

A case study on communication to boost Citizen Science social education: CS Track Community Platform

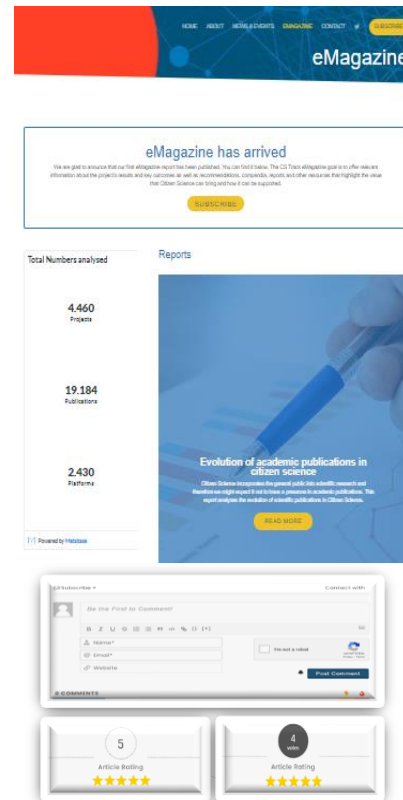
CS Track is broadening our knowledge about Citizen Science by investigating Citizen Science activities, disseminating good practices and formulating knowledge-based policy recommendations to maximise the potential benefit of Citizen Science activities on individual citizens, organisations, and society at large.

INTRODUCTION

In recent years, more than 100 projects related Citizen Science (CS) have been funded by EU Commission under the H2020 program. Currently, we can certainly affirm that CS is a very appropriate tool to promote scientific literacy [1,2]. Although a few initiatives have been carried out [3], Citizen Science still lacks popularity among heads, lecturers and technical managers of agencies responsible for teacher education training. This means that incorporating CS in formal education will be a difficult task and, therefore, teachers who are interested in the value and impact CS will not be able to incorporate the topic in the classroom to foster scientific literacy. To fight the problem, CS Track project is developing a Community Platform, targeted at heads, lecturers and technical managers of agencies responsible for teacher education training (among other roles as policymakers or academics), which aims to offer relevant information about other CS projects and key outcomes as well as recommendations, reports and other resources that highlight the value that CS can bring and how it can be supported to improve its outcomes.

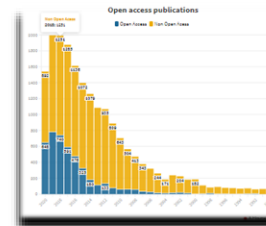
e-MAGAZINE PLATFORM

The e-Magazine Community Platform provides three different formats where users can get information from graphic articles, reports and a newsletter. In addition, a comment system has been installed and allows adding online commenting or rating on posts.



RESULTS

Information is presented in a very modern eMagazine format that includes interactive data visualizations and infographics to summarize the main ideas.



References

- [1] Pálsdóttir Á. (2018) Senior Citizens Science Literacy and Health Self-efficacy Beliefs. In: Kurbanoglu S., Boustany J., Spiranez S., Grassian E., Mizrahi D., Roy L. (eds) Information Literacy in the Workplace. ECIL 2017. Communications in Computer and Information Science, vol 810. Springer, Cham. doi: 10.1007/978-3-319-74334-9_42.
- [2] Bonney, Rick et al. (2009) Citizen Science: A Developing Tool for Expanding Science Knowledge and Scientific Literacy. *BioScience*, 59(11):977. doi: 10.1525/bio.2009.59.11.9.
- [3] Queiruga-Dios, M. Á. et al. (2020). Citizen Science for Scientific Literacy and the Attainment of Sustainable Development Goals in Formal Education. *Sustainability*, 12(10), 4283. doi:10.3390/su12104283.

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CONCLUSION

The analytical results of the CS Track project will be published in the e-Magazine to encourage active participation between users and project researchers.

CALL TO ACTION

Community Platform, targeted at heads, lecturers and technical managers of agencies responsible for teacher education training (among other roles as policymakers or academics), will offer relevant information about other CS projects and key outcomes as well as recommendations, reports and other resources that highlight the value that CS can bring and how it can be supported to improve its outcomes.



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