Citizen Science and libraries: new opportunities of engagement with and for the communities

Funded by
the European Union

Maria Cassella, maria.cassella@unito.it
CeOS_SE Train the Trainers Session
13 July 2022

Libraries and Citizen Science

What research libraries can do for CS

- **Develop skills** for engaging in citizen science projects
- **Support, build** a toolkit for developing citizen science projects in your institution or offer your respective services to other organizations
- **Build collections** of protocols and educational materials
- **Contribute to making data FAIR** (findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable) and develop collections of data sets
- **Offer infrastructure**
- **Contribute** to evaluation processes
- **Participate** in recruitment and retention processes
- **Train and Assist** volunteers to participate in projects
- **Participate** in marketing activities
- **Promote** a positive attitude towards citizen science
- **Promote** citizen science projects
- **Disseminate** concepts

Public libraries and CS

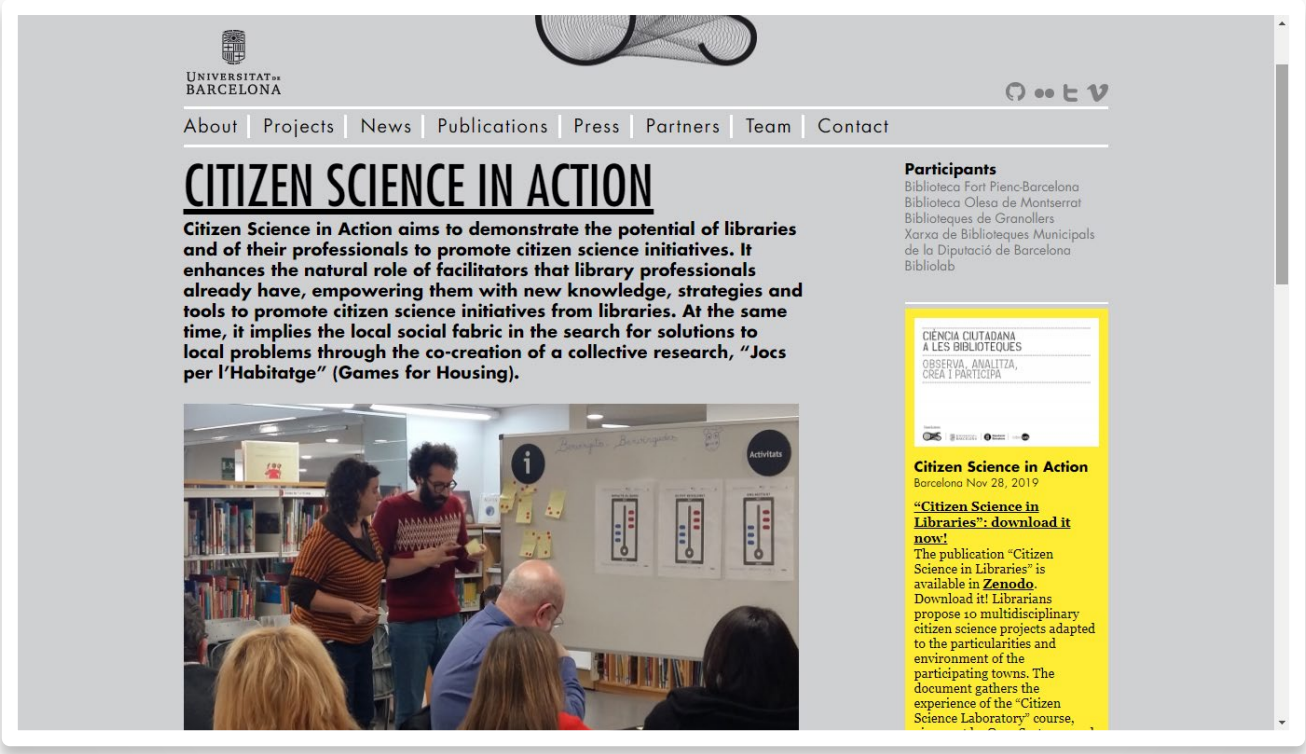
- "The mission of citizen science aligns with public libraries and many community organizations as we collectively strive to ensure equitable access to information, increase knowledge, create participatory lifelong learning experiences and build and support diverse communities"

(SciStarter Librarian's Guide)

What public libraries can do for CS

- **Disseminate** OS and CS main concepts
  Events:
  - Exhibitions
  - Training sessions
  - Events
  - Hackathon
  - .....
- **Engage** volunteers
- **Train and assist** volunteers to participate in projects
- **Build kits and toolkits** for volunteers
- **Build** tutorials on OS and CS

Citizen science in Action



http://www.ub.edu/opensystems/projectes/ciencia-ciutadana-en-accio/

Public libraries. Citizen Science in Action

- University of Barcelona and Barcelona Municipality project
- Engagament of **Barcelona Network of Public Libraries**
- Citizen Science Laboratory. Training for 30 librarians (staff from 24 Catalan public libraries)
- Co-creation of a CS project involving:

40 users, **7** librarians plus researchers of the University of Barcelona **Opensystems Research Centre**

Further readings

- Tiberius Ignat , Paul Ayris, Ignasi Labastida i Juan, Susan Reilly, Bertil Dorch, Thomas Kaarsted, Anne Kathrine Overgaard, *Merry work: libraries and citizen science,* "Insights" 2018

https://insights.uksg.org/articles/10.1629/uksg.431/

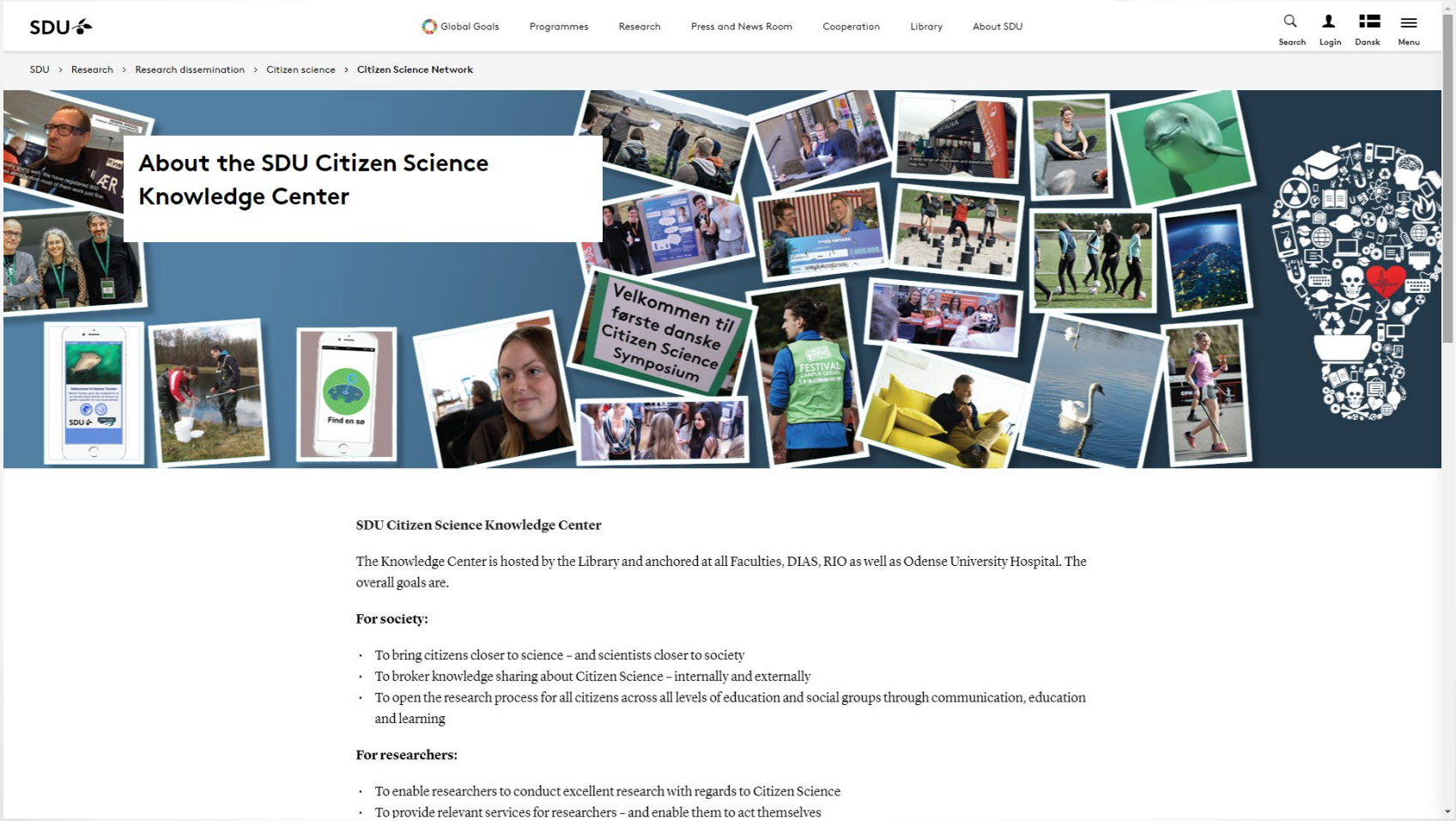
- Anna Cigarini et al, *Citizen science in public libraries,* "Data in Brief", 40 (2022)

Université Paris-Saclay Video on CS

Fête de la science

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vtRzbiEQB_4

SDU Citizen Science Knowledge Center



SDU Citizen Science Knowledge Center

The Knowledge Center is hosted by the Library and anchored at all Faculties, DIAS, RIO as well as Odense University Hospital. The overall goals are.

For society:

- To bring citizens closer to science – and scientists closer to society
- To broker knowledge sharing about Citizen Science – internally and externally
- To open the research process for all citizens across all levels of education and social groups through communication, education and learning

For researchers:

- To enable researchers to conduct excellent research with regards to Citizen Science
- To provide relevant services for researchers – and enable them to act themselves

CS in Social Sciences and Humanities

SDU

Global Goals | Programmes | Research | Press and News Room | Cooperation | Library | About SDU

Search | Login | Dansk | Menu

SDU > Research > Research dissemination > Citizen science > Previous Projects > **Borgerdrevet journalistik**

Citizen-driven Journalism

The Citizen Science project 'Citizen Journalism' was comprised of 3 projects.
The 3 projects were 1) a project on whether or not it was possible to strengthen the confidence to the news media, 2) an investigation of the citizens' media network and 3) a project on the Danish pupils' ability to linguistically decode, understand and take a critical stand towards incredible and unreliable news in the social media.

Read more about the different projects in the boxes above.

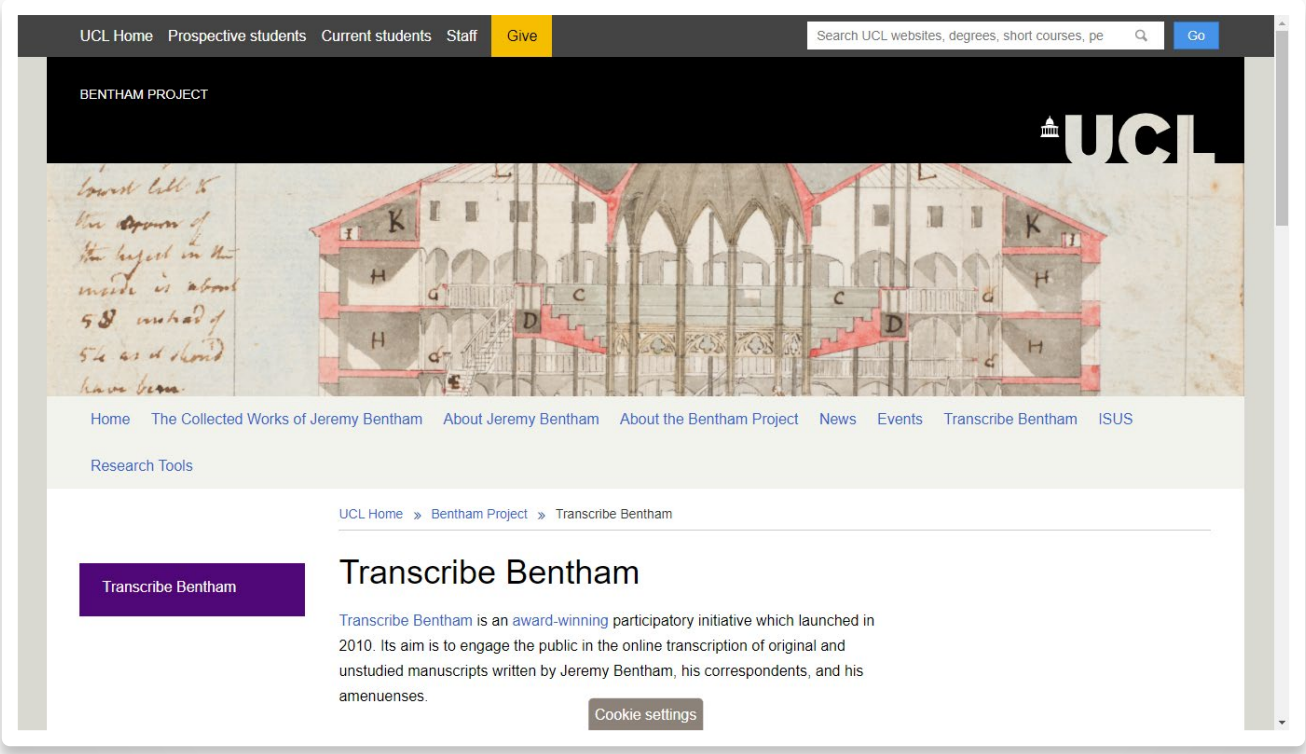
Libraries and the crowdsourced collections

Crowdsourcing and the special collections

- **Crowdsourcing** refers to "*a method to obtain needed services, ideas, or content by soliciting voluntary contributions from a group of individuals or organizations, especially from an online community*."
    - *Crowdsourcing and Citizen Science Act* of 2016, 114th US Congress

- A new method to foster special collections by soliciting transcriptions, metadata enrichment, storytelling and so on

Transcribe Bentham



https://www.ucl.ac.uk/bentham-project/transcribe-bentham

Transcribe Bentham

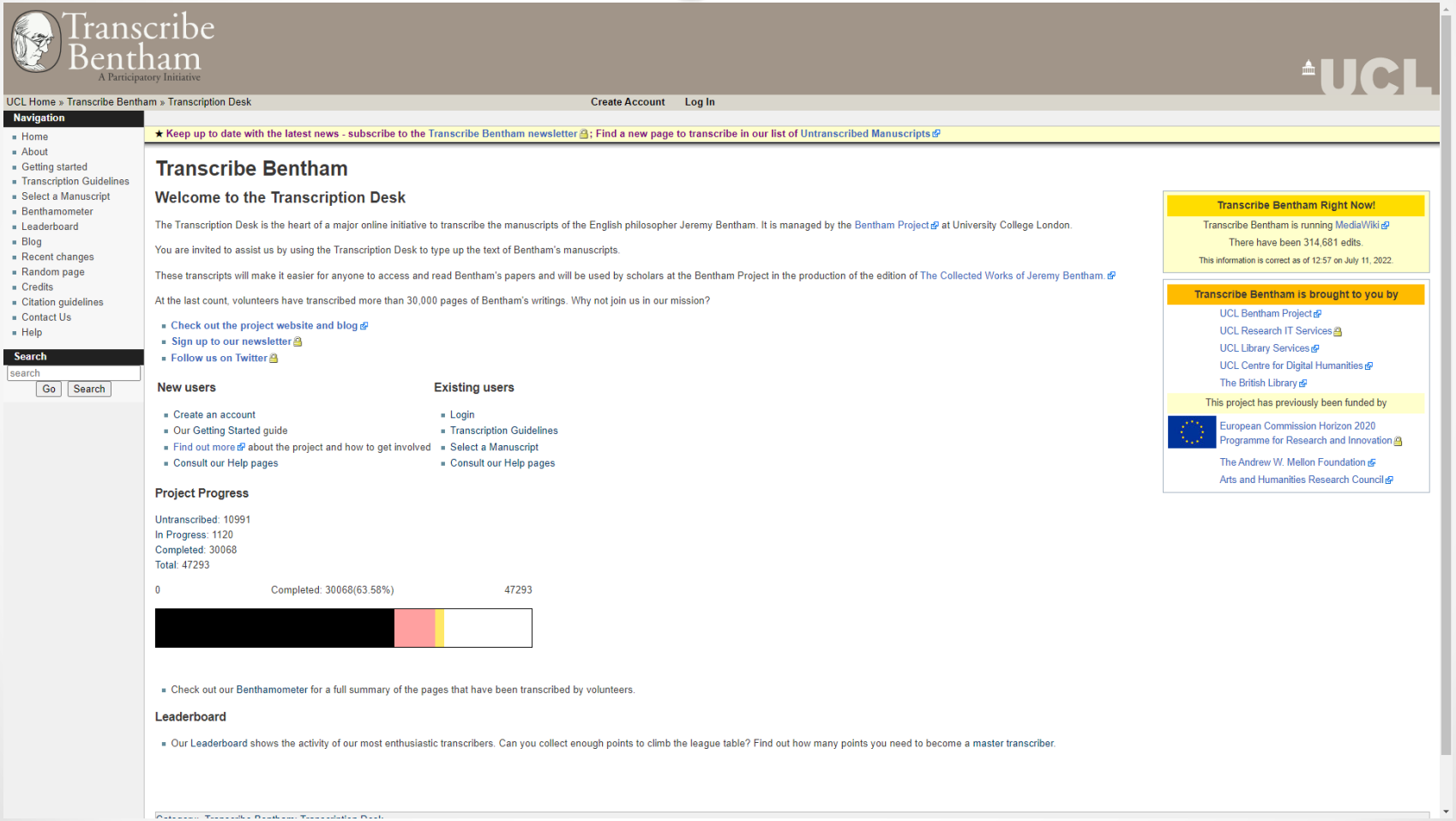
https://www.ucl.ac.uk/bentham-project/transcribe-bentham

- Launched by UCL in 2010

Aim:

- **to engage the public** in the online transcription of original and unstudied manuscripts written by Jeremy Bentham, his correspondents, and his amenuenses
- At the latest count, volunteers have transcribed more than 30.000 pages of Bentham's writings. These transcripts are made available in the UCL Library digital repository,

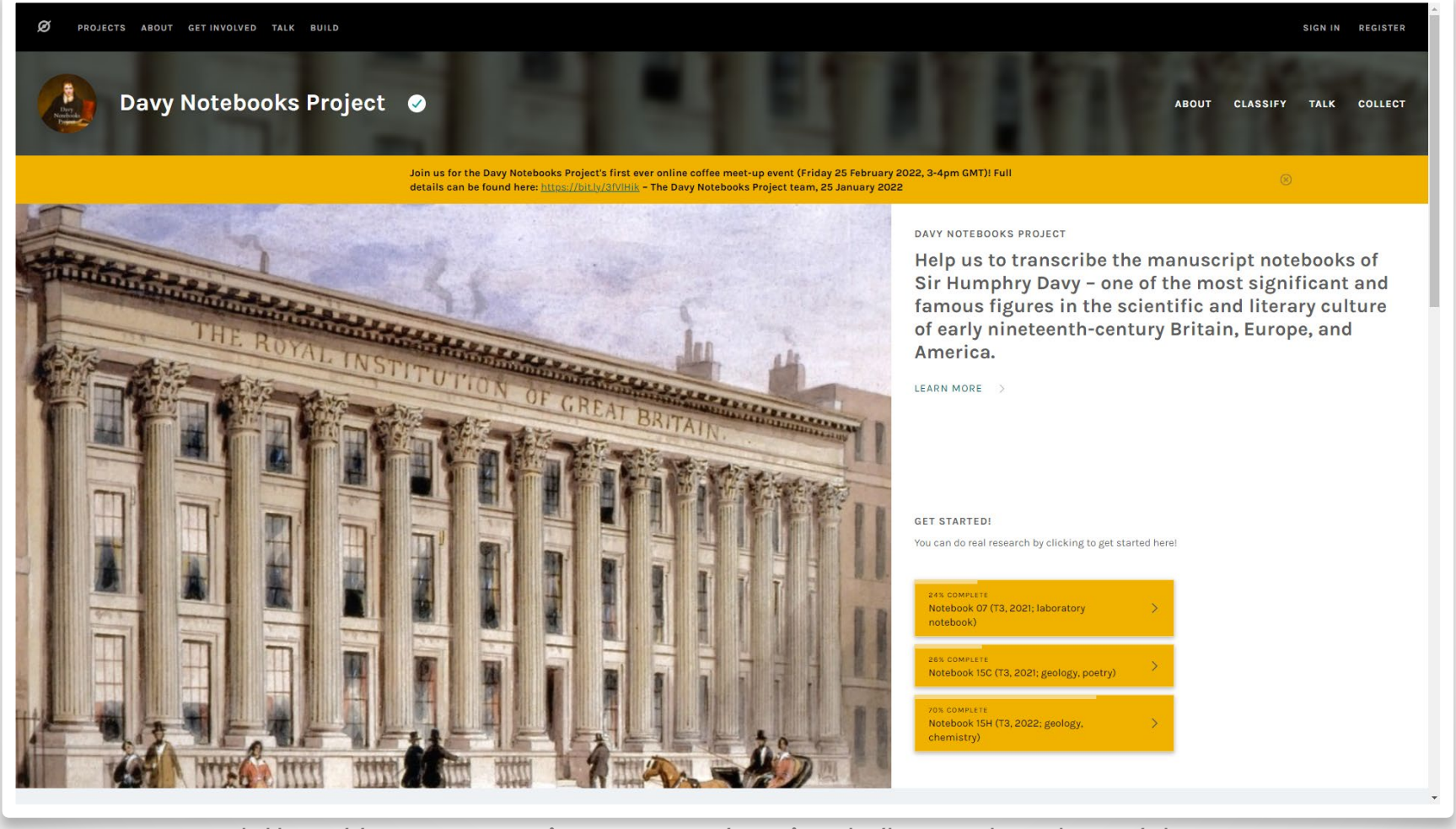
Transcription desk



Transcribe Bentham: the role of the UCL library

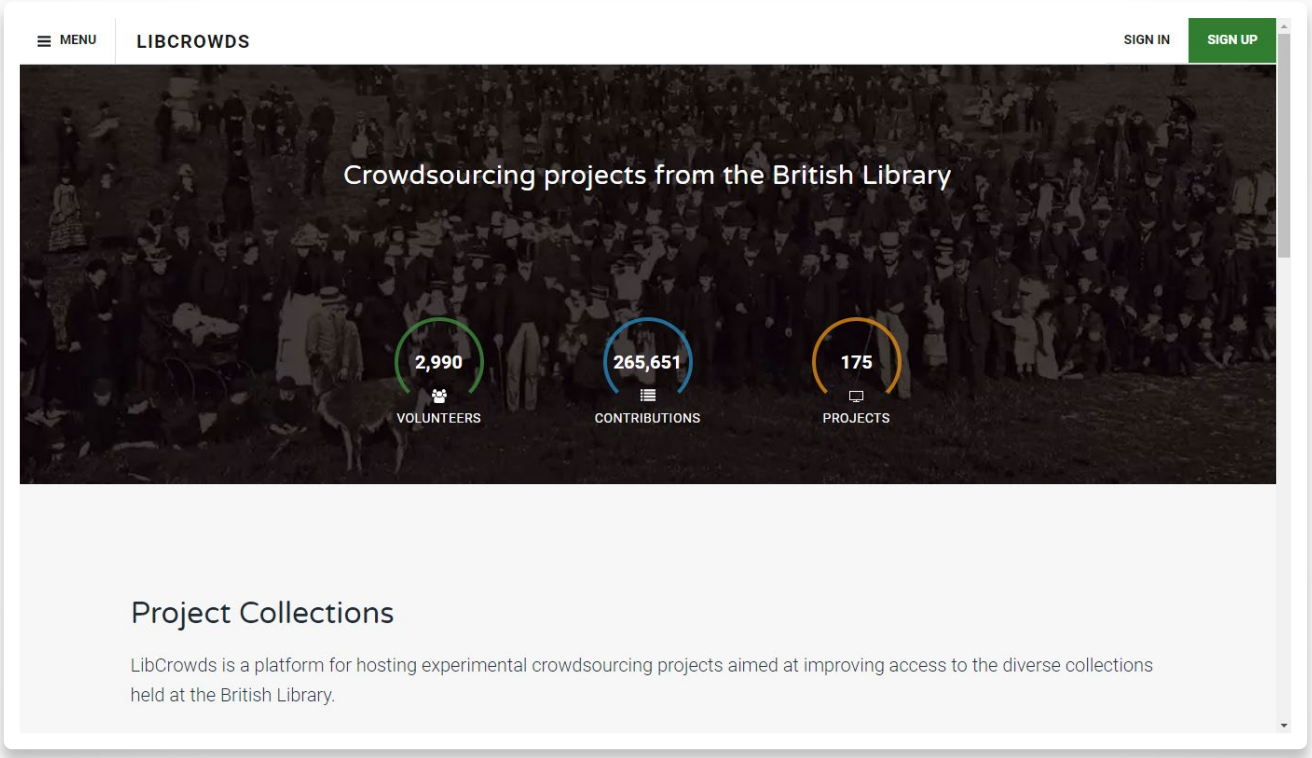
- Training of the volunters
- Transcription quality control
- Preservation of materials in UCL repository

Davy Notebooks Projects



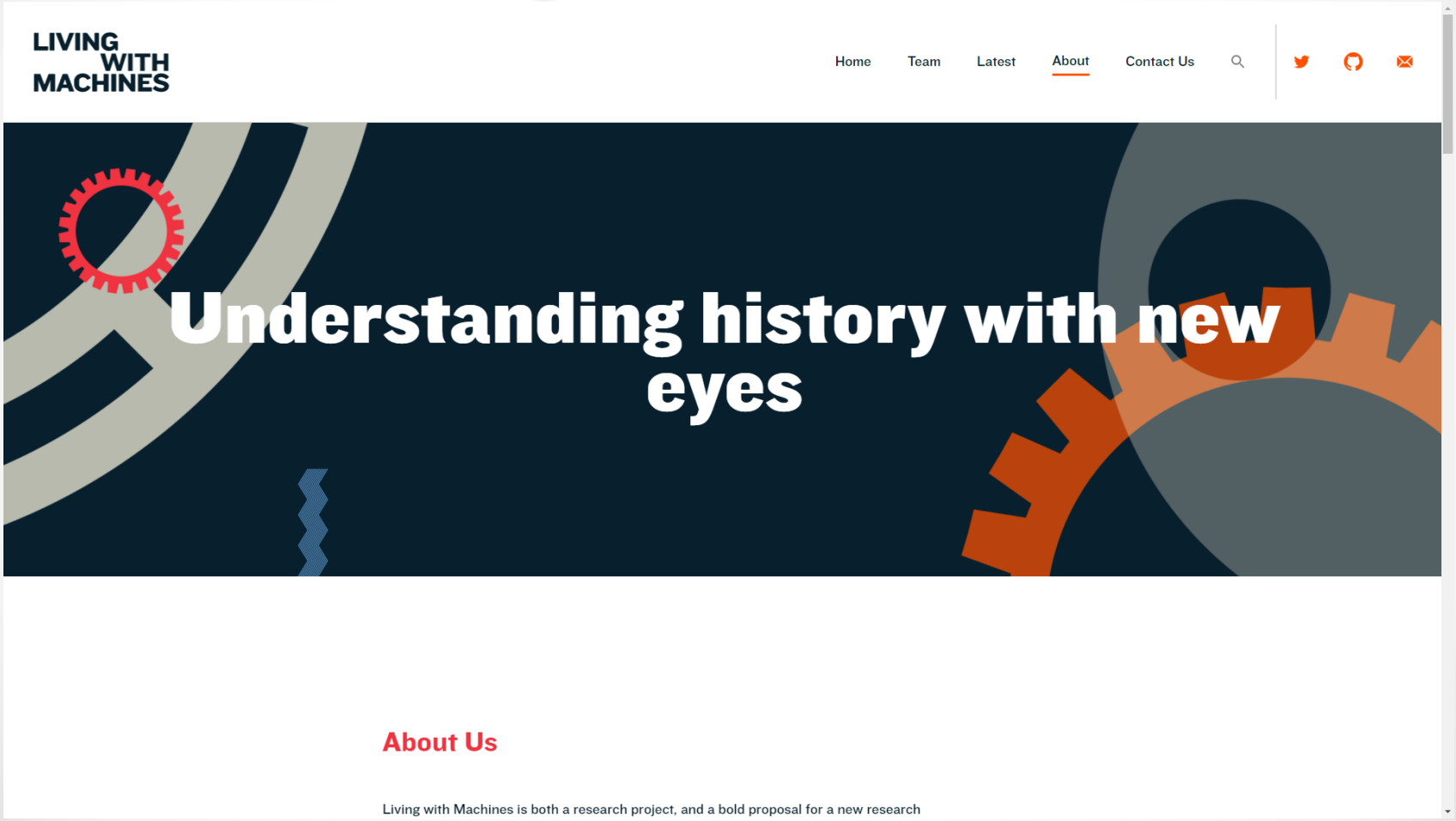
https://www.zooniverse.org/projects/humphrydavy/davy-notebooks-project

LibCrowds



https://www.libcrowds.com/

Living with machines



Living with machines

- Research project lauched by:
  - Alan Turing Institute, British Library, Universities of Cambridge, East Anglia, Exeter and London
  - Focus on the long nineteenth century (c.1780-1918)

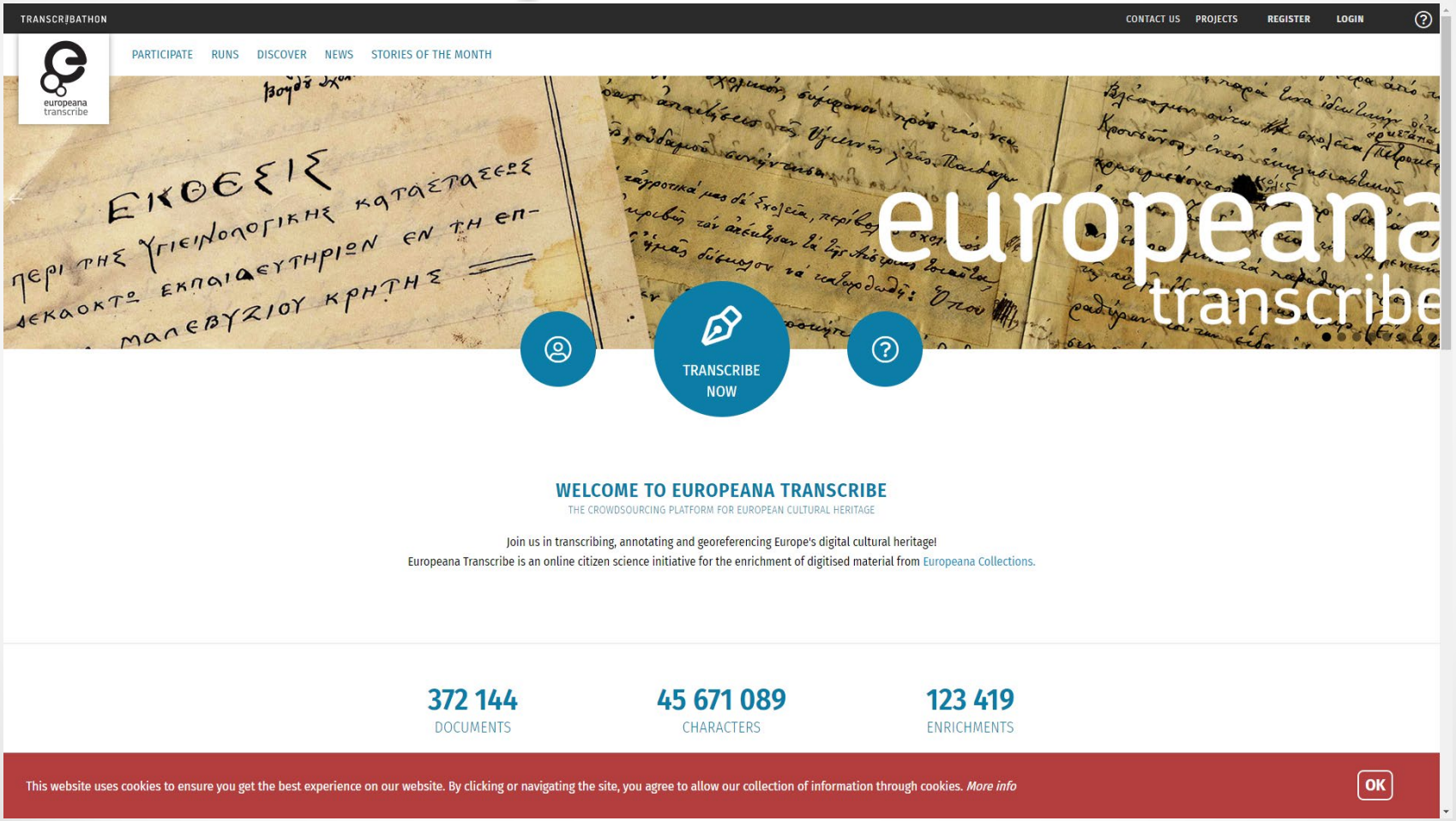
Aim:

- to harness the combined power of massive digitised historical collections and computational analytical tools to examine the ways in which technology altered the very fabric of human existence on a hitherto unprecedented scale
- 5 'Labs' that explore different historical and methodological questions and approaches
  - The Labs are: Language, Space and Time, Sources, Communities, and Integration, Infrastructure and Interfaces

Living with machines

- https://livingwithmachines.ac.uk/about/
- https://livingwithmachines.ac.uk/exploring-ideas-for-our-living-with-machines-exhibition/
- https://livingwithmachines.ac.uk/learning-from-zooniverse-volunteers-to-improve-crowdsourcing-projects/

Europeana transcribe



Transkribus

READ co·op

Transkribus ScanTent ··· Sign in EN

We revolutionise Access to Historical Documents

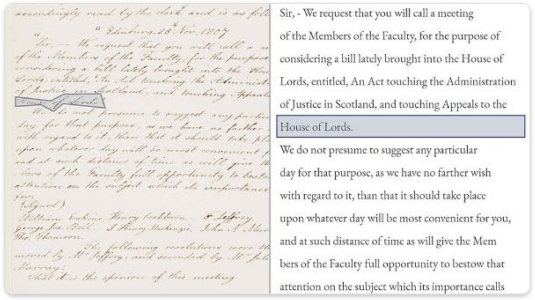
Our European Cooperative Society has more than 100 Members globally.

Transkribus

AI-powered Handwritten Text Recognition with Transkribus

Transkribus is a comprehensive solution for the digitisation, AI-powered text recognition, transcription and searching of historical documents.

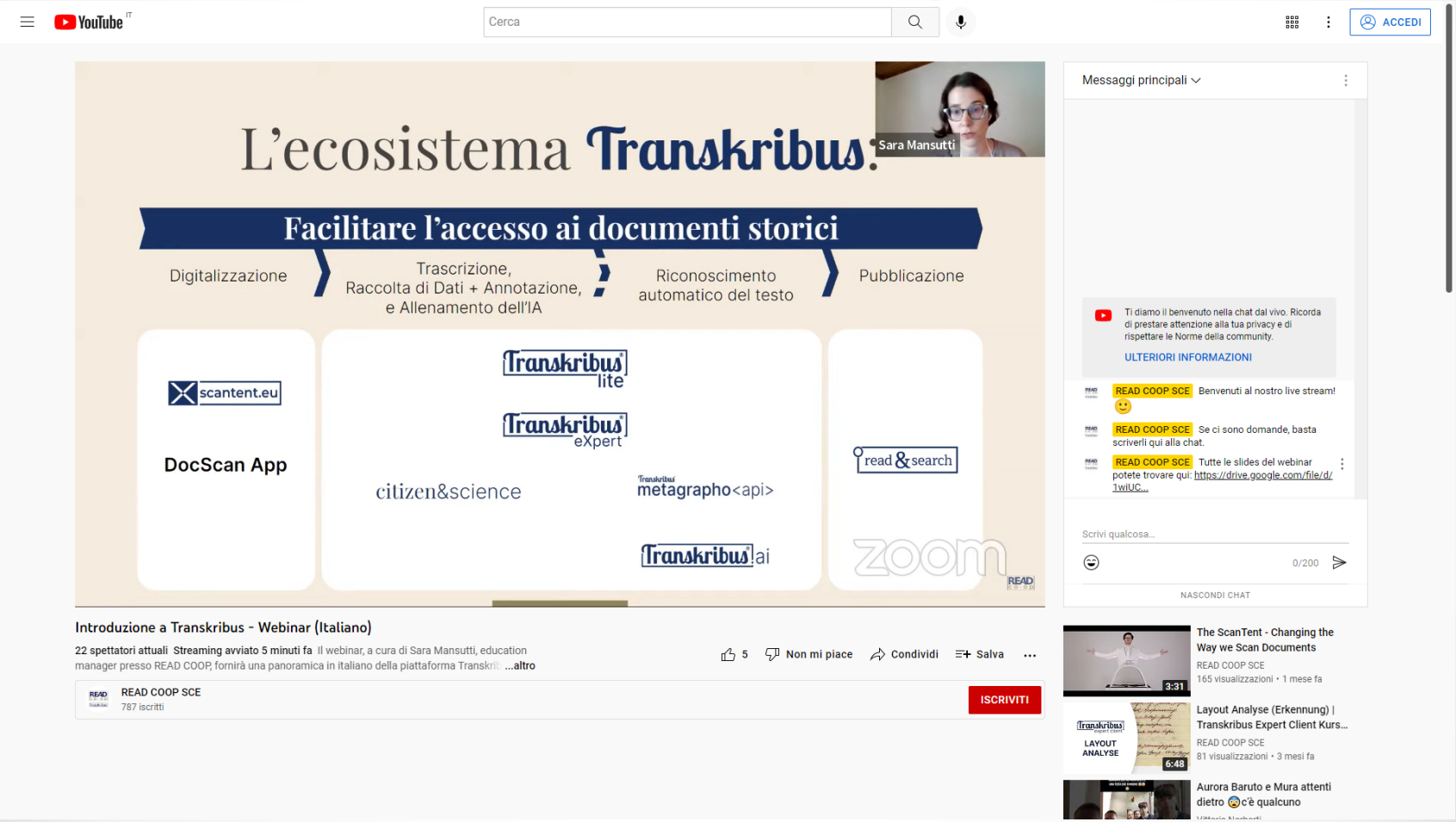
More about Transkribus



Sir, - We request that you will call a meeting of the Members of the Faculty, for the purpose of considering a bill lately brought into the House of Lords, entitled, An Act touching the Administration of Justice in Scotland, and touching Appeals to the House of Lords.

We do not presume to suggest any particular day for that purpose, as we have no farther wish with regard to it, than that it should take place upon whatever day will be most convenient for you, and at such distance of time as will give the Mem bers of the Faculty full opportunity to bestow that attention on the subject which its importance calls

Transkribus Ecosystem



Col·lecció: *Cartes de Joan Maragall*

Institució: Biblioteca de Catalunya

Descripció: Col·lecció de prop de mil cartes manuscrites enviades per l'autor a més de cent corresponsals, dins del període de 1878 a 1911. El seu contingut és molt divers: hi ha cartes familiars, altres als amics, com Josep Pijoan o Antoni Roura, però també a persones destacades de la cultura com Jacint Verdaguer, Víctor Català, Apel·les Mestres, Azorín, Unamuno, Pio Baroja i Gaudí, polítics destacats com Francesc Cambó i Enric Prat de la Riba, i eclesiàstics influents com el bisbe Torras i Bages. Aquestes cartes es conserven a l'Arxiu Joan Maragall i les van recuperar la vídua, Clara Noble, i les filles grans, amb el propòsit d'incorporar-les a la primera edició de les obres completes que es van publicar a l'editorial Gustau Gili entre el 1912 i el 1918.

Mostra:

Transcripció: Del 20 de setembre de 2013 al 20 d'abril de 2014

Evolució: Mostrar gràfic

Col·lecció: *Obra Literària de Joan Maragall*

Institució: Biblioteca de Catalunya

Descripció: Col·lecció que conté una àmplia mostra dels originals de l'obra de l'autor conservats a l'Arxiu Joan Maragall. Recull, per exemple, el manuscrit del Cant espiritual i La vaca cega, entre nombroses poesies i proses literàries.

Transcriu-me

UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA

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Inici >> Node >> Finalitzat el primer projecte "Transcriu-me!!" del CRAI UB en un temps rècord

Finalitzat el primer projecte "Transcriu-me!!" del CRAI UB en un temps rècord

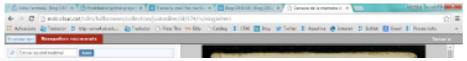
Monday, 13 July 2015

El CRAI UB finalitza la seva primera incursió en el projecte **Transcriu-me!!** impulsat per la Biblioteca de Catalunya, amb un èxit total i en un temps rècord. Amb el lema ***Transcriu-me!! Fer-me llegible és fer-me visible*** vam demanar a primers de maig (vegeu post) la col·laboració de tots vosaltres i estem molt agraïts per la inestimable ajuda que hem rebut.

Aquesta primera proposta constava de 69 documents escollits per transcriure (en castellà i fins a 25 pàgines), que es van començar a treballar el dia 3 de maig de 2015, finalitzant la darrera transcripció el dia 8 de juliol de 2015.

Aquí teniu un exemple de document amb la seva transcripció:

Censura de la memoria de Dn Ramon Frau sobre una traqueítis crónica por Dn Francisco Borras en 24 de diciembre de 1824

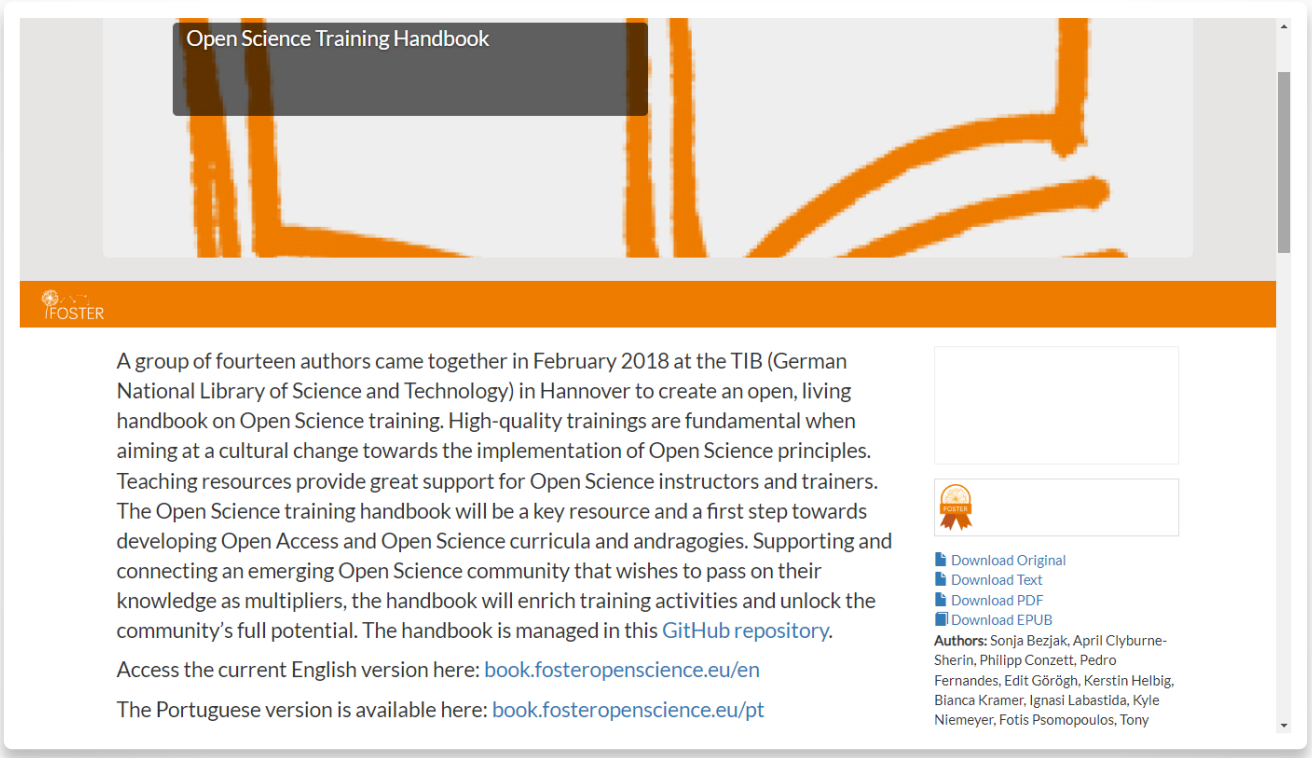


Zurich University Library

- https://www.zb.uzh.ch/en/ueber-uns/citizen-science#freut-euch-des-lebens-nageli-transkribieren

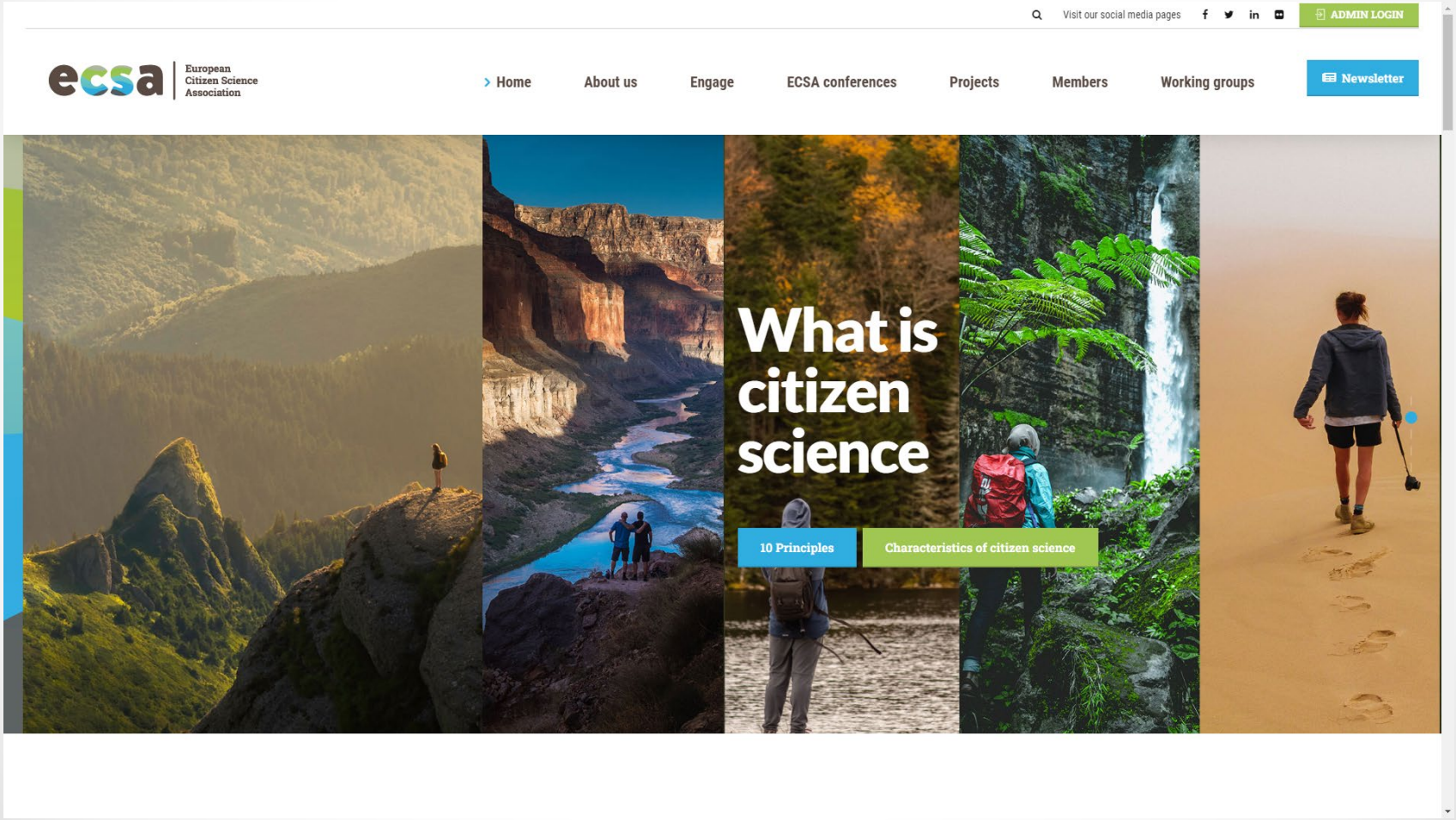
CS ad libraries: useful tools and tips

Open Science Training Handbook



https://www.fosteropenscience.eu/content/open-science-training-handbook

ECSA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European Citizen Science Association
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ECSA conferences
Projects
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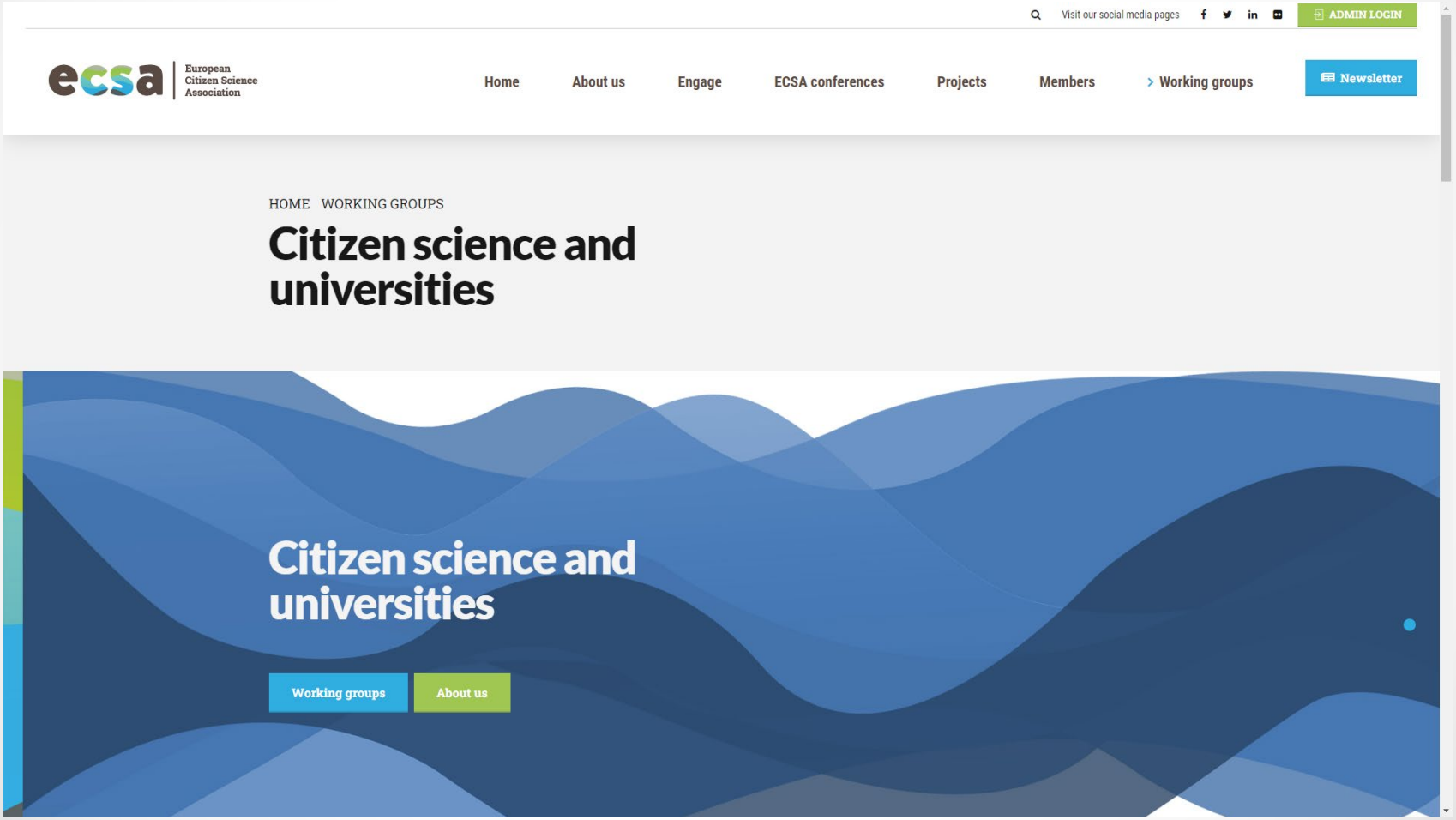
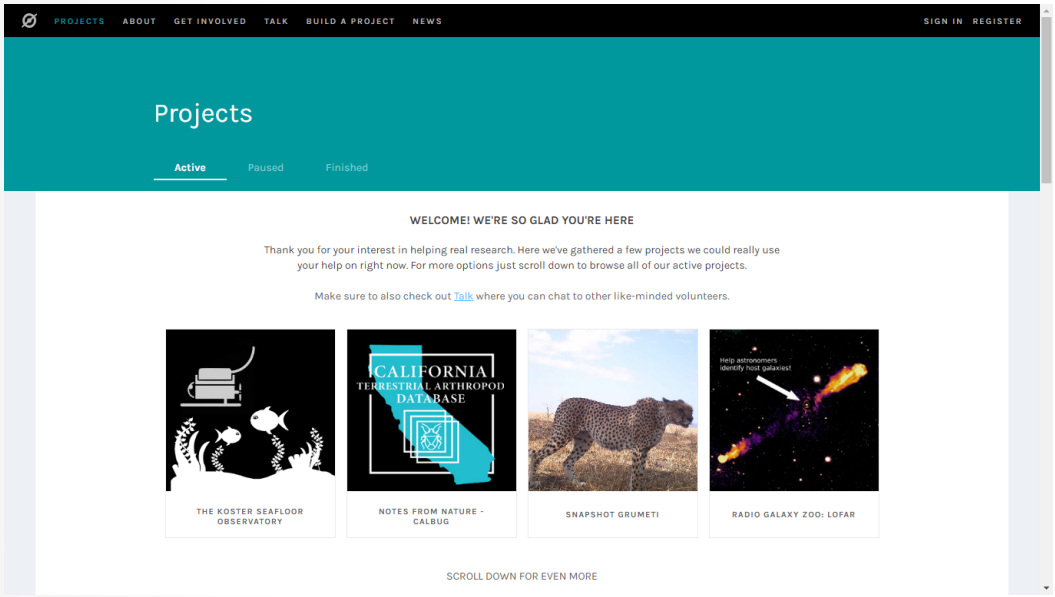
Working groups
Newsletter
What is citizen science
10 Principles
Characteristics of citizen science

Citizen science and universities



The 4th ECSA Conference runs under the cross-cutting theme of Citizen Science for Planetary Health. The concept of planetary health is based on the understanding that human health and human civilization depend on thriving natural systems and the sustainable stewardship of those natural systems. This demands not only knowledge, commitment and engagement of health and environmental sciences, but inter- and transdisciplinary efforts from all research fields and societal and political actors.

The ECSA 2022 Conference invites researchers from all disciplines, civil society actors, citizen scientists, policy decision-makers and all interested in the topic in Europe and worldwide to reflect, discuss and network around the topic of Citizen Science for Planetary Health.

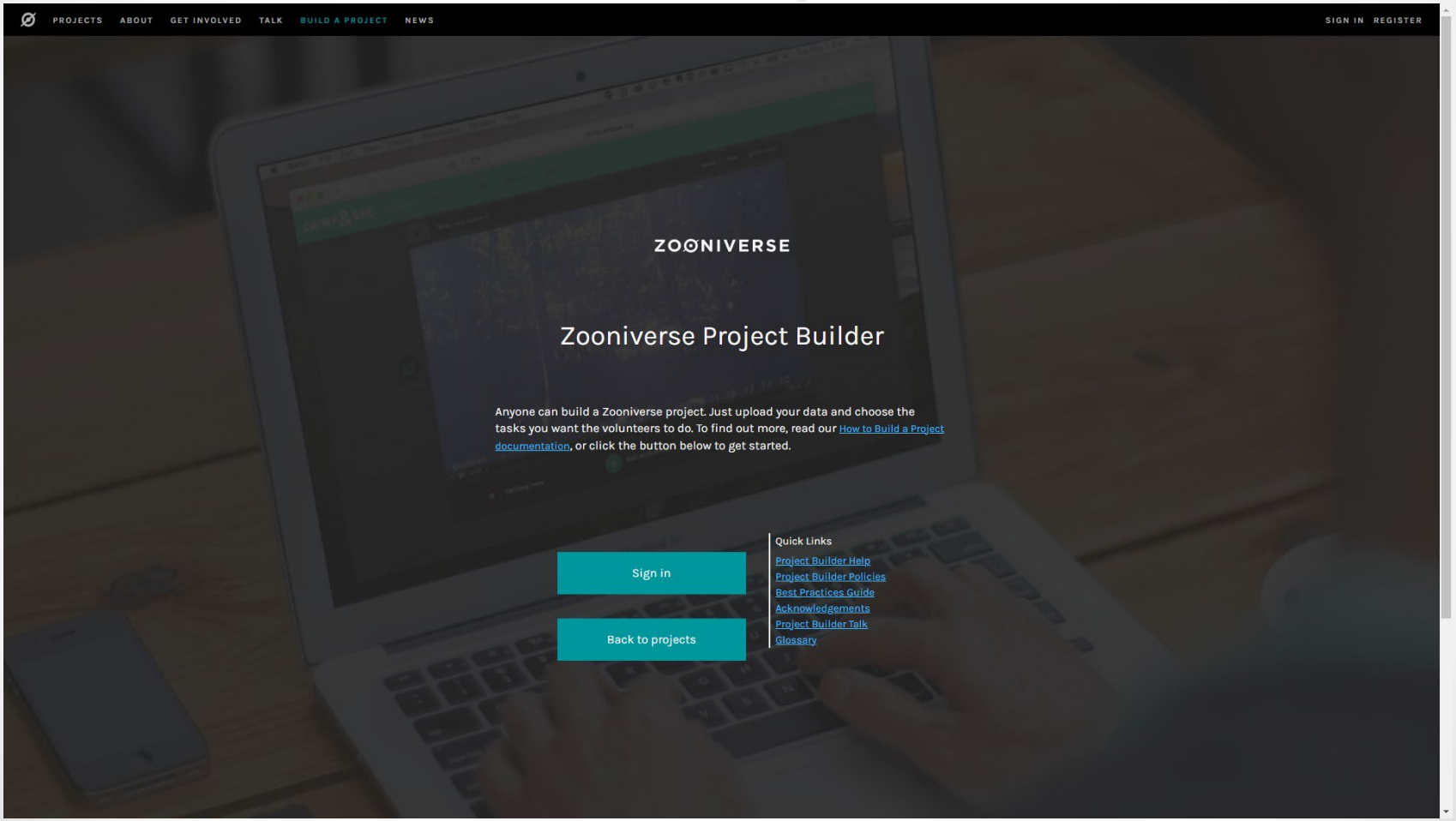


Zooniverse

The well-known CS Portal

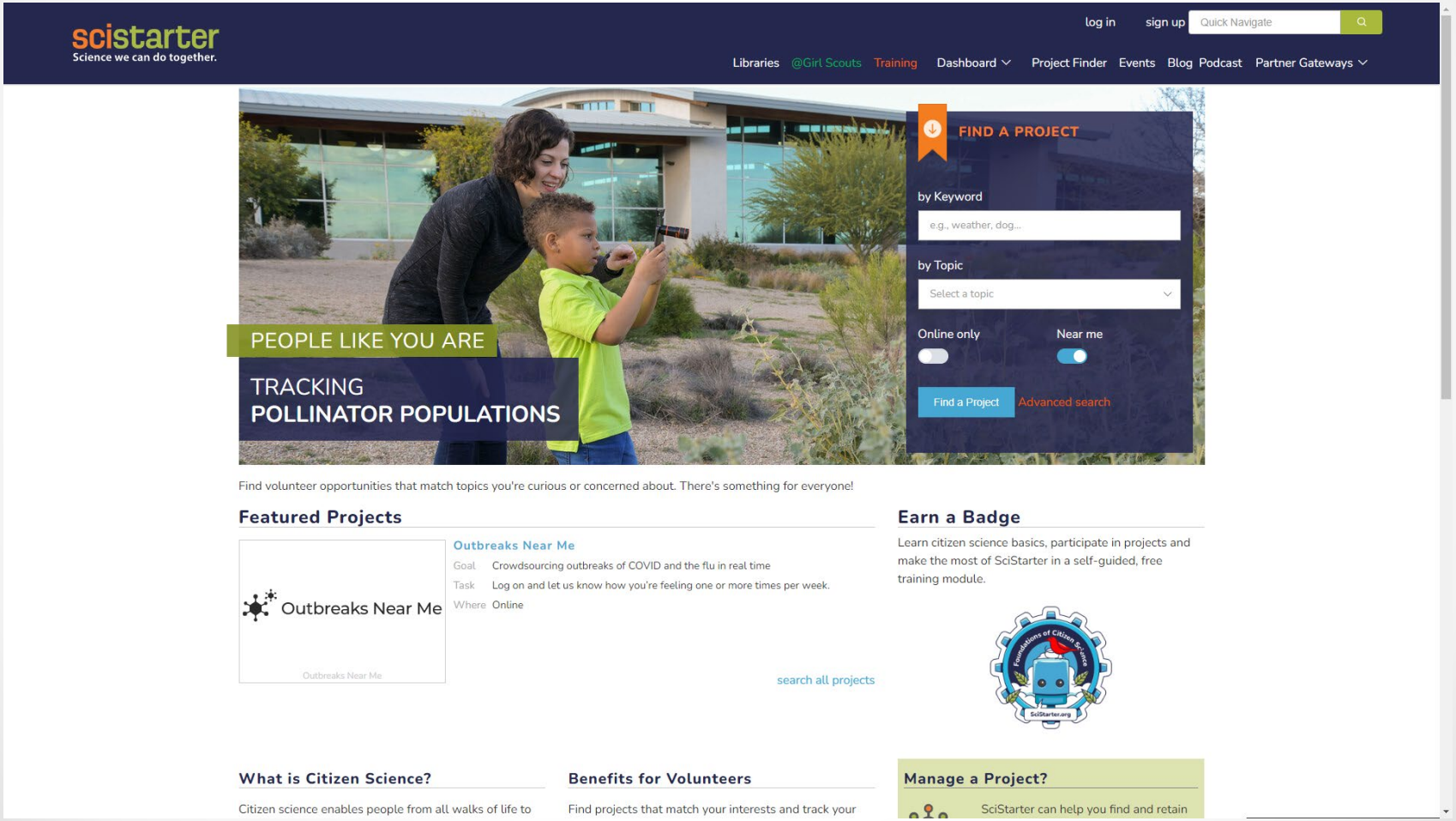
https://www.zooniverse.org/

Zooniverse Project Builder



ParticipARC

SciStarter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sign up
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Libraries
@Girl Scouts
Training
Dashboard
Project Finder
Events
Blog
Podcast
Partner Gateways
PEOPLE LIKE YOU ARE
TRACKING
POLLINATOR POPULATIONS
FIND A PROJECT
by Keyword
e.g., weather, dog...
by Topic
Select a topic
Online only
Near me
Find a Project
Advanced search
Find volunteer opportunities that match topics you're curious or concerned about. There's something for everyone!
Featured Projects
Outbreaks Near Me
Outbreaks Near Me
Goal Crowdsourcing outbreaks of COVID and the flu in real time
Task Log on and let us know how you're feeling one or more times per week.
Where Online
search all projects
Earn a Badge
Learn citizen science basics, participate in projects and make the most of SciStarter in a self-guided, free training module.
What is Citizen Science?
Citizen science enables people from all walks of life to
Benefits for Volunteers
Find projects that match your interests and track your
Manage a Project?
SciStarter can help you find and retain

SciStarter tutorials

Training » Library-Training

Libraries as Community Hubs for Citizen Science

Discover best practices and identify resources to engage library users in citizen science and life-long learning.

National Library of Medicine
Network of the National Library of Medicine

scistarter
Science we can do together.

With support from the National Library of Medicine, SciStarter assembled a team with expertise in instructional design, education, libraries, inclusive practices, digital design, micro accreditation, and, of course, citizen science to produce a series of tutorials, trainings, and accompanying modules to help people from all walks of life discover and engage in authentic science.

This page provides a training resource designed to help facilitators, including librarians, educators, and other community

Presented by SciStarter with support from the National Library of Medicine

Please sign up or sign in to SciStarter and complete the Foundations of Citizen Science module and badge to access this module.

For a limited time, the Medical Library Association will provide professional development credits upon completion of this module and the accompanying surveys. Completion of this module takes approximately one hour.

By the end of this tutorial, you will be able to:

1. Recognize why engaging the public in citizen science is a critical component of library lifelong learning efforts.
2. Identify the benefits of turning your library into a community hub for citizen science.
3. Identify strategies and tools for selecting and aligning the right citizen science programs with the interests or concerns of your community.
4. Identify resources (including health and medical resources) that will help you introduce, supplement, support, and facilitate awareness of and engagement in citizen science at your library.
5. Identify resources and strategies that will help you train staff to recruit and sustain patron engagement in citizen science.

STEP 1 **Complete this self-guided tutorial and quiz.** Score an 80% or higher to unlock your badge and surveys required for Professional Development credits. The module opens in a new tab so be sure to come back to this page to claim your badge and access the surveys. Learn more about the Foundations of Citizen Science Badge and the Libraries as Community Hubs for Citizen Science Badge here.

SciStarter

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Science we can do together.

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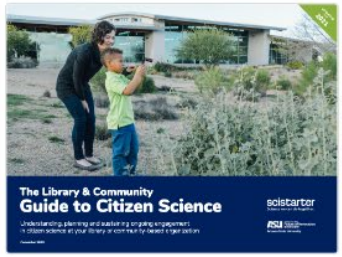


The Library & Community Guide to Citizen Science

The Library & Community Guide to Citizen Science is presented by SciStarter and Arizona State University, with support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Network of the National Library of Medicine.

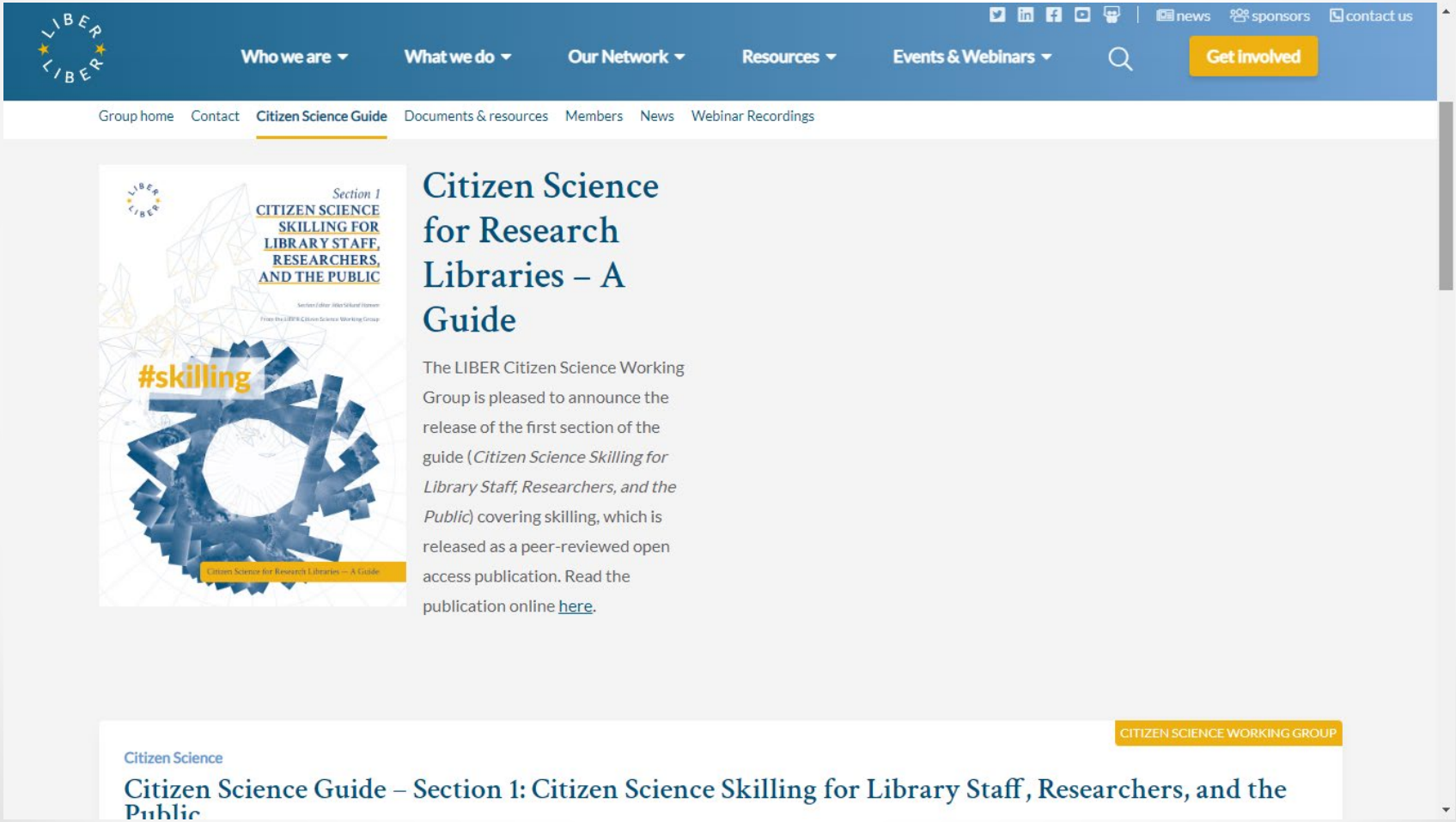
Download the full Library & Community Guide to Citizen Science in English and Spanish.

Library Resources

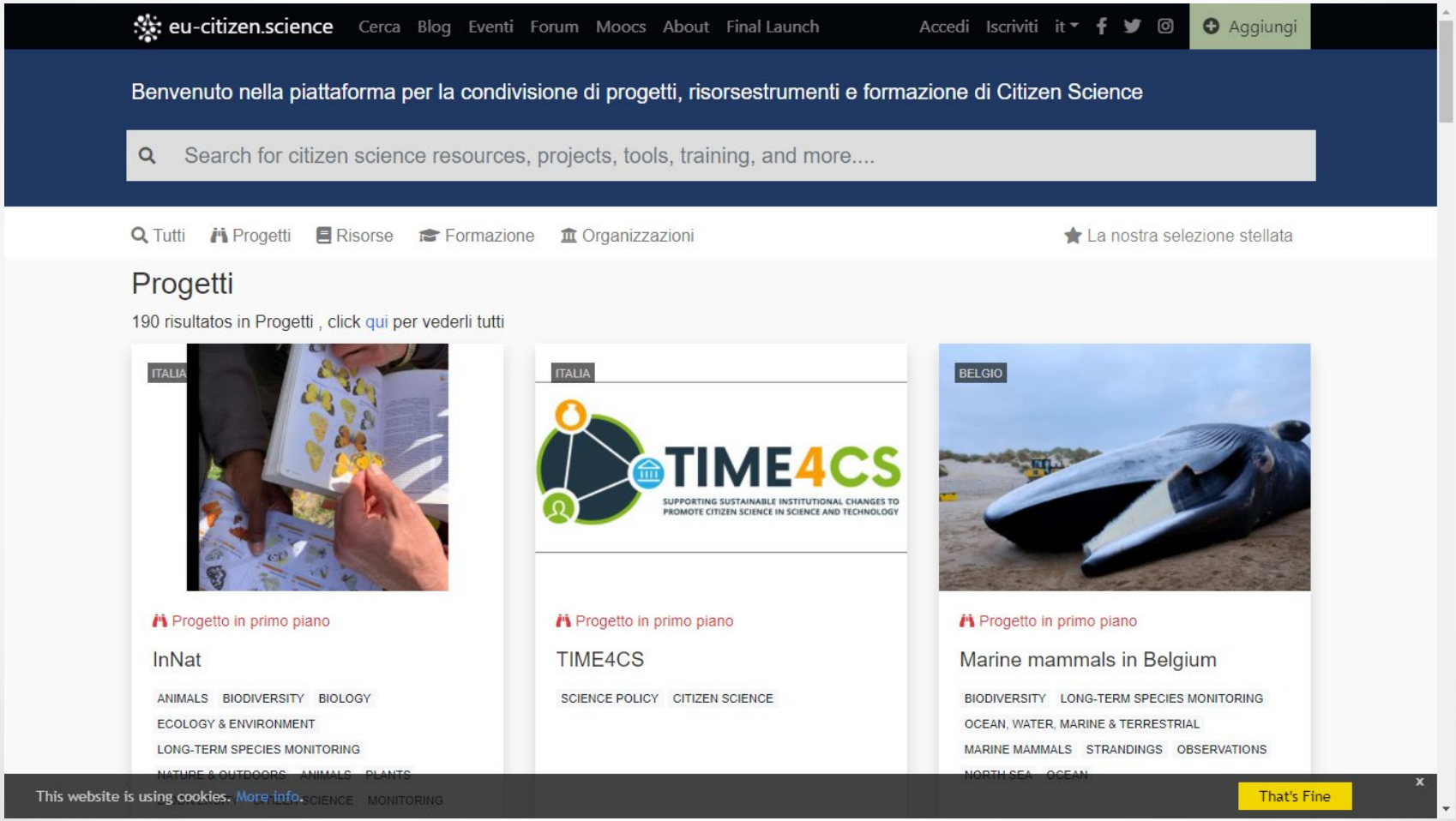
ONLINE RESOURCES

1. Join the Citizen and Community Science Library Network
2. Complete the Foundations of Citizen Science training
3. Complete the Libraries as Community Hubs for Citizen Science training

LIBER CS for Research Libraries Guide



EU Citizen.science



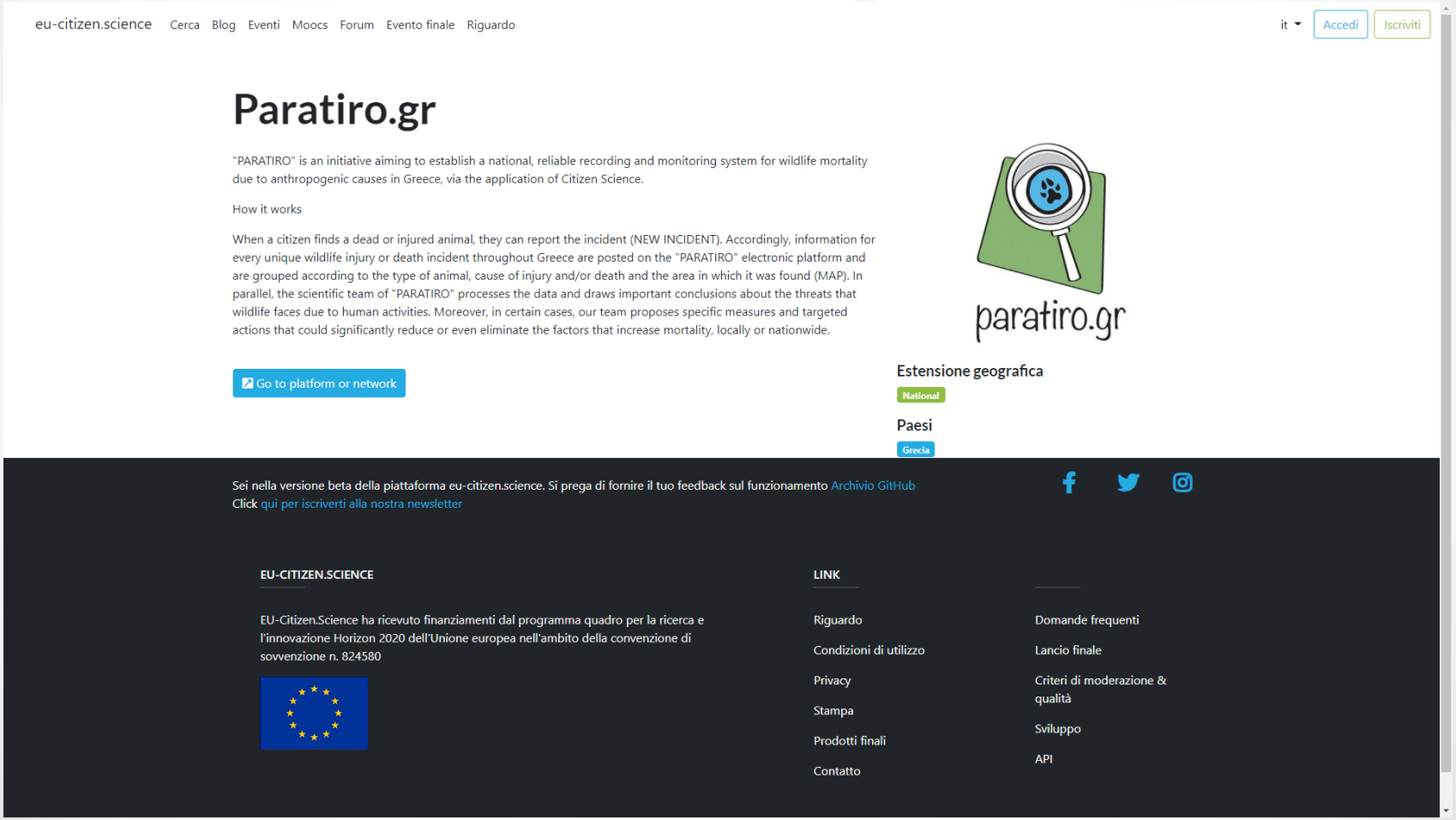
EU Citizen.science

- EU-Citizen.Science https://eu-citizen.science/ is an online platform for sharing knowledge, tools, training and resources for citizen science – by the community, for the community.

- After the project the platform will be sustained by ECSA

- Funding: H2020, **SWAFS** https://eu-citizen.science

Paratiro.gr


eu-citizen.science
Cerca
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Forum
Evento finale
Riguardo
it
Accedi
Iscriviti
Paratiro.gr
"PARATIRO" is an initiative aiming to establish a national, reliable recording and monitoring system for wildlife mortality due to anthropogenic causes in Greece, via the application of Citizen Science.
How it works
When a citizen finds a dead or injured animal, they can report the incident (NEW INCIDENT). Accordingly, information for every unique wildlife injury or death incident throughout Greece are posted on the "PARATIRO" electronic platform and are grouped according to the type of animal, cause of injury and/or death and the area in which it was found (MAP). In parallel, the scientific team of "PARATIRO" processes the data and draws important conclusions about the threats that wildlife faces due to human activities. Moreover, in certain cases, our team proposes specific measures and targeted actions that could significantly reduce or even eliminate the factors that increase mortality, locally or nationwide.
Go to platform or network
paratiro.gr
Estensione geografica
National
Paesi
Grecia
Sei nella versione beta della piattaforma eu-citizen.science. Si prega di fornire il tuo feedback sul funzionamento Archivio GitHub
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EU-Citizen.Science ha ricevuto finanziamenti dal programma quadro per la ricerca e l'innovazione Horizon 2020 dell'Unione europea nell'ambito della convenzione di sovvenzione n. 824580
LINK
Riguardo
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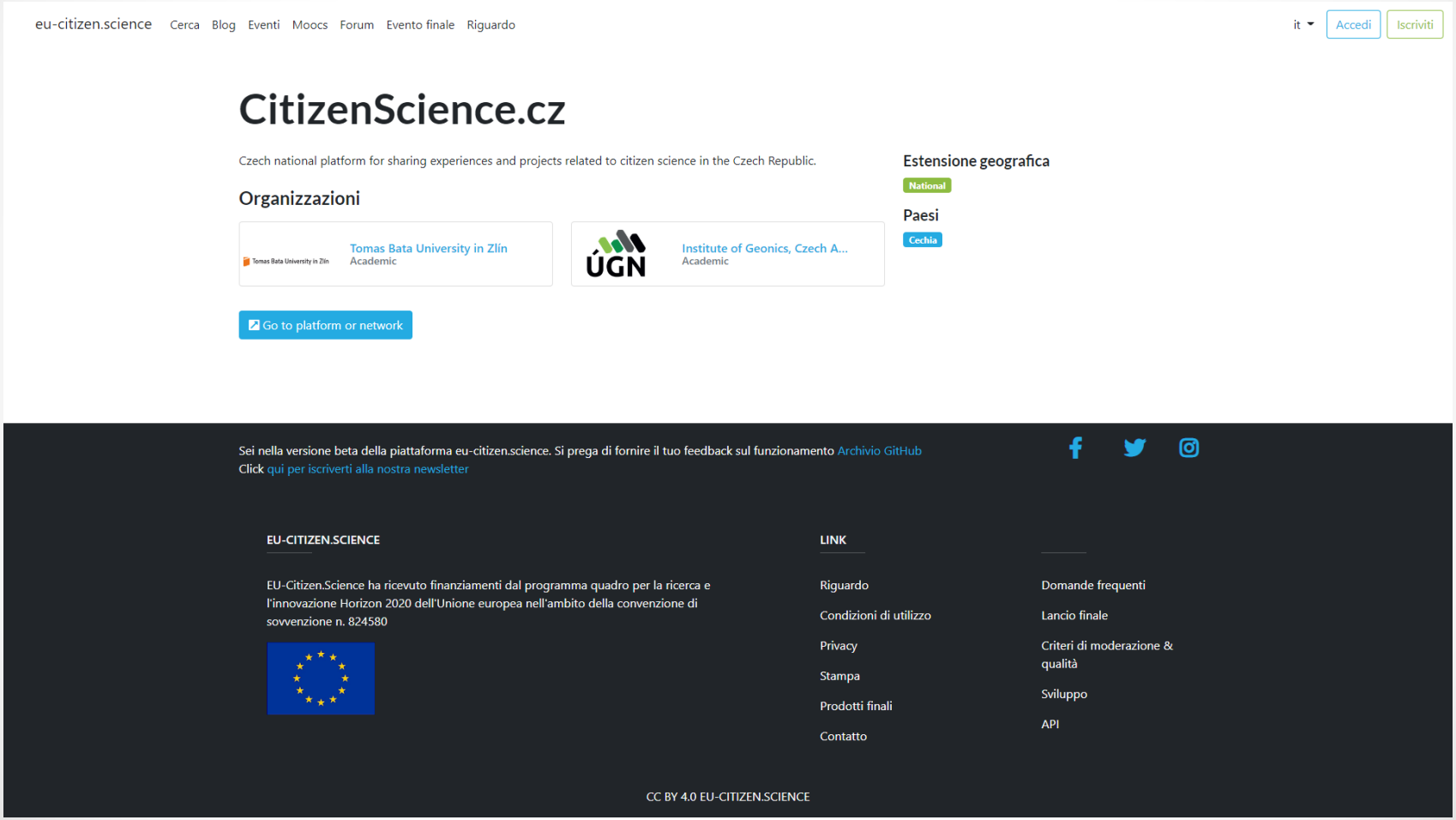
Prodotti finali
Contatto
Domande frequenti
Lancio finale
Criteri di moderazione & qualità
Sviluppo
API

CitizenScience.cz



Some useful tools

- Citizen Science for research libraries. A Guide
  - https://libereurope.eu/working-group/liber-citizen-science-working-group/citizen-science-guide/
- SciStarter Librarian's Guide
  - https://scistarter.org/library-resources
- BOINC
  - https://boinc.berkeley.edu/
- CS Track https://cstrack.eu/
- EU-Citizen.Science https://eu-citizen.science/
- LIBER WG Citizen Science in a global perspective https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PDIgdnQIs1o&list=PLB6IBD9OG9pDCIYmyx_CrChjDERCWEUCV&index=8
- Citizen science and universities ECSA working group
  - https://ecsa.citizen-science.net/working-groups/citizen-science-and-universities/

10 Steps to launch a CS Project

- **Choose** a relevant theme
- **Involve** some experts on the topic and define the research hypotheses;
- **Develop** the most suitable working methodology;
- **Design** kits for use in the field by citizen scientists;
- **Create** materials for the education and training of interested citizens;
- **Establish** a network within the scientific community to promote, train and provide support to local communities and schools;
- **Create programs** on National and Local media
- **Create** website for news, events, references, resources and competitions;
- **Provide** immediate feedback on databases, with data analysis and sharing of results;
- **Manage** projects by paying attention to budget, time and performance

8 Steps to involve your library in CS

- **Develop** strategical partnerships
- **Create** a working group
- **Examine** active projects in the area
- **Contact** CS project manager
- **Define** your role in the project
- **Involve staff**
- **Upskill staff** (soft skills)
- **Communicate** and promote your role in the project

How to develop a crowdsourcing project on special collections

- **Select** a collection of unpublished documents, archival materials manuscripts, letters, etc.
- **Build** your digital humanities project
- **Create** a Library community profile
- **Choose** your audience
- **Expand contacts** and partneships
- **Develop relationships** with schools
- **Build (or Choose)** a technological infrastructure (Zooniverse, Scist

The CeOS Project

Citizen-Enhanced Open Science Southeastern Europe