



EUROPEAN
CITIZEN SCIENCE
ASSOCIATION

Annual Report 2016

ECSA Headquarters

c/o Museum für Naturkunde Berlin
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Our Mission is to connect citizens and science through fostering active participation.

Our Vision is that, in 2020, citizens in Europe are valued and empowered as key actors in advancing knowledge and innovation and thus supporting sustainable development in our world. Citizen Science is a recognized, promoted and funded approach to foster scientific literacy and the democratization of scientific expertise, to increase the social relevance and sustainable impact of research and to improve the evidence base for environment, biodiversity and climate change policy in Europe and globally.

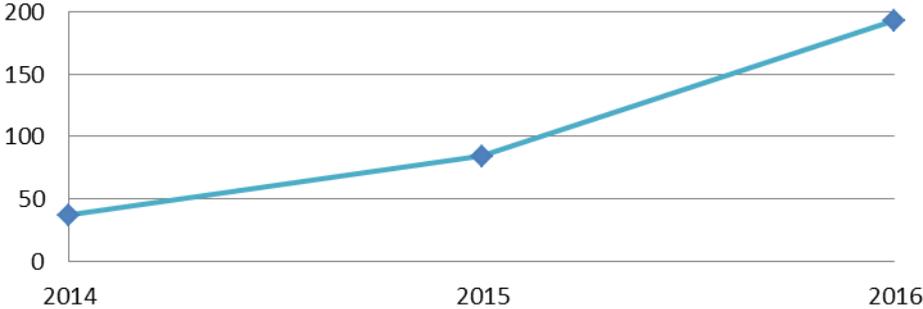
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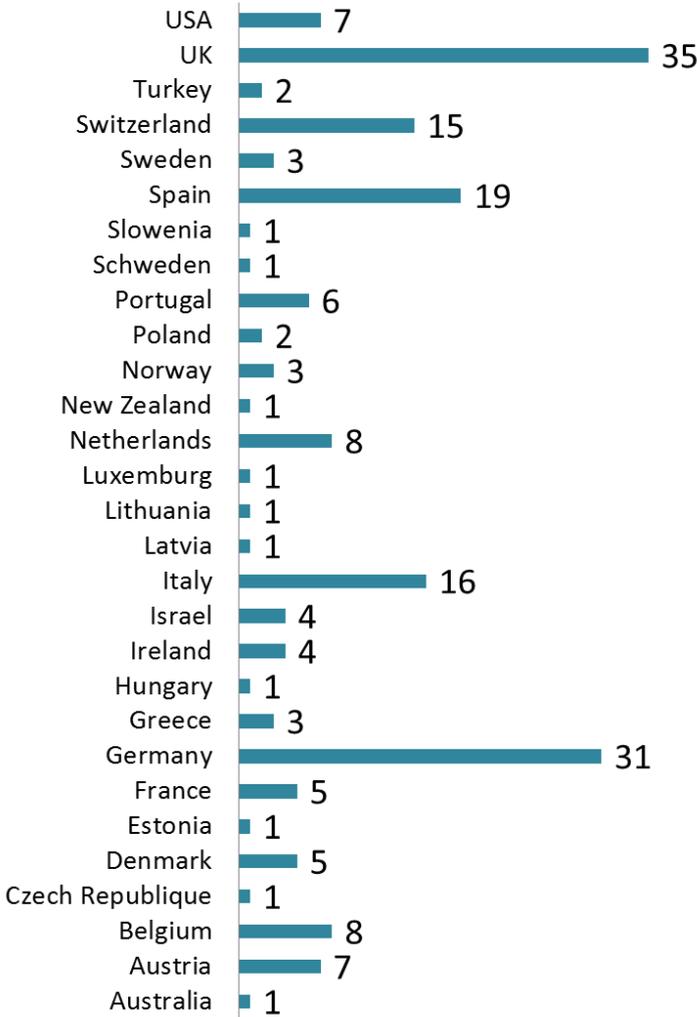
Growing Membership

ECSA has currently 193 individual and organizational members from 29 countries across Europe and beyond. In addition, ECSA has 14 organizational supporters and 2 individual supporters.

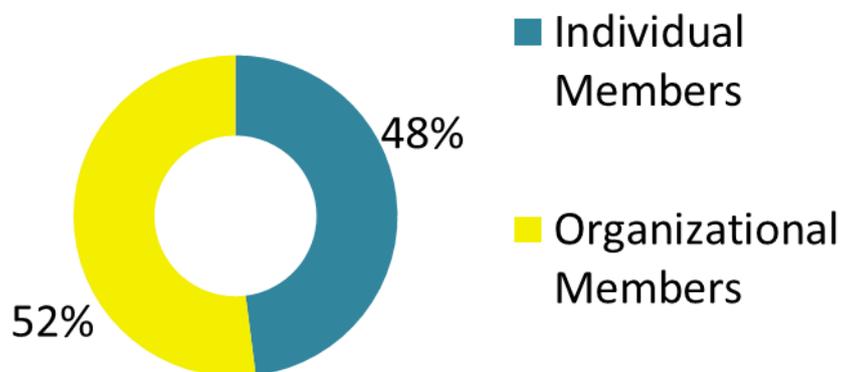
Number of ECSA Members



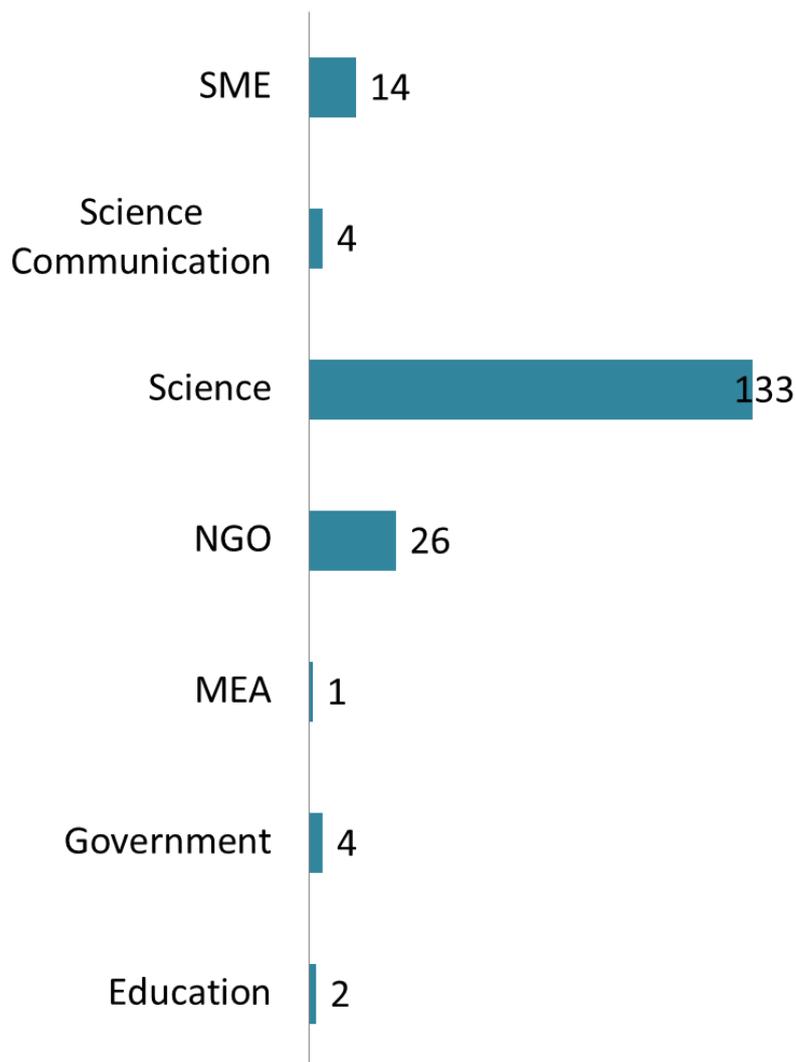
ECSA Geography, 2016



Membership Types 2016



Members by sectors 2016

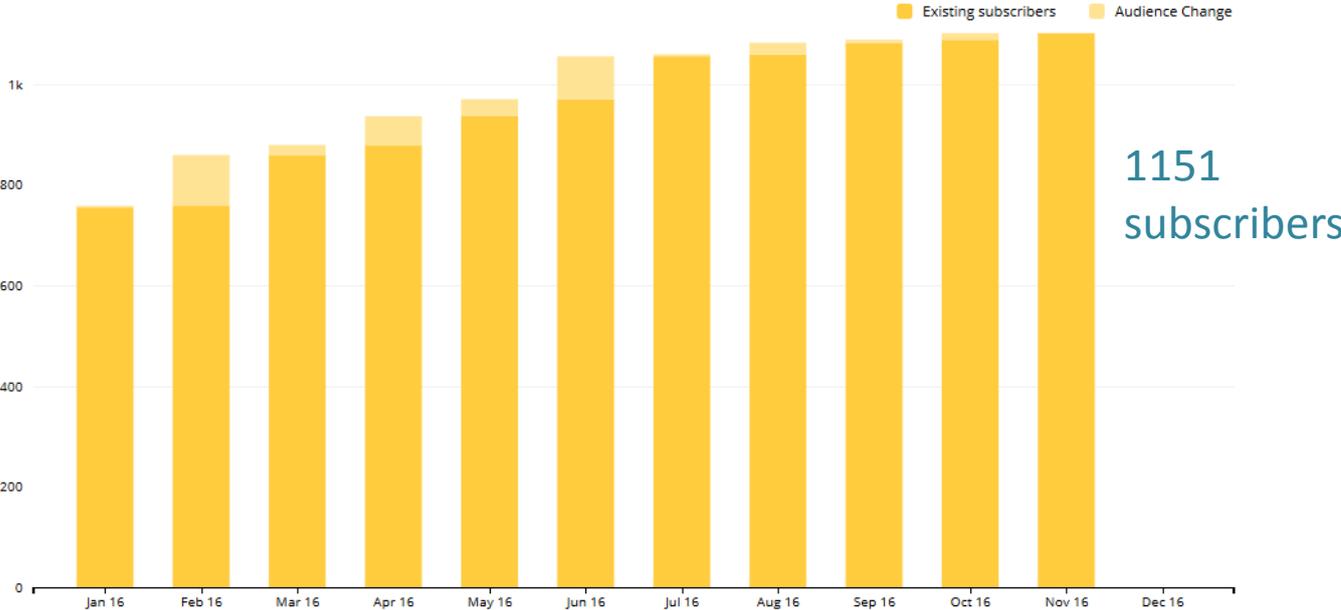


Most of ECSA members come from the scientific sector, followed by NGOs and SMEs.

During 2017 we would like to further diversify and gain members' from less represented sectors.

Communication

We produced 6 Newsletters in 2016 which reached 1151 subscribers all over the world.



Milestones

05/19-21 – ECSA International Conference

The first international ECSA Citizen Science Conference, facilitated by the team around Aletta Bonn and Susanne Hecker, iDIV and UFZ, showed the high scientific and self-reflective potential of the community. The conference set standards and is a reference point for citizen science activities and research.

06/05 – ECSA webpage relaunched

With the support from Jaume Piera, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, the Natural History Museum Berlin designed and relaunched ECSA webpage.

06/06 – DITOs project kick-off meeting

The European Commission through its Horizon 2020 programme, with support from the Swiss confederation, have committed almost 4m euro to a three-year programme to increase public participation in scientific research and innovation across Europe. The 11-partner project, coordinated by UCL Extreme Citizen Science group, aims to enable people to contribute to science at a level of participation suitable for them, whether that is using a crowdsourcing app to log air quality or working in a citizen biolab.

12/09 Open Science Policy Platform 2nd meeting

Johannes Vogel was nominated as member for the European Open Science Policy Platform. Katrin Vohland gave a talk about the linkages to citizen science in order to discuss synergies and challenges.

12/12-13 Cost Action 15212 “Citizen Science to promote creativity, scientific literacy, and innovation throughout Europe” –Kick-off Meeting

COST Actions are scientific networks to foster scientific excellence and inclusiveness. In this action, research is done to understand how citizen science works for science, society and policy, how to improve technical advices and link citizen science to education. This action is an initiative of ECSA members, chaired by Katrin Vohland and Marisa Ponti, and will provide many options for scientific exchange.

09/23 – LandSense project kick-off meeting

LandSense is a project funded under the Horizon 2020 Programme within the topic of “Demonstrating the concept of ‘Citizen Observatories’”. The main aim of LandSense is to build an innovative citizen observatory in the field of Land Use Land Cover (LULC), which collects data both actively (through citizens) and passively (from authoritative, and open access sources) and integrates them to provide valuable quality-assured in-situ data for SMEs, larger businesses, government agencies, NGOs and researchers. The LandSense consortium is composed of 17 partners.

ECSA projects

Doing It Together Science

“Doing It Together” Science (DITOs) is a three-year Coordination and Support Action funded by the European Commission’s Horizon 2020 programme to increase public participation in scientific research and innovation across Europe. The project will implement many innovative participatory event formats across Europe focusing on the active involvement of citizens in two critical areas: the cutting edge topic of biodesign and the pressing area of environmental sustainability. The project will advance the EU Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) agenda by moving beyond more traditional approaches into direct engagement that builds upon DIY, grassroots, and frugal innovation initiatives so that in the short and medium term we sustain localised capacity building and in the long term the effects of these grassroots efforts channel into policy action at different levels. A central element of the project is the ‘escalator’ model of engagement, in which people can enter at a level of participation that matches their needs, interests, and abilities, while also encouraging them to move beyond. In keeping with this, exhibitions, workshops, support for existing organisations, and guidelines to share the ingredients of successful projects are also part of the long-term project plan.

The consortium includes UCL (coordinator), Tekiu, Eutema, Universite Paris Descartes, University of Geneva, Kapelica Gallery / Kersnikova, Medialab-Prado, RBINS, Meritum Association, Waag Society, and ECSA.

[ECSA activities in the project](#) include leading the work package on Policy Engagement for Responsible Research and Innovation, and cooperating closely with consortium members on Environmental Sustainability, Biodesign, and Communication. In addition, ECSA will act as legacy institution and thus has a fundamental role for the overall sustainability of the capacity building conducted by the project.

Milestones 2016

DITOs has started in June 2016 with the phase of scoping and piloting of the project, successfully concluded in November 2016. The initial six months have served to develop a collaborative plan for the implementation of DITOs’ methodologies linking to grassroots initiatives from the ECSA community and beyond. The second phase of the project, which will last until May 2018, focuses on engagement, networking and capacity building of public, researchers and policy-makers.

A [fact finding and review](#) of current good practice and policy guidelines of the literature in Citizen and DIY Science was conducted at the initial phase of the project and will be ongoing. The review is available on the ECSA website in the form of a collection of guidelines and scientific publications, with particular reference to the RRI topics - Governance, Science Education, Ethics, Open Access, Gender Equality and Public Engagement – which are critical principles guiding the policy engagement strategy developed and implemented within DITOs and aimed at demonstrating the value of Citizen and DIY science to policy-makers. The review offers to practitioners and decision-makers valuable resources to understand how Citizen and DIY Science affect policy, moreover, provides further evidence supporting the endorsement of the outcomes of DITOs activities into policy recommendations.

The work on Policy Engagement was kicked off with the [European Stakeholder Round Table on Citizen and DIY Science and Responsible Research and Innovation \(RRI\)](#) event on 8th November. Around 60 participants from research, civil society, the communication sector and the political sphere met at the Museum für Naturkunde Berlin to discuss links between RRI, Open Science, Citizen Science and DIY approaches and map priorities for DITOs policy engagement. The [ECSA Working Groups on Policy, Strategy and Partnerships](#) and [CS and RRI](#) were thoroughly involved in the event and held adjacent meetings. ECSA also used this occasion to continue our work on inclusiveness and explore common ground with Do-it-Yourself Biology, Biodesign and Bioart communities. The round table was organized as part of the [Berlin Science Week](#) and will be followed by a series of stakeholder events that ECSA is organizing to build capacity for CS in Europe. A report will be available shortly via the ECSA homepage.

Next Steps

BioBlitz, teacher training workshops and online student competitions are DITOs activities in the field of environmental sustainability that will be implemented by leveraging the vast network of ECSA members.

BioBlitz will be one big target for ECSA and DITOs in the next years. A BioBlitz is an event in which members of the public, scientists and students meet in a delimited area and defined period to record as many species as possible. This event can be used as a very effective strategy to engage with the general public and raise awareness, increase participation in science and build capacity, as well as to collect biodiversity data. As such, this format of event is a great methodology to promote citizen science to the public, researchers and policy-makers. For this reason a new working group on BioBlitz has been proposed at ECSA, committing to establish and support the European network of BioBlitz organisers and having as main objectives: the increase of networking opportunities, sharing good practice and building capacity. Examples of events and activities related to BioBlitz that will be organised by ECSA include: workshops to build capacity of new 'BioBlitzers', update and translation of existing guidelines as well as production of additional ones, and of course as many BioBlitz as possible organised throughout Europe!

Teacher training workshops with a focus on classroom and extracurricular activity format will be organized for secondary school teachers. The objectives are to 'train the trainers', build capacity in biodiversity monitoring and to increase youth participation in citizen science activities. The workshops will be implemented in close cooperation with [CREAF](#), ECSA member with long standing experience in teacher training, and will train teachers on the use of [Natusfera](#), the recently launched open source App used to collect biodiversity data, managed and coordinated by CREAF and [GBIF.ES](#).

A series of competitions specifically designed for young people will be organized in an interactive online format around challenges in the area of biodiversity and environmental monitoring. The competition aims at attracting regional attention of youngsters and media, thus to promote public interest on issues concerning biodiversity and environment so as to raise awareness and promote engagement with questions in this field. A search of existing activities will be carried out in consultation with ECSA members, DITOs partners, other relevant EU projects and pertinent organizations in order to develop a state of the art and find strategic collaborations to coordinate this activity.

The overall DITOs policy engagement strategy is currently being refined based on the activities and events DITOs partners conducted in the first six months. This means refining target groups for policy engagement, providing tools for DITOs and ECSA members to interact with decision-makers relevant to their project and setting out aims for exchange of experience and capacity building in this regard. Two DITOs Policy Briefs covering the two focus areas of DITOs are being written at the moment and will be presented in May 2017, one on cross-border cooperation for environmental sustainability, a second one on BioDesign. These Policy Briefs will be updated and refined each year and the inputs by ECSA members are highly welcome! A set of local stakeholder round tables for presenting good practice on RRI topics, such as engagement methods, gender equality in CS or evaluation, will be held throughout the next two years by DITOs partner. UCL will organize a European Stakeholder Round Table on Environmental Sustainability, UPD one on BioDesign in May 2017. Tekiu is organizing Discovery Trips for small groups of decision makers to visit CS and DIYscience projects and get first hand experiences with these formats.

If you are interested in participating in any of these activities, please get in touch!

Contact

[Gaia Agnello](#) – Linking ECSA members to DITOs Environmental Sustainability activities, BioBlitz network Europe, Teacher Training, Student competitions

[Claudia Göbel](#) – Linking ECSA and members to DITOs Policy Engagement activities on RRI and Open Science, exploring links with Biodesign communities, storytelling

<http://togetherscience.eu/>

#togetherscience

LandSense

LandSense is a project funded under the Horizon 2020 Programme within the topic of “Demonstrating the concept of ‘Citizen Observatories’”. The main aim of LandSense is to build an innovative citizen observatory in the field of Land Use Land Cover (LULC), which collects data both actively (through citizens) and passively (from authoritative, and open access sources) and integrates them to provide valuable quality-assured in-situ data for SMEs, larger businesses, government agencies, NGOs and researchers. The LandSense tools and services will be tested and evaluated through three specific demonstration cases addressing (i) Monitoring Land Change in the Urban and Rural Landscape; (ii) Monitoring Agricultural Land Use and Provision of Value-added Agricultural Services; (iii) Forest and Habitat Monitoring using Innovative Technologies. The LandSense consortium is composed of 17 partners from various sectors of society, like NGOs (being ECSA one of them), research and education organizations, public authorities or enterprises.

ECSA plays a leading role in the task of outlining stakeholders and user requirements, identifying barriers, and co-designing engagement strategies, regarding the development process and outputs of LandSense. This will iteratively both support and be informed by the implementation of the LandSense demonstration cases. Other outcomes include contributing to the development of action plans and campaign strategies for each demonstration case, or informing the development of LandSense’s technical infrastructure, tools and services.

Milestones 2016

LandSense initiated in September 2016; the kick-off meeting took place on the 27th and 28th of that month at IIASA (International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, LandSense coordinator) in Laxenburg, close to Vienna, Austria. There, ECSA facilitated a breakout group on user requirements and demo case action plans, which allowed gathering some of the first inputs to support ECSA's main contribution to the project, previously identified.

A series of interviews with the project partners involved in each demo case location were also initiated in 2016, in order to inform the same task and the preparation of the workshop on stakeholder engagement and user requirements (see "Next steps"). The interviews were designed to collect preliminary data on the issues of interest in each demo case location, the stakeholders surrounding each issue, their needs to address the issues, how can LandSense fulfill those needs and what are the engagement barriers and strategies to overcome them.

Next steps

The main tasks of ECSA for 2017 within work package 2 of LandSense are the organization of a workshop on stakeholder engagement and user requirements and leading a project deliverable on the same topics, as well as on engagement strategies.

The results to be included in that project deliverable will directly feed into work package 3, responsible for developing the LandSense infrastructure, tools and services, as well as into work package 4, where the LandSense Citizen Observatory and its services will be implemented and tested in different demo case locations. Additionally, they will directly inform the development of action plans and campaign strategies for each demonstration case, which will take place in work package 2. ECSA's contribution to some of these actions will constitute the remaining activities during 2017.

Contact and more information

[André Mascarenhas](#) (Project officer)

<http://landsense.eu>

Twitter: @LandSense

ECSA Working Groups

Sharing Best Practice and Building Capacity

This working group aims to promote high quality citizen science by sharing existing examples of good practice, developing practitioner guides and other documents to support the citizen science practitioner community, and bringing together all parties involved in citizen science to develop partnerships, share resources and experiences, and build capacity within the sector.

Chair: **Lucy Robinson** - Citizen Science Programme Manager at Natural History Museum London, UK

Projects, Data, Tools & Technology

Chair: **Jaume Piera** – ICM-CSIC, Spain.

Active Members in 2016:

Luigi Ceccaroni, 1000001Labs, Spain.

Berant Claramunt, CREAM, Spain.

Arne Berre, SINTEF, Norway.

Jamie Williams, Environment Systems, UK.

Veljo Runnel, University of Tartu, Estonia.

Jari Silander, Finnish Environmental Institute (SKYE), Finland.

Suvodeep Mazumdar, Information and Knowledge Group, University of Sheffield, UK.

Claudia Göbel, ECSA & Museum für Naturkunde Berlin Germany.

Soledad Luna, ECSA & Museum für Naturkunde Berlin Germany.

INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

October 2015. Citizen Science Data and Service Infrastructures Workshop

ECSA co-organized this event together with the European Commission's Joint Research Center. The meeting took place at the Institute of Marine Sciences, in Barcelona, after the 1st ECSA GA.

January 2016. Citizen Science: data and service infrastructure meeting

(JRC-Ispra, 26th–27th)

The European Commission's Joint Research Center invited 20 international participants, including members of the ECSA (and CSA and ACSA as well), to Ispra, Italy for a two-day workshop to discuss data and service infrastructures for citizen science.

The participants agreed to take concrete steps to support both project and observational metadata standardization, and to increase collaborations. It was agreed:

A) For project metadata standardization

A.1. To continue mapping existing project metadata standards, to describe projects in different repositories, to develop a common vocabulary and ontology for talking about citizen science;

A.2. To continue to support coordination between existing project repositories, by developing Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) to share related information across repositories;

A.3. To help coordinate a series of national repositories that are currently under development in Europe

B) For observational metadata standardization

B1. To propose a high level reference model for citizen science observational data, based on existing models from the spatial data infrastructure (SDI), biodiversity and big data community, among others

B2. To continue to support coordination between data hosting and management platforms, like by developing Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) to share observational data, and demonstrating proof-of-concept data sharing

B3. To prepare a discussion on data lifecycle management for citizen science, including an introduction to the topic and the possible projection of lifecycle models from other domains (e.g. Big Data and Spatial Data Infrastructures) onto observational data.

C) For the collaboration at large

C1. To conduct a stakeholder analysis on citizen science data and metadata standards in order to investigate current assumptions on requirements from both data providers, data users, and others

C2. To continue to recruit stakeholders to join this initiative, like by requesting a citizen science Domain Working Group (DWG) within the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)

C3. To develop a collaboration platform to coordinate activities, and publish and share resources

C4. To investigate the legal, organizational, semantic, and technical aspects of interoperability, as well as interoperability related to political context.

June 2016. Citizen Science workshop. Biodiversity research for and by citizens in Eastern Europe: tools, information services and public engagement.

The Workshop took place at the University of Tartu, Estonia. During the meeting there were several presentations on mobilizing efforts for biodiversity research from Estonian projects and European initiatives. J. Piera introduced the ECSA activity with the oral presentation "How ECSA can help in improving citizen science biodiversity data".

September 2016. COST Action CA15212: "Citizen Science to promote creativity, scientific literacy, and innovation throughout Europe"

During this meeting the roles and positions were defined. In particular, related to this ECSA-WG, Luigi Ceccaroni (1000001 Labs, Spain) and Imre Lendak (University of Novi Sad, Serbia) were designed as chair and co-chair respectively for the WG 5 “Improve data standardization and interoperability”. The objective of WG5 is to develop metadata-concepts vocabulary and an ontology to support data sharing among CS projects.

December 2016. Kick of Meeting of the COST Action CA15212

Two main tasks were defined for the WG 5 “Improve data standardization and interoperability”:

Task 1: Development of a metadata ontology for citizen science

Task2: Coordination of efforts with existing networks and groups working on standardization in CS

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES

A platform for biodiversity monitoring called Natusfera (<http://natusfera.gbif.es/>) was selected as the first case test to develop the main goals and tasks of interoperability and long term collaboration defined in the international meetings mentioned above.

Inspired in the existing platform iNaturalist, one of the main goals of this new platform is to facilitate the participation of any collective interested in collaborate in biodiversity monitoring, independently of the collective size and the capabilities of their members. To do so, the Natusfera development has been conceived to break three main potential barriers:

- Technological barriers. Collectives will not require to have ICT expertise in the group to run Natusfera and to adapt it to their particular interest.
- Knowledge barriers. Collectives may start participating even if they do not have the expertise to identify their own observations
- Linguistic barriers. The users should be able to choose freely the language to participate and exchange information in Natusfera. At present the platform is available in 5 languages: English, Spanish, Catalan, Galician and Euskera.

Natusfera is promoted by the Spanish node of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) and at present there are two ECSA institutional members (CREAF and ICM-CSIC) collaborating in the platform development.

At present, ECSA groups may create their own biodiversity monitoring projects using this platform. The platform is also being setting up to allow further development contributions from other ECSA members.

Policy, Strategy, Partnerships

Chair: **Martin Brocklehurst** - KempleyGREEN Consultants, UK.

Active Members in 2016:

Björn Huwe, University of Potsdam, Germany.

David Slawson, OPAL, Imperial College London, UK.

Elizabeth Tyson, Woodrow Wilson Centre, US.

Katherine Mathieson, British Science Association, UK (resigned).

Fermin Serrano Sanz Executive Director of Fundación Ibercivis Spain.

Ed Maklouf CEO & Founder of Siine Ltd Barcelona Spain.

Helena Ruiz Fabra – EU Public Affairs Freelance Brussels.

Conor Smith, IMGeospatial, CODATA UK.

Carole Paleco Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Science.

Hilary Geoghegan, University of Reading UK.

Marc Lipinski, National Centre for Scientific Research, France.

Patricia Tiago, University of Lisbon – Biodiversity4All, Portugal.

Roeland Samson, University of Antwerp, Belgium.

Simone Branchini, University of Bologna, Italy.

Soledad Luna ECSA & Museum für Naturkunde Berlin Germany.

Heiner Benking, Advisory Board Member ECSA, Berlin Germany.

Observers – Receiving Minutes

Malene Bruun European Environment Agency, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Poppy Lakeman Fraser, OPAL, Imperial College London, UK.

Micheál Lehane, Environment Protection Agency, Ireland.

Katrin Vohland, Museum für Naturkunde Berlin Germany.

Nidi Gupta, OPAL Imperial College, London UK.

Alessandra Campanaro Council for Agricultural Research Rome Italy.

Dr Stefano Martellos University of Trieste Italy.

2016 has been an inspirational year for the Policy Group of ECSA. We have started to attract external support and funding for our work as the potential for Citizen Science to make a contribution to Environmental Policy has become clear. Our progress has been made possible by the support and work of a small band of dedicated people. As Chairman I am grateful in particular for the staunch support and the work of my Vice Chair David Slawson of Imperial College London UK; Marc Lipinski of the National Centre for Scientific Research, Paris France; and Elizabeth Tyson of the Wilson Centre, Washington USA. All the active Members of the Policy Group have contributed to our success this year and all have made their time freely available to ECSA. In the true spirit of Citizen Science however it is the combined efforts of all these people that have made the difference. It has encouraged me as one of the founding members of ECSA to continue in an active role as Chair of this group, despite my advancing years.

During the year we:

- met formally four times in January, March, May, and November;
- ran an MEP briefing in September;
- ran a Round Table discussion for ECSA at the Berlin Conference in May;

- joined the DITTO project in Berlin in November;
- took part in two workshops in Brussels as part of the EU Fitness Review on Monitoring and Reporting in April and November;
- secured ECSA representation at an EU Environment Knowledge Community Workshop in Brussels in December; and
- set up and agreed Terms of Reference for two Task and Finish Group:-
 - The ECSA sponsored Citizen Science Mosquito Task & Finish Group (MTFG) led by Elizabeth Tyson &
 - The ECSA led Citizen Science EU Wide Project Task & Finish Group (ETFG) led by David Slawson.

The MEP briefing was our first attempt to reach out and build a relationship with MEP's on the European Parliament Environment, Public Health and Food safety Committee. This Committee has a major influence on EU Environmental Policy in partnership with the Council of Minister. Marc Lipinski co-ordinated introductions with Michèle Rivasi French MEP and Vice Chair Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance and two further MEPS' jointly agreed to sponsor the event:

- 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).

We were able to pull together a very strong team for the event, which included:

- Professor Jacqueline McGlade, Chief Scientist at United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP),
- Hanny van Harkel a Citizen Scientist who discovered a rare astronomical object, later referred to as Hanny's Voorwerp;
- Muki Haklay Director at [Excites](#) (Extreme Citizen Science) at University College London (UCL); and
- John Palmer, representing [Movement Ecology Lab](#), and the platform [Mosquito Alert](#) developed in Spain.

As a result of the briefing all three MEP's have agreed to act as Champions for Citizen Science in the European Parliament and discussions will continue into 2017 to see how we can work closely together to advance the ideas of Citizen Science onto the Policy Agenda and build Citizen Science into EU legislation.

During the year we also maintained our contacts with DG Environment through the good offices of staff in ENV.F3 Knowledge, Risks & Urban Environment Unit, Environment Directorate General. We met and exchanged information with Nicholas Banfield Head of Unit, Bernhard Berger Deputy Head of Unit and Elana Montani Policy Officer. As a result we were invited to participate in the Fitness Review of EU Environmental Monitoring and Reporting. We believe our input led to key recommendations being included in the final consultants report to the Commission recommending:

“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”.

Our links also resulted in key staff from the EU attending the ECSA Conference in Berlin and invitations to join a EU Environmental Knowledge Community (KGC) Citizen Science Workshop in December. The workshop was designed to assist in the development of recommendations on how citizen science can be integrated into EU environmental policy. The recommendations will be presented to a senior meeting of the Environment Knowledge Community (EEA, JRC, DG ENV, DG RTD, DG CLIMA, EUROSTAT) early in 2017 and we wait with interest to see how these ideas impact our future work. We believe that the work of the ETFG led by David Slawson will become crucial to delivering EU wide programmes on CS that will support these policy initiatives. Such programmes cannot be project led to be successful but must secure long term funding. Kick-start funding will be needed from the Commission; a consortium of Member States or their main implementation bodies but ultimately the projects must be embedded in base line programme to have long-term success.

Perhaps the most exciting development during 2016 has been the pace with which the work of the MTFG has accelerated. With support from Professor Jacqueline McGlade and Alexandre Caldas at UNEP we have secured support and finance for the initial work of the MTFG. A major Workshop is now planned in Geneva from 8-10th March 2017 at which we plan to seek agreement on a common Citizen Science Methodology and data platform for a project to monitor mosquitoes that carry diseases like the Zika and Dengue viruses. We are liaising with colleagues in the Australian Citizen Science Association and the US based Citizen Science Association and expects to have representatives at the workshop from across the EU, the USA, Australia, Central and Southern America. This is of course only the first step in the programme and we will need further discussion to agree how the methodology is used as well as how the whole future roll out process will be funded, key parts of the work of the MTFG which is scheduled to conclude September 2017. We do know, however that UNEP will agree in principle to support the development of a global platform for data gathered, on UNEP live. We will be seeking key sponsors to fund this ongoing work and demonstrate how powerful Citizen Science can be in supporting work on a critical health and environmental issue that will become increasingly important to us all as the full effects of global warming take hold.

To function effectively in 2017 we will need at least 5 sponsors prepared to fund our policy work. We plan to explore all avenues to see if we can forge a positive working relationship with commercial, industrial and or NGO organisations prepared to fund our policy work and in particular to fund the role out of the MTFG project. We also need more volunteers to share the workload as we move forward and to broker introductions to key individuals who may be prepared to open the door to funding opportunities.

Clearly we have much work to do in 2017 and success is not guaranteed but the opportunity we are being presented with is unprecedented in our short history. We are calling on all our members to help forge these relationships, to use their networks to broker introductions to key individuals to enable us to take advantage of the unprecedented opportunities that are now being presented to ECSA in our short history

Working group on Funding and Marketing

Chair: **Marisa Ponti** - Assistant Professor in the Division of Learning, Communication and IT at University of Gothenburg, Sweden

Members:

Carmen Madalina Cozma, ANPRO, Rumania
Jaume Piera, Institute of Marine Sciences, Spain
Katrin Vohland, Museum für Naturkunde Berlin, Germany
Martin Brocklehurst, KempleyGREEN Consultants, UK
Muki Haklay, University College London, UK
Zen Makuch, Imperial College London, UK

Our Scope:

- Build funding strategies
- Coordinate writing of workpackages in grant applications in specific cases

Current focus on European calls

- ECSA can take a leading role or act as a partner.

Future activities

- Explore possibilities rebranding ECSA

Plan

- **By the end of 2016**
 - Participation in at least one consortium preparing a proposal for an Horizon 2020 call ECSA is currently participating in two H2020 projects
 - “Doing It Together” Science (DITOs) is a three-year Coordination and Support Action funded by the European Commission’s Horizon 2020 programme to increase public participation in scientific research and innovation across Europe. 17 partners in a consortium coordinated by UCL Extreme Citizen Science group.
 - LandSense is a project funded under the Horizon 2020 Programme within the topic of “Demonstrating the concept of ‘Citizen Observatories’”. 11 partners in a consortium coordinated by IIASA.

ECSA is currently participating in one H2020 call:

- SC5-19-2017 Coordination of citizens' observatories initiatives, consortium led by IIASA

- **By the end of 2018**
 - A model for a clear strategic positioning and brand management of ECSA (we start this).

Citizen Science and RRI

This working group aims to support RRI practices in Citizen Science and will strengthen the linkages between RRI Tools project and ECSA.

It became operational in May 2016 with 12 people involved from ECSA and RRI Tools consortium, it aims to bring together representatives communities from both sides to leverage synergies. Anyone can join the working group having access to the mailing list and shared documents.

The activities carried out during 2016 are mainly under two lines: networking events and the creation of the policy paper on CS and RRI.

A. Networking events and workshops organized are:

1. #CitSciChat on Twitter, July 2016. The full report and storify available in <http://ecsa.citizen-science.net/blog/summary-results-our-first-citscichat-cs-and-responsible-research-and-innovation>

2. Workshop DITOs Stakeholder event, Berlin November 2016. The report of this two-hours workshop is available in this link <https://zenodo.org/record/250602>

3. Workshop Observatory Citizen Science in Spain + RRI Tools + DITOs, Madrid December 2016. The report of this three-hours workshop is included in the Report of the Citizen Science Observatory in Spain available in this link <https://zenodo.org/record/225678>

B. The policy paper is under development. So far, contextualization, identification of trends and opportunities are done. The redaction of strategies and policy recommendations is still in process. It is expected to be finished by April 2016 when it will be shared with the ECSA steering committee for its adoption or rejection.

Communication and Events

Chair: **Thorsten Witt**, Science in Dialogue, Germany

Members:

Daniel Dörler, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria

Florian Heigl, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria

Josep Perelló, University of Barcelona, Spain

Monique Luckas, Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research, Germany

Muki Haklay, University College London, UK

Poppy Lakeman Fraser, OPAL, Imperial College London, UK

Simone Branchini, University of Bologna, Italy

Susanne Hecker, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, Germany

The working group communication and events mainly discussed the possibilities and challenges for a common European Citizen Science-webplatform. Also it was discussed about how the communication within ECSA, especially the use and presentation on Facebook could be further improved. Therefore a concept was developed that will be discussed and finalized in January 2017.

First international ECSA conference Berlin 2016

Citizen Science – Innovation in Open Science, Society and Policy

Chair: Aletta Bonn and Susanne Hecker, German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) | Helmholtz Center for Environmental Research (UFZ) | Friedrich -Schiller-University Jena, Germany
19–21 May 2016 | Berlin

The first European Citizen Science Association (ECSA) international conference took place in Berlin on 19-21 May 2016 at the Kulturbrauerei. The aim of the conference was to discuss the innovative potential of citizen science for open science, society and policy. In total, 368 participants from 30 countries attended the three-day conference (see fig. 1) as well as members of the Berlin public during the ThinkCamp and citizen science fest. The programme sessions and interactive formats allowed for 107 talks, 99 posters, four discussion forums, a vibrant dancing during the citizen science disco, a citizen science fest, two field trips and 546 tweets.

The conference provided a dynamic, lively and transdisciplinary atmosphere with different formats and plenty networking opportunities. The purposefully designed scaling of registration fees attracted new ECSA members (see fig. 2). In total 73 new members joined in the 3 months before and during the conference in May.

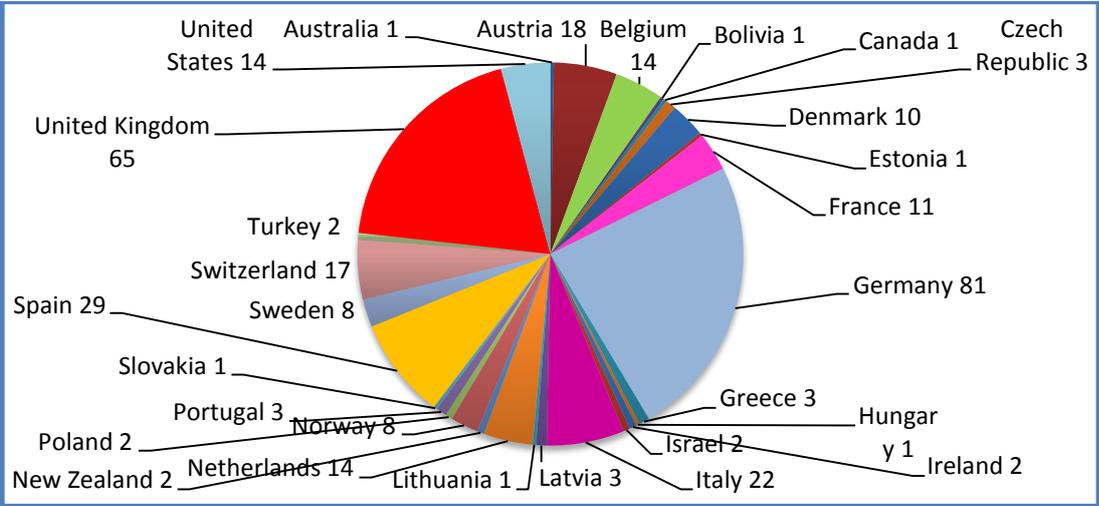


Fig. 1 Participants per country of the First International ECSA conference 2016, Berlin, Germany

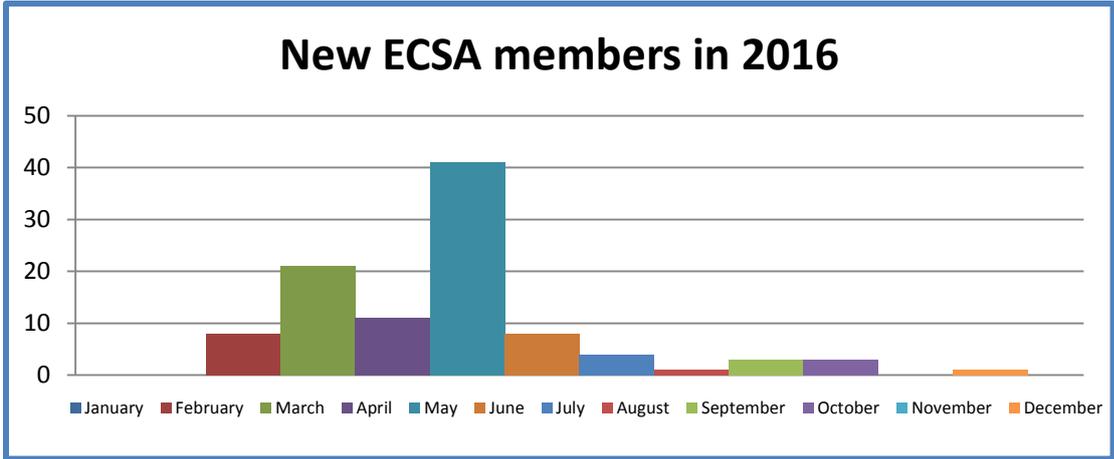


Fig. 2 New ECSA members in 2016.

The conference was hosted for ECSA by the ‘Citizen create knowledge – knowledge creates citizens’ GEWISS project by the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Leipzig-Halle-Jena and the Museum für Naturkunde Berlin and in total 19 international funding partners:

- Berlin-Brandenburg Institute of Advanced Biodiversity Research – BBIB

- British Ecological Society, CEH Centre for Ecology and Hydrology
- EarthWatch Institute
- UCL Extreme Citizen Science group (ExCiteS)
- Fondazione Grosseto Cultura
- Haus der Zukunft Berlin
- Helmholtz Association
- Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ)/ German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Leipzig-Halle-Jena
- Institut national de recherche en sciences et technologies pour l'environnement et l'agriculture – Irstea
- Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF)
- Leibniz-Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries (IGB)
- Leibniz-Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research (IZW)
- Federal Ministry of Science
- Research and Economy (Austria)
- Museum für Naturkunde Berlin
- Natural History Museum of London
- Natural History Museum of Maremma
- Natural History Museum of Paris
- Wissenschaft im Dialog – WID
- Zoological Research Museum Alexander Koenig Bonn



The conference was also financially supported by the German Research Foundation (DFG). In total the conference received a total of € 68K co-funding through partners and € 73K funding through fees.

The programme development was organized by a joint committee, and benefited from a high level of self-organisation of all involved, namely Aletta Bonn and Susanne Hecker, UFZ/iDiv, Muki Haklay, UCL, Lucy Robinson, London Natural History Museum, Johannes Vogel, Katrin Vohland and Claudia Goebel, ECSA/ MfN, Marisa Ponti, University of Gothenborg, Malene Bruun, Andrea Sforzi, Museo di Storia Naturale della Maremma, Jose Miguel Rubio-Iglesias, DG R&I, EC, Jennifer Shirk, Cornell |

US/CSA, Franz Hölker, IGB, Heribert Hofer, IZW , Lucy Patterson, DE, Margaret Gold , The Mobile Collective, UK, Thorsten Witt and Wiebke Volkmann, Wissenschaft im Dialog – WiD, DE

Conference website: www.ecsa2016.eu

Link to photo gallery: <http://ogarit.jalbum.net/ECSA%202016/>

Blog by Muki Haklay: <https://povesham.wordpress.com/>

Storify by Margaret Gold: <https://storify.com/MobileMaggie/ecsa-2016-berlin>

For further information please contact:

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ECSA Finances

ECSA Budget 2016

| | Plan 2016 | | | | Executed 2016 | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| | <i>ECSA Basic</i> (Jan-Dec) | <i>DITOs</i> (Jun-Dec) | <i>Landsense</i> (Sept-Dec) | <i>Total</i> | <i>ECSA Basic</i> (Jan-Dec) | <i>DITOs</i> (Jun-Dec) | <i>Landsense</i> (Sept-Dec) | <i>Total</i> |
| | 20.140,99 € | 230.250,00 € | 14.750,00 € | 265.140,99 € | 19.695,17 € | 230.250,00 € | 50.750,00 € | 300.695,17 € |
| Balance carried forward from previous year | -4.659,01 € | | | -4.659,01 € | -4.659,01 € | | | -4.659,01 € |
| Reserve carried forward from previous year | 0,00 € | | | 0,00 € | | | | 0,00 € |
| Membership fees | 10.000,00 € | | | 10.000,00 € | 9.370,00 € | | | 9.370,00 € |
| Donations | 5.000,00 € | | | 5.000,00 € | 0,00 € | | | 0,00 € |
| EC project funding | | 230.250,00 € | 14.750,00 € | 245.000,00 € | | 230.250,00 € | 50.750,00 € | 281.000,00 € |
| Internal cost allocation (Overhead DITOs) | 9.800,00 € | | | 9.800,00 € | 14.184,18 € | | | 14.184,18 € |
| Internal cost allocation (Overhead Landsense) via UFZ/iDiv (Int. Conference) | 0,00 € | | | 0,00 € | 0,00 € | | | 0,00 € |
| | 20.140,99 € | 63.565,33 € | 13.000,00 € | 96.706,32 € | 18.336,96 € | 51.774,27 € | 10.616,95 € | 66.544,00 € |
| Overheads (internal cost allocation) | | 9.800,00 € | 0,00 € | 9.800,00 € | | 14.184,18 € | | |
| Personnel | 9.800,00 € | 40.833,33 € | 12.000,00 € | 62.633,33 € | 14.184,18 € | 34.124,69 € | 9.715,16 € | 58.024,03 € |
| Travel | 4.000,00 € | 3.600,00 € | 1.000,00 € | 8.600,00 € | 2.219,27 € | 430,77 € | 901,79 € | 3.551,83 € |
| Activities | 6.000,00 € | 9.332,00 € | 0,00 € | 15.332,00 € | 1.933,51 € | 3.034,63 € | 0,00 € | 4.968,14 € |
| ECSA General Assembly | 0,00 € | | | 0,00 € | 350,00 € | | | 350,00 € |
| DITOs European Stakeholder Roundtable (with 2 Workshops Committee in 2016, 2018) | | 9.000,00 € | | 9.000,00 € | | 3.034,63 € | | 3.034,63 € |
| DITOs Bioblitz Activities (with 1 Workshop Committee 2017) | | 332,00 € | | 332,00 € | | | | |
| DITOs Local Stakeholder Roundtable (with 2 Workshops Committee 2017) | | 0,00 € | | 0,00 € | | | | 0,00 € |
| DITOs Storytelling Workshops | | 0,00 € | | 0,00 € | | | | 0,00 € |
| DITOs Teacher Training Workshops | | 0,00 € | | 0,00 € | | | | 0,00 € |
| DITOs Publications | | 0,00 € | | 0,00 € | | | | 0,00 € |
| DITOs Conferences (with ECSA GA 2018, Workshop Committee 2019) | | 0,00 € | | 0,00 € | | | | 0,00 € |
| Landsense Stakeholder Roundtable (with ECSA General Assembly 2017) | | | 0,00 € | 0,00 € | | | | 0,00 € |
| Payroll office | 2.000,00 € | | | 2.000,00 € | 638,97 € | | | 638,97 € |
| Tax adviser | 0,00 € | | | | | | | |
| Fees for registration | 500,00 € | | | 500,00 € | | | | |
| Webpage development | 2.000,00 € | | | 2.000,00 € | | | | |
| Flyer, printed material | 1.500,00 € | | | 1.500,00 € | 944,54 € | | | 944,54 € |
| Reserve | 340,99 € | 0,00 € | 0,00 € | 340,99 € | | | | |
| TOTAL | 0,00 € | 166.684,67 € | 1.750,00 € | 168.434,67 € | 1.358,21 € | 178.475,73 € | 40.133,05 € | 219.966,99 € |

List of in-kind contributions

Museum für Naturkunde Berlin

ECSA Executive Board – ECSA Chair Prof. Johannes Vogel, ECSA Executive director Dr. Katrin Vohland.
Office space, administrative support, design support, travels, print materials, website hosting, administration and development, writing and administering research proposals.

Time from all the organizations For Board of Directors, working group chairs and Advisory Board Members

IIASA hosting and supporting the organization of the ECSA GA 2017

BOKU University Vienna hosting and supporting the organization of the ECSA GA 2017

Jaume Piera: Webpage development

Thank you to all ECSA members, Board of Directors, Working Groups Chairs and Advisory Board.