



EUROPEAN CITIZEN SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

POLICY GROUP

REPORT TO 2017 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

MARTIN BROCKLEHURST
HONORARY CHAIR





EUROPEAN CITIZEN SCIENCE ASSOCIATION



Policy, Strategy, Partnerships

The Policy Group was defined at an ECSA Workshop in Brussels in the autumn of 2013. Its three main objectives were to:

- To assess the citizen science landscape and develop strategies across countries;
- To approach policy makers and assess how to influence decisions and leverage funding;
- To analyse who the key stakeholders are and who ECSA needs to engage with to bring about changes in sectors.





EUROPEAN CITIZEN SCIENCE ASSOCIATION



POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS - 2016

Martin Brocklehurst Hon Chair Independent Consultant

David Slawson, Hon Vice Chair OPAL, Imperial College London, UK

Björn Huwe, University of Potsdam, Germany **Elizabeth Tyson**, Woodrow Wilson

US **Katherine Mathieson**, British Science Association, UK [Resigned]

Hilary Geoghegan, University of Reading UK **Marc Lipinski**, National Centre for

Research, France **Micheál Lehane**, Environment Protection Agency, Ireland

Francisco Ferreira, University of Lisbon – Biodiversity4All, Portugal

Roeland Samson, University of Antwerp, Belgium

Simone Branchini, University of Bologna, Italy

Connor Smyth, University of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK

Ed Maklouf, CEO & Founder of Siine Ltd Barcelona Spain.

Fermin Serrano Executive Director of Fundación Ibercivis Spain

Helena Ruiz Fabra EU Public Affairs Freelance Brussels.

Carole Paleco Royal Belgium Institute of Natural Sciences

Soledad Luna ECSA & Museum für Naturkunde Berlin Germany.

Heiner Benking, Advisory Board Member ECSA, Berlin Germany.

FOUR MEETINGS 2016 – JANUARY MARCH MAY NOVEMBER





EUROPEAN CITIZEN SCIENCE ASSOCIATION



Key Tasks 2016 - 2017

- Follow up Policy position papers delivered for ECSA on:
 - Citizen Science as part of EU Policy Delivery - EU Directives;
 - The White Paper on Citizen Science for Europe;
- Encourage the EU to recognize the role of Citizen Science in:
 - EU Environmental Monitoring and Reporting;
 - Meeting and reporting on the UN Sustainability Goals; and
 - As an early warning on key environmental challenges
- Building a working relationship with key EU Directorates





EUROPEAN CITIZEN SCIENCE ASSOCIATION



EU POLICY AGENDA – 2016/17

Current Environment Policy Initiatives

Habitats and Birds Directives Fitness Review - COMPLETED

Circular economy package – IN ITS FINAL APPROVAL STAGES

Climate change & Invasive Species – MAJOR FOCUS

UN Sustainability goals – MAJOR FOCUS

The Fitness review of Monitoring and Reporting

Offers Citizen Science the potential of a new Role in

the delivery of the EU Policy Agenda - FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS





POLICY BRIEFING FOR THE COMMISSION

EUROPEAN CITIZEN SCIENCE ASSOCIATION



POLICY GROUP –Exchanging Information with the Commission BRIEFING FOR MEP'S IN SEPTEMBER 2016

- THREE MEP'S AGREED TO CHAMPION CITIZEN SCIENCE
- Michèle Rivasi French MEP and Vice Chair Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance
- Clare Moody UK MEP for the Labour Party in the South West Region of England and Gibraltar; and
- Dario Tamburrano MEP Italy for the Europe of Freedom and Direct Democracy Group and a Member of Movimento Cinque Stelle (Five Star Movement).



EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION FOR TECHNICAL & POLICY EXPERTS 2016

- DG ENVIRONMENT; DG CONNECT & DG RESEARCH;
- EU FITNESS REVIEW MONITORING AND REPORTING APRIL/NOV WORKSHOPS;
- EU ENVIRONMENT KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY DECEMBER WORKSHOP

Support to the Fitness Check of monitoring and reporting obligations arising from EU environmental legislation

ICF in association with IEEP and Denkstatt

30 November 2016

This report presents the draft findings of the contractors, for discussion. It should not be interpreted as reflecting the views of the European Commission

“Research into the role of citizen science. Analysis of the feasibility of citizen science to contribute to, or complement, the existing monitoring and reporting system, including definition of the types of indicator that could be included, as well as the practicalities of combining citizen science with the current reporting process”.

**SUPPORT TO THE EU ENVIRONMENT KNOWLEDGE
COMMUNITY - WORKSHOP DECEMBER 2016**

**Open discussion has started on the possible role of
Citizen Science for democracy and transparent policy
making**

ECSA NEEDS TO BE PART OF THIS DEBATE AND TO

- PROMOTE A KNOWLEDGE INNOVATION PROJECT ON
CITIZEN SCIENCE**
- SHOW HOW CS CAN BE USED TO ADDRESS AN EU
WIDE GAP IN ENVIRONMENT KNOWLEDGE.**

EU Wide CS Project Task & Finish Group

David Slawson - david.slawson@imperial.ac.uk



Purpose and objectives

- Identify three policy areas where an existing CS project could be demonstrated at European Scale (not mosquitoes)
- Develop and recommend monitoring techniques and common data/meta data systems (ECSA Data Tools and Technology Working Group help needed to deliver)
- Prepare an EU LIFE Bid (?) for a demonstration of one of these CS project for September 2017)
- To secure appropriate funding from commercial, public and other sources

Modus operandi

- Minimum of five members
- Members to contribute time at no cost to ECSA
- Meet “virtually” (support of ECSA secretariat)
- Upload outputs onto ECSA webpages (support of ECSA secretariat)
- Report jointly to the Policy and Data Tools and Techniques working groups (Martin & Jaume Piera to oversee work)
- Work closely with Mosquito CS Task and Finish Group



EU Wide CS Project Task & Finish Group

David Slawson - david.slawson@imperial.ac.uk



Types of Expertise Required

- Programme managers (expert at the design and implementation of large scale Citizen Science programmes)
- Scientists who run CS programmes
- Facilitators and communicators (help to problem solve and communicate the results)
- Data and IT experts (advise on data handling systems)
- Legal and commercial experts (advise on legal, funding and IP issues)

Confirmed members

- David Slawson (UK)
- Małgorzata Grodzińska-Jurczak (PL)
- Andrea Sforzi (IT)
- Alessandro Campanaro (IT)
- Gaia Agnello (DE)
- 16 other people invited but have not responded

Oversight

- Martin Brocklehurst
- Jaume Piera



EU Wide CS Project Task & Finish Group



David Slawson - david.slawson@imperial.ac.uk

Criteria

- **POLICY:** meets a need evidence/data/awareness etc.
- **SOCIETY:** concern to public
- **METHODOLOGY:** builds on a proven approach/existing dataset
- **CAPABILITY** and **CAPACITY:** exist in the ECSA network
- **FUNDING:** Funding streams exist/ builds on an existing funding relationship, National/international support likely etc.

Potential topics

- **Pollination:** policy interest; high public concern; good methodology
- **Tree Health:** Directive; patchy public concern; good methodology
- **Air Quality:** Directive; huge public concern; crowded 'market' already?
- **Species protected under Habitat Directives:** Directive; some public concern; good methodology
- **Urban Biodiversity:** policy interest; some public concern; good expert methodology
- **Other:** Bioblitzes, water, soil, invasive species etc.



CHALLENGES – THE ROLE OF CITIZEN SCIENCE IN DELIVERING THE UN SUSTAINABILITY GOALS FOR THE EU



Science-Policy Forum • 19 - 20 May 2016 • Nairobi, Kenya

**WE ARE BUILDING
ECSA WORKING
RELATIONSHIP WITH
UNEP**



INVITED BUT UNABLE TO ATTEND

Harnessing Citizen Science to Tackle Mosquito-Borne Diseases: Towards a Local to Global Monitoring Platform



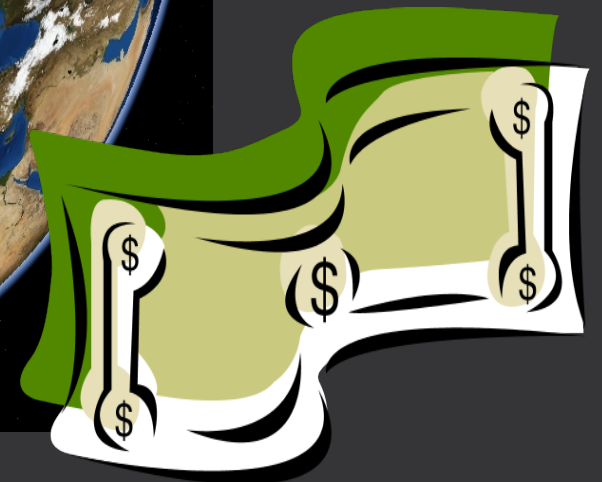
Mosquito Task & Finish Group

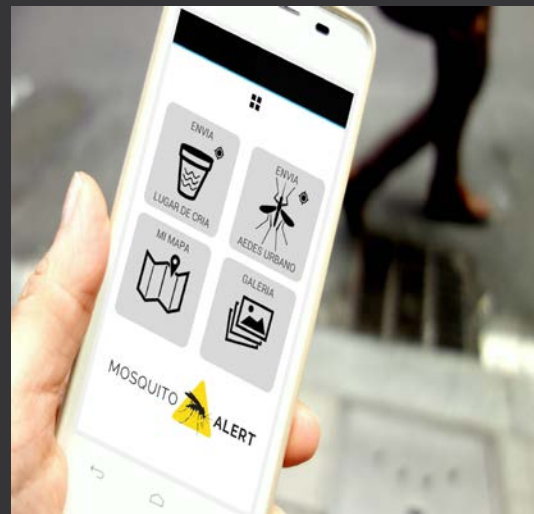
Elizabeth Tyson, Program Associate

Science and Technology Innovation
Program

Woodrow Wilson International Center
for Scholars







Passive Mosquito Monitoring Projects – European Union

Germany, United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Spain, France, Portugal

“Approaches to passive mosquito surveillance in the EU” Kampen, Medlock, et. al.”

Mosquito Larvae Protocol



Purpose

To sample, identify, and count the number of mosquito larvae at the genus or species level in your study site or community.

Overview

Students will collect, sort, identify, and count the number of mosquito larvae. There are a variety of sampling strategies that can be used, depending on educational objectives and the types of mosquito larval habitats you are sampling. Students can identify mosquito larvae to either the genus or species level.

Student Outcomes

Students will learn to:

- identify mosquito larvae at their study site or community;
- understand the importance of representative sampling;
- compare the number of mosquito larvae in each genus or species in the different habitats;
- explore relationships between the larvae genus/species, climatic factors, and disease;
- collaborate with other GLOBE schools (within your country or in other countries); and
- report data to the GLOBE website.

Science Concepts

Life Sciences

- Organisms can only survive in environments where their needs are met.
- Organisms' functions relate to their environments.
- Organisms change the environment in which they live.
- Plants and animals have life cycles.

Scientific Inquiry Abilities

- Identify answerable questions.
- Design and conduct scientific investigations.
- Use appropriate mathematics to analyze data.
- Recognize and explore alternative explanations.
- Communicate procedures, descriptions, and predictions.

Time

Data collection: 1-2 hours per visit, per site.

Level

Secondary

Frequency

Flexible: 1 time per site; 1 time a month during rainy season for each site.

Materials and Tools

- ☐ Mosquito Larvae Data Sheet
- ☐ Mosquito Identification Key
- ☐ GPS receiver, map, or other mobile technology
- ☐ Compass
- ☐ Camera
- ☐ Pencil or pen
- ☐ Measuring tape (optional)
- ☐ Nets
- ☐ Squirt bottle
- ☐ White plate or pan
- ☐ Plastic bags
- ☐ Rubber bands

GLOBE® 2018

Mosquito Larvae Protocol - 1

Hydrosphere

Welcome

Introduction

Protocols

Learning Activities

Appendix

Home

Collection Form

View Data

Resources

Media

Forum



Featured News Stories



Passive Mosquito Monitoring Projects – United States

NASA GLOBE & USDA

Mosquito Task Force Group



- One passive surveillance system w/ public input
- Passive mosquito monitoring toolkit
- Common data & metadata system
- Demonstration program in EU & US

Work Plan

March 2017:

- First working group meeting – Sponsored by UNEP – Geneva, Switzerland

April 2017:

- Report out and next steps for expanding network

Fall 2017:

- Pilot demonstration program talks – EU & US
- If you would like more information, or would like to join the working group, please email me at: Elizabeth.Tyson@wilsoncenter.org



EUROPEAN CITIZEN SCIENCE ASSOCIATION



OUR FUTURE CHALLENGES

- RISING TO THE CHALLENGE OF THE EU MONITORING REPORTING FITNESS CHECK – FOLLOW UP TO COMMITTEE REPORT
- DELIVERING EU WIDE CITIZEN SCIENCE PROGRAMMES
- BUILDING POLICY AND POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR CITIZEN SCIENCE PROGRAMMES – GROW OUR MEP PARTNERSHIP
- SUPPORTING THE EMERGENCE OF A COMMISSION LED CITIZEN SCIENCE PLATFORM
- PROVING CITIZEN SCIENCE WORKS FOR EU POLICY MAKERS
- BUILDING OUR WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH UNEP
- FINDING SPONSORS TO SUPPORT OUR WORK





EUROPEAN CITIZEN SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

POLICY GROUP

REPORT TO 2017 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

WILL YOU GET INVOLVED

MARTIN BROCKLEHURST
HONORARY CHAIR

