GENEVA CENTRE OF HUMANITARIAN STUDIES
CENTRE D'ÉTUDES HUMANITAIRES GENÈVE

HUMANITARIAN ENCYCLOPEDIA

PeerConnect

SEEDS

ADRRN

The Humanitarian Encyclopedia Project: **Adding a Local Perspective**

11:30 AM-12:30 PM
Room A

RHPW2023
11th - 13th December
BANGKOK THAILAND
REGIONAL HUMANITARIAN PARTNERSHIP WEEK - ASIA PACIFIC

GENEVA CENTRE OF HUMANITARIAN STUDIES
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HUMANITARIAN ENCYCLOPEDIA

The Humanitarian Encyclopedia

RHPW Bangkok
13 December 2023

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A Joint Centre of

UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE

THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE GENEVA

INSTITUT DE HAUTES ÉTUDES INTERNATIONALES ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT
GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

What is the Humanitarian Encyclopedia?

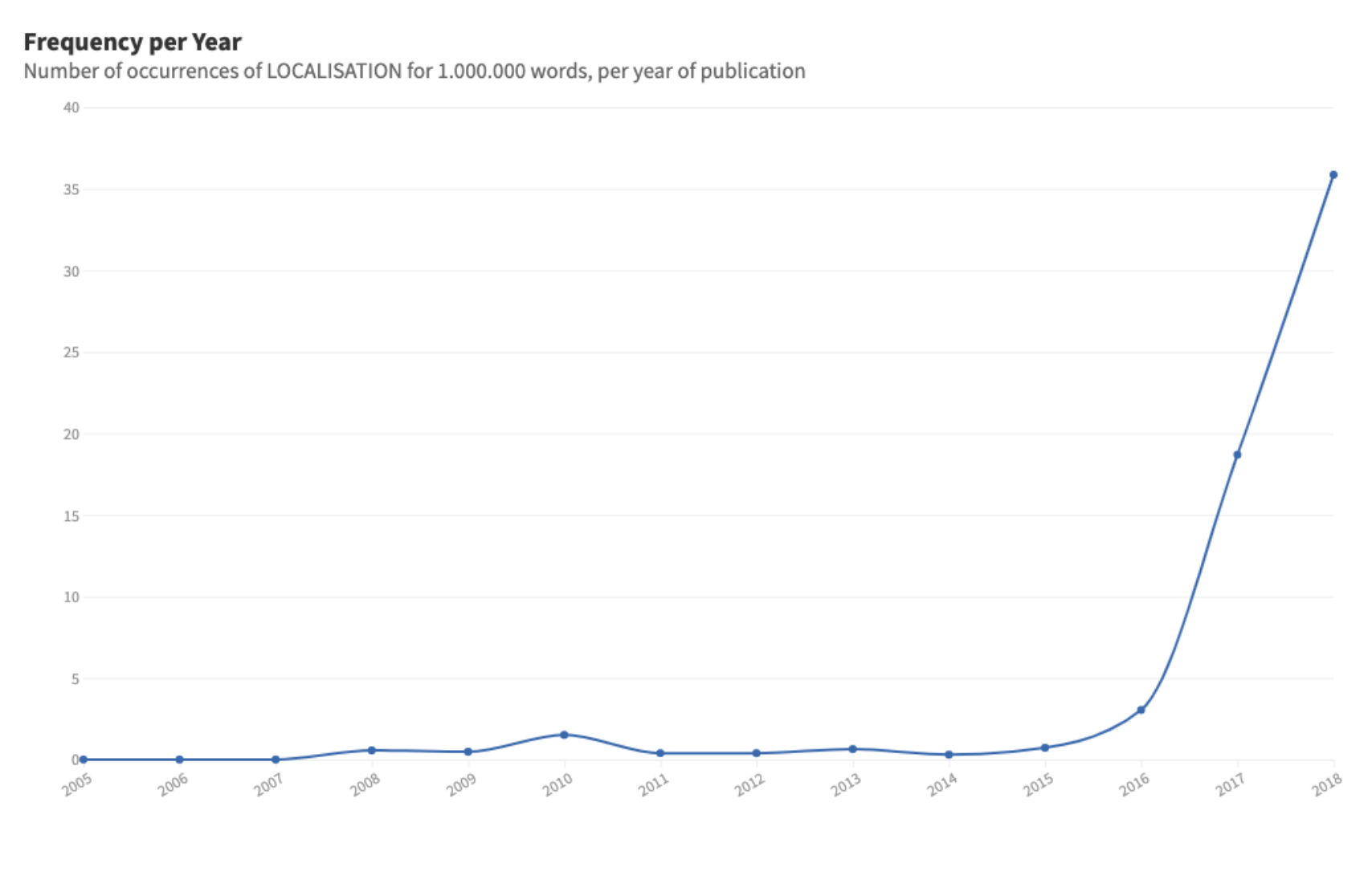
www.humanitarianencyclopedia.org

Identifying and updating concepts: Step 1

Analyse trends in the use of terms by humanitarian practitioners in texts and natural language.

e.g. localisation →

As use of the term grows, it is increasingly important to develop a shared understanding of it.



Identifying and updating concepts: Step 2

Work collaboratively on concepts

- Explore how central concepts of humanitarian practice are defined and used across the sector.
- Interpret linguistic data and author Concept Entries.
- Review and revise concept analysis to enhance quality and update knowledge.

Discuss and debate

- Connect with humanitarian practitioners and researchers via the online Forum.
- Launch a topic, join a thread, take a poll, or host a webinar.
- Integrate the Forum in teaching, learning and exchange.

The Humanitarian Encyclopedia moving forward to a community and consortium

Achievements and direction

2017

- Humanitarian Encyclopedia ***project*** launched
- Research to map humanitarian sector
- What are the central concepts? How are they defined?

2021

- Humanitarian Encyclopedia ***platform*** launched
- Online space and community to exchange knowledge
- How to foster a *shared* understanding of concepts?

2023

- Humanitarian Encyclopedia ***consortium*** TBD
- Handover tool to practitioner-led model
- How to sustain a shared understanding and knowledge exchange?

Towards a consortium model 2023-2025

Establish consortium

- New governance model
- Community to animate forum
- Leaders to administrate platform

Grow local networks

- Online, regional, local communities
- Products adapted to local needs
- New perspectives and knowledge

Sustain knowledge

- Users increased
- Learning outcomes improved
- Steady stream of knowledge
- Sustainable finance model

Pilot project with ADRRN in Asia region

Vision: Humanitarian Encyclopedia as a community

Learner

Contributors

Leaders

Local humanitarian practitioners

International humanitarian practitioners

Humanitarian researchers (local and international)

Newcomers (e.g. private, journalists, development)

Affected populations

Community-updated knowledge: a real-time example

All Concepts

Bayanihan: Filipino concept for helping with no strings attached as a community.

Gotong Royong: Indonesian concept for mutual work for community.

Share

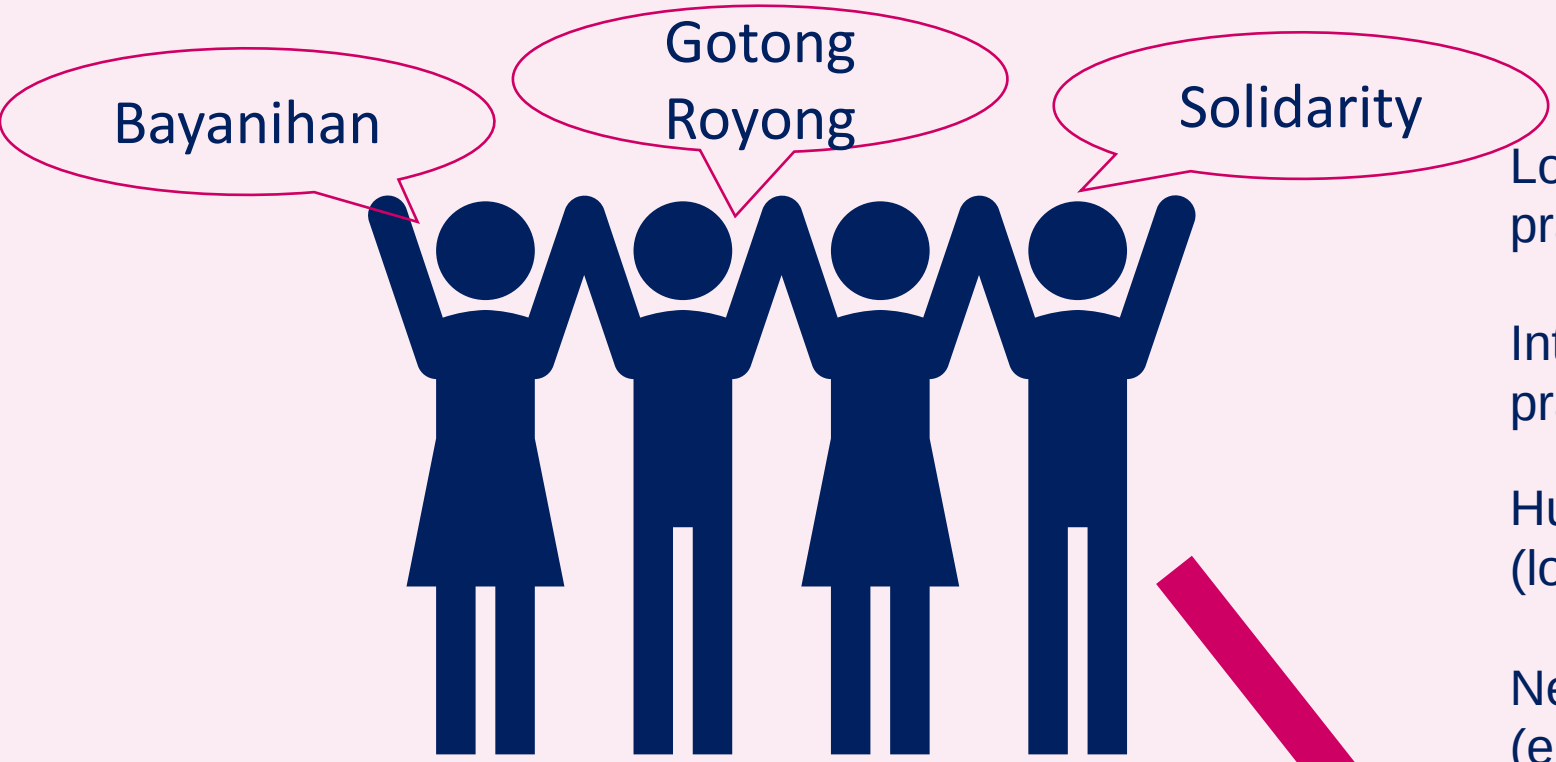
Add a concept

Filters

Status +

Related concepts +

Consortium to engage the community and update the knowledge



Learner

Contributors

Leaders

Local humanitarian practitioners

International humanitarian practitioners

Humanitarian researchers (local and international)

Newcomers (e.g. private, journalists, development)

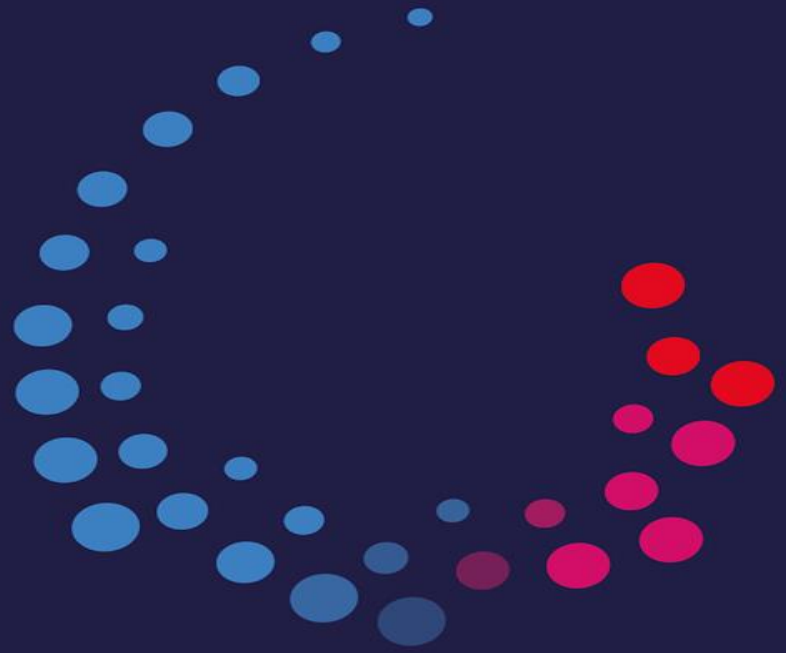
Affected populations

Single V shared V common V contested

Thank you

We look forward to your idea and the discussions ahead!

Contact:
alex.odlum@graduateinstitute.ch

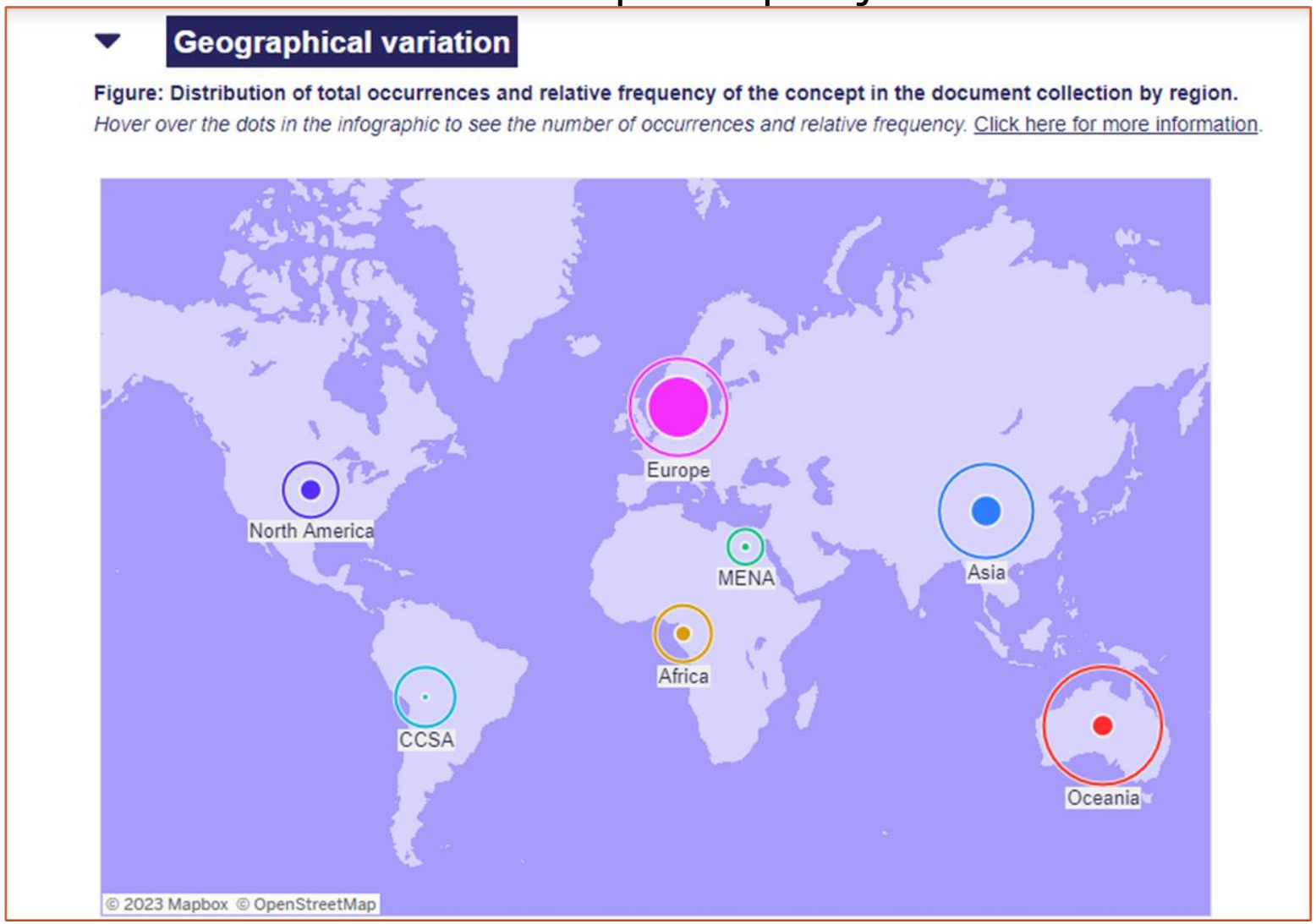


www.humanitarianstudies.ch

ADRRN AND THE HUMANITARIAN ENCYCLOPEDIA

Analysis of the results of the pilot project

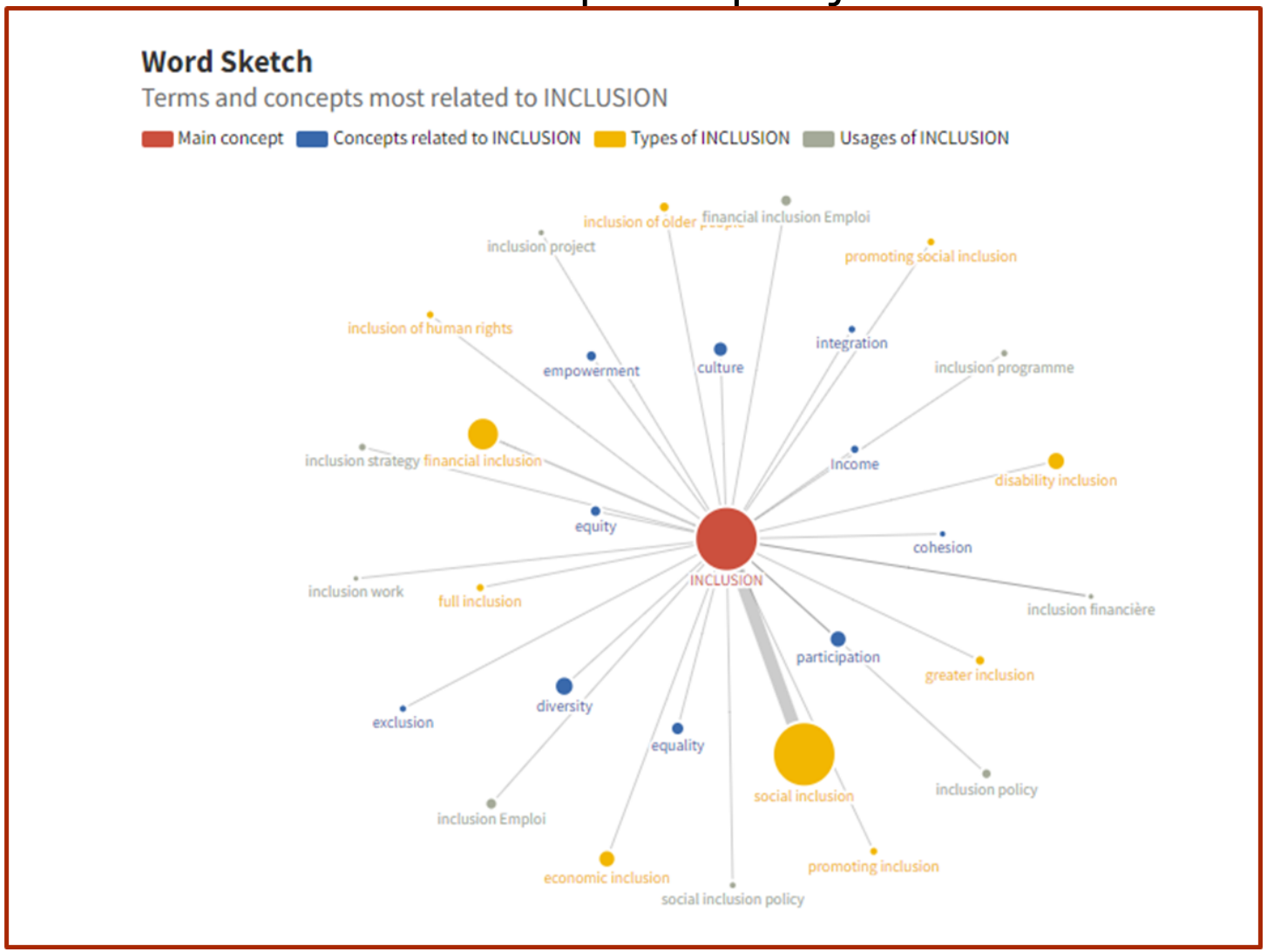
Humanitarian Encyclopedia: Relative frequency of "Localisation" In the document collection



ADRRN AND THE HUMANITARIAN ENCYCLOPEDIA

Analysis of the results of the pilot project

Humanitarian Encyclopedia: Concepts related to "Inclusion" In the document collection



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Analysis of the results of the pilot project

Mentimeter Poll Questions:

- *Would you be supportive of establishing an online forum for humanitarian professionals to co-create a common understanding of humanitarian concepts?*

  Yes: 100% (14/14)

- *Would you be supportive of introducing a co-ownership arrangement with regional humanitarian associations for the Humanitarian Encyclopedia?*

  Yes: 82% (9/11)
  Maybe: 18% (2/11)

Survey Questions

Ten Statements on Localisation, Impact and Inclusion

Google Form: https://forms.gle/unF6EiHvLFe3RyRK8

ADRRN AND THE HUMANITARIAN ENCYCLOPEDIA

Analysis of the results of the pilot project

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A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE
HUMANITARIAN ACTION