All the world’s GLAM institutions

and how we tried to find them

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Imagine a global database of cultural heritage institutions
FindingGLAMs

- [https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/FindingGLAMs](https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/FindingGLAMs)
- Every museum, library, gallery, archive in the world should have a Wikidata item
- Project by WMSE, in collaboration with UNESCO and WMF
- Financing from the Swedish Postcode Foundation, an organization that promotes positive social development
Finding GLAMs

- Ends on November 15, 2019
  February 29, 2020
GLAMs in numbers

- 129,000 museums, libraries and archives on Wikidata
- Does not represent the world accurately
- IFLA estimates 2.5 million libraries in the world – 57,000 on Wikidata
- Museum Data Files has 30,000 museums in the USA – 3,900 on Wikidata
GLAMs on Wikidata: increase from April 2019 (yellow) to October 2019 (purple).
John Cummings, CC-BY-SA-4.0
Work with datasets

- A large part of the FindingGLAMs project
- Lots of datasets exist, in different formats, with varying quality and licenses
- **US Public Libraries Survey**
  - Public Domain (government publication)
- **Advancing Library Visibility in Africa**
  - CC0
A lot of the data exists, spread across the world. Here we are collecting it all in one place. Knowing these datasets exist helps us coordinate our work and highlights what **does not** exist. The gaps are equally important!

https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/FindingGLAMs/GLAM_datasets
Enabling dialog: Archives Portal Europe

- A directory of 2,000 archival institutions in Europe: https://www.archivesportaleurope.net/en/directory
- We reached out about how Wikidata and open data are valuable
- Positive response, real chance of CC0
Editing together

Official datasets are not enough to achieve full coverage of GLAMs. That’s why we want more people, especially those directly involved in the GLAM sector, to add data to Wikidata.

Many have heard about Wikidata and are curious about how it can enrich their work.
Becoming a Wikidata editor

There is a threshold to cross before people can start editing:

- How is the data structured?
- How do I find what I’m interested in, e.g. all museums in a city?
- What properties are commonly used with certain classes of items, and where do I find them?
Monumental

Currently: https://tools.wmflabs.org/monumental-glam

New version will be available soon: https://finding-glams.wmflabs.org/

Makes **searching**, **viewing** and **editing** GLAM items on Wikidata easier for beginners.
Monumental

The user is provided with a form to edit.

Filling in fields is easier than finding relevant properties and creating statements directly in Wikidata.

Limited possibilities mean less anxiety and lower error risk.
Crowdsourcing campaign

https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/FindingGLAMs_Campaign

A global campaign to encourage people, especially in the GLAM sector, to improve the data about GLAMs on Wikidata.

Late 2019 / early 2020.
Getting your local community engaged

https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/FindingGLAMs/Information_for_coordinators

You can help organize the crowdsourcing campaign in your local community by reaching out to Wikimediators and GLAM professionals in your network.
Wikidata enables re-use

Once on Wikidata, the data can be used by:

- Wikipedians
- Researchers
- Journalists
- Cultural heritage institutions
- Search engines / digital information services
Wikidata supports other Wikimedia projects

Better coverage of GLAMs on Wikidata makes it easier for Wikipedians to prioritize their efforts.

Wikipedia versions with few editors can use Wikidata to create and update content more efficiently, becoming more relevant for the speakers of their language.
Learn more

https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/FindingGLAMs

https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/FindingGLAMs_Campaign