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Inside Kubernetes SIG Contributor Experience (ContribEx)

Avni Mahajan, Speedybyte

Swathi Rao, Independent

Nabarun Pal, Broadcom

Prajyot Parab, IBM



Code of Conduct

Remember the Golden Rule!

Treat others as you would want to be treated - with kindness and respect.

Scan this QR code to access and review the CNCF Code of Conduct.



Also available in multiple languages - <https://github.com/cncf/foundation/tree/main/code-of-conduct-languages>

Meet our community!



CNCF Maintainer Summit, 2026- <https://contribute.cncf.io/events/maintainer-summit/>

Community Statistics

100.5K

Contributors

4.82M

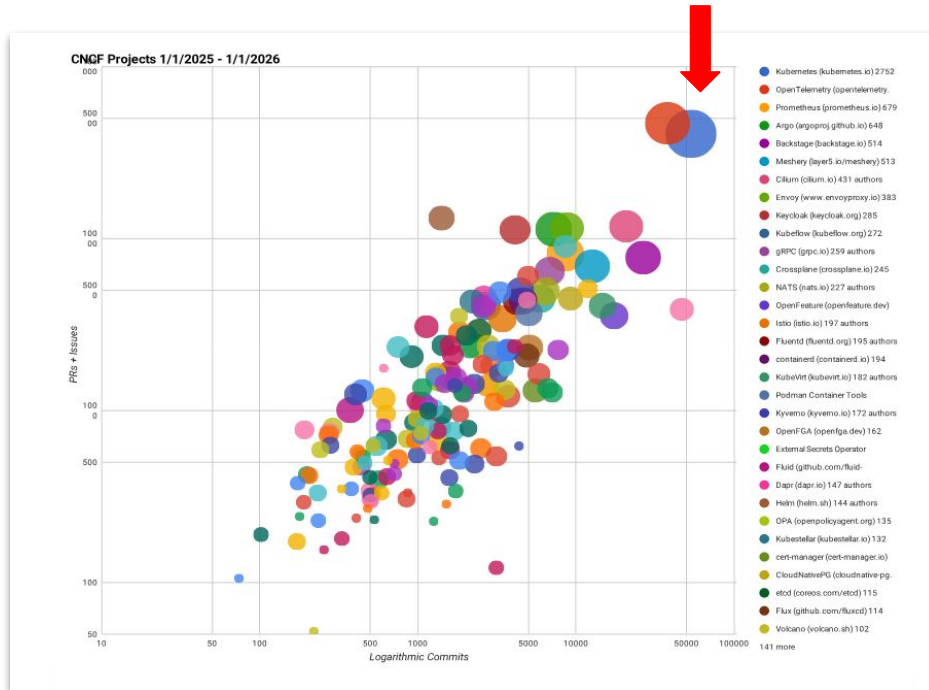
Contributions

9.0K

Reviewers

Stats from [Kubernetes Devstats](#), June 2026

CNCF Project Velocity (Kubernetes)



Here's what stands out in the 2025 data:

“**Kubernetes** continues to lead the ecosystem with the largest contributor base. That sustained velocity reinforces its role as the foundation of modern infrastructure across the enterprise. Kubernetes continues to build upon its success as it evolves to be a critical operating system behind AI.”

What does ContribEx do?

Developing and sustaining a healthy community of contributors is critical to **scaling the project** and **growing the ecosystem**. We need to ensure our contributors are happy and productive, and that there are not bottlenecks hindering the project [...]

How does ContribEx ... ContribEx?

Subprojects!

How does ContribEx ... ContribEx?

- **Community Repo** - Owns and manages overall community repo, including community group documentation and operations.
- **Communication Platforms** - Manages operations and policy for upstream community group communication platforms like Slack, Zoom and YouTube.
- **Contributor Comms** - Amplifying the success of and distributing information to Kubernetes contributors.
- **Contributor Website** - Writes and maintains documentation around contributing to Kubernetes, including the Contributor's Guide, Developer's Guide, and contributor website.
- **Elections** - Oversees running elections in the community. Maintains documentation and software for elections.

HELP
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How does ContribEx ... ContribEx?

- **Events** - Helps contributor-focused events, such as the Maintainer Summit. Event Teams are part of this subproject.
- **GitHub Management** - Manages and controls Github permissions, repos, and groups, including Org Membership.
- **Mentoring** - Oversees and develops programs for helping contributors ascend the contributor ladder, including our group mentoring cohorts.
- **Slack Infra** - Creates and maintains tools and automation for Kubernetes Slack.

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Last Week in Kubernetes Development (LWKD)



Why LWKD?



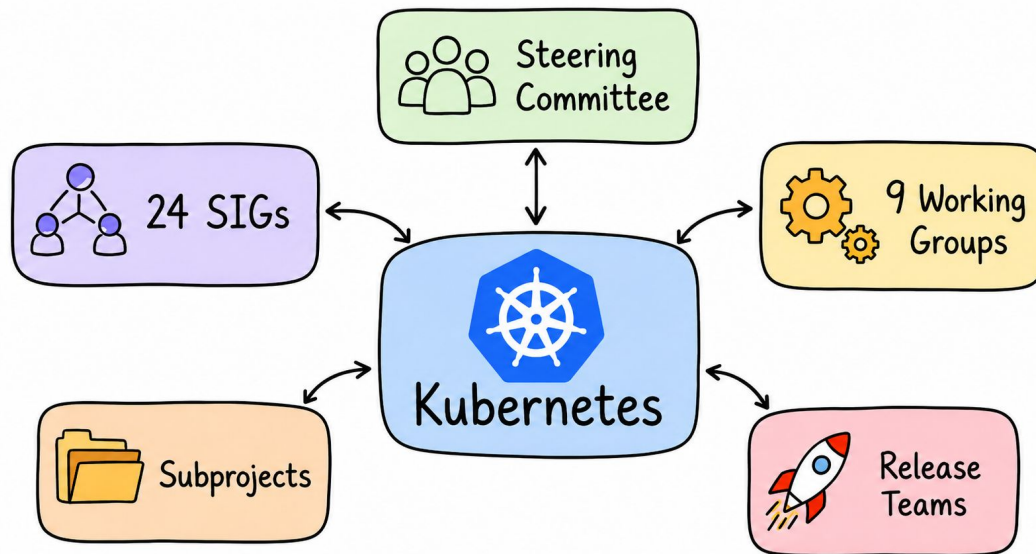
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A 15-minute weekly read to keep you up to date with Kubernetes development.



What is LWKD?



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A weekly newsletter that brings together important updates from across Kubernetes.

Includes:

- Developer News
- Featured PRs
- Other Merges
- Subproject & Dependency Updates
- Steering Committee Updates (Monthly)
- Shoutouts

Week Ending March 15, 2026

Developer News

Kubecon Europe 2026 is next week! The KubeCon EU Maintainer Summit is now sold out, and the CNCF will not allow unregistered contributors to attend due to high demand. Regardless, do join us for the [Kubernetes Meet & Greet](#) on Wednesday, March 25, which is not sold out.

The NFS CSI Driver patched a security vulnerability which could allow unauthorized users to modify or delete files.

KubeCon Japan CFP (Maintainer Track + Lightning Talks) closes April 12. KubeCon Japan Regular CFP is open until 29 March 2026. KubeCon + CloudNativeCon + OpenInfra Summit + PyTorch Conference China CFP (Maintainer Track + Lightning Talks) closes May 3, 23:59 CST / 21:29 IST / 15:59 UTC / 11:59 EDT.

Ingress-nginx will reach End of Life (EOL) on March 31, concluding its best-effort maintenance period.

Release Schedule

Next Deadline: Code & Test Freeze, 19th March 2026

Code & Test Freeze for v1.36 starts tomorrow. Make sure your feature work is completed and merged before the deadline. After the freeze, only critical fixes will be accepted, and other changes will require an exception.

The March Kubernetes patch releases are **delayed** and are currently expected to be cut early this week.

Featured PRs

[137454: KEP-4265: promote ProcMountType to GA](#)

Joe Bleda has promoted the **ProcMountType** feature to General Availability as part of KEP-4265. The change was reviewed and approved by contributors including Jordan Liggitt and members of SIG Auth, SIG Node, and SIG CLI.

What's New in LWKD?



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- Added monthly Steering Committee updates
- Introduced Google Form for section assignments



Last Week in Kubernetes Development

Stay up-to-date on Kubernetes development in 15 minutes a week.

- ✉ [Subscribe](#)
- [Mastodon](#)
- [BlueSky](#)
- [RSS](#)

[View LWKD on GitHub](#)

#gateway-api or other relevant channels.

Steering Committee Meeting


The Kubernetes Steering Committee will move all Kubernetes meeting management to the [LFX Platform](#) to address broken invites and limited access for subproject leads. The system centralizes scheduling, enables subprojects to manage meetings, and syncs with the Kubernetes calendar. Community leads will be required to create LFX accounts.

Steering [added mandatory requirements](#) to the Kubernetes AI policy. Contributors must disclose AI usage in pull requests. AI tools cannot be listed as co-authors or co-sign PRs due to Linux Foundation legal restrictions. Also, do not add mentions like “assisted by AI” in commit trailers, to prevent third-party marketing misuse.

The GitHub Admin Team introduced a per-repo opt-in policy for AI code review tools. It defines the lifecycle: request, security review, 90-day trial, and evaluation. Please [review](#) and [provide feedback](#).

To improve onboarding, ContribEx will replace the current [NCO presentations](#) with a SIG-focused format, as they were too general. This updated approach aims to make sessions more relevant and actionable, with SIG leads playing a key role in delivering them.

← # **sig-contribex-comms** 339 members • 5 tabs ▾ 🔊

 **Arpit Agrawal** 02:29

Also, a small process change for June: Instead of the GitHub issue, which was first-come, first-served, we're moving to a Google Form so that LWKD sections can be assigned more fairly.

Please fill out this form to get your sections assigned for June
[Google Form For LWKD Assignments](#)

Note: This form will be shared every month, so make sure to fill it out each time, even if you contributed last month.

Let me know if you have any questions!

Join the LWKD Community



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Interested in contributing?

- Write for LWKD
- Collaborate across the Kubernetes community
- Help keep contributors informed

Find us in: [#sig-contribex-comms](#)

Reach out to: Josh Berkus • Arpit Agrawal • Sreeram Venkitesh

Thank you to the new contributors who helps make each issue of LWKD possible.



Kirti Goyal



Harini Anand



Unnati Mishra



Yashasvi Misra



Kashish Verma



Jayesh Mahajan



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Contributor Site (kubernetes.dev)



Contributor Site (kubernetes.dev)



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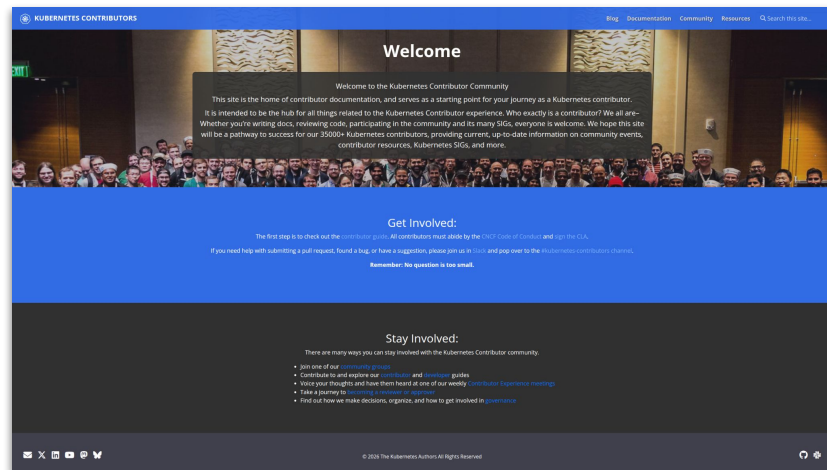
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Over the past months, several major improvements have been made to the Kubernetes contributor site (k8s.dev) to make it easier for new contributors to find resources, get started, and engage with the community.

Many thanks to the community members who contributed to these improvements.



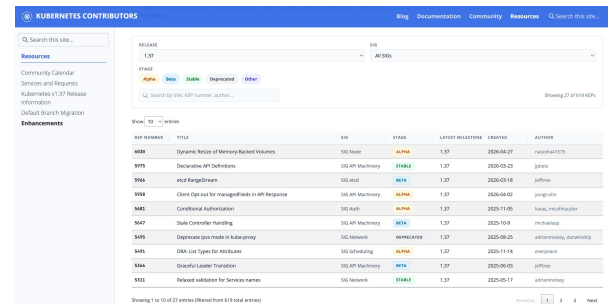
Christopher Tineo



Contributor-site (Kubernetes.dev)

A few highlights:

- Simplified **[new contributor onboarding](#)** by moving welcome content to the contributor-site homepage.
- Improved the **[Kubernetes Community Calendar](#)** to make community events easier to discover.
- Expanded ***community visibility*** with active social media links, event pages, and recognition content.
- Enhanced the visibility for **[Kubernetes Enhancement Proposals \(KEPs\)](#)** on the contributor-site to improve enhancement lifecycle tracking.



The screenshot shows the 'KUBERNETES CONTRIBUTORS' page. It features a search bar, a 'Resources' sidebar, and a main table of Enhancement Proposals (KEPs). The table columns are: KEP NUMBER, TITLE, SIG, STATUS, LATEST RELEASES, CREATED, and AUTHOR. The table lists various proposals such as 'Dynamic Resize of Memory-backed Volumes', 'Disruptive API Enhancements', and 'Client Opt-out for managedNodes in API Response'.

KEP NUMBER	TITLE	SIG	STATUS	LATEST RELEASES	CREATED	AUTHOR
489	Dynamic Resize of Memory-backed Volumes	SIG Node	alpha	1.37	2024-04-27	shambharya123
975	Disruptive API Enhancements	SIG API Machinery	alpha	1.37	2024-03-21	gohar
976	and EgoStreams	SIG Node	beta	1.37	2024-03-14	gohar
958	Client Opt-out for managedNodes in API Response	SIG API Machinery	alpha	1.37	2024-04-04	gohar
948	Conditional Authentication	SIG Auth	alpha	1.37	2024-11-09	hahm, muphaz
847	Static Controller Handoff	SIG API Machinery	beta	1.37	2024-10-09	richknappe
845	Deprecate ipvs mode in kube-proxy	SIG Network	beta	1.37	2024-08-25	adrianmerry, danwinship
841	DRM: List Types for Attributes	SIG Scheduling	alpha	1.37	2024-11-14	evgenise
834	Graceful Leader Transition	SIG API Machinery	beta	1.37	2024-09-03	gohar
831	Revised validation for Service names	SIG Network	beta	1.37	2024-05-17	adrianmerry

Contributor-site (Kubernetes.dev)



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A few highlights:

- Streamlined contributor-site container image build automation and published a ***official prebuilt image*** to speed up previews and simplify local setup.
- Modernized the platform with ***multi-architecture preview builds*** and ***migration to Hugo Modules***.

...with many more improvements underway.

What are we upto next?

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- Onboard ***more reviewers***.
- Enable new contributors to take on greater ownership over time.



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Slack Management



Slack Management



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kubernetes-sigs / slack-infra

Code Issues Pull requests Actions Projects Security and quality Insights

slack-infra Public

Edit Pins Watch 6 Fork 36 Star 101

README Code of conduct Contributing Apache-2.0 license Security

Kubernetes Slack Infra

This repo contains tooling for the [Kubernetes slack instance](#).

We have the following tools:

- [slack-event-log](#): Event logging for global Kubernetes events. Watch users join, create/remove emoji, and so forth.
- [slack-report-message](#): Enables users to optionally anonymously report messages, and sends those reports to some Slack channel
- [slack-moderator](#): Like `slack-report-message`, but if a Slack Admin or Owner uses the "report" button, instead lets them remove users and/or their content.
- [slack-moderator-words](#): Displays a message to users if they use non-inclusive language
- [slack-welcomer](#): Sends a welcome message to every user who joins Slack.
- [slack-post-message](#): Enables users who are part of a given slack usergroup(s), to post message in multiple channel(s) using a Modal form
- [Tempelis](#): Control your Slack setup with yaml config files. Combine with a CI system to implement Slack GitOps.

Tooling for kubernetes.slack.com - <https://github.com/kubernetes-sigs/slack-infra>

Slack Management



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Tempelis

Tempelis updates the state of Slack to match the provided yaml configuration files. Combined with a CI system, it can be used to implement GitOps for Slack.

Recent updates:

- Implemented a **--validate** flag for Tempelis to enable offline parsing and configuration validation.
- Enabled the [pull-community-tempelis-check presubmit job](#) for validation in pull requests.
- The **slackin** tool has been deprecated and removed.

...with more improvements underway.

Slack Management



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What are we upto next?

- Modernize the tooling codebase.
- Strengthen presubmit and postsubmit validation checks.
- Encourage more new contributors to get involved.



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New Contributor Orientation(NCO)



Introduction



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The ***Kubernetes New Contributor Orientation (NCO)*** meetings are an initiative owned by the mentoring subproject of SIG-ContribEx. Started in September of 2024, these sessions take place on the third Tuesday of each month across two time zones. The purpose of these meetings is to orient prospective new contributors to the community and provide a beginner friendly overview of what Kubernetes does as a technology, how the community is structured, how it functions, discuss common pitfalls and how they might fit into the community as "contributors."

Thanks to the tremendous efforts of the community members behind it, we have many great success stories to share! 🎉



Avni Mahajan



Swathi Rao



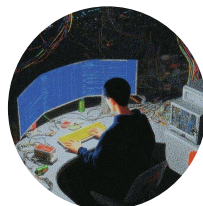
Kaslin Fields



Arpit Agrawal



Chris Short



Darshan Murthy



Mario Fahlandt



Matthias Bertschy



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How do I get involved?



How do I get involved? (Experienced Contributors)



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Supporting the New Contributor Orientations are a beginner-friendly, high impact way to support the Kubernetes Community. These sessions help new contributors find their footing in the project ecosystem and help them take their first steps as contributors.

How do I get involved? (Experienced Contributors)



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There are multiple opportunities for both new and experienced contributors in this space. Here are a few ways to get involved:

How do I get involved? (Experienced Contributors)



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Small actions go a long way! Previous NCO Attendees are encouraged to share testimonials, which will be used for social media posts(with due credit). Community members can also support this initiative by directing new contributors to upcoming NCO sessions and the playlist of previous sessions. Additionally, contributors can help by sharing any good first issues within their SIGs, ensuring that the issues shared in the session are up to date.

Please scan the QR code to add your testimonial if you've been an NCO attendee in the past!



How do I get involved? (Experienced Contributors)



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If you're an experienced contributor who is an org member and wants to give back to the community, please volunteer to be a host for NCO sessions! Hosts support these sessions by helping guide discussions, answering questions and ensuring that attendees have a positive experience and know where to find the resources they need. If you're interested, please through the [Host Handbook](#) and express your interest in ``#sig-contribex-nco-staff``. Shoutout to NCO hosts who have conducted previous sessions!



Frederico Muñoz



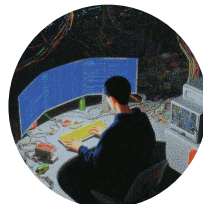
Kaslin Fields



Arpit Agrawal



Chris Short



Darshan Murthy



Mario Fahlandt



Matthias Bertschy

How do I get involved? (Experienced Contributors)



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If you are a SIG Chair or an active participant in a SIG, we would love to have you conduct a SIG-focused NCO sessions. These sessions provide an opportunity to introduce new contributors to your SIG's area of work, communication channels and onboarding resources. So far, **SIG CLI** and **SIG Release** have conducted NCO sessions. They can help prospective contributors better understand how they can get involved and make meaningful contributions within your SIG!

How do I get involved? (New Contributors)



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New contributors can also help gather and maintain lists of "good first issues" across SIGs, making it easier for newcomers to discover meaningful opportunities to get involved.

Avni Jan 14th at 7:54 PM
Hi everyone! Happy New Year! ^^
As part of SIG Contribex Comms' New Contributor Orientation Meeting (Jan 2026), we're looking for beginner-friendly, "good first issues" for new contributors.
If your sig has any, just let us know!
Please share them before January 20, so we can include them in the orientation. Thank you so much for helping make it easier for newcomers to get started! ^^

2 replies

René Dudfield Jan 15th at 9:39 PM
Hi. Our good first issue label is here:
<https://github.com/kubernetes-sigs/headlamp/issues?q=is%3Aissue%20state%3Aopen%20label%3A%22good%20first%20issue%22>
We were going to be working on some more over the next few weeks. So there should be more before your Jan 20 date.

Avni Jan 15th at 10:06 PM
Thank you so much

How do I get involved? (New Contributors)



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To ensure that NCO content remains engaging and relevant to prospective contributors, we plan to continue expanding our SIG-focused sessions following the success of the SIG focused sessions in April and May. New contributors can support these efforts by collaborating with SIG leads to organize sessions that showcase SIG activities and help new contributors learn how to get involved.

How do I get involved? (New Contributors)



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New contributors can help increase the outreach of NCO sessions by writing social media posts for upcoming sessions and gather testimonials from previous attendees.

How do I get involved? (New Contributors)



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New contributors can help conduct user experience research/gather feedback to understand how attendees benefit from the NCO, what works well and what can be improved to help make future sessions better!

How do I get involved?



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Please express your interest in the `#sig-contribex-nco-staff` channel on Slack to learn more!



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Testimonials from Attendees



NCO - Testimonials



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“For the longest part, I have found contributing to open source very difficult. I tried a couple of times but lost motivation. I always wanted to be part of the community but finding a good way in was a challenge.

One of the colleagues was kind enough to share about the New Contributor Orientation with me. It was a while back that I attended the meeting and realized that I am not the only one starting out new and have doubts and hesitation. ***The meeting became a good place for me to get started with smaller issues. I found out about `good-first-issues` tags and started there.***

Later, I moved to bigger issues and after a while I gained confidence in the space. The meeting became a good stepping stone for getting into the community and start contributing consistently. I have gained a lot of insight into how the community works and helps people who are new to the space. ***Since then I have recommended the NCO to many folks who have reached out with the question, “Where do I get started with contributing to Kubernetes ecosystem?”***

— Ira Pandey

NCO - Testimonials



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Attending a New Contributor Orientation was one of the things that helped me make sense of the Kubernetes community. As a new contributor, I found it overwhelming to understand how all the SIGs, working groups, and subprojects fit together. ***The NCO gave me a much clearer picture of how the community works and where I could contribute.*** After attending, I started contributing to LWKD, through SIG Contributor Experience, explored SIG Docs, and eventually joined the Kubernetes Release Team.

Looking back, ***the NCO was one of the first things that helped me understand that Kubernetes isn't just code, it's a community with many different ways to contribute.*** It made getting started feel much less intimidating

— ***Kirti Goyal***

NCO - Testimonials



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“As someone who was new to the Kubernetes community, I found the New Contributor Orientation Meeting incredibly valuable. **It helped me understand how the ecosystem operates and showed me that there are many ways to contribute, regardless of experience level.** I also discovered LWKD through the session, which became one of my first entry points into community involvement. **I left with a much clearer picture of the community and how I could participate which as a newcomer was really helpful.**”

— Avni Mahajan

NCO - Testimonials



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“I joined the new contributor meeting for the very first time on 9th Nov'25 and it turned out to be a genuinely lovely experience. @matthyx walked us through how the whole ecosystem works, and he did it in such a simple, friendly way that it really helped things click for me.

The Contributor Ladder slide especially pulled me in as ***I've always been curious about how people actually move from being a non-member to becoming a more active part of the project.*** I asked Mathias about it, and he shared a detailed document that broke everything down clearly, which I really appreciated.

Then I started joining SIG-ContribEx meetings (the friday meetings are so fun!), and I was welcomed so warmly by Priyanka and the team that it immediately felt like a safe space to ask questions and learn.

NCO really helped me navigate through this "how do i start contributing?" maze!"

— Arnab Nandi

Attend a NCO session!



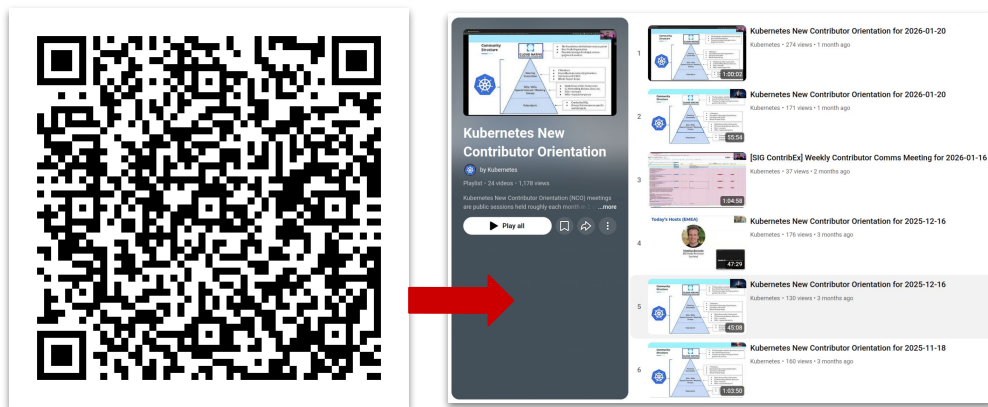
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Scan the QR code to access the previous recordings via the Kubernetes NCO youtube playlist.



Or join the upcoming NCO session(s) on **July 21st, 2026.**

(Note - please login into google account first and then scan for the below calendar invite)



APAC / EMEA



AMER

Where to find us?



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git.k8s.io/community/sig-contributor-experience



slack.k8s.io

[#sig-contribex](#), [#sig-contribex-comms](#), [#sig-contribex-elections](#)



groups.google.com/g/kubernetes-sig-contribex

zoom

ContribEx Americas, Bi-weekly on Wednesdays@ 5:00 PM UTC ([convert to your timezone](#))

ContribEx APAC, Bi-weekly on Wednesdays@ 8:30 AM UTC ([convert to your timezone](#))

(please join the mailing list for meeting invites)



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Thank You!

Stay hydrated...



