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The German Citizen Science Plattform

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Eine Plattform von:

museum für
naturkunde
berlin

wissenschaft  im dialog



GEFÖRDERT VOM

Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung

Stifterverband
für die Deutsche Wissenschaft

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Overview

- What is citizen science?
- Citizen science platforms
- Buergerschaffenwissen.de
- Project examples
- Critical reflection

What is citizen science?



What is citizen science?

- ... amateur naturalists?
- ... gamers?
- ... hobby scientists?
- ... crowd-sourcing projects?
- ... conservation activists?
- ... DIY-science enthusiasts?
- ... ?

What is citizen science?

- Citizen Science describes various activities that include citizens in scientific processes, e.g.
 - Public data collection through digital media
 - Voluntary research associations (Forschende Vereine, Fachgesellschaften) that promote scientific exploration
 - Problem-oriented projects by civil society groups

What is citizen science?

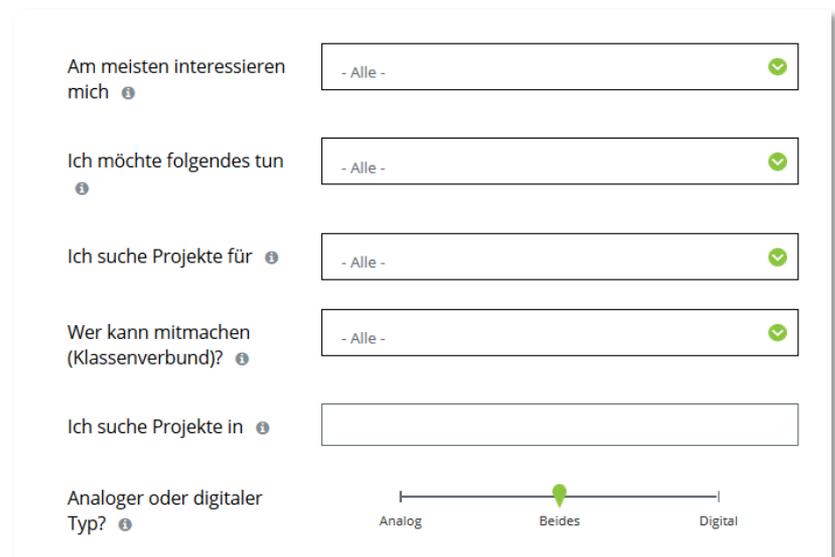
- Very heterogeneous community
- Many stakeholders with individual goals
- Various disciplines involved
- Different models of participation / cooperation
- Historic dimension vs. Boom?
→ Tradition + Digital Media + Participation

Citizen science platforms

- Online-platforms create networks
- Different approaches/focus:
 - Data
 - Networking
 - Both
- Scope:
 - Regional (Portal BEE Berlin-Brandenburg)
 - National (Österreich forscht, buergerschaffenwissen.de)
 - International (Galaxy Zoo, SciStarter)

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- Online-platform for citizen science projects in Germany and in German language
- Project presentation, networking, social media
- Publications and resources
- Search engine



The screenshot shows a search filter interface with the following elements:

- Am meisten interessieren mich**: A dropdown menu with the selected option "- Alle -".
- Ich möchte folgendes tun**: A dropdown menu with the selected option "- Alle -".
- Ich suche Projekte für**: A dropdown menu with the selected option "- Alle -".
- Wer kann mitmachen (Klassenverbund)?**: A dropdown menu with the selected option "- Alle -".
- Ich suche Projekte in**: An empty text input field.
- Analoger oder digitaler Typ?**: A slider control with three positions: "Analog", "Beides", and "Digital". The slider is currently positioned at "Beides".

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- Hosted by Wissenschaft im Dialog (WiD) and Museum für Naturkunde Berlin (WiD)
- In cooperation with GEWISS-Konsortium
- Funded by BMBF and Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft

Die Online-Plattform wird realisiert von

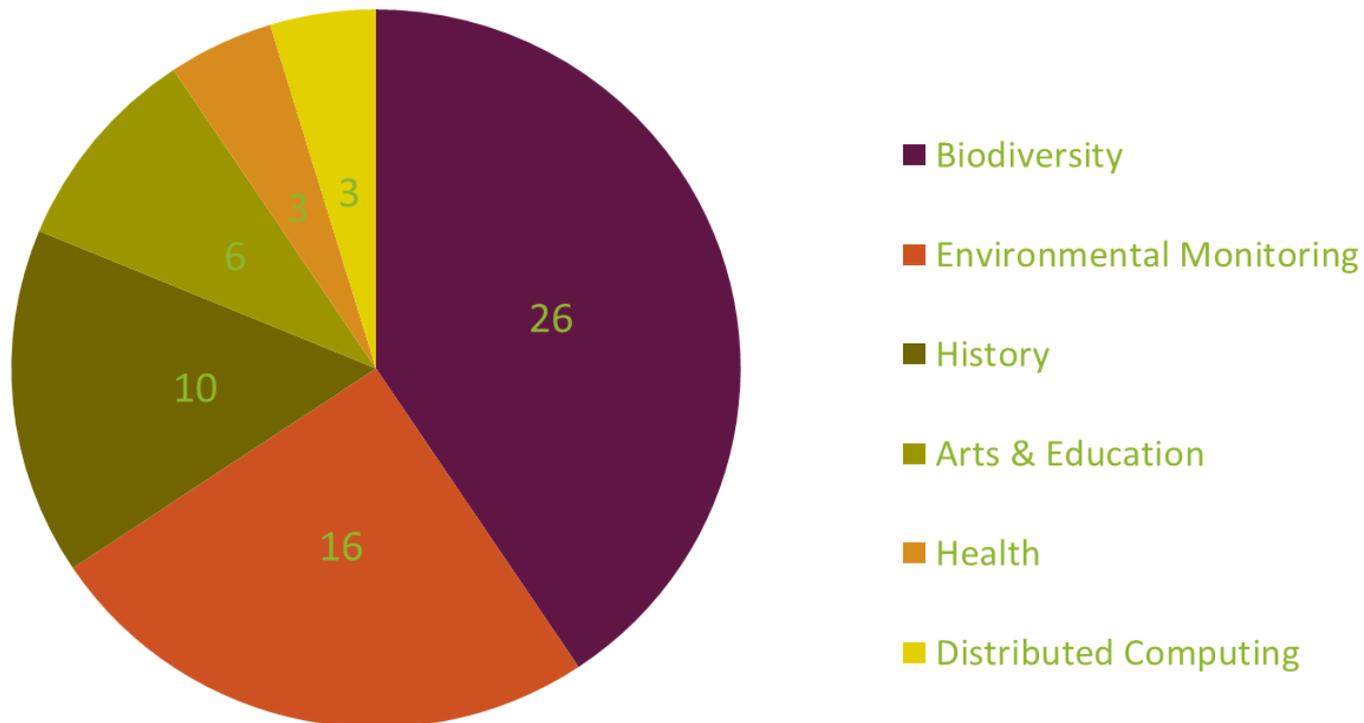


in Zusammenarbeit mit dem GEWISS-Konsortium



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- Online April 2014
- 64 projects



Project examples

Tagfalter Monitoring Deutschland (TMD)

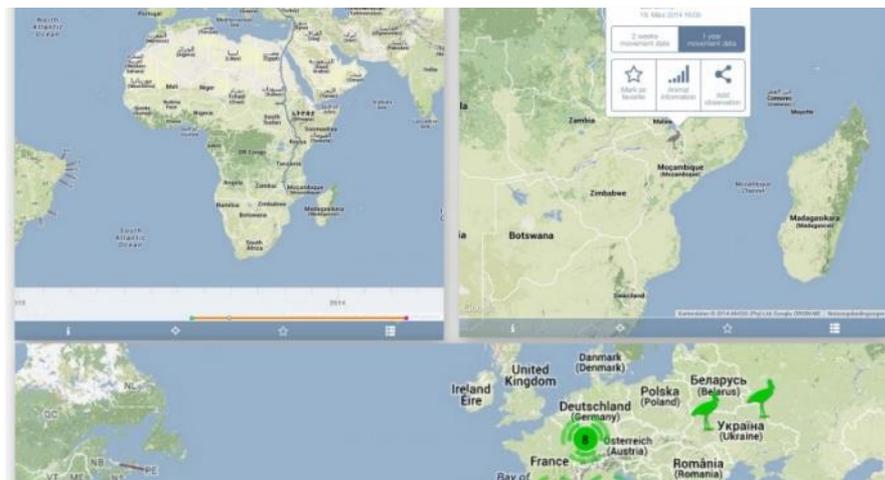
- “Classic” biodiversity monitoring project
- 10 year data set used e.g. in climate change prognosis



Project examples

Animal Tracker

- Movements of wild animals are followed via GPS tags
- Real life observations and photos help scientists interpret movement data



Project examples

artigo

- Citizens describe works of art
- Data is used for improving art databases



ARTigo

ÜBER ARTIGO
BLOG / [f](#) / [t](#)
ZUR BESTENLISTE

Tabu-Tags
GEIGE FLÖTE BUCH NOTEN APFEL
TISCH MUSIKINSTRUMENTE

Runde 3 von 5
18 Sekunden

PUNKTE	5
SCHLAGWORTE DES MITSPIELERS	11
EINGEGEBENE SCHLAGWORTE	DURCHEINANDER 0 GEWIRRO 0 LAUTLOS 0 STILLEBEN 5



Project examples

Dem Plastikmüll auf der Spur

- School project on ocean plastic trash in Chile and Germany
- Strong educational aspect but valid data



Project examples

Verein für Computergenealogie e.V.

- Association of citizen researchers in the field of history and genealogy
- Data bases, digitalization, workshops, etc.



Project examples

SenseBox

- Do-it-yourself measuring station for environmental data
- Open data is uploaded in to online map



Project examples

- Wikis + Open Maps (landscape monitoring, history)
- Health research (migraine headache vs. weather)
- Distributed computing, especially in (natural) sciences
- And many more ...

Critical Reflection

Success	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Growing network with diverse stakeholders• Far more project applications than expected: great demand• Very good press and media response• Close connection to broader discourse on citizen science, participatory research, etc. in science and society	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acceptance of the term „citizen science“ within the German speaking community• „Referee“ for citizen science? (Deutungshoheit)• Longterm perspective

Thank you!

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