



Engaging Citizen Scientists in the validation and exploitation of Earth Observation data

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The Citizen Science Earth Observation Lab (CSEOL) is a new initiative funded by the European Space Agency (ESA) that offers a unique project opportunity to Citizen Science (CS) researchers, observers and practitioners over the next two years.

We're looking for great ideas on engaging Citizen Scientists in the validation and exploitation of Earth Observation (EO) data. Ideas will be channeled into and refined during a dynamic co-creation and innovation process that will develop and select four pilot projects for funding. The CSEOL Innovation Funnel is providing opportunities to engage in a series of hackathons, mapathons and gamification events to generate new project ideas, network with a wide range of CS and EO experts and potential project partners, and bid for funding for a short-term project. Ideas can also be fed via the CSEOL Call for Ideas.

Successful ideas will be invited to join us during the CSEOL Greenhouse Phase, which will facilitate the process of idea development into project proposals during a two-day boot camp at ESA's newly established Centre for Earth Observation (ESRIN) located just outside Rome. Scheduled for the late summer in 2019 this year, this phase will provide participants with mentorship from CSEOL experts, and will offer excellent opportunities for networking with a wide range of CS and EO actors. It ends with participants pitching their final proposals to the CSEOL-ESA board of experts for potential selection for funding.

Selected projects will receive both funding and project support from CSEOL to support project implementation until the end of 2020, project owners having access to expert advice and further opportunities to interact with the wider CS community. The final Demonstration Day, towards the end of 2020, again at ESRIN, will allow participants to present their successes to the ESA-CSEOL expert panel, and provides additional networking opportunities.

This presentation will provide details about this exciting opportunity for the CS and EO community.