Citizen Science Projects Dataset Specifications

The dataset contains citizen science projects in the Netherlands. Citizen science is scientific work that citizens completely or partially conduct themselves on a voluntary basis. Professional researchers often provide instructions and guidance, but they are not the main collectors of the data. Alongside project names, the dataset includes supplementary information regarding a description of the project, its organizers, location, duration, data accessibility, and links to the main project information and data if applicable. This document contains a technical specification of the dataset.

Data availability

The list of Citizen Science projects is available in various formats. This makes the reuse of the dataset easy. The human-readable list of projects is available on the website https://sodascience.github.io/awesome-citizen-science-nl/. This list is also available on GitHub https://github.com/sodascience/awesome-citizen-science-nl where it is maintained.

Structured datsets with more variables (see Codebook) are available as CSV and Excel files on both GitHub and Zenodo. The latter one is recommended for academic use because the releases are persistent and therefore won't change anymore (important for reproducibility).

GitHub

- Directory: `data/`
- File format:
  - CSV `data/citizen-science-projects-nl.csv`
  - Excel `data/citizen-science-projects-nl.xlsx`

Zenodo

- Directory: `data/`
- File format:
  - CSV `data/citizen-science-projects-nl.csv`
  - Excel `data/citizen-science-projects-nl.xlsx`

Data updates

The dataset on Github is updated every time a new project is proposed and merged into the project by the maintainers. The dataset on Zenodo is updated once in a while when new projects are added to the list. The version number of the dataset on Zenodo reflects the date of retrieval from GitHub.

Codebook

The following table contains an overview of the available variables and outcome values.

Column name	Description	Format
name	Name of the project	Character
description	Short description of what the citizen scientists do in the project	Character
main_category	What category the project mainly belongs to	Character – *archeology, cities, ecology, environment, health, history, science, society, uncategorized*
extra_categories	Any extra categories that would also fit the project	Character – *archeology, cities, ecology, environment, health, history, science, society, uncategorized*
organization	List of the organization that organize the project	Character
country	The Netherlands	Character
location	If applicable, a more specific location in the Netherlands	Character
notes_on_location	Any remarks on the location	Character
start_date	Year the project started	YYYY
end_date	Year the project ended, reoccurring if the project takes place every year or ongoing if the project has not yet finished	YYYY or character – *reoccurring, ongoing*
notes_duration	Any remarks on the duration	Character
data_accessibility	The extent to which the data is accessible	Character – *downloadable, viewable, no direct download*
accessibility_for_research	Whether the data can be accessed for research purposes	Character – *yes, no*
project_information_url	Link to an information page on the project	Character

Column name	Description	Format
data_url	Link to the data	Character

Contribute new projects

We aim to make this list as complete as possible and up-to-date. You can easily propose new citizen science projects to this list or update information on existing ones. See Contribute or update project

Data license

This dataset is published with a CC-BY-4.0 License license https://github.com/sodascience/awesome-citizen-science-nl/blob/main/LICENSE.

Data citation

To cite this dataset in academic publications, you can cite the following Zenodo publication.

Contact

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