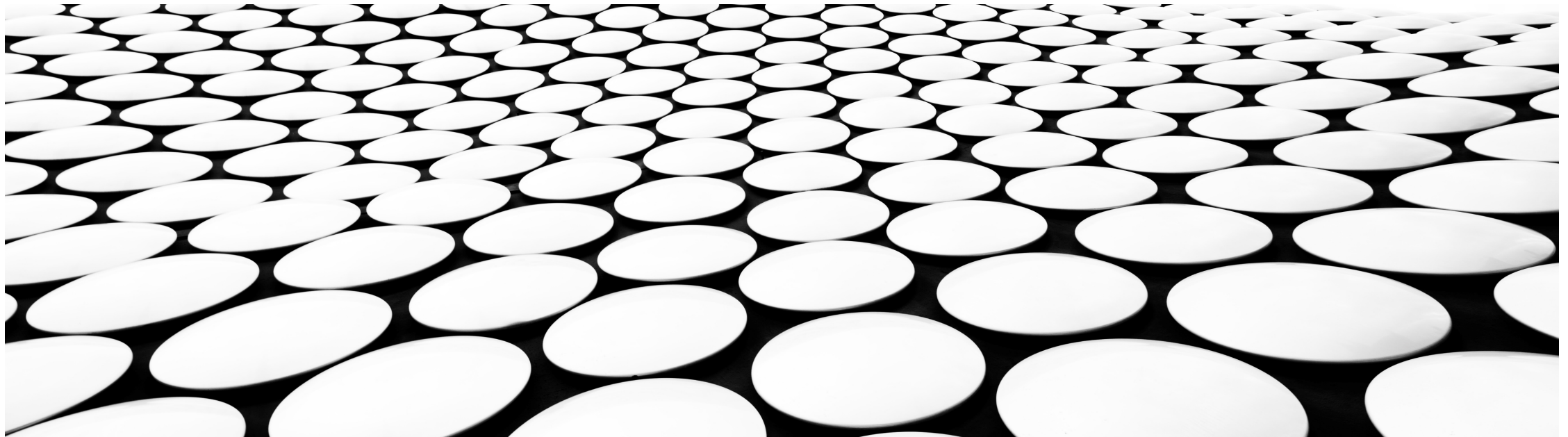


CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

ENGAGING CITIZENS IN RESEARCH: DESIGN, METHODS AND DATA

THE REGIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION RESEARCH NETWORK ON CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP (RSARNCE) WORKSHOP:

WEDNESDAY 26 MAY 2021 1PM (UK)/ 2PM (CEST)





Citizen Science

Research Design

CITIZEN SCIENCE (CS)

- “.....that truly do science—that produce reliable data and information usable by anyone, including scientists, policy-makers, and the public, and that are open to the same system of peer review that applies to conventional science.” (Bonney et al 2009).
- CS projects have authentic scientific objectives, but which can also realize significant social outcomes.
- Examples:
 - (1) The West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project which empowers individuals living in a very poor neighborhood to collect air-quality and health data documenting the degree to which air pollution affects local residents.
 - (2) In Congo where scientists from University College London leverage the data-capture capabilities of smart phones to work with nonliterate individuals to document environmental impacts, such as poaching and illegal logging.

Citizen scientists projects on climate change, invasive species, conservation biology, ecological restoration, water quality monitoring, population ecology and monitoring of all kinds.

Growing popularity of CS is dependent on three factors:

- a) Ubiquity of technical tools for disseminating information about projects and gathering data from the public (Internet, mobile computing, mobile phones, print-on-demand services, and other open source software tools that enable nonexperts to produce customised field guides, inventories and other information products)
- b) Realization among professional scientists that the public represent a valuable resource in terms of volunteer labour, skills, computational power and even finance (through crowd funding, for example. Particularly relevant for large-scale environmental science that requires the collection of large volumes of field data over a wide geographical area, possible only with the help of citizen scientists.
- c) The growing importance of outreach, impact and public accountability especially when tax-payers money is being spent. It is in the interest of scientists to make sure that the public appreciates the value, which is probably best done by enabling public participation in science projects.

Why Citizen Science?

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Ubiquity

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Public as a resource

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Outreach

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