### Developing a Citizen Science Strategy 2020 for Germany

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### Background

Citizen Science is an increasingly popular approach that brings professional scientists together with (sometimes expert) amateur researchers, scientific clubs, and interested laypeople. Citizen Science has recently gained the attention of science policymakers, increasing the relevance of a strategy to promote and further develop Citizen Science activities.

Following the approach used by Socientize at the European level, the GEWISS (BürGEr schaffen WISSen, or "Citizens create knowledge") project is developing a strategy for Citizen Science in Germany in 2020 that includes both in-person and online consultative elements. Here, we present the conceptual underpinnings of GEWISS's deliberative approach and the strategy development process.

Phase 7
Summer 2016



Goals: Launch
Activities: Publication, public launch event

Phase 6
Sep 2014Jan 2016



**Goals:** Analysis and documentation **Activities:** Analysis and transparent documentation of results, development of final strategy document

**Phase 5**Sep 2015



**Goals:** Public consultation **Activities:** Announcement through GEWISS and partner channels, targeted communication with underrepresented target groups, moderation of online consultation, real-time strategy development through the online tool

Phase 4 Aug 2015



**Goals:** Modification of draft strategy and online tool **Activities:** Modifications to online consultation tool and strategy document based on feedback from the consortium and advisory board, final preparations for public consultation

Phase 3 Mar-Aug 2015



**Goals:** Consultation with the consortium and advisory board

**Activities:** Beta-test of the online tool with the consortium and advisory board, collection of conceptual remarks on the strategy and technical suggestions

Phase 2
Jan-Jul 2015



**Goals:** Conceptual and technical development

**Activities:** Technical development of the online consultation tool and forms of participation, contact to target groups, development of media strategy for consultation

Phase 1
Nov-Dec 2014



**Goals:** Clarification of goals and process

Activities: Development of draft strategy document; definition of goals, target groups, and structure of consultation process

# Phase 0 Jul-Oct 2014



**Goals:** Initial contact and inputs at kick-off events

Activities: Contact, network development, and structured input from key actors at Citizen Science think tank and kick-off events

## The development of the Citizen Science Strategy for Germany ...

... is a process of development driven by the diversity of actor groups that have an interest in Citizen Science,

... includes an iterative, open to all, and transparent consultation process,

... addresses the Citizen Science community and key partners, rather than the general public.

#### The main purpose of the online consultation ...

... is to brainstorm and gain input for the strategy contents,

... and to gain acceptance, understanding, and support for the strategy and the strategy development process.

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