Education Program 2019: learnings, new projects, metrics & risk assessment

What have we learnt in 2018 and how impacts in this new proposal?

Generating quality content is key and it is a characteristic of our program.During the last 3 years we have increased the number of articles created and we have also worked to promote quality as one of our main metrics by involving universities and social organizations in the creation of reliable information. During 2018, we learnt that a great amount of participants does not directly generate an increase of content, on the contrary, the content created lacks quality and demands a lot of mentoring that we cannot provide with this program. As we have already said, the importance behind the education programs in the Wikimedia Movement is based on the learning process that the teachers and students go through by using Wikipedia and all the capabilities they develop. And this goes beyond quantity. In fact this is closely aligned to another challenge that we are facing: the educators and students' trainings. To train just on how to edit Wikipedia covers neither the real potential of Wikipedia as a learning tool nor the educators and students' needs.

For these reasons, in 2019, we have defined two new strategic lines of work; the first aiming to do academic research along with educators to start defining new ways of evaluating the education programs within the movement; the second to provide teachers with new skills , through new and diverse trainings.

What innovation does our program bring to the movement?

The education programs face the same problems over and over again in the movement. We haven't defined specific metrics to measure more qualitatively the impact of the programs and we haven't discussed enough whether education in the Wikimedia movement is just about creating content in Wikipedia. The new ED and the process we are undergoing as a movement is the best opportunity to approach these pending challenges as a way to to bring innovation and diversity into the education programs:

- **Defining Impact**: we are going to start working on research. We want to analyze the impact that Wikipedia brings into the classrooms through the teachers' experiences. We are going to define new education metrics to answer the needs of the programs, share and discuss them within the movement, as well as supporting the production of cases of study and academic papers.

- **Diversifying topics**: the education programs go beyond Wikipedia. They are about bringing free culture into the classroom and understand how it cross-cuts diverse topics. In 2019 we are going to broaden the program, addressing new themes that are of interest of the teachers and students, regarding education and digital rights. We expect both, to strengthen the engagement and build a learning community and to position the Wikimedia projects as allies in topics as misinformation, digital rights, privacy, civic rights, cybersecurity, gender, etc.
- **Involve missing voices in the movement**: to broaden the program will help us involve organizations with perspectives that are currently missing as part of the movement, as per example digital rights organizations and defenders or teachers and students from emerging communities. For this, we will strengthen our work regarding Human Rights with new trainings and the 1st RightsCon as well as design a new regional educational website to make accessible open educational resources to teachers and students in the LATAM region.

Why are granted-metrics relevant to this program?

During 2018 we focused on measuring the quality of the content produced and the participation of young girls. Gender and quality will remain as cross-cutting metrics in all our programs; however, we found that these metrics have limits:
a) quality does not necessary mean diversity
b) the gender metric hasn't provide us the relevant information we expected. There are two great reason to understand this situation; within the schools we carry out specifics activities that last as much a couple of months and in most of the classrooms gender- parity is a common scenario.

In 2019 we want to increase our impact by focusing in diversity and impact, that in our education program can be understand as:
- Online content diversity: keeping the quality, improve and create content to narrow the existing gaps as gender, LGBTIQ+, local history etc.
- Impact: Offline diversity: number of new voices (organizations, communities etc.) from outside the movement and that address topics beyond education, that become partners of the program.

What factors can affect the planning development and how are we going to solve that?

- The economic instability expected for 2019, in addition to the beginning of an electoral year, predicts a complicated context. In order to reduce the impact we are going to continue relieving our allies from having to provide the financial resources as well as continuing being flexible when implementing our program. For this purpose, it is essential to promote online and offline proposals and adapt them to the suitable time of the school year.
- The context can affect the interest and priorities of educators. To reduce this impact, we are going to develop training courses for educators in collaboration with diverse and strategic alliances that include all the interests of the community in relation to free and digital culture in schools.
- The Education Program wants to continue growing at a regional scale. Just like in 2018, the projects that we carried out - Wikipuentes and WikiDDHH - are agreed with the local chapters and allies. Even though some countries have very complicated contexts, such as Venezuela, we have already carried out activities with the local community that have been sucessfull.
- Carrying out the I Conference on Human Rights and   LATAM is a great challenge. We have the necessary resources to carry it out at a local scale, pero taking it to a regional scale would allow us to include Latin American groups and allies that work promoting Human Rights in internet and that are not yet an active part of the Wikimedia movement. If we finally do not have the necessary resources, we will organize a local version, as a regional and global precedent.