Citizen Sensing and Environmental Practice: Assessing Participatory Engagements with Environments through Sensor Technologies

Fact Sheet

Project information

CITIZENSENSE
Grant agreement ID: 313347
Status
Closed project

Funded under:
FP7-IDEAS-ERC
Overall budget:
€ 1 500 000
EU contribution
€ 1 500 000

Hosted by:
GOLDSMITHS' COLLEGE
United Kingdom

Start date
1 January 2013
End date
31 December 2017

Objective

This project will investigate, through three case studies, the relationship between technologies and practices of environmental sensing and citizen engagement. Wireless sensors, which are an increasing part of digital communication infrastructures, are commonly deployed for environmental monitoring within scientific study. Practices of monitoring and sensing environments have migrated to a number of everyday participatory applications, where users of smart phones and networked devices are able to engage with similar modes of environmental observation and data collection. Such “citizen sensing” projects intend to democratize the collection and use of environmental sensor data in order to facilitate expanded citizen engagement in environmental issues. But how effective are these practices of citizen sensing in not just providing “crowd-sourced” data sets, but also in giving rise to new modes of environmental awareness and practice? Through intensive fieldwork, study and use of sensing applications, the case studies will set out to contextualize, question and expand upon the understandings and possibilities of democratized environmental action through citizen sensing practices. The first case study, “Wild Sensing,” will focus on the use of sensors to map and track flora and fauna activity and habitats. The second case study, “Pollution Sensing,” will concentrate on the increasing use of sensors to detect environmental disturbance, including air and water pollution. The third case study will investigate “Urban Sensing,” and will focus on urban
sustainability or “smart city” projects that implement sensor technologies to realize more efficient or environmentally sound urban processes.

Field of Science

/natural sciences/earth and related environmental sciences/environmental sciences/pollution

/engineering and technology/electrical engineering, electronic engineering, information engineering/information engineering/telecommunications/wireless

/engineering and technology/civil engineering/architecture engineering/smart city

/social sciences/other social sciences/social sciences interdisciplinary/sustainable development

Programme(s)

FP7-IDEAS-ERC - Specific programme: "Ideas" implementing the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities (2007 to 2013)

Topic(s)

ERC-SG-SH2 - ERC Starting Grant - Institutions, values, beliefs and behaviour

Call for proposal

ERC-2012-StG_20111124

See other projects for this call

Funding Scheme

ERC-SG - ERC Starting Grant

Principal Investigator

Jennifer Gabrys (Dr.)

Host institution
GOLDSMITHS' COLLEGE

Address
Lewisham Way
Se14 6nw London
United Kingdom

Activity type
Higher or Secondary Education Establishments

EU Contribution
€ 1 500 000

Website
Contact the organisation

Principal Investigator
Jennifer Gabrys (Dr.)

Administrative Contact
Karen Rumsey (Ms.)

Beneficiaries (1)

GOLDSMITHS' COLLEGE

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