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Hello & Welcome to this newsletter edition by the Citizen Science Center Zürich and the Participatory Science Academy. We hope you'll like reading about our recent activities and invite you to our upcoming events, like the monthly Brown Bag Lunches or the workshops on participatory research. We also added a new column with news from our partners in Zurich, this time from the Senior University and the Irchel Nature Trail. Enjoy!

Your Citizen Science Zurich Team

NEWS AND UPDATES

Supporting Citizen Science in Academia and Beyond

On January 16th 2020, about 100 Citizen Science enthusiasts met at ETH Zurich to discuss the basis for a common strategy to promote co-created Citizen Science in Switzerland. At the heart of the event were six workshops, followed by insightful speeches from strategical actors in the field of Citizen Science in Switzerland.

[Check out the report on our blog](#)

Snake ID: Recent Challenge and Winners

The Snake ID Challenge started in March 2019 and in its first phase we used classified imaged to study the competence and speed of the crowd in matching expert snakes identification. In the second phase, which ran in November 2019, we repeated the challenge using unclassified images.

A big thank you to everyone who took part and congratulations to the [winners of the autumn 2019 challenge](#)! Every single contribution brings us closer to our overall goal: to protect humans and snakes and support the treatment of snake bite. [Contribute to the Snake ID Citizen Science project here](#)

Citizen Science Featured in Davos

"[Rethinking Creativity](#)" was the theme of the ETH Zurich presence at the World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting 2020 in Davos. One of the session "Designing Water's Future", provided a unique opportunity to discuss new ways to involve multiple stakeholders in a global campaign. The Citizen Science Center Zurich led the discussion on public participation, bringing Citizen Science to the attention of world leaders and experts in water.

Citizen Science Winter School: Transforming Research through Public Participation

From 12 - 17 January 2020, 29 doctoral students, postdocs and practitioners from seven different countries participated in the Citizen Science Winter School, which was organized by the Participatory Science Academy and the Graduate Campus of the UZH. The participants completed a dense program of lectures, workshops and excursions, and gained deep insights into different perspectives on Citizen Science. [Further information](#)

Seed Grants from the Participatory Science Academy

The second call for Seed Grants from the Participatory Science Academy (Partizipative Wissenschaftsakademie, PWA) is open! To promote the participation of citizens in science and research,

the PWA awards Seed Grants for the development and/or implementation of participatory citizen science projects. Teams of academic researchers from UZH and/or ETHZ and citizens are given the opportunity to jointly develop a co-created research project. Priority is given to projects which, in addition to the prospect of excellent research, show a high degree of participation. The next submission deadline is **February 23, 2020**.

Questions about the Seed Grants? We offer an **Open Space** to ask us any and all questions regarding Seed Grants. Come to our office at Kurvenstrasse 17 on **Friday, February 14 between 10:00 and 13:00**.
Read more

Welcome to our New Team Member Nikos

Nikos was born in Greece and holds a diploma in Computer Engineering and Informatics from the University of Patras. He is a software and research engineer with history in academia and research, and has been involved in several data-oriented projects as well as in scientific reports. In 2017, while working for an EU funded project (DAIAD, Democratizing Water Consumption Monitoring) he was awarded the EC Innovation Radar Prize. Nikos joined the Center as Fullstack Developer in January 2020 - a warm welcome!

NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS

New 2020 Program Senior University UZH3:
Co-created Citizen Science Increasingly Important

The senior university of UZH and ETHZ with their 3000 members 60+ starts into the new semester on February 25, 2020. In its 35th year, the new program offers 50 lectures from UZH and ETHZ experts as well as special events such as a full-year writing course and athletic activities organized by ASVZ (www.seniorenuni.uzh.ch). Registrations for a one-year membership are possible any time. More than 35 members engage in co-creative Citizen Science within a «Participatory UZH3 Working Group» engaging in projects in the domains of research or the development of new educational tools. In fact, UZH3 supports recruitment of 60+-year-olds for co-created research projects. The Working Group is open to all members and is professionally supported by the Participatory Science Academy at the Zurich Citizen Science Center.

Documenting Biodiversity in Irchel Park

Zürich's Irchel Park hosts not only the University of Zurich Irchel Campus but also high biodiversity. The Campus and the surrounding park were built in the 1970s with the goal of creating a space in which both students and nature can thrive and is now an oasis of diversity of organisms and habitats. The Irchel Nature Trail was opened in 2019 to raise awareness about this diversity and ecological interactions.

But how many different species actually find home in the park? This we don't know exactly, and you can help finding out! Using the iNaturalist App you can explore and document the biodiversity in our Irchel Park. Find out here how to use the iNaturalist app. Also, put 20 May 2020 in your calendars, as we plan an afternoon full of activities celebrating the biodiversity of Irchel Park. For questions, please contact Morana from UZH Science Lab: *morana.mihaljevic@sciencelab.uzh.ch*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Brown Bag Lunches Spring 2020

19 February 2020
Simon Etter, University of Zurich, Geography Department:
Crowdsourcing hydrological data - Experience from the first years of CrowdWater

4 March 2020
Nathalia Carolina Mora Arciniegas, Aquatic Tropical Ecology Bremen University & Scuba Diving Instructor:

Citizen science research for sharks and rays in Latin America

1 April 2020
Anouk-Lisa Taucher, SWILD – Urban Ecology & Wildlife Research:
StadtWildTiere (Urban Wildlife) and Wilde Nachbarn (Wild Neighbors) –
Monitoring wildlife at the intersection of public awareness, research, and
nature conservation

6 May 2020
Carsten Østerlund, School of Information Studies, Syracuse University:
The Future of Citizen Science: Inter-Stitching Human Learning and Machine
Learning?

17 June 2020
Sibylle Studer, Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences, Network for Transdisciplinary Research:
Exploring the method repertoire of transdisciplinary research for Citizen Science
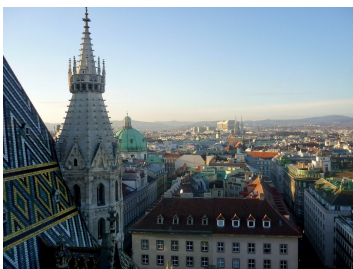
[Further details on all events](#)

Workshops for Doctoral Students and Postdocs

In the spring semester 2020, the PWA offers two courses as part of the Graduate Campus program on transferable skills. The workshop ["Einführung Citizen Science: Erste Schritte in einen partizipativen Forschungsprozess"](#) (13.3. and 24.3.2020, 9:00-17:30) offers an introduction to relevant questions and methods. The workshop ["Vertiefung Citizen Science: Partizipative Forschungsprozesse kompetent gestalten und begleiten"](#) (7.4. and 21.4.,2020, 9:00-17:30) is aimed at researchers who have already gained experience and want to learn more about the design of Citizen Science projects. The courses will be held in German. [More info](#)

Workshops at the Volkshochschule Zurich

From April 2020, the Participatory Science Academy will offer courses at the Volkshochschule Zurich. The workshop «Bürgerwissenschaften - Erste Schritte in den partizipativen Forschungsprozess» (23.4.2020, 17.30-20.00) offers an introduction to the topic of Citizen Science using practical examples. At the workshop «Partizipation in der Wissenschaft – Vertiefung» (8.&15.10.2020, 17.30-20.00) participants will develop their own research project. The courses are held in German. Further information [here](#)
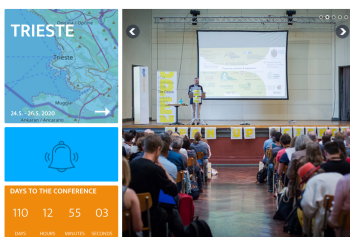

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

6-8 May 2020,Vienna, Austria
Austrian Citizen Science Conference
"Citizen Science: Expectations and Meaning"

The conference will examine the expectations that are placed on citizen science, how it is interpreted - and what it is ultimately capable of achieving.
[Call for Proposals](#) open **until 7 February 2020**

24-26 May 2020,Trieste, Italy
ECSA Conference 2020
"Encounters in Citizen Science"

The [ECSA conference 2020](#) will focus on junctures in science: between scientists and citizens; between East and West; between North and South; and between the different fields of science.

If you know anybody (colleagues, friends) who would be interested in this newsletter, feel free to forward this email and invite them to subscribe by clicking the button below.

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