

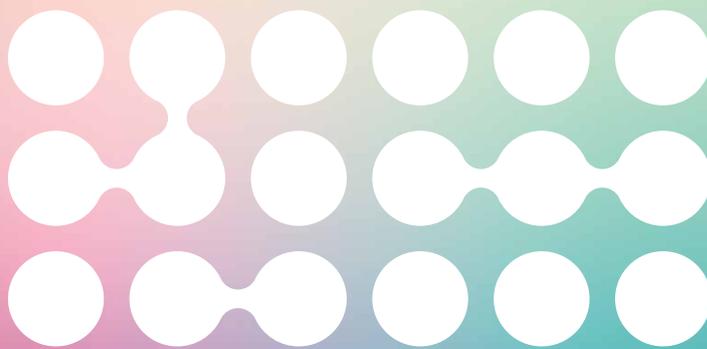
CitSciHelvetia '23

The 2nd Swiss Citizen Science Conference

«Citizen Science – Making impact participatory»

29–30 March 2023

at the Landhaus Solothurn



Call for Participation

1 Context

The second Swiss Citizen Science Conference follows the motto «Citizen Science – Making impact participatory».

CitSciHelvetia connects Swiss stakeholders in Citizen Science and participatory research in general, promoting the exchange of experiences and shared learning between the three language and cultural regions. It serves as the platform for professional exchange with Science et Cité hosting the second Swiss Citizen Science Conference.

The conference addresses project leaders and project staff of Citizen Science projects, representatives of universities, research institutions, NGOs and associations as well as people who engage themselves in Citizen Science on an institutional level. In addition, the conference addresses representatives of science communication, transdisciplinary and participatory research, and Open Science.

At CitSciHelvetia '23 the focus will be on networking, interaction and participation. We want to get to know each other and learn from each other. Through the conference, we plan to not only provide an orientation on the impact theory of Citizen Science but to offer the opportunity to work with practical approaches and to reflect on and experience them in our own projects as well.

CitSciHelvetia '23 is a multilingual conference. The plenary sessions and the speed talks will be simultaneously translated into German and French respectively. Workshops and interactive formats, as well as other contributions in English, will not be translated.

For more information on the conference, please visit citscihelvetia.ch.

2 Invitation

Citizen Science is a flexible concept that can be applied in a wide variety of situations and disciplines. Participants in Citizen Science projects generate scientific knowledge together. Citizen Science and participatory research build a bridge between science and society and have the potential to strengthen mutual learning for societal development. Citizen Science is

also often intended to initiate societal developments, address challenges, and make an impact in a wide variety of areas.

Citizen Science is a relatively young discipline. For this very reason, it is all the more important that we reflect on scientific findings and practical experiences of impact together in order to better understand the impact of Citizen Science. It is also necessary to identify impacts of Citizen Science in order to plan future projects as efficiently and effectively as possible. Already today, many funding agencies require evidence that the projects they fund generate impact.

Against this backdrop, we are interested in theoretical and practical contributions from the following topics (see below). A list of questions serves as a guide in each case. However, this list is not exhaustive and can be supplemented with further questions relevant to the thematic focus.

Principles of interdependencies and impact logic

What is understood by impact logic? How can interdependencies be presented in a comprehensible way? Which impact theories and models can we draw on? How can existing methods be applied to participatory research? For what purpose and for whom do we measure the impact of participatory research? Why is it worthwhile to differentiate project impact and project performance? How should impact measurement in participatory research differ from well-known scientific impact metrics?

Impact of Citizen Science in research, society, nature/environment, economy, politics

In which areas can Citizen Science have an impact? Which impact is important or desirable for which target groups? Are there conflicts of interest to consider? To what extent does participatory research promote scientific knowledge, political legitimacy or social acceptance of research? How does Citizen Science influence the scientific understanding or the attitudes of the participants?

Tools and practical approaches for planning, measuring, assessing and communicating impact

What are the practical steps of impact orientation, impact evaluation and impact communication? How can impact be made visible? Which concrete practical examples exist and what were the experiences? What hurdles are there in practice?

Strategies to promote impact-oriented Citizen Science

Which actors can or must we involve in a project to achieve the impact of a Citizen Science project? What role do these partners play in measuring impact? How can impact be disseminated? Why is impact orientation increasingly important for funding institutions? What potentials arise for Citizen Science from transdisciplinary research and Open Science?

Independently as well as at the interfaces, the four thematic areas provide a rich source of questions and challenges for Citizen Science. Let's tackle them together! We cordially invite you to submit a proposal for a conference contribution and look forward to exciting and innovative formats!

3 Modalities

The CitSciHelvetia '23 offers a framework to discuss the announced topics. The conference will take place on Wednesday, March 29 and Thursday, March 30, 2023 at the Landhaus Solothurn.

For the first time, we will physically hold CitSciHelvetia to further develop and strengthen Citizen Science in Switzerland together with you on site.

The call is open until September 20, 2022. You can find detailed information on entry, deadlines and formats in the document Guideline. Submit a format of your choice as well as the content in the form of a proposal online. The following formats are possible:

- Workshop
- Dialogue Session
- Speed Talk – Kurzvortrag mit Diskussion
- Poster

Reserve the date already today. News and information will be published continuously on our website citsci-helvetia.ch and on Twitter [#citsci-helvetia23](https://twitter.com/citsci-helvetia23) – or subscribe to the [newsmail](https://www.schweizforscht.ch/news) of Schweiz forscht.