SOCIO-BEE
Community for Change

HOW TO ORGANISE A CS PROJECT

used by:
(municipalities & beekeepers)

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STEP 1

Are you embarking on your own SOCIO-BEE Citizen Science project? To make it a success, follow this practical step-by-step guide!

STEP 1: REFLECT ON YOUR PROJECT

Before diving in, make sure you have a clear vision for your project and an understanding of the purpose and value of Citizen Science.

→DEFINE YOUR PROBLEM STATEMENT

Clearly articulate the challenge you want to explore. Ensure it's not too narrow or broad and can be addressed within a specific and manageable timeframe.

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STEP 1

→IS CITIZEN SCIENCE SUITABLE FOR THIS TYPE OF PROJECT?

Make sure that Citizen Science is the right type of research method for your project.

If you're not sure, try using the following 'decision tree' to see if Citizen Science would be suitable for your project – available here (pp. 15-17 in the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology's guide 'Choosing and Using Citizen Science').

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STEP 2

STEP 2: DEFINE THE PROJECT

If Citizen Science is a good fit for your project, it's time to build the foundations of your research.

→DEFINE THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES
Outline what your project aims to achieve. Consider objectives such as: contributing to research, raising awareness, or addressing social issues.

→ASSEMBLE THE PROJECT TEAM
Define the roles within the project (such as beekeepers, worker bees, and drone bees) and decide if tasks stay in-house or go external. For further information, please consult our guide on How to Identify Roles [ADD LINK].

→IDENTIFY PARTICIPANTS AND TARGET AUDIENCE

→CONSIDER PRIVACY AND ETHICAL ISSUES

For further information, please consult our guide on Data Protection & Ethics.

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STEP 3: DEVELOP THE PROJECT

Now it's time to shape the project!

→DETERMINE HOW PARTICIPANTS WILL COLLECT DATA

The more organised your volunteers are in gathering the data, the more credible your project will be. Plus, it'll be easier when sorting and cleaning up the data.

→ENSURE RELIABLE DATA COLLECTION AND DATA MANAGEMENT PROCESSES ARE IN PLACE

→DETERMINE HOW DATA WILL BE ANALYSED

→DETERMINE THE TECHNOLOGICAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROJECT AND THE MEASURING INSTRUMENTS

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STEP 3: DEVELOP THE PROJECT (cont.)

→ENSURE THAT YOUR PROJECT IS INCLUSIVE

For further information, please consult our guide on How to Check For Inclusivity.

→DEVELOP SUPPORT MATERIALS TO GUIDE THE PARTICIPANTS

→DEVELOP A COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT PLAN

For further information, please consult our guide on How to Communicate in a Citizen Science Project.

→CONDUCT A PILOT TEST

Test these materials with a small group for feedback and adjustments. Check out our project pilots in Greece, Spain, and Italy on our website.

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STEP 4

STEP 4: LAUNCH THE PROJECT

It's finally time to start the project!

→PROMOTE AND PUBLICISE YOUR PROJECT

→COLLECT THE DATA AND ESTABLISH A FEEDBACK LOOP

Keep the data flowing and maintain participant engagement.

→COMMUNICATE AND MAINTAIN ENGAGEMENT WITH CITIZENS THROUGHOUT

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