

REPORT

CITIZEN SCIENCE DAY, Brussels, Saturday December 1st, 2018



1. Table of contents

2. INTRODUCTION	3
3. MAIN STATISTICS ABOUT THE PARTICIPANTS.....	4
4. SUMMARY OF THE FEEDBACK FROM THE PARTICIPANTS – SURVEY AND ACKNOWLEDGENTS	5
5. PICTURES.....	6
6. LIST OF SPEAKERS AND TALKS AT THE CITIZEN SCIENCE DAY.....	7
7. POSTER « CITIZEN SCIENCES (CS) AT THE RBINS : RECENT AND RECURRENT COLLABORATION ».....	8
8. SURVEY SUBMITTED TO THE PARTICIPANTS	9

2. Introduction

The Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS) has an extensive and well established collaboration with volunteers in almost all its directorates (Taxonomy & Phylogeny, Public Services, Natural Environment, Scientific Heritage Service, Earth and History of Life). The nature of the activities of the «Citizen Scientists» (CSts) is really varied. With their help, the RBINS complements the lack of expertise in some research fields. They also valorize the scientific collections by studying them, as a result improving collection management of the collections and their accessibility.

The goal of the « Citizen Science Day » was two fold: 1) highlight the work of the volunteers during a day of meeting and sharing experiences and 2) To show the diversity of projects, types of collaborations and areas of research that they contribute to within the Institute. They were invited to attend presentations and to exchange on their practices, expectations and wishes during a lunch, a movie and finally a cocktail.

3. Main statistics about the participants

In total 64 persons attended the « Citizen Science Day » on the 88 registered. Among them, 37 were Dutch speakers (58%) and 27 were French speakers (42%). Moreover, 30 % of the participants were women.

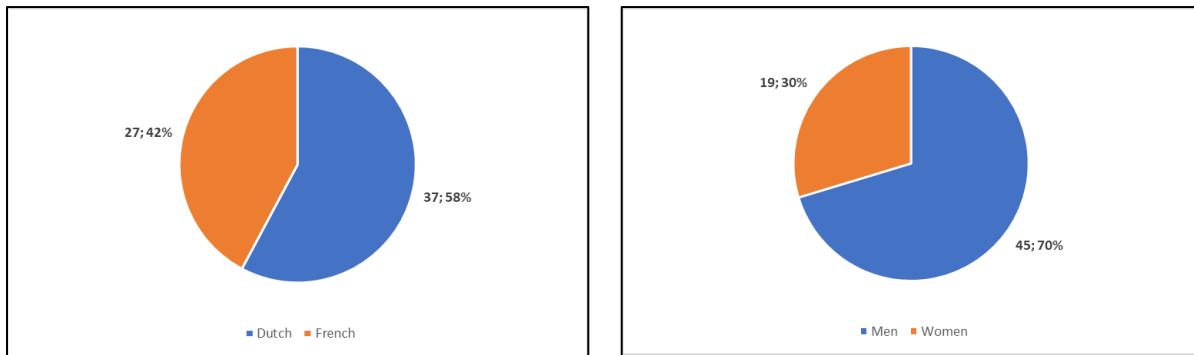


Figure 1 : Number of participants by language spoken and gender.

A survey was submitted to the participants during the breaks and 23 forms were collected. Among them, 14 were Dutch speakers (61%) and 9 were French speakers (39%). Moreover, 17 % of the participants who completed the survey were women. The majority of the participants who completed the survey are more than 50 years old.

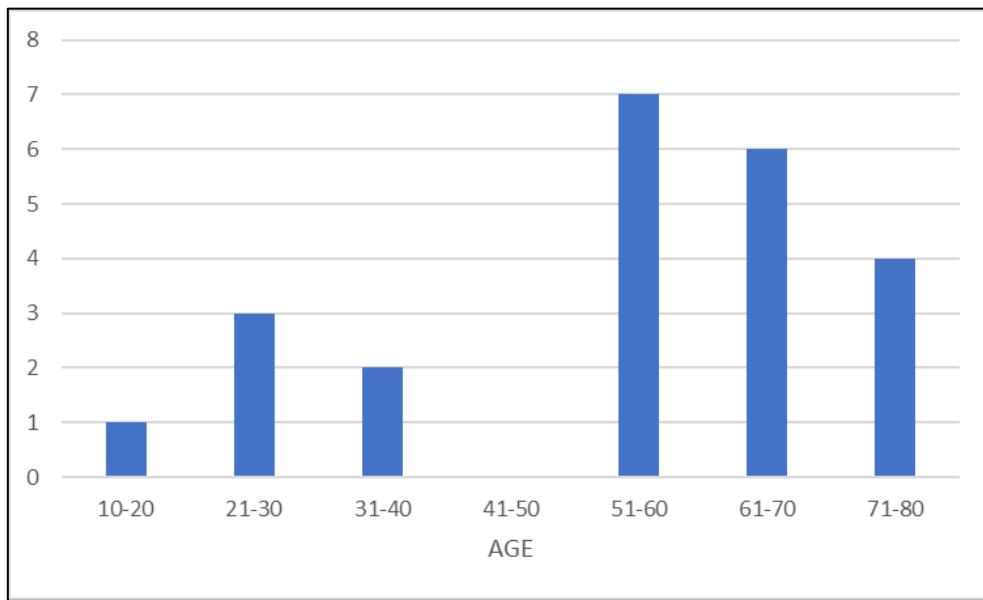


Figure 2 : Age of the participants who completed the survey.

4. Summary of the feedback from the participants – Survey and acknowledgments

A survey was submitted to the participants. To the question « **What is your link with the Institute ?** », 14 participants have responded volunteer, 5 scientific collaborator of the Institute and 4 « other » (SRBM, SBM, LidKBVC). The majority of them are in link with the Institute since less than 10 years, but 4 participants have been working with the Institute for more than 20 years (and 3 between 10 and 20 years). Among them, 48% are member of a company or an association hosted by the Institute. These companies and associations are :

- Société royale belge d'Entomologie / Koninklijke Belgische Vereniging voor Entomologie
- Société Royale Belge de Malacologie (SRBM)
- KBVE
- KBVC

To the question « **Did you like this Citizen Science Day ?** », all of them have responded « **YES** ». The main reasons why they appreciated the Citizen Science Day were :

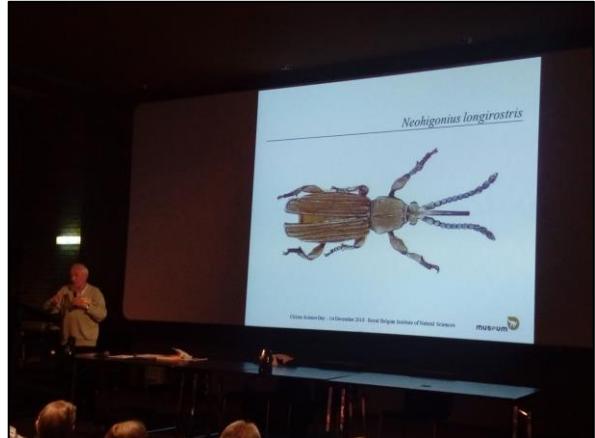
- the quality and the variety of the presentations ;
- the food provided ;
- the projection of the movie « Giants of the Antarctic Deep » ;
- the possibility to know and meet the other volunteers.

To the question « **Would you find it useful to repeat this type of event?** », all of them have responded « **YES** ». Thirteen of the participants want to have this type of event every 2 years, 8 of them once a year, and 2 of them twice a year.

To the question « **Do you have any suggestions or remarks about the organization and the event ?** », the participants have responded :

- good organisation ;
- one participant proposes to do the presentations in English to attract more people;
- make more advertising to attract more new volunteers ;
- have the possibility to visit the laboratories ;
- the presentations were longer than expected ;
- offer a breakfast for the participants who did a long journey to come ;
- be more varied in the subjects (for example, any presentation on the paleontology) ;
- lack of information about how to become a volunteer, the contact persons and how to consult the collections.

5. Pictures



6. List of speakers and talks at the Citizen Science Day

LIST OF SPEAKERS AND TALKS AT THE CITIZEN SCIENCE DAY 1 DECEMBER 2018

09:30 Welcome & Coffee

10:00 – 10:15 "Welkomstwoord - Mot de bienvenue" door/par Thierry Backeljau

10:15 – 10:30 "Taxonomie van Phasmatodea (wandelende takken en aanverwanten)"
door Joachim Bresseel

10:35 – 10:50 "IRSNB et membres de la Société Royale Belge de Malacologie - un partenariat malacologique fructueux" par Christiane Delongueville, Roland Houart et Roland Scaillet

10:55 – 11:10 "De Koninklijke Belgische Vereniging voor Conchyliologie en KBIN, een duet" door Nathal Severijns

11:15 – 11:35 Coffee break (VIP room)

11:40 – 12:10 "Une seconde vie" par Jacques Goossens & "Une partie de mon temps libre"
par Nicole Maes

12:15 – 12:30 "Onderzoek naar fraude en vervalsingen met schelpen en schelpgerelateerde objecten in natuur - en kunsthistorische collecties" door Roland De Prins

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 13:45 "Du fond de la mer au fond du conservatoire" par Alex Vanhaelen

13:50 – 14:05 "Digitalisatie van collecties door vrijwilligers van Binco" door Martijn Van Roie

14:10 – 14:25 "XperiBird: un project scientifique qui donne des ailes aux écoles" par Kristina Articus

14:30 – 14:50 Coffee break (VIP room)

15:00 – 16:00 Projection du film / Vertoning van de film "Giants of the Antarctic Deep" (version anglaise non sous-titrée / Engelse versie zonder ondertitels) ou visite libre au museum / of vrij bezoek aan het museum

16:00 – 18:00 Cocktail/Receptie !



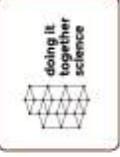
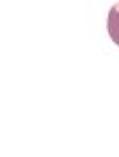
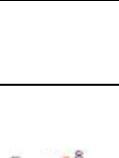
7. Poster « Citizen Sciences (CS) at the RBINS : Recent and recurrent collaboration »

CITIZEN SCIENCES (CS) AT THE RBINS : RECENT AND RECURRENT COLLABORATION :

The Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS) has an extensive and well-established collaboration with volunteers in almost all its directorates (Zoology & Phylogeny, Public Health, Natural Environment, Scientific Heritage, Service Sector, Earth and History of Life).

The nature of the activities of the «Citizen Science» (CS) is highly varied. With their help, the RBINS complements the lack of manpower in some research fields. They also reinforce the scientific collections by studying them in a direct, temporary way, collecting management and accessibility of the collections.

This poster shows some of the most recent projects where the CS's are active and how important their role is to the RBINS.

COLLECTIONS / INSTITUTIONS	DESCRIPTION	RECENT PROJECTS	CONTACT
MOLLUSCOLOGY - INSTITUTE OF LIFE	Contribution to Taxonomy Study and analysis of shell related objects and shells		For more information, please write us at: citizen_science_rbins@rbins.be
ENTOMOLOGY	Contribution to Taxonomy Study and analysis of insects and related objects		
ZOOLOGY & PHYLLOGENY	Contribution to Taxonomy Study and analysis of vertebrates		
BIOLOGICAL MONITORING CENTER	Contribution to Pollinators and Wildlife Citizen collecting small specimens, studying them and sending the results, studying specimens from the RBINS collection online on their website, and in collaboration with the RBINS		
PUBLIC AWARNESS	Collecting geological data and samples from temporary exhibits Citizen collecting information about temporary exhibits which will be included in new buildings or modules, make a description of the outcome to be included in the RBINS website , and make contact with the RBINS for the collection.		
Herbarium	Contribution to herbarium preparation and restoration of herbarium specimens Citizen collecting plant specimens as well as spores from the RBINS collection. Part of the newest collection is made available at RBINS website .		
Botany	Contribution to herbarium preparation and restoration of herbarium specimens Citizen collecting plant specimens as well as spores from the RBINS collection. Part of the newest collection is made available at RBINS website .		
ETHNOBOTANY	Contribution to Ethnobotany Citizen collecting traditional knowledge and practices with the intention of sharing them with the RBINS		
ETHNOLOGY	Contribution to Ethnology Citizen collecting traditional knowledge and practices with the intention of sharing them with the RBINS		
PHOTOGRAPHY	Contribution to Photography Citizen collecting photographs of plants and animals		
SCIENTIFIC HERITAGE	Contribution to Scientific Heritage Citizen collecting historical objects		
WORLD HERITAGE	Contribution to World Heritage Citizen collecting historical documents		
SCIENTIFIC LIBRARIES	Contribution to Scientific Libraries Citizen collecting books and documents		
SCIENTIFIC HERITAGE	Contribution to Scientific Heritage Citizen collecting historical documents		
SCIENTIFIC HERITAGE	Contribution to Scientific Heritage Citizen collecting historical documents		
COLLECTOR'S CLUB	Contribution to Collector's Club Citizen collecting historical documents		
COLLECTOR'S CLUB	Contribution to Collector's Club Citizen collecting historical documents		
COLLECTOR'S CLUB	Contribution to Collector's Club Citizen collecting historical documents		
COLLECTOR'S CLUB	Contribution to Collector's Club Citizen collecting historical documents		
COLLECTOR'S CLUB	Contribution to Collector's Club Citizen collecting historical documents		
COLLECTOR'S CLUB	Contribution to Collector's Club Citizen collecting historical documents		

Credit to Mireille Bertrand, SI RBINS

8. Survey submitted to the participants

CITIZEN SCIENCE DAY 2018 – Survey

Age :

Gender : F H X

Country:

What is your link with the Institute? Are you:

Volunteer Scientific collaborator with contract Other :

If yes, since when ? < 1 year 1-5 years 5-10 years 10-20 years >20 years

Are you a member of a company or association hosted by the RBINS?

YES NO X

If yes, which one and in which area do you collaborate?

.....

Did you appreciate these Citizen Science Day ?

YES NO X

What did you prefer?

.....

Would you find it useful for this type of event to happen again? YES NO X

How many times ? Once a year twice a year Every two years

Do you have any suggestions or remarks about the organization and the event?

.....