Wikiprogress

by Angela Hariche

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Google's founding philosophy is that we don't know why this page is better than that one: If the statistics of incoming links say it is, that's good enough. No semantic or causal analysis is required.

Wired 2008
An **increasing gap** between official statistics on economic performance and how people perceive their own living conditions

Real risk of people **losing faith** in governments’ ability to address “what matters for them”
Wikiprogress: a trend from grassroots...

- Implications for the very functioning of democracy
- Egypt

Egypt: Recent Trends in Percentage “Thriving” and GDP per Capita (PPP)

- Thriving
- GDP per capita (PPP)

2005-2010 GDP per capita (PPP) estimates are from the International Monetary Fund’s World Economic Outlook database. GALLUP
Problem: Income inequality widened in ¾ of OECD countries between 1985 and 2005

Source: Growing Unequal?, OECD 2008
Wealthier populations not necessarily more satisfied with their lives
to create a participatory public web platform for global research and opinion on progress and what it means in the 21st century

to communicate to the network on a regular basis to keep up momentum

to nurture a network of networks for advocacy, sharing and creation of information on progress...a global dialogue as called for by Joseph Stiglitz
Wikiprogress provides...

- A place where research and debate on progress are brought together
- A platform to bring in everyone who is interested into the debate
- Wiki-progress.stat
- Visualisation tools to better understand environmental, social and economic indicators
- A media review to bring together the mainstream media and social networking to keep track of the world’s information on progress
Initial objectives:

- Encourage communities, regions and countries to consider for themselves *what progress means* in the 21st century


- Create a *network of networks* for advocacy and sharing of information and statistics on progress
OECD focusing on the development of indicators

OECD Better Life Initiative
Defining and contributing to research agenda by seeking new measures of well-being and sustainability

OECD Streamlining activities related to raising awareness
Networking activities incl. regional events ➔ 4th OECD World Forum (India 2012) with emerging and developing countries

Wikiprogress: platform of the Global Project sharing information and statistics with the progress measurement community (since 2009)
WikiProgress.Stat includes data and metadata for progress statistics (official and unofficial) which are loaded via the wiki.

Houses around 120 data sets over six key themes: ecosystems condition, human wellbeing, economy, social and welfare statistics, governance and combined data sets. Currently developing the use of SDMX.

Data can be visualised and used to support articles written on Wikiprogress.org.
Progression in monthly visits:
Wikiprogress in numbers

- Over **120 new articles per month**
- **640 editors** – average 33 new editors per month
- Over **9,100 unique visitors in July**
- **ProgBlog** – over 800 visits per month
Over **160 progress media entries per month**

Unique to Wikiprogress

Updated daily

Weekly spotlight

Top ranked section for visitor traffic

Leveraged using social media

Provision of a service to progress community
Wikiprogress – Harnessing Networks

- GPRNet – network of progress researchers worldwide
- Global Project Board
- Correspondents
- Friends of the Wiki
- Wikigender and Wikichild networks
- Interested public – hundreds of wikiprogress editors
- Latin America Network on Progress
Challenges
Quality guidelines are needed

- For citizen created (or unofficial) data – Wikiprogress and Ushahidi
- For citizen created articles, blogs, etc.

Without internationally recognised guidelines, citizen quality will be considered less-than the national level or international level quality. Good citizen collected data could be comparable and augment the national and international statistics.

Currently this is very decentralised and project by project so there isn’t enough power and recognition yet.
Priority #2 Trusted Networks

• The Wikiprogress strategy was to try to attract networks who we thought would be effective and also to minimise risk.
• We are for a targeted public.

Challenge:

1) Competing priorities
2) Agents with agendas hampering positive change
3) Getting people to work outside their day job
4) Credit
Knowledge creation and management

"Every minute, 35 hours of footage is added to You Tube globally“. "Between the dawn of civilisation and 2003 we only created 5 exabytes of data. Now, we create that every 2 days. By 2020, it will increase 50 times"

Think Quarterly

Who will be the winners here?
Thank you