

A large, stylized yellow coral graphic in the top-left corner.

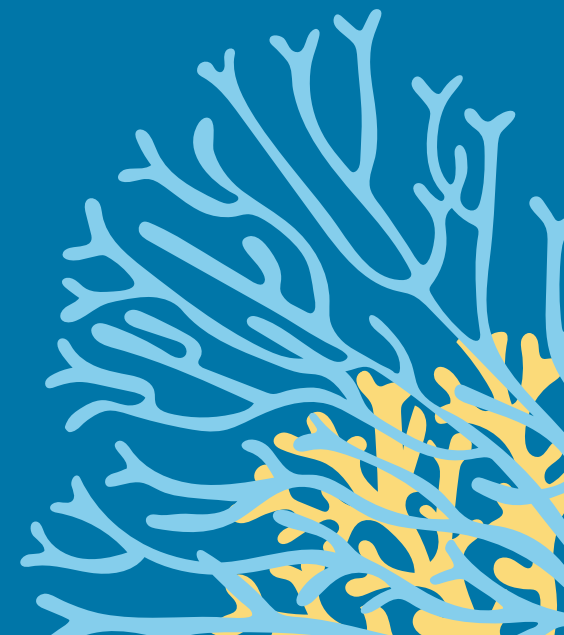
SFSCON 2025

What Java User Groups can teach us

about growing open source communities.



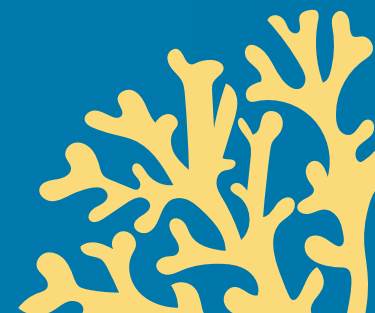
Dominika Tasarz-Sochacka

A large, stylized blue coral graphic in the bottom-left corner.A large, stylized yellow coral graphic in the bottom-right corner.

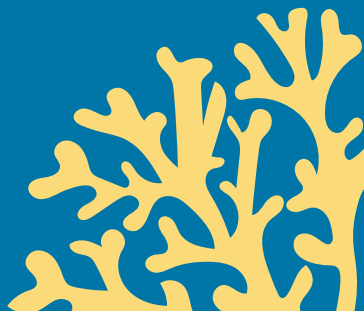
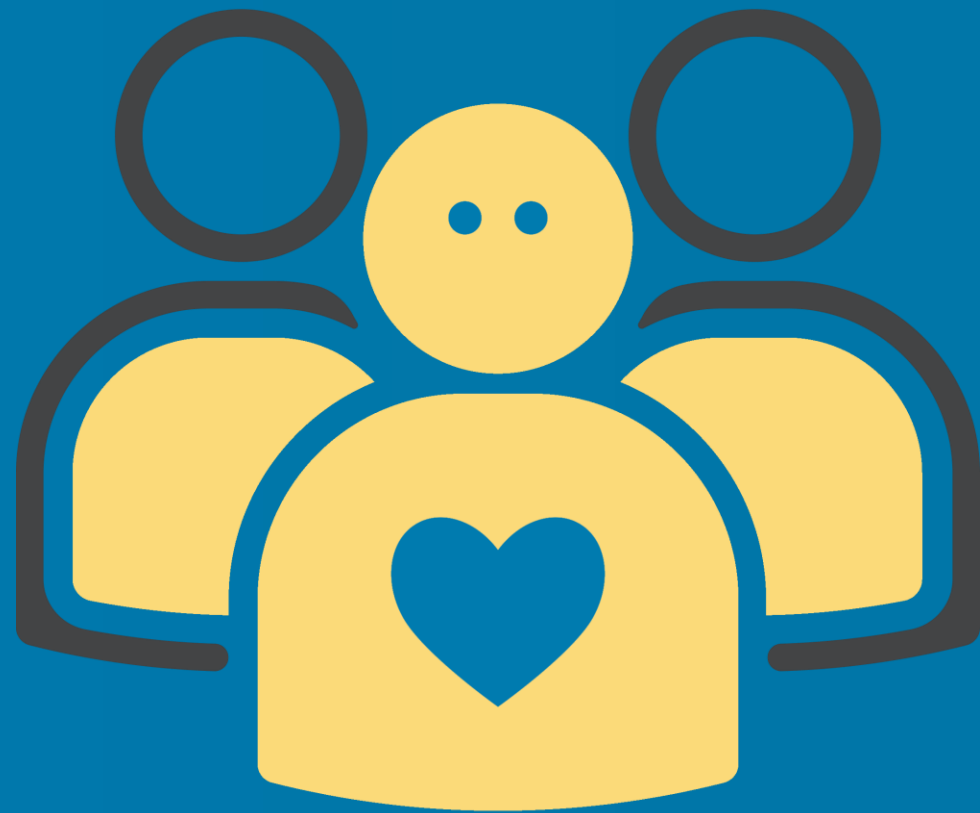
Every thriving community is built on...

- Consistency
- Passion
- Expertise
- Dedication

But most importantly...



PEOPLE



JUGs are...

...volunteer communities where Java developers connect, share knowledge, and grow together - building a more inclusive and collaborative Java ecosystem worldwide.





Lesson #1 - Geography Shapes Opportunity

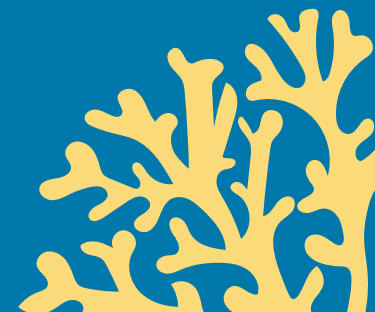


- City vs Suburbs
- Large Businesses
- Universities
- Public Transport



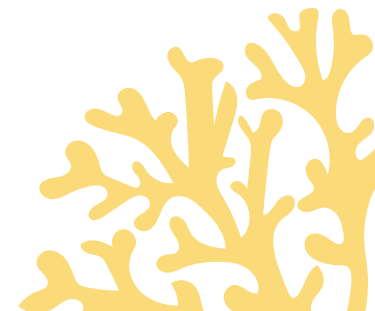
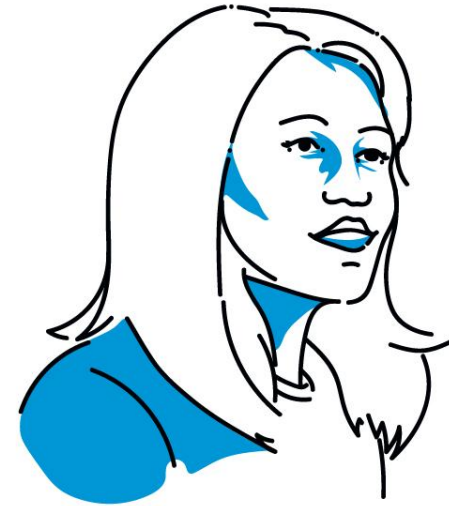
Lesson #2: Partnerships and Independence

- Business Partners
- University Partnerships
- Sponsorships
- Local connections
- Organic Growth
- Bureaucracy



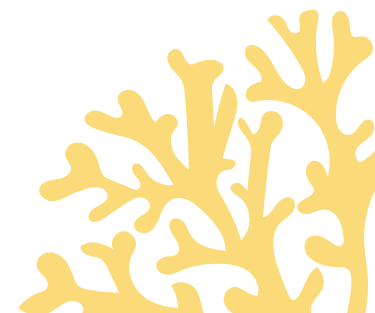
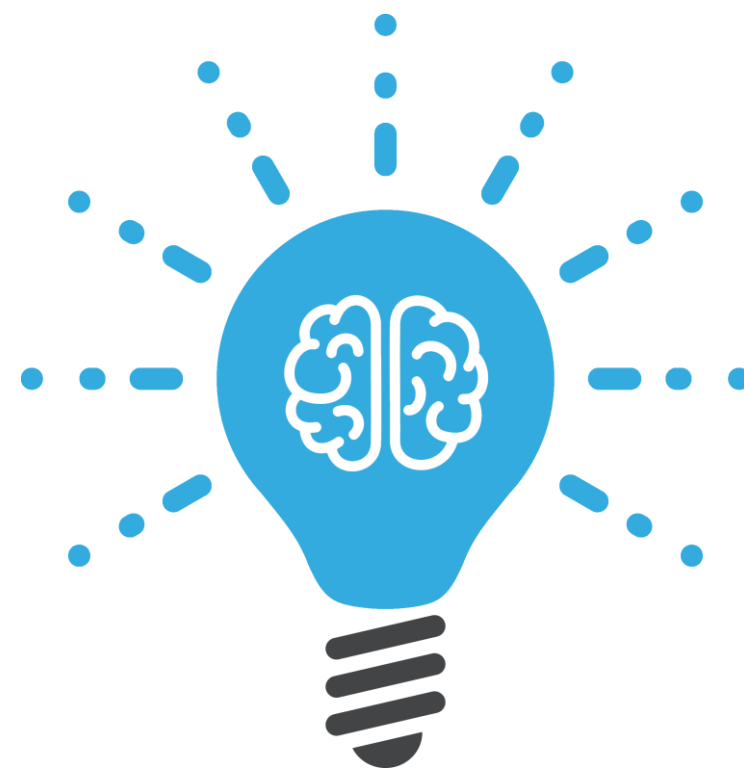
Lesson #3: Leadership is Culture

- Volunteer Leaders
- Care & Community > Career
- Cooperation not Competition
- Expertise Building Credibility



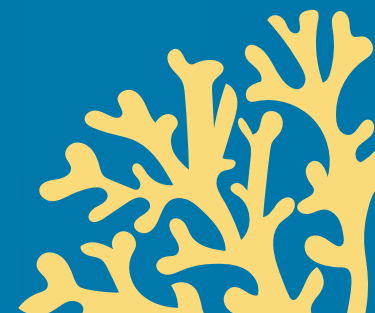
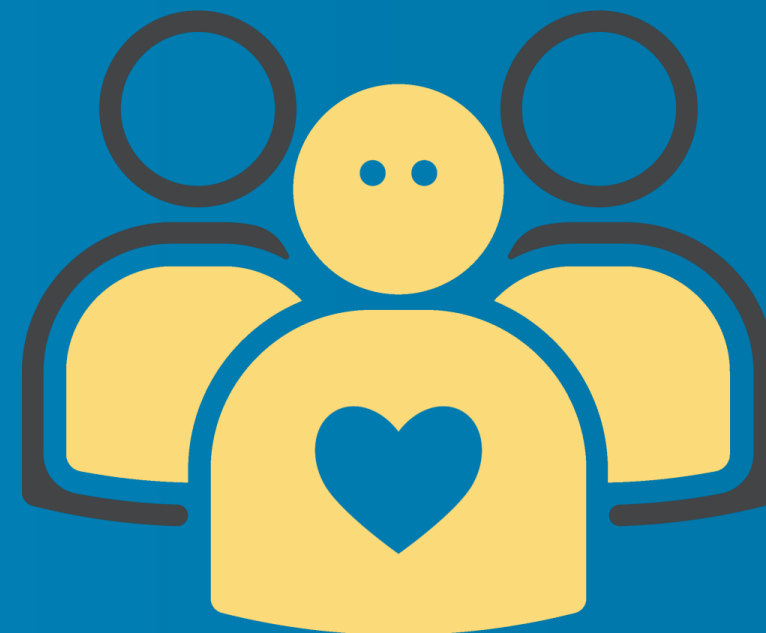
Lesson #4: Content Keeps People Coming Back

- Relevance
- Format (virtual vs f2f)
- Balance the 'hot' and 'useful'
- Engagement
- Speakers
- Consistency
- Feedback



Lesson #5: It's all about PEOPLE

- It's not about tools or frameworks - it's about people who care
- Open source thrives when we keep showing up for each other



THANK YOU!

