

Working group: Sharing best practice and building capacity for citizen science

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Activity in 2016

- Ten Principles of Citizen Science now available in 25 languages, and are being increasingly used in a range of settings
- ECSA conference support
- Book chapter based on the Ten Principles
- Scoping future work plans for the group
- Huge growth in membership of working group – need to capitalise on this enthusiasm and support

Plans for 2017 and beyond

- Change in working group structure as a result of large group size – ‘core working group’ and wider ‘interest group’
- Recommending the establishment of a ‘Task and Finish’ Group for BioBlitz (in collaboration with DITOS project)
- Scoping other Task and Finish groups – Evaluation?
Online crowdsourcing?

BioBlitz Task and Finish Group workplan

- Exploring/mapping current BioBlitz activity in Europe
- Assessing *Guide to Running a BioBlitz* and other existing resources to assess applicability across Europe and scope to adapt and/or translate
- Learning from UK BioBlitz Network and adapting or implementing strategies for knowledge exchange and capacity building within Europe
- Capacity building activities to support new BioBlitz organisers e.g. training workshops, webpages with resources, online calendar of events
- Policy advocacy e.g. 'Discovery visits' where policy-makers can attend BioBlitz events
- Policy briefing

BioBlitz Work Plan Timeline

2017 - Establishing network and Capacity Building

- Workshop on Policy brief + discussing what capacity building activities to do in Capacity Building workshop - February/March 2017
- Publish first version of the Policy Brief - May 2017
- Sharing, updating existing guidelines and translating short versions + producing additional ones (e.g., communication, recruitment)
- Capacity building workshop - Autumn 2017

2018 - Running period

- Policy brief update I - May 2018
- Promoting the network
- Running activities (introduce a BioBlitz day?)
- DITOs local stakeholder roundtable

2019 - Closing year

- Policy update II - May 2019
- Running activities
- DITOs Discovery Trip - getting politicians attention

Thank you to the working group members and everyone who has translated or promoted the Ten Principles!

If you have suggestions for aspects of citizen science where there is scope for ECSA to support the sharing of best practice across the sector, please send them to us:

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To become involved in the BioBlitz task and finish group, please get in touch with Gaia Agnello, Gaia.Agnello@mfn-berlin.de