The Iranian National ETD Program

Development, Achievements, and Obstacles

Sirous Alidousti

Behrooz Raslui

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Introduction

ETD have important role in advancing science

ETD programs can be established at different levels; Institutional, National, Regional, or Global

Many countries have already established their NETD; UK, Canada, Brazil, Taiwan, Turkey, Lithuania, South Africa, India, Iran, …
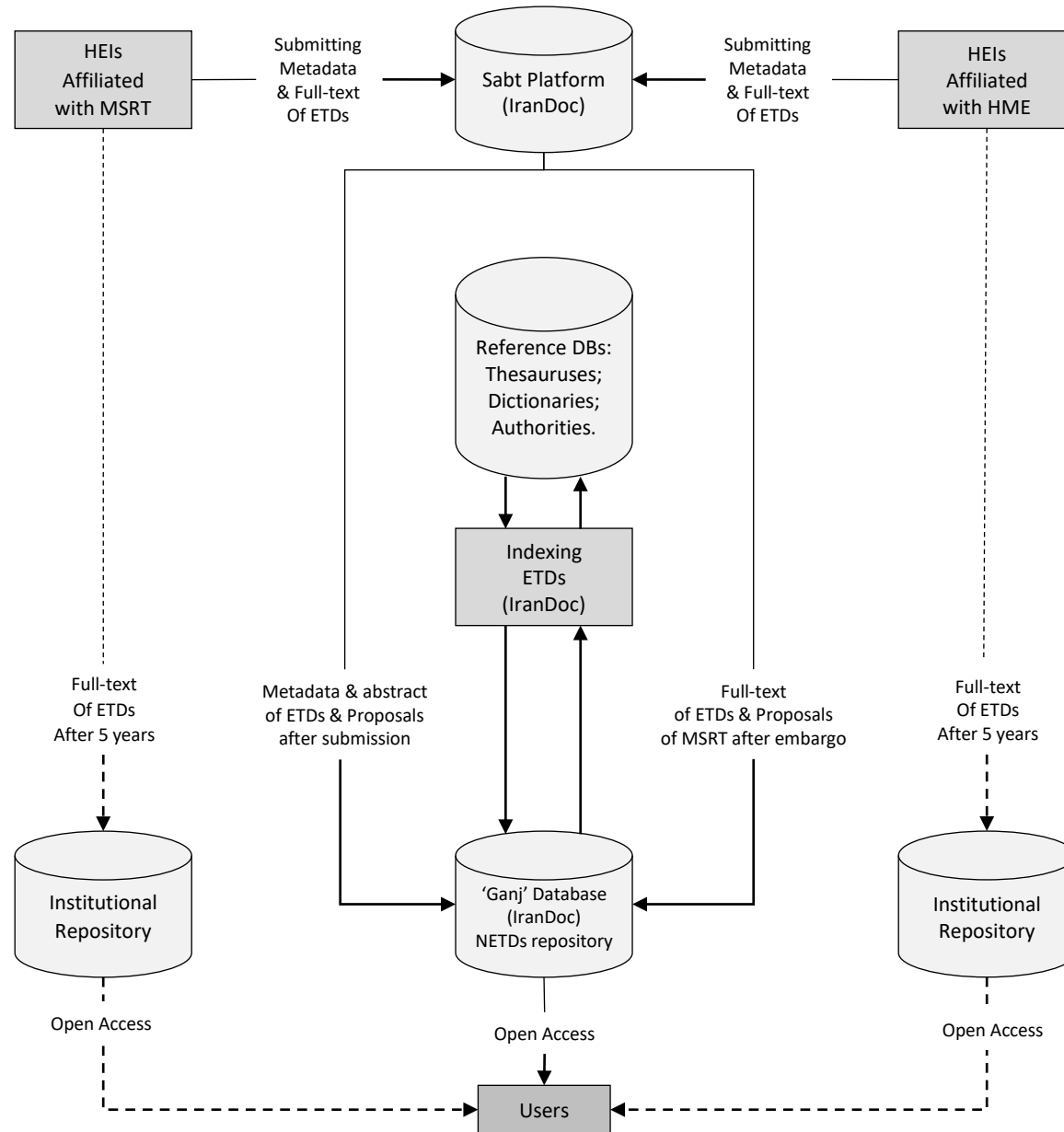
Questions

❑Every country has its own experience,

challenges, and lessons learned;

❑How did Iran develop its NETD program?

❑What are the achievements of Iranian NETD?

❑What lessons Iran learned in developing its

NETD program?

Iranian NETD: A short history

❑Collecting TDs started by IranDoc in 1969; *Bibliography of Theses in Social Science* has been printed in July 1974;

❑The Minister of Culture and Higher Education in 1992 requested HEIs to submit the titles of the approved PhD dissertations to IranDoc;

❑MSRT in 2005 and 2007 requested HEIs to submit an electronic/printed copy of these to IranDoc;

❑A dedicated chapter within law in 2017 mandated all Iranian HEIs to submit their ETDs and proposals to IranDoc.

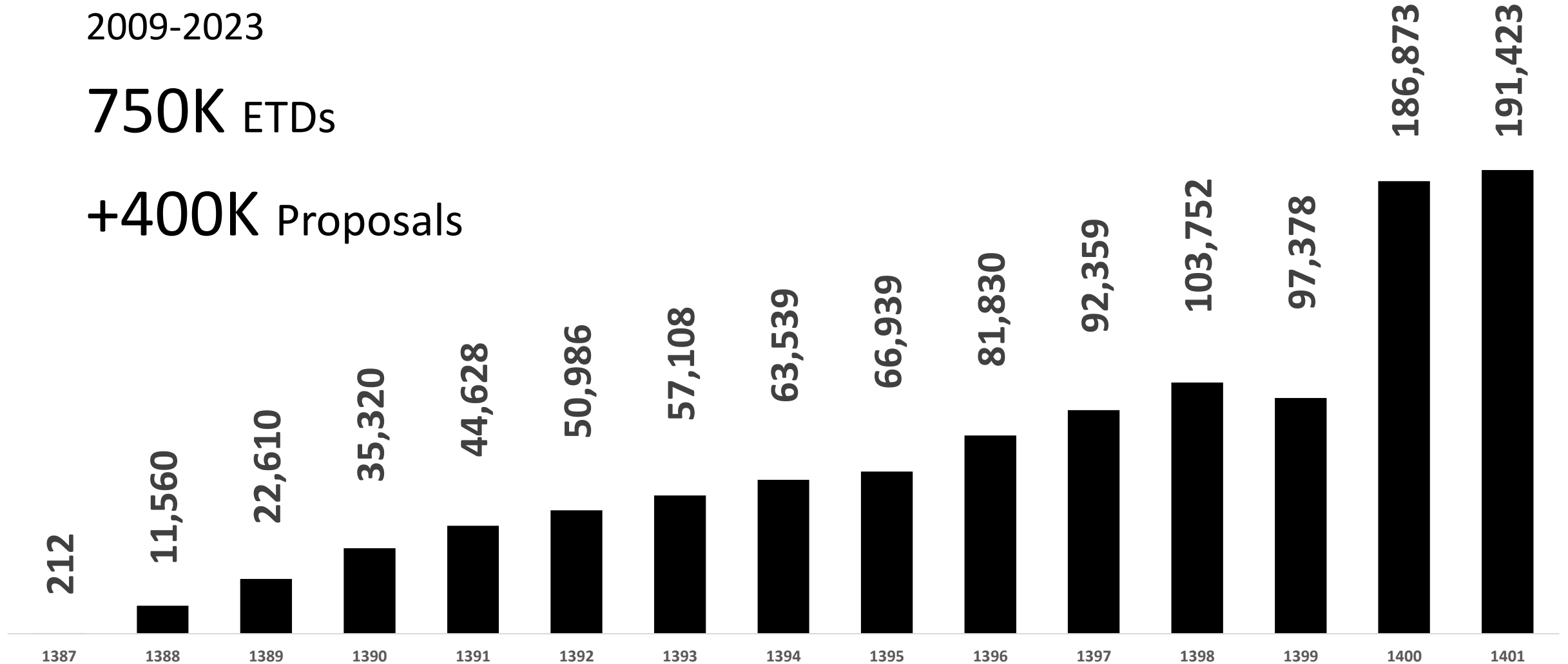❑IranDoc developed two main portals (SABT and GANJ).

How does GANJ work?

Achievements: Preserving National Intellectual Assets and Decreasing Research Duplication
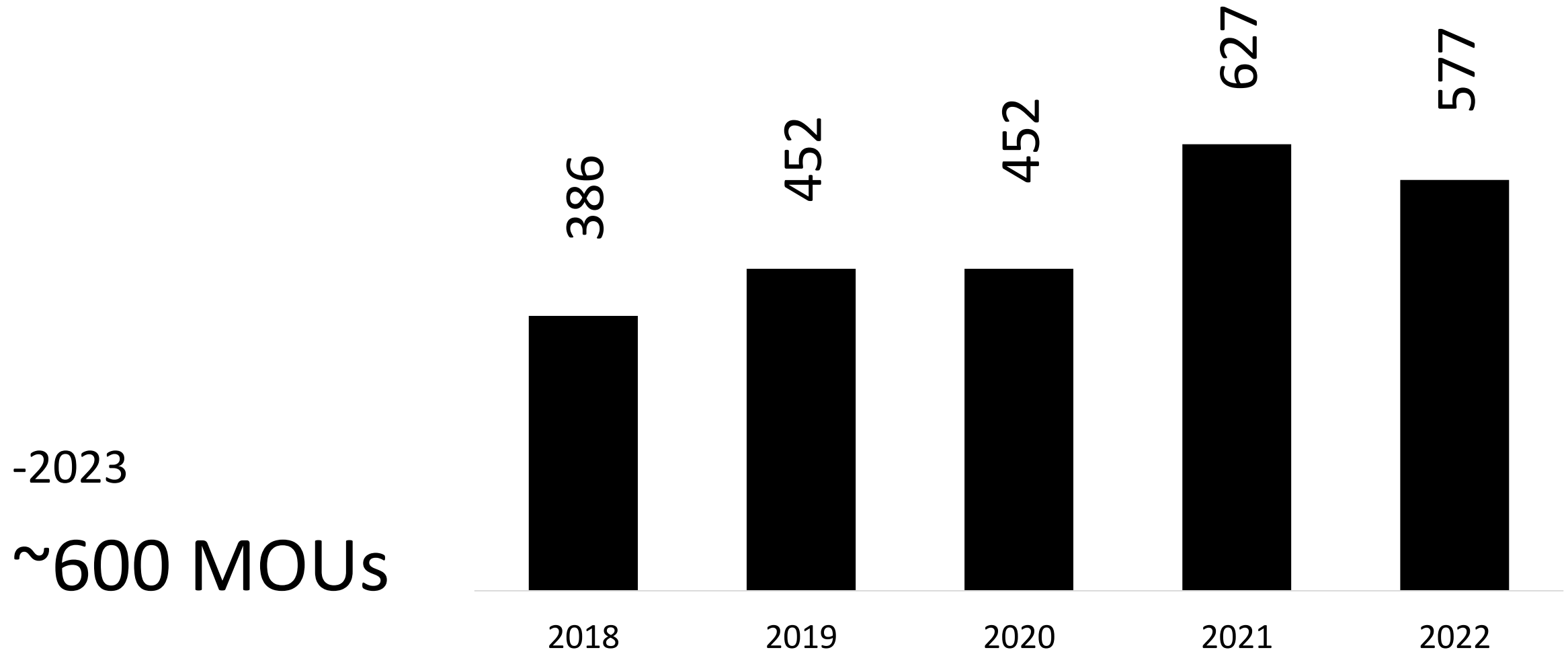
2009-2023

750K ETDs

+400K Proposals

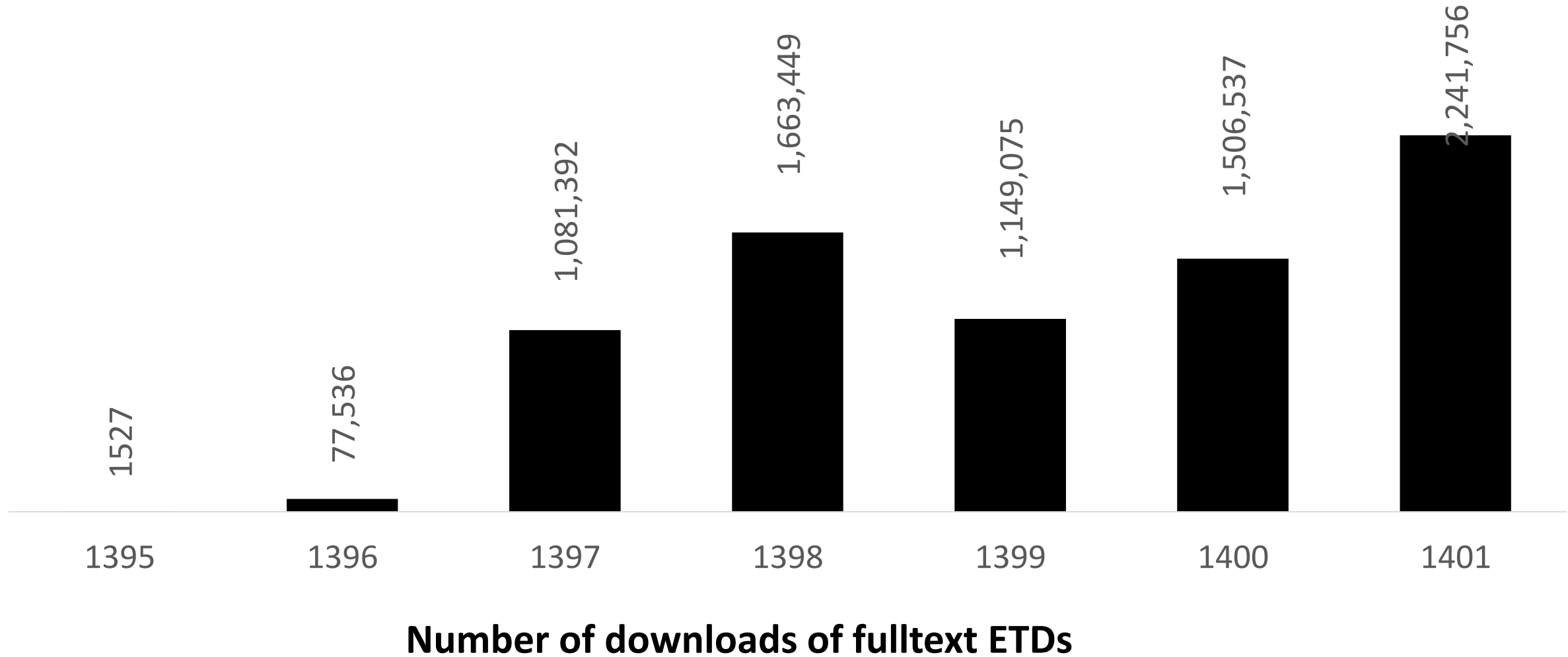
| | 212 | 11,560 | 22,610 | 35,320 | 44,628 | 50,986 | 57,108 | 63,539 | 66,939 | 81,830 | 92,359 | 103,752 | 97,378 | 186,873 | 191,423 |

| 1387 | 1388 | 1389 | 1390 | 1391 | 1392 | 1393 | 1394 | 1395 | 1396 | 1397 | 1398 | 1399 | 1400 | 1401 |

Achievements: Preserving National Intellectual Assets

-2023

~600 MOUs

Year	Value
2018	386
2019	452
2020	452
2021	627
2022	577

Achievements: Access to ETDs and Proposals

Bar chart showing number of downloads of fulltext ETDs by year:
- 1395: 1527
- 1396: 77,536
- 1397: 1,081,392
- 1398: 1,663,449
- 1399: 1,149,075
- 1400: 1,506,537
- 1401: 2,241,756

Number of downloads of fulltext ETDs

4,533
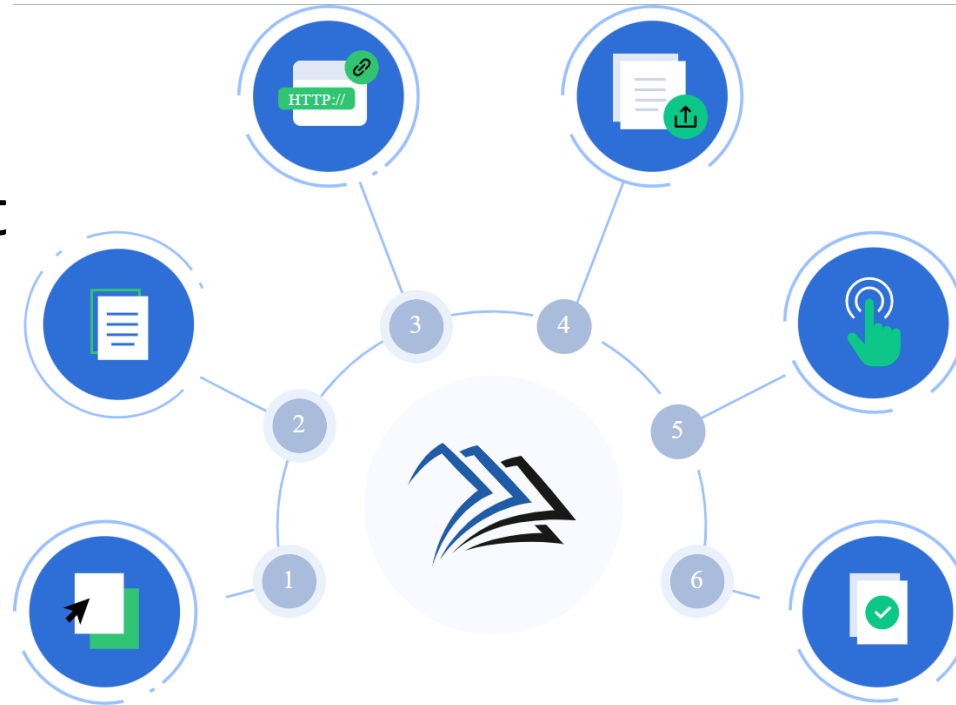daily unique visitors

GANJ.IRANDOC.AC.IR

Achievements: Promoting Academic Integrity

210K

Plagiarism Check Request

1.5M

References

725

Organizational Member

122M

Pages

Other Values

❏Increasing productivity: accelerating access and networking;

❏Academic responsibility: publishing public funded outputs;

❏Monitoring research impact: citations, views, downloads, shares, …;

❏Employment Opportunities: hiring in academia and industry;

❏Science policy: evidence-based policy making;

❏Promoting equity: open access for ETDs at a nationwide level;

❏Decreasing Financial Expenses: single infrastructure.

Participation

Despite the enactment of parliamentary mandates, certain HEIs, particularly the larger ones are not participating in GANJ.
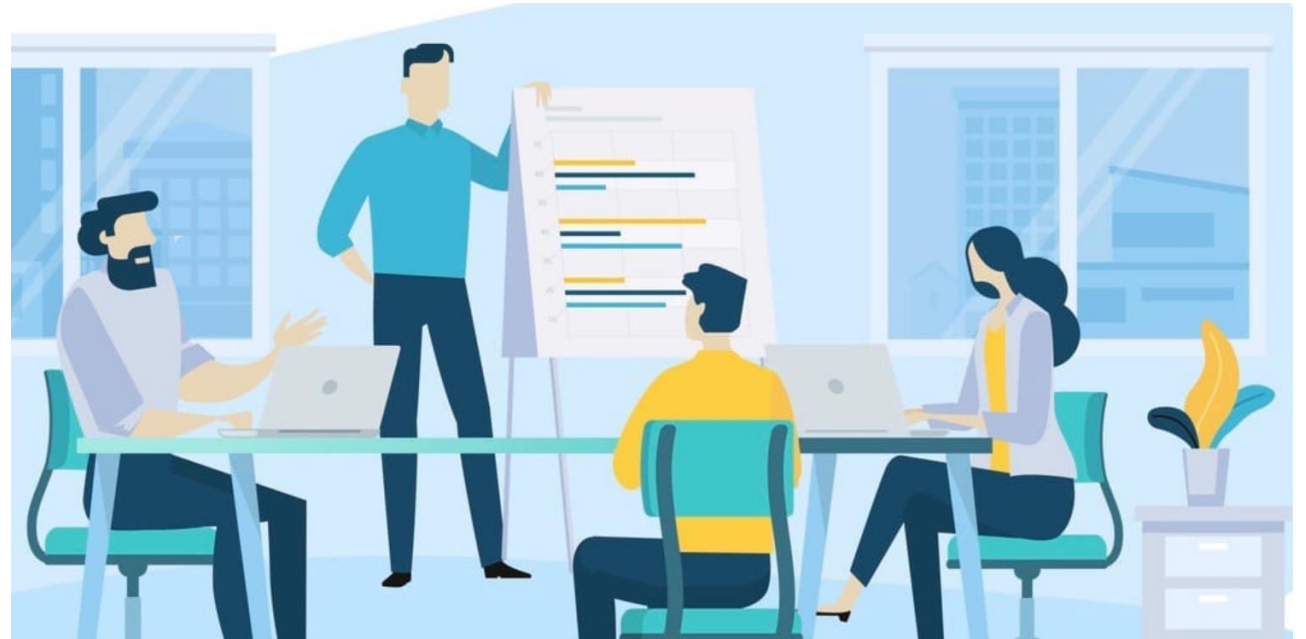
Technological Infrastructure

IranDoc bandwidth's limitations restrict users to downloading only five ETDs full-text per week, constraining broader access due to the traffic limitations.

Obstacles and Challenges

Human Resource

A considerable portion of submitted ETDs have been directly forwarded into 'Ganj', without the quality check.

Obstacles and Challenges

Intellectual Property Rights

Inadequate measures to safeguard against plagiarism in TDs pose a significant challenge, making it challenging for authors to initiate effective prosecution against potential plagiarists.

Conclusion and Lessons Learned

❑Is it possible for a researcher to search ALL IR?

❑The value proposition for increasing participation;

❑The information quality IS important;

❑Thinking about a sustainable business model;
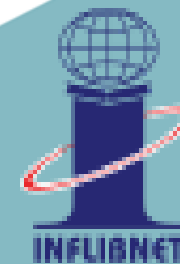
❑Taking care of continuous improvement.

Thank You

Behrooz Rasuli

Assistant Professor in Information Science

Iranian Research Institute for Information Science and Technology

Rasuli9@gmail.com; @Behrooz_Rasuli

ORCID: 0000-0001-6091-6967

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