University of Dundee

Citizen Science Projects (MOOC) 1.2

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Script	Visuals
[Music]	FutureLearn opening animation
[Music]	WeObserve logo	University of Dundee logo
STEFFEN FRITZ: Hello. My name is Steffen Fritz, and I lead the WeObserve project. WeObserve brings together citizen observatories across Europe so they can learn from each other. You will find out more about what citizen observatories are during week one of the course. For now, you can think of them as a way for citizens to become involved in tackling an environmental problem, and by making environmental observations or using different types of low-cost sensors to gather data. This data can then be used by policy-makers to help make decisions and formulate new policies about the environment, or simply to provide evidence that helps us as citizens change our behaviour.	
In the video, you will learn more about four citizen observatories that are all part of the larger WeObserve family.	
INIAN MOORTHY: Hi. My name is Inian Moorthy, and I lead the LandSense project. Our aim is to harness the powers of citizen science, crowdsourcing, and satellite imagery to address environmental challenges. Our environment is constantly changing, and capturing this change is a vital part of LandSense. We use remote sensing methods, so sensing the Earth from space with satellites, to detect changes on the ground. This bird's eye view is complemented with on-the-ground observations by citizens using one of our LandSense mobile apps. Our observatory brings citizens to satellite imagery and satellite imagery to citizens to help us better monitor our dynamic planet.	
UTA WEHN: Hello. My name is Uta Wehn, and I	

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lead the GroundTruth 2.0 project. We have worked in two African and four European locations to create citizen observatories with local citizens and communities to make sure that these observatories are suitable and sustainable for the people who live there. For that to happen, we used a co-design approach to create certain observatories. This ensures that we address issues that are important to the local stakeholders. For example, water quality in Sweden, water nuisance in the Netherlands, air quality in Belgium, and how to balance biodiversity management and sustainable livelihoods in Kenya.

MEL WOODS: Hello. My name is Mel Woods, and I lead the GROW Observatory. GROW is engaging thousands of people interested in soil and land, such as growers, scientists, and NGOs. Together we are capturing high-density soil moisture data in 15 communities over a large geographic scale across the EU. We are contributing to important scientific environmental monitoring by ground shifting Sentinel-1 soil moisture products using low-cost sensors, mobile devices, soil tests, and citizen observations. Our community is learning together on the GROW website and through our online courses, as well as face to face. We help citizens to understand environmental data and local climate issues, and to take action to improve both soil and fair ground practises under a changing climate

ANGELOS AMDITIS: Hello. I'm Angelo Amditis, research director at ICCS, and proud to lead the Scent Observatory. Our citizen observatory, created within the European project Scent, has created a toolbox of smart technologies that aim to enable citizens to monitor the land cover and land use changes and understand how these affect flood phenomena in urban or rural areas. Citizens use low-cost equipment, such as their smartphones, and portable sensors to take images of land cover and use while walking around in the city or the countryside, report events that may affect food, like river obstacles, and measure water level, flood velocity, soil moisture, and air temperature

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without complex or bulky equipment.	
STEFFEN FRITZ: Hopefully, these introductions have given you a good overview of the citizen observatories that are part of WeObserve. In this course, we will discuss three key questions together. How can we raise awareness of citizen observatories to involve more citizens? How can we make citizen observatories more acceptable for citizens, scientists, and decision-makers? How can we sustain and scale up these efforts in the future? As a participant of this course, you are also part of WeObserve. We hope that you become inspired to get involved or even build your own citizen observatory in the future.	
[Music]	Partner logos

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