



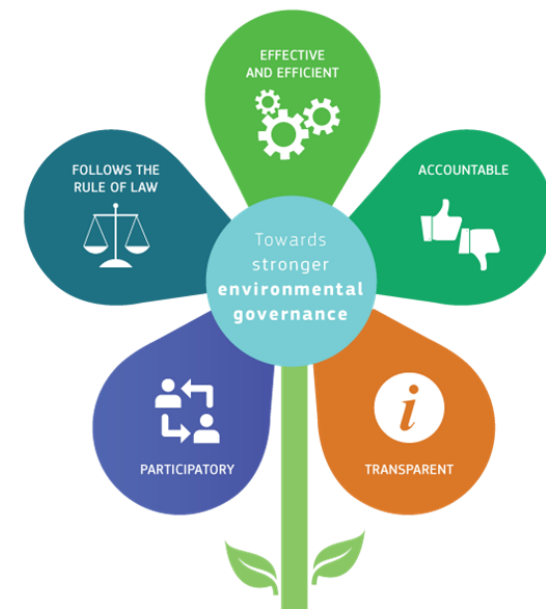
CITIZEN SCIENCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

EU Guidelines Status and Progress

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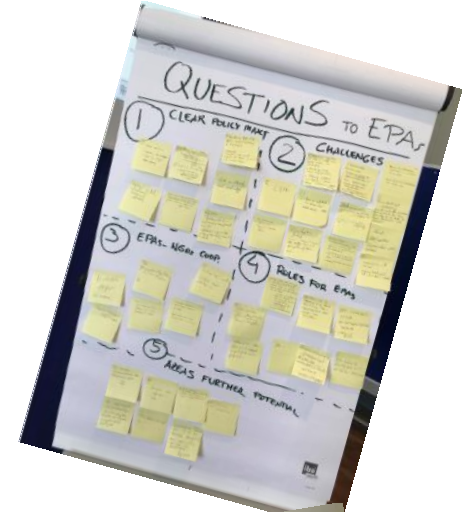
Guidelines on Citizen Science for Environmental Monitoring

- Part of the Commission's Action Plan to streamline environmental reporting COM(2017) 312: **Action 8: Promote citizen science**
- By the Environment Knowledge Community, in particular DG ENV, DG JRC, EEA and DG RTD.
- Builds on the results from a study commissioned by the Commission in 2018 *"Citizen Science for environmental policy: Development of an EU-wide inventory and analysis of selected practices"*



Stakeholder consultations

- **First stakeholder meeting in November 2018 (COST / JRC meeting)**
 - A number of EPA Network members were invited
- **EPA Network Interest Group on Citizen Science meeting in Zurich (May 2019),**
 - A summary report with the outcome of the discussions was sent to EC.
- **Consultation with EPA Network and Eionet in October 2019**
 - Feedback received from a few EPA Network members
- **Stakeholder meeting on 10th October in Brussels**
 - A few EPA Network members were also invited to this meeting



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- **V. Recommendations to promote a wider use of citizen science in environmental monitoring**

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Draft recommendations (I)

DRAFT

12 draft recommendations currently clustered around four areas:

- **I) Match-making between policy needs and citizen science projects**
 - Support the development, maintenance and use of pan-European approaches to provide all stakeholders with the best available environmental monitoring data, while acknowledging differences between EU Member States.
 - Support and promote the uptake of citizen science initiatives that have successfully demonstrated their benefit and foster their spreading and upscale where relevant.
 - Promote and support citizen science activities in priority areas where there is a gap in scientific evidence for policy making.
 - Support collaborative approaches that nurture policy links and sustain citizen engagement.
- **II) Promote awareness, trust and recognition**
 - Create awareness of citizen science for environmental monitoring and actively promote the value of this approach inside the public institutions.
 - Give visibility and recognition to citizen science outcomes.

Draft recommendations (II)

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- **III) Provide standards for data quality and interoperability, and share tools**
 - Support (open) data management and sharing principles, quality assurance mechanisms and fitness for purpose.
 - Provide methodologies, tools and guidance so that data from citizen science initiatives is more widely used in environmental monitoring.
 - Provide guidance and training material on legal issues, such as intellectual property rights, licensing and the protection of personal data
- **IV) Support coordination, collaboration and resources for policy impact**
 - Seek and promote strategic partnerships that enhance the societal impact of citizen science initiatives and uptake in environmental monitoring and policy making.
 - Improve EU/national/regional coordination and exchange among citizen science initiatives.
 - Encourage the availability of adequate resources and capacities for environmental citizen science

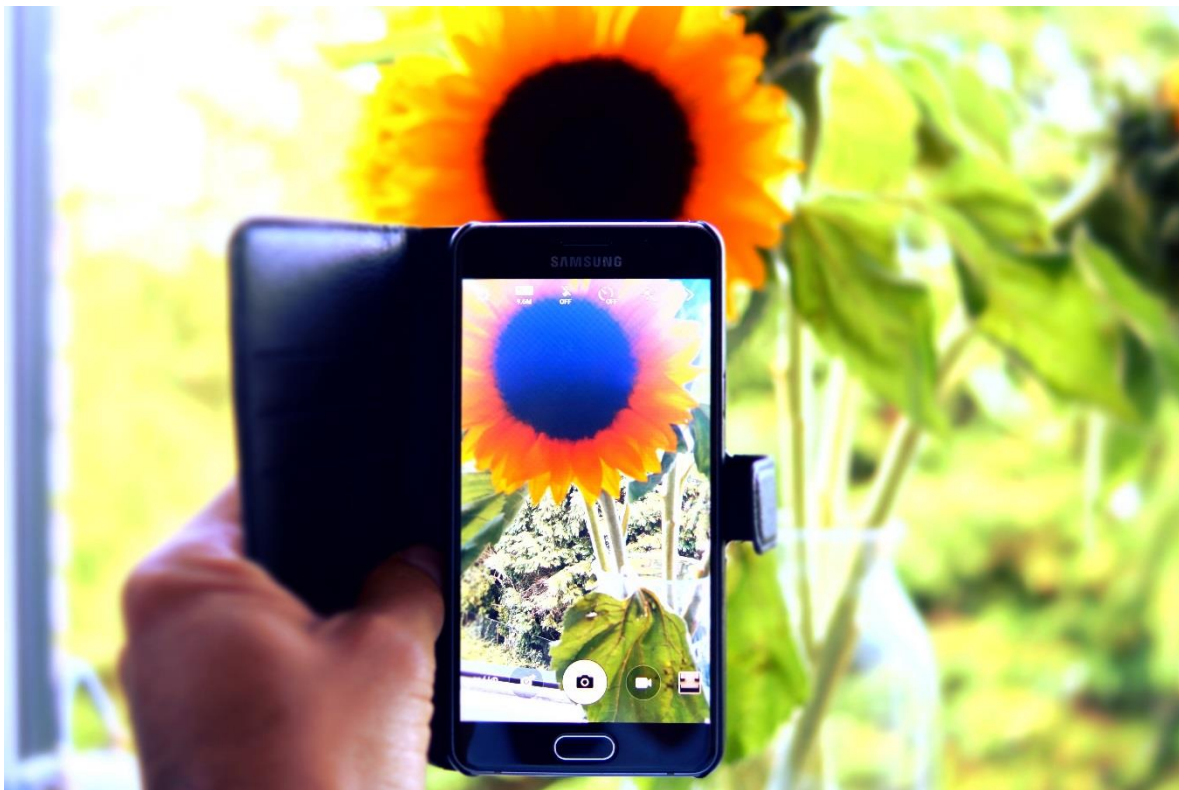
Specific actions under each recommendations to be categorised by audience (EU/MS public Authorities, Citizen Science Communities, Citizen Science Networks, Academia/Research organisations)



Next steps

- **November 2019:** Finalisation of the draft guidelines after considering the input received during the stakeholder consultation
- **December 2019 – January 2020:** Internal validation
- **Q1 2020:** Publication as a Staff Working Document of the Commission
- **2020:** Communication activities on the guidelines

- **Q2-Q3 2020:** IGCS to analyse the recommendations and prepare a position paper for Heads of EPAs



Thank you for your attention