



Happy August!

It's been a month of big milestones.

[Education Sub-Saharan Africa's](#) new report on [unlocking the potential of female leadership in tertiary education](#) became our 2,692,994th publication.

We welcomed new members **University of Toronto, University of Edinburgh, King's Fund, Stanford University, and New York University.**

And...our coverage has doubled to 7,500 policy organisations of the 21,000+ in the directory.

For example, you can now find 190 publications from the [Center for Civilians in Conflict](#), 90 from the [Center for People and Forests](#) in Asia, and 198 from the [Conservation Strategy Fund](#). Over the coming months, our aim is to push coverage past 10,000 organizations. And, as ever, if there are any particular organisations that you'd like us to add, please let us know.

Google's invisible borders

Google's mission is to "make the world's information universally accessible." But according to [Search Atlas](#), a joint research project from MIT and Carnegie Mellon University, Google creates invisible borders by limiting what users find by geography, language, and culture. Their [paper](#) illustrates how this significantly shifts discourse on key policy issues.

Take the search "how to combat climate change." In high-income countries in continental Europe, the top results suggested preemptive measures like "climate protection." Yet those who live on Caribbean islands see terms that suggest much greater immediate threat like "vulnerable," "daunting," and "dispiriting."

As the authors explain, Google's search engine is also inseparable from the priorities of its advertising business and is subject to political pressures and legal regulations, too. No wonder what you see isn't the same as your classmate, colleague, or neighbour, let alone your friends and family across the globe. (It's also why we don't use Google as the search engine for *Policy Commons*).

August is #WaterQualityMonth

USA's [Water Quality Month](#) was founded in 2005 by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is backed by the United Nations in an effort to promote civic discourse about conserving natural water sources. *Policy Commons* can help you filter through over 4,000 [publications on water quality](#) that were released over the past 18 months, including a [comprehensive account of water regulation in the United States](#) from a surprising source: India's [Center for Policy Research](#).

Call for testers (especially if you love tables and data)!

We know how frustrating it is to find a table buried inside a report. So, we've been developing a new tool that will enable you to search for tables without opening a single PDF. It's ready for testing, and if you love tables and would like to take a test drive and give us feedback, [do drop me a line](#) as soon as possible.

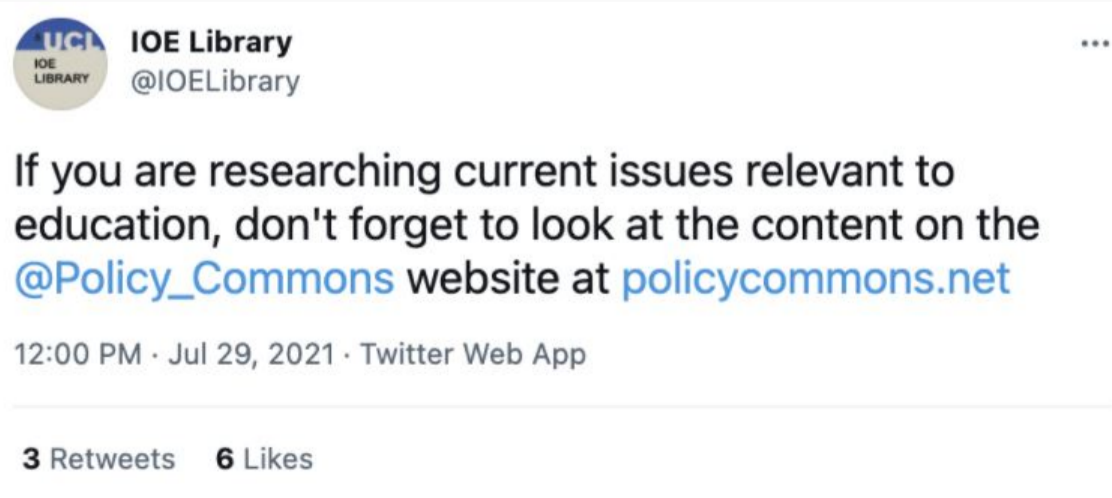
Speaking of data...

Did you know that *Policy Commons* indexes organizations that create [datasets](#) as well as publications? Last month we added [Global Mangrove Watch](#), a treasure trove of maps and data that can give researchers, policymakers, and practitioners the evidence they need to understand and respond to mangrove loss and restoration. If you know of datasets that could be added to *Policy Commons*, use our upload tool or [let us know](#).



And finally...

... a big shout out to UCL's Institute of Education for this tweet. We couldn't put it better ourselves!.



Looking forward to sharing more news and stories next month.

Toby Green
Publisher, *Policy Commons*

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