Vision and Strategy for Wikidata and Wikibase

"The Web as I envisaged it, we have not seen it yet. The future is still so much bigger than the past.”
-- Sir Tim Berners-Lee

In the 7 years that Wikidata exists a lot has happened. It is time to revisit and make explicit where we are going with Wikidata and Wikibase and why we are going there. This poster provides a summary.

The vision is a guiding light. It is realized by the 3 strategic themes Wikimedia is pursuing related to Wikidata and Wikibase. The papers for the vision and strategic themes have been published on Meta and go into more details and provide additional context.

Vision: Giving more people more access to more knowledge

- **More people:** Wikidata gives more people access to information regardless of the language they speak or the culture they come from. It does this by helping to overcome barriers (e.g. making contributions that have impact far beyond your language, consuming knowledge no matter where and in which language it originated) and bringing in new types of contributors (e.g. people interested in structuring information, institutional contributors).
- **More access:** Wikidata gives people access to information in many new and different ways. It does this by allowing users to access information in whichever way they want (e.g. Wikipedia, digital personal assistants, games, special-purpose apps) and making Wikimedia's knowledge usable everywhere by allowing it to be easily reused in different contexts.
- **More knowledge:** Wikidata and the Wikibase ecosystem increase the amount of available knowledge by increasing the sum of available knowledge (e.g. allowing institutions to run their own knowledge base to publish their data) and ensuring the integrity of Wikimedia's knowledge (e.g. automatically finding articles that cite redacted papers).

Wikidata for Wikimedia Projects

→ Make Wikimedia projects ready for the future

Wikidata opens up a lot of new opportunities inside Wikimedia. With it we can:
- Further knowledge equity
- Maintain and support Wikimedia’s growing content
- Enable new ways of consuming and contributing knowledge
- Ensure the integrity of our content

To make this happen we need to:
- Help contributors scale their work
- Make gaps visible and turn them into contribution opportunities
- Build tools to contribute and present new content
- Make space for underrepresented knowledge

Wikidata as a Platform

→ Wikidata enables every person to access and share information regardless of language and technology by providing general purpose data about the world

Wikidata opens up a lot of new opportunities beyond Wikimedia. With it we can:
- Provide more knowledge to foster innovation in a data-driven world
- Increase the leverage for underrepresented languages and marginalized groups
- Enable machines to give us better information by helping them understand the complexity of the world

To make this happen we need to:
- Strengthen the growing core community
- Enable contributions by and through reusers
- Expand language and culture coverage
- Provide access to other data by being a hub in the linked data web
- Provide data in a reliable environment
- Make data easily accessible and complex information comprehensible for machines

Wikibase Ecosystem

→ Wikibase powers a thriving linked open data web that is the backbone of free and open knowledge

The Wikibase ecosystem opens up a lot of new opportunities. With it we can:
- Open up data that is hidden in silos
- Connect data to surface undiscovered connections
- Connect people to enable collaboration
- Strengthen the open knowledge movement as a while in a new, decentralized, linked data ecosystem
- Enable the creation of new products and services

To make this happen we need to:
- Focus on enabling connections between data and people
- Partner with the main players in their field, utilize network effects and branch out
- Leverage mandates to open up data
- Maximize the competitive advantage gained via Wikidata

Contact: Lydia Pintscher (lydia.pintscher@wikimedia.de) / @wikidata cc-by-sa