

EyeOnWater Citizen science for water quality

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About citizen science

- Involving and empowering the citizen in science
- Interesting additional resource of data
- More and more initiatives pop-up
- Great way to involve and inform the public
- But:
 - Still "under-used" by research organisations
 - Quality doubts
 - Difficult to sustain, both financially as in effort
- So, it needs attention to grow.



From: Advancing Citizen Science for Coastal and Ocean Research - Scientific Figure on ResearchGate. Available from:

https://www.researchgate.net/Factors-of-successin-Citizen-Science-projects_fig4_317179474 [accessed 7 Nov, 2018]



1. Background EyeOnWater

- Via observation satellites and local monitoring stations researchers monitor seas and inland waters.
- Long term data collections can be used by researchers and water managers to analyse changes in the field of a.o. marine pollution, climate change, etc.
- Regular monitoring is now being extended more and more with data collected via citizens and others. EyeOnWater concept developed for water color, recently expanded with kit for PH, Nitrate, other phenomena (waterplants, biodiversity).
- Supplies a bridge between science, government and citizens.



www.Citclops.eu





2. Concept EyeOnWater-Color

- Measuring the color of water has taken place since 1889 from ships using the Forel-Uleschale. Nowadays remote sensing provides an additional resource.
- Result from long term analysis of Forel-Ule data: Some seas and oceans get more blue (less phytoplankton), others get greener (more phytoplankton), with a different pattern over time.
- Via the EOW app as much as possible color data will be collected of natural waters by the public to increase our insight and understanding of trends worldwide.
- Concept: Collect data, store, validate, and share





3. Technical developments EOW V1





Website



Services





3.1 EyeOnWater app

- The EyeOnWater-color App makes use of the 21 colors in the Forel-Ule scale.
- Observation proces:
 - Measure: Take an image of the water following in-app instructions
 - Compare: Color in image with FU color
 - Add information: Clouds? Bottom?
 - Send: Data will be sent to central server including metadata from the smartphone like date/time, GPS-location, lighting, angle, etc.
 - Validate: Go to <u>www.eyeonwater.org</u> and compare with others.
 Also automatic validation on server





3.2 EyeOnWater V1 website

- <u>www.eyeonwater.org</u> is the central portal where all concepts are shown and all data is stored and published.
- Overview of alle observations (Color: history and app data)
- Selection in time, request details per observation, downloadable.
- Via connection of app to an EOW account user get a personal experience (view own data, ranking)
- Two validations:
 - Validation on import (WACODI using RGB analysis to compare with FU value)
 - Validation by other users via flagging of suspicious observations (emails image to expert)





Current data coverage



Active regions – Casco bay



Active region - Borneo





3.3 EyeOnWater V1 services

Current services

- Personal experience:
 - Account with nickname and email address (we know the users do not use this yet)
 - Ranking
 - Could allow contact between users Community feeling
- Data download service:
 - All data is public
 - Downloadable "as is", in CSV format with images via URL's
- Data sharing services:
 - WMS/WFS available for full dataset







4. Recent expansions



- Establish network of citizen scientists to make observations are scientifically important.
- Target groups in locations where there is a paucity of in situ observations.
- Use the project to increase scientific knowledge in the citizen scientists communities.
- Adopt and expands the EyeOnWater concept.
- CSIRO will use these observations in monitoring water quality, calibrating satellite images & reporting on the state of the aquatic environment.







Eye on Water Australia water quality & chemistry kit

Parameters measured:

- Secchi depth
- Dissolved oxygen & Biological Oxygen Demand
- Phosphate
- Nitrate
- Ammonia
- Water Colour
- Acidity
- Alkalinity
- Hardness
- CO₂
- Turbidity
- pH
- Temperature

Chlorophyll and Phycocanin concentration* When participants borrow Aqualab flurometer







The challenge of *in situ* monitoring



Optical methods could support other monitoring efforts

- Systematic
- Repeatable
- Complements existing *in situ* programs and sensor networks
- Gap filling...



Use case: 2016 Murray River bloom



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Calenda



Driven by colour - information in spectral reflectance







Engaging citizen scientists – target group



CSIRO's Teacher Researcher in Partnership program (TRiPP)

- First trial in Canberra then roll out nationally
- Teacher developed curriculum to integrate
 EoW measurements into a biodiversity and ecology unit for year 9 & 10 students.





Engaging citizen scientists – target groups

KIMBERLEY RANGER NETWORK

HOME > LAND & SEA > KIMBERLEY RANGER NETWORK













CSIRC

Results EOW Australia data







- Capture "phenomena" waterplant nuisance by sailors
- Logical citizen science option
 - Targets a clear audience (sailors)
 - Citizen has a problem (waterplant nuisance, feeling they are neglected by government)
 - Communication need (government to sailors and v.v.)
 - Government, developers, domain experts and public involved
- Result
 - Many observations during summer
 - Next step: Government to adjust their mowing and inform the public





Source: NH Nieuws

Waterplantmelder (Waterplant warning)

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OVERZICHT MELDINGEN



HOME

OVERLAST

Overzicht meldingen

Alle meldingen van gebruikers en beheerders worden direct

Waterplant gezien?

Waterplanten kunnen voor overlast zorgen voor waterrecreanten en watersporters. Met uw hulp kunnen we in kaart brengen op welke plaatsen in het IJsselmeergebied⁺ (IJsselmeer, Markermeer, IJmeer, Randmeren) waterplanten voor overlast zorgen. Heeft u overlast van waterplanten in het IJsselmeergebied? Laat ons dan weten waar dat is!

MELDING MAKEN

ONTWIKKELINGEN

*De Waterplantmelder is in eerste instantie voor het registreren van meldingen in het IJsselmeergebied. Mogelijk dat deze later wordt uitgebreid voor andere gebieden.

MELDING MAKEN

Download de app

De waterplanten app is beschikbaar in de Apple App Store en de Google Play Store Klik op een van de buttons hieronder om direct Waterplantmelder observations



Waterplantmelder observations



DOWNLOAD DE APP

Waterplantmelder observations





5. Take home message for marine citizen science

- Marine research should explore uptake and use
- Target well the right audience. Best result via existing communities: Rangers, schools, nature conservation volunteers. (just shooting with a canon does not work)
- Build a community!
- Create an incentive. Make sure you have something to offer in return.
- Perform research on the best use of citizen data, on top of existing.
- Do not forget the business side: Who will pay for the services after project end.
- We will keep looking for concept upgrades, expansions and uptake of data.

Time for questions



Contact us for collaboration, and follow us via: <u>www.eyeonwater.org</u>



EyeOnWater



The EyeOnWater website and adjacent free Apps help you to assess the Colour and Clarity of natural waters



EyeOnWater - A visualisation of scientific data shared by the community

People have always been interested in observing their surroundings. Whereas observation satellites and in-situ measuring stations are set up to monitor vast areas of ocean coastlines, this can now be complemented by EOW Colour, Clarity and Sea Lettuce (Ulva) observations carried out by citizens. Data will be used by scientists (oceanographers, limnologists) and water authorities for statistical and long-term analysis in conjunction with climate research.

Join the community, download the apps:





Colour

The EyeOnWater colour app helps us to classify rivers, lakes, coastal waters, seas and oceanc on it colour (it can be used over both fresh and saline natural waters). The observations via the app are an extension of a long term (over 100 years) set of

water colour observations made by scientists in the past. You can view them all together in this map application. If you have contributed yourself, do not forget to login for a more personal experience.

Clarity

Clarity observations are usually done by Secchi Disk, lowering a white disk in the water and measuring to what depth it is still visible. EyeOnWater has collected a large dataset of observations from the past, and this set has been extended by citizens



and volunteer measurements contributed via the EyeOnWater app.





Developed by:

Our app



www.eyeonwater.org

A visualisation of scientific data collected and shared by the community