Engaging citizens in science and policy: lessons from the Ground Truth 2.0 citizen observatories

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Citizen Observatories

Dedicated communities of citizens, scientists & decision makers relying on ICT-based platforms and tools to actively collaborate in the collection, exchange and use of information & knowledge for a shared purpose.
Socio-technical approach
LivingLabs principles

Social Dimensions

Citizen Observatories

Demonstration Cases

Enabling Technologies

Business development

Market
Co-design of 6 demand-driven Citizen Observatories

[Map with markers and images of people engaging in discussions]
Belgium Demo Case
Environmental quality of life

Screenshot of the Web-platform

Example of air quality measurements

2017

2018

Meet Mee Mechelen
Sweden Demo Case
Water quality management

Screenshot of the Web-platform

Example of water quality map
Spain Demo Case
Preparing for Climate Change

Screenshot of the Web-platform

Citizen observations
Dutch Demo Case
Weather & Climate proof water management

Screenshot of the Web-platform

Example of information about water storage areas
Kenya Demo Case
Balancing sustainable livelihoods & biodiversity management

Screenshot of the Web-platform

Screenshot of the App
Zambia Demo Case
Community-based sustainable natural resources management

Web-platform design

Current Event Book
Balancing livelihoods & biodiversity mgt
Water quality management
Community-based sustainable NRM
Preparing for Climate Change
Weather & Climate proof water mgt
Environmental quality of life
Zambia
Kenya
Sweden
Spain
The Netherlands
Belgium
Engaging citizens in science & policy
LESSONS LEARNED from Ground Truth 2.0

✓ Feasibility & benefits of CO differ per community
   -> flexible, useful, adaptable method
      ▪ geogr. contexts
      ▪ social settings
      ▪ thematic issues
✓ Community building as important as co-designing platform & tools

✓ Value of co-design starts before delivery of platforms, apps, tools

✓ COs ≠ plug & play solutions for data collection
✓ Framing COs: more than just *more data* and not just *about science!*
✓ Stakeholder participation & knowledge co-production

Photo: Luigi Ceccaroni
Starting soon!

CSEOL: Citizen Science Earth Observation Lab

Early 2019: Call for Ideas
Late 2019: Selection & start of 4 pilot projects, 75k EURO funding per pilot

2 year project

To support validation & exploitation of EO using Citizen Science

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Thank you!

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