

PolSCA Webinar series on Horizon Europe

Citizen Science

Policy and Practicalities of Engaging Citizens in R&I

29 May 2024

09:30 – 12:00

(Working language: English)

Registration: <https://forms.gle/iZNjZsCkHxCV5jLQ7>

WEBINAR OVERVIEW

In the wake of the evolving landscape of research and innovation, the concept of [Citizen Science](#) emerges as a pivotal force driving engagement, collaboration, and societal impact. As we navigate through Horizon Europe's [2nd Strategic Plan](#) and anticipate the forthcoming Work Programme for 2025, it becomes increasingly evident that harnessing the power of citizen engagement is essential for realizing the ambitions outlined in Horizon Europe. Citizen Science, as endorsed by the European Commission and encapsulated within the [Horizon Europe](#) programme, represents a paradigm shift in research and development. It champions a multi-actor approach, inviting citizens to actively participate in scientific endeavors, from data collection to analysis, thus democratizing the scientific process. Within the framework of Horizon Europe, Citizen Science serves as a catalyst for social readiness, fostering inclusivity, transparency, and trust in research and innovation.

Our webinar aims to explore the concept of Citizen Science, examining its implications, challenges, and opportunities. It commences with a policy panel featuring a representative from the [Directorate-General for Research and Innovation](#) (DG RTD), who will provide insights into the strategic vision of the European Commission regarding Citizen Science. This panel will put light on how Citizen Science aligns with the objectives of Horizon Europe, contributing to the creation of a dynamic and participatory research ecosystem.

Then we will delve into exemplary case practices, both at the European level and within specific projects. Speakers involved in the [European Citizen Science project](#) will share their experiences and lessons learned, highlighting the transformative potential of Citizen Science in driving innovation and societal change.

Furthermore, we will spotlight exemplary case practices from Poland, featuring contributions from [Experyment Science Centre](#) and the [Institute of Animal Reproduction and Food Research](#) of PAS, both involved in activities of [SPiN](#) – Society and Science Association. These case studies will present diverse applications of Citizen Science across different domains and the valuable contributions made by Polish stakeholders to the global Citizen Science community.

The webinar will culminate in a session delivered by an expert from [Polish National Contact Point](#) (NCP) for Horizon Europe. This part will provide participants with tangible guidance and resources for incorporating Citizen Science approaches into their research projects, fostering collaboration and co-creation between researchers and citizens with Work Programmes 2025 of Horizon Europe.

The webinar on Citizen Science serves as a platform for dialogue, collaboration, and knowledge exchange, as we collectively embark on a journey towards a more inclusive, participatory, and impactful research landscape. Join us as we explore the transformative potential of Citizen Science in shaping the future of research and innovation in Europe and beyond.

AGENDA

09.30 – 09.40 | Opening remarks, Tomasz POPRAWKA, PolSCA PAS Office in Brussels

|| POLICY ||

09.40 – 10.05 | Citizen Science policies – the perspective of the European Commission, Gabriella LEO, Policy Officer, Open Science, Directorate General for Research & Innovation, European Commission

10.05 – 10.30 | Creating a globally connected, inclusive and strong citizen science community for societal change in Europe: European Citizen Science project, Dorte RIEMENSCHNEIDER, Director of the European Citizen Science Association; Bogna GAWROŃSKA-NOWAK, ECS Ambassador.

10.30 – 10.40 | Questions and answers

Coffee break

|| IMPLEMENTATION ||

10.50 – 11.25 | Citizen Sciences in practice: examples from SPiN (Society and Science Association), Iwona KIEDA, Institute of Animal Reproduction and Food Research of PAS/SPiN, Alicja HARACKIEWICZ, Director of Experyment Science Centre/SPiN.

11.25 – 12.00 | What is on the Horizon Europe? – practical aspects of Work Programmes 2025, Mikołaj PYCZAK, National Contact Point, the National Centre for Research and Development.

Closing remarks

GENERAL REMARKS

The primary objective of the activities conducted within the PoISCA Webinar series is to enhance understanding of the European Union framework programme for research and innovation – [Horizon Europe](#) (HE) among representatives of the scientific community at the [Polish Academy of Sciences](#) (PAS). Participation in Horizon Europe (2021-2027) will undoubtedly pose significant challenges for scientists and research units in Poland, including PAS Institute employees. However, the Horizon Europe programme, with a budget of EUR 95.5 billion, presents a substantial opportunity to undertake ambitious R&D projects, primarily through extensive multilateral scientific cooperation.

The synergy of various activities initiated within the [PASIFIC programme](#) under the auspices of PAS headquarters, combined with dissemination and training efforts conducted by the [PoISCA Office](#) in alignment with its mission, is expected to contribute to enhancing the effective participation of PAS research institutes in projects funded under Horizon Europe. To further facilitate this, PoISCA is actively engaged in establishing and reinforcing an informal support network tailored to scientists and research managers from PAS institutes within the framework of the EU research and innovation programme, with a particular emphasis on Horizon Europe.