

GEO VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM 2021

Citizen Science Toolkit for SDG 14 & 15 CitSci-SDGs Toolkit

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International Institute for
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TRENDS

Thematic Research Network
on Data and Statistics

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Why the CitSci-SDG toolkit?

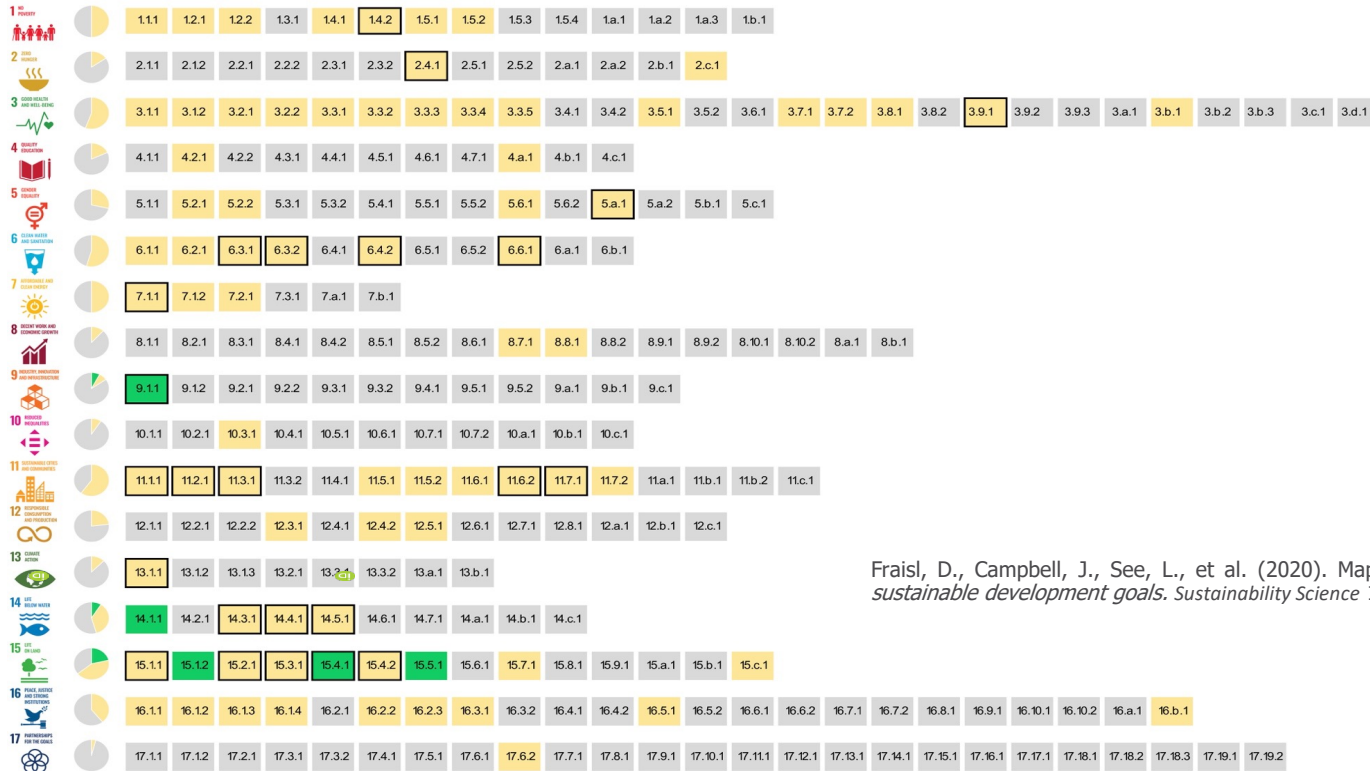
Problem:

- 58 per cent of the environmental SDG indicators lack data;
- Only one-third of countries are on track to achieve their national target to integrate biodiversity into national planning;
- NSOs face increasing demands for data from users, declining budgets, and rising costs for data collection.

Solution:

- Planning and monitoring efforts can only be done, where relevant, timely, and high-quality data exist;
- **Citizen Science: public participation in scientific research and knowledge production.**

Why SDG 14 & 15 and why now?



Fraisl, D., Campbell, J., See, L., et al. (2020). Mapping citizen science contributions to the UN sustainable development goals. *Sustainability Science* 15 1735-1751. [10.1007/s11625-020-00833-7](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-020-00833-7).

The SDG indicators where citizen science projects are “already contributing” (in green), “could contribute” (in yellow) or where there is “no alignment” (in grey). The overall citizen science contributions to each SDG are summarized as pie charts. Black borders around indicators show the overlap between citizen science and EO, as identified by GEO ([2017](#))

CitSci-SDG Toolkit will demonstrate the value of citizen science data and impact for achieving the SDGs. The toolkit will showcase citizen science data sets, tools, best practices and resources, and promote their use by providing support to countries, initially for SDG 14 & 15.

Target audience and key contributors

Target Audience:

- National Statistics Offices (NSOs) and governments;
- UN and other international organizations and relevant global initiatives (e.g. InterAgency Expert Group on SDG Indicators, Paris 21, etc.);
- GEO community and the broader data and stats communities;
- NGOs, grassroots communities and interested citizens; and
- Citizen science practitioners and researchers.

Key Contributors:



Future Prospects - what can the CitSci-SDG Toolkit achieve?

- High quality data sets, tools, case studies, evidence and guidance to monitor indicators in SDG 14 and 15;
- Increased use of citizen science data for official SDG monitoring and reporting purposes – Citizen Science for the SDGs project in Ghana;
- More countries with the capacity to monitor indicators in SDG 14 and 15, openly accepting this non-traditional form of data within their monitoring systems.



Resources & Support

Resources:

- In-kind contributions from IIASA, SDSN TReNDS and participants;
- Additional resources and funding will be sought through the networks of both organizations, and participants;
- Leverage existing capacities and focuses on streamlining existing programmes and funding schemes.

Support Needed:

- Administrative support from the GEO Secretariat/EO4SDG;
- Additional support in the form of fund raising for promotion, communication and dissemination of the toolkit



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Thank You!

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Collaborate and communicate with GEO:

