Media development at Sourcefabric

Whether you are in Basel or Bamako, we believe that independent voices make a difference in society. Sourcefabric makes open-source software to foster journalistic independence and diversity in the global media landscape.

Who are we?

Sourcefabric is Europe’s largest developer of open-source tools for news media. Headquartered in Prague, Czech Republic, Sourcefabric z.ú. brings people together from all corners of the globe to promote media development through open source software.

What we do

We create and maintain open-source software solutions that are relevant to newsrooms anywhere in the world. We work to minimize or eliminate technological inequalities based on organisation size or income. We foster the editorial and economic independence of media organisations by supporting innovative news models in the online environment.

Where we work

Some of the focus areas for our open-source newsroom technologies include:

- news organisations in low-income countries
- countries with restricted human rights
- conflict zones or regions
- underdeveloped media markets

Sourcefabric technologies have assisted news start-ups as well as established news outlets in countries such as Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Serbia, Sudan, Yemen and Zimbabwe to complete their digital transformation and develop online news businesses.

The Source

The Source is an independent news start-up in Zimbabwe covering business and finance. Its mission is to help relate financial news to the everyday lives of people in the country. Since 2016, the European Journalism Centre (EJC) has been providing vital mentoring and training to the Source. The EJC requested Sourcefabric’s help in finding a technological solution for The Source. The Source first decided to implement Sourcefabric’s Live Blog tool for live coverage. Subsequently, the team opted to start working with Sourcefabric’s newsroom management system Superdesk. Superdesk is powering The Source’s digital publishing through its WordPress site, allowing the editorial team to produce a greater volume of content that can be easily distributed to a variety of online platforms.
Meydan TV

Meydan TV is an independent online news organisation covering news on and from Azerbaijan. It was started in 2013 by Emin Milli, an exiled journalist from Azerbaijan based in Berlin, Germany. With Sourcefabric, Emin and his team found a locally based partner that could bring support to the early stages of Meydan TV. Sourcefabric has experience not only with journalism, but also with the difficult situation for journalists in Azerbaijan. In 2017, Meydan TV won a Free Media Award from the Norwegian Fritt Ord foundation and ZEIT-Stiftung for its “courageous and objective” role in providing independent news about Azerbaijan.

What we make

Superdesk, Sourcefabric’s state-of-the-art digital solution for newsrooms, was co-developed with large international press agencies. Superdesk translates editorial and operational efficiencies into the digital environment. It aids work distribution, decision-making, content creation and quality control as well as administrative tasks. Interoperable and modular, it adapts easily to accommodate future innovations. Because smart newsroom workflow is the foundation of sustainability for any news organisation, Superdesk has also been adapted for use by small and medium-sized editorial operations. Sourcefabric’s aim is to enable news organisations of any size and budget to have a professional and efficient workflow aided by professional technology.