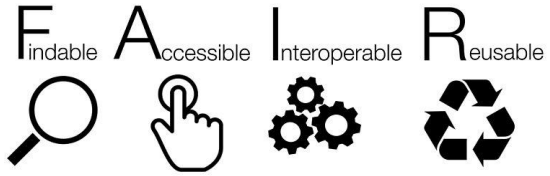
WikiFAIR

Maximilian Kristen
Ludwig Maximillians University Munich

Frieder Leipold
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Abstract

In this research we propose to develop and document possible direct integrations of research data into Wikimedia projects under FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) principles. This process could be beneficial for researchers in a diverse set of circumstances, by reducing the cost of developing and maintaining their own FAIR-compatible publication platform.
The focus is to create an expansive guideline with case-studies for different integration models, while also collecting feedback from researchers on the process.
For an overview of the state of the proposal at the moment, see https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/WikiFAIR



Introduction

Problem Statement

Many researchers want and need to publish their data as FAIR, but for smaller and budget constrained teams the task of providing a FAIR solution is work intensive and often hard to maintain after the project's lifetime.

Importance

Implementing a WikiFAIR guideline with a portfolio of case studies ensures research data is more accessible, interoperable, and reusable, greatly benefiting the scientific community, while the closer integration with Wikimedia projects will enhance their engagement and the overall data quality.

Beneficiaries

Researchers, Educators, Wikimedia contributors, and the wider public will benefit from more structured, accessible, and high-quality data.

Research Questions

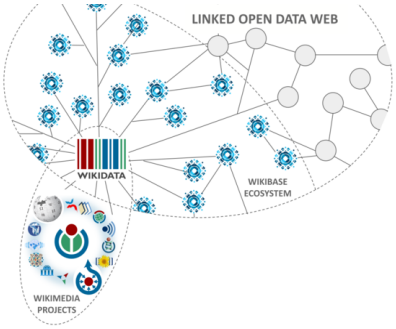
- What are possible ways to directly integrate research data into Wikimedia Projects?
- How do they differ in terms of complexity and eventual benefits?
- What integration processes do researchers prefer, and how much do they trust the Wikimedia Community with their data?
- What improvements in data quality and community engagement can be achieved through this integration?

Dates

Start: June 1, 2024. End: June 30, 2025.

Related work

A plethora of research projects has integrated their data with platforms like Wikidata or Wikimedia Commons over the years, e.g. deckenmalerei.eu by linking their website with a property, or the many projects on Wikibase.cloud, that sometimes link back to specific Wikidata items. All of those projects have become part of the Linked Open Data Web, as shown below.



One goal of this research is creating a comprehensive portfolio of case studies using differing approaches to this topic, while standing on the shoulders of these already existing tools and platforms.

Methods

Data Collection

- Surveys from workshop participants.
- Comparative analysis of data quality and community engagement before and after implementation.

Surveys

- Assess understanding and application of WikiFAIR principles among participants.

Analysis

- Evaluate the impact of workshops on the quality and accessibility of research data.

Expected output

- A fully defined and marketable approach called WikiFAIR, that can be implemented and understood by researchers, with a related publication
- Increased visibility and use of Wikimedia and its related technologies in the wider research community and a deeper entanglement of both communities
- Enhanced quality and accessibility of Wikimedia content.
- Events focused on presenting this approach to interested communities
- Presentations at Wikiworkshop.org or Wikimedia Research Showcase

Risks

- Variability in participant engagement.
- Challenges in quantifying the impact on data quality.

Community impact plan

- Engage with Wikimedia communities for broader adoption and impact.
- Collaborative initiatives with Wikimedia contributors.
- Showing the benefit of the active Wikimedia community working on

the integrated data and enhancing its quality

Evaluation

Success will be measured by the extent of WikiFAIR principles adoption and improvements in data quality and accessibility.
Furthermore the successful publication of a paper on WikiFAIR and the interpretation of the survey results of workshop participants are part of the evaluation.

Budget

Approximately $25,000 for salaries, $2500 for organizing workshops, $2500 for content development (including graphics etc.).

Prior contributions

Experience in similar workshops development of integration models with different Wikimedia projects. E.g the integration of deckenmalerei.eu, WikiProject:Manors, DeJongeWiki and others. For an detailed overview see the case studies at https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/WikiFAIR

Image Credits:

- FAIR - By SangyaPundir - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=53414062
- Linked Open Data Web: By Manuel Merz (WMDE) (talk) for WMDE - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=112014622