

Propositions by ICOFOM

as part of the ICOM Define Methodology: Consultation 3

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The ICOFOM survey results for the “Consultation 2” can be accessed [via this link](#). And the results and other details concerning the process shared by ICOM are [here](#).

The choice and the ranking of the words presented here are based on the previous material collected by ICOFOM:

- The 2021 survey realized in the framework on ICOM Define Consultation 2
- The 2020 survey realized after the General Assembly of Kyoto about the proposition of a new definition

ENTITY

1) Space

This term is more inclusive of the extant variety of “museumness” and includes, for example, open air museums, eco-museums, and all other “non-structurally imposing”, non-seemingly “big business” edifices, the contents of which we would normally classify in a category of “institutionalization”. Museums such as those in churches and other sacred places, in community centres, on indigenous lands, in villages or small communities, mobile, pop-up, and online museums would all fit in this catchment.

Although the word “institution” was the most quoted in its category, this word is widely over-represented in the answers coming from Europe (53% of the occurrences of “institution” comes from Europe) while it is under-represented in the answers coming from African and Arabic countries and Latin America. We choose the second most quoted word, “space” which was used in Asia (12,5% of the occurrences of “space” comes from Asia), Latin America (25%), Europe (52%) and North America (8%): it was also accepted by the respondent of the 2020 survey (54,7% of the respondents wanted to keep it, only 12,4% wanted to delete it). Even if it’s not representative from all geographic areas, it corresponds to the previous work realized by ICOFOM.

ENTITY QUALIFYER (5 words)

- 1) Non-profit
- 2) Sustainable
- 3) Open to the public
- 4) Transparent
- 5) Independent (intellectually)

Non-profit and open to the public

The notion of sustainability appears in answers coming from African and Arabic countries (although not statistically significant)

Transparent: 47,8% of the respondents of the 2020 survey asked to keep it

Independent: Mentioned in the answers from Europe

OBJECT/SUBJECT (5 words)

- 1) Heritage
- 2) Knowledge
- 3) Collections
- 4) Tangible & Intangible
- 5) Memory

These words come directly from the answers of the 2021 survey.

ACTIONS/FUNCTIONS (6 words)

- 1) Researches
- 2) Preserves
- 3) Displays/exhibits
- 4) Educates
- 5) Communicates
- 6) Acquires

Research, preservation, exhibition, education and communication comes from the answers of the 2020 and 2021 survey.

To add: *Listens (in order to be responsive to all other voices who have a stake in their community museum).*

EXPERIENCE (5 words)

- 1) Education
- 2) Participation
- 3) Enjoyment/entertainment
- 4) Critical dialogue
- 5) Experience

The words here are extracted from the 2020 and 2021 survey. About "Education", "Participation" and "Enjoyment/entertainment", they appear clearly in the 2020 and 2021 survey. About "Critical dialogue", 59,1% of the respondents of the 2020 survey's respondents wanted to keep it. We also decided to keep "experience" which appeared in the 2021 in the category of "museum nature"

To add:

- Study
- Emancipation

- Acceptance (Not being ignored but being heard in the light of a possibility of making a contribution to the ongoing building of the museum as a focal point and a forum for debate.)

SOCIAL VALUES (6 words)

- 1) Inclusivity
- 2) Accessibility
- 3) Service to society
- 4) Respect
- 5) Social
- 6) Diversity

“Inclusivity”, “Accessibility”, “Respect” and “Social” come from the 2021 survey. “In the service of society”, from the current definition, was widely voted for (86% of the respondents asked to keep it). Diversity: choice made by the WG on the museum definition.

Limitation:

- Democracy
- Wellbeing

To add: Welcoming (A non-judgemental stance whereby the community feels as one with its museum, not only just in visitation, but also by participating in interactive dialogues.)

TARGET & PARTNERSHIPS (4 words)

- 1) Public/open to the public
- 2) Community/Society
- 3) Audience/Visitors
- 4) Participatory

All the words here came from the 2021 survey.

To add: “Stakeholder” (Those segments of the community who have a vested personal or cultural affinity to the museum’s holdings and thus an inalienable right of physical and/or intellectual access.)