Interview script

Briefing

Thank you for joining us today _____.

We appreciate your voluntary help with this research study. We are interested in hearing about your experience in contributing to open source software for social good. As a reminder, this interview will be recorded for internal purposes only. In addition, throughout the interview we will be taking notes. Your identity will remain anonymous as mentioned in the consent form that was sent to you. Other than your email address, no other personal information will be collected. (Your email will only be used for the purposes of scheduling your interview and sending you the electronic gift card at the end of the study. Once that is delivered, your email address will be deleted from our study records.)

Before we begin, do you have any questions for me? Great. I'll begin the interview recording now.

Background

1. Tell us about yourself.
    a. What is your background?
    b. Which region are you located in?
    c. What would you consider your professional field?

Maintenance practices and challenges

1. As a maintainer what is your daily work like?
    a. How many hours per week do you allocate to maintaining [project name]?
    b. What are the challenges you face when maintaining the project?
2. Is maintaining project [ProjectName] part of your day job?
    a. Are you paid to be a maintainer?
3. How many years have you been maintaining [project name] for?
4. Are you the owner of the project?
    a. Did you initiate the project?
5. How many maintainers are in your project?
6. What goals do you have for your project?
7. What do you look for in a potential new maintainer?
    a. What characteristics differentiate a maintainer from a contributor?
8. How do you feel about being explicitly identified as the maintainer of the project?

Participatory design part:

Now we move on to the design feedback part, during this part you will be presented with examples of community growth recommendation and two project growth recommendations specifically designed for your project.

To be clear, this is not a feature that exists on GitHub. We simply want your perspective on how this information can be presented to you.

[script newcomers]
The first is about recognizing active newcomers.
Based on newcomers' activity in the 6 months period between 01/01/2021 and 06/30/2021, this dashboard presents:

in orange, the number of newcomers who joined in each month,
in blue the number of newcomers that were active each month,
in green the number of newcomers that were retained from the past month.

For the [projectName] project, XX newcomers joined the project during the 6 months period out of which XX have been active for at least 3 months.

Please take a minute to read through this recommendation

[while sharing screen]
1. What information would you use to take action towards this recommendation?
   a. #issues, #PR, #commits, #months, date joined
2. Does this recommendation align with your goal for the projects?

[After community growth recommendation]
3. Would you be interested in a similar recommendation for core contributors?
4. Would you be interested in a similar recommendation for rising maintainers?
5. What other community recommendations would be interesting to you?

[Script project growth]
The second recommendation is about newcomers' friendly issues and open source for social good tags. Please take a moment to read through this recommendation.

[while sharing screen]
6. What information would you use to take action towards this recommendation?
7. Does this recommendation align with your goal for the projects?

[After project growth recommendations]
8. What other project recommendations would be interesting to you?

Debriefing:
We are reaching the end of our interview; do you have anything else you want to add that we didn't cover? Thank you again for participating in today's study. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email me. If you think of any other comments that you forgot to mention during today let me know.