



University of Dundee

Citizen Science Projects (MOOC) 1.14

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 Speaker: Angelos Amditis
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Script	Visuals
[Music]	FutureLearn opening animation
[Music]	WeObserve logo University of Dundee logo
<p>ANGELOS AMDITIS: Building the right team is key for any citizen observatory. The way we reach out to different communities and how we bring them on board for each project is a big part of the process. In the LandSense Citizen Observatory, a wide range of stakeholders has been involved, so the way of building teams has varied from case to case. In the open case studies in Vienna, Amsterdam, and Toulouse, it has been critical to engage the city administration or different local authorities who will use the data so that they have an interest in participating.</p>	
<p>In the agricultural case study, farmers and agricultural extension workers have been the key stakeholders, while for forest and habitat monitoring, local communities in Indonesia have been engaged to help coal design than a Torah alert solution. No matter what conducts we are working in, good communication and co-creation have been vital for building strong teams of people with a vested interest in the success of the citizen observatory. For Ground Truth 2.0, building dedicated teams of citizens, scientists, and policy makers is a fundamental aspect of our co-design methodology. We invest time in doing a detailed stakeholder analysis for each citizen observatory to identify stakeholders from each category, and then invite them to call design sessions.</p>	
<p>It was crucial to hold these sessions at a time and place that was convenient for stakeholders, so our teams often found themselves holding meetings during the evenings or weekends. Team members were there to facilitate the discussions and to walk</p>	

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<p>our ourselves out of our jobs so that each observatory can function without us. The GROW Observatory runs several citizen science activities. The main soil sensing activity is happening in GROW places across Europe. When recruiting participants in these places, we followed a set of criteria to make sure we would have a wide range of people from different climates, agricultural context, and socioeconomic contexts. Each GROW place is coordinated by a local community champion.</p>	
<p>GROW also developed a community of practise for community champions to foster collaborations across GROW places and keep up the momentum after the project ends. Other observatory activities such as the Great GROW Experiment, which compared the performance of monocultures and polycultures was open to participants anywhere in the world. The sharing-your-planting-date activities invite growers around Europe to help the observatory count source the ideal local planting dates for edible plants. Planting dates on seed packets are not tailored to the varying climates around Europe, so the free GROW Observatory app is collating a more comprehensive, location-specific list of dates.</p>	
<p>To do this, we set up a Share My Planning Calendars Facebook Group and invited growing groups, learners from our courses and social media followers to contribute dates or email them to us. Scent Citizen Observatory has conducted volumes, thematic campaigns, focusing on collecting information about land use and land-covered elements, river parameters, soil conditions, urban obstacles, and flood-regulated events. These citizen science campaigns have been executed in collaboration with different stakeholders, including governmental policy makers, regional and local authorities, and NGOs with networks of volunteers and members. To form teams, these organisations raised awareness about the issues they were investigating, issued calls to action through social media campaigns,</p>	

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communicated indirectly with relevant groups, and held training sessions with participants.	
Frequenting their action and good communication with the groups involved made a big difference to organising and sustaining the citizen science activities.	
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