



DITOs Storytelling workshop organized by ECSA WG on empowerment, inclusiveness and equity:

Empowerment of civil society through citizen science and other types of participatory investigation

2nd April 2019, Bruxelles

Organisers: Michael Sjøgaard Jørgensen, Aalborg University and Living Knowledge Network & Claudia Göbel, ECSA

The [ECSA WG on empowerment, inclusiveness and equity](#) was set up in 2018 in cooperation with the Living Knowledge Network for science shops and community-based research. The aim of the WG is to develop a network for exchange and peer-support about empowerment aspects of citizen science.

The background for the group is a joint interest from the field of citizen science and community-based research for increased cooperation and exchange of approaches and experiences, which, among others, could strengthen the focus on empowerment of civil society and their concerns as focus and impact of citizen science activities.

The aim of the workshop is to discuss:

- How do the participants understand empowerment of civil society actors and their concerns?
- What are the participants' experiences with empowerment of civil society actors through citizen science and other forms of research involving civil society?
- How was empowerment possible? Or why was empowerment not obtained?

With this workshop we build on previous work, e.g. done at the [workshop on “Empowering Civil Society through Participatory Investigation?”](#) in Paris (1-2 February 2019) and at [other](#)

[working group meetings](#). We'll share a short report on that workshop prior to our meeting in Brussels.

Preliminary Agenda

10:00 **Welcome & short introduction** to the WG and its activities so far / *Claudia & Michael*

10:15 **Exchange of experiences** among the participants with empowerment of civil society or through citizen science or other forms of participatory activities: How was empowerment possible? Or why was empowerment not obtained?

We'll do this through short presentation of our work. If you would like to give a 5-10 minutes presentation (ppt if you like, but you don't need to), please put your name, 4-5 lines about your experiences you will present and your email here

- *Claudia Göbel: How we try to make ECSA a more inclusive and organisation supporting empowerment. Sharing experience on the measures I implemented in the last 3 years, where we stand and what is next.*
- *Michael Sogaard: Experiences with empowerment of civil society and their concerns through science shops*
- *Andrea Giacomelli, some best practices and some lessons learned from experiences of the pibinko.org network (12 years involving international research institutions in connection with rural communities and urban centres). Also presenting the [Metalliferous Hills Jug Band](#) project and the [PORGEP 2019](#) initiative (both are inclusive frameworks where researchers and practitioners can join), info@pibinko.org, Tatti+Torniella, Tuscany, Italy*
- *ECSA working group on Air Quality, represented by Gyorgyi Bela, Lukas Mocek, Linda Carton, Nuria Castell, and others. The air quality working group will present an overview of citizen science groups doing air quality sensing, and a so-called "Community Map" where local communities can literally 'put themselves on the map' and get in contact with each other. We will briefly show a growing activity of social movements taking action and doing air quality sensing, with various methods, sensors and platforms. (Luftdaten platform in Germany and Bulgaria, Benelux and many other countries in Europe, Schools project in Oslo, CurieuzeNeuzen project in Belgium, Maps 4 Change in London and Barcelona). After a short presentation, we will ask to the Empowerment and Inclusiveness group for your thoughts on how such a growing social movement should go further. During the process of growth, how can a social movement like this do its best to represent not only middle class, highly educated, 'white' people, but be as inclusive as possible and be aware of the gender aspect involved in participation processes where quality of local livelihoods are agendized. Contact person: Györgyi Bela, gyorgyi.bela@gmail.com and Linda Carton, l.carton@fm.ru.nl.*
- *Lucile Ottolini: How research institutions adapt to increase implication of civil society organisation in their institutions (aeg. in the governance and decision process) and in the production of scientific knowledge (aeg. citizen science, or plural expertise...). Currently leading an overview of french institutional landscape, I'd be glad to share about, and I need to learn more about experiences in Europe. <http://umr-lisis.fr/membre/lucile-ottolini/>*

- *Henk Mulder: Trying to create synergies - the Science Shop in the whole portfolio of outreach activities at University of Groningen. We conduct Citizen Science Projects, Living Labs, and collaborate on serving deprived communities. City Deals on Knowledge Making are gaining support in the Netherlands. Synergies were sought in the PERARES project 2010-2014 as well and it will be the theme of the Living Knowledge Conference in Groningen, 24-26 June 2020*
- *...please include your presentations...*

12:00 **Lunch** + take a group picture (we always forget that, so I put it here, thnx for reminding!)

12:30 **Open Space - Let's do something together!**

Do you have suggestions of what we could do together? Maybe....Making a collective list of literature on empowerment and participatory research, developing guidelines and training opportunities for citizen science practitioners on citizen participation and empowerment or developing a concept for some training material, etc.?

This session is some time to get a group of people together to start working on this (we hope some groups may feel like continuing afterwards and so we can start having some joint WG projects! Fingers crossed.). If you already have an idea for a mini project for the WG, please write your name and the topic below. You can also suggest something during the event. We'll then see on the spot who wants to work on what and just do it.

- *Michael Sogaard: Make an online collection of experiences on empowerment from Citizen Science (but I don't know the format of the collection yet, how to get information, ...)*
- *Lucile Ottolini: Include on informations about devices that promote and allow collaborations in public and private research institutes (aeg. financial offers, official partnerships, resources shared...)*
- *Andrea Giacomelli: do you like music? do you care for the environment? become a "geomusician" with the Metalliferous Hills Jug Band (audition). NB: Having some level of confidence with an instrument, singing, or performing may help, but is not a prerequisite.*
- *...please include your ideas...*

14:00 **Sharing what we've done** + next steps

14:30 **End of workshop**

>> moving over to Natural History Museum for the [ECSA General Assembly](#).

Venue

[Stickydot](#) - Rue de Parme 25 1060 Brussels, Belgium - <http://stickydot.eu/>

How to take part

The workshop is taking place as a meeting of the ECSA Working Group on Empowerment, Inclusiveness and Equity at the occasion of the ECSA Conference 2019. The latter is composed of the General Assembly that takes place in the afternoon of the 2nd April and the DITOs Policy Forum and final event that takes place on 3rd April. You are warmly invited to take part to all of these different sub-events. More information is [here](#).

If you want to take part in our workshop - [please register via the registration form provided here](#) + send an email to Michael (msjo@plan.aau.dk) to confirm you are coming (we are not directly informed of the registration through the forms, but we also don't want to create another form... so hopefully it works through email).

Travel cost support

We have a limited amount of money to give support for travel and accommodation expenses. If you would like to request this compensation, **please email Claudia (claudia[dot]goebel[at]mf[dot]berlin) until 17th March and indicate how much money you would need.** We will gather requests and try to pay the required amounts; however if the requests exceed the total available amount, we will have to pay a lump sum for everybody. This support is intended first and foremost to support the participation of people who do not have other funding to attend this workshop – so if you have other possibilities, please go for those. Generally, you will need to pay the travel first and then get reimbursed after the event. If your participation depends on getting an advance before the event, please note this in the expression of interest.

Language

The workshop will be held in English.

Contact

For more information please contact [Michael Søggaard Jørgensen](#) or [Claudia Göbel](#)



This event is part of the Doing-it-Together-Sciences (DITOs).

More info at: <http://togetherscience.eu/>

 [@togethersci](#)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 709443.