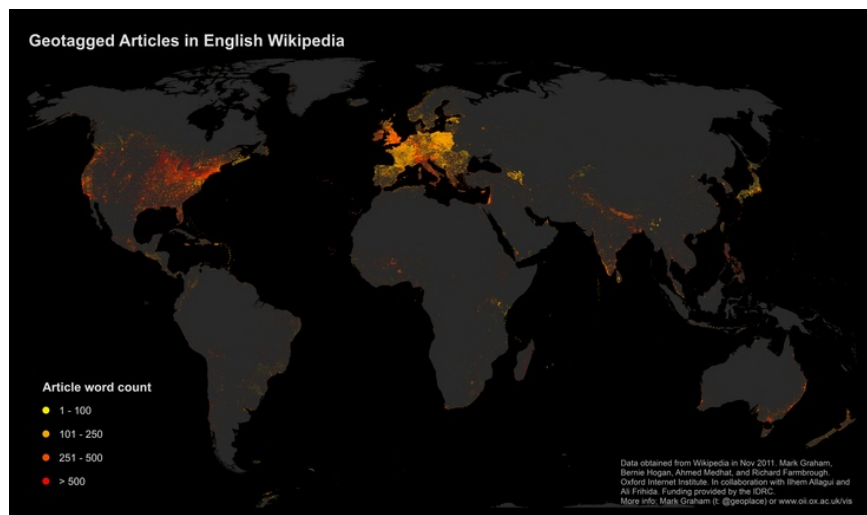


WIKIPEDIA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Providing on Wikipedia the information necessary to complete the cycle of primary education in the languages used by the different education systems.

RESEARCH PROBLEM

Wikipedia is meant to be an educational tool and it is currently available online, via mobile phones and offline. Experiences have shown that, once accessible, Wikipedia does not provide information that responds directly to curriculum-based questions. The project relies on Wikipedia as an existing and growing resource, it solves the need for an encyclopedia capable of responding to curriculum-based questions, and it fosters Wikipedia content, quality and outreach.



THE PROJECT

The research project developed within a Swiss-South African cooperation (2014-2017) focuses on the theoretical frame of Wikipedia Primary School and in developing and evaluating a system to assess Wikipedia articles for primary education and to involve a wide network of scholars and contributors in their production.

More specifically the project aims at:

1. Bridging Wikipedia and primary education. This objective implies to move the Wikipedia community towards a focus on primary education, and at the same time to strengthen the capacity of the education ecosystem to contribute to Wikipedia, and in general to open collaborative knowledge.
2. Enriching Wikipedia with new content relevant to primary education. This objective implies an assessment of the articles produced.
3. Fostering the development of translations and new content in different Wikipedia linguistic editions. This objective implies the release of existing educational resources (OER in cc by or cc by-sa), the production of datasets and the involvement of the Wikimedia movement.
4. Verifying and evaluating the use of Wikipedia as a source of information for primary education. This objective implies the involvement of stakeholders and data analysis.

Wikipedia Primary School contributes to universal primary education and to the Millennium Development Goals (MDG2: Achieve Universal Primary Education). Even if it is scalable and international, the project is conceived primarily to address African countries and languages.

RESEARCH TEAM

The research is developed within a Swiss-South African cooperation lead by the University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI) and the University of Cape Town, in partnership with Wikimedia Switzerland and the Africa Centre based in Cape Town, and with the support of SNF and the South African National Research Foundation (NRF).

Iolanda Pensa (principal investigator Switzerland), Tobias Schönwetter (principal investigator South Africa), Luca Botturi, Davide Fornari, Giancarlo Gianocca, Isla Haddow-Flood, Erica Litrenta, Giovanni Profeta, Kelsey Wiens.

