



Mobilising citizen science in support of health research and health services provision

Anna Berti Suman



PADOVA
SCIENCE,
TECHNOLOGY
AND INNOVATION
STUDIES



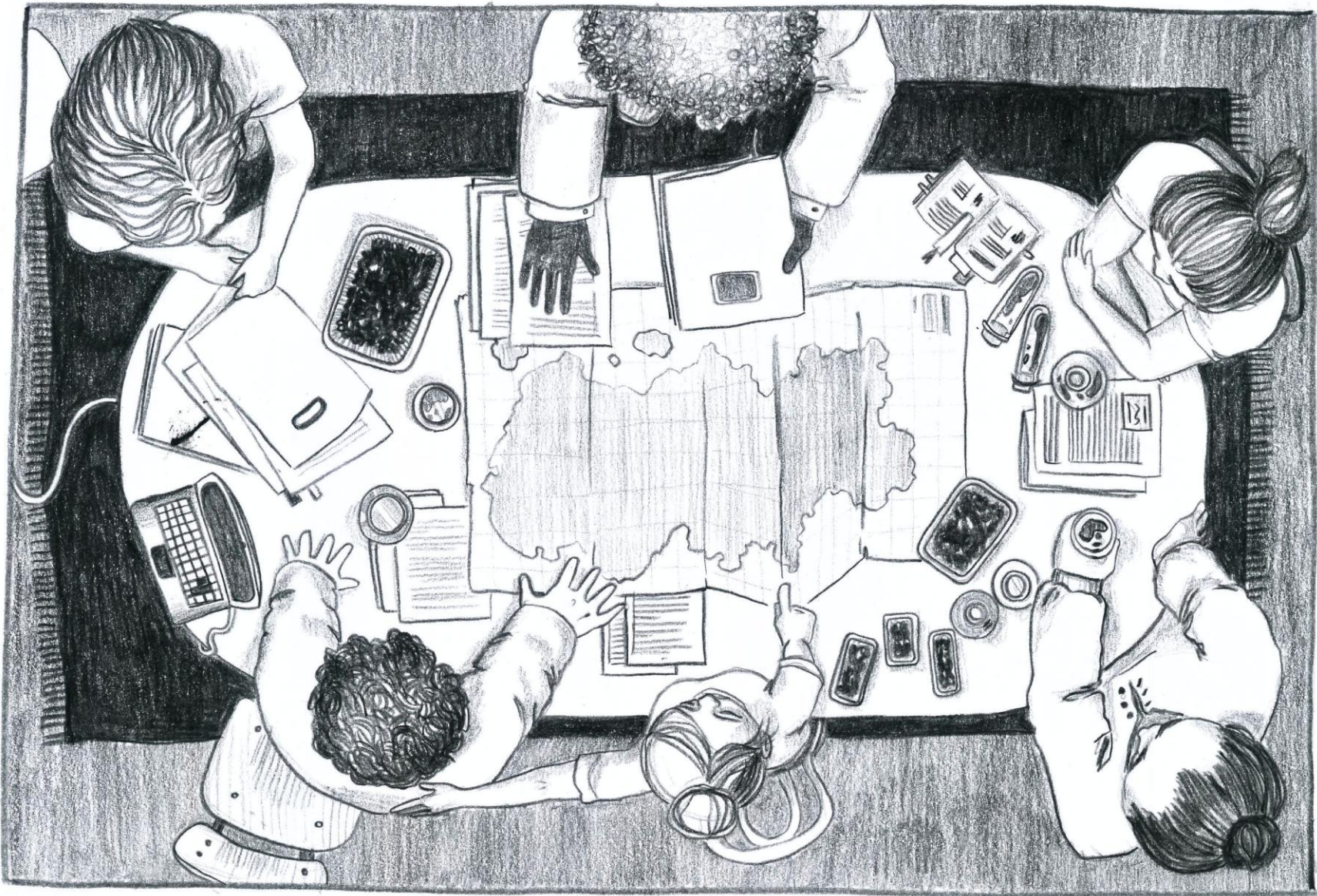
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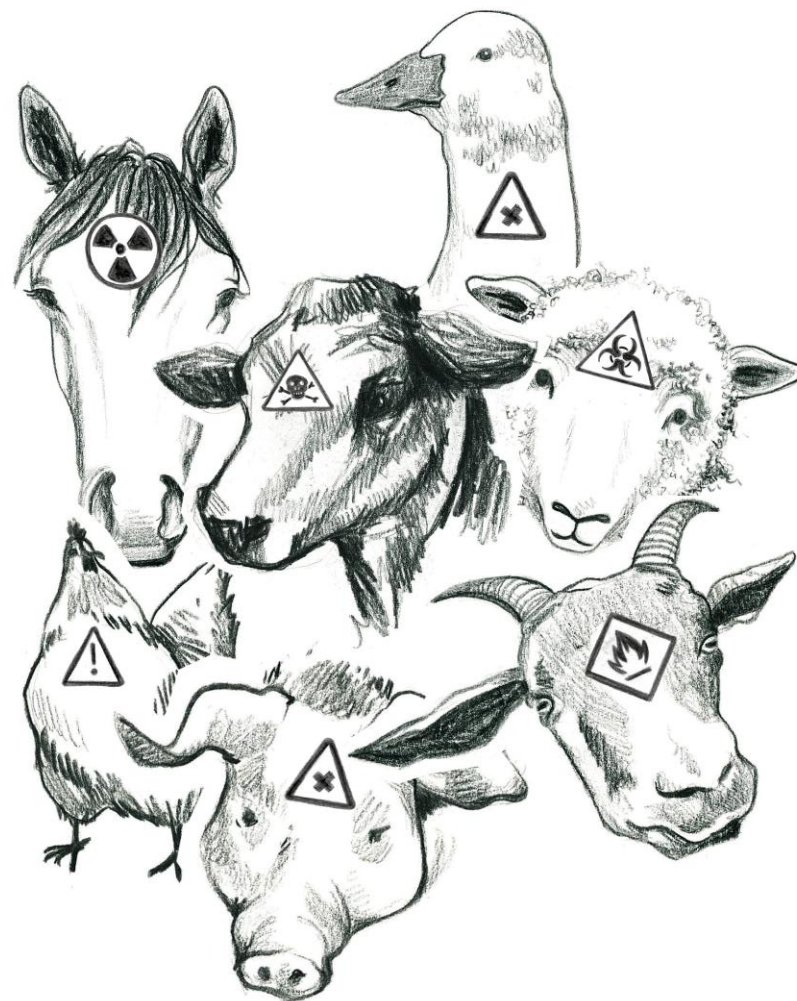
1 A few words on my passion

How did I discover the charming field of citizen science











REGIONE BASILICATA

PROVINCIA DI POTENZA

PROVINCIA DI MATERA

LUCANS
LUCANIA • AMBIENTE E SALUTE



LUCAS

Agorà

19 MAGGIO 2025

Ore 16:30

MELFI

“Sala Consiliare”

SALUTI ISTITUZIONALI

Giuseppe **MAGLIONE** - Sindaco di Melfi

Laura **MONGIELLO** - Assessore Ambiente e Transizione energetica Regione Basilicata

INTRODUZIONE

Michele **BUSCIOLANO** - Responsabile Esecutivo Progetto Lucas

INTERVENTI

Rosa Anna **CIFARELLI** - Responsabile Scientifica Progetto Lucas

Enzo **ALLIEGRO** - Ordinario di antropologia, Università di Napoli Federico II, Fondazione Ambiente Ricerca Basilicata - FARBAS

EPIDEMIOLOGIA GEOGRAFICA E SORVEGLIANZA EPIDEMIOLOGICA NEL PROGETTO LUCAS. PRIMA FASE: I QUESITI DI RICERCA

Annibale **BIGGERI** - Professore di statistica medica, Università di Padova, Componente CTS Progetto Lucas

IL RUOLO DI ASP NEL PROGETTO LUCAS

Pier Luigi **GIGLIUCCI** - Direttore Generale f.f. ASP Potenza

DIBATTITO

CONCLUSIONI

Cosimo **LATRONICO** - Assessore Salute, Politiche per la Persona e PNRR Regione Basilicata

MODERA: Tommi **GUERRIERI** - Giornalista

20 MAGGIO 2025

Ore 16:30

ROTONDELLA

“Palazzo Ricciardulli”

SALUTI ISTITUZIONALI

Gianluca **PALAZZO** - Sindaco di Rotondella

Laura **MONGIELLO** - Assessore Ambiente e Transizione energetica Regione Basilicata

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2 So what is citizen science?

In search of a definition, blurring concepts





3 TYPES OF CITIZEN SCIENCE

CONTRIBUTORY CITIZEN SCIENCE

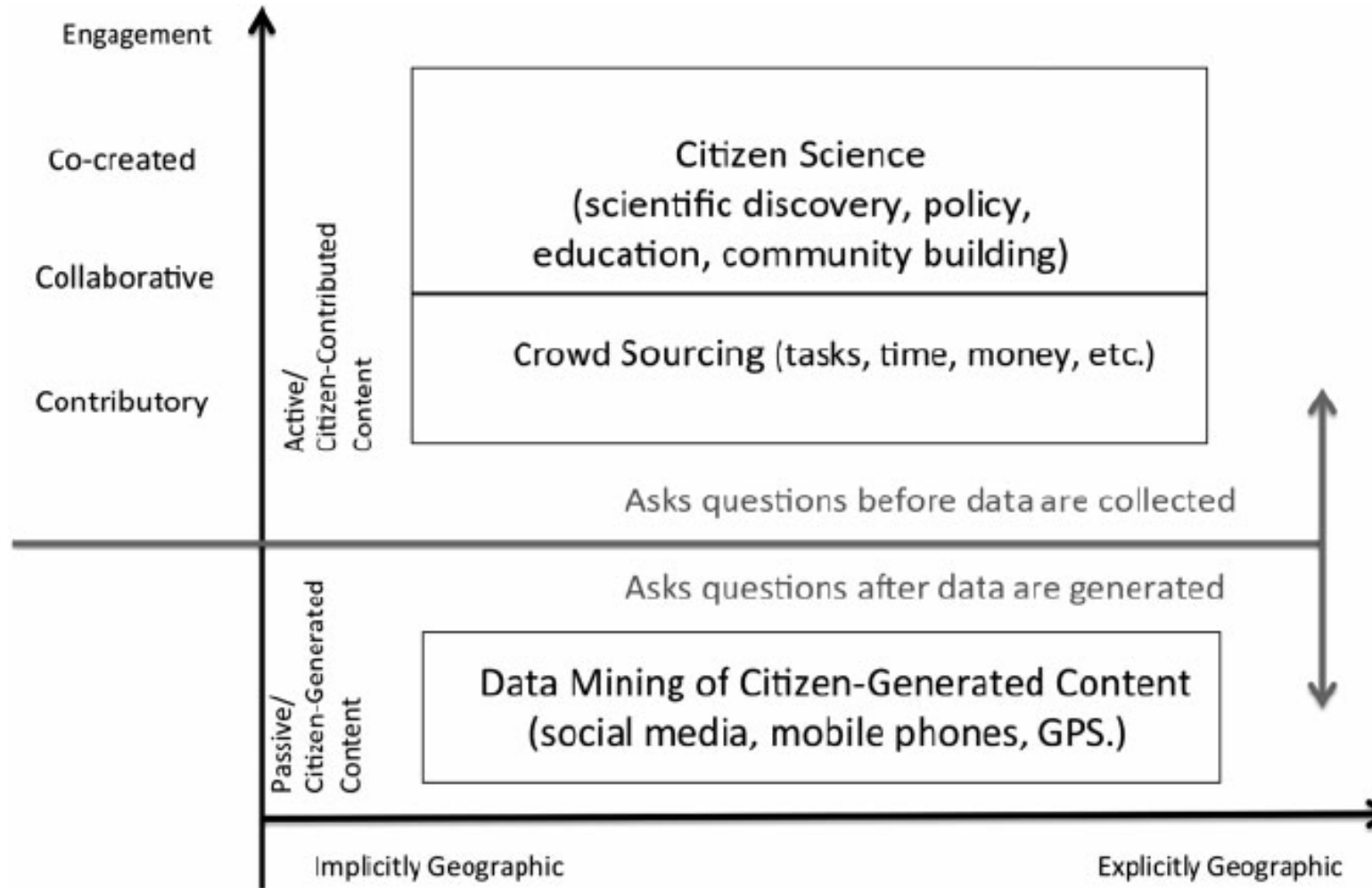
In this type, participants collect data following specific protocols provided by scientists. Examples include birdwatching, water quality testing, or recording observations of wildlife.

COLLABORATIVE CITIZEN SCIENCE

This involves collaboration between scientists and volunteers throughout the research process, from project design to data analysis. Participants may engage in brainstorming, decision-making, and problem-solving alongside scientists.

CO-CREATED CITIZEN SCIENCE

In co-created projects, scientists and citizens collaborate as equal partners to define research questions, design methodologies, and interpret results. This approach emphasizes shared ownership of the research process and fosters mutual learning and understanding between scientists and the public.



Craglia, Max & Shanley, Lea. (2015). Data democracy: Increased supply of geospatial information and expanded participatory processes in the production of data. *International Journal of Digital Earth*. 8. 1-15.
10.1080/17538947.2015.1008214.



Comparing

Goals and environment	5C's	Levels of participation
	Consulting	
Conservation/Investigation/ Virtual/Education	Contributory	Crowdsourcing/ Distributed Intelligence
(Conservation/ Investigation)	Collaborative	
(Conservation)	Co-created	Participatory
Action	Collegial	Extreme Citizen Science





Environmental citizen science	Civic environmental monitoring	Civilian science and civilian monitoring
The practice in which non-professional participants contribute to data collection and in some cases data analysis to advance research in the environmental field.¹ <u>It always entails a scientific component</u> (e.g., systematic observations) and may be supported by professional scientists. Context: <u>peacetime</u>. <i>Note:</i> the reference to ‘citizenship’ is detached from its legal definition being rather a synonymous of ‘people’.	The use by ordinary people of monitoring devices such as sensors or their senses such as smell to detect environmental issues.² <u>It may or not entail a scientific component</u> (e.g., anecdotal observations). Context: <u>peacetime</u>.	The application of citizen science and civic monitoring methodologies to record and report environmental impacts caused by AC.³ <u>It includes both systematic data collection and analysis, and non-systematic observations</u> (e.g., based on personal stories or individual experiences). Context: <u>both during and after an AC</u>.

¹ Muki Haklay et al., ‘What Is Citizen Science? The Challenges of Definition’ in Katrin Vohland et al. (eds), *The Science of Citizen Science* (Springer 2021).

² Anna Berti Suman, *Civic Monitoring for Environmental Law Enforcement* (Edward Elgar 2024).

³ Doug Weir, Dan McQuillan & Robert Francis, ‘Civilian science: the potential of participatory environmental monitoring in areas affected by AC’ (2019) 191 *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment* 618.



3 Citizen science in health research

How the practice is contributing to patients' engagement, knowledge production and community-based research





**European
Citizen Science
Association**

**Working
Group**

Citizen science for health

Health is relatively under-represented in citizen science, despite the fact that it is a very diverse and promising domain. Projects and approaches may range from applications in the domain of public health, to personal science approaches associated with the Quantified Self movement, and every shade in between. At the same time, the engagement of patients in health research has a long tradition, even though their impact on e.g. decision making on research questions, methodology, ethics, analysis and data management remain limited so far. Citizen Science has a huge potential contribute to innovative health research, as well as to society.

This Working Group believes that to unlock this potential there is a need to collaborate more intensely across borders and domains. The purpose of the Working Group is hence *to increase the social and scientific impact of citizen science for health*. Its main objectives are:

1. To create a community of stakeholders dedicated to promoting and developing Citizen Science for health by fostering dialogue and collaboration them
2. To develop and disseminate tools, methods, ethical frameworks and training material for CS4H
3. To enhance the visibility and potential of CS projects in the health domain



Citizen Science for Mental Health

We want to identify the ways individuals manage their mental health challenges, by generating a list of self-management strategies that can enable better support in the future.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO ANSWER

*"How do people manage
their mental health
challenges?"*

TO PARTICIPATE YOU MUST BE

- 18 years or older
- Resident in the United Kingdom

SCAN FOR MORE DETAILS



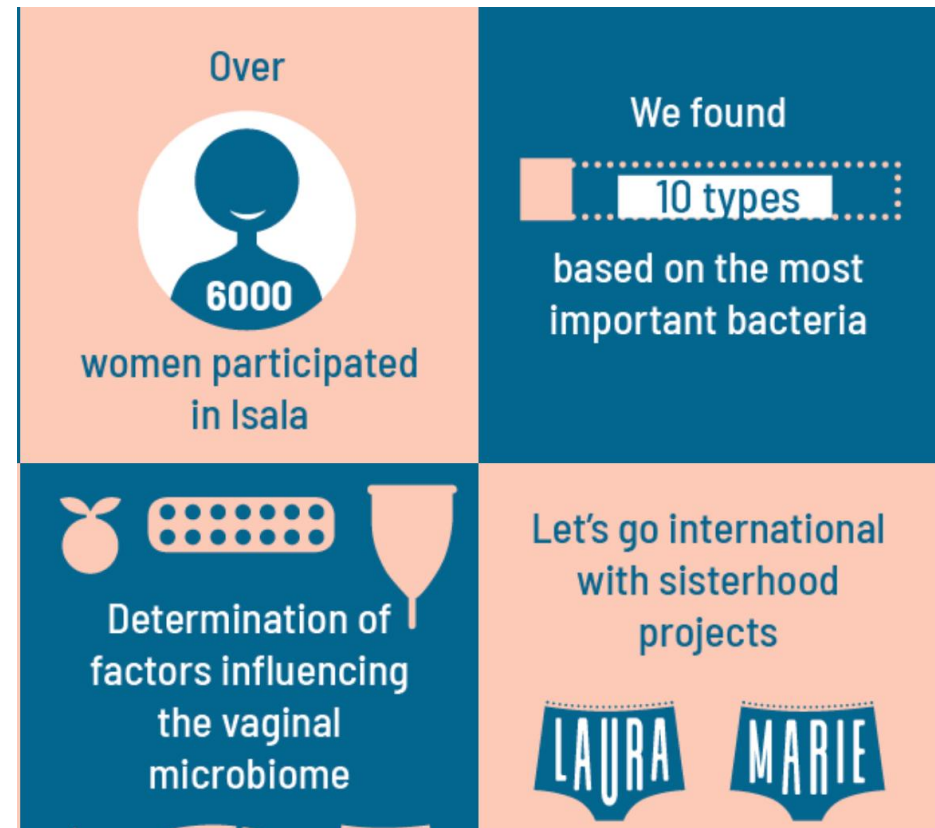
WHAT YOU WILL DO

Choose from a list,
methods you use to
manage your mental
health.

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR MAILING LIST



The project has been funded by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI).

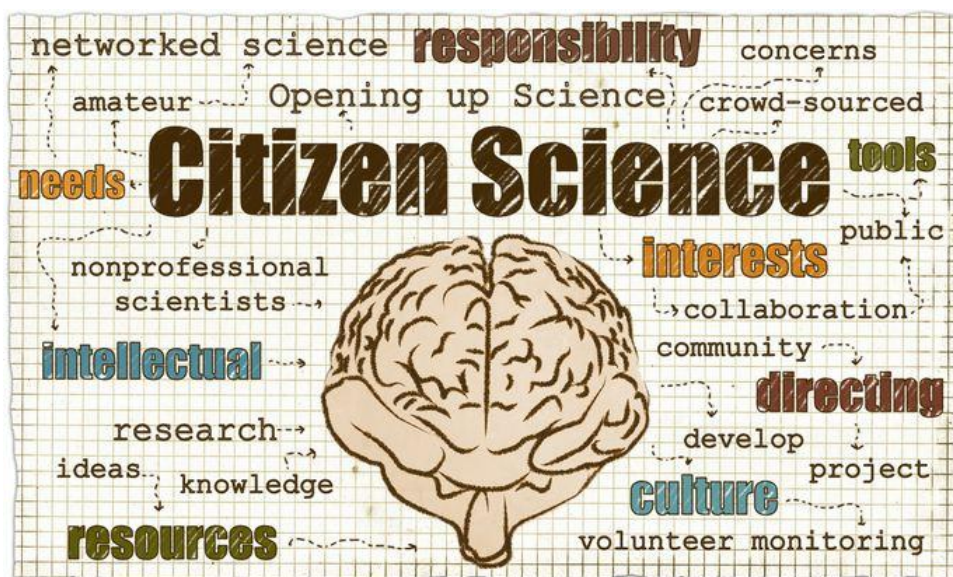




Ethical principles



Ethics belong to everyone involved in citizen science



7 GDPR PRINCIPLES



Lawfulness, fairness and transparency

Lawful: Have a legal basis for processing. Comply with general statutes and common law obligations.

Fair: Personal data use must align with data subjects' expectations.

Transparent: Inform data subjects about data collection and usage.



Purpose limitation

Limit personal data use to what's reasonable and necessary for the purpose.



Data minimisation

Minimise the personal data collection to what is necessary.



Accuracy

Keep your database updated and correct.



Storage limitation

Personal data should not be kept longer than necessary.



Integrity and confidentiality

Implement security safeguards to protect personal data from breaches.



Accountability

Document your privacy efforts to demonstrate GDPR compliance.

Source:

<https://www.cookieyes.com/blog/gdpr-principles/>



European Data Protection Law Review > Volume 4 (2018), Issue 3 > Pages 284 - 295



Challenges for Citizen Science and the EU Open Science Agenda under the GDPR

open-access

Anna Berti Suman, Robin Pierce

DOI <https://doi.org/10.21552/edpl/2018/3/7>

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Keywords: Citizen Science, Open Science, GDPR, secondary use of health data, research exemption

Full Text (PDF)

Full Text (HTML)





4 Citizen science for health service provision

Exploring data altruism, personalization from below and related challenges





The ‘Cochrane Crowd’, a Citizen Science initiative aimed at categorizing and summarising healthcare evidence in order to ‘make better healthcare decisions’.





Cochrane
Crowd

You can make a difference
Help us curate and deliver health evidence

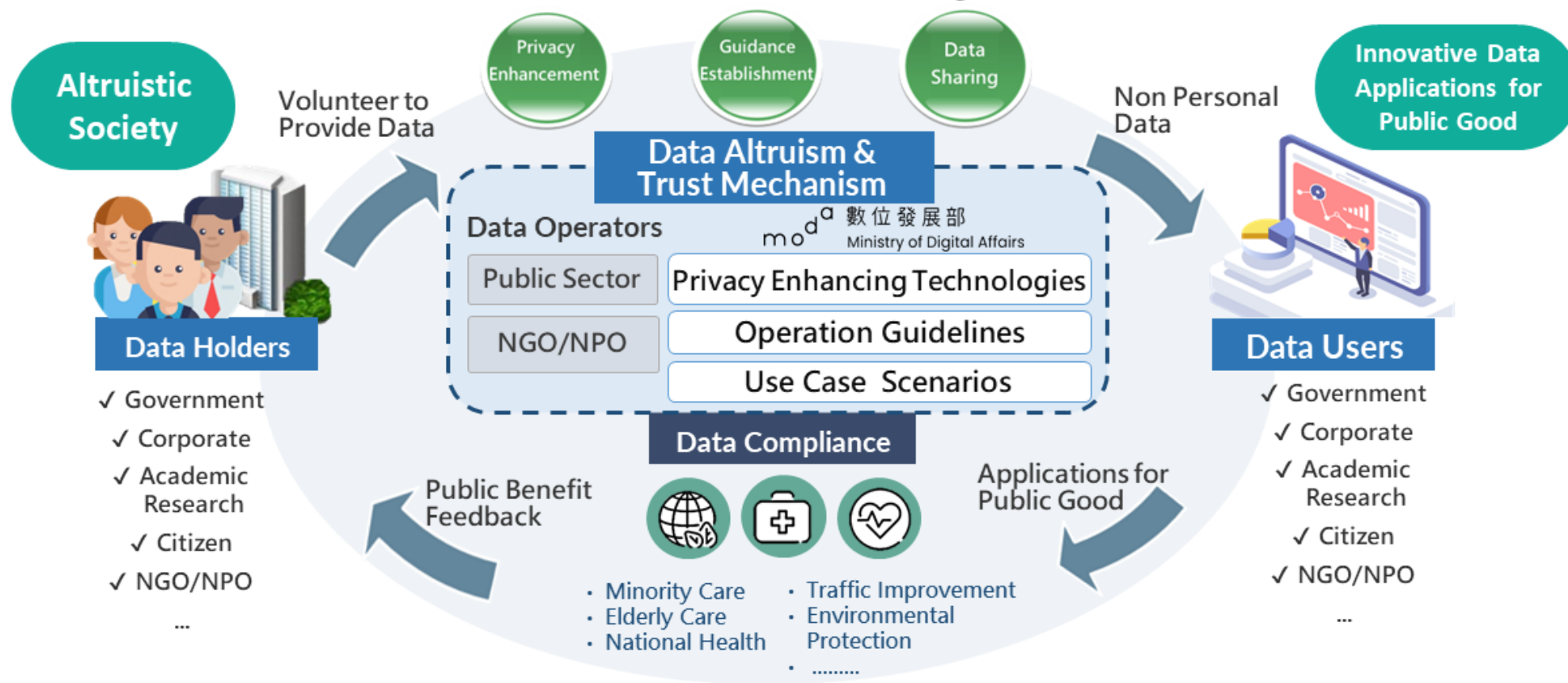
crowd.cochrane.org
@cochrane_crowd | crowd@cochrane.org

Free, aware, actual consent?





Data Altruism Ecosystem





SALUS.COOP

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[Projectes](#)

[Col·labora](#)

[Com funciona](#) ▾

[FAQs](#)

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SALUS.COOP som una **cooperativa de donants de dades per a la recerca per al Bé Comú.**

La recerca ens permet generar informació que un cop analitzada esdevé l'evidència necessària per a la presa de decisions. Des de Salus.Coop **impulsem la recerca com a vehicle de transformació social.**

Les dades són el nou patrimoni personal i social. L'ús que en fem és **determinant a l'hora de dibuixar el mapa de la realitat que ens envolta.** Per això des de Salus.Coop treballem cada dia per a **garantir l'anonimat i l'impacte social positiu dels projectes als quals nodreixen.**

A través de l'App Salus.Coop connectem donants i recercaires de forma segura: **el control és del donant, les dades són anònimes i el recercaire només accedeix al que s'indica a l'acord, que és senzill i transparent.**



Thank you for your attention. Questions?

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sensing_for_justice
persona.pd



pastis-research.eu

