

Research on Future Markets for Wikibase

by futur2 – a critical design studio

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Key findings

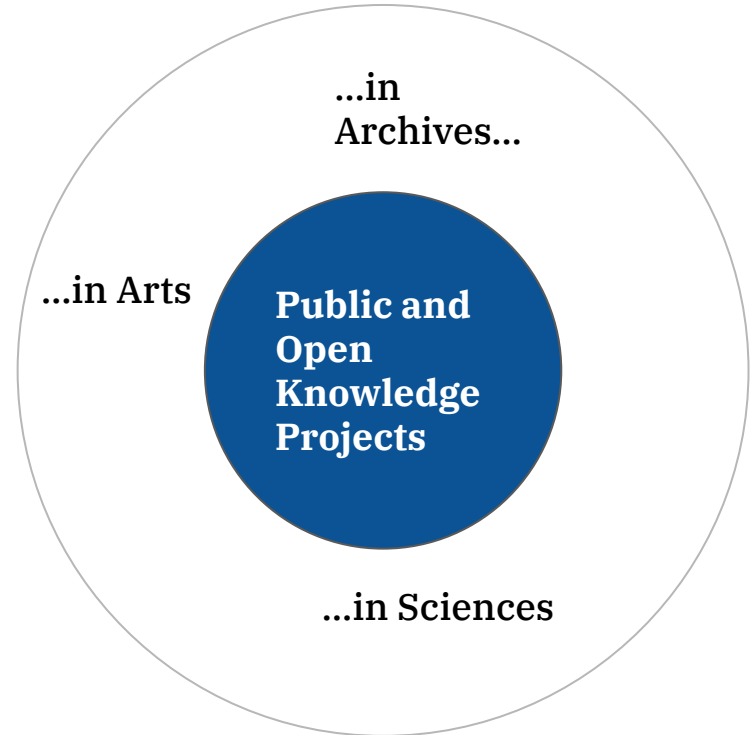
- **Narrow your narrative**
focus on concrete use cases
- **Galleries/Libraries/Archives/Museums is not the future market**
public and open knowledge projects are
- **Provide demo and tinkering opportunities**
demonstrating a working demo is essential to convince people in institutions
- **Get the performance right**
importing large data sets is essential

Narrow your narrative – focus on concrete use cases

Wikibase needs to structure
its packaging and feature
communication to better
match their what the *users*
want to do

GLAM is not the future market

Wikidata matches the needs for some GLAM institutions, but GLAM is not the market itself – it is public and open knowledge projects.



Engage with those who engage

The decision to implement Wikibase is always made after a real-data proof of concept. Often, an enthusiastic person knowing the wiki-world builds a prototype.

Making this easier to set up a demo eases convincing institutions to go with Wikibase

Get the performance right

Core clients in public and open knowledge projects need to handle large datasets. Currently, ingestion performance for external datasets is low.

Competitor Analysis

- Semantic Media Wiki
- Linked Data Hub
- Cubic Web
- Past Perfect
- Atom

- Collective Access
- WissKI
- Axiell
- eHive
- Airtable

Background on “GLAM is not the future market”

Budget allocation

There is one simple fork: Money or no money

Some institutions focus their attention on custom solutions and spending money on payroll costs and thus have developers or at least tech-interested people who can make things work.

Consequently, less is invested in costly pre-packaged, convenient solutions.

Background on “GLAM is not the future market”

Standard solutions for standard problems

“TMS runs for one or two decades, it’s the standard for museum collection software”

For a museum that does not see itself as providing “open knowledge” and “just” needs to manage their collection, Wikibase would not make much sense when other software can supply specialized solutions that do not need tech know-how.

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Full report

(as a full research report it might not be easy to understand for all disciplines in all sections, so feel free to ask questions!)