

EUROPEAN CITIZEN SCIENCE FORUM



'Citizen Science & DIY Bio: building the bridge between citizens and institutions'

Paris, March 25th 2017 | 12:00-20:00

- at Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie, 30 Avenue Corentin Cariou, 75019 Paris

Contacts:

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Description:

The European Citizen Science Forum is organised by the Center for Research and Interdisciplinarity (CRI Paris) and Tekiu Ltd, as part of the EU's DITOs (Doing It Together science) project. With the support of the French Secretary of State for Higher Education and Research and of the City of Paris, the event will include a **European Stakeholder Round Table on Citizen Science & DIY Bio** and a **participatory concert**.

Rationale:

In 2015, the EU Commissioner Carlos Moedas set out three strategic priorities for European research and innovation, all of which were intended to steer Europe into a more accessible and transparent research practice through **Open Science**. A draft for the Open Science Policy Agenda was first published in February 2016 and this document drew attention to the **potential role that citizen science activities could play in the future of research and innovation. Citizen Science activities range from online gaming to environmental monitoring in the field, from at home DIYbio experiments to community labs pursuing open source research.** Access to online resources and ever cheaper equipment have seen such activities grow in popularity alongside widespread interest in science and technology in society. For research to remain responsible and relevant to society, it needs to be opened up to involve stakeholders beyond the research community.

The Doing-It-Together Science project is funded by the European Commission to raise awareness of citizen science activities and build networks for sustainability of such activities across Europe in the future. The project partners are thus committed to bringing policy and decision makers to the discussion, ensuring that the value of citizen science is recognised and supported into the future.

On a national level, the **Secretary of State for Higher Education and Research published a report on Citizen Science in February 2016**, the result of a year-long inquiry into the subject by François Houllier. The report provided a comprehensive **overview of citizen science activities in France** and issued **recommendations** for growing this sector in the future. In particular, the **mobilisation of the relevant institutional frameworks and increasing awareness were emphasised as necessary factors in enabling citizen science to grow.**

The multi-stakeholder roundtable discussion on the topic of **"Citizen Science & DIY Bio: building the bridge between citizens and institutions"** will provide an opportunity to return to examine the current climate around participation in science, one year on from the Houllier report.



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Programme:

1) European Stakeholder Round Table on Citizen Science & DIY Bio (12:00-18:45) - limited to 40 people

Despite interest in building relationships from policy makers, research institutions and citizen science initiatives, there is still a substantial gap in understanding between them. In order for citizen science to continue to fulfil its potential, a more inclusive dialogue connecting the grassroots communities with the various institutions within the research, industry and policy ecosystems needs to take place. The roundtable will cover issues such as motivations for engaging, transparency, support and new visions for the future of science, with a focus on helping to build the relationships between institutions and citizen science communities. The sessions will encourage discussions between representatives of the many different stakeholders that are vital to the practice of citizen science and its future within the research and innovation ecosystem. We are pleased to confirm the participation of Thierry Mandon, the French Secretary of State for Higher Education and Research, and François Houllier, the Acting President of Université Sorbonne Paris Cité (USPC).

12:00-13:15 Lunch

13:15-13:30 Musical Icebreaker

13:30-13:45 Introduction

13:45-14:00 Video projection 'Voices of Citizen Science & DIY Bio'

14:00-14:15 Presentation of the Stakeholder Round Table (PART I)

14:15-15:15 STAKEHOLDER ROUND TABLE (PART I)

→ 5 groups of 10 people: 8 participants, 1 moderator, 1 documentor

→ 1 sub-theme per table:

- Table 1: Ethics & RRI
- Table 2: Infrastructure & Support
- Table 3: Regulation and Data
- Table 4: Exchange of experience on DIY Bio
- Table 5: Motivations for engaging

15:15-15:45 Summary

15:45-16:15 Coffee Break

16:15-16:30 Presentation of the Stakeholder Round Table (PART II)

16:30-17:30 STAKEHOLDER ROUND TABLE (PART II)

17:30-18:00 Summary

18:00-18:15 Conclusion of the day & Follow-up

18:15-18:45 Coffee Break

2) Participatory Concert (18:45-20:00) - limited to 200 people

18:45-19:00 Doors open to the public

19:00-20:00 Participatory Concert

