

വിക്കിമഹിളാകാമ്പ്



**WIKI WOMEN**

CAMP 2023

# Research Community

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Miriam Redi

October 21, 2023



**MAP UP, RISE UP!**

# Overview



**MAP UP,  
RISE UP!**

- What are the **different streams of research** in the Wikimedia movement?
- What are the **intersections and collaborations** between these streams?
- Zoom presentation by **Kinneret Gordon and Miriam Redi**, from the Wikimedia Foundation's Research Team
- **Brainstorming a Community**



# Research Communities

Kinneret Gordon and Miriam Redi,  
The **Wikimedia Foundation's Research Team**

# Research team

Develop models and insights utilizing scientific methods, and strengthen the Wikimedia research communities

to

**Support technology/policy needs** and advance the understanding **of the Wikimedia projects.**



16 staff (1 **Research Community Officer**), 5 contractors, 1 Research Fellow,

[17 Formal Collaborators](#)

# Supporting the research community

## **We organize recurring events**

Annual workshops (Wiki Workshop)

Monthly Research Showcases

## **We award research of potential critical impact for the Wikimedia projects**

WMF Research Award of the Year

## **We offer Research Funds**

To increase the diversity of the Wikimedia research community

And accelerate research on strategic areas

# Growing the Research Community



## Wikimedia Research Showcase

Wikimedia Foundation

83 videos 1,101 views Last updated on Aug 4, 2023



▶ Play all

↻ Shuffle

The Monthly Wikimedia Research Showcase is a public showcase of recent research by the Wikimedia Foundation's Research Team and guest presenters from the academic community. The



So far in 2023: **7 showcases**  
featuring **15 speakers** from **10**  
**countries!**

# Wiki Workshop 2023

## Native language

74%

of the workshop attendees report a language other than English as their native language. Attendees spoke **42 different languages** as our mother tongues.

## Gender identity

42%

of the attendees identify as women, non-binary or gender-queer.

## Newcomers

70%

of the workshop attendees are attending for the first time.

## Outside of Research

46%

Wiki Workshop was born as a research workshop. Over the years, we have expanded the audience of the workshop from only researchers to include engineers, practitioners, policy makers, Wikimedia volunteer editors, developers, and staff of free knowledge organizations.



# WMF Research Award of the Year 2023

Journal of Communication ISSN 0021-9916

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## **The Gender Divide in Wikipedia: Quantifying and Assessing the Impact of Two Feminist Interventions**

Isabelle Langrock & Sandra González-Bailón

Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104, USA

## **Controlled Analyses of Social Biases in Wikipedia Bios**

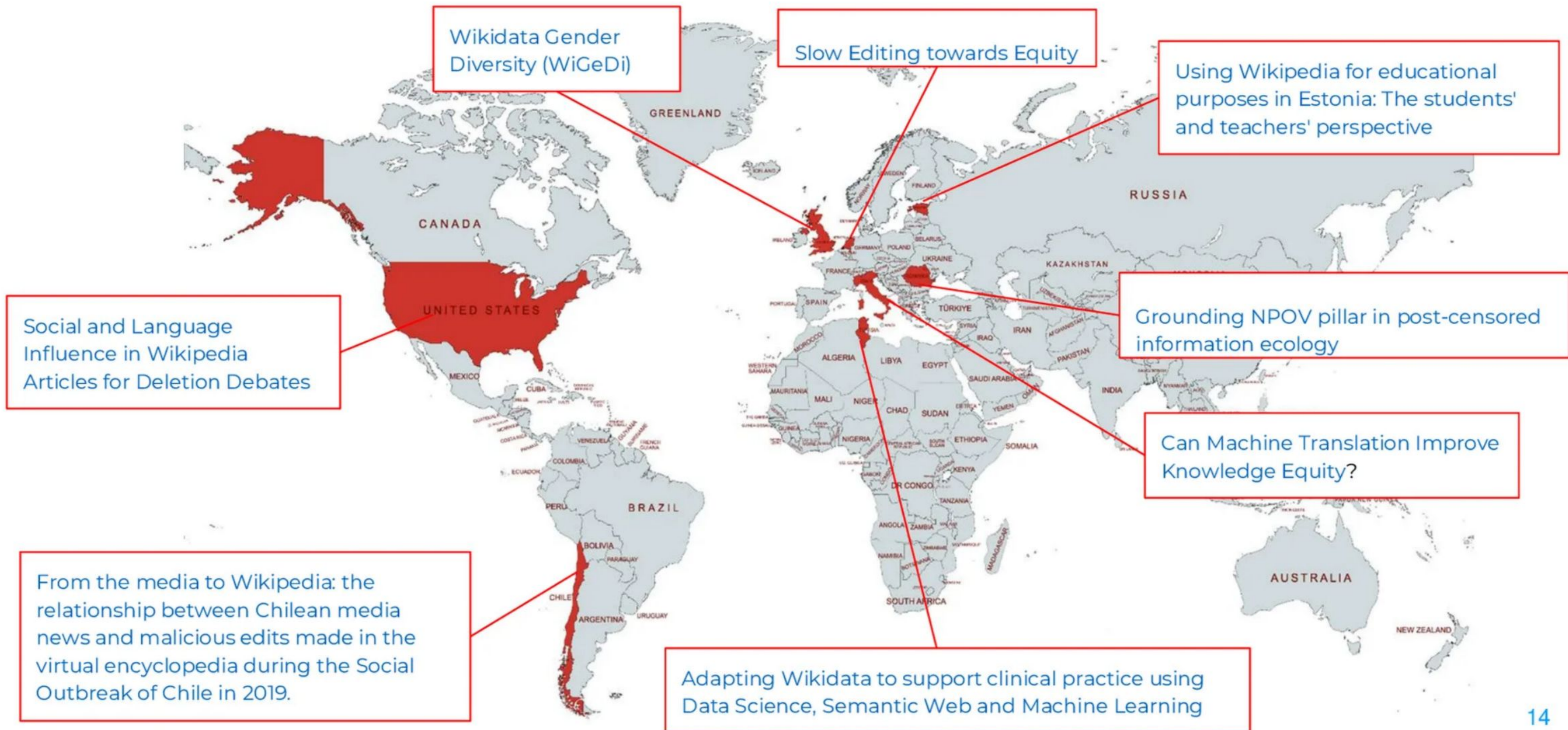
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# Wikimedia Research Fund 2022



# Wikimedia Research Fund 2024



## Wikimedia Research Fund

Wikimedia Research Fund provides support to individuals, groups, and organizations with research interests on or about Wikimedia projects. We encourage submissions from across research disciplines including but not limited to humanities, social sciences, computer science, education, and law. We aim to support applicants who have limited access to research funding and are proposing work that has potential for direct, positive impact on their local communities.

[Learn more and apply](#)

## Want to get involved?

**Submit** a proposal by November 25.

**Comment** on proposals when they are posted on Meta-Wiki in December.

[https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Grants:Programs/Wikimedia Research %26 Technology Fund/Wikimedia Research Fund](https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Grants:Programs/Wikimedia_Research_%26_Technology_Fund/Wikimedia_Research_Fund)

# Read more on our Research Report!

[About](#)[Programs](#)[Publications](#)[Report](#)[Projects](#)[The people on the  
Research team](#)[Collaborations](#)[Events](#)[Trends to watch](#)[Donors](#)[Keep in touch with us](#)[Previous Report](#)[News](#)

## Research Report N° 8

July 10, 2023

*The eighth in a series of biannual reports from Wikimedia Research, published every June and December.*

### Executive Summary

We usually include some highlights of the work that we have done over the past six months in this section. This time, I'm going to break the convention and share another type of executive summary with you.

As you will see in the report, over the past six months our team made significant progress on the three roadmaps that we have been executing over the past few years. What makes this report particularly special for me is that the team did this work with a backdrop of significant change that took place in the Wikimedia Foundation as well as within our team. As we close our fiscal year and I share this report with you, what stays most present for me is the commitment, persistence, humility, strive for excellence, openness, collaboration and care that the Research team has exhibited over the duration of this report and while doing the work that you will read more about below.

If you donate to the Wikimedia Foundation or volunteer for the Wikimedia projects, I hope reading this report helps you have a glimpse into how thankful we are to you for your gift of contribution to the Wikimedia Foundation or the world.

Welcome to our 8th biannual Research Report!

– Leila Zia (Head of Research)

*A sustainable distributed network of Wikimedia projects relies on an empowered global community of Wikimedia researchers as well as tools and data to encourage a diversity of projects and research questions.*

# Examples of technical support:

Data Collection Support

Open Datasets

Open Research Questions

# Data Collection Support

## **Survey Support Desk**

1. Access to **survey tools** for Wikimedia Affiliates & User Groups
2. Review of **survey questions**
3. Consultation on **methodological approaches** within the WM ecosystem

Email [surveys@wikimedia.org](mailto:surveys@wikimedia.org) with as many details of your project as possible!

More info on [meta](#) (page a little outdated, will be revamped this FY)

# Open Datasets

## Making Wikimedia data easy to consume



The screenshot displays a database schema viewer for Wikimedia data, organized into several categories:

- User:** Includes tables like `user`, `user_properties`, `user_newtalk`, `actor`, and `bot_passwords`.
- Permissions:** Includes tables like `user_groups`, `user_former_groups`, `page_restrictions`, `protected_titles`, `ipblocks`, and `ipblocks_restrictions`.
- Logging:** Includes tables like `logging`, `log_search`, and `comment`.
- Tags:** Includes tables like `change_tag` and `change_tag_def`.
- Recent changes:** Includes tables like `recentchanges` and `watchlist`.
- Pages:** Includes tables like `page`, `archive`, `redirect`, `category`, and `page_props`.
- Revisions:** Includes tables like `revision`, `slots`, `content`, `revision_comment_temp`, and `revision_actor_temp`.

Wikimedia has a lot of data, but not all of it is so easy to access if you are not an expert!



# Open Datasets: examples

## Knowledge Gap **Datasets now Available!**

Article **Quantity**

Article **Quality**

Monthly **Pageviews**

Monthly **Revisions**



**Gender** of the article subject

**Geography** countries related to the article

**Sexual Orientation** of the article subject

**Time** the temporal setting of the article

**Multimedia** whether the article has image

More info and data: [Research:Knowledge Gaps Index/Measurement/Content](#)

# And even more **open data!**

**Predicted quality scores** for all Wikipedia articles:

[https://analytics.wikimedia.org/published/datasets/one-off/isaacj/quality/V2\\_2022\\_01/README.md](https://analytics.wikimedia.org/published/datasets/one-off/isaacj/quality/V2_2022_01/README.md)

Wikipedia **article readability** data (10+ languages):

<https://w.wiki/64CC>

**Differential privacy releases** for reader geography and others:

<https://w.wiki/64CE>

# Open Research Questions

## Recommended research directions

### knowledge gaps

#### Executive summary

In 2030, the world's population is projected to be 8.6 billion, almost 80% of which will live in Africa and Asia. Latin America's population will continue to grow rapidly while population growth in Europe and Northern America—today's largest sources of contributors and readership to Wikimedia projects—will plateau. How can we help Wikimedia projects thrive in a world that is becoming increasingly different from the one we are building for today, both in terms of production and consumption of content?

The Wikimedia movement has identified as a [strategic goal](#) supporting "the knowledge and communities that have been left out by structures of power and privilege". In order to meet this goal, we need to understand how to serve audiences, groups, and cultures that today are underrepresented in Wikipedia, Wikidata, Commons and other Wikimedia projects—in terms of participation, access, representation, and coverage.

In 2018-2019, we have begun to advance knowledge equity with a research program to [address knowledge gaps](#). This program aims to deliver citable, peer-reviewed knowledge and new technology in order to generate baseline data on the diversity of the Wikimedia contributor population, understand reader needs across languages, remove barriers for contribution by underrepresented groups, and help contributors identify and expand missing content across languages and topics. In this white paper, we propose research directions that expand this work over a longer time horizon.

### knowledge integrity

#### Executive summary

The strategic direction of "[Knowledge as a Service](#)" envisions a world in which platforms and tools are available to allies and partners to "organize and exchange free, trusted knowledge beyond Wikimedia". Achieving this goal requires not only new infrastructure for representing, curating, linking, and disseminating knowledge, but also efficient and scalable strategies to preserve the reliability and integrity of this knowledge. Technology platforms across the web are looking at Wikipedia as the neutral arbiter of information, but as Wikimedia aspires to extend its scope and scale, the possibility that parties with special interests will manipulate content, or bias to go undetected, becomes material.

In collaboration with multiple partners and collaborators, in 2018-2019 we have started laying foundations for a [Knowledge Integrity](#) program through research and development to help our communities represent, curate and understand information provenance in Wikimedia projects more efficiently. We are conducting novel research on why editors source information, and how readers access sources; we are developing algorithms to identify statements in need of sources and gaps in information provenance; we are designing data structures to represent, annotate and analyze source metadata in machine-readable formats as well as tools to monitor in real time changes made to references across the Wikimedia ecosystem. In this white paper, we propose a number of research directions to extend this work over the next 5 years and make progress towards the goals set by the strategic direction.

### foundations

#### Executive summary

Wikimedia projects are created and maintained by a vast network of individual contributors and organizations with different roles and expertise. The Wikimedia Foundation, including Wikimedia Research, plays an important role in supporting these efforts, but our internal capacity and expertise will always be more limited than those of the Movement as a whole. Tackling the strategic challenges ahead requires an investment in *foundational social and technical infrastructure* that individuals, groups, and organizations across the Movement can use. In this paper, we identify several key *capacity gaps* that impede our shared ability to focus research efforts towards addressing Knowledge Equity and Knowledge as a Service effectively and at scale.

We see an urgent need for increasing the development and dissemination of foundational resources to grow research capacities across the Movement. These foundational resources take many forms: new tools for developing scientific knowledge about projects and contributors; new open data resources and improved tools for working with them; new methods and guidance for mission-aligned research and technology development; and outreach activities designed to foster a healthy, diverse, and dynamic community of researchers to be part of the Wikimedia Movement.

# Discussion



**MAP UP,  
RISE UP!**

# Brainstorming a Community



**MAP UP,  
RISE UP!**

Scan this QR code  
to join



## What are some of the new and emerging challenges associated with women's representation in the Wikimedia movement that demand attention?



# Research Streams

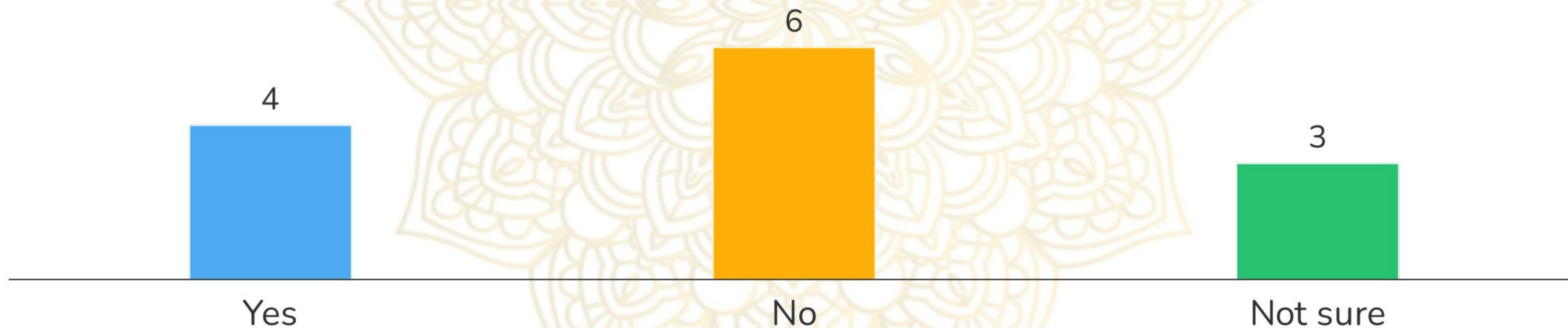
**Research in/on the Wikimedia movement and projects is conducted by:**

- **WMF**
  - **Research Division**
  - **Other Divisions**
- **Wikimedians**
  - **Volunteers**
  - **Paid Staff**
- **Partners**
- **Academic Researchers**
- **Independent Researchers**





# Are you aware of other sources of research on the Wikimedia movement?



# What are some other sources of research on the Wikimedia movement that we have not covered so far?



les sans pages own resear  
pe dashboard  
grant reports  
diff blogs  
diff posts  
french women researcher  
individual contributors  
oral history recording  
wikimedia-l  
oral history diff reseach toulouse  
qualitative content resea  
un  
collective memory / oral  
senior citizens  
news editorials  
affiliates analyze sources  
podcasts

# How can different streams collaborate?



**MAP UP,  
RISE UP!**

## Connect the Dots ...

- 1. What do volunteer Wikimedia researchers, academic researchers, and the WMF research division bring to the table?**
- 2. How can we connect, collaborate, and collectively produce better research on the gender gap?**

# Discussion



**MAP UP,  
RISE UP!**

# Thanks!

Akhtar, N.; Gordon, K.; Redi, M., *Research Community*, 21 Oct 2023, WikiWomen Camp 2023, New Delhi, India, CC BY-SA 4.0



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# Attributions

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