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## NEWS AND UPDATES FROM THE CENTER

### KNOW THE AIR YOU BREATHE



### Know the air you breathe - an update

Together with researchers from ETH Zurich and citizen scientists, the Center is involved in a co-created Citizen Science project to measure and gain more insights into indoor air quality in Zurich. The first round of data taking was successfully done over the course of October 2022. Currently the data is being analysed. Another co-creation workshop is planned for beginning of the year - to discuss the findings and brainstorm how to best communicate them to the public. Also a second round of data taking is planned for beginning of next year.

If you are living in the city of Zurich and interested in participating in data taking or if you simply want to be regularly updated by the project progress, then please send us an e-mail to [info@citizenscience.ch](mailto:info@citizenscience.ch).

[to the project site](#)

### HOW TO INSTITUTIONALISE CITIZEN SCIENCE IN YOUR INSTITUTION?

How can we institutionalise citizen science in our institutions? This is a question that is becoming increasingly relevant in the context of the current societal challenges. The report provides a framework for institutions to consider when developing citizen science projects. It covers the following areas: 1. Understanding the value of citizen science. 2. Identifying the right partners. 3. Developing a clear vision and mission. 4. Building a strong governance structure. 5. Ensuring sustainability and long-term impact.

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### EDUCATION

#### ANY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRAINING SOURCING OF ACADEMIC TRAINING COURSES/TEACHERS?

To successfully integrate citizen science into academic training courses, it is essential to consider the following factors: 1. Identify the needs and interests of the target audience. 2. Develop a clear learning objective and curriculum. 3. Provide hands-on experience and practical skills. 4. Encourage collaboration and teamwork. 5. Offer ongoing support and mentorship.

#### HOW TO EVALUATE THE IMPACT OF NEW COURSES/TRAINING?

Evaluating the impact of new courses or training programs is crucial for understanding their effectiveness and making improvements. The following steps can be used for evaluation: 1. Define clear metrics and indicators. 2. Collect data through surveys, interviews, and focus groups. 3. Analyze the data to identify trends and patterns. 4. Compare results against the initial objectives. 5. Share findings and use them to inform future decisions.



### 29 recommendations on how to institutionalise Citizen Science

What action do institutions need to take to successfully embed Citizen Science and Public Engagement? That question was the core of a workshop series we held within TIME4CS - an EU funded project. The results are summarized in 29 best practices and practical suggestions that are crucial for any institution aiming at institutionalising Citizen Science. Curious to find out what these recommendations are?

[to the recommendations](#)

## Welcome to the team: Daniel Böhler



I am Daniel and just joined the Citizen Science Center Zurich as Full-Stack Developer. I originally come from Germany, where I also accomplished my vocational training as IT Management Assistant and later worked as IT Specialist in the automotive industry. I am passionate about user friendly, intuitive and highly automated applications and will do my best to assist the Citizen Science Center with these principles in mind.

The main reason why I now live in Zurich are my still ongoing studies in Electrical Engineering and Information Technology at ETH Zürich. Besides spending my time with studying and working I also love doing sports (climbing, skiing, hiking, triathlon, beach volleyball, sailing, ...). Furthermore, I am always open for any intercultural experience and love meeting new people!

[to the entire team](#)

## NEWS FROM THE PARTICIPATORY SCIENCE ACADEMY

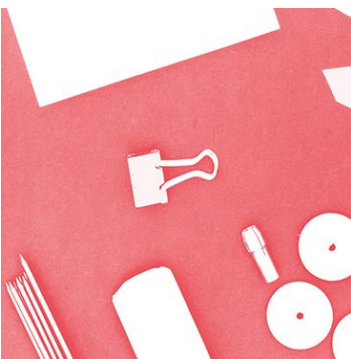


### Call for Application: Seed Grants 2023

The Participatory Science Academy (Partizipative Wissenschaftsakademie, PWA) awards Seed Grants for the development and/or implementation of participatory Citizen Science projects. Teams of researchers and citizens can apply for a Seed Grant up to 40'000 CHF. **The next Seed Grant call starts on December 19, 2022!** Applications are now submitted in the PWA Online Tool. Please visit the website for further information.

An information session is held on January 23, 2023, 12:15 - 13:15 in English on Zoom.

[further information](#)



### Online Workshop Series: Methods on Monday (only in German)

Discover methods and tools for the co-production of knowledge together with the Participatory Science Academy and td-net! Based on the phases of a project, methods from the [td-net toolbox](#) will be selected and presented. The workshops take place on the first Monday of each month.

[further information](#)



### Citizen Science Summer School: Transforming research through public participation

What are the potentials of Citizen Science for increased dialogue between science and society? How can Citizen Science contribute to solving societal challenges and transforming science? These and other issues will be covered in the Citizen Science Summer School for early-career researchers from June 04 to 09, 2023 in Zurich, organized by the Participatory Science Academy (ETH/UZH) and UZH Graduate Campus (2 ECTS).

[further information](#)

## NEWS FROM PARTNERS & PROJECTS



### Long COVID Citizen Science Board supports clinical trial

The Long COVID Citizen Science Board, a project supported by the Participatory Science Academy, continues its work after [research priorities](#) have been established. Board representatives are advising UZH researchers on the design of a placebo-controlled randomised controlled trial. The study, planned for January 2023 and led by the Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Prevention Institute, investigates the effects of a natural remedy on health status, functional exercise capacity and selected blood parameters.

[more about the Long COVID Citizen Science board](#)



### Survey: Application of medicinal plants in everyday life - the forest berry

Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778) described the berries as the best medicine for kidney stones and gout. What knowledge do we have about the wild strawberry today? How can it contribute to human health? Do citizens still use it for healing? These and other questions will be discussed more deeply in this survey. The results will be summarized in a final paper on ethnobotany. **Participate in the survey and share your valuable knowledge!** Thank you very much! If you have any questions, please feel free to write to: [yvonne.steinbach@uzh.ch](mailto:yvonne.steinbach@uzh.ch)

Image copyright: Watercolor adapted from ©Adolf Blaim, 2014

[to the survey](#)



### The little plane tree trail!

In the Industrial quarter, a heat hotspot of Zurich, you can explore the climate performance of urban trees on the basis of five selected London plane trees.

The project "Zurich greened" / "Züri begrünt" (<https://zuericooldown.ch>) has developed a web app with the same name for smartphones (prototype); open it on site and enjoy the small plane tree trail with audio guide. Discover interesting facts, quiz questions and visualization about the climate-ecological effect of "Friedrich, the friendly plane tree", "The proud trio *Platanus x hispanica*" and "Gundula, the royal", a true survivor. Start at "Schiffbau", duration approx. 1/2 hour.

[to the web app](#)



### "Swallowtail & plasterer bee - flower-visiting insects in the city of Zurich" successfully completed

Flower-pollinating insects play a central role in our ecosystems. In the summer of 2022, with the support of 36 citizens, the occurrence and distribution of wild bees and butterflies in the city of Zurich was investigated. A large variety of species could be detected, including rare species. The study showed a great potential for small green areas in the city as well as the importance of an adapted mowing regime for flower-visiting insects. In November, the results were presented to participants and feedback was shared.

Image copyright: Further training with participants in spring 2022. © Katja Rauchenstein / stadtwildtiere.ch

[more information about the project](#)



### Science Pavilion at Irchel

The Science Pavilion UZH at Campus Irchel is definitely worth a visit! Sadly, the exhibition of the Citizen Science project [CrowdWater](#) at the Science Pavilion will not be there for much longer. If you are located in Zurich or visiting Zurich, we recommend that you check it out before it is gone. If you take a picture of CrowdWater's exhibit and post it on twitter and tag the CrowdWater account (@crowd\_water), you have the chance to win a prize. Good Luck and have fun!

[to the exhibition](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Wednesday,  
29.03. +  
Thursday,  
30.03.**

### CitSciHelvetia'23

The second Swiss Citizen Science Conference will take place on March 29 and 30, 2023 at the Landhaus in Solothurn. It follows the motto «Citizen Science – making impact participatory!» .

[More information and registration](#)



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