



Hello!

We've taken the liberty of sending you this collection of brief news about the Citizen Science Center Zurich. With time this will become a regular newsletter, that will keep you informed on the activities of the Center. If at any time you wish to unsubscribe, please use the [unsubscribe link](#) at the bottom of this and every issue.

For the ones who don't know me, I am Maria Rosa (Rosy) Mondardini, the Managing Director of the Center. My background is in High Energy Physics and my experience includes research and science communication (CERN), community management (WEF), and Citizen Science research at Citizen Cyberlab (UNIGE, CERN and UNITAR). I am looking forward to meeting each one of you in person, please feel free to reach out to me should you want to know more about me or the Center at [maria.mondardini@uzh.ch](mailto:maria.mondardini@uzh.ch).

Sincerely,  
Rosy

## Web presence



[citizenscience.ch](http://citizenscience.ch)

The new public website of the Citizen Science Center Zurich is live! The site will evolve with time, new pages will be added to keep the public updated on the Center's projects and initiatives. Eventually, it will transform into the support platform that will host projects and tools for citizens and scientists.

## O17 Challenge

Thanks to our recently established partnership with the [Citizen Cyberlab](#) in Geneva, we were able to join last minute the organization of the [Open Seventeen Challenge](#), a prize-backed challenge to reward students (Bachelor and Masters level) leveraging OPEN DATA and CROWDSOURCING to tackle the [17 UN Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs) .

This spring, the challenge targets "SDG #3: Healthy Lives and Well-Being for All at All Ages", and it is run in collaboration with [Be He@lthy, Be Mobile](#) (BHBM), a joint program between the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Prizes include participation in the [SDG Summer School](#), a two-month fully funded summer school in Geneva, Beijing and Shenzhen, and other unique opportunities to join international events (competitions, hackathons, summer schools and more).

## Call for Experts!

50 participants will be selected globally and [coached](#) on their mobile health project during six 2-hour interactive online sessions (1 session/week + homework).

If you have an interest in offering your expertise for the coaching please [let us know!](#)

The six challenges proposed by BHBM are:

1. Monitor and encourage the use of road helmets
2. Crowdsourcing tobacco control compliance
3. Digital innovation for school health
4. New ways to tackle hypertension
5. Behavioral changes to cope with diabetes
6. Low cost early-stage cancer detection



Please share this opportunity with your students and networks.

Deadline for registration is **March 12.**

[openseventeen.org](https://openseventeen.org)

## Call for participation - project selection

The Citizen Science Center Zurich will provide platforms, tools and knowledge to help scientists and citizens engage with Citizen Science. Researchers, and potentially citizens, will have the opportunity to propose new ideas and receive assistance with the planning, implementation and evaluation of their projects.

But what is our definition of a Citizen Science project? What makes a project eligible for the Center's assistance?

We are working on a set of criteria to help with a fair and unbiased selection procedure. If you are interested in contributing to this conversation [please let us know](#), and we will be happy to invite you to an open brainstorm to be planned for the end of March.

## EU survey to identify how citizen science can benefit environmental policy

The European Commission is increasingly recognizing the potential of citizen science to support environmental policy decisions by contributing to the knowledge base needed for policy-making and by improving public engagement. However, this potential still remains largely untapped. The European Commission would like to take a step towards the better integration of citizen science into policy by exploring the conditions for its reliable and efficient use in policy.

A consortium formed by BIO Innovation Service, Ibercivis and the Natural History Museum in London is developing an inventory of environmental citizen science initiatives taking place in Europe at EU, regional or national level to explore their contribution to environmental policy-making.

If you are leading, funding or know about relevant citizen science initiatives with potential or actual effects on any step of the policy cycle (awareness-raising, early-warning, policy development or implementation, monitoring or evaluation, compliance or complaint handling), then please [fill their survey](#).

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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