user.

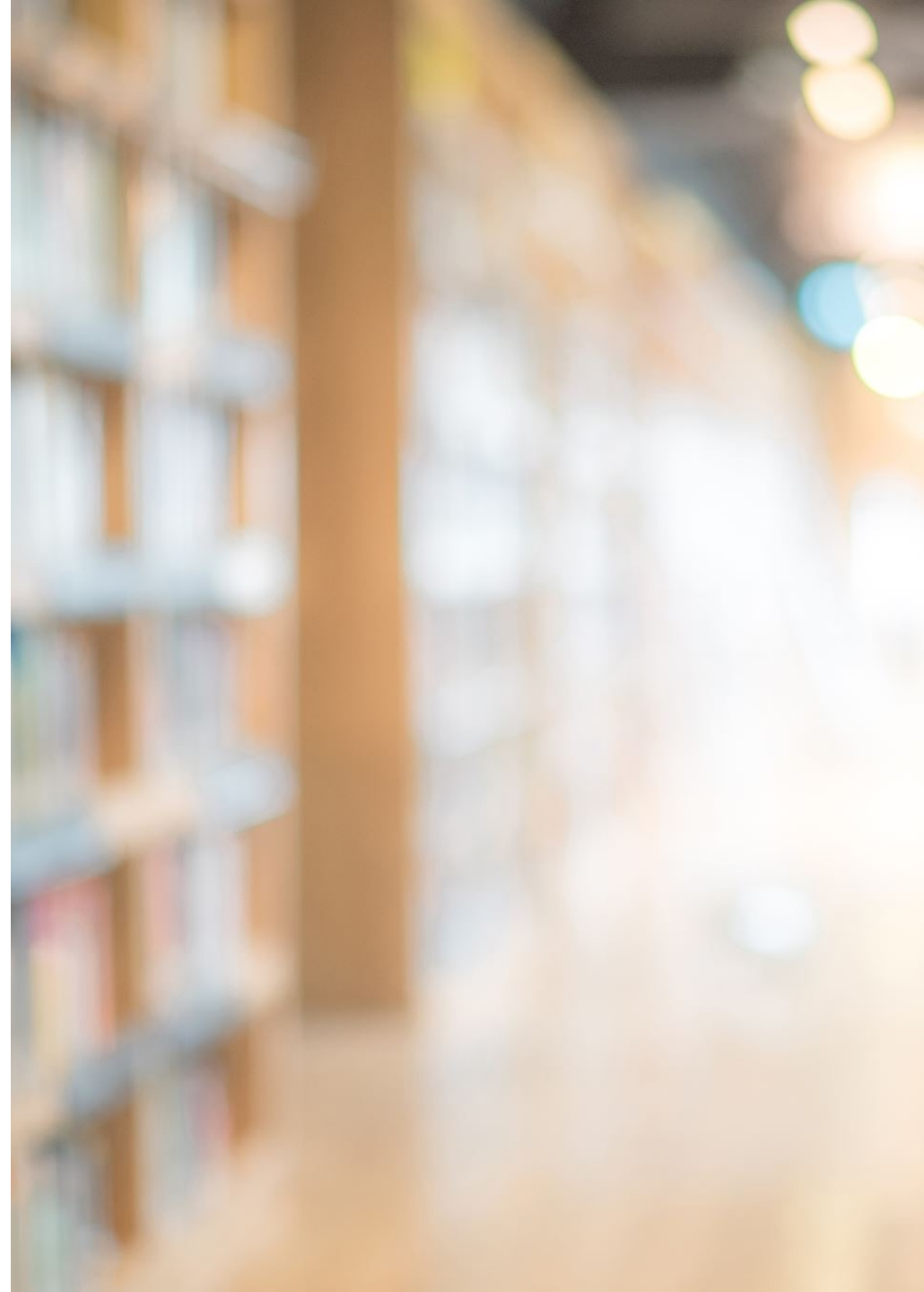- Created the whatsapp group and share the link to editors to join

Platform For OSM Community PK

- Whatsapp is being used as a platform for the coomunity to interect

- I keep contacted osm editors and I found that direct messaging to editor seems to be effective approch to bring them together on one paltform

- Now the coomunity is growing

- We are having monthly meetings

- Frequent Discussion

- Moving forward

Contacting Institutions

- I have also contacted universites to promote the osm to the students in hope that new people will join osm and will become part of the community

- Last month the IST "Institute of Space & Technology" give me chance to Present Osm to there students

- Few students of other universities also shown interest in OSM

- arranged teaching sessions

OSM Community Stats

2023

- No Formed community

- One Facebook page available

- No intraction between editors

- No discussions on Osm, editing and other factors

- No Community Meetings

2024

- Facebook and whatsapp

- Formed progressing community

- Users talk about issues and discuss the on going editing

- Progressing

- Monthly Meetings

- New members joining every week

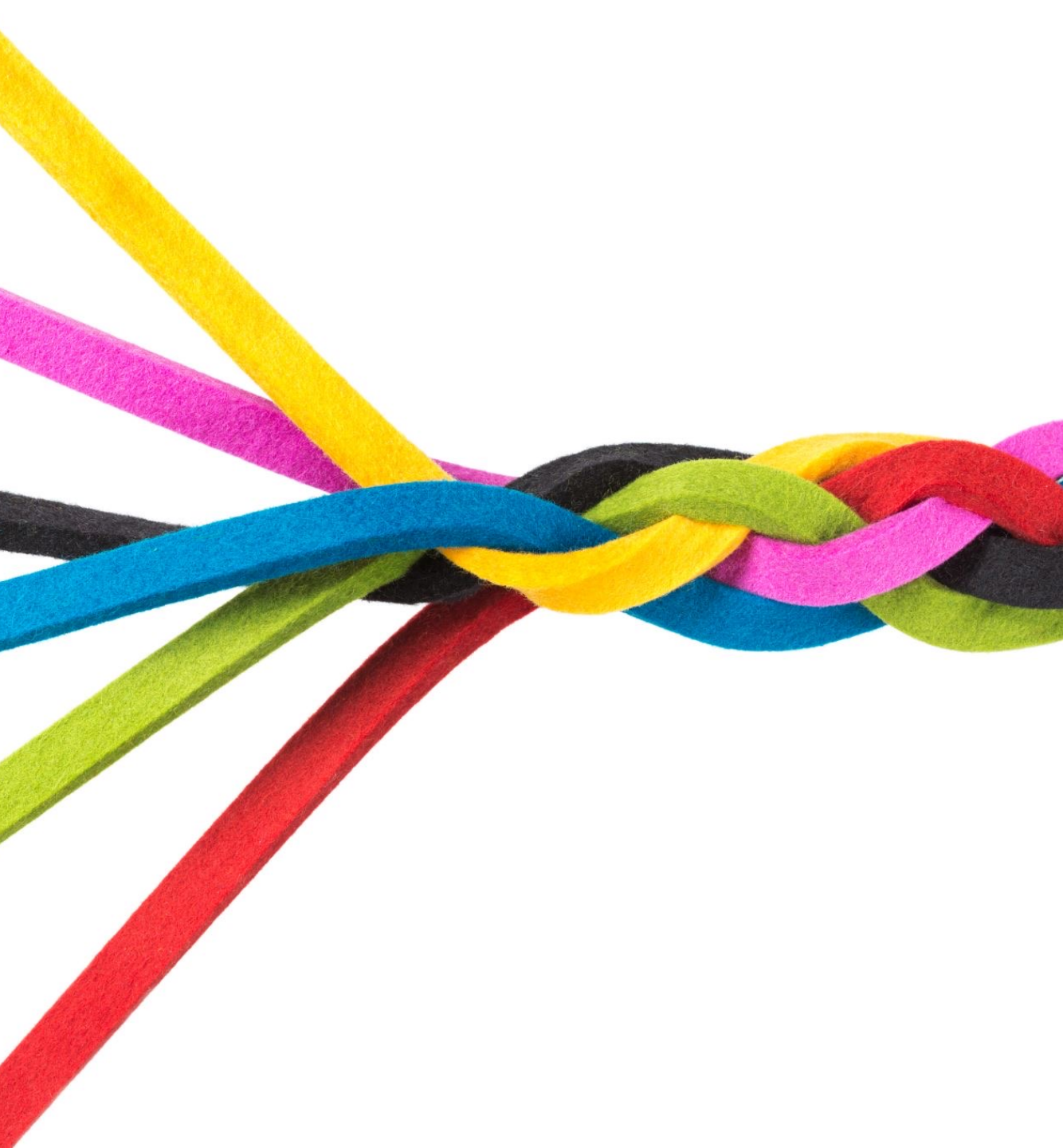# Challenges Faced by the OSM Community in Pakistan

- Limited data access and slow internet speeds in some regions hinder mapping efforts.

- Lack of awareness about OSM and its benefits can limit participation.

- Data quality issues can arise due to a lack of training and validation processes.

The Future of OSM in Pakistan

- Continued growth of the community through outreach and training programs.

- Collaboration with government agencies to leverage OSM data for planning and development.

- Integration of OSM data with local navigation apps and disaster management platforms.

- Working on Common Goals

Conclusion

- The OSM community in Pakistan is making significant contributions to mapping the country.

- Continued growth, addressing challenges, and fostering collaboration will ensure a bright future for OSM in Pakistan.

- By working