Future Audiences

Exploring paths for the future of free knowledge

How should Wikimedia's product and platform evolve to meet the needs of new audiences?

Movement Strategy Recommendation #9: "Innovate in Free Knowledge" calls for "change, flexibility, and experimentation to stay relevant" as technology evolves.

There are now many changes on the horizon and many strategies we could pursue – this year, we will experiment to learn more about the potential benefits (and risks) to our movement in two key areas: generative AI and social video apps.

Can we engage audiences on Al assistants like ChatGPT?

- In a possible future where AI transforms knowledge search, attribution and source transparency may become even more important.
- To learn more, we are testing ways to add attribution and pathways to contribution when Wikipedia content appears in ChatGPT.
- This may inform whether and how AI can enhance the user experience on external AI assistants or on our platforms.

Can we engage audiences on social apps?

- In the last 3 years, awareness and use of Wikipedia has fallen among younger audiences – who spend more time on and prefer to learn via video.
- We will explore how knowledge is spread on rich media social apps like Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube.
- Our experiments will determine if these platforms and the creators on them can increase awareness of and contribute to the sustainability of the free knowledge movement.

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Join us!

Have ideas for ways to engage new audiences? We invite anyone in the Wikimedia community who is interested in this experimentation and learning to get involved:

- Join our monthly virtual calls to give input on experiment ideas and results.
- Spread the word about this work to your community and language.
- Help test and evaluate prototypes of new software.

Learn more on Meta:[[Future Audiences]] – or follow the QR code.



