



Opportunities and Challenges of Citizen Science for Earth Observation

6 December 2017 // Washington, DC

Agenda

11:30	Luncheon & Networking
12:00	Welcome and Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Krystal Wilson, Secure World Foundation• Dr. Lea Shanley, South Big Data Innovation Hub
12:30	Panel Discussion Moderator: Dr. Lea Shanley Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Dixon Butler, Youth Learning as Citizen Environmental Scientists• Darlene Cavalier, SciStarter• Mikel Maron, Humanitarian Open Street Maps• Dr. Amanda Whitehurst, NASA Citizen Science for Earth Systems
1:30	Coffee Break
1:45	Breakout Session Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Krystal Wilson: Sustainable Development Goals and Citizen Science• Lea Shanley: Session Framing
2:00	Breakout Sessions Location: 3 groups remain in Choate, one group to go upstairs to Suite 720 Table Moderators: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Darlene Cavalier, Dr. Carrie Seltzer, Dr. Lea Shanley, Krystal Wilson
4:00	Report-out
4:30	Adjourn



Scientific institutions and government agencies are expanding their efforts to facilitate public contributions to scientific research and discovery, from classifying galaxies and collecting environmental data to collectively solving the structure of an AIDS-related enzyme through a protein-folding game. Even in the aftermath of disasters, people are using cell phone cameras, social media and interactive mapping tools to help authorities assess affected areas and alert those on the ground to changing conditions. In the United States, the scientific impacts of citizen science have been recognized by 60 federal agencies and organizations, which coordinate and support hundreds of citizen science projects. In Europe, the European Commission continues to fund Citizen Observatories, beginning with the FP7 Programme and extending through active projects Ground Truth 2.0, LandSense, SCENT, and GROW. Similar initiatives are emerging in other parts of the world.

Citizen science is beginning to play an important role in augmenting and enhancing Earth observation data. These new technologies and approaches, however, also come with new risks and responsibilities. As institutions attempt to innovatively incorporate crowdsourcing and citizen science into their traditional Earth observation workflow, they will face many challenges—from data quality to data fusion to formulating policies that will facilitate this work. This interactive workshop will explore and prioritize the opportunities and challenges of integrating citizen science approaches with Earth observation, resulting in a set of recommendations for next steps to address them.

Hosted by South Big Data Innovation Hub and the Secure World Foundation, this workshop will convene experts on citizen science and remote sensing satellites to outline a way forward in the key areas of best practices and policy considerations.

Workshop co-Chairs:

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