



Just ten months ago, *Policy Commons* was fully launched. A lot has happened since.

Most importantly—YOU.

Our community of users grew to more than 49,000 people in 214 countries around the globe. You're researchers, policy makers and influencers, students, publishers, and librarians—and we're so grateful that you were a part of our very first year.

This newsletter recaps our biggest news from 2021 (in case you missed it) and shares our ideas for 2022, which we hope will be further shaped by your [feedback](#).

Last year, the *Policy Commons* team...

## ...indexed more than 3 million publications

All are now poised [to join the scholarly record](#), where they will be easier to find, cite, and catalog.

## ...covered more than 8,000 policy organizations

Our coverage quadrupled last year. Remember, you can ask us to add organizations—and our thanks to UCLA's Joseph Yue and University of Minnesota's Mary Schoenborn for recently recommending that we include [Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor](#) and [PharmacyChecker Research](#), respectively. Both organizations are now fully indexed.

## ...made African organizations and reports easy to discover

Our collection has grown to [69,000 items](#) drawn from the 814 African organizations in our directory.

## ...preserved 24,000 publications from 471 inactive organizations

We continue to look for organizations that have closed their doors or are about to. For example, we learned that Australia's [Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC](#) was about to stop operating, so we made sure we had their 2,183 publications safe and sound before their website goes dark. (Do tell us about inactive organizations, too. We have ways of tracking down their content!)

## ...improved search

We added proximity search (NEAR and NEAR/n) to the standard Boolean operators and a Regions facet to our [Organization Directory](#).

## ...created a unique table-finding and extraction tool

Now it's easy to find tables that are buried inside PDFs and export them as CSV files in one click. Our AI-powered tool has found over [150,000 tables](#) so far.

## ...added a versatile list-building tool

In the lead up to COP26, Yale released a list of [12 reports](#) that they recommended everyone should read—which gave us an idea. How about we make it easy to create lists in *Policy Commons*? So, we did just that. You can now create lists of anything (including a list of lists, if you want), keep them private, share them just with colleagues, or make them public. Learn more with [our 2-minute explainer](#) video from my colleague, Yoomna. We think the possibilities are endless.

## Looking to the future...

Our team is busy discussing growth and improvements for 2022. Our purpose is to empower your research, so it's critical we partner with you to shape the product. Here are some areas we're investigating:

- Work with regional policy experts to ensure that our directory is comprehensive across [Asia](#), [Oceania](#), and [Latin America](#), as we've done for [Africa](#).
- Continue to grow our coverage of the publications posted by organizations in our Directory, especially in Latin America, India and Japan.
- Work with institutional members to identify new organizations for coverage.
- Make available more hard-to-find premium, licensed, and preserved content.
- Continue to improve search by adding geo-tags to allow you to find content *about* a place, country, or region.

What do you think? Are we on the right track? If you have comments on these ideas or have other needs that could be addressed by *Policy Commons*, please reach out to our Product Engagement Manager, [Yoomna](#), or directly to me.

Wishing you happy and healthy 2022!

**Toby Green**

Publisher, *Policy Commons*

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