



Open and Citizen Science

THE CHALLENGE

Understanding and promoting citizen's engagement in the co-creation process of science

- Open and Citizen Science¹ is emerging as an important policy orientation and blooming across all scientific disciplines^{2,3};
- There is a recognised need to bridge the gap between the scientific community and society at large, in a way that science becomes more responsive to citizens' concerns and needs, and that citizens participate themselves in the co-creation process of the scientific knowledge^{4,5};
- Open and Citizen Science is experiencing considerable expansion in the last years due to the increased usage of innovative technologies, digital sharing, online projects and social networks⁶;
- There are many unanswered questions on citizen science potential, costs and benefits, drivers, incentives, funding schemes, barriers, risks, performance measurement, as well as on its linkages with (formal and informal) education, social inclusion policies, territorial development, ethics, etc^{7,8};
- In order to address global societal challenges, citizen science needs to adopt a more integrated and interdisciplinary approach involving not only natural and physical sciences but also social sciences⁹.

DEUSTO'S RESPONSE

The Core Group Open and Citizen Science

It is an interdisciplinary group of excellent researchers from different research units of the University of Deusto:

- [Orkestra: Basque Institute of Competitiveness](#)
- [Deusto Social Values](#)



Working in **co-creation** with local, regional and European players to generate new knowledge and innovative research results **with impact on**:

- communicating science during the whole research process;
- empowering and strengthening the voice of previously excluded groups in the production of socially relevant knowledge;
- improving and strengthening participatory action research, particularly Action Research for Territorial Development and community based research methods.
- improving open and citizen science knowledge base;
- maximising the societal impact of research by co-generating socially relevant knowledge with citizens to address jointly defined challenges;
- promoting responsible research communication, which extends the learning process beyond the direct participants in the research process;
- promoting civil society agents' contribution to territorial development.

GENERATING EXCELLENT RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Participation in European and Regional Projects

H2020 YOUCOUNT:

Empowering Youth and Co-Creating Social Innovations
Through Citizen Social Science



Friendly Cities 4All:

development of an open space for citizen participation to enhance civic awareness in the field of urban accessibility



Zubigintza - LabDT:

building a new model of participatory, open and collaborative governance for territorial development

Etorkizuna Eraikiz-Employability:

helping local development agencies in the development of a new model of social and employment services through the sharing of experiences and interaction with local players and citizens



Etorkizuna Eraikiz- Bizilagun(Lkaleak):

creating a space for sharing reflections, questions and learnings about the role of the community in supporting the elderly

Relevant Initiatives

Contribution to the [European Values Study](#), including through the [Bilbao City of Values](#) initiative

[Virtual space: Facilitative Actors of Territorial Development](#)

- 1 According to the European Commission, Citizen Science refers to the general public engagement in scientific research activities when citizens actively contribute to science either with their intellectual effort or surrounding knowledge or with their tools and resources. Available [here](#)
- 2 Hecker, Susanne & Haklay, Muki & bowser, anne & Makuch, Zen & Vogel, Johannes & Bonn, Aletta & Gold, Margaret. (2018). Citizen Science – Innovation in Open Science, Society and Policy. 10.14324/111.9781787352339.
- 3 European Commission"Horizon 2020 - Work Programme 2018-2020 Science with and for Society". Available [here](#)
- 4 H. Riesch; C. Potter (2014). "Citizen science as seen by scientists: Methodological, epistemological and ethical dimensions". Public Understanding of Science. 23 (1): 107–120. doi:10.1177/0963662513497324. PMID 23982281.
- 5 Cavalier, Darlene; Kennedy, Eric (2016). <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23982281>The Rightful Place of Science: Citizen Science. Tempe, AZ: Consortium for Science, Policy & Outcomes. p. 54. ISBN 9780692694831.
- 6 Green paper on Citizen Science for Europe: Towards a society of empowered citizens and enhanced research. Available [here](#)
- 7 idem.
- 8 European Commission"Horizon 2020 - Work Programme 2018-2020 Science with and for Society". Available [here](#)
- 9 Heiss, R., & Matthes, J. (2017). Citizen science in the social sciences: a call for more evidence. *GAIA-Ecological Perspectives for Science and Society*, 26(1), 22-26.

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