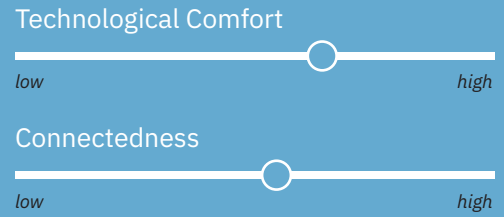




Wikidata Advocates in Emerging Contexts

Academic Innovator

Name	Age
Pedro	34
Lives in	Occupation
São Paulo	Ecology Professor
Languages	Platform Tenure
Portuguese (Native)	Wikipedia 3 years
English	Wikidata 2 years



Background

Pedro is an ecologist who cares deeply about his research on water quality in the Amazon River basin. He sees Wikipedia as a logical tool for public intellectuals, and has been editing on related topics for a few years. While attending an event hosted by Wiki Movement Brazil, he learned about Wikidata off-hand from another attendee. He attended an editathon later that week, and began brainstorming how to leverage it for a citizen science study he was organizing through the university. The perfect tool for building and circulating knowledge, Wikidata should be the focus of many more academics. As Pedro's comfort with the platform has grown, he is enjoying the challenge of developing scripts to aid his research across the watershed.

Goals

Q A Learn new tools and technical skills to support and publish his professional research.

Support public scholarship and his reputation as a public intellectual by publishing content through the Wiki ecosystem, speaking at events, and trying to convince colleagues and others in the department to do the same.

Q A Connect with other researchers across the world pursuing similar ecological studies and utilize the platform as a resource.

Connect with Portuguese Wiki communities to expand his local social networks and support others in their work.

Barriers

Unable to resolve conflicts on the platforms In the past, Pedro has found himself in conflict and at a stalemate with other community members on certain edits—more often on Wikipedia, but also on Wikidata. In these circumstances, he usually caves even when he believes himself to be in the right.

Has difficulty contributing to platform fora Pedro has many ideas about how to better develop the platform for others in the academic community, but since the discussion pages on the platform are only available in English

he finds himself less comfortable articulating them or answering other users' technical questions.

Tensions in Brazil between Wikidata and other Wiki communities Many Wiki members are exposed to Wikidata through acts of vandalism, and others resent what appears to be fewer mechanisms for community accountability. In his advocacy, Pedro often finds himself on the defensive.

Activities

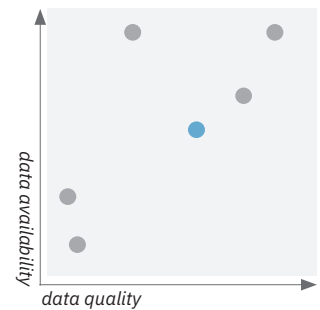
A Data Modeller Pedro is using Wikidata to visualize and model datasets related to his academic research. More recently, he has been doing the same for local COVID data.

Q A Platform Innovator While he does a lot of manual editing on the platform, Pedro has been looking for ways to lessen the load. In partnership with another researcher in Berlin, he developed a bot that uploads a huge amount of data without needing much supervision.

Q A Public Advocate Pedro also has a Youtube channel where he uploads videos of his conversations with other Brazilian community members, as well as technical tutorials for Wikipedia and Wikidata tasks and tools.

Tools Javascript, Graphs, Scholia, Open Refine

Quality x Availability



This graph highlights the persona's activities in relation to data quality and data availability. The grey dots indicate the activities of other personas in this set.

Design Considerations

Structures his involvement with the platform around specific projects and areas of inquiry. He is very devoted to a specific body of domain knowledge, and interested in leveraging the platform as a mode of publishing.

Quite resourceful, but his own focus limits broader platform contributions. Most of his innovative energy is spent easing the tasks related to his own projects and less adaptable for other users or for the infrastructure itself.

Is a highly visible, and well connected advocate both locally and internationally, particularly within research contexts and other specialized settings. Because of his close relationship with other motivated and institutionally-supported academics, Pedro is an ambassador to other potentially high-impact users.