C·Act

Co-designing Citizen Social Science for Collective Action

#8.3

Interim Report on Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation

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List of Abbreviations

CSO Civil society organisation

EC European Commission

ECSA European Citizen Science Association

FARN Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales

FHP Fachhochschule Potsdam

FSMC Federació Salut Mental Catalunya

GIG Global Innovation Gathering e.V.

KPI Key Performance Indicator

OKF Open Knowledge International

R&I Action Research and Innovation Action

UB Universitat de Barcelona

UNIVIE Universität Wien

UNSAM Universidad Nacional de General San Martín

ZSI Zentrum für Soziale Innovation (Centre for Social Innovation)

Executive Summary

This deliverable gives an overview of the communication and dissemination activities of the CoAct consortium in the first 18 months of the project duration, which are activities under continuous reporting and monitoring of the WP8 lead by GIG.

Communication and dissemination activities are carried out according to the Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Plan (Deliverable D8.1) which included objectives, target groups, and outreach and engagement tools, channels and tactics. Every 6–months partners report on their communication and dissemination activities in a template developed for this purpose.

This document analyses CoAct activities carried out in the first 18 months of the project, specifically those related to the channels and tools that have been used to communicate the project and disseminate its results, as well as presenting WP8 progress based on the key performance indicators related to communication and dissemination activities.

Introduction

CoAct (Co-designing Citizen Social Science for Collective Action) proposes a radically new approach to face four "wicked" social global issues by engaging vulnerable citizens acting as co-researchers. The approach represents a new understanding of the underexplored field of Citizen Social Science, understood here as participatory research co-designed and directly driven by citizen groups sharing a social concern. An approach placing participation and agency of the citizen groups involved at its center also requires translating such attributes for its communicative and dissemination activities. CoAct's shared value set, consisting of Inclusiveness, Horizontality, Equity, Trust and Respect, Open Science, Co-ownership, Empowerment, and Reflexivity underlined the direction and structure of CoAct's communication, dissemination and exploitation plan (D8.1).

This interim document (D8.3) will describe and evaluate the communication and dissemination actions done and provide recommendations for the second half of the project. The evaluation is done taking CoAct's communication, dissemination and exploitation plan (D8.1) as the reference point.

Communication and Dissemination Strategy

The objectives of CoAct's communication and dissemination activities are:

a) To engage vulnerable citizens and local civil society groups in R&I initiatives and to place them at the center of the R&I cycle.

b) To increase scientific literacy, skills, competence, and public awareness regarding science.

c) To disseminate CoAct and build a sustainable citizen social science community of practice.

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The communication, dissemination and exploitation plan (D8.1) was built on the ethical framework underlying CoAct by establishing guiding principles for all communication and dissemination related decisions to be made, thus addressing all WPs. The communication, dissemination and exploitation plan constituted a modular document which provided foundational modules and evolving modules.

The foundational modules provide:

1.   Normative framework of all strategic decisions to be made

2.   Strategy Design Guideline supporting all consortium partners to align decisions on their communication and dissemination practices and materials for and with different stakeholders with their concrete objectives

3.   Visual Identity for all communication and dissemination materials

4.   Dissemination of results plan (Media planning templates)

On the other hand, the evolving modules provide:

1.   Dedicated tactics to be developed in order to address the communication and dissemination activities underlying the eight WPs of CoAct

2.   R&I Action strategies

3.   Dissemination materials supporting CoAct outreach activities

The communication and dissemination activities within CoAct are based on various milestones. It is important to stress that certain communication tools, as well as communication and dissemination content, are co-evolving throughout the different phases of the project life cycle and within the eight WPs. Thus, we have adopted an iterative approach for the outreach and engagement activities and the dissemination of results.

Figure 1. Communication and Dissemination Timeline
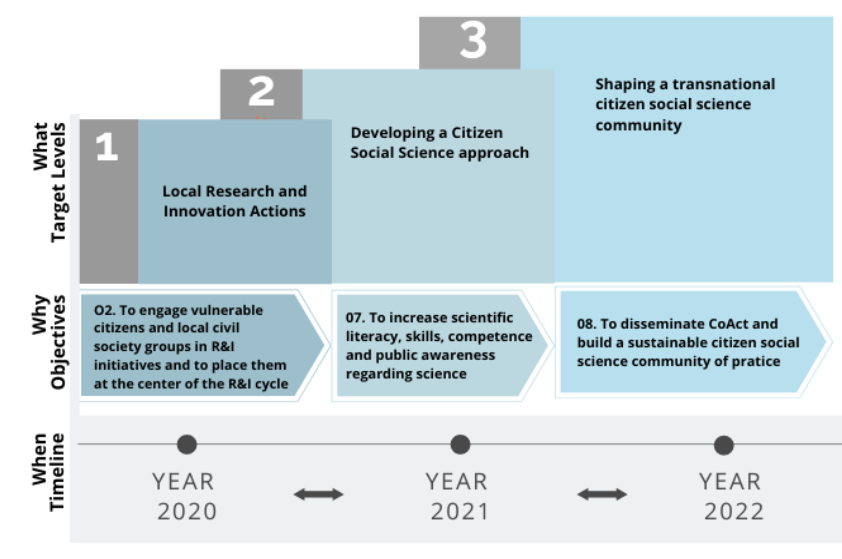
The first year of CoAct (2020) we focused on the design and implementation of local and thematically bound R&I Actions alongside the assessment of the state of the art of Citizen Social Science. The tactical repertoire ranged from local outreach and engagement activities in order to form Knowledge Coalitions, engage relevant stakeholders, and create awareness about the R&I Actions and respective developments. We also developed activities on an overall project level, thus contributing to raising awareness about the methodologies, shaping and disseminating the rationale for establishing a CSS framework and actively reaching and engaging potentially relevant external actors in order to grow a transnational CSS community.

A media planning scheme, a visual identity, and templates were created in order to prepare respective materials and populate respective communication and dissemination channels. CoAct´s website and social media channels (Twitter, Instagram and Facebook) were set up.

In the second year (2021) –and so far– local outreach continues by the partners. Content is being produced, deriving from scoping studies and the outcomes of the R&I Actions in order

to frame and grow a Citizen Social Science approach, positioning CoAct as a reference point in the field. Global outreach and engagement activities have started with the aim of starting to build and establish a CSS community of practice. We have made available different options for diverse groups to engage with CoAct through our website, social media and events. In the second year, the CoAct's co-designed results will be disseminated, through the translation of lessons learned into respective methodological approaches (e.g. co-design framework). Initial approaches will be re-visited and adjusted on the basis of external feedback and co-evaluation processes.

Finally, in the third and last year of the project we will continue to focus on establishing the CSS framework and to grow the community of practice alongside a sustainability strategy, migrating CoAct into a standalone CSS. Dissemination and exploitation of results will find prominent attention during these months, through dedicated tactics, including the creation and roll out of the Open Citizen Social Science toolkit and the provision of policy recommendation in appropriate formats and through dedicated channels.

Communication and dissemination activities up to date

Website

One of the main communication and dissemination channels is the project website www.coactproject.eu. The official project website was delivered at M3 by GIG and went online in April 2020. At the end of 2020, the website was complemented with a translation software that offers visitors the option to explore the website in English, Spanish, German and/or Catalan. The project website is a key tool for communicating information about project activities, news and events, as well as disseminating results to a wide range of target groups including civil society organisations, worldwide researchers, international networks and associations, and EU policy makers. The website follows CoAct's visual identity and it's regularly updated by GIG with contributions from partners.

Figure 2. Welcome Page CoAct website
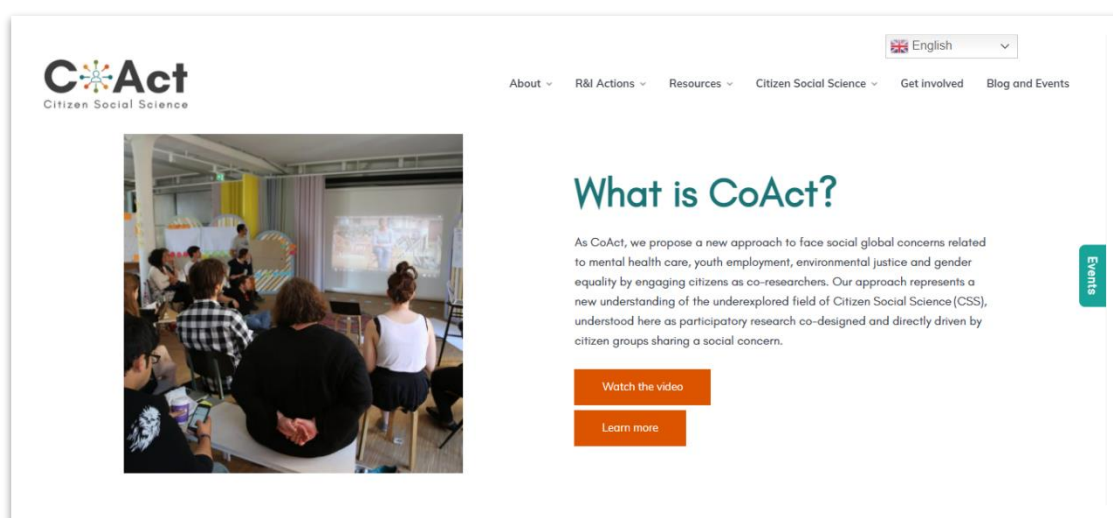
CoAct is fully aligned with the concept of Open Science. In that regard, all our materials are available in Open Access. This approach guided the design and structure of our website. A starting point to ensure this, was to include on our website that all our work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License. As a second step, the structure of the website was shared with partners to discuss and agree on it considering different opinions, suggestions, and needs. Currently, the website structure is as follows:

a) What is CoAct, our ethical values and partners

1. The "What is CoAct" section, explains how we are planning to co-design citizen social science for collective action as well as sharing what are the strategies to do so, e.g. thematic and local integration, citizens as equal stakeholders, Bottom-up collaboration for socially robust knowledge production.

2. Our ethical values section provides an overview of the ethical values that all consortium partners have agreed to respect and promote while designing and implementing the project: inclusiveness, horizontality, equity, trust and respect, open science, co-ownership, empowerment, reflexibility.

3. A partner section was added to showcase the expertise of the consortium in different disciplines and fields of practice, such as Participatory Action Research, Computational Social Science, Citizen Science, Research Policy and Development, Digital Transformation, Social Movement Studies and Participatory Development Communication.

b) R&I Actions

1. Each R&I Action has its own landing page (R&I #1 Mental Health Care in Barcelona, R&I #2 Youth Employment in Vienna, R&I #3 Environmental Justice in Buenos Aires and Gender Equality in Europe as research pilots). Each landing page presents the context of the R&I topic

in the Country, why citizen social science has been selected as an approach for this action, and how will it happen.

2. At the end of 2020, a timeline was created and added to each landing page of our 3 R&I Actions, where we share the specific activities that each Action carried out in the year.

Figure 3. Activity Timeline R&I Action Mental Health Care in Barcelona
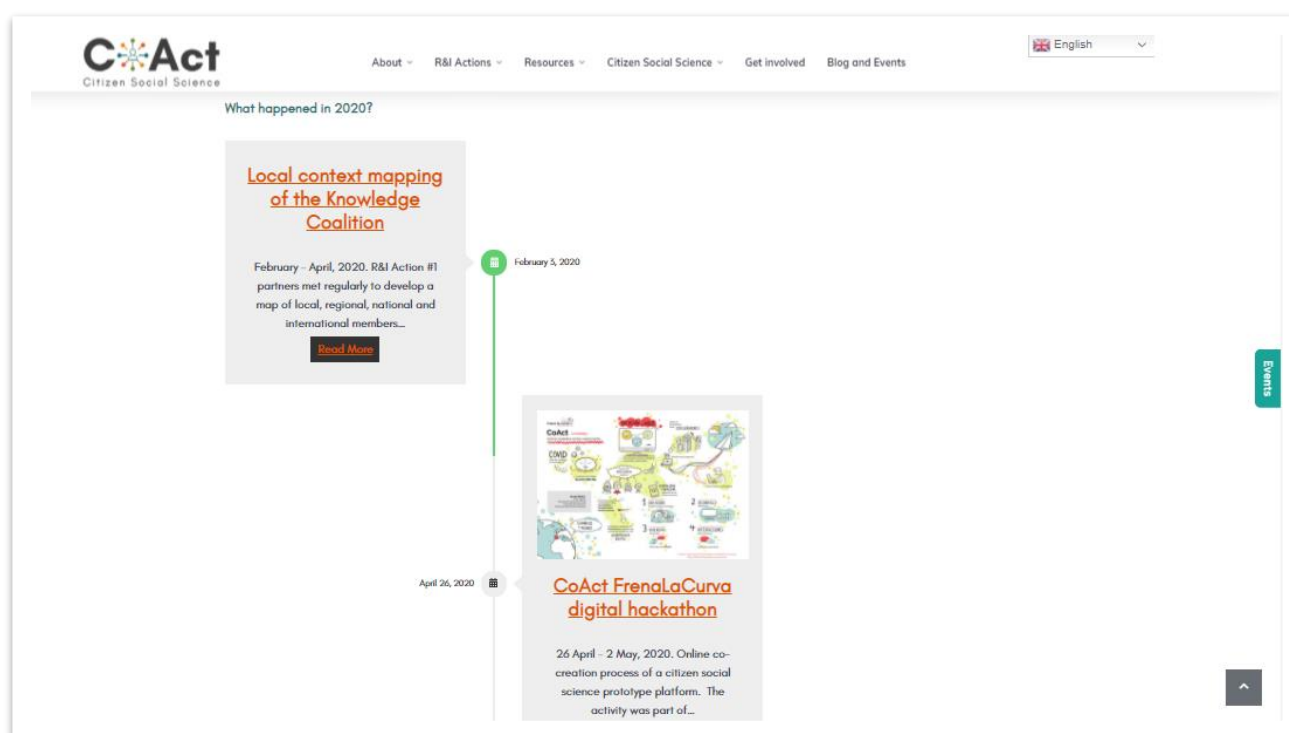
c) Resources (toolkits, publications, readings, project reports and communication materials)

1) CoAct will create an open citizen social science toolkit that will be accessed through our website. This section was created as the space that will include the toolkits. In the meantime, the landing page for the toolkits provides a glimpse of what will the toolkit be about, what it will offer, who could use it.

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2) CoAct scientific publications have been added to our website in the section Publications.[1] So far 11 publications have been included, all Open Access.

3) CoAct has created a Zotero library that has been connected to our website in the section Readings. Zotero is a free, open-source research tool that helps collect, organize, and analyze research and share it in a variety of ways. Zotero includes the ability to store author, title, and publication fields and to export that information as formatted references, and ability to organize, tag, and search in advanced ways. CoAct´s zotero library has been connected to our website and organised by topics e.g. citizen science, inclusive research, open science, participatory action research, among many other topics. This makes it easier for our target groups to explore and find readings and papers in the topics they are interested in. So far, 1757 items can be found in our library.

4) The project reports section lists the reports that the Consortium has written. The documents are uploaded on Zenodo to provide open access to project results, reports and deliverables. Reports are uploaded on Zenodo to keep track of the users that download and view the documents. The links to these reports are also included on our website. As of now, 8 reports have been shared.[2]

5) The communication materials section has been included to share communication materials and centralise them for easy and quick access by our visitors.

d) Our community

In this page we share more about our community, who can take part, how to join) e.g. a first step to join our community is to be part of our Signal group.

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[1] https://coactproject.eu/publications/
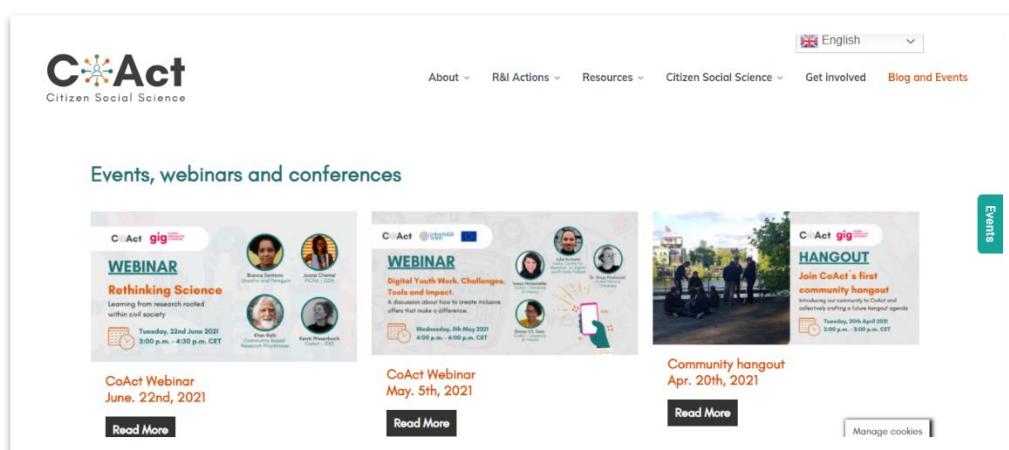[2] https://coactproject.eu/project-deliverables/

e) Blog and events

The website contains a section on 'Blog and Events', where the most relevant news are published, as well as our blog section. Eight events have been shared, and the presentations used for the events have been added to Zenodo and crosslinked to our event section.

Figure 4. Event Section

Eight blog post entries have also been written by different partners sharing their lessons learned, and experiences from activities that they have participated in or activities within their R&I Actions –or different WPs.
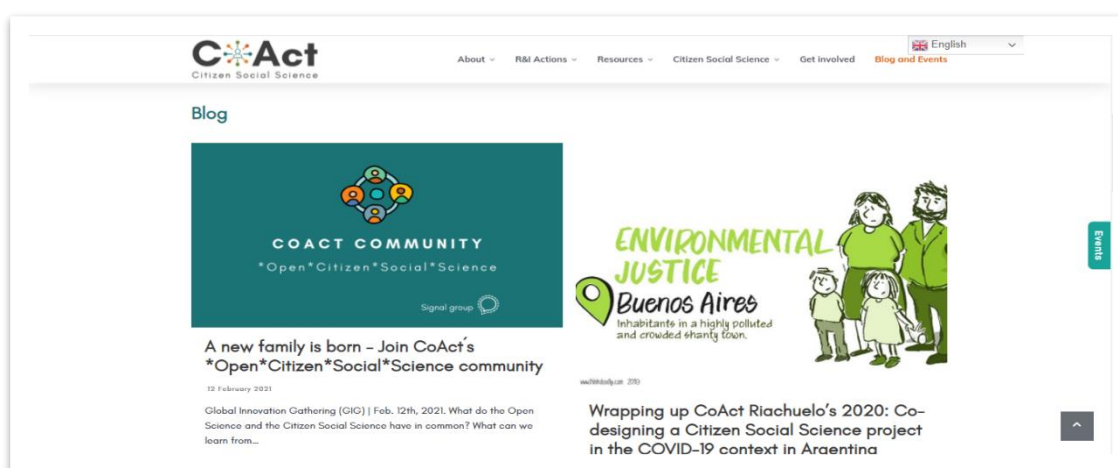
Figure 5. Blog section

Table 1. Blog post entries

| Blog post entry	Description	Date	Approx. reads
Citizen Social Science in times of COVID-19: CoActFrenaLaCurva Digital Hackathon	Sharing lessons learned from the hackaton	23rd June, 2020	130
Open Science Diplomacy to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic	Raising awareness for the need to open data to fight the virus	6th July, 2020	110
Call for Videos Shaping Citizen Social Science together	Launching our call for videos for the event Citizen Science is Social at the CS SDG Conference	24th September, 2020	200
dots – the impact summit	Invitation to the dots summit	2nd December, 2020	80
CoAct Consortium Meeting	Communicating about our consortium meeting activities	7th December, 2020	45
Wrapping up CoAct Riachuelo's 2020: Co-designing a Citizen Social Science project in the COVID-19 context in Argentina	Reflecting on the main milestones of 2020 and the challenges ahead	20th January, 2021	140

A new family is born– Join CoAct ́s *Open*Citizen*Social*Science community	Documenting the session Open Citizen Social Science Meetup at the dots summit	12th February, 2021	200
Announcement *Open*Citizen*Social*Science hangout CoAct	Documenting our first hangout with the CoAct community of practice	April 21, 2021	50

Access to the project website is monitored and reported upon using the WP Statistics tool. For 2020, the Project Key Performance Indicator for the website was set at 200 visits/month with an average session of 2 minutes. A summary of the number of current users and average session of CoAct website follows.

Website Number of users and sessions

From the website launch, (March, 2020) up to June 1st 2021, CoAct website had 27,227 visitors on the website. It is around 1,600 visits a month, far beyond our KPIs for the third year (500 visitors per month). The visits rose in 2 different moments: in the first quarter of December, 2020, and in the second quarter of March, due to both webinars and hangouts promoted. During the same time, the website had around 3,20 sessions per user.

Figure 6. Visits to CoAct website
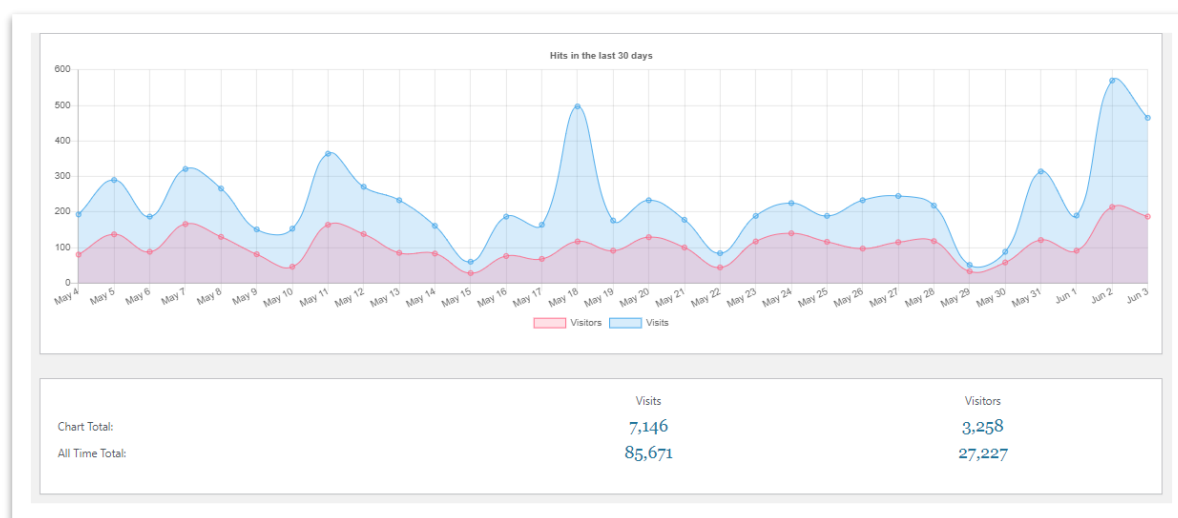
Highlights

Some observations from the website statistics are also important to present here. First of all, most of the visits to the website come by people writing "coactproject.eu" on their web browser (23,590 visits with direct reference). Google search is the second referring site with 1,733 followed by twitter 662 visits, bit.ly 107 visits and cs–sdg conference 88 visits.

Figure 7. Top Referring Sites

Rating	Site Url	Site Title	Server IP	Country	References
1	coactproject.eu	CoAct	80.241.58.63	—	23,590
2	www.google.com	Google	172.217.18.4	🇺🇸	1,733
3	t.co	t.co / Twitter	104.244.42.5	🇺🇸	662
4	bit.ly	Bitly URL Shortener | Short URLs & Custom Free Link Shortener	67.199.248.10	🇺🇸	107
5	www.cs-sdg-conference.berlin	Host Europe GmbH – www.cs-sdg-conference.berlin	91.250.67.2	🇩🇪	88
6	baidu.com	—	220.181.38.148	🇨🇳	84
7	www.coactproject.eu	CoAct	80.241.58.63	🇩🇪	23,590
8	sg.shuct.net	Google Global Ranking	161.117.125.79		83
9	coactproject.univie.ac.at	CoAct - Citizen Social Science	131.130.70.24	🇦🇹	70
10	eu-citizen.science	EU-Citizen.Science	51.178.141.110	🇫🇷	59

Following the home page, the "CoAct Webinar Jan. 27th, 2021" was the most visited page in our website, followed by "What is CoAct?", "Overview", "Environmental Justice", "Partners", "Mental Health Care" and "Get Involved".

Figure 8. Most Visited Pages

1	Home Page	/
2	CoAct Webinar Jan. 27th, 2021	/news/coact-webinar-co-shaping-evaluation-in-citizen-science/
3	What is CoAct?	/what-is-coact/
4	Overview	/overview/
5	Environmental Justice	/environmental-justice/
6	Partners	/partners/
7	Mental Health Care	/mental-health-care/
8	Get involved	/get-involved/
9	Our Community	/our-community/
10	Youth Employment	/youth-employment/
11	Resources	/resources/

Also interesting to point-out is the vast majority of visitors from the United States of America (7,605 visitors), followed by visitors from France (2,849 visitors), Germany (2,759), United Kingdom (1,786) and Spain (1,030 visitors).

Figure 9. Top Visitors Country

Rank	Flag	Country	Visitor Count
1		United States	7,605
2		France	2,849
3		Germany	2,759
4		United Kingdom	1,786
5		Spain	1,030
6		Canada	924
7		Netherlands	871
8		China	854
9		Austria	765
10		Singapore	571

Also, and quite opposite to the Internet itself, almost 50% of the visitors were using Mozilla Firefox as their browser during the visit to the website:

Figure 10. Browsers used to access CoAct Website

Browser Statistics in the last 437 days		
Browser	Visitor Count	Percentage
Firefox	13,343	49.00%
Chrome	8,286	30.43%
Safari	901	3.31%
Opera	394	1.45%
Edge	87	0.32%
Other	4,218	15.49%
Total	27,229	
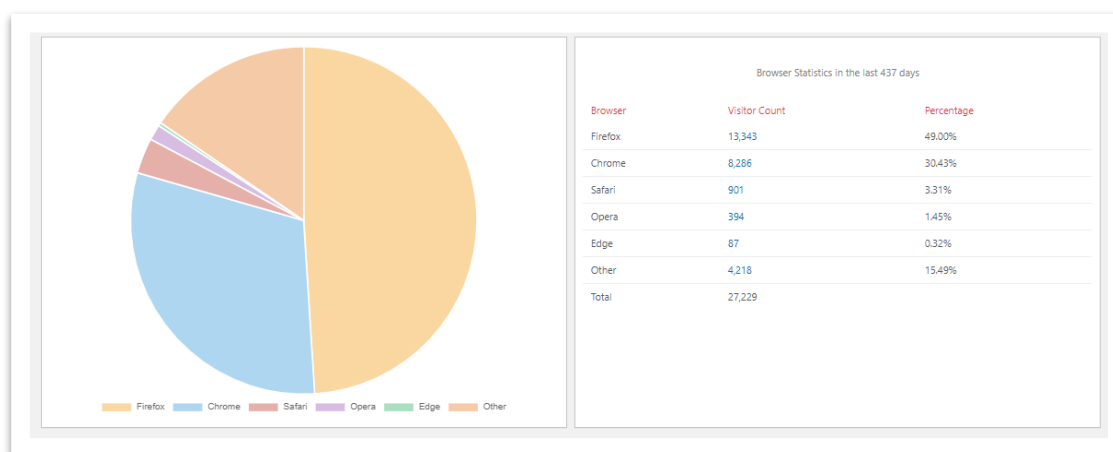
At the same time, almost a third of the visitors were using Linux as their OS platform:

Figure 11. Operational System Platforms used to access the site

Platforms Statistics in the last 437 days		
Platform	Visitor Count	Percentage
Windows	11,307	41.62%
Ubuntu	8,512	31.34%
OS X	2,686	9.89%
Android	2,406	8.86%
Unknown	891	3.28%
iOS	625	2.30%
Linux	605	2.23%
Series40	93	0.34%
Fedora	23	0.08%
FireOS	16	0.06%
Total	27,164	
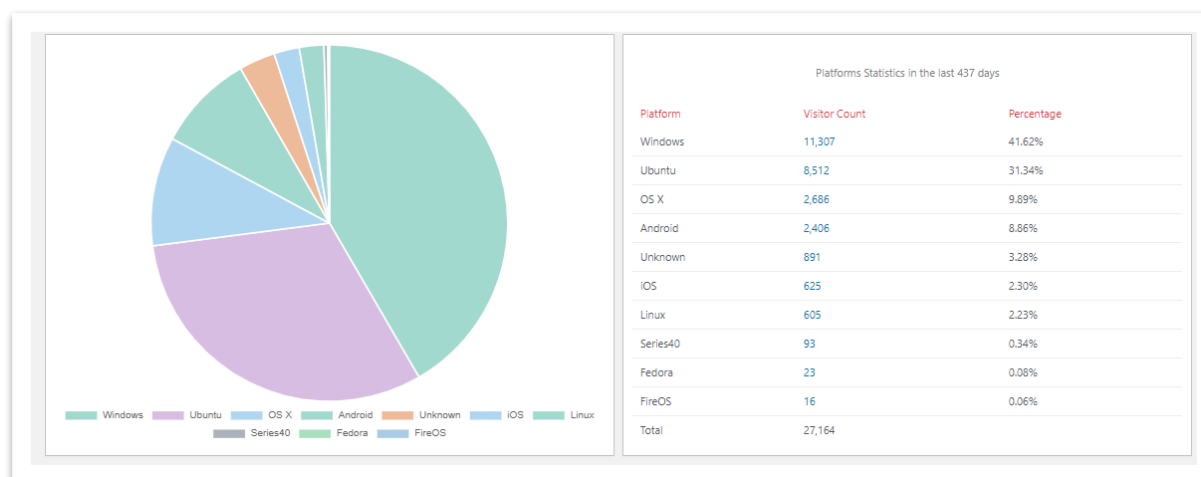
These last two indicators reveal that the public of the website is very related to Internet Security, Online Privacy and Open Source movements.

Our KPI for the 3rd year of the project is 500 visits per month with an average session of 2 minutes. At this moment, we are far beyond this KPI by more than double. We still envisage the number to increase considerably in the second half of the project with:

a) The launch of our gender equality open calls in Europe

b) The launch of our open citizen social science toolkits

c) The PhD summer school academy

c) Organisation of webinars and hangouts for our community

Geographic distribution of web traffic reflects the partners role in the communication and dissemination activities, with Germany, United Kingdom and Spain leading. Two interesting exceptions are the U.S. and France.

Social media

Communication and dissemination activities are actively carried out through our social media channels. Twitter, Instagram and Facebook pages were created to reach out to diverse audiences. The social media account's posts revolve around topics such as citizen social science, citizen science, open science, and other related topics. They are also used to promote blog posts, events, conferences and project updates e.g. R&I Actions activities. All partners contribute by sharing their news.

Figure 12. CoAct's Social Media Accounts

@CoActeu   @CoActeu   @coact.eu

The analysis of metrics for each channel are monitored using the tools provided by Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. As of now, the number of followers on Twitter is 370, in Instagram 93, and in Facebook 58. Our Twitter account was created to engage with the wider community of scientists, practitioners, policy makers, and international networks and associations. With Instagram we are aiming to reach to a younger generation, and our Facebook page was created to reach the general public. Partners have played an important role by: a) sending us updates and news to share on our social media, thus collectively shaping our social media agenda, and b) by reposting CoAct posts and drafting their own through their official and personal channels to reach out to a larger audience. Our partner UNIVIE has also created an

Instagram account as a channel to communicate with their target groups, young people, youth workers and organizations .

Figure 12. Number of people reached by platform
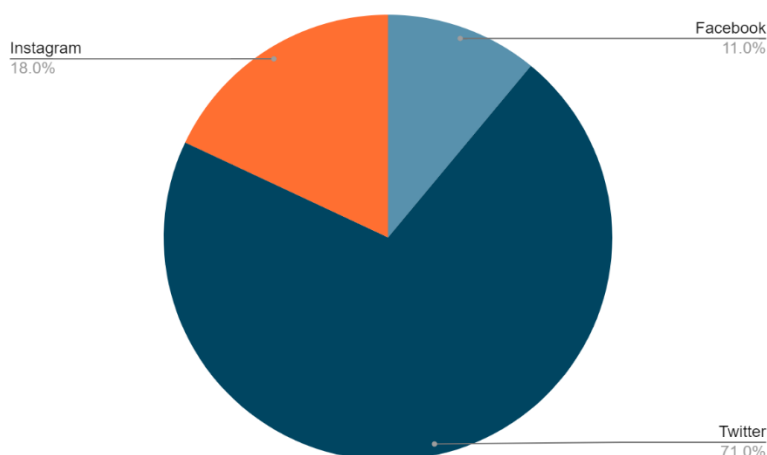
The expected number of followers per channel for M24 is 1.5K followers for Twitter, 1.5K for Facebook, and 300 for Instagram. However, since writing the proposal some years ago, social media metrics changed significantly. The pure number of followers is hard to achieve organically. Additionally, COVID has posed challenges to achieve this target e.g. not being able to promote CoAct at in-person events, fairs, conferences. If at the end of the project we only consider the newly created channels for CoAct (number of followers) we might not achieve these targets. GIG has rethought its social media strategy in a way that we still reach our targeted audiences and it's still impactful. We are planning to do it in the following way:

a) Consortium partners have their own social media channels, which they are continuously using to share CoAct news, events and project updates. Based on this constant support and

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extra channels to share CoAct related news, we´ll take into account some of our partners social media followers plus those that we have in CoAct channels.

b) When it comes to the number of followers, we´ll be also taking a more qualitative approach instead of only a quantitative one. This will translate in GIG focusing on more activities to build a sustainable community of practice, where members are not only a number but active participants that collaborate with CoAct and co-own our community. We have already taken several steps to start building our community. So far, we have 45 community members and for the next few months we are planning monthly hangouts, which will be spaces to connect, learn, exchange, collaborate and shape together a citizen social science approach.
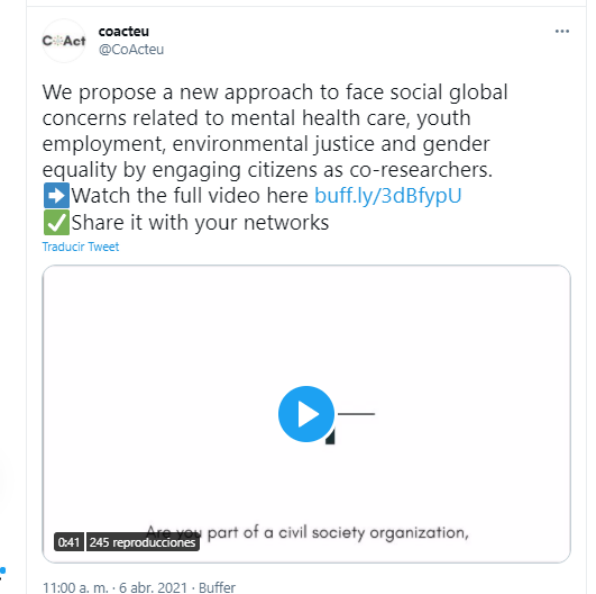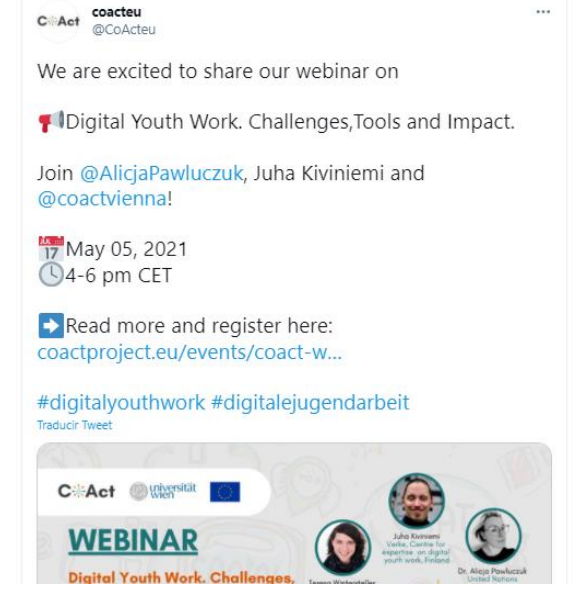
Despite our current number of followers, our posts have reached out to thousands of people, mainly through Twitter. Impressions on Twitter is a total tally of all the times the Tweet has been seen. This includes not only the times it appears in one of your followers' timeline but also the times it has appeared in search or as a result of someone liking the Tweet. In the following section our featured social media posts are shown. It's worth noting also the number of likes and retweets that these posts have.

Featured social media posts

During these 18 months, the project has had several top tweets that got thousands of impressions. These tweets are being identified each month and serve as a reference of the type of content that we can continue creating as the project evolves.

Table 2. Social media featured posts

May 14th, 2020 – Twitter

3,006 Impressions

July 20th, 2020 – Twitter

2,894 Impressions

Sept. 29th, 2020 – Twitter

1,470 Impressions

Jan 12th, 2021 – Twitter

7,330 Impressions

Feb. 15th, 2021 – Twitter

3,145 Impressions

April 7th, 2021 – Twitter

2,264 Impressions

April 6th, 2021 – Twitter

2,603 Impressions

April 22nd, 2021 – Twitter

1,847 Impressions

In total, more than 200 posts have been shared to communicate and disseminate the work of CoAct. These posts are not only the ones drafted by CoAct but also by partners. In total,

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an approximate of **126,296 people** have been reached through CoAct´s and partners social media posts.

Our social media account followers are under the KPIs that were set. We plan to compensate this by:

a) Requesting the support of partners to share our social media accounts on presentations, workshops, events where they can motivate participants to follow the project updates. So far, online events present the best alternative to engage with our audiences and share with them our social media presence.

b) In the months to come, our editorial plan will be our best tool to organise social media posts and campaigns. This will be done having in mind the posts that so far have had the greatest impact in terms of impressions generated.

c) Strengthen the support that partners have been providing these past months by endorsing our posts on their institutional accounts.

d) We also expect the numbers to raise considering the activities that we have planned for the second half of the project (e.g. gender equality open call, PhD Summer School, launching toolkits, webinars and events).

Events

CoAct has been presented in different European and international conferences. So far, CoAct has organised 2 conferences, 7 workshops, 8 participations at conferences, 2 participations at workshop, 11 participations at events other than conferences and workshops (e.g. hackathons, seminars, online training sessions), and 1 participation in an activity organised jointly with other EU projects. A total of 20 presentations have been given. Approximately 23,167 people have been reached from our targeted audiences through our events. (See Annex 1 for the full list of events and more details).

Among the most relevant conferences and events in which we have participated and/or organised, we have:

1) ECSA Conference 2020

The ECSA 2020 conference was held as an online conference from 6-10 September 2020. This conference aimed to bring together the citizen science community – citizen scientists and practitioners, researchers and policymakers – to share the latest knowledge and ideas from the field. In the ECSA conference three presentations were given by CoAct partners.

2) CS SDG Conference 2020

The conference Knowledge for Change: A Decade of Citizen Science (2020–2030) in Support of the SDGs was an international, hybrid conference to showcase, evaluate, and discuss the contribution of citizen science to frame and achieve the SDGs. CoAct consortium was very involved in the CS SDG conference. A total of 2 presentations were given, 3 workshops organised, 1 participation in a workshop, and we co-organised the Citizen Science is Social!

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Evening event with the project SOCIS Social Citizen Science zur Beantwortung von Zukunftsfragen.

3) OECSK 2020

For the sixth time, almost 300 Citizen Science enthusiasts, researchers, students and practitioners met at this transdisciplinary conference to exchange ideas, gain new experience and present the results of their studies. A workshop was organised for the Österreichische Citizen Science Konferenz 2020.

4) CoAct Frena la Curva Hackathon 2020

The hackathon was organised as part of the activities of the Festival de Innovación Abierta Frena la Curva. UB and FSMC developed the CoActFrenaLaCurva project (http://coactfrenalacurva.net/ and https://festival.frenalacurva.net/coact/) devoted to investigating the mental health informal support networks in the context of the COVID pandemic. The project was presented in the frame of the festival, that was an event with talks, workshops, debates, concerts to unite against the pandemic and imagine a new world.

5) CitSciVirtual 2021: Citizen Science Association Conference

Our partner ZSI prepared an outreach strategy for 2021 – the second project year – including the organisation of workshops and webinars with partner organisations like ECSA and projects like EU-Citizen.Science. The first such webinar on "Co-shaping Evaluation in Citizen Science? Towards more participatory approaches in evaluation of Citizen Science" was held in M13. Further discussion and learning from experiences beyond the project's boundaries, from challenges and best practices from our associate partner network and other SwafS projects.

Initiatives for such exchange have already started as ZSI e.g. co-hosted a session on evaluation of citizen science during the Citizen Science SDG Conference.

Finally, the target indicator is +4 public presentations at national and international events, and +3 presentations in national and international specialized events. So far 20 presentations have been given plus other activities that have allowed us to communicate and disseminate CoAct. We expect this number to increase in the second half of the project as we disseminate more of the results of the R&I Actions, the Gender Equality research pilots and we continue building our community of practice.

Webinars

Due to COVID-19 measures in-person meetings, conferences and events have not been possible to organise. Thus, consortium partners have shaped a webinar agenda for 2021 and 2022 to ensure that we still reach different audiences, as well as to communicate and disseminate CoAct results. As of June 2021, five webinars have been organised.

1. On December 2020 CoAct was presented at the DOTS conference, which is GIG's annual convention of innovators from around the world. It took place virtually on December 10th and 11th 2020. We hosted an [Open Science! Meetup](#), where different members of the Open Science and Citizen Science communities in Brazil, Cameroon, and Nigeria presented their current work and project. Following the short presentations, we discussed how to connect conversations on open science between the natural and the social science communities, how to exchange methodologies and support each other's work. This space also allowed us to engage several practitioners and invite them to be part of CoAct's community of practice.

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2. Co-shaping evaluation in citizen science? Towards more participatory approaches in evaluation of Citizen Science. A webinar organised in cooperation with ECSA and EU-Citizen.Science.

Participatory evaluation is an approach that aims at giving voice to the stakeholders of an intervention in its evaluation design, process and results. This webinar shed light on the specificities of this methodology, as well as challenges and opportunities related to its application in citizen science. The aim of the webinar was to furthermore provide an overview on co-evaluation as a strategy and to discuss which respective approaches and options have been available for a long time in participatory research and citizen science, how they have been received, what opportunities they have opened, what obstacles have been overcome, but also what we can learn from them for the future.

Figure 13. Co-shaping evaluation in citizen science?

3. FHP organized this internal webinar **"What is the 'social' in CSS?"** exploring a key question for CoAct project (M14). We explored and elaborated further the specific perspectives, definitions and aspects of CSS in our transdisciplinary consortium with the aim to collect further characteristics of CSS.

4. Digital Youth Work. Challenges, Tools and Impact.

The webinar addressed the issue of how to include so called 'hard-to-reach' youth online. We looked into strategies, tools and approaches of digital youth work that aim at minimizing the digital divide as well as into practical examples that might be inspiring for local strategies, with stories of successes and mistakes that put theoretical ideas into praxis and provide a peek into other projects in Europe.

Figure 14. Digital Youth Work. Challenges, Tools and Impact.

5. Rethinking Science. Learning from research rooted within civil society.

The aim of the webinar was to give room to an understanding of science that does not automatically equate rigor research as happening in academia, but as something that equally happens within and from within civil society. We discussed the general understand and framing of science by learning how scientifically rigorous research is done outside academia. We took a global perspective, learning from participatory research initiatives happening in Brazil, Canada, and Ghana.

Figure 15. Rethinking Science

Scientific publications

This is an overview of the scientific publications that the project has brought forward so far, which are open access and can be found on our website:

- Katja Mayer, Barbara Kieslinger, Teresa Schäfer, & Stefanie Schürz. (2021, May). **Participatory evaluation in citizen science**. Presented at the Citizen Science Association Conference 2021 (CitSciVirtual 2021), Zenodo.

- Vohland K. et al. (2021) **Editorial: The Science of Citizen Science Evolves**. In: Vohland K. et al. (eds) The Science of Citizen Science. Springer, Cham.

- Albert A., Balázs B., Butkevičėnė E., Mayer K., Perelló J. (2021) **Citizen Social Science: New and Established Approaches to Participation in Social Research.** In: Vohland K. et al. (eds) The Science of Citizen Science. Springer, Cham.

- Mayer, Katja, Kieslinger, Schäfer, & Schürz. (2021, January). **Co-Shaping Evaluation in Citizen Science? Towards more participatory approaches in evaluation of Citizen Science**. Zenodo.

- Schaefer T., Kieslinger B., Brandt M., van den Bogaert V. (2021) **Evaluation in Citizen Science: The Art of Tracing a Moving Target**. In: Vohland K. et al. (eds) The Science of Citizen Science. Springer, Cham.

- Senabre Hidalgo E., Perelló J., Becker F., Bonhoure I., Legris M., Cigarini A. (2021) **Participation and Co-creation in Citizen Science.** In: Vohland K. et al. (eds) The Science of Citizen Science. Springer, Cham.

- **Public Libraries Embrace Citizen Science: Strengths and challenges**. Article in the journal Library & Information Science Research in 2021. Authors Anna Cigarini, Isabelle Bonhoure, Julián Vicens, Josep Perelló.

- **Large-scale citizen science provides high-resolution nitrogen dioxide values and health impact while enhancing community knowledge and collective action.** Article in the journal Science of the Total Environment in 2021. Authors Josep Perelló,

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Anna Cigarini, Julián Vicens, Isabelle Bonhoure, David Rojas-Rueda, Mark J. Nieuwenhuijsen, Marta Cirach, Carolyn Daher, Jaume Targa, Anna Ripoll.

- Perelló J. et al. (2021) **The Recent Past and Possible Futures of Citizen Science: Final Remarks.** In: Vohland K. et al. (eds) The Science of Citizen Science. Springer, Cham.

- Breznau, N., Fischer, C., Havemann, J., Heck, T., Mayer, K., Peters, I., … Stutz, H. H. (2020, July 14). **Open Science, but Correctly! Lessons from the Heinsberg Study.**

- Mayer, Katja, Rieck, Katharina, Reichmann, Stefan, Danowski, Patrick, Graschopf, Anton, König, Thomas, … Schürz, Stefanie. (2020, October 21). **Empfehlungen für eine nationale Open Science Strategie in Österreich / Recommendations for a National Open Science Strategy in Austria** (Version Final version including comments and annotations of the public consultation). Zenodo.

Our open access publications have reached out to more than 37,000. For more details refer to Annex 2, the section Scientific Publications.

Online repositories

Zenodo

Zenodo is a general-purpose open-access repository developed under the European OpenAIRE program and operated by CERN. It allows researchers to deposit research papers, data sets, research software, reports, and any other research related digital artifacts. Besides the research papers that have been uploaded to Zenodo and references in the previous section, the repository is also being used to provide open access to project results, reports and deliverables. So far, 8 reports have been uploaded and 6 presentations, which are crosslinked with our website.

Figure 16. CoAct Zenodo page
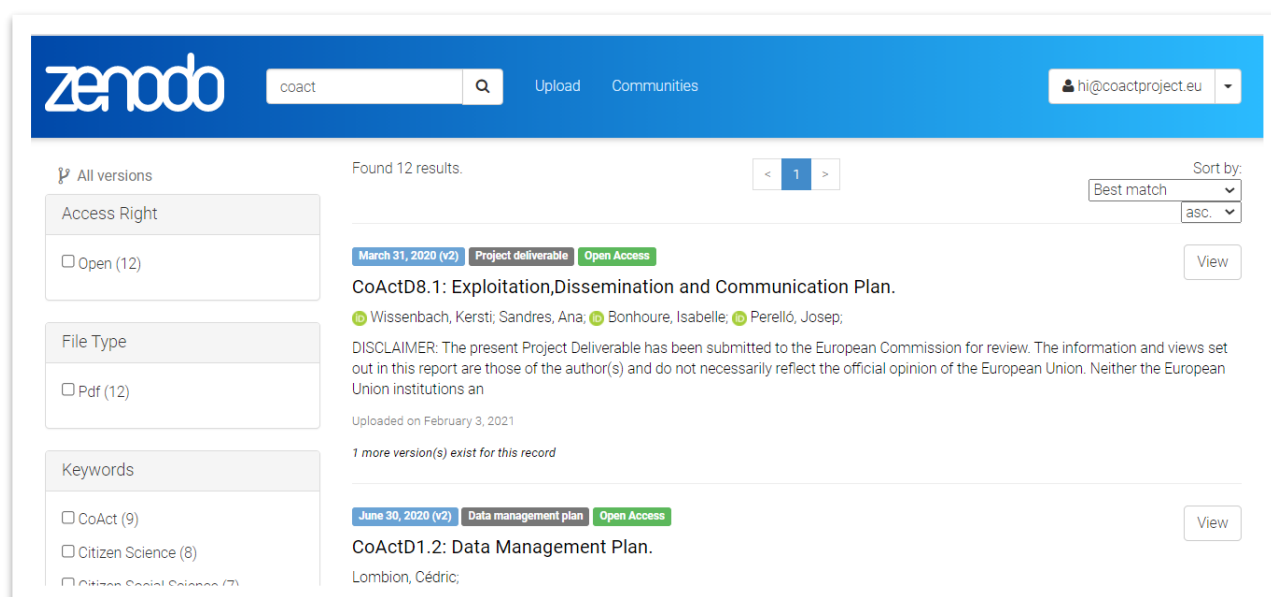
Table 3. CoAct Reports and presentations in Zenodo

Reports	Presentations
CoActD1.2: Data Management Plan	Ciclo de seminarios digitales abiertos Co_Lab. Ciencia ciudadana para políticas ambientales (Co_Lab series of open digital seminaries. Citizen science for environmental policymaking)
CoActD2.1: State of the Art of Citizen Social Science	
CoActD3.1: Report on Knowledge Coalition Building. Mental Health Care	Participatory knowledge production and their transformative potential for environmental justice: the case of Matanza-Riachuelo river basin (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
CoActD4.1: Knowledge Coalition Building. Youth Employment	Presentación en sesión grupal de socios de la RICAP: CoAct.Co-diseñando ciencia social ciudadana para la acción colectiva. (Presentation at RICAP's partners online group session: CoAct. Co-designing Citizen Social Science for Collective Action)
CoActD5.1: Knowledge Coalition Building. Environmental Justice	Citizen Social Science. The example of participatory research with young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)
CoActD7.1: Impact Assessment Plan	The co-creation of a chatbot for improving mental health care
CoActD8.1: Exploitation,Dissemination and Communication Plan	Enhancing social dimensions in citizen science: SDGs and social tipping points
Co-creating CoAct's Community Hangout Series	

CoAct has also created a Zenodo community to learn, share and collaborate between the Open Science and the Citizen Social Science worlds. Our Zenodo community includes CoAct reports and presentations, as well as other deliverables from Horizon 2020 projects working on similar topics, e.g. intellectual property rights for the YouCount project. The vision of the EU project YouCount is twofold, addressing and combining both the scientific and societal needs of our time. The scientific vision of YouCount is to strengthen the transformative and participatory aspects of CS and social science, by enabling citizen participation in all facets, reaching out for a more egalitarian way of conducting science. The societal vision of YouCount is to contribute to create inclusive and innovative societies for European youths and to empower them in promoting active citizenship and a just and equitable future, particularly for youths with disadvantages.

The communication and dissemination strategy for the COESO project is also included in our CoAct Zenodo community. The COESO project (Collaborative Engagement on Societal Issues) is a 3-year participatory research project, funded by the European Commission through a Science with and for Society grant, and supported by the OPERAS research infrastructure.

Zotero

Zotero is a free, open-source research tool that helps collect, organize, and analyze research and share it in a variety of ways. Zotero includes the ability to store author, title, and publication fields and to export that information as formatted references, and ability to organize, tag, and search in advanced ways.

CoAct´s zotero library has been connected to our website and organised by topics e.g. citizen science, inclusive research, open science, participatory action research, among many other

topics. This makes it easier for our target groups to explore and find readings and papers in the topics they are interested in.

Figure 17. Zotero reading on CoAct´s website
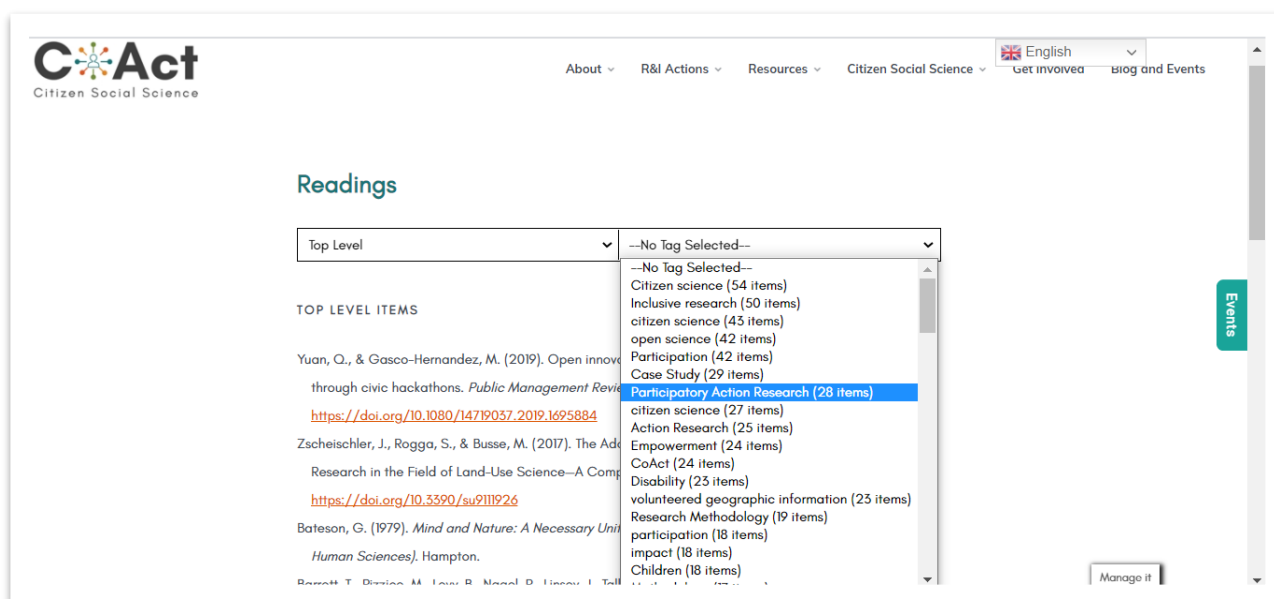
Press releases and newsletter

Two of our communication and dissemination channels are press releases and newsletter channels from partners. So far, 7 press releases have been issued presenting CoAct activities and updates. The newsletter of partners closer to civil society has also served as a channel to communicate to a wider audience. The following news have been shared on Partner ́s newsletters.

Table 4. Partner ́s press releases and newsletters

Partner	News	Date	# of newsletter subscribers
OKFN	Joining CoAct	22.05.2020	5000
GIG	CoAct Frena La Curva	16.06.2020	1200
GIG	Sharing our postcard	28.09.2020	1200
FSMC	CoActuem call for Co-Researchers to improve social support networks in mental health	21.10.2020	8260
GIG	A new family is born – Join CoAct ́s *Open*Citizen*Social*Science community	23.02.2021	1200
FARN	CoAct: un proyecto para la construcción de una ciencia social ciudadana. Botón Conocé CoAct. Botón Ver Web de Coact	01.03.2021	4871
GIG	What is CoAct? (videos)	11.05.2021	1200
FSMC	We are partners of CoAct european project	13.04.2021	8408

Figure 18. CoAct news – FSMC Newsletter

Figure 19. CoAct news – FARN Newsletter

Other international networks and associations working on similar topics have been contacted to include CoAct news in their newsletters to reach a potential interested audience.

Table 5. Other newsletters

Organisation	News	Date	Audience reached
Austrian Citizen Science Newsletter	Paragraph on CoAct	25.03.2020	500
Eu-Citizen.science	CoActFrenaLaCurva project in	28.07.2020	500
ECSA	Call for Videos – Shaping Citizen Social Science together	06.10.2020	1000
ECSA	Sharing news on translation of	17.11.2020	3000

	CoAct's website into English, Spanish, German and Catalan		
Citizen Science joint newsletter	Results of call for videos CS-SDG Conference	20.11.2020	3000
Austrian Citizen Science Newsletter	CoAct first webinar on co-evaluation	05.03.2021	500

Print products

COVID-19 measures have put on hold the possibility to organise and be part of in-person meetings, conferences, workshops, fairs, etc. This has directly impacted our communication KPI's when it comes to printing materials. The initial KPIs presented in the proposal were:

Table 6. KPI's printed materials

	M1–M12	M13–M24	M25–36
CoAct printed materials	Flyer: 600 recipients Postcard: 1,500 recipients	Updated flyer: 1,200 recipients Postcard: 2,800 recipients	Brochure: 3,000 recipients Postcard: 3,500 recipients

Printed materials have been postponed until the COVID-19 situation allows for in-person meetings again. The rationale for this decision is to avoid piling printed materials that will be too much to distribute for just a couple of months (or last year of the project). As an option, and in the meantime, materials are being created with the option to be used and shared online.

On a local level, our partner UB, R&I Action 1 Mental Health Care, has created and printed a research notebook that was distributed at the kick-off of a co-creation session with Co-Researchers. The research notebook has the aim to be used for the co-creation activities with co-researchers. A total of 30 notebooks were sent to them

Figure 20. Research Notebook R&I ActionMental Health Care
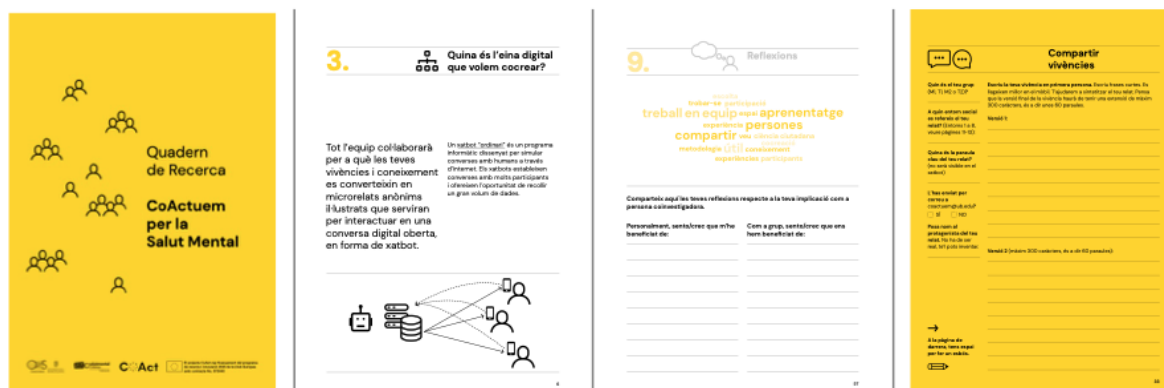
Our partner UNIVIE printed 10 flyers and handed them out to young people / co-researchers at the Introduction day in "AusbildungFit" Institution.

Finally, considering that in-person meetings and activities are slowly being restored, we'll discuss with partners the need to print the flyer that we have. In the meantime, these materials will have their online version and will be uploaded on our website. We'll keep track of the online views of the materials on our website. So far, online events are our best channel to engage with our target audiences. Thus, in the second half of the project we'll make more use of these spaces to redirect our participants to our website communication materials section, as well as thinking with partners about ways in which these materials can be used online.

Online innovative materials

Videos

During the last 18 months, we have created 10 videos. We have collected them in two different channels, a youtube playlist from GIG and partners VIMEO and youtube accounts. Due to the decentral structure of the project, this was more practical than to create a completely new channel for the project that would not have any followers.

We have created the videos in different languages and added subtitles to reach our target groups, reduce barriers and create modern social media distribution materials where people often see videos without sound.

a) What is CoAct?

We have created 4 CoAct videos[3] to present and inform about what we do at CoAct, our R&I Actions, and how interested communities/citizens can engage with us. The videos have subtitles in English, Spanish, German and Catalán. They can be found on our website and have been shared through our social media channels and that of other Horizon 2020 projects and partners, newsletters of partners and our community. So far, more than 300 people have watched the videos.

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[3] https://coactproject.eu/what-is-coact/

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Figure 21. What is CoAct video

b) CoAct for Mental Health

Our partners UB and FSMC created 3 videos[4] to invite potential Co-Researchers to participate in CoAct. The video has voice-over and subtitles in Spanish, Catalan and English. So far, they have approximately 330 views. The profile of Co-researchers consisted of people having a personal experience related with mental health. A total of 69 applications were received.

Figure 22. CoAct for Mental Health

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[4] https://coactproject.eu/ri-action-mental-health-care-barcelona/open-call-to-the-co-researchers/

c) Presenting CoAct Buenos Aires and giving information on the informed consent

Our partners UNSAM and FARN created a video in Spanish sharing more information on what is CoAct Riachuelo and presenting the informed consent in an innovative way to co-researchers. 42 people were reached with the video.

d) Corona and the Job Search

Our partner UNIVIE created a video about Corona and the job-search in German[5] and English[6] as part of the activities within the R&I Action 2 Youth Employment Vienna. For one week, young people from an 'AusbildungFit' facility conducted research together with 3 researchers from the CoAct project at the University of Vienna. The topic the young adults wanted to deal with was quickly found: The job search in times of Corona. 148 people have watched the video.

Figure 23. Corona and the job search

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[5] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=miQWrmQbjHY
[6] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Frw9wSbEP0

Flyer

Considering that no public events were happening since March 2020, we decided to provide partners with digital versions of communication materials as CoAct events and participation in conferences were transferred to online formats. The idea is that once public gatherings resume, we´ll provide partners with print versions and distribute them accordingly.

A flyer was created to be used by partners to present the project. The flyer includes a snippet of what is CoAct, where are our R&I Actions located and the channel through which interested people can contact us (website, social media and email). The flyer can also be used in workshops. Participants can add ideas or answer a question since a section with lines for this purpose has been provided. Considering COVID restrictions to meet in-person, the flyer was designed in a way that can also be used and shared online with participants at conferences, meetings, etc. The flyer can be accessed on our website, and so far it has been view by approximately 140 people.

Figure 24. CoAct Flyer

Infographic

An infographic has been created in June to promote the Gender Equality Open Calls. The infographic summarizes the three open calls as well as the timelines for these research pilots.

Figure 25. Gender Equality Open Calls
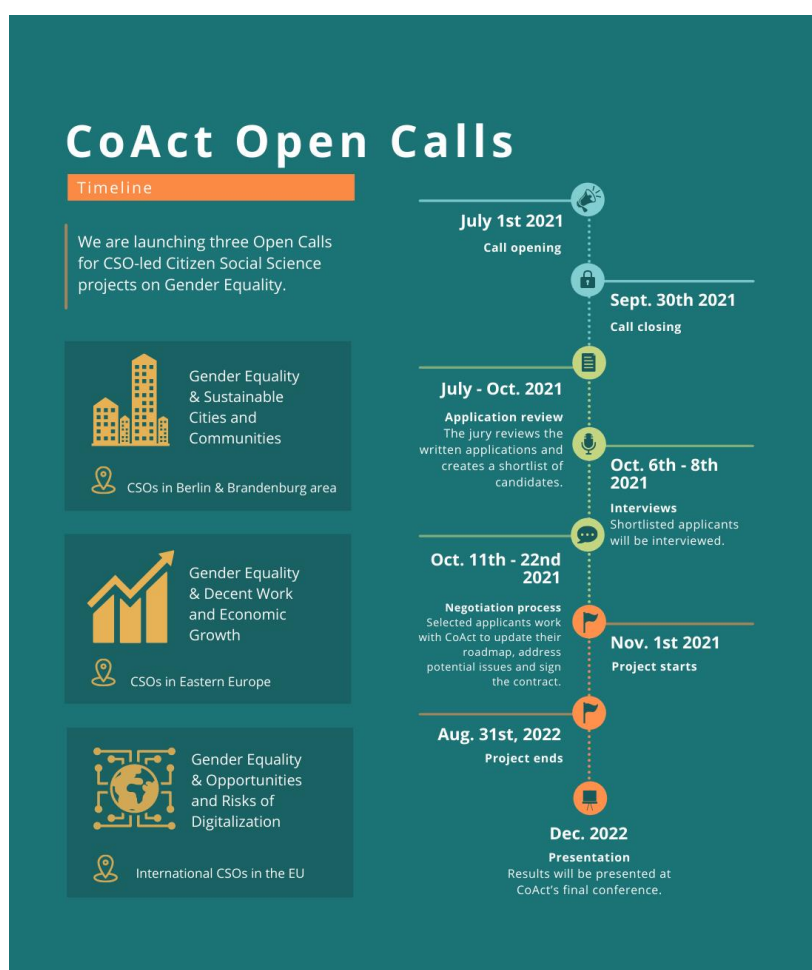
Brochure and posters

A brochure[7] with essential information about the project on a local level in Vienna, namely the participatory research project with young people including the framework of a possible cooperation agreement, was sent out through the communication channels of the Ministry of Social Affairs Service, to target the specific intuitions.

On October 2020, our Partner UNIVIE prepared and created 5 visual material pieces[8] to make information accessible to the participants within their R&I Action. These posters (in German) were shared and discussed with the participants. The posters covered the following topics: General structure of CoAct, What is research?, Informed consent, the participant´s rights, and the data in the research.

Final remarks on online innovative materials

Due to COVID measures in 2020, the activities of the R&I Actions were delayed considering that partners were re-organising activities in virtual formats. This posed several challenges that made it hard to have content to create online innovative materials (e.g. microlearning videos, digital storytelling and infographics) to disseminate the R&I Actions results that were expected for 2020. However, partners implementing the R&I Actions have successfully transferred their in-person activities to the virtual world. Thus, for this year we´ll have a strong focus on creating more materials to disseminate results as we move forward.

Nevertheless, 17 communication materials have been created to communicate our work and share more about what we do with our targeted audiences and to prepare for sessions with co-researchers. Nonetheless and due to challenges posed by COVID, the postcards envisioned for the first year and the 3 pieces of online innovative materials to disseminate

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[7] https://bit.ly/3wF3jjI
[8] https://bit.ly/2Sxrf9Y

results were not possible to create due to the delays experienced by partners implementing the R&I Actions.

To compensate for this, we plan to: a) Organise several calls with partners implementing R&I Actions to collaboratively analyse and discuss their results and determine the best formats to present it, who the target audiences would be, and the objectives. This space will also be an opportunity to share with partners our ideas for these materials. We are confident that this year we'll be back on track, and b) From these discussions a production plan will be created for 2021 to organise the production of the materials agreed on, it will also include deadlines and targets as to when we'll be working on which materials.

KPIs

Considering all our communication and dissemination activities as of date, we have reached **313,519.** For more details please refer to Annex 1 Events and Annex 2 Press and media outreach. These numbers have been reached through the following channels:

Website CoAct 27,227

Website partners and others 29,652

Social media 126,296

Communication campaigns 15,263

Scientific Publications 37,637

Project reports Zenodo 931

Newsletters and press releases 51,139

Print products 40

Videos 1,727

Materials (flyer, poster, brochures) 440

Events 23,167

Total 313,519

We present here our final overview of KPIs and what has been reached so far.

Table 7. CoAct´s KPI´s

Description	Aim based on M1–12 KPI´s	Status
Social media strategy	Twitter 500 followers Facebook 500 followers	–Twitter CoAct – 370

	Instagram 100 followers	OpenSystems (UB) – 1854 ZSI – 1,202 – Facebook CoAct – 58 – Instagram CoAct – 93 CoAct Vienna – 102
CoAct website	Web stats: 200 visits/month Av. session: 2 minutes	1600 visits/month 3.20 sessions per user
Scientific publications	1 research article	11 scientific publications
National and international specialized events	3 presentations in International conferences (1000 recipients)	19 presentations given in international, national and local events.
National and international publics events	4 presentations	
Online innovative materials	3 pieces	–They will be produced in 2021. However, 17 communication materials have been created (10 videos, 1 flyer, 1 brochure, 5 posters).
CoAct printed material distribution	Flyer: 600 recipients Infographic postcards: 1,500 recipients	–Flyer has been created but not printed due to reasons explained in previous sections. –Postcards will be produced in 2021

Building a sustainable community of practice

Participatory research co-designed and directly driven by citizen groups sharing a social concern constitutes the core of CoAct's new approach to engage vulnerable citizens acting as co-researchers. At CoAct we believe that this approach goes beyond the engagement of citizens in our 'four "wicked" social issues'. We believe that shaping the CSS approach in a participatory manner requires engaging a wide and diverse community in the entire debate. This entails questions about how participation is to be defined in different contexts, geographically, culturally, etc. as well as the debate about how we want to frame science, to start with. We wish to embrace science to flourish inside and outside of academia and to ensure that a CSS approach grows as an inclusive approach, not pre-assigning but openly and equally acknowledging different communities of experts and their crucial roles. We want to learn from each other, learn how science and participatory research is practiced inside and outside academia and, most important, in very different contexts.

Therefore, we came to decide that investing in the creation of a CSS community that collectively owns the shapes the CSS approach is intrinsically connected by the values we stand for.

One of our core objectives is to build and support sustainable Citizen Social Science communities of practice that are inclusive, diverse, and trans-disciplinary! We set off with a series of activities to gradually build this community.

Building online community environment

We departed from building a dedicated community space on the CoAct website. The Citizen Social Science section on the CoAct website holds its own community space as a sub menu. Creating a dedicated CSS space on the website, and locating the community space within it,

sets a clear sign for our aim to grow a CSS approach beyond CoAct, and to craft a community which will be owned and therefore carried on beyond the timebound CoAct project.

In order to craft a community building strategy, we have consulted all consortium partners in a workshop we ran during one of the CoAct consortium meetings, exploring the following aspects:

- Different communities we need to reach
- Expected activities
- CoAct and wider outreach and engagement mechanisms and instruments

We then identified the core community building activities to move ahead with, turning out to be

1. Video competition
2. Community cross-learning: *Open*Citizen*Social*Science Meetup
3. *Open*Citizen*Social*Science community chat group
4. Community hangout
5. Blog post series

1. **Video competition**

As one crucial point of departure we wanted to understand the diversity of a potential CSS community. Simultaneously, we wanted to provide a platform for CSS initiatives to present their work and for the different initiatives to learn about and from each other.

The event "**Citizen Science is Social!,** a fringe event of the Citizen Science – SDG Conference, taking place in Berlin and remotely on October 14 & 15, 2020, provided us with a welcoming opportunity. Together with **SoCiS,** a research and capacity building project that explores the functioning and innovation potential of Citizen Science in the social sciences

and humanities in Germany, we organised a video competition. CSS initiatives were asked to record brief and simple videos, telling us about the participatory methodologies they are using to work with their communities.

Testimonials could answer one or more of the following questions:

a) What does CSS mean for you? You can also focus on what it should be like or just share with us what you are already doing to work on challenges for your communities that you would call CSS.
b) What would you need to make a CSS approach meaningful to you / to civil society?
c) How would a CSS community of practitioners from civil society and academia ideally look like?
d)

All the contributions fulfilling the criteria have been showcased on the CoAct [website](). In addition, a brief 5-minute video of all the selected contributors has been edited and showcased during the event. All contributors have been granted free access to join the conference.

2. Community cross-learning: *Open*Citizen*Social*Science Meetup

As CoAct we want to build on lessons learned and create synergies in order to avoid building a siloed community but to build on and with existing structures and dynamics.

CoAct's coalition partner, the Global Innovation Gathering provides long standing experience in shaping and running a global community of makers and shapers from diverse backgrounds and with strong roots in the open science and hardware community. As the values and questions asked are very much complementary with those CSS seeks to answer, bringing those communities into one room was a great departure opportunity for CoActs community building intentions.

DOTS, GIG's annual convention of innovators from around the world, which took place on December 10 and 11, 2020, offered a great opportunity to kick off such a conversation and light the spark for future collaborations.

To kick off the Meetup some members of GIG's Open Science and Citizen Science communities gave sneak previews into their inspiring work with their communities and we presented CoAct to the community. Subsequently, we opened up to a lively conversation driven by the core questions, how to connect conversations on open science between the natural and the social science communities and how to exchange methodologies and support each other's work. The full documentation and the meetup recording can be found here.

3. *Open*Citizen*Social*Science community chat group

Moving forward and building on the inspirational and insightful momentum of the meetup, we used the reporting about the meetup in order to launch the *Open *Citizen *Social Science chat group on Signal.

We took the thought provoking inputs of the meetup as the stepping stone for further conversations, inviting the meetup participants and their respective communities to join and engage in this new community space!

We decided to set up a messenger group in order to create an environment for a low barrier, instant exchange of thoughts, events, materials, and much more. The decision has been made to use signal in order to choose a free and open source tool guaranteeing higher security standards. We have invited people of our consortium networks and affiliated communities, encouraging them to spread the word in their respective satellite communities. People are enabled to join the group through a weekly sign up cycle. Once people join the signal group, they are asked to introduce themselves with a) name, b) affiliated organisation or network if applicable, and c) a little note on their motivation to join this group.

4. Co-designing a community agenda – Community hangouts

Co-designing a community agenda is a central activity for our understanding of how to shape a community and, therewith, gradually and collectively shape a CSS approach that actually does reflect diversity to the biggest possible extent.

The plan to organise a continuous series of hangouts over the coming years of the project was inaugurated with a first hangout, inviting people to collectively shape what such a community and its respective engagement formats and channels should look like.

The first hangout took place on April 20, 2021 using Zoom as the remote meeting environment. Bringing together a lively diverse group of researchers, community organizers and hybrid actors, we gathered in order to discuss how to shape a series of community hangouts that is most beneficial to everyone. The overall objective of the hangout series is to foster discourse around topics relevant to the growing community we have initiated via our recently created *Open*Citizen*Social*Science Signal group.

In a first step we gathered topics relevant to the participants to identify some guiding directions for the upcoming hangout themes. Beyond the collective shaping of a thematic agenda, we also discussed how to best host the hangouts, which platforms might work best, and how to invite others in order to grow the community. Given that we wish to grow a collectively co-owned community, including the different hangouts we will host throughout the coming years, we shared experiences and expectations of the community in order to co-create formats that are most beneficial to everyone.

To summarize our outcomes from the first hangout in which we aimed to establish the foundations to co-creating a community.

- An open agenda based on topics identified as most relevant by the community

- Cross-cutting topics we will be attentive to throughout all thematic discussions, creating a feminist and decolonial approach to Citizen Social Science

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- Community members can 'sign up' to host hangouts relevant to their interest or expertise

- We continue to use signal for our everyday communication, embracing free open software

- solutions for the safeguarding of our community and enabling members to switch off

- Every community member hosting a monthly hangout can decide upon the platform used for the hangout

- We will keep the hangouts a safe community space only shared with the community members joining the signal group

- We will not record the hangouts but provide public de-personalized summarizing reports of the hangouts

- We will put emphasize on knowledge sharing from different contexts

- We will embrace failure as much as success for our joint learning

The full documentation of our first hangout can be found on Zenodo as an open access materia[9].

Documenting the decision making process during this first community encounter was an important step for our capacity building activities. Highlighting best practices and lessons learned is an important aspect for us to learn internally as well as to support other actors shaping their respective communities.

Through the two platforms, the signal group and a series of frequent hangouts, we wish to gradually strengthen the community, driven by what is relevant to everyone being part of it.

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[9] https://zenodo.org/record/4751003#.YLYV9agzayJ

5. Collective writing – Blog post series

Another activity we are planning, but have not yet convened, is to provide a platform to diverse actors engaged in CSS related activities to contribute to the actual shaping of a CSS approach. We therefore wish to invite CSS practitioners from diverse contexts to elaborate their understanding of what a CSS approach should look like through a blog post series.

Exploitation activities

Exploitation activities have been just initiated at M18 (Task T8.6).The exploitation plan (contained in D8.1) already identified exploitation opportunities that can be divided into 3 categories:

–Services for data-driven decision making

–Digital tools Apps and Digital Platform

–Materials to engage vulnerable collectives

To date, the most promising exploitation potential lies in the innovative digital tools that are being co-created: "CoAct for Mental Health" Chatbot (WP3) and Environmental Justice-related Digital Platform (WP5). Although these tools are still under development, they are both highly innovative, combining citizens' participation with high scientific relevance.

Other promising materials and methodologies are the ones created during the COVID pandemic, to facilitate online work with vulnerable collectives (WP3/4/5). Their exploitation is currently being assessed.

Furthermore, two potential target groups (Public administrations and CSOs) interested in CoAct methodologies/products have been already approached through the creation of the KCs. The common work in this frame will allow to further identify their potential needs.

Conclusion and outlook

The objectives of CoAct's communication and dissemination activities are:

d) To engage vulnerable citizens and local civil society groups in R&I initiatives and to place them at the center of the R&I cycle.

e) To increase scientific literacy, skills, competence, and public awareness regarding science.

f) To disseminate CoAct and build a sustainable citizen social science community of practice

This first year and a half, the consortium has worked towards achieving these objectives. So far, most of our communication and dissemination targets have been met and strategies are in place to compensate and enhance our performance for those KPIs that haven't been met – and that we have explained in previous sections of this report.

For the second half of the project, we are expecting our KPIs and impact to increase due to different activities e.g. Webinars, community hangouts and blog series, gender equality open calls, launching of the open citizen social science toolkit, creation of online innovative materials to showcase the results of CoAct, and many other.

Annex