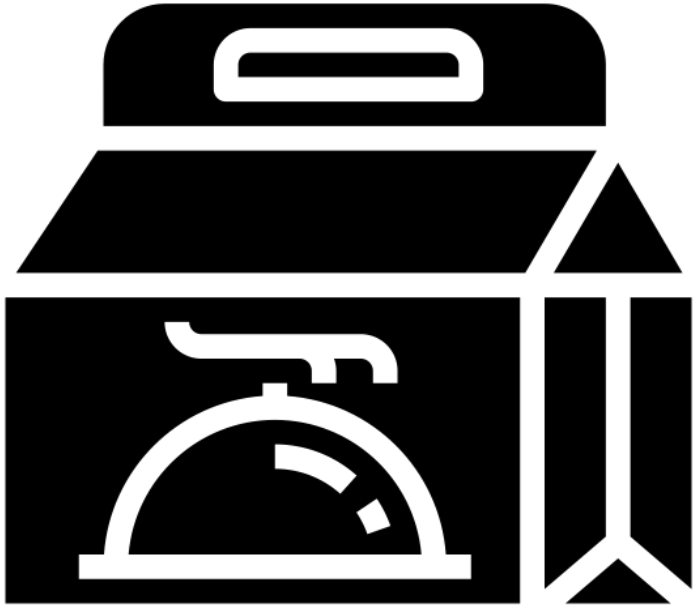
Citizen Science in Public Libraries: an Experience in Linguistics

Nava Maroto
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid
Grupo NeoUSAL
mariadelanava.maroto@upm.es

Open Science International Staff Week
6-8 November 2019
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Take-away messages

Public libraries as hubs for Citizen Science



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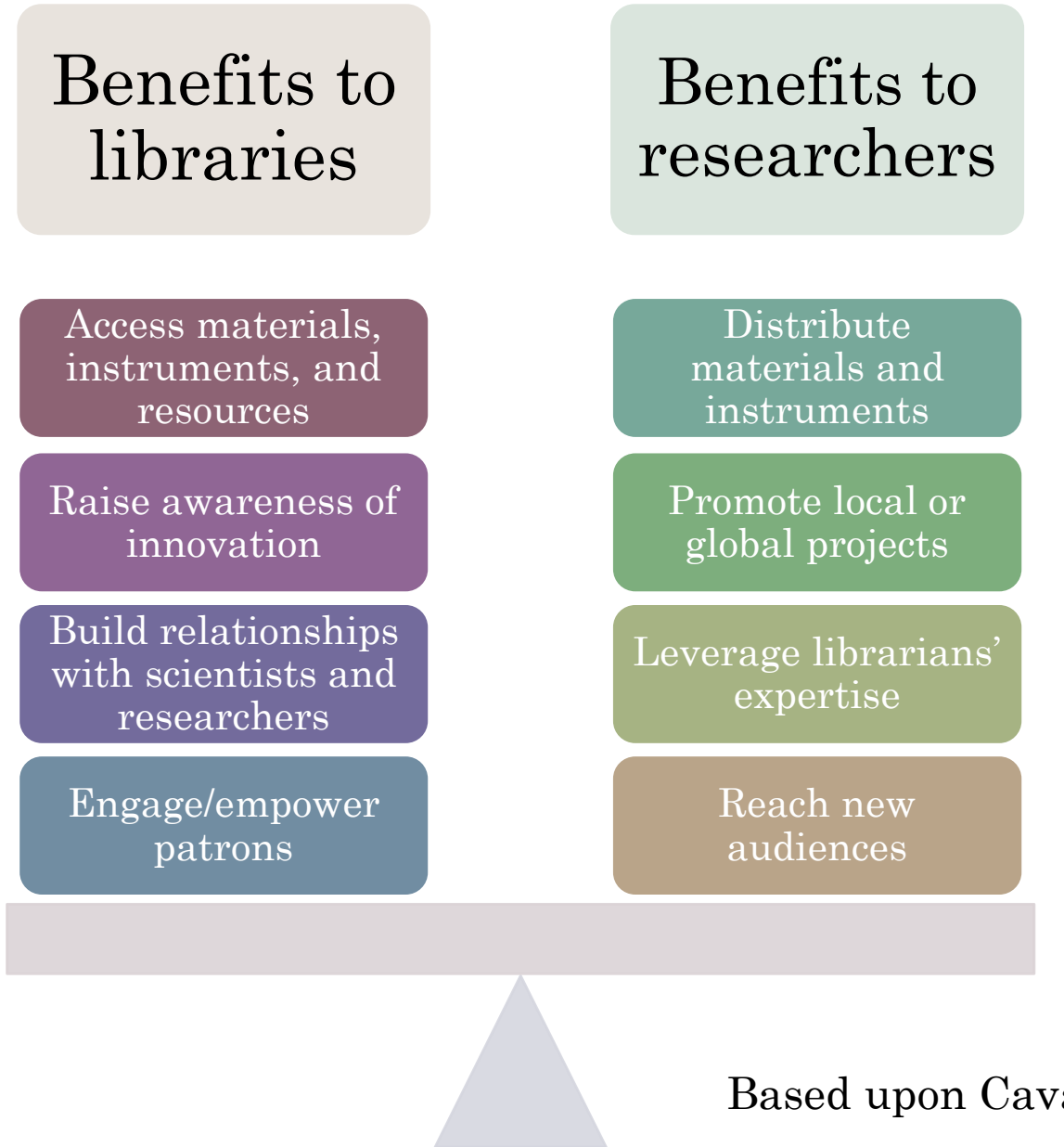
Citizen Science approach **suits** the **Humanities**

Mutual benefits

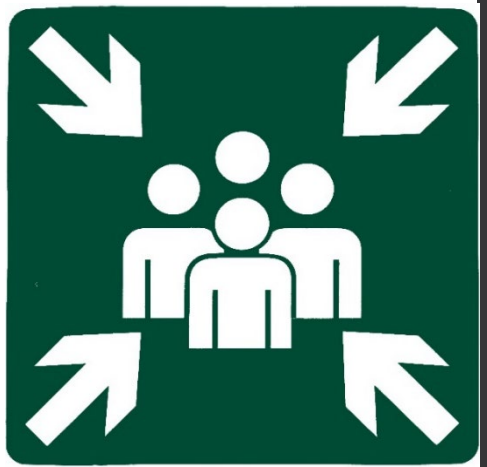


Based upon Cavalier et al. (2019)

Roles of libraries in CS (non-exhaustive list)

- **Attracting** and **training participants**
- Offering **infrastructures**
- Helping with **promotion**, **dissemination** and **popularisation**
- Piloting **protocols**
- Contributing to making data **FAIR**
- Designing **toolkits for CS**

… and more in Ignat et al. (2018)



Engagement of libraries in CS

Facilitators?

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Promoters?

Some good examples

Take-away messages

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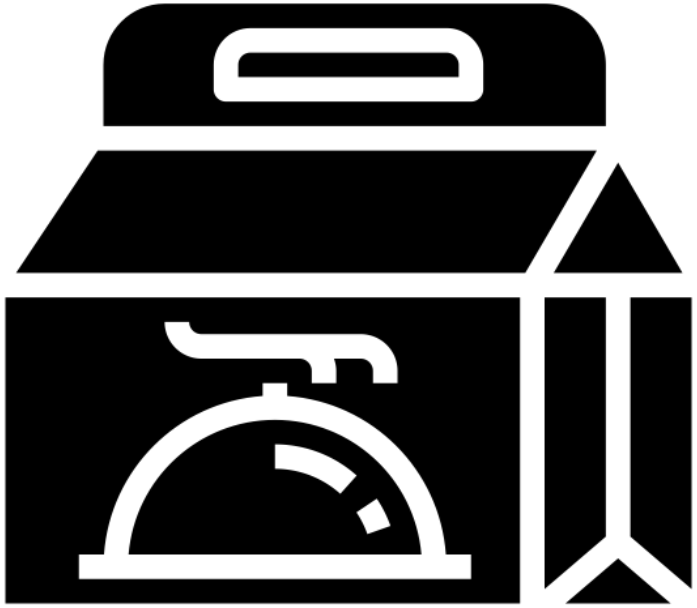

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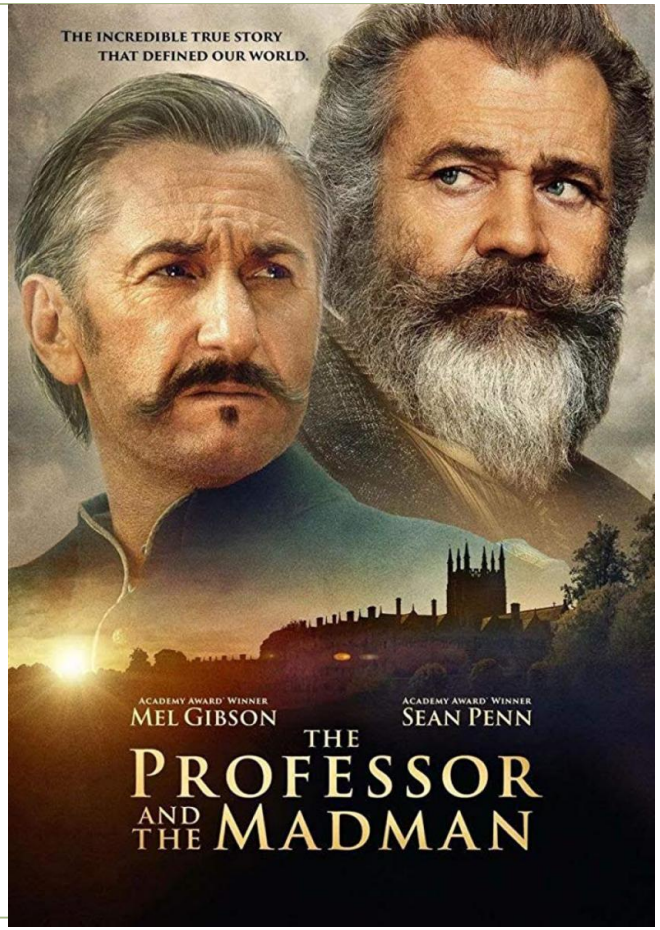
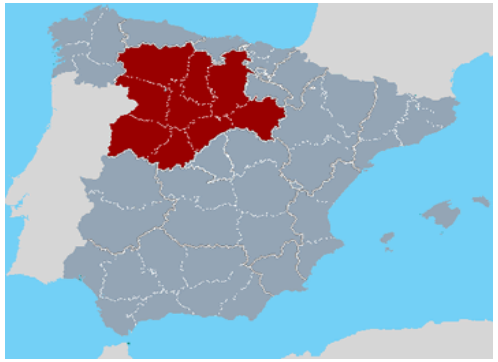
Citizen science and Linguistics

- **Crowdsourcing**:
  - Transcription of texts
  - NLP
  - Corpus compilation
- Successful examples in **lexicography**:
  - ✓Oxford English Dictionary (19th century)
  - ✓Čibej et al., 2015 for Slovene



NeoUSAL neology observatory

- ✓ Castilla y León
- ✓ 10 local newspapers
- ✓ Twice a month
- ✓ Since 2009



Lexicographical filter

Creation of a neological repository

Let's taste what the participants in our experiment felt

http://menti.com → enter code

Go to **www.menti.com** and use the code **69 31 44**

Is "millennial" a new word?

Mentimeter

You might be

Slide is not active Activate

0

Go to **www.menti.com** and use the code **69 31 44**

Should "millennial" be in a dictionary of new words?

Mentimeter

Slide is not active Activate

0

Face-to-face survey

- In a public library
- March 2019
- 50 participants
- Use of Mentimeter

✓ Neologism **identification**
✓ Neologism **characterization**
✓ **Dictionariability** of neologisms

Experiment assessment

- Resort to **non-expert citizens**
- **Library** as venue
- **Future collaboration**
- **Contact** and **feedback**

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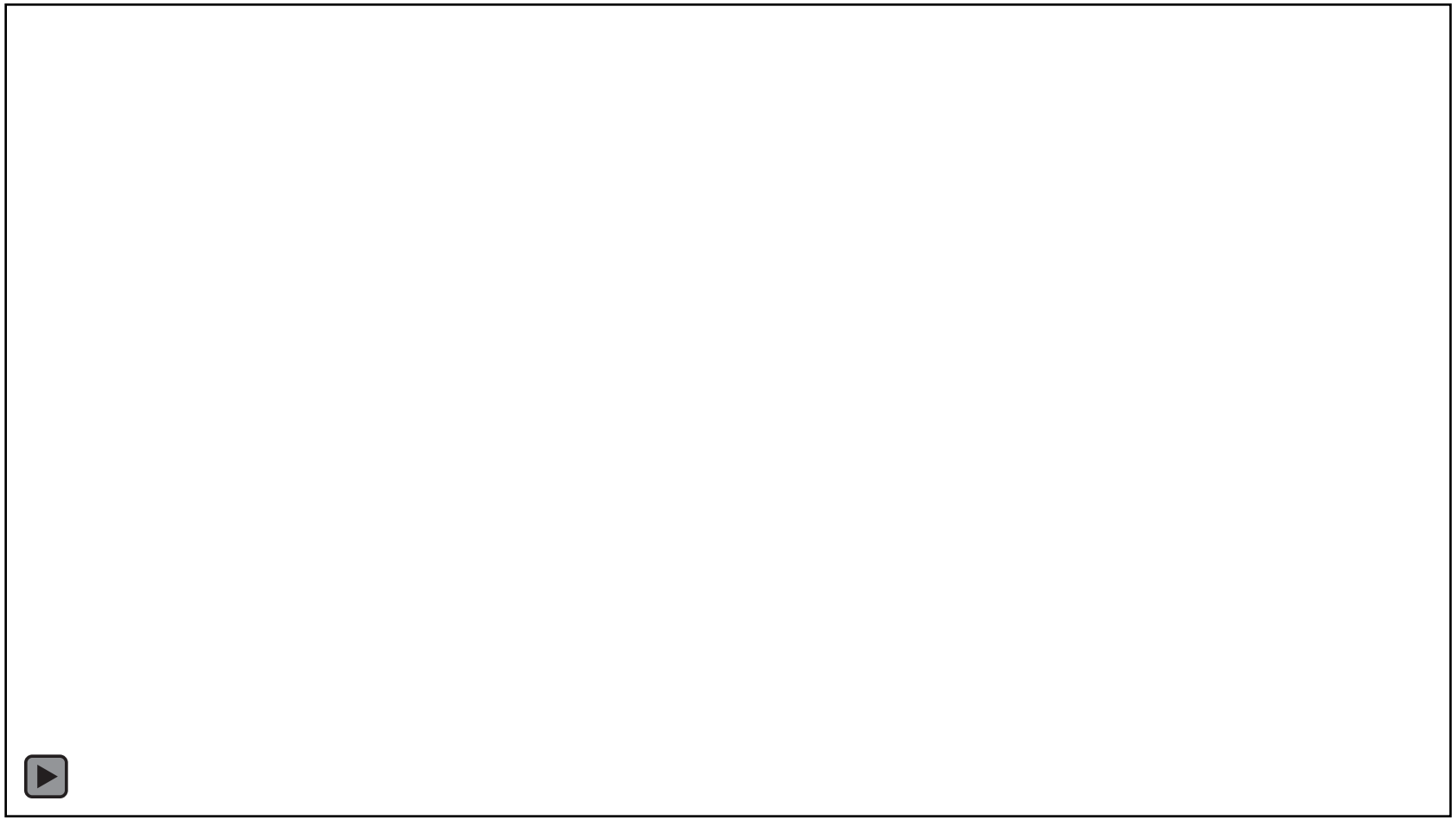
Next steps?

App development



Pescapalabras: a platform to…

- **Contact participants** for future experiments
- Organize events at **public librarie**
  - Participant **recruitment**
  - Participant **training**
  - **Protocol testing**
- Download the **app**
- **Acknowledge** participants
- Protocol **gamification**

Ciencia ciudadana aplicada a la neología

pescapalabras.home.blog

Se unió en julio de 2019

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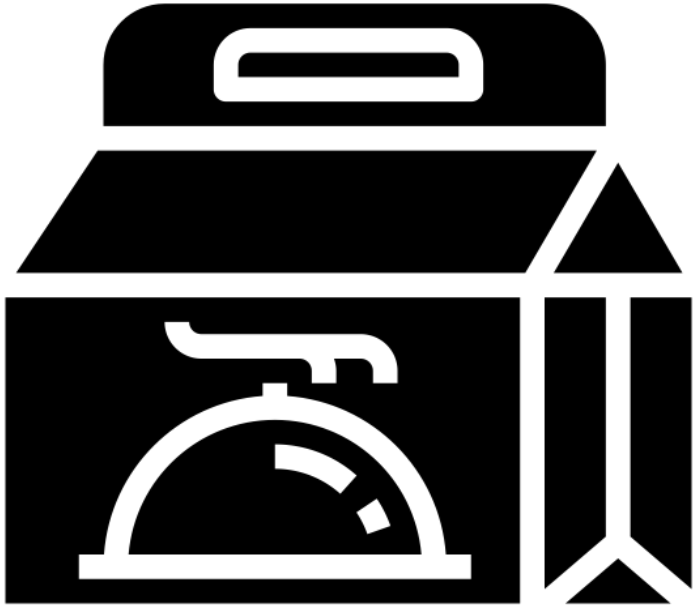

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Thank you!