

How I Designed a New Research Tool for the Global Health Data Exchange

Or, User Experience for Information Work

Background

About the GHDx

The Global Health Data Exchange (GHDx), a catalog of global health data gathered from countries all around the world, is hosted by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). The GHDx is a mission-critical system that supports IHME's important research goals:

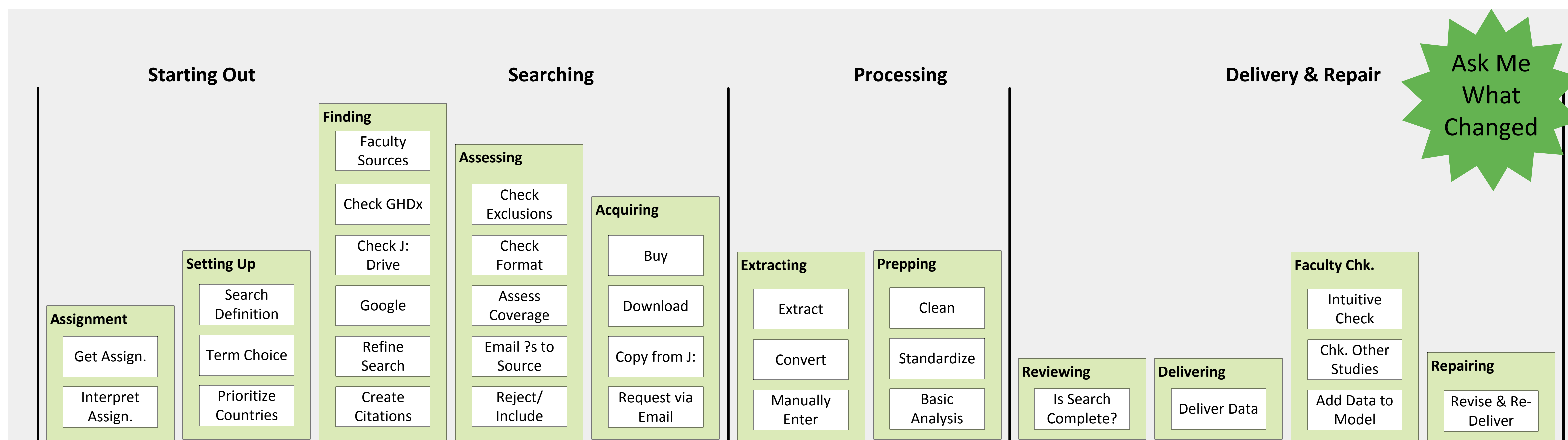
- Measuring global trends in health
- Assessing the impact of policies and interventions
- Analyzing health financing

Problem Statement

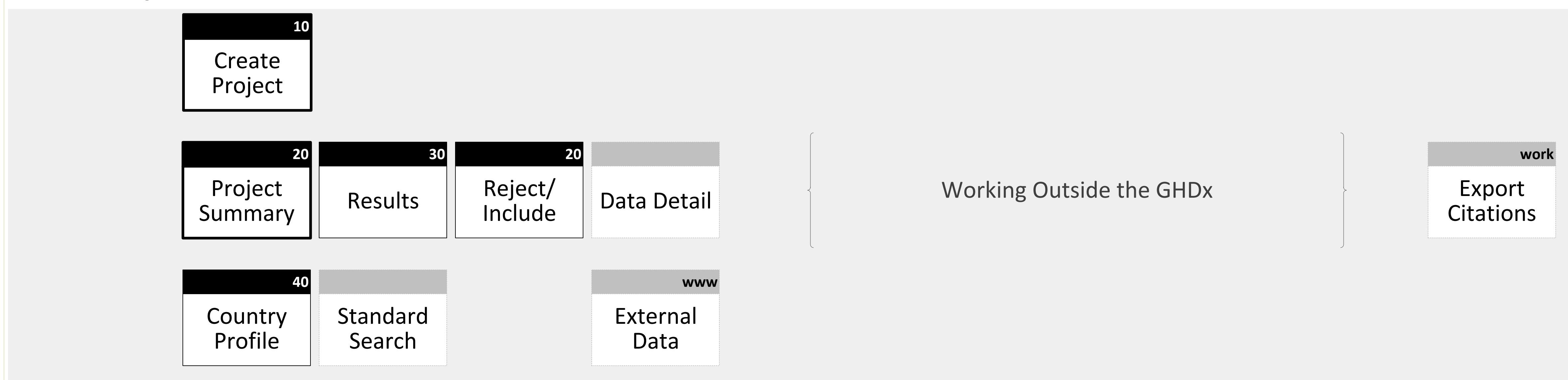
IHME data analysts don't take full advantage of the information available in the GHDx. Instead, they spend too much time looking for new and relevant data on their own, or in silos.

Design Process

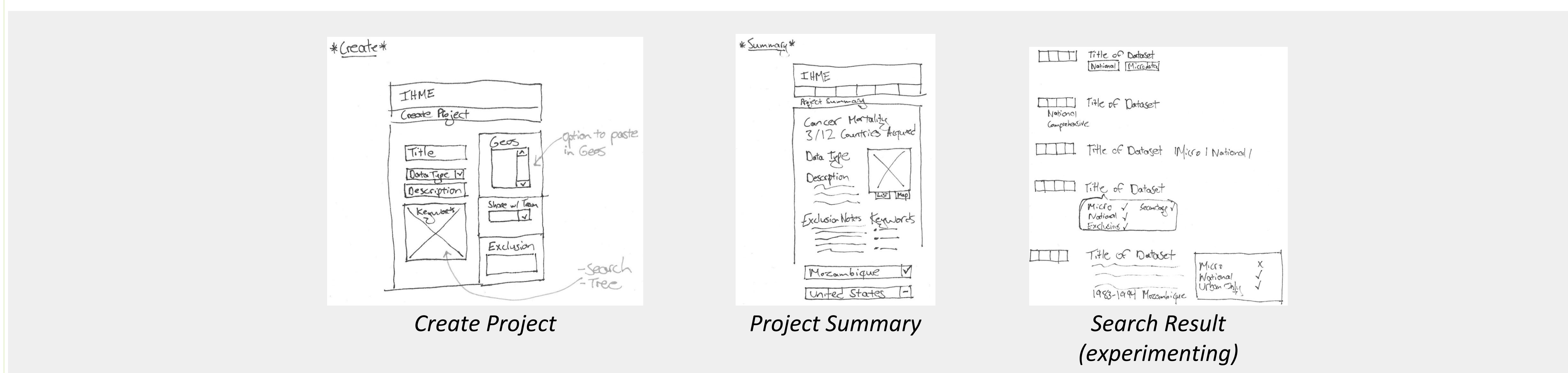
1. Mental Model



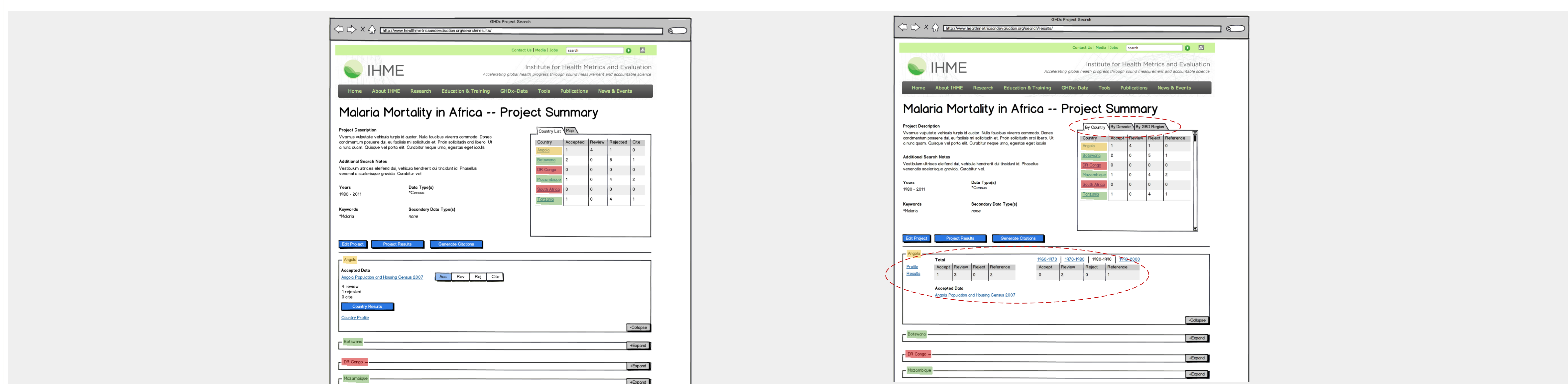
2. Site Map



3. Sketches



4. Wireframes



Methods



Solution

A project-based data-gathering tool, aligned with data analysts' mental model of a worldwide data search, that helps them select and review large quantities of datasets.

- Increases relevance
- Creates a historical record
- Seamlessly adds new data

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to Abby, Eden, and Peter at IHME for all their help with this project, and to Mike for being an inspirational teacher.

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